



Newcastle Coastal Plan of Management 2015

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Department of
Primary Industries
Lands



An aerial photograph of Newcastle, Australia, showing the coastline, beaches, and the city built on a cliffside overlooking the ocean. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

Acknowledgement

The City of Newcastle acknowledges the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, and that they are the proud survivors of more than two hundred years of dispossession.

Council reiterates its commitment to addressing disadvantages and attaining justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this community.

Adopted by Newcastle City Council
22 September 2015

This Plan of Management has been prepared by The City of Newcastle in consultation with Department of Primary Industries Lands. Background material has been undertaken by Envisage and SG Consulting.

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1. Introduction and Overview



1.1 What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management (POM) is a statutory document that may be prepared for all public land under the Crown Lands Act 1989 and is required under the Local Government Act 1993 for all community land. A POM provides the management framework for the future use, maintenance and improvement of public land.

The POM provides practical application of the community's values in establishing measurable actions for the ongoing management of publicly owned land.

1.2 Aims of the Plan

This Newcastle Coastal Plan of Management (Newcastle Coastal POM) aims to:

- Document the key values of the coastal public land
- Guide the ongoing management, future use and development of this land
- Assist Council in meeting its broader strategic goals and vision as set out in Council's Community Strategic Plan (2013)

Specifically the Newcastle Coastal POM aims to:

- Identify and protect the intrinsic values of coastal public land
- Develop clear and achievable management strategies and actions that reflect Council and community expectations within available resource constraints
- Specify development parameters within the coastal public land

This Plan of Management supports the Newcastle Coastal Revitalisation Strategy Master Plan (adopted by Council October 2010) (Coastal Masterplan). The Coastal Masterplan was prepared by Council and the (then) Land and Property Management Authority to guide the future uses and rejuvenation of public land along the coastline.

1.3 Land covered by this plan

This POM applies to the coastal public land being public spaces spanning the eleven (11) kilometre coastline from Stockton Beach in the north to Merewether Beach in the south, within Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA), shown in Map 1.

This Plan of Management applies to the coastal public land that is:

i. Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust

The Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust has been established under the Crown Lands Act 1989 (gazetted 6 July 2012).

Council has been appointed as Reserve Trust Manager responsible for the care, control and management of public land along the coast.

Activities carried out within this area must be consistent with the notified Reserve Purpose as outlined in the gazetted maps, being purposes of *Public Recreation, Community Facilities, Public Baths, Recreation Facilities*; and this Plan of Management.

Any activities that are not consistent with the Reserve Purpose are subject to relevant provisions of the Crown Land (CL) Act 1989.

See **Appendix A** for Crown Land gazetted maps.

ii. Community Land (land owned by Council)

The main areas of community land are at Stockton, Tramway Park, Strzelecki Headland, Dixon Park and parts of Merewether.

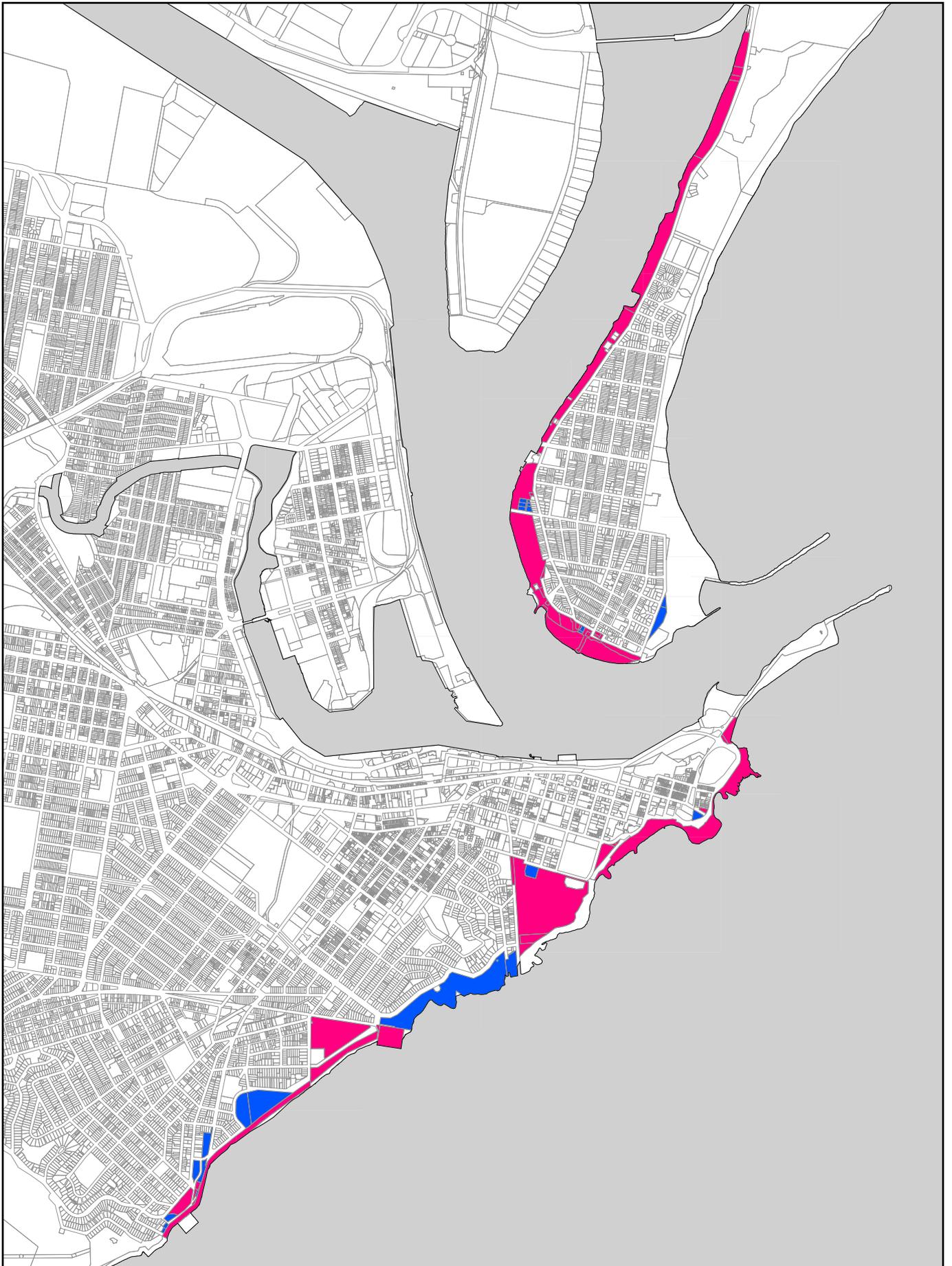
See **Appendix B** for complete schedule of all crown and community parcels of land

Note: Rawson Reserve does form part of the coastal lands but is not included in this Plan of Management until issues surrounding the Stockton Holiday Park and Stockton pool are resolved.

1.4 Repeal of existing Plans of Management

The Neighbourhood Parks and General Community Use Plans of Management will need to be repealed in relation to the affected parcels of land.

Council is currently undertaking a review of these Plans of Management and will include updated information in these reviews.



NEWCASTLE COASTAL CROWN AND COMMUNITY LAND

- Cadastre
- Community land (coastal)
- Crown land
(Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust Land)

Date: 25/08/2015
 Data source: NCC
 DPI Catchments & Lands



Newcastle City Council
 DISCLAIMER

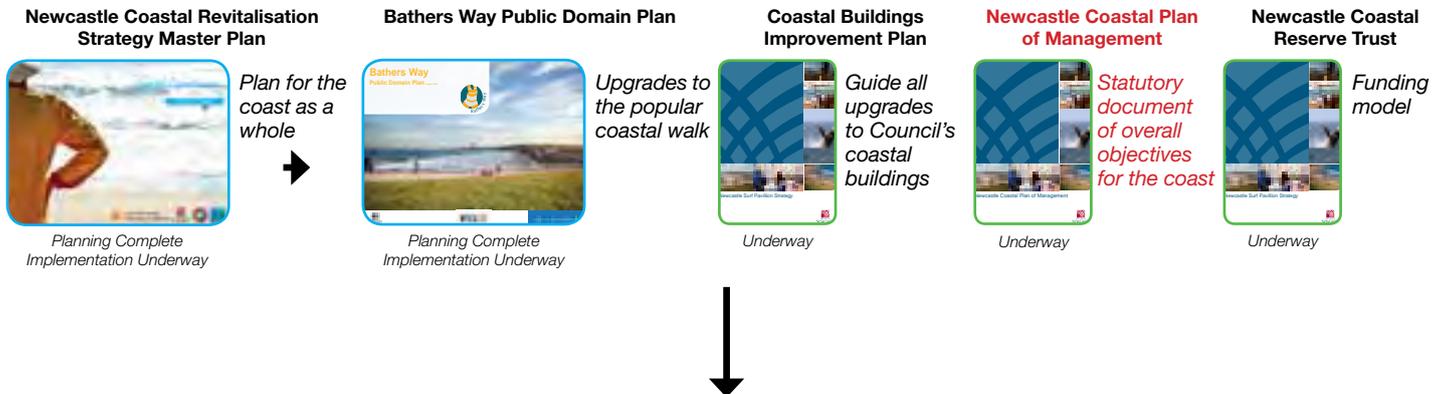
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1.5 Relationship to Other Plans and Coastal Design Process

Coastal Revitalisation - The Program

Planning for 11km of Coast



Delivering Community Benefits by Precinct



1.6 Study Process

This Newcastle Coastal POM is the statutory document that builds upon the adopted Newcastle Coastal Masterplan. It is largely based on the research, consultation and outcomes of the Coastal Masterplan, as well as background information contained in relevant documents.

To build upon the Coastal Masterplan more heritage and ecology information was sought through a site inspection of the entire study area. This was undertaken by Council's Heritage Officer and Environmental Strategist. Through this and other available information, priority context issues and recommended actions were identified.

In addition, certain areas of land within the coastal study area were identified as not being included in the Coastal Masterplan. These have now been included in the POM:

- Stockton West (including Ballast land)
- Strzelecki Lookout

Other areas contained within the Coastal Masterplan were removed from the POM study area to prevent overlap:

- Corroba reserve (within Sportsground POM)
- King Edward Park Headland (addressed by Crown Lands POM)

All relevant local, regional and state planning and policy documents were reviewed for consistency.

Merewether Beach has been included in this Newcastle Coastal POM and will replace the Merewether Beach Reserves Plan of Management (2009). The Merewether Beach Plan of Management is a useful resource and should be referred to for any background, historic material in relation to Merewether Beach.

The Heritage Places Strategic Plans of Management have been referenced within this Plan as it provides a useful historic resource.

The study area has been divided into three character areas referred to here as sectors

As land within the study area is both Crown Land and Community land, this POM has been prepared under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* and *Local Government Act 1993*.



Northern (Stockton) Sector

- Stockton East
- Griffith Park
- Stockton West



Central (City Beaches) Sector

- Nobbys Beach
- Newcastle Baths
- Newcastle Beach
- King Edward Park and Bogey Hole



Southern (Suburban Beaches) Sector

- Shepherds Hill Reserve (Strzelecki Headland)
- Bar Beach and Empire Park
- Dixon Park
- Merewether Beach

2. Planning Context



Planning and management of public lands is subject to a number of statutory planning controls and policies. Those of direct relevance to this Newcastle Coastal POM include:

- *Crown Lands Act 1989* and *Crown Lands Regulation 2006*
- *Local Government Act 1993* and Regulations
- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- *Heritage Act 1977*
- State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP 71) Coastal Protection
- *Coastal Protection Act 1979*
- *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*
- Hunter Regional Environmental Plan 1989
- Lower Hunter Regional Strategy 2006-31
- NSW Coastal Policy 1997
- Crown Lands Policy for Marinas and Waterfront Commercial Tenures 2005
- Crown Lands Policy for Tourist and Associated Facilities on Crown Land 2006.

2.1 State Government legislation

2.1.1 *Crown Lands Act 1989*

Crown Land must be used and managed in accordance with the provisions of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. The *Crown Lands Act 1989* sets out specific requirements in relation to the preparation, referral, display and adoption of plans of management.

The *Crown Lands Act 1989* requires that a plan of management identify the public purpose of the Crown Reserve, and that all land uses (i.e. leases, licenses, easements) must either support or be ancillary to the reserve's public purpose. The *Crown Lands Act 1989* requires that plans of management be placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days and notified in the Government Gazette and a newspaper with Local or State circulation. The Minister may adopt a plan of management without alteration or with such alteration as the Minister thinks fit.

Crown Reserves are managed by Trusts established under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. A Reserve Trust under this Act is appointed to 'care, control and manage' the public lands. Reserve Trusts are authorised to enter into maintenance contracts, employ staff and determine development (subject to Crown consent.) They are not conducted for private profit.

A number of Reserve Trusts originally established to manage the Crown Land have recently been dissolved and placed within a new Reserve Trust (Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust). The City of Newcastle is the appointed Corporate Trust Manager of the newly established Reserve.

2.1.2 *Local Government Act 1993*

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that Council prepare a plan of management for all community land. Development and use of this land is subject to strict controls set out in the Act.

A plan of management must identify the following (S.36(3)):

- a) The category of the land
- b) The objectives and performance targets of the plan with respect to the land
- c) The means by which the council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives and performance targets
- d) The manner in which the council proposes to assess its performance with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets
- e) May require the prior approval of the council to the carrying out of any specified activity on the land.

A plan of management that applies to just one area of community land (S.36 (3A)):

- a) Must include a description of:
 - i. The condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements on the land, as at the date of adoption of the plan of management
 - ii. The use of the land and any such buildings or improvements as at that date
- b) Must specify:
 - i. The purposes for which the land, and any such buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used
 - ii. Specify the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or licence or otherwise
 - iii. Describe the scale and intensity of any such permitted use or development.

Section 46 and 46(A) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and S.116 and S.117 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* outlines the requirements/guidelines for issuing leases, licenses and grants on Community land. The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that a plan of

management be publicly exhibited for a minimum of 28 days and for submissions to be received for a minimum period of 42 days following the commencement of public exhibition (S.38 and S.43).

Categories of Land

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires all Council owned land to be classified as either Operational or Community Land. It is a requirement of s.36 (4) of the *Local Government Act 1993* to categorise all community land as either:

- Natural
- Sportsground
- Park
- Area of cultural significance
- General Community Use

Land that is categorised as a natural area is to be further categorised as one or more of the following:

- a) Bushland
- b) Wetland
- c) Escarpment
- d) Watercourse
- e) Foreshore
- f) A category prescribed by the regulations.

Table below lists the categories of the Community Land within the study area. The core objectives of these categories are described in **Appendix C**.

Table: Community Land and proposed Categories

Land	Existing Category	Existing POM	Proposed Category
Ballast Ground Stockton C1531 Lot 5 Sec 33 DP 758929 Lot 6 Sec 33 DP 753191 Lot 7 Sec 33 DP 758929 Lot 1 DP 129592 Lot 8, 10 and 11 DP 456347	No category	No POM	Park * see below
Pitt Street Reserve C 1539 Lot 3 DP 89698	No category	No POM	Park * see below
Griffith Park Lot 57 and 71 DP 753191	No category	No POM	Park * see below
Tramway Reserve Lot 1 DP 1155511 C192	General Community Use	General Community Use POM	General Community Use
Strzelecki Headland (Shepherds Hill Reserve) Lot 78 DP 154075 Lot 42 DP 152846 Lot 3247 DP 1096818 C13	No category	No POM	Part Natural Area (Escarpment) and Part General Community Use * see below
Dixon Park Lot 3 DP 227107 Lot 26 DP 1140755 C144	Park	Neighbourhood Parks POM	Park
Merewether Lot 268 DP 1102663 Lot 2 DP1118903 Lot 3 DP 1118903 Lot 2 DP 514500 Lot 3 DP 153433 C157 and C149	Park and General Community Use General Community Use	Merewether Beach Reserves POM	Park and General Community Use General Community Use

Proposed Categorisation of certain lands

Strzelecki Headland (Shepherds Hill Reserve) is Community Land (i.e. owned by Council), and the *Local Government Act 1993* applies.

As Strzelecki Headland has not previously been categorised, a public hearing was held during the exhibition period.

Strzelecki Headland is to be categorised as part **Natural Area (Escarpmnt)** and part **General Community Use**.

Clause 109 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* describes the kind of land that should be categorised as a Natural Area (Escarpmnt), and it is believed that Strzelecki Headland meets these requirements:

Clause 109 Guidelines for categorisation of land as an escarpment

Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as an escarpment under section 36 (5) of the Act if:

- (a) the land includes such features as a long cliff-like ridge or rock, and*
- (b) the land includes significant or unusual geological, geomorphological or scenic qualities.*

If the Headland is categorised as Natural Area (Escarpmnt), the Core objectives for both Natural Area and Escarpment under the *Local Government Act 1993* would apply to the Headland, being:

Clause 36E Core objectives for management of community land categorised as a natural area

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a natural area are:

- (a) to conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and*
- (b) to maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and*
- (c) to provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and*
- (d) to provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and*
- (e) to assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the*

Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994 .

In addition to,

Clause 36L Core objectives for management of community land categorised as an escarpment

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as an escarpment are:

- (a) to protect any important geological, geomorphological or scenic features of the escarpment, and*
- (b) to facilitate safe community use and enjoyment of the escarpment.*

Strzelecki Headland contains an endangered ecological community called 'Themeda grassland project on seacliffs and coastal headlands in the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions' (the Themeda EEC). The Themeda EEC has a highly restricted distribution in NSW and is subject to ongoing pressures from coastal development. The Themeda EEC is only found in small patches at Strzelecki Headland, King Edward Park and The Obelisk within the Newcastle LGA.

Strzelecki Headland also has an active Landcare Group, who work to conserve the biodiversity values of the site and to maintain ecosystem function.

A new elevated walkway has been constructed along Strzelecki Headland, known as Newcastle Memorial Walk.

The area to the south of the headland forms part of the Bar Beach car-park. The area to the north is Strzelecki car-park. Both are to be categorised as General Community Use.

Guidelines for categorisation of land as general community use

Land should be categorised as general community use under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land:

- (a) may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and*
- (b) is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or 36C of the Act and does not satisfy the guidelines under clauses 102-105 for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance.*

Lands at Stockton

Following a detailed review of Council and Crown Land within the coastal public lands, a few areas within Stockton (part within Ballast Ground, Griffith Park and Pitt Street Reserve) which were previously thought to be Crown Land are Community Land. (See Table: Community Land and proposed categories).

To correct this anomaly these lands are now categorised and contained within this Plan of Management.

The South Stockton Public Domain Plan was adopted by Council in 2012. It identified these lands as part of the park reserve. In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* it is proposed to categorise these parcels of land as a park as they meet the guidelines as detailed below. A Public Hearing was held during the exhibition period.

Guidelines for categorisation of land as a park

Land should be categorised as a park under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.

The following Core Objectives would apply to these lands.

36G Core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are:

- (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and*
- (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and*
- (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.*

See **Appendix D** for proposed categories of Community Land.

2.1.3 The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act NSW 1979* (EP&A Act) provides the legislative power for the preparation of State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs); and the Local Environmental Plans (LEPs). This includes the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Instruments made under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 (the “SEPP”) generally applies to land in New South Wales and aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across the State.

The SEPP specifies a range of developments that may be carried out by or on behalf of Council without consent on a Public Reserve under the control of or vested in Council, including outdoor recreational facilities, landscaping, amenity facilities, and environmental management works.

2.1.4 Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995

The *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (the TSC Act) is administered by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and provides protection for threatened flora and fauna. The TSC Act lists threatened species, populations and ecological communities in its schedules.

Section 5A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires an assessment of the potential impacts of a proposed development/activity on threatened species, populations and ecological communities listed in the TSC Act. Where a development/activity is likely to have a significant impact on a threatened species, population or ecological community, a Species Impact Statement is required.

2.1.5 Coastal Protection Act 1979

The objects of this Act are to provide for the protection of the coastal environment of the State for the benefit of both present and future generations.

2.2 Newcastle 2030: Newcastle Community Strategic Plan (2013)

Council's guiding document is the Newcastle 2030 Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The City of Newcastle developed the vision and strategic directions in Newcastle 2030 in partnership with the community. The management strategies for the Coastal Reserves were also developed with the community and are consistent with and reflect the strategic directions and community expectations in Newcastle 2030.

The community's vision for Newcastle is 'A Smart, Liveable and Sustainable City'.

The strategic directions, as outlined in Newcastle 2030 that are most relevant to the coastal public lands are:

- **Connected City**

Transport networks and services will be well connected and convenient. Walking, cycling and public transport will be viable options for the majority of our trips.

- **Vibrant and Activated Public Places**

A city of great public places and neighbourhoods promoting people's health, happiness and wellbeing.

- **Protected and Enhanced Environment**

Our unique environment will be understood, maintained and protected.

- **Liveable and Distinctive Built Environment**

An attractive city that is built around people and reflects our sense of identity.

Of particular relevance to the coast is:

Objective 3.1: Public places that provide for diverse activity and strengthen our social connection

Strategy 3.1.c: Work collaboratively to improve and revitalise our beaches, coastal areas and foreshores for everyone to enjoy.

2.3 Parkland and Recreation Strategy (2013)

The Parkland and Recreation Strategy has been developed to guide the provision of parkland and recreation facilities for current and future communities.

The Strategy is focused on providing a clear statement of the issues, objectives and actions required to achieve the vision for parkland and recreation in Newcastle.

The Background and Appendices contains the supporting information that was used to prepare the strategy and includes:

- population and demographic data for the Newcastle LGA;
- methodology and results of community input into the strategy's development;
- benchmarking against other Council's and comparisons of provision rates with industry standards; and
- maps of geographical distribution of parkland and recreation facilities.

2.4 Community Assets and Open Space Policy (2012)

The Community Assets and Open Space Policy was developed to provide Council with a life cycle framework

and a set of guiding principles for the consistent and integrated planning, acquisition, delivery, management and disposal of community assets and open spaces across the Newcastle Local Government Area.

2.5 Newcastle Coastal Revitalisation Masterplan (2010)

The Newcastle Coastal Revitalisation Masterplan was adopted by Council in October 2010 and establishes a strategic framework for decision making that will guide future use, enhancement and development of 11 kilometres of Newcastle's coastline stretching from Stockton Beach in the north to Merewether Beach in the south. The Coastal Revitalisation Masterplan provides a framework for:

- high quality public domain
- a variety of great places which meet community needs and aspirations
- the long term economic viability for the Newcastle coastal precinct.

2.6 Heritage Places Strategic Plans and Plans of Management

The Heritage Places Strategic Plans is relevant for the Crown Lands at King Edward Park, Fletcher Park, Newcastle Ocean Baths and Nobbys Headland. Whilst never formally adopted by Crown Lands, it provides relevant historic information in relation to these important places.

See **Appendix E** for relevant information.

2.7 Coal River Conservation and Tourism Plan (2007)

This plan applies to land defined by the Heritage Council of NSW as the "Coal River Heritage precinct". It's aim is to clarify the significance of the place and improve its contribution to the heritage of Newcastle, NSW and the nation.

2.8 Draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan (2013)

The Draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan guides all modifications, improvements or redevelopments of the coastal owned buildings including all the six surf clubs; two ocean baths pavilions and Shepherds Hill Cottage. It is an asset management tool for internal use by Council.

3. Historical Context



3.1 Aboriginal History

The first census of Aboriginal people in Newcastle in 1827 recorded two tribes; the Coal River tribe and Ash Island tribe. Material evidence exists of Aboriginal habitation; the majority located near the coast and estuaries or stone quarries. Sources of chert were recorded at Nobbys and Merewether and yellow ochre at Merewether Beach.

Open campsites were found at Dixon Park, Merewether, South Newcastle Beach and Nobbys. Stockton Bight contains burials, campsites and middens. King Edward Park, the area south of Shepherds Hill and an area near Corroba Reserve, contain archaeological material. Natural mythological sites have been identified above Newcastle Beach and Nobbys Headland.

The landscape today continues to retain both tangible and intangible cultural heritage value. As traditional owners of the land, the Indigenous community can hold a central place in the heritage themes of the place and in defining their eventual interpretation” (Urbis, 2010).

Like all parts of Australia, Newcastle’s Coastal Reserves have the potential to show the remains of Aboriginal occupation, and can be significant to Aboriginal communities.

3.2 European History

A snapshot of key historical events/themes can be summarised as follows:

Discovery

- 1797-discovery by Lieutenant John Shortland of Newcastle harbour and the Hunter River; second attempt of a settlement successful.
- 1818-construction of breakwater to the link Nobbys island to the mainland.
- 1883-opening of Soldiers Baths, being the first public ocean bathing pool in NSW.

Military

- 1882-completion of Fort Scratchley.
- 1942 -occupied by the 13th medium coastal artillery who returned fire on the attacking Japanese submarine.
- Military on Shepherds Hill

Shipwrecks

- Susan Gilmore wrecked in 1884 - she drifted onto a sandbar and the gale brought the ship to the beach beneath the cliffs just to the north of Bar Beach

- Maianbar – came to ground at Nobbys on 1940. Here steel remains lie embedded in the sand at Nobbys.
- Adolphe - the wreck of the French four-masted barque Adolphe lies off the Stockton breakwall (1904)

Ocean Baths/swimming

- 1913-Newcastle Ocean Baths open to the public. The baths were intended to attract tourism to the area with the decline of the mining industry on the first decade of the 20th century. In 1939 a tidal pool for children to take their canoes or boats was built and it had a map of the world on its floor, about 40m wide with coloured pigmented cement.
- 1928-work began on the existing Merewether Baths.
- Bogey Hole – became a popular swimming spot for soldiers. It is possibly one of the oldest remaining structures of European settlement in the Hunter Valley.

Surfing

- Cecil Lamb was one of the first persons to use a surfboard in 1911, his board resembling a laundry ironing board.
- In 1934 the long board was developed by Newcastle local lifesavers who tended to favour the surf skis to counteract the steeper swells common to the Newcastle Coast.
- Ray Richards was actively involved in development of surf board riding in the 1950s and owned the first surfboard shop in Newcastle. His son Mark Richards became world champion surfer (four times).
- Merewether Beach played an important role in the development of modern surfing in Newcastle.

Recreation

- King Edward Park contains many features of the development of a historic city and takes its character from two contrasting landscapes; the open coastal headlands and cliffs and the enclosed landscape gully in which the rotunda is located.
- By 1860 King Edward Park was identified on maps as a reserve for “public recreation’.

Headlands/Geology

- Strzelecki came to Newcastle in 1839 and studied fossils of the Newcastle coast of Newcastle and compared the coal measures with those of Van Dieman’s land. His geological map of Australia is the first of high importance.
- Newcastle is built on land found in the Permian Age with sedimentary layers that tilt upwards to the coastal cliff edge, exposing the seam of coal from Nobbys to Glenrock.

Mining

- Newcastle was of vital significance in the development of the NSW mining industry, with the first known European discovery of coal at Coal Island (now known as Nobbys Beach) in 1797.

Surf Lifesaving

- The development of surf lifesaving grew out of necessity as many Australians enjoyed the beach and surf lifestyle but many were drowning. The Newcastle Surf lifesaving Society was formed in 1908 and in that same year the Manly Surf Club and North Steyne Club staged lifesaving demonstrations at Newcastle Beach.
- Stockton and Bar Beach (Cooks Hill Surf lifesaving club) were formed soon after and clubs learnt and gave demonstrations of lifesaving techniques and participated in carnivals.

Whales

- Southern right whales and humpback whales can be seen swimming along the Newcastle coast. In the 1940s the world realised the possibility of whales facing extinction that regulations were imposed on the whaling industry. Now whale watching is a common activity and tourist attraction in Newcastle.



Newcastle Beach



Stockton Beach



Newcastle Beach



Merewether Beach



Nobbys Beach



Merewether Beach

4. Site Description



4.1 Regional and Local Context

The coastal public land is located close to Newcastle CBD and incorporates an extensive area of coastline within the Newcastle Local Government Area, spanning the area from Stockton in the north, to Merewether Beach in the south. Included within this area is the entrance to Newcastle Port that lies between the breakwaters of Stockton and Nobbys headland.

Along this coastline are a variety of natural and modified landscapes that include beaches, sand dunes, rock platforms, grasslands and formal parks. This range of landscape types allow for a wide range of users to be catered for, with experiences offered to suit both passive and active recreation.

Peppered along the coastal land are a number of iconic heritage and cultural sites such as the Newcastle Ocean Baths, Nobbys Surf Life Saving Club and the special heritage areas of Coal River and King Edward Park. Other notable sites are the more natural beaches of Stockton, the city beaches, the suburban beaches to the south and the many picturesque pathways such as the Bathers Way and walks along the northern and southern breakwaters.

Overall, the ever present majesty of Newcastle's coastal setting is central to the special attachment that residents and visitors have for its coastal land.



4.2 Northern Sector (Stockton)

The northern (Stockton) sector comprises the Stockton peninsula bound on three sides by water; the Hunter River to the south and west and the Newcastle Bight, and Pacific Ocean to the east. The Stockton Peninsula is relatively flat and low lying.

Existing development is located central to the peninsula, well setback from the coastline and river front, leaving a continuous ribbon of surrounding open space.

Stockton attracts a lower level of visitation from residents and visitors due to its location, with the Stockton ferry playing an important role in connecting Stockton to the Newcastle CBD. Stockton has numerous facilities for sporting activities, with boating and fishing also popular.

Key places are Stockton Beach, Griffith Park and the Ballast Ground.



4.3 Central Sector (City Beaches)

The City Beaches are highly popular with both the local community and tourists. Their unique proximity to the CBD, the increase in higher density residential development adjoining the foreshore, and the proximity of regional rail to the beaches, leads to the open space being highly used.

Nobbys Beach, Newcastle Beach, and King Edward Park form a continuous open space system along the harbour foreshore and coastline that provides a magnificent landscape setting to the Newcastle CBD. The well-loved and iconic Newcastle Baths, consisting

of providing heritage ocean baths and buildings, are located north of Newcastle Beach.

The sector has a number of other heritage areas and items including: The Hill Heritage Conservation Area, the Bogey Hole and Newcastle East Heritage Conservation Area including Fort Scratchley, Nobbys Surf Life Saving Club and Nobby's Lighthouse.



4.4 Southern Sector (Suburban Beaches)

This sector extends between Cooks Hill (Strzelecki Lookout) to the north and Merewether Beach in the south.

These suburban beaches that comprise Bar Beach, Dixon Park and Merewether Beach are well used by local residents and visitors for day to day recreation. Each beach has its own distinct character resulting from topography, road network, aspect and surrounding built form.

Empire Park at Bar Beach has a skate park facility

which features a 7-11 foot bowl. It also has tennis courts, a bowling club, a sporting field and amenities. Located across from Bar Beach, this park is one of the most popular in the region.

A number of upgrades were undertaken in 2010/11 including construction of new pathways, bat ball courts and a skate park. There are also landscaped picnic areas and BBQ areas being built. Significant public domain improvements have occurred in the Merewether beach and Dixon Park precinct.



4.5 Condition of Natural Environment

4.5.1 Northern (Stockton) sector

Stockton Beach is located at the southern end of the large sandy embayment known as the Stockton Bight (WBM 2000). The bight extends approximately 32 kilometres from the northern breakwater of the Hunter River to Birubi Point (WBM 2000).

Vegetation within the foreshore of Stockton primarily comprises grassland with scattered trees and sand scrub. Exotic Heathland, mangroves and Strandline Grassland are also present in limited extent. The parklands and open space are dominated by exotic grasses, Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*).

The sand dunes of Stockton beach are dominated by rehabilitated closed sand scrub, comprising Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia* subsp. *integrifolia*), Coast Tea-tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*), Old Man Banksia (*Banksia ser-rata*) and Tuckeroo (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*).

Pockets of the Exotic Heathland community can still be found in the Stockton foreshore. This community is dominated by Bitou Bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata*).



The Strandline Grassland community is largely restricted to the narrow strip of the beach strandline (shoreline). The community can also be found in dune swales and blowout areas. The community is dominated by Beach Spinifex (*Spinifex sericeus*). The Mangrove Complex community is found along the western (river) side of the Stockton peninsula. The Complex is dominated by Grey Mangroves (*Avicennia marina* var. *australasica*) and River Mangroves (*Aegiceras corniculatum*).

4.5.2 Central (City Beaches) sector Nobbys

Macquarie Pier was constructed between 1818 and 1875 to link Nobbys Island to the mainland. The building of the pier created Nobbys beach. A low-lying rock platform stretches from the Soldiers Baths to the Cowrie Hole (Gladstone 2005). A slightly more elevated platform exists around the Newcastle Ocean Baths (Gladstone 2005). The rock platform is a mixture of sand- stone, siltstone and conglomerate (Gladstone 2005).



Vegetation within the foreshore of Nobbys is dominated by Closed Sand Scrub (rehabilitated form), Grassland with Scattered Trees, Exotic Heathland and Strandline Grassland.

The Closed Sand Scrub (rehabilitated form) community is found on the dunes of Nobbys beach and within Horseshoe Park. Species found in this community include Coastal Wattle (*Acacia longifolia* var. *sophorae*), Coast Tee Tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*), Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia* subsp. *integrifolia*) and Pigface (*Carpobrotus glaucescens*).

Horseshoe Park and surrounding open space areas are predominately exotic grassland with scattered Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and Norfolk Island Hibiscus (*Lagunaria Patersonia*). The Exotic Heathland community can still be found in the Nobbys dune system and headland. This community is dominated by Bitou Bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata*).

The Strandline Grassland community is largely restricted to the narrow strip of the beach strandline (shoreline). The community can also be found in dune swales and blowout areas. The community is dominated by Beach Spinifex (*Spinifex sericeus*).

4.5.3 Newcastle Beach

Newcastle Beach is a small pocket beach between the rocky headlands of Fort Scratchley to the north, and Shepherds Hill to the South (WBM 2000). A rock platform extends from Newcastle beach to Susan Gilmore beach (Gladstone 2005). The intertidal platform at Susan Gilmore beach is sandstone and is dissected by many joints (Gladstone 2005). The vegetation communities at Newcastle beach include Grassland with Scattered Trees, Exotic Heathland, and Coastal Moist Sedgeland.

Exotic grassland and scattered Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) are found in Fletcher Park and surrounding open space areas. Exotic Heathland can be found on the slopes and cliffs surrounding Newcastle Beach. This community is dominated by Bitou Bush



(*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata*).

Coastal Moist Sedgeland is found on the natural soaks in the cliff face and surrounding stormwater outlets. Species found in this community include Common Maidenhair (*Adiantum aethiopicum*) and Pouched Coral Fern (*Gleichenia dicarpa*).

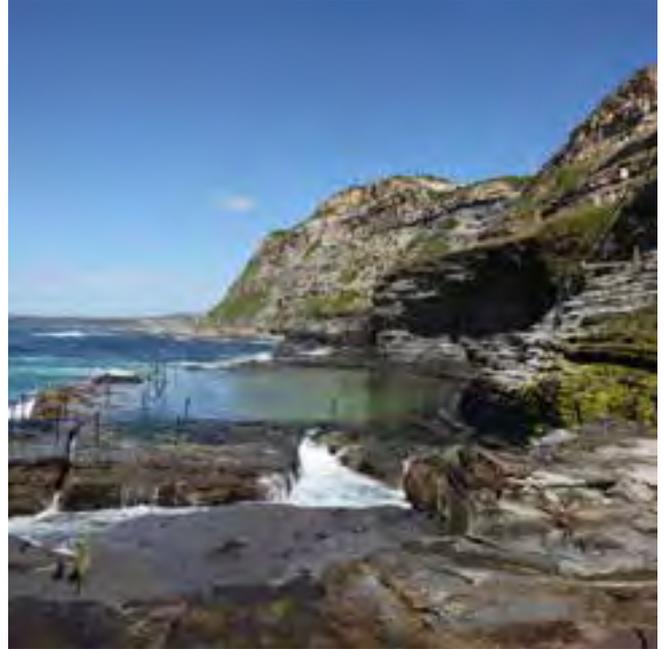
4.5.4 Shepherds Hill

The Shepherds Hill area extends from Newcastle Beach to Bar Beach. The area is characterised by high cliffs with a rock platform below (WBM 2000). Some fringing sand areas exist at the base of the cliffs (e.g. southern end of Susan Gilmore beach).

Vegetation communities found in this area include Grassland with Scattered Trees, Coastal Headland Complex – Low Shrubland (including rehabilitated form), Coastal Headland Complex – Grassland, and Exotic Heathland. Exotic grassland and scattered Norfolk

Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) are found in the parks and surrounding open space areas.

The Coastal Headland Complex – Low Shrubland (including rehabilitated form) is found on the coastal headlands. Shrub species found in this community include Coastal Wattle (*Acacia longifolia* var. *sophorae*),



Coast Tee Tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*), and Coastal Rosemary (*Westringia fruticosa*).

The Coastal Headland Complex – Grassland comprises the endangered ecological community Themeda Grassland on Seacliffs and Coastal Headlands in the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions. Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda australis*) is the dominate species in this community.

Significant areas comprising this endangered ecological community can be found between King Edward Park, The Obelisk and Strzelecki (The Trig). Exotic Heathland is still present in pockets along this section of the coast, particularly on steep slopes and cliffs, where weed removal and revegetation becomes difficult. This community is dominated by Bitou Bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata*).

4.5.5 Southern (Southern Beaches) Sector

Bar Beach, Dixon Park and Merewether beach form one beach unit which extends between the headlands of Shepherds Hill to the north, and Merewether Beach to the south (WBM 2000).

The vegetation between Bar Beach and Merewether Beach is dominated by the communities Closed Sand Scrub (including the rehabilitated form), Grassland with Scattered Trees, Exotic Heathland and Strandline Grassland.

The Closed Sand Scrub community is found on the dunes between Bar Beach and Merewether Beach. Species found in this community include Coast Tea-tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*), Coastal Wattle (*Acacia longifolia* var. *sophorae*) and Pigface (*Carpobrotus glaucescens*). Most of the Closed Sand Scrub found between Bar Beach and Merewether Beach is the rehabilitated form of the community.



Exotic grassland, scattered Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia* subsp. *integrifolia*) are found in the parklands and open space areas. Exotic Heathland is still present in pockets along this section of the coast, particularly on steep slopes and cliffs, where weed removal and revegetation becomes difficult. This community is dominated by Bitou Bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata*).

The Strandline Grassland community is largely restricted to the narrow strip of the beach strandline (shoreline). The community is dominated by Beach Spinifex (*Spinifex sericeus*).

4.6 Coastal Habitat

Terrestrial fauna habitat along the coastline is limited due to the level of fragmentation, edge to area ratios of remnants, and high degree of disturbance associated with urbanisation and recreation. However, the coastline does provide habitat for a number of threatened fauna species, particularly migratory shorebirds.

Newcastle's coastal rock platforms are also home to a great diversity of plants and animals, including a number of threatened bird species (Gladstone 2005).

The rock platform of highest biodiversity value is the Nobbys Shore (from the Soldiers Baths to Newcastle

Beach). Nobbys Shore contains the largest number of rare rock platform species and is the most significant site for bird roosting and foraging.

4.7 Condition of Built assets

The study area is predominately natural and offers a range of uses including passive and active recreation, commercial, tourism, conservation activities and educational opportunities.

The coastal public land contains a variety of existing built assets that if appropriately managed (including repairs, maintenance or upgrades as required) could continue to provide excellent assets for the residents of Newcastle for years to come. This Plan of Management includes a description of the current condition and use of assets located within the Coastal Reserve.

Built assets in the coastal public land include surf clubs, public toilets and playgrounds. Council has developed a range of Asset Management Plans unified by The City of Newcastle Asset Strategy. The purpose of the asset management plans is to establish a framework for managing the assets in a continuous improvement environment through the asset's lifecycle. This involves achieving a balance between delivering asset services to meet community needs and council's ability to manage and resource the asset portfolio accordingly.



The draft Coastal Building Improvements Plan guides the future maintenance and development of the coastal built assets. It is an asset management tool for internal use by Council.

As part of the draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan process a structural condition report has been prepared (SMEC 2013) as well as a needs analysis. In summary the buildings have been assessed as follows:

4.7 Condition of Built assets

Building		Description	General Condition	Fit for purpose	Current Use
Nobbys Beach Surf Club		Includes the main surf club building located to the south, a lifeguard tower and shade structure to the NW and NE of the main pavilion. Is of masonry construction with a pitched gable roof.	Good	Poor	Surf club Community facilities Kiosk Lifeguard patrol and first aid
Newcastle Ocean Baths Pavilion		Consists of a central 2 storey area and wings accommodating a large storage area to the north and amenities block in the south wing	Poor	Poor	Community facilities Life guard patrol and first aid Kiosk Rooms not in use
Newcastle Beach Surf Club		Includes the surf club building to the north, two shade structures and a lifeguard tower. Is of reinforced concrete columns and beam construction with masonry infill walls	Fair	Poor	Surf club Community facilities Kiosk Life guard patrol and first aid
Shepherds Hill Cottage		Is of timber/weatherboard construction. Consist of a pitched, gables colourbond roof and verandah along northern and western sides. Constructed in early 1890's	Poor	Poor	Vacant due to storm damage
Cooks Hill Surf Club		Consists of split level construction (3 levels). Amenities and surf tower are of concrete slab construction and masonry walls.	Fair	Fair	Surf club Community facilities Kiosk Life guard patrol and first aid
Dixon Park Surf Club		Consist of a 2 storey reinforced concrete beam and columns structure and a single storey concrete beam and column structure to the east. A shade structure and lifeguard tower of timber construction is located to the east.	Good	Good	Surf club Community facilities Life guard patrol and first aid rooms
Merewether Beach Surf Club		Original surf club consist of single story boat shed which forms central part of the pavilion. Northern and southern extensions constructed in 1979 are of concrete beam and column construction.	Good	Poor	Surf club Community facilities Kiosk temporary lifeguard patrol and first aid room
Merewether Ocean Baths		Is of reinforced concrete beam and column construction with the upper level consisting of a steel and timber frame structures with external masonry walls	Poor	Poor	Community facilities Life guard patrol and first aid

4.8 Status of existing Leases and Licences

The following table provides a summary of the existing leases and licenses along the coast.

4.8 Status of existing Leases and Licences

Fit for purpose	Current Use	Reserve Purpose
Northern Sector (Stockton)		
Boys Scout	In principle approval for a five year lease given by Crown Lands in 2009*	Public recreation
City Beaches		
Kiosk – Nobbys Beach	Five year lease to M.A.P Projects P/L (expires 26.9.2017)	Public recreation
Nobbys Beach Surf Life Saving Club	Expired two year lease Expired 31.12.12	Public recreation
Kiosk - Newcastle Baths	Five year lease to Hudson Caterers P/L (expires 26.9.2017)	Public recreation
Kiosk – Newcastle Beach	Five year lease to Hudson Caterers P/L (expires 26.9.2017) assigned to Newcastle and Hunter Event Caterers P/L	Public recreation, public baths and communication facilities
Newcastle Beach Surf Life Saving Club	Expired 31.12.12	Public recreation, public baths and communication facilities
Newcastle Hill Tennis Club	Expired lease	Public recreation
Shepherds Hill Cottage	Marine Rescue NSW ceased occupation of Cottage as a consequence of storm damage 21.4.15	Public recreation and communication facilities
Suburban Beaches (Southern) Sector		
Kiosk – Bar Beach	Five year lease to M.A.P Projects P/L (expires 26.9.2017)	Public recreation and communication facilities
Cooks Hill Surf Life Saving Club	Expired two year lease Expired 31.12.12	Public recreation and communication facilities
Empire Park Tennis Club	Expired lease	Public recreation and communication facilities
Reid Park Tennis Club	Expired lease. Expired 30.4.11	Public recreation and communication facilities
Dixon Park Surf Life Saving Club	Expired two year lease Expired 31.12.12	Community land
Kiosk - Merewether Beach	Five year lease to Alepohori P/L (expires 26.9.2017)	Community land
Merewether Surf Life Saving Club	Expired two year lease Expired 31.12.12	Community land
Surf House	25yr + 25yr ground lease to Sailors Rock P/L commenced 28.10.11	Public recreation

Note: Surf House

Council, with Department of Lands consent, entered into a 'Deed of Agreement for Lease' that provides for redevelopment and then lease of the Merewether Beach Pavilion (Surf House) site for a period of 25 years with a further 25 year option.

- The Merewether Beach Pavilion (Surf House) was approved by Council for a three storey building incorporating public amenities, café, kiosk, function centre and restaurant.

Boy Scouts

There is no record of final agreement for Boy Scouts at Stockton so an action is required in this Plan of Management to establish an agreement with the Scouts.

Stockton Girl Guides and Scouts

The land occupied on the Crown Reserve ballast ground at Stockton by the Girl Guides (Lot 105 DP720719) was excised out of the main Crown Reserve (R63408) for their management and use in 1986. R98054 was gazetted for Girl Guides 31.1.86 and the Guides were appointed Trustee on the same day. The Stockton Girl Guides (R98054) Reserve Trust was established 23.11.90.

Seasonal Licences

Licences for parks such as Empire Park and Griffith Park are usually seasonal and relate to activities such as: football, soccer, cricket, training, boot camp and kids sports.

For further information in relation to seasonal licences, contact Council's Sports Liaison Officer.

5. Existing Site Management/Usage



5.1 Existing Site Management

Reserve Trusts

A Reserve Trust is a legal body established under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* to manage a Crown Reserve. The trust is responsible, under the oversight of the Minister, for the care, control and management of a specific Crown Reserve. Reserve Trusts are not conducted for private profit.

Reserve Trust funds must be used and managed in the best interests of the reserve and all reserve users. Reserve Trust funds are not usually available to assist major reserve users (e.g. a sporting club) or for purposes not connected with the reserve. Any money raised through the operation of the reserve trust, (e.g. from any approved tenure, sale of part of the reserve or entry or parking fees), must be used only for the purpose of improving and maintaining the reserve and for the reserve trust's operations.

Any money raised by each Reserve Trust and any investment income earned on that money must be separately accounted for and cannot be transferred between the Reserve Trusts.

In certain circumstances, and only with the Minister's approval, a Reserve Trust can donate trust money to other groups for purposes which will benefit the

reserve itself (e.g. a donation to assist a major user of the reserve to build or repair facilities), or will benefit the community in some other way.

Reporting

All trusts are required to submit to the Minister an annual report as prescribed in section 122 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989* and section 35 of the *Commons Management Act 1989*. This report provides important information to support the partnership between the Department and trusts, in the management of the Crown Reserves.

Newcastle City Council has been appointed as Reserve Trust Manager for the Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust.

5.2 Current Site uses

The Coastal Public Land is predominately natural and offers a range of uses including passive and active recreation, commercial, tourism, conservation activities and educational opportunities.

The main uses of the coast are: swimming, surfing, walking, jogging, skating, cycling, eating at kiosks and cafes, sport (informal and formal), and aerial sports.

Appendix G outlines the current usage of each Sector and Precinct, as well as built improvements.



5.2.1 Special Areas within the Coastal Public Land

King Edward Park



King Edward Park and its environs contain many important features of the development of the historic city. It is a State nominated item in the Newcastle LEP 2012. The Park is an outstanding example of a Victorian recreational place in a dramatic coastal setting, despite some conflicting aspects of its design. It thus has particular importance within the Hunter Region. A comprehensive public domain plan and conservation plan is required to guide maintenance and any future development of this park.

Refer to **Appendix E** for extract from Heritage Places Strategic Plan

Coal River Precinct (Fort Scratchley, Nobbys)



The Aboriginal presence in the Coal River area predates European contact and has been continuous to the present day. Coal River is one of a number of sites in Australia first settled by convict transportation. The Coal River historic precincts have State significance because they concentrate the whole story or the development of NSW's first and most important industrial centre.

Buildings within the Coastal Public Land



This includes the five surf lifesaving clubs at Nobbys Newcastle, Cooks Hill, Dixon Park and Merewether Beach; the Baths Pavilions for Newcastle Ocean Baths and Merewether Ocean Baths; kiosks/cafes including, kiosks at Merewether and Bar Beach and at the surf pavilions; Lifeguard towers and the newly built Surf House - cafe, function centre and restaurant. Council is preparing a draft Coastal Building Improvements Plan to guide the future development of these buildings.

Strzelecki Headland (Shepherds Hill Reserve)



Strzelecki Headland, named after Polish explorer and geologist Sir Paweł Edmund Strzelecki, contains an endangered ecological community called 'Themeda grassland on seaciffs and coastal headlands in the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions' (the Themeda EEC).

The Themeda EEC has a highly restricted distribution in NSW and is subject to ongoing pressures from coastal development. The Themeda EEC is only found in small patches at Strzelecki Headland, King Edward Park and The Obelisk within the Newcastle LGA.

6. Basis for Management



6.1 Reserve Values

The Newcastle community and visitors alike value the Newcastle Coastline for many reasons. In order to determine the future role of the area, it is important to understand these reasons, also known as the key community values of the coastline. Community feedback was sought during the exhibition of the Newcastle Coastal Masterplan, with a detailed summary found in (Newcastle Voice We Love Our Coast 2010). Consultation also occurred as part of the Merewether Beach Plan of Management (2009), the Merewether Beach Public Domain Plan (2010), the South Stockton Reserves Public Domain Plan (2012), Coastline Management Plan, Bathers Way Public Domain Plan (2012) and also internally amongst Council officers.

These studies and consultations identified some of the key values and issues for the coastal area of Newcastle.

Of profound importance to the local and wider community, are elements such as the special landscape, biodiversity, heritage, recreational and cultural values that draw visitors, and together create a strong visual character that is unique to Newcastle.

The following are the **key values** for the Coastal Public Land:

6.1.1 Recreational/Social values

The recreational values of the Coastal Public Land are high as the area is an extremely popular resource for both locals and visitors alike. The area is used by all ages.

The most highly valued recreational activities include:

- Walking, jogging, running, cycling along the coastline
- Surfing the key surf breaks, including Merewether, Dixon Park, The Cliff, Newcastle, Nobbys and Stockton
- Swimming at both the beaches and at the two Ocean Baths
- Sporting activities including both organised and informal sports at parks, e.g. football, cricket, touch football
- Skating at Bar Beach and Newcastle South
- Surf Club activities including nippers, surf boat rowing
- Socialising at cafes and function centres
- Tourism opportunities

- Spectator sports
- Use of public spaces for events e.g. carnivals, Surfest, Australian Bowl Riding Championships
- Use of surf clubs and pavilions for functions, community events
- Passive recreation including whale watching; reading; enjoying the view
- Fitness training
- Dog walking
- Fishing
- Aerial sports such as hang gliding, paragliders, kite surfers

The coast also plays a significant community development role in the well being and health of



Novocastrians and all users.

6.1.2 Landscape and Built Character Values

Landscape character

The landscape character varies greatly across the Coastal Public Land area.

Northern sector (Stockton):

- The landform is almost flat, with the entire peninsula very low-lying and vulnerable to sea-level rise in places.
- Stockton also has a rather bare character, having relatively low amounts of vegetation.

Central sector (Newcastle and Nobbys):

- Topography is far more hilly and urbanised.
- The area north of Strzelecki that takes in King Edward Park, Newcastle Beach and Nobbys contains both valleys and ridges, with a highpoint near the obelisk.

- Ragged cliff lines form the coastal edge to King Edward Park and immediately north.
- The coastal edge softens to rock platforms and beaches further north, with land use becoming a mix of commercial and higher density residential.
- More cliffs occur on the landward side of Newcastle Baths, on which Fort Scratchley sits. From here and north the landscape is more dominated by the coastal reserves, rock platforms and beaches, with the fringing development less visible.
- Nobbys Beach sweeps around in a distinct arc to the well-known headland that is Nobbys rising at the northern tip, and forming a distinct gateway to Newcastle Harbour.

Southern sector (Bar Beach, Dixon Park and Merewether):

- At Strzelecki, high cliff line creating a visual barrier between the coastal areas to the north and south.
- The land use is more residential along the fringe, with the landform sweeping down towards Bar Beach.
- Inland of the beach edge is a topographic bowl that supports a wide coastal recreational area that is a popular destination. A low headland then rises to the south, separating the area of Dixon Park Beach and Merewether Beach further south.

Built Character

The street furniture, including bins, lighting, signage, seating and shade structures, whilst ad-hoc in its current form, provides an important and essential element in the use and value of the landscape. There is currently a mismatch of street furniture with no overall co-ordinated approach or theme and this could be improved upon to enhance the character and function of the landscape.

There is also a lack of emphasis on providing an “all abilities” approach to planning and design. Issues such as sight/hearing impairments could be addressed



through talking signs, and/or braille and toilets designs that are repeated and consistent.

Public art pieces are few but valued along the coastline as they have been designed and placed in an area to mark a specific occasion or reflect on part of the cultural heritage of the area. e.g. Pasha Bulka artwork at Newcastle Beach.

6.1.3 Natural Environmental Values

The Newcastle coastline comprises a great diversity of environments, including pocket beaches, high rocky cliffs, coastal bluffs, the mouth of one of the largest estuaries in NSW, and the southern end of the mobile sand dunes of Stockton Bight.

Whilst the Newcastle coastline has a long history of urbanisation, it still maintains areas of high environmental value including:

- Our coastal rock platforms, which have a high habitat diversity and are occupied by a great range of plants and animals. The rock platforms are frequented by a number of threatened and migratory bird species.
- The Themeda Grasslands on the headlands between King Edward Park and The Trig. These grasslands are an endangered ecological community listed under NSW legislation.
- The western foreshore of Stockton, which is a significant area for threatened and migratory bird species to roost and search for food.
- The areas of coastal rehabilitation, where the community and Council has invested significant



time and resources in revegetating the coastline with native species.

- The cleanliness of our beaches, including the consistently good water quality.

- The Hunter Estuary, which is a RAMSAR listed wetland adjacent to the Newcastle coastline. RAMSAR wetlands are wetlands of international importance. The Hunter Estuary is the most important estuary along the NSW coast for bird species.

6.1.4 Cultural and Historical Values

Newcastle's coastline is a rich heritage landscape, culturally significant on many levels. It contains rare and important evidence of pre-European Aboriginal cultural life as well as being a place of ongoing spiritual and cultural connection for the Worimi and Awabakal people. Mulubinba meaning sea fern, is the Aboriginal name for Newcastle.

Heritage items and archaeological sites of local, state and national heritage value are located along the coast. There are a number of iconic cultural land marks that provide the backdrop for this interesting and dynamic coastal landscape, including:

- Nobby's Lighthouse;
- Fort Scratchley;
- Nobbys Surf Life Saving Club; and
- The Bogey Hole.



These places are valued by locals and visitors alike as unique heritage assets in a dramatic coastal setting. Several 'areas' have also been identified for special protection and development control for their historic, aesthetic and archaeological heritage values.

- Coal River Precinct
- King Edward Park
- The Hill Heritage Conservation Area
- Newcastle East Heritage Conservation Area
- Fletcher Park
- Shephards Hill Defence Group Military Installations

Many of the heritage assets on the coast possess outstanding heritage significance including the Nobbys Signal Station, Macquarie Pier, Nobbys Beach and surf pavilion and the 19th century Soldiers Baths. Collectively, this heritage landscape is valued for its multi-layered evidence of the history and development of Newcastle, encompassing both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal history.

Council's management of heritage places will be underwritten by a set of Guiding Principles. See **Appendix H** for copy of Guiding Principles. Refer to **Appendix I** for a list of all heritage items located within the Study area.

Council has recently endorsed an application by the Guraki Committee to the New South Wales Geographical Names Board to dual name eight significant features in the Newcastle Local Government Area. The Committee nominates dual names for Nobbys Headland, Flagstaff Hill, Pirate Point, Port Hunter, Hunter River (South Channel), Shepherds Hill, Ironbark Creek, and Hexham Swamp.

Refer to **Appendix E** Extract from Heritage Places Strategic Plans in relation to historical information on Newcastle Ocean Baths, Nobbys, and King Edward Park.

6.1.5 Accessibility Values

Public access to and along the coastline is much valued. Access to the paths, the Bathers Way, Newcastle Memorial Walk and linkages to the Great North Walk, are seen as important. The upper and lower promenade in some beach areas feature as key recreation and pedestrian links within the coastal area, with ocean beaches and ocean baths being accessible by pathways, ramps and stairs.



The Bathers Way project began in the early 2000s and is an important path for pedestrian and recreational cyclist's link between the suburban and inner city beaches. The

Bathers Way is being upgraded over the coming years and will provide a continuous shared pathway linking five of the coastal beaches from Merewether in the south to Nobbys Beach in the north. The Bathers Way provides excellent opportunities for scenic viewing as well as walking through/past coastal vegetation, rock platforms and areas of heritage significance.

Newcastle Memorial Walk at Strzelecki Headland connects to Bathers Way and was opened on Anzac Day 2015. The walk was built to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Anzac landing at Gallipoli in 1915.

The road hierarchy along the coast is shown in **Appendix J**.

As many visitors travel by car to the coastline, parking is at a premium along the coastline. Alternatives to private car use are also valued, with many pedestrian and cyclists using the coastline to access the beach, cafes and improve fitness. The use of public transport is minimal and could be improved. Connection from the coast to the CBD and commercial centres of Darby Street and The Junction are also highly valued by the community.

Ferry access provides an important link to the north of Newcastle, to Stockton, Fern Bay and beyond. Making the coast more accessible for all abilities is also an important goal for Council.

6.2 Role of Coastal Public Land

The Newcastle Coastline will continue to be a key attraction for Novocastrians and visitors alike. Within the coastal public land, various social, recreational and educational activities on water and land, will ensure the best use of the coastal land. Accessibility along the coastline will ensure that all users can enjoy the natural beauty of the coastline. Commercial activities will assist the economic sustainability and funding opportunities to this important part of Newcastle's landscape.

6.3 Management Goal

To maintain and enhance the Newcastle coastal experience for all users.

6.4 Management objectives

Recreation/Social

To enhance the quality and opportunity of the recreation experience for locals and visitors.

Landscape and Built Environment

To ensure a co-ordinated approach to landscape works and improvements that is sensitive to the coastal environment.

Natural Environment

To maintain and protect the environmental qualities of the Coastline, and manage identified coastal vegetation.

Cultural Heritage

To protect and interpret items/areas of cultural and heritage significance.

Accessibility and Safety

To provide access and improve safety to coastal facilities for all users.

Management

To provide a management framework that will ensure a co-ordinated approach to safety, maintenance and improvements to the coastline.

6.5 Key objectives for each precinct (as identified in the Newcastle Coastal Masterplan)

Stockton sector:

To build upon the key themes for this precinct being: sporting, recreation and education; heritage and tourists.

Central Beach Sector (Nobbys, Newcastle and King Edward Park):

To build upon the key themes for this precinct being: urban beach experience; gateway to the City and Heritage significance.

Suburban Beach sector (Strzelecki, Bar Beach, Dixon Park and Merewether Beach):

To build upon the key themes for this precinct being: suburban beach experience; transition from tourist/visitor (city) beaches to beaches used by "locals" and group and sporting groups.

6.6 Issues and Opportunities

The following tables describe the main management issues and threats identified for the coast, as a whole, and then for each sector. The issues were identified during various consultation phases for the Coastal Masterplan and Public Domain Plans. They are based on the key values identified above.

A Performance Target (Objective) has then been identified which will guide the actions required for this Plan of Management.

Recreation/Social

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Increase in population	Improve coastal facilities and tourism opportunities
Impact of special events	Plan for and ensure special events are well managed and monitored according to Council processes.
Need for more areas to gather in a social setting and take advantage of the view	Improve opportunities for social recreation along the coast
Catering for dog owners as a user group	Provide areas for off leash dog areas and other dog facilities so as to minimise the impact of dogs on the coast as a whole
Some areas are unsafe	Provide facilities using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles
Some conflict with the mix of diverse uses and activities	Ensure different users are catered for and there is an appropriate amount of diversity.
Condition of community facilities	Provide for a framework for improving community based facilities
Extent of commercial activity	Provide appropriate, feasible commercial facilities
Don't want overdevelopment	Ensure any proposed developments are sensitive to the environment, involve adaptive re-use where possible and are likely to be commercially viable
Sporting use conflict	Ensure major sporting areas retain their function where appropriate
Access to fishing areas	Ensure recreational fishing opportunities are provided for in appropriate locations

Landscape and Built Environment

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Inconsistent materials and finishes	Provide a consistent treatment of materials in the public domain, including for visually impaired.
Poor visual presentation	Improve the quantity and quality of public domain elements
Lack of comfort for users	Ensure landscape elements address site conditions and improve comfort for users
Need to take better advantage of public views	Identify and ensure key views from public spaces are retained and enhanced
Inadequate shade and lighting	Increase the amount of shade and lighting along the coastline
Condition of public amenities	Improve the condition of public amenities, including toilets, seating, bins etc. and then maintain properly.
Placement of memorials and public art	Integrate sensitively signage, memorials and artwork within the coastal landscape
Inconsistent use of plant species	Ensure consistent use of landscaping and where possible use indigenous coastal plant species

Natural Environmental

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Cliff instability along coastline	Identify and manage cliff instability issues where necessary
Coastal erosion control is an issue in a number of areas	Manage coastal erosion problems in study area
Potential impact of climate change and sea level rise	Identify and manage potential impacts of climate change and sea level rise
Coastal inundation from the sea	Identify and manage areas of the coastline subject to inundation
Flooding from storms	Identify and manage areas of the coastline subject to flooding
Water quality improvements always needed	Manage stormwater and effluent outfall impacts on the coastline
Protection of threatened and migratory species	Protect the diversity of flora, fauna and ecological communities, with particular emphasis on threatened and migratory species
Need to educate people more about importance of coastline features and natural assets	Increase knowledge of the value of the coast
Degradation of coastal habitat	Rehabilitate natural areas of the coastline with locally indigenous species

Cultural/Heritage

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Need for recognition and protection of heritage items	Identify and protect heritage items and promote the heritage of the coast as a unique and vibrant asset
Need to ensure any improvements respect heritage value of area	Ensure any new developments or improvements are respectful to the heritage value of the area
The history of the area could be better explained and interpreted, both indigenous and European	Integrate information on the history (both indigenous and European) of Newcastle coastline in different ways/means. Promote the heritage of the coastal reserves.
Archaeology	Manage archaeological features in accordance with best practice and relevant statutory requirements

Accessibility and Safety

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Concerns with inadequate access along coastline particularly with elderly and disabled	Improve access and safety to coastal facilities for all users where possible
Need to better interconnect Coast with City	Improve pedestrian and cycle connections between the coast and the City
Lack of public transport to key areas	Improve access to the coast by all modes
Parking is at a premium at peak times and the need to ensure that parking remains at key locations	Ensure access along the coast for active/passive recreation users Explore options for managing parking
Traffic safety and Flow	Identify traffic conflicts and pedestrian /cycle safety
Link to regional cycleway	Improve connection to regional cycleway

Management

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Concern where money is to be spent	Establish clear guidelines for management of Reserves Trust funds
Surf clubs need improvements	Improve community facilities
Risk Management	Ensure risk management issues are integral to the design process
Land tenure	Identify parcels of land to be transferred to Crown and managed through the Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust
Leases and Licences	Manage and promote where necessary opportunities for appropriate activities along the coastal reserve where activities may be booked for viable commercial activities
Maintenance	Ensure best practice methods are used for all maintenance procedures
Coastal Reserve Trust issues	Manage the Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust according to Crown Lands Act

Key Issues for each beach sector are identified as follows:

Stockton Sector

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Conflicts and improvements to South Stockton reserves	Investigate specific urban and environmental improvements to South Stockton Reserves
Conflicts and improvements to North Stockton reserves	Investigate specific urban and environmental improvements to North Stockton
Cycleways	Continue with cycleway improvements along the foreshore

Central (City Beach) Sector (Nobbys and Newcastle)

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Area is on State heritage register and within conservation area	Ensure State heritage issues are considered in any development proposals
General improvements needed	Identify specific urban and environmental improvements for Newcastle Beach and Nobbys Beach
Protection of King Edward Park and Shepherds Hill	Manage heritage values and identify specific improvements for King Edward Park/ Shepherds Hill
Need to balance access to beaches and parks	Improve vehicular, cycle and pedestrian access to Nobbys and Newcastle Beach
Poor connection between Newcastle Beach and Hunter Street and CBD	Improve connections for pedestrians between Newcastle Beach and Hunter Street
Ocean Baths maintenance	Improve the Newcastle Ocean Baths and Pavilion in a safe and useable condition

Southern Sector (Strzelecki to Merewether)

Issue	Performance Target (Objective)
Improvements needed to public domain areas	Identify specific urban and environmental improvements for Bar Beach, Dixon Park and Merewether Beach
Competing sporting demands on local parks	Ensure parks such as Empire Park and Griffith Park manages competing sporting demands
Protection of National Surfing Reserve	Ensure the recognition and protection of Merewether Beach as a National Surfing Reserve
Appropriate viewing opportunities are limited around Strzelecki area	Identify opportunities for viewing and walking facilities around Strzelecki area, where appropriate.
Condition of Merewether Baths	Improve the Merewether Ocean Baths and Pavilion in a safe and useable condition

Note: Merewether Beach Plan of Management outlines a number of objectives and actions that have been transferred to this POM.

6.7 Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis

The SWOT analysis identifies the key Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of the Coastal Public Land and provides a better understanding of key opportunities and constraints for future use and management of the study area.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Stunning coastal location close to the Newcastle CBD and residential areas</p> <p>Strong visual and connective linkages from beach to beach and also to residential and commercial areas of the City</p> <p>Iconic areas: Nobbys Headland, Fort Scratchley and King Edward Park</p>	<p>Cliff instability</p> <p>Pedestrian access – many conflicts with traffic and parking</p> <p>Parking areas congested at peak times</p> <p>Lack of good public transport system</p> <p>Lack of Reserve management model</p> <p>Condition of built assets</p> <p>Lack of trees/landscaping</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Tourism potential with Bathers Way improvements</p> <p>Coastal heritage assets can be marketed to promote Newcastle’s coastal reserves</p> <p>Education opportunities especially relating to history of area, plus natural values of rock platforms along beach</p> <p>Open space to have either aesthetic value or functional value</p> <p>Increase health and wellbeing with an improved shared pathway</p> <p>Re-use or rebuilding of existing surf clubs and pavilions to provide for great community facilities and associated commercial development</p> <p>Viewing areas to capture the stunning views and activities occurring up and down the coastline</p>	<p>Coastal processes</p> <p>Funding</p>

7. Management Directions and Action



7.1 Newcastle Coastal Revitalisation Masterplan (2010)

Council adopted the Newcastle Coastal Revitalisation Masterplan (Coastal Masterplan) in 2010. This plan was prepared with input from Councillors and the community and was adopted with amendments after being placed on public exhibition. The principles established by the Coastal Masterplan provide guiding direction for the future management of land use, facilities and public domain improvement of the Newcastle Coastline. The principles contained within the Masterplan are found in **Appendix K**. The principles have been incorporated into the aims and objectives for this Coastal Public Lands Plan of Management where possible.

The Coastal Masterplan aims to enhance access, experiences and the quality of facilities along the coastline.

The specific objectives and strategies for each beach precinct contained within the Masterplan have not been carried over into the Plan of Management. The Masterplan is to be referred to and used as a guide only for more detailed strategies proposed for each beach precinct.

A full copy of the Coastal Masterplan can be found on Council's website www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au.

7.2 Public Domain Plans

Public Domain Plans have, are, and will be prepared for each beach precinct. The Public Domain Plans will test the ideas within the Coastal Masterplan and provide much greater detail in relation to proposals planned for each beach precinct.

Each Public Domain Plan will be separately exhibited for community comment. A set of Urban Design Principles will be developed to guide the public domain planning process. These will be included in any future briefs for public domain plans.

There are currently three adopted public domain plans, namely *Merewether Beach Public Domain Plan (2010)*, *South Stockton Reserves Public Domain Plan (2012)* and *Bathers Way Public Domain Plan (2012)*.

7.3 Management Direction for Trusts

The following table outlines the general and financial management proposed for all the Coastal Public Land.

Land	Key Facilities	Management (General)	Management (Financial)
Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust (gazetted 6 July 2012)	Newcastle Beach Surf Club and Kiosk Nobbys Beach Surf club and Kiosk Cooks Hill Surf Club and Kiosk Shepherds Hill Cottage Surf House Newcastle and Merewether Ocean Baths Pavilions	Council as Reserve Trust Manager Coastal Revitalisation Consultative Committee appointed by Council (advisory) Elected Council to make decisions about income and expenditure *	Any income raised through the operation of the reserve must be used for improving and maintaining the Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve
Community Land	Dixon Park Surf Club Merewether Beach Surf Club and kiosk	Council	Any income raised through the operation of the land goes to general revenue.

Note: * Minister's approval is required to spend money from a Reserve Trust on community land or land within another Trust.

The Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust has been established to manage lands and income from Crown Lands. Any decision on expenditure must be supported by the Coastal Revitalisation Consultative Committee and approved by full Council. If external income is added to the Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust there is an expectation that the money will be spent within the Trust.

Reserve Trust funds must be used and managed in the best interests of the reserve and all reserve users. Reserve Trust funds are not usually used to assist major reserve users (e.g. a sporting club) or for purposes not connected with the reserve. (Refer Reserve Trust Handbook.)

7.3.1 Allocation of Funds

The main priorities for any allocation of funds are:

1. General Maintenance of Coastal Buildings
- in accordance with draft *Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan*
2. Public Domain Improvements - general improvements and in accordance with adopted Public Domain Plans.

7.4 Future Use and Development

Crown Land is generally reserved for a public purpose and uses on the reserve must be compatible with or ancillary to that public purpose, unless specifically authorised via Section 34AA or a POM under Section 112 of the CL Act 1989. Crown Land must be used and managed in accordance with requirements in the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, and more specifically the principles of Crown Land management as set out in Section 11 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*.

A Reserve Trust can lease or licence activities on the reserve subject to the terms of the Minister's consent (refer to Section 102 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*).

Revenue generated on Crown Reserves, in the absence of a direction from the Minister, must be directed to the general purposes of the reserve trust as set out in Section 106 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. Refer to http://www.lpma.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/130653/Development_-and-_Crown_land_Fact_Sheet.pdf

7.5 Leases, Licenses and Other Estates

What are Leases and Licenses?

A lease will be typically required where exclusive use or control of all or part of a public area is desirable for effective management. A lease may also be required due to the scale of investment in facilities, the necessity for security measures, or where the relationship between a major user and facilities in the park justify such security of tenure.

Licenses allow multiple and non-exclusive use of an area. A license may be required where a lease is not appropriate or where intermittent or short-term use of all or part of the public area is proposed. A number of licenses for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest.

When authorising future leases, licences and other estates in authorising future leases and licences, Council supports:

- A multi-user approach to community assets
- The use of licences that allow for a broad range of uses
- Licenses for commercial activities that are in keeping with the core objectives for the land and must not unreasonably alienate the land.
- Leases and Licenses on Crown Land

Reserve Trusts may lease or license activities on Crown Land where the Minister has consented in writing. A trust can grant a temporary license for the purposes prescribed under the *Crown Lands Regulation, 1990*. A temporary license does not require the Minister's consent, and can be granted for a maximum period of one year. All leases and licenses over Crown Land should be registered with the NSW Trade and Investment Crown Lands (Crown Land Division).

Lease agreements should be modelled on the specific conditions applying to the leasing of Crown Land under Section 34 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. Under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*, a person, organisation or business may enter into a lease or license for appropriate use on Crown Land provided that:

- Management of the land is in accordance with this POM, relevant Crown Land policies and guidelines
- The use of the land is in the public interest
- The lease does not exceed 100 years, note however that it would only be in exceptional circumstances for a Crown Lands lease term to exceed 30-40 years.

The Reserve Trust will follow whichever statutory process is appropriate for any proposed lease or licence under the *CL Act 1989*.

Commercial Leasing and Licensing process on Crown Land

Administering *Crown Lands Act 1989* requires competitive selection processes for the development and or leasing of Reserve Crown Land. This may be conducted through a formal lease tender process, Expressions of Interest or other advertised / identified means. There is, and must be, a general presumption that business between the trustee (Council) and the private sector is conducted in an open and transparent manner in order to ensure probity, integrity and impartiality.

There must also be a presumption that a competitive, rather than exclusive process ensures greater value for money. Due to the generally accepted potential for 'not achieving highest and best value' by direct dealings, the payment of a premium over the lease charge may be required to justify the granting of the right to direct deal, and should not be considered to have any relationship or be and part of the separately negotiated lease terms including full market rent assessment and negotiation.

A Trust may consider direct negotiations if, after an assessment of the site and the likely competitive interest(s) in development of site. Direct negotiation will only be conducted with the approval of the Council in their capacity as Trust Manager or their delegate. Direct negotiation would not conflict with other competitive and or alternative interest, plus, the proponent, premium and business plan, a quantification of social and economic benefits, and an assessment of the asset's market value, are likely to lead to an equal or better outcome for the Council and the State than a competitive process. Various State laws, regulations and guidelines provide details as to when direct negotiations are appropriate. In its publication *Direct Negotiations in the procurement and Disposals – Dealing Directly with Proponents* ICAC summarises the circumstances in which direct negotiations may be appropriate. Direct negotiations instigated by a proponent for commercial purposes should also be conducted at no cost to the trustee, i.e. all expenses for legal and commercial / business / valuation consults should be subject to agreed cost recovery from the proponent.

Where a development or activity is undertaken on land over which Council has management responsibility as well as land (or a water body) for which Council has no legal responsibility an applicant may be required to

obtain a separate licence agreement with both Council and the NSW Trade and Investment Crown Lands (Crown Land Division).

Such joint license arrangements may be required where an activity is undertaken on unreserved Crown Land such as the ocean but gains access by or also uses Council controlled land e.g. 'learn to surf' schools or 'paragliding' schools.

If a lease or licence is proposed to a community or sporting group on Crown Land then Crown Lands policy relating to rental rebates may also apply.

See: http://www.lpma.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0013/112306/Policy_on_concessions_and_hardship_relief_for_Crown_land_tenures.pdf

Leasing/Licensing requirements on Community Land

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that any lease or licence of Community Land be authorised by a POM for purposes consistent with the categorisation and zoning of the land. The maximum period for leases or licences on community land allowable under the Act is 30 years. Community Land may only be leased or licensed if public notice is given as per the requirements of the Act.

Where a lease arrangement has been entered into with Council for community land, subleasing the land must be in accordance with the requirements of s47C of the Act.

Licences and leases for the use of land covered under this POM for activities need to be permissible under this POM, NCC LEP (or any future applicable Planning Instrument), the *Local Government Act 1993* and pursuant to Council Resolution and, if required, Development Consent.



7.6 Possible Future Use and Potential Dealings

Subject to the required process under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* or *Local Government Act 1993* being undertaken, prior to any lease or licence being granted, this Plan of Management identifies potential additional uses of the Reserves as set out in the table below:

Crown Land

Location	Land and facility Covered	Crown Reserve Gazetted Purpose	Potential Future Uses/Occupation
Northern Sector (Stockton)	Kiosk/ Cafe near Stockton ferry terminal	Public Recreation	Recreation activity and related commercial activity Consider EOI for mobile cart, kiosk
	Boy Scouts	Public Recreation	Scouting Boy Scouts
Central (City Beaches) Sector	Nobbys Beach Surf Lifesaving Club	Public Recreation	Administration and associated surf club and community and related commercial activities Retain and upgrade building. Consider use for kiosk, café, restaurant, and function centre*
	Newcastle Baths Pavilion	Public recreation, Public Baths and Communication Facilities	Community and related commercial activities Retain and upgrade building. Undertake EOI to test the potential for a commercial lease Consider kiosk, café, restaurant, function centre and accommodation*
	Newcastle Beach Surf Life Saving club	Public recreation, Public Baths and Communication Facilities	Administration and associated surf club and community and related commercial activities Consider removal of existing building and replacement with new community building. Consider kiosk, café, restaurant, function centre*, residential and commercial*
	Newcastle Hill tennis Club	Public Recreation	Tennis or other recreation activities
	Shepherds Hill Cottage	Public Recreation and Community Purposes	Community activities Retain and upgrade building for new possible commercial use. Investigate option for low key kiosk, café and other use as part of a conservation plan process
	Southern (Suburban) Sector	Cooks Hill Surf Lifesaving Club	Public Recreation and Community Facilities
Empire Park Tennis club		Public Recreation and Community Facilities	Tennis or other recreation activities

Location	Land and facility Covered	Crown Reserve Gazetted Purpose	Potential Future Uses/Occupation
Southern (Suburban) Sector	Reid Park Tennis Club	Public Recreation and Community Facilities	Tennis or other recreation activities
	Surf House	Public Recreation	Public amenities, café, kiosk, function centre and restaurant Retain building and continue use
	Merewether Ocean Baths Pavilion	Public Recreation	Community activities and related commercial activities Remove existing building and replace with new building Undertake EOI to test the potential for a commercial lease Consider community use and kiosk, café, restaurant, or function centre*

COMMUNITY LAND

Location	Land and facility Covered	Potential Future Uses/Occupation
Newcastle Beaches (Southern)	Dixon Park Surf Lifesaving Club	Administration and associated surf club and community activities and related commercial activities Retain and upgrade existing building Consider also kiosk, café, and function centre* Consider use of old kiosk (outbuilding) for a new lease and repair
	Merewether Surf Lifesaving Club	Administration and associated surf club and community activities and related commercial activities Remove existing building and replace with new community building. Consider also kiosk, café, restaurant and function centre*

Note:

- Future uses have been identified in Council's draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan.
- * Function Centres are currently prohibited under the RE1 Zone in Newcastle LEP 2012. An Action is contained within this POM to initiate the planning process to allow function centres as a permissible use within all the coastal Surf Clubs, namely Nobbys, Newcastle, Cooks Hill, Dixon Park and Merewether.
- * Residential and commercial offices are prohibited under the RE1 Zone in Newcastle LEP 2012. Any proposed changes to permit such uses would need to go through the planning process (LEP amendment).
- Infrastructure SEPP 2007 may apply to Crown Lands.
- *Crown Lands Act 1989* governs the approval for many potential future uses for Crown Land.

Licenses

This Plan of Management expressly authorises the licencing of all sportsgrounds within the Coastal Public land and their associate facilities/amenities (if not under an active lease) for the conduct of organised or informal sporting activities, recreation, community, social, cultural or educational purposes.

Licences on Community Land

Licenses will be required for casual events of more than 50 people or where exclusive use of reserves is required or where the erection of temporary structures such as tents, booths, stage areas and mobile structures is required. Casual events include, but are not limited to functions, activities and events such as weddings, fairs, markets and concerts.

All casual events requiring a license will need to complete an application form for approval by Council. Fees for short-term casual bookings will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Fees and Charges at the time.

All short term casual hire will be in accordance with *Section 116, 117, 118 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*. However the park may be used for civil emergency purposes when the need arises.

The *Local Government and Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Transfer of Functions) Act 2001* transfers approvals formally required under s68 of the Local Government Act to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act. These transferred approvals include installing temporary structures on the land.

Special Events

The types of special events that are organised along the coastline are many and varied and some of the bigger events include:

- Surfest - currently held at Merewether Beach
- Skate Bowl championships - Bar Beach
- Hill to Harbour Challenge - Bar Beach to the Foreshore
- Volleyball championships - Nobbys Beach
- New Years Eve events - Stockton
- Mattara Hill Climb - King Edward Park



7.7 Reserve and Community Facilities Bookings

Beaches and coastal reserves are recognised as having significant potential as venues for public and private special events of various size and scale. These bookings attract fees and are subject to special conditions. Council is responsible for facilitating and monitoring reserve and beach bookings in Newcastle.

Council seeks to encourage an appropriate range of uses within parks. It is necessary to manage these activities to minimise the risks of overuse of the ocean beaches and beach reserves, conflicts with casual beach users, damage or threat to the natural environment and impacts on adjoining land uses.

The guiding principles set out in this section provide an overview on the factors which guide the decision making processes.

There are a range of policies which address specific types of use in greater detail. Applicants should check the Council's website for up-to-date information.

General factors, which will be considered prior to approval being given, include:

- The venue must be appropriate to the size and nature of the proposed event, taking into account the sensitivity of the park, the land area available for the event, and the proximity to neighbouring residents and businesses that could be affected by the event of venue;
- The event should not result in a significant impact on adjoining residents – e.g. excessive noise, light spill, or traffic generation;
- The event should not result in a significant impact on park users and the park should remain generally available to the community;
- The event should not result in physical damage to the park;
- Organisers of the site will be responsible for cleaning up the site and repairing any damage that may occur to leave the site in the same condition as it was prior to the event.

Community facilities such as rooms within the Surf Clubs can be hired for community use.

Liquor Licenses

Granting of temporary Liquor Licenses are subject to other approvals and are not at the sole discretion of Council. However this POM allows Council to give permission as a landowner for liquor licences subject to other approvals. Applications for such licences will

be considered on individual merit and only once all relevant criteria have been met, in particular social impact assessment.

7.8 Permitted Activities

Activities that are permitted within the Coastal Public Land should be consistent with:

- The objectives of this Plan of Management
- The objectives for management of the Coastal Public Land
- Relevant legislation, particularly the *Crown Lands Act 1989* and the SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007
- The zoning under the Newcastle LEP
- Community values and objectives of the Coastal Public Lands
- Additional guidelines for assessing future uses and developments
- The adopted public domain plan for the area (where applicable)

In general, the Reserve Trust must consider certain issues when deciding whether a particular land use or development on Crown Land is appropriate, including the:

- Compatibility of the proposal with the notified purpose of the reserve
- Impact on the existing use of the reserve
- Compatibility with the vision and management objectives established for the reserve
- Need for the proposal and whether it will promote and be ancillary to the use and enjoyment of the reserve, as distinct from satisfying a requirement generated by an adjoining property or by an independent or collateral community need
- Advantage and benefit that the development would bring to the normal reserve user
- Management responsibility and public availability of the development to reserve users
- Need for a lease and its draft terms, conditions and rental that would apply.

7.9 Scale and intensity of future uses and development

The coastal public land is generally intended to be used for active and passive land and water-based sporting, recreational, community and social activities.

The scale and intensity of future uses and development in the Coastal Public Land is subject to:

- Satisfactory assessment under section 34AA/102B of the Crown Lands Act 1989, for Crown Reserves.
- The nature of the proposed future uses
- The concept masterplan for the coast and the associated public domain plan (adopted by Council) for the beach precinct
- The carrying capacity of the parkland and its facilities
- The availability of vehicle parking for traffic-generating activities and developments
- Approved Development Applications where required

Any use or development that would unreasonably encroach on the Newcastle Coastal Reserve open space should be prevented.

7.10 General Management Issues

The Department of Primary Industries has advised Council of the following actions required within this Plan of Management.

- Merewether Baths need to be formally established within a notified Crown Reserve. Addition of this land to the nearby reserve R56681 for Public Recreation, Recreation Facilities and Services is recommended for a management action to be undertaken.
- Significant road networks fall within the land subject to this Plan. These roads are technically reserve improvements and should actually be reclassified as gazetted roads under the provisions of the *Roads Act 1993*. A management action should be added to formally identify such roads and have them transferred to Council as public roads.
- Bogey Hole – The Bogey Hole is a significant cultural icon that should be added to the areas managed by the Newcastle Coast and Estuary Reserve Trust. Crown Lands records indicate that following the safety upgrade works, that the site would be transferred to Council's control. Council has declined the offer to take on the management of the Bogey Hole. An Action is within the Plan of Management which identifies the need for further discussions to be held with Lands.

7.11 Reviewing the Plan

For the Plan to remain relevant in the coming years it will be essential a consistent review be carried out in a logical order. The Plan has been set up in such a manner that the separate elements can be readily reviewed and updated at different times.

It is recommended that the Plan be reviewed in line with Council's Corporate Management Plan with the following sequences and time spans, starting from the most frequent review requirement.

Every year

- Review progress of programme prepared after this Plan

Every four years

- Review progress on all strategies and actions
- Review management and administration structures
- Review priorities

Every ten years

- Review of Strategies and Objectives
- Review and update all background Issues
- Review and update the values and significance if external circumstances require or community values change markedly

7.12 Funding

There are a range of potential funding sources from both the NSW and Federal Government, in addition to revenue generated through Council's rate process. Such potential alternative funding sources are particularly relevant to parks or open space that have a regional or state-wide attraction and that benefit the community beyond the immediate local government area. These arrangements are often one-off or short term grants, with funding usually a competitive process against other areas and will depend on priorities within the various departments.

Potential sources of grants include both overall grants and funding partnerships. Although potential funding sources were identified in the Coastal Masterplan it should be noted that the majority of these have now been superseded, re-named or have limited application. The following information, on the most relevant sources of funding, is based on the best available information at the time of writing this POM.

Crown Land funding

There are several sources of funding to assist managers of Crown Land. Funding is made available to improve facilities, provide relief from natural disasters and protect the heritage value of Crown Land, or its component facilities. The Public Reserves Management Fund has been established to specifically

meet the needs of Crown Reserves management.

The relevant types of funding are:

- *Public Reserves Management Fund* - provides loan monies and limited grants to trust boards. These funds are available for improvement works to Crown Reserves and provide for both capital development and maintenance projects. PRM Funds are limited and there are not guarantees of funding success as applications are submitted annually and subject to competitive process. With Minister's consent, approval can be obtained for surplus trust fund allocation (eg. Surplus caravan park funds).
- *Natural disaster funding* -The Natural Disaster Relief Scheme makes funds available to repair, replace or restore public property destroyed or damaged as a result of natural disasters. Grants are made available to trusts that do not have the financial capability to meet the costs from their own resources for situations where facilities involved are regarded as 'Public Assets'. Funds for the scheme are made available from the Commonwealth and State Treasury. Reserve Trusts can apply through their local Lands regional office.
- *Heritage funds* -The NSW Heritage Office administers the NSW Heritage Assistance Program that provides grants or loans. Funding is available to assist with surveys and educational activities as well as for the promotion of sound management

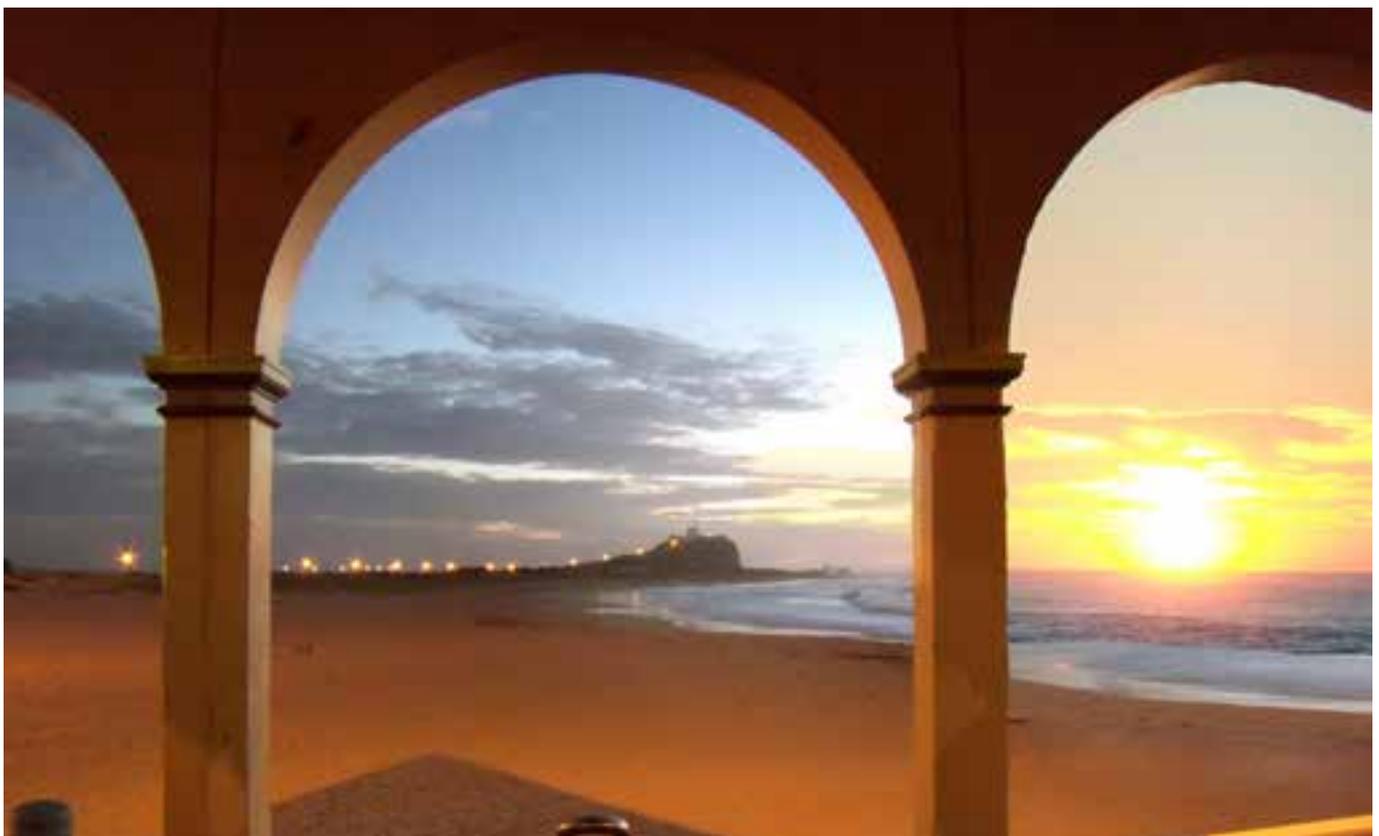
and conservation of heritage items.

- Other particularly relevant funding opportunities that have been identified are listed in **Appendix L**

7.13 Further Studies

A number of additional studies have been identified as being particularly important to the implementation and future refinement of planned works within the study area, with these being:

- Biodiversity background study and management plan, addressing the key ecological and biodiversity issues;
- Indigenous heritage study – identifying Aboriginal places, sites and connections, to facilitate a greater understanding, interpretation and protection of this resource, developed in consultation with the Aboriginal community;
- Master plans/public domain plans – new or updated for key sites such as King Edward Park, Bar Beach, Nobbys, Newcastle, Dixon Park and North Stockton.



8. Management Action Tables



The following Management Action Tables (chapter 8.1) present a range of management actions, comprising both directions or guidelines, and more specific on-ground or tangible actions that will be pursued in the coast's management over the coming 5 to 10 years.

Management actions and directions have been grouped in relation to the key values of the coast. The Management Action Tables include the following items (by column).

Performance Targets or Objective which each action or group of related actions are intended to achieve.

Means of Achievement (Management Actions) intended to achieve the related performance targets, or objective. The management actions described include both specific on-ground or tangible actions as well as directions more of a policy, guideline or processes/procedures nature. Each action has its own unique number (including a prefix linking it to specific areas or issues) for ease of reference.

Means of Assessment outlines the means by which Council will evaluate or gauge the effectiveness of the actions in achieving their performance targets.

Lead Responsibility column refers to either Council, or in some cases other bodies (such as other government agencies, volunteers, or contractors), with primary accountability for ensuring that the respective Performance Target is achieved.

Potential Funding Sources are identified for each action or group of related actions – from sources such as staff time, Section 94 (development) contributions, grant funding, Council's operating revenue, partnerships and volunteers. However management and development of the coastal areas will ultimately be reliant on, and largely determined by, the funding and resources available to Council, competing priorities for available funds or resources, and Council's Management Plan and budget cycles (refer to Section 6 Implementation and Review).

Management actions that are of a policy/procedure nature, or are mainly directions or guidelines, may not have a direct resource requirement attached. These have been identified as "N/A" (not applicable), or "Negligible Cost", in the potential funding sources column.

The **Priority** column of the Management Action Tables gives an indication of both the relative importance, and preferred timing, of each action – as follows.

High - Essential to achievement of the coastal area's management objectives, and warranting funding

consideration until achieved. Ideally the action will be undertaken within 1 to 5 years of the Plan's adoption.

Medium - These actions are desirable to enhance achievement of the coastal area's management objectives, and should be undertaken within 3 to 8 years (and ideally implemented within the life of this Plan).

Low - These actions are useful for the overall management of the coastal area's or address issues that have longer-term impacts, and should commence within 7 - 10 years.

Ongoing – where the action in question will be carried out on a regular basis, or apply or continue throughout the Reserve's management and/or the life of this Plan.

8.1 Recreation/Social

To enhance the quality of the recreation and social experience for locals and visitors

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
RS1	Improve coastal facilities and tourism opportunities	<p>Prepare Public Domain Plans for each beach precinct that will build on the adopted Newcastle Coastal Masterplan and identify specific facilities and opportunities</p> <p>Develop principles and objectives to guide the Coastal Public Domain Planning process and include these in any future briefs for any works</p>	<p>Public Domain Plans adopted by Council</p> <p>Urban Design Principles prepared</p>	Council	Funded Coastal Revitalisation Program (CRP)	High and ongoing
RS2	Improve opportunities for social recreation along the coast	<p>As part of the Public Domain Planning process for each beach precinct provide for a variety of recreational purposes</p> <p>Implement the Bathers Way Public Domain Plan</p> <p>Implement a Park and Recreation Strategy for the whole of the City</p>	<p>Public Domain Plans adopted by Council</p> <p>Parks and Recreation Strategy implemented</p>	Council	Funded CRP	High and Ongoing
RS3	Plan for and ensure special events are well managed and monitored according to Council processes.	<p>Plan for and review each special event as they occur and comply with legislation</p> <p>Consider generic traffic management plans for all coastal events in consultation with Roads and Maritime Services.</p> <p>As part of the Public Domain Planning process identify, co-ordinate and detail key sites for major public events</p>	<p>Attendance at events</p> <p>Public Domain Plans adopted by Council</p>	Council	Operational Funded	Ongoing
RS4	Provide areas for off leash dog areas so as to minimise the impact of dogs on the coast as a whole	<p>Review and update Council's Off leash Policy to ensure there are sufficient off leash dog areas within the coastal Reserve</p> <p>In the off leash areas provide facilities associated with off leash areas, such as water bubblers.</p>	Off leash Policy updated	Council	Operational	Ongoing
RS5	Provide facilities using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles	<p>Include CPTED design principles in the design brief and use CPTED principles in the public domain planning process</p> <p>Undertake CPTED review of the coast as a whole</p>	CPTED assessment undertaken and improvements to safety in all areas	Council		Ongoing Medium

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
RS6	Ensure different users are catered for and there is appropriate amount of diversity.	As part of the Public Domain Planning process ensure adaptability of key strategic spaces for a variety of potential uses Co-ordination is required with key sections of the Council Licences to be renewed in accordance with Council policy	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council	Council	Funded or operational CRP	Ongoing
RS7	Provide for a framework for improving community based facilities	Finalise draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan (CBIP) for Coastal reserve to identify uses, needs, feasibility and priorities for each facility and to be used as an internal asset management tool	CBIP endorsed by all stakeholders	Council CRP	Funded	High
RS8	Provide appropriate, feasible commercial facilities	Finalise draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan to identify uses, needs, feasibility and priorities for each facility Identify any new commercial sites as part of any Public Domain Planning process	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council	Council CRP	Funded	High (underway)
RS9	Ensure any proposed developments are sensitive to the environment, involve adaptive re-use where appropriate and are likely to be commercially viable	As part of the draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan, identify and update condition of each building/ structure within coastal area As part of the Public Domain Planning process, any proposed new developments need to undertake a feasibility assessment to determine viability and the need for careful assessment of traffic flow and safety impacts Undertake EOIs for key sites where appropriate	Urban Design Principles and objectives prepared Public Domain Plans adopted by Council EOIs undertaken	Council Crown	Funded Funded	Funded High
RS10	Ensure major sporting areas retain their function where appropriate	Ensure the key sporting areas retain their role and function. Implement Parks and Recreation Strategy for Newcastle	Parks and Recreation Strategy implemented	Council	Funded	Ongoing
RS11	Ensure recreational fishing opportunities are provided for in appropriate locations	Liaise with Fisheries to enhance opportunities for fisherman and identify areas for such things as fish cleaning tables in appropriate locations, etc. Provide appropriate levels of access for fisherman.	Fish cleaning table grant application completed	Council	Grants	Medium

8.2 Landscape character

To ensure a unique and co-ordinated approach to landscape works and improvements

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
L1	Provide a consistent treatment of materials in the public domain, including for visually impaired	Implement the Newcastle Coastal Reserve Technical Manual. The manual establishes a suite of materials to be used along the coastline. It includes preferred paving; lighting; furniture, bins, tree species, shade structures, bike facilities, signage, special areas etc	Newcastle Coastal Reserve Technical Manual used across Council for coastal works	Council	Funded CRP	Ongoing
L2	Improve the quantity and quality of public domain elements	Implement the Newcastle Coastal Reserve Technical Manual which establishes a suite of materials to be used along the coastline. Prepare an Implementation Plan as part of any Public Domain Plan for identification and staging of any works	Newcastle Coastal Reserve Technical Manual used across Council for coastal works	Council	Funded CRP	Ongoing Ongoing
L3	Ensure landscape elements address site conditions and improve comfort for users	As part of the Public Domain Planning process address site specific conditions through site analysis. Identify areas where new landscape elements would be appropriate	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council	Council	Funded CRP	Ongoing
L4	Identify and ensure key views from public spaces are retained and enhanced	Enhance some key viewing lookouts and walkways with improved landscape elements such as shade and seating. Design and locate foreshore facilities such as car-parks, toilet blocks to reduce their visual intrusion on the view corridors and coastline. As part of the Public Domain Planning process identify key public views to and from the coast. Use 3D Modelling during detailed design to balance the needs of all users	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council Key public views identified in the Public Domain Plans are retained	Council	Funded CRP	Ongoing

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
L5	Increase the amount of shade and lighting along the coastline	As part of the Public Domain Planning process identify areas for improvements to shade and lighting. Install these in accordance with Newcastle Coastal Reserve Technical Manual	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council	Council	Funded CRP	Ongoing
L6	Improve the condition of public amenities (toilets)	As part of the draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan and Public Domain Planning process identify condition and function of existing public amenities.	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council	Council	Funded CRP	Ongoing
L7	Integrate sensitively signage, memorials and artworks within the coastal landscape	Consider signage, memorials and public art as part of the Public Domain Planning process. Update Council's policy on memorials within the public domain	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council Council policy updated	Council	Funded	High

Note: The CRP will fund Bathers Way improvements over a ten year period and public domain planning to support this recommendation in the POM. Implementation works as a result of public domain plan endorsement will be subject to funding availability and prioritisation.

8.3 Natural Environment

To maintain the protect the unique environmental qualities of the Coastline

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
NE1	Identify and manage cliff instability issues where necessary	Consider coastal hazards as part of the public domain planning process Undertake actions identified in the Newcastle Coastal Zone Management Plan (NCZMP) to minimise potential impacts from coastal hazards Co-ordinate implementation of any works within Council and in a timely manner	Co-ordinate implementation of any works within Council Actions from NCZMP implemented	Council	tbd	Ongoing
NE2	Manage coastal erosion problems in study area	Consider coastal hazards as part of the public domain planning process Undertake actions identified in the Newcastle Coastal Zone Management Plan (NCZMP) to minimise potential impacts from coastal hazards Co-ordinate implementation of any works within Council	Co-ordinate implementation of any works within Council Actions from NCZMP implemented	Council	tbd	Medium
NE3	Identify and manage potential impacts of climate change and sea level rise	Consider coastal hazards as part of the public domain planning process Undertake actions identified in the Newcastle Coastal Zone Management Plan (NCZMP) to minimise potential impacts from coastal hazards Co-ordinate implementation of any works within Council	Hazards identified in Public Domain Plans Actions from NCZMP implemented	Council	tbd	Medium
NE4	Identify and manage areas of the coastline subject to inundation	Consider coastal hazards as part of the public domain planning process. Undertake actions identified in the Newcastle Coastal Zone Management Plan (NCZMP) to minimise potential impacts from coastal hazards	Hazards identified in Public Domain Plans Actions from NCZMP implemented	Council	tbd	Ongoing

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
NE5	Identify and manage areas of the coastline subject to flooding	Refer to and implement Council's draft Newcastle City-wide Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan	Objectives established WSUD principles included in PDPs	Council	tbd	Ongoing
NE6	Manage stormwater and effluent outfall impacts on the coastline	Establish a set of objectives for WSUD and water quality improvement targets for both internal and external developments, and which outlines acceptable methods of achieving them. Consider Water Sensitive Urban Design principles in the Public Domain Planning process. Consider ongoing maintenance plan.	Objectives established WSUD principles included in PDPs	Council	tbd	Medium
NE7	Protect the diversity of flora, fauna and ecological communities, with particular emphasis on threatened and migratory species	Develop four year Coastal Vegetation Management Plans for the coastline. The Plans will prioritise coastal regeneration and revegetation activities, and will outline costs, timeframes, methods and required resources	Coastal Vegetation Management Plans prepared Engagement with Landcare groups	Council	tbd	Medium
NE8	Increase knowledge of the value of the coast	Explore opportunities to collaborate with other organisations such as the HCRCMA, HCCREMS, adjoining councils, University, TAFE and non-government organisations to provide coastal education and research Update Council's website to include educational information about the migratory shorebirds that can be found in Newcastle Integrate educational signage as part of the Public Domain Planning process	Coastal education and research being provided Web site updated	Council	tbd	Ongoing

8.4 Cultural Heritage

To protect and maintain items/areas of cultural and heritage significance along the coastline

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
CH1	Identify and protect heritage items and promote the heritage of the coast as a unique and vibrant asset	<p>Ensure all significant heritage items and conservation areas in the coastal reserves are identified and listed in a statutory instrument</p> <p>Undertake a desktop heritage assessment as part of the public domain planning process</p> <p>Seek relevant funding sources</p>	All heritage sites and items are managed in accordance with heritage best practice	Council	tbd	High
CH2	Ensure any new developments or improvements are respectful to the heritage value of the area	Any material impacts on coastal heritage is considered and evaluated and a heritage impact statement is to be prepared for any major proposals or development applications	Heritage sites and items are enhanced and promoted as a vital aspect of the character of the coast.	Council	tbd	High
CH3	Integrate information on the history of Newcastle coastline in different ways/ means. Promote the heritage of the coastal reserves.	<p>Interpretation of the history and heritage of the Newcastle coast (both indigenous and European) is to be integrated into the public domain plans in the form of appropriate interpretative installation e.g. pavement treatments or signage, as per the Newcastle Reserve Coastal Technical Manual</p> <p>Implement Dual Naming study and incorporate into the public domain planning process.</p>	<p>The history and heritage of the Coastline is understood and identifiable by all</p> <p>Dual naming study implemented.</p>	Council	tbd	Medium High
CH4	Manage archaeological features in accordance with best practice and relevant statutory requirements	<p>Any material impacts on archaeological heritage is to be considered and evaluated and heritage impact reports accompany all works proposals or development applications.</p> <p>Ensure Council's management of heritage places is underwritten by Council's Guiding Principles.</p>	<p>Areas of potential archaeological significance are identified.</p> <p>Correct procedure is undertaken as part of any excavation along the coastal reserves.</p>	Council	tbd	Medium -High

8.5 Accessibility and Safety

To ensure that the coastline is available for all users

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
AS1	Improve access and safety to coastal facilities for all users where possible	Implement Bathers Way Public Domain Plan to provide a minimum four (4) metre shared path from Merewether Baths to Nobbys Beach Consider providing universal access where appropriate as part of the Public Domain planning process. Access consultant to review any Public Domain Plans	New shared pathway constructed	Council	Coastal Revitalisation CRP	High
AS2	Improve pedestrian and cycle connections between the coast and the City	As part of Public Domain Planning process identify opportunities to link the beaches with new pathways to places like Darby Street, The Junction, Newcastle CBD and Stockton. Implement the Newcastle Cycling Strategy and Action Plan	New shared pathway and cycleways constructed	Council	Grants and Special Rate Variation CRP	Ongoing
AS3	Improve access to the coast by all modes	Investigate options for a Coastal Bus to operate in key summer months connecting the beaches, key transport nodes and the nearby commercial centres Investigate availability of public car-parks and park and ride facilities	Bus operating and increase in patronage each year	Council	CRP Grants	High
AS4	Ensure access along the coast for active/passive recreation users	Implement Bathers Way Public Domain Plan to provide a minimum four (4) metre shared path from Merewether Baths to Nobbys Beach. Where possible prioritise pedestrian and cycle movements	New shared pathway constructed	Council	CRP	High
AS5	Explore options for managing parking	As part of Public Domain Planning process consider parking for vehicles close to or in the vicinity of the beach precinct	Parking available	Council	CRP	Ongoing
AS6	Identify traffic conflicts and pedestrian/cycle safety	As part of Public Domain Planning process undertake traffic and parking studies where necessary to identify traffic conflicts and pedestrian and cycle safety. Consider one-way traffic movements where necessary.	Safety measures implemented	Council	CRP	
AS7	Improve connections to regional cycleways	Continue Council's improvements to cycleways. Implement the Newcastle Cycling Strategy and Action Plan	Measured by the Newcastle Cycling Strategy and Action Plan	Council	Grants and Special Rate Variation	Medium to low

8.6 Management

To provide a management framework that will ensure a co-ordinated approach to safety, maintenance and improvements to the coastline.

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
M1	Establish clear guidelines for management of Reserves Trust funds	Prepare Newcastle Coastal Reserve Trust Management Guidelines	Guidelines prepared	Coastal Reserve Trust facilitator Council	Funded CRP	High
M2	Improve community facilities	Implement draft Coastal Buildings Improvement Plan for Newcastle Coastal Reserve to identify user needs, feasibility and priorities for each surf club Call expressions of interest for commercial interest/joint venture for Newcastle and Merewether Ocean Baths pavilions Renew surfclub leases in the interim	Completed and implemented CBIP subject to funding Expressions of interests called	Council Council	Funded CRP	High
M3	Ensure risk management issues are integral to the design process	Prepare Risk Management Strategy as part of any public domain planning process for each beach precinct, and for each stage of the project e.g. planning, design development and documentation	Risk Management Strategy prepared	Council	Funded CRP	Ongoing
M4	Identify any additional parcels of land to be transferred to crown and managed through the Newcastle Coastal Reserve Trust	Include any additional parcels of land relating to the Reserve Trust within Plan of Management (POM) Include consideration of Lot 3 DP 1029006	Land Transfer complete	Lands	Nil	High and ongoing
M5	Allow function centres as a permissible use within the coastal surf clubs.	Initiate the planning process to allow function centres as a permissible use within the following surf clubs: Nobbys, Newcastle, Cooks Hill, Dixon Park and Merewether Consideration be given to an initial secondary interest assessment under Section 34AA of <i>Crown Lands Act 1989</i> before liaising with Crown Lands for consent to amend reserve purpose or issue tenure	Local Environmental Planning process initiated	Council	Nil	High
M6	Consider other uses within the coastal surf clubs	Consider on a case by case basis, subject to public domain and planning process the opportunity for residential and commercial uses to be permitted	Planning process undertaken	Council	Nil	Medium

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
M7	Manage and promote where necessary opportunities for appropriate activities along the coastal reserve where activities may be booked	Identify preferred activities for leases and licences along the coast within this POM Develop and implement a centralised booking system	POM endorsed and approved Centralised booking system operational	Council	Funded CRP	Medium Medium
M8	Ensure best practice methods are used for all maintenance procedures.	Each Public Domain Plan to have a Maintenance Strategy. All assets to have a Maintenance Plan	Asset maintenance plans operational	Council	Operational funds	Ongoing
M9	Manage the Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust according to Crown Lands Act	Appoint The City of Newcastle as the Trust Manager of the Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust Establish Reserve Trust Management Committee Prepare annual reports of the Reserve Trust in accordance with Section 122 of the <i>Crown Lands Act 1989</i>	The City Of Newcastle is Reserve Trust Manager Annual reports prepared and legislation met	Council	Funded	High High
M10	Implementation plan to identify priority of works	Implementation plans will be required for all public domain plans which will identify funding opportunities and staging.	Implementation plan prepared	Council	Funded CRP	Medium
M11	Identify road networks	Formally identify road networks within the reserve and have those reclassified as gazetted roads under the provision of the <i>Roads Act 1993</i> .	Roads identified and then reclassified	Lands and Council	Operational	Medium
M12	Consider adding the Bogey Hole to the Reserve Trust following its safety upgrade.	Continue liaison with Lands in relation to the transfer of the Bogey Hole to the Newcastle Coastal and Estuary Reserve Trust and the need for a funded maintenance plan for the Bogey Hole	Continue liaison	Lands	Operational	Low
M13	Formally establish Merewether Ocean Baths within a notified Crown Reserve.	Add Merewether Ocean Baths to the nearby Reserve R 56681 for Public recreation, Recreation Facilities and Services	Ocean Baths transferred to Reserve	Lands and Council	Operational	Medium
M14	Identify anomalies in Land Register e.g. Lot 1 DP1200042 (62A Shortland Esplanade)	Undertake yearly review of land classifications. Include Lot 1 DP 1200042 in this review	Land classification review held	Council	Operational	Medium

8.7 Specific Sectors: Management Actions

Stockton Sector

To build upon the key themes for this precinct being: sporting, recreation and education; heritage and tourism

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
S1	Investigate urban and environmental improvements to South Stockton Reserves	Implement South Stockton Reserves Public Domain Plan (adopted May 2012)	Implementation Plan acted on	Council	Section 94 Grant Funding	Ongoing
S2	Investigate urban and environmental improvements to North Stockton	Prepare Public Domain Plan for North Stockton reserves	Public Domain Plans adopted by Council	Council	Funded	Low
S3	Continue with cycleway improvements	Prepare plans for shared pathways to the north of the existing cycleway	Plans prepared and cycleway funded and constructed	Council	Section 94, Grants and Special Rate Variation	High
S4	Formalise final agreement with Boy Scouts	Establish a formal agreement with the Boys Scouts for lease arrangement	Lease agreement formalised	Crown	N/A	High
S5	Improve coastal facilities and tourism opportunities	Consider EOI for mobile cart/kiosk near Ferry terminal	EOI undertaken	Council Crown	N/A	Medium

Central Beach - Nobbys and Newcastle Beach and King Edward Park

To build on the key themes for this precinct being: urban beach experience; Gateway to the City and Heritage significance

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
CB1	Ensure State heritage issues are considered in any development proposals	Undertake heritage and archaeological assessments where required by legislation. Review priorities of the Coal River Conservation Precinct Conservation and Cultural Tourism and Management Plan (2007)	Heritage assessments undertaken Priorities reviewed	Council	Costs part of DA process	Ongoing
CB2	Identify specific urban and environmental improvements for Newcastle Beach	Prepare Public Domain Plan for Newcastle Beach precinct	PDP prepared	Council	CRP	Medium
CB3	Identify specific urban and environmental improvements for Nobbys Beach	Prepare Public Domain Plan for Nobbys Beach	PDP prepared	Council	CRP	Low
CB4	Manage heritage values and identify specific improvements for King Edward Park and Shepherds Hill Defence Group	Prepare and commence implementation of a Conservation Management Plan/ Strategy for King Edward Park and Shepherds Hill	Plan-prepared	Council	CRP	Medium
CB5	Improve vehicular, cycle and pedestrian access to Nobbys and Newcastle Beach	Investigate bus movements, car-parking, Shortland esplanade (one-way), pedestrian and cycle movements as part of traffic study. Implement Newcastle Cycling Strategy and Action Plan. Consider use of segways on beach	Traffic study endorsed by Traffic Committee and Council.	Council	Coastal Revitalisation Grant funding	High
CB6	Improve connections for pedestrians between Newcastle Beach and Hunter Street	Prepare masterplan design for Pacific Park that will link both Hunter Street and Newcastle Beach in a pedestrian friendly way	Pacific Park masterplan endorsed by Council	Council	Funded-City Centre Revitalisation project	Medium
CB7	Maintain the Newcastle Ocean Baths and Pavilion in a safe and useable condition	Identify and undertake works required to improve the safety and long term viability of the baths. Consider new uses for Pavilion including commercial opportunities and address cultural and amenity values.	Ocean Baths improved	Council	Grant funding Private Sector	Medium
CB8	Investigate opportunities for the construct of a new Surf Lifesaving Club building at Newcastle and Nobbys Beach Surf Clubs	Investigate opportunities for new surf clubs at Newcastle and Nobbys Beach Consider community and related commercial uses.	New surf clubs constructed	Council State Government	Council Grant funding	High and Medium

Southern Sector – Strzelecki, Bar Beach, Dixon Park and Merewether Beach

To build on the key themes for this precinct being: suburban beach experience; and transition from tourist/visitor (city) beaches to beaches used by “locals” and groups

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
SS1	Identify specific urban and environmental improvements for Bar Beach	Prepare Public Domain Plan for Bar Beach	Public Domain Plan prepared	Council	CRP	High
SS2	Identify specific urban and environmental improvements for Dixon Park	Prepare Public Domain Plan for Dixon Park	Public Domain Plan prepared	Council	CRP	Low
SS3	Identify specific urban and environmental improvements for Merewether Beach	Implement Merewether Beach Public Domain Plan (2010)	Improvements to pedestrian paths and public domain areas	Council	CRP	High and ongoing
SS4	Ensure the recognition of Merewether Beach as a National Surfing Reserve	Implement Merewether Beach Public Domain Plan (2010)	National Surfing Reserve recognised and protected	Council	National Surfing Reserve	High
SS5	Maintain Newcastle Memorial Walk	Identify maintenance works required	Walkway maintained	Council		Ongoing
SS6	Maintain the Merewether Ocean Baths and Pavilion in a safe and useable condition	Identify and undertake works required to improve the safety and long term viability of the Merewether Baths and public domain surrounds. Implement recommendations within the draft Coastal Buildings Improvements Plan in relation to the Pavilion. Identify commercial opportunities	Baths and public domain surrounds improved New Pavilion	Council	CRP Grant funding Private Sector	High
SS7	Investigate opportunities for the construct of a new Surf Lifesaving Clubs	Investigate opportunities for new surf clubs at Cooks Hill (Bar Beach) and Merewether and refurbishment of Dixon Park Surf Club Consider community and related commercial uses.	New clubs built or refurbished	Council State Government	Grant funding	Medium to High
SS8	Investigate opportunities for redevelopment of Merewether Ocean Baths Pavilion *	Call expressions of interest for development subject to geotechnical report on stability of substrata. Purposes that may be considered but not limited to are; kiosk, changes rooms Licensed café Function room Restaurant Health and fitness facility Offices ancillary to the above uses	New Pavilion	Council State Government	Council Grant Funding Private Sector	High

No.	Performance Target (Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment	Lead Responsibility	Potential Funding Source	Priority
SS9	Maintain access and connection to Burwood Beach and Glenrock State Conservation Area *	Maintain connection between Merewether Beach and Burwood Beach and Glenrock	Access maintained	Council		Ongoing
SS10	Identify opportunities to provide a safe viewing area from Robinson Reserve*	Geotechnical study required.	Viewing area constructed	Council	Grant funding Council	Underway
SS11	Stabilise the slope of Robinson Reserve and where possible replant with native vegetation*	Provide slope stabilisation and where necessary appropriate revegetation	Slope stability measures implemented	Council and Lands		Medium
SS12	Increase the useability of Jefferson Park through incorporating level open space areas, landscaping, picnic facilities, shade and seating*	Jefferson Park to create a landscape park; construct picnic facilities and develop shade	Geotech investigations and new landscaped park	Council	CRP	Medium
SS13	Upgrade of promenades so that it is useable at all times*	Allow for outdoor dining areas that do not conflict with the pedestrian promenade Improved lighting along promenade	Useable promenades	Council	tbd	High
SS14	Monitor water quality of stormwater outlet*	Maintain regular monitoring program at stormwater outlet	Water monitoring program continues	Council	Maintenance budget	Ongoing
SS15	Maintain the heritage of the Old Ladies Pool and provide safe use for all users*	Council to liaise with Lands regarding maintenance of pool	Heritage of pool is maintained	Lands	Maintenance budget	Medium
S16	Improve coastal facilities and tourism opportunities	Consider EOI for kiosk in old kiosk building at Dixon Park (adjacent to surf club)	EOI undertaken	Council	N/A	High

*Actions taken from the Merewether Beach Reserves Plan of Management



Appendix A: Crown Land Gazetted Maps

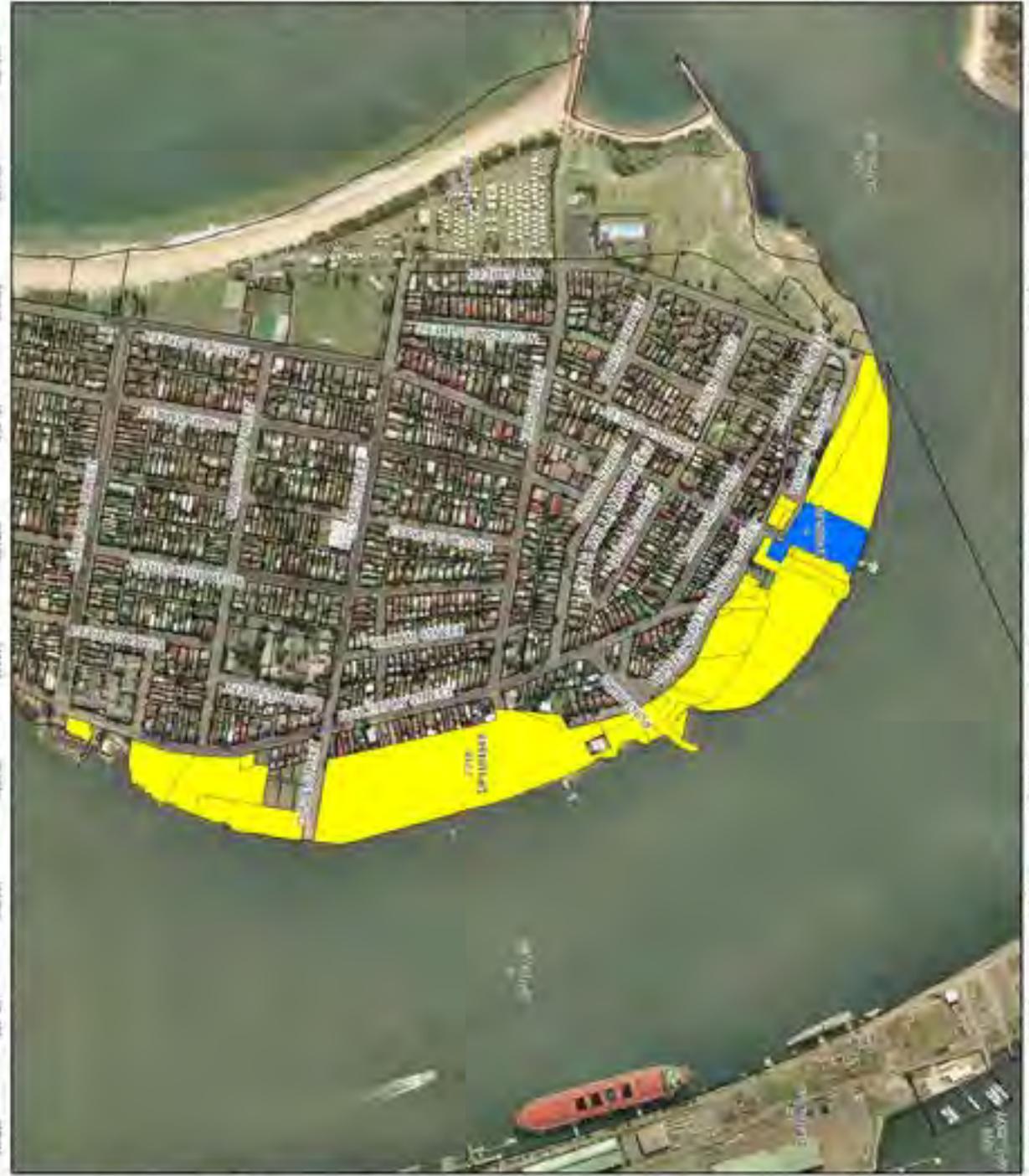
Newcastle Coastal & Estuary Reserve Trust Lands

Sheet 1 of 4



Disclaimer: The information contained in this diagram has been provided in good faith. Whilst all effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information the only providers take no responsibility for errors or omissions nor any loss or damage that may result from the use of this information. Crown Lands, 2007. Copyright Crown Lands, 2011

Newcastle Coastal & Estuary Reserve Trust Lands



Locality: Stockton
Parish: Stockton
County: Northumberland
LGA: Newcastle

Legend

- Reserve 63408 for Public Recreation
(Lot 106 DP720719, Lot 1, 30, 64, 68
& 74 DP753191, Lot 7017 DP1117480,
Lot 7316 & 7320 DP1164949, Lot 7300
& 7304 DP1157630, Lot 67, 69 & 70
DP753191 & part Lot 1 DP556199)
- Reserve 95526 for Parking
(Lot 7023 DP1086075,
part Lot 1 DP566199 &
part Lot 7028 DP1053694)
- Cadastral Lots



Aerial Photography: SKM Aerials
Date of Photography: 2007
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Zone 56 Datum: GDA94
Prepared By: Phil Seaman July 2012

Disclaimer: The information contained in this diagram has been provided in good faith. Whilst all effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information the data providers take no responsibility for errors or omissions nor any loss or damage that may result from the use of this information. Crown Lands 2007. Copyright Crown Lands, 2011

Appendix B:

Land parcels included in the POM

500.2012.00000256.001	CR4	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	EMPIRE PARK	013/PT258//755247
500.2012.00000256.001	CR4	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	EMPIRE PARK	013/PT258//755247
500.2012.00000257.001	CR5	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	BAR BEACH PUBLIC BATHING AREA	013/7057//1077026
500.2012.00000258.001	CR5	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	BAR BEACH PUBLIC BATHING AREA	013/7058//1077026
500.2012.00000285.001	CR18	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	JEFFERSON PARK	013/10//1129519
500.2012.00000286.001	CR18	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	JEFFERSON PARK	013/12//1129519
500.2012.00000287.001	CR18	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	JEFFERSON PARK	013/100//1130581
500.2012.00000288.001	CR18	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	JEFFERSON PARK	013/101//1130581
500.2012.00000300.001	CR25	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	FLETCHER PARK	013/7059//1116454
500.2012.00000301.001	CR26	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	OCEAN BATHS	013/7061//1118737
500.2012.00000303.001	CR27	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	CLOSED ROAD	013/7003//1077042
500.2012.00000305.001	CR29	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	KING EDWARD PARK	013/7004//1077043
500.2012.00000307.001	CR33	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	NOBBYS SURF CLUB	013/7005//1057119
500.2012.00000308.001	CR33	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	NOBBYS BEACH RESERVE/COWRIE HOLE	013/7006//1057119
500.2012.00000309.001	CR33	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	NOBBYS BEACH RESERVE/COWRIE HOLE	013/7060//1118739
500.2012.00000321.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	GRIFFITH PARK	013/1//753191
500.2012.00000322.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	GRIFFITH PARK	013/39//753191
500.2012.00000331.001	CR39	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	HUNTER STREET RESERVE	013/1//566199
500.2012.00000332.001	CR39	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/7033//1117482
500.2012.00000333.001	CR39	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/7017//1117480
500.2012.00000334.001	CR39	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/67//753191
500.2012.00000335.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	CROWN RESERVE	013/7320//1164949
500.2012.00000347.001	CR41	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	CROWN RESERVE	013/7305//1167630
500.2012.00000375.001	CR56	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	SHEPHERDS HILL COTTAGE	013/3116//755247
500.2012.00000379.001	CR60	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	TRAMWAY RESERVE	013/7061//1053970
500.2012.00000380.001	CR60	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	TRAMWAY RESERVE	015/PT1133
500.2012.00000400.001	C13	2 Community Land	SHEPHERDS HILL RESERVE	013/2//1145960
500.2012.00000401.001	C13	2 Community Land	SHEPHERDS HILL RESERVE	013/78//154075
500.2012.00000667.001	C144	2 Community Land	DIXON PARK	013/3//227107
500.2012.00000668.001	C144	2 Community Land	DIXON PARK	013/26//1140755
500.2012.00000673.001	C149	2 Community Land	ROBINSON RESERVE	013/2//514500
500.2012.00000674.001	C149	2 Community Land	ROBINSON RESERVE	013/3//153433
500.2012.00000683.001	C157	2 Community Land	JEFFERSON PARK	013/268//1102663
500.2012.00000684.001	C157	2 Community Land	JEFFERSON PARK	013/2//1118903
500.2012.00000684.001	C157	2 Community Land	JEFFERSON PARK	013/2//1118903
500.2012.00000685.001	C157	2 Community Land	JEFFERSON PARK	013/3//1118903
500.2012.00000785.001	C192	2 Community Land	TRAMWAY RESERVE	013/1//1155511
500.2012.00001038.001	C308	2 Community Land	NCC LAND ADJOINING FLETCHER PARK	013/1//121124
500.2012.00001155.001	C386	2 Community Land	GRIFFITH PARK	013/71//753191
500.2012.00001468.001	CR25	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	NCC LAND ADJOINING FLETCHER PARK	010/PT DP 54152
500.2012.00001469.001	CR25	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	NCC LAND ADJOINING FLETCHER PARK	013/PTS5//817439
500.2012.00001478.001	CR41	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	CROWN RESERVE	013/7303//1167630
500.2012.00001497.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/7318//1164949
500.2012.00001497.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/7318//1164949
500.2012.00001498.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/68//753191
500.2012.00001499.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	CROWN RESERVE	013/7304//1167630
500.2012.00001500.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/69//753191
500.2012.00001501.001	C386	2 Community Land		013/57//753191
500.2012.00001511.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/70//753191
500.2012.00001518.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	R52223 - BALLAST GROUND - CR40	013/7309//1157637
500.2012.00001519.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	R52223 - BALLAST GROUND - CR40	013/7310//1157637
500.2012.00001520.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/74//753191
500.2012.00001521.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	R52223 - BALLAST GROUND - CR40	013/22//753191
500.2012.00001522.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	R52223 - BALLAST GROUND - CR40	013/23//753191
500.2012.00001523.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	R52223 - BALLAST GROUND - CR40	013/24//753191
500.2012.00001524.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	R52223 - BALLAST GROUND - CR40	013/36//753191
500.2012.00001530.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	CROWN LAND	015/64//753191
500.2012.00001531.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/5/33//758929
500.2012.00001532.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/6/33//753191
500.2012.00001533.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/7/33//758929
500.2012.00001534.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/8//456347
500.2012.00001535.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/1//129592
500.2012.00001536.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/10//456347
500.2012.00001537.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/11//456347
500.2012.00001538.001	C1531	2 Community Land	BALLAST GROUND	013/9//456347
500.2012.00001539.001	C1539	2 Community Land	PITT STREET RESERVE	013/3//89698
500.2012.00001540.001	C1539	2 Community Land	PITT STREET RESERVE	013/1//87866
500.2012.00001542.001	CR37	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager		013/106//720719
500.2012.00001543.001	CR1543	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	CROWN LAND	013/7021//1128695
500.2012.00001516.001	CR40	3 Crown Land - Reserve Trust Manager	R52223 - BALLAST GROUND - CR40	013/7307//1157637

Appendix C: Core Objectives

Core Objectives for Community Land

Park

36G Core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are:

- (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and
- (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and
- (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

Natural Area (Escarpment)

36E Core objectives for management of community land categorised as a natural area

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a natural area are:

- (a) to conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and
- (b) to maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and
- (c) to provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and
- (d) to provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and
- (e) to assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the [Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995](#) or the [Fisheries Management Act 1994](#)

36L Core objectives for management of community land categorised as an escarpment

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as an escarpment are:

- (a) to protect any important geological, geomorphological or scenic features of the escarpment, and
- (b) to facilitate safe community use and enjoyment of the escarpment.

General Community Use

36I Core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:

- (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and
- (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

Appendix D: Community Lands Category Map



COMMUNITY LAND COASTAL CATEGORY MAP - DIXON PARK

-  Cadastrre
-  Community land (coastal)
-  Water

Land Category

-  Park

Date: 21 November 2013
 Source: NCC
 CommunityLandCoastalCategory_Nov2013.wor



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COMMUNITY LAND COASTAL CATEGORY MAP - MEREWETHER

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Cadastre |  Land Category |
|  Community land (coastal) |  General Community Use |
|  Water |  Park |

Date: 21 November 2013
 Source: NCC
 CommunityLandCoastalCategory_Nov2013.wor



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COMMUNITY LAND COASTAL CATEGORY MAP - STOCKTON RESERVE

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Cadastre |  Land Category |
|  Community land (coastal) |  Park |
|  Water | |

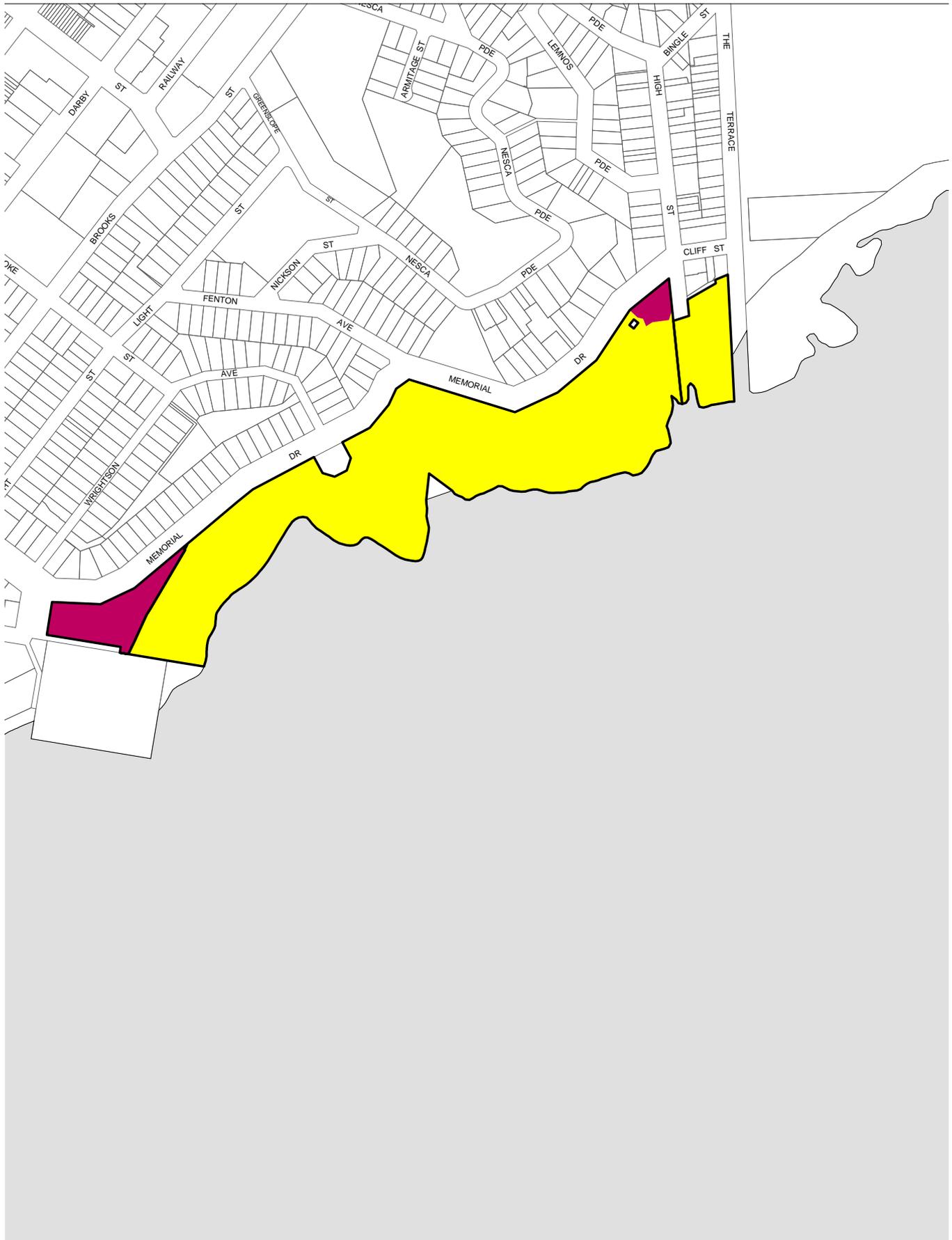
Date: 21 November 2013
 Source: NCC
 CommunityLandCoastalCategory_Nov2013.wor



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COMMUNITY LAND COASTAL CATEGORY MAP - STRZELECKI HEADLAND

-  Cadastre
-  Community land (coastal)
-  Water

- Land Category**
-  General Community Use
 -  Natural Area - Escarpment

Date: 12 March 2014
 Source: NCC
 CommunityLandCoastalCategory_March2014.wor



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COMMUNITY LAND COASTAL CATEGORY MAP - TRAMWAY RESERVE

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Cadastre | Land Category |
|  Community land (coastal) |  General Community Use |
|  Water | |

Date: 21 November 2013
 Source: NCC
 CommunityLandCoastalCategory_Nov2013.wor



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Appendix E: Heritage Places Strategic Plans extracts

Newcastle Ocean Baths

Cultural Significance

History

During the first decade of this century, with the mining industry in decline in the inner Newcastle area, there was discussion of the need for the city to diversify and attract tourism. One project proposed to enhance the city's waterfront facilities was the creation of an ocean baths to be carved out of the flat shelf of rock below what were then tram sheds on Parnell Place at Newcastle East, 'free from the dangers of surf undertow and sharks' (Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate, 9 May 1911). The council's public baths in Newcomen Street, where the City Arcade now stands, had closed, and the Ocean Baths provided the main facility for clubs, school carnivals and the general public throughout the inter-war years, until suburban pools were built after the second war. The 1922 building which fronts Shortland Esplanade is of Federation character, with features, especially the central tower, with the Art Deco flavour which came to be associated with places of public leisure and entertainment. A World Map on the floor of the children's pool was for many years a popular feature.

Thematic Significance

- Leisure (27)
- Sport (28)

Recommended Status

As an important feature of the city's bathing facilities, Ocean Baths has played a significant part in the history of the city.

Recommended status : Local Heritage.

Evaluation Summary :

	historical	aesthetic	research	social
rare	local	local	local	local
representative				

Description

Category of land: Crown land

Character Statement

The evocative visual character of the Ocean Baths, with its rugged pool structure and Art Deco backdrop, has made it a favourite location for fashion photographers as well as painters. It has also been the setting for a long tradition of social and leisure activity in the city. These qualities should be conserved and enhanced. The forecourt area is less certain in its character, and has been reassessed as part of an integrated landscape treatment of Shortland Esplanade in the Esplanade Master Plan.

Physical

Area

Total Area : 2.5 ha, bounded by Shortland Esplanade and by foreshore rock shelf.

Exclusive Areas : enclosed swimming pool compound 1.1 ha 44 %
paddling pool 0.9 ha 36 %

Landform

Level site formed on foreshore rock shelf, below high embankment along which Shortland Esplanade rises from N to S.

Current Uses :

Use

swimming

hydrotherapy

art/photography location

Facilities

swimming and associated spectators' compound containing 2 pools, separate M & F changing pavilions, shop, shade area walking for tables, stepped seating by lap pool, open sightseeing

Access:

- Disabled access to pool via ramp.
- Children's paddling pool,
- Poor sight lines for pedestrian access across Shortland Esplanade
- Limited parking

Selected Inventory of Significant Elements within the Boundaries of the Space:

Structures

- Changing and Facilities Building, 1922, B Blackwell, J.F. Shine, city engineers, F G Castleden, architect;
- Swimming pool structures;
- Paddling pool;(world map said to have been destroyed)

Selected Inventory of Significant Elements Adjoining the Space:

Structures

- remains of Soldiers Baths, 1883, on foreshore to N;
- residences on west side of Shortland Esplanade

Landscape

- Tramway Reserve on hillside above Shortland Esplanade to NW;
- surrounding foreshore rock shelf;
- Cowrie Hole, Newcastle Beach and views to King Edward Park and north and south along coastline.

Non-Contributory Elements:

- car park;
- power lines and lighting poles in pool area;
- showers and stormwater runoff to adjacent beach;
- lack of shade/landscaping in car park.

Issues raised at Community Workshops:

- The Newcastle Ocean Baths are an intrinsic part of an important civic landscape incorporating Nobbys headland, Fort Scratchley and City Beach with references to King Edward Park. These features require integration in a landscape scheme. The forecourt and approach to the Baths also requires improvement and integration with the Esplanade Master Plan.
- Its city centre location and high levels of pedestrian, cyclist and vehicular traffic, warrants a traffic management scheme for the streets which connect the coastal sites, as well as for providing r access by public transport.
- The Bathing Pavilion could achieve increased usage and return by providing better facilities, both those related to swimming and fitness and to more leisurely activities such as a café. Council could consider the examples of sympathetic reuse of many bathing pavilions and surf houses around Port Philip Bay, Melbourne, to examine the options for this city location.
- Some unsympathetic features of the Baths include the lighting and the picnic shelters near the wading pool and these could be replaced.

Nobbys Headland

Cultural Significance

History

The island at the mouth of the Hunter was sighted by Captain Cook in 1770 and given the name Hackings Island by Lt John Shortland in 1797 and Coal Island by Lt Grant in 1801. The origin of the name Nobbys, which was first published in 1810, is uncertain. Following Governor Macquarie's 1818 laying of the foundation stone for the causeway to link the island to the mainland and create a more sheltered approach into the mouth of the river, construction gangs of convicts were probably housed on the island, quarrying stone for the causeway and reducing its height, said to have originally been 203 ft (62 m).

Although the causeway was completed in 1846, Nobbys was still considered a hazard to shipping, and in 1854 Colonel Barney of the Royal Engineers began mining operations to set charges to blow it up. Public outrage prevented this, and in 1856 it was decided to erect a lighthouse on the summit, which was further reduced in height to its present level. On 31 December 1857 the coal fire on Beacon Hill (Fort Scratchley) was extinguished and Nobbys lighthouse took over its role. In the following year the signal flagstaff was removed from the Fort Scratchley site and similarly relocated on Nobbys. The lighthouse was a tapered circular tower of dressed sandstone supporting a twelve-sided glass and metal lantern, and is the earliest surviving example on the New South Wales coast of maritime lights installed in conformity with Trinity House codes, following the Commission of 1856. In 1869 work started on reinforcing the convict-built causeway using stone transported by rail from the Waratah Quarry (visible near the present Braye Park Lookout).

In the latter part of the nineteenth century a 2 storey timber signal station was erected alongside the lighthouse, to be replaced in 1954 with the present structure, refurbished in 1988. The light was electrified in 1935. Between 1930 and 1937, during the Great Depression, the area around Horseshoe Beach at the mainland end of the causeway became the site of Nobbys Camp, a squatter settlement for the homeless and unemployed. During the same period, the Nobbys Beach Surf Pavilion was erected overlooking Nobbys Beach.

Floodlighting was provided by N.P.C. in 1998 located at base.

Thematic Significance

- Convict (2)
- Mining (7)
- Environment (9)
- Transport (13)

Recommended Status

Nobbys is a dominant visual symbol of Newcastle and of the Hunter coast. It is also a unique reminder of the convict period, and of the shaping of the natural environment around the port.

Recommended status : State Heritage.

Evaluation Summary :

	historical	aesthetic	research	social
rare	state	state	state	state
representative				

Description

Category of land: Light house is on Crown Land not in Councils care and control. Access roadway and signal station are in control of Newcastle Port Corporation. Zoned 6(a) Open Space.

Character Statement

As one of the most distinctive physical icons of the lower Hunter and a potent symbol of the history of the port of Newcastle, Nobbys Headland is a crucial heritage place in the region. However, although the breakwater is a popular public amenity, the Headland is publicly accessible only around its base, which is relatively neglected and ill-kept (eg defensive emplacement and bitou vegetation). The outstanding panoramas from the lighthouse compound of the harbour mouth and of the city centre are not currently available to the public. There is thus an opportunity to make Nobbys Headland as rewarding a place to visit at close quarters as it currently is from a distance, and for it to become one of the most significant

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- Mining (7)
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- Transport (13)

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Recommended status : State Heritage.

Evaluation Summary :

	historical	aesthetic	research	social
rare	state	state	state	state
representative				

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Supporting Information for Plan of Management for

King Edward Park

Cultural Significance

History

The park was first proclaimed a recreation reserve in 1865 on 38 acres of land lying on the southern boundary of the city of Newcastle. By 1860 the area of King Edward Park was clearly identified on maps as a 'Reserve for Public Recreation', forming the southern boundary of the city of Newcastle. At that time it comprised a triangular area defined by Ordnance Street (boundary of the city to the N), The Terrace (boundary of the AA Company's land to the W), and the coastal cliffs to the SE. A number of important historic sites were contained within this reserve, including : the Obelisk, constructed in 1850 as a navigation aid to incoming ships to replace the windmill formerly located on that high point; the site of one of the earliest coal mines, near the present bowling green, from which the coal was taken down the track of what is now Watt Street to the waterfront wharf; and the Bogey Hole, constructed by convicts under the direction of Major James Morisset in 1819-22 and subsequently opened for public use in 1863.

During the 1880s the construction of Reserve Road and the south end of Wolfe Street effectively divided the Reserve into 3 parts : what became known as Arcadia Park on the west side of Wolfe Street, overlooking the port and city to the NW; the Obelisk Reserve between Reserve Road, Wolfe Street and Ordnance Street; and the remaining 'Upper Reserve' or 'Horseshoe Reserve'. A series of developments in the Upper Reserve then followed: in 1888 the stone fountain was reconstructed on the Horseshoe Bend, and new plantations of trees, including the New Zealand pohutakawa, established and in 1889 the oval was levelled within the angle of the Terrace and Reserve Road as a small cricket ground.

The defensive site of Shepherds Hill Fort on the south side of the park dates from the construction of a gun emplacement in 1890 and a barracks and other outbuildings in 1889-90 (subsequently known as Shepherds Hill Cottage). In 1890 a competition to prepare a masterplan for the emerging park was won by Alfred Sharp. Although constrained by the works that had already taken place, it aimed to exploit the natural formation of the gully running down within the Horseshoe to the ocean, creating within it a series of stepping pools and groves of trees. Within two years however, Sharp was writing to the local paper complaining that his designs had been ignored, and objecting to the filling of the gully. Despite this, the filling continued for a number of years. The City Bowling Club took up occupation of its site in 1891, having split from the Lowlands Bowling Club in Cooks Hill, now in Centennial Park.

The rotunda band stand was built on the upper lawn within the Horseshoe Bend in 1898, and in 1907 the brewer Joseph Wood donated money to erect a set of four stone gateposts and ornamental metal entrance gates at the Watt Street entrance, their remains being visible today in the pair of stone posts at the top entrance in the Terrace. The Upper Reserve was renamed King Edward Park in 1910 on the death of Edward VII. In 1920 there was debate about the alienation of land in the area around the Obelisk with the establishment of the Hill Tennis Club there. The city gardener, J.V. Coleman, appointed at that time, carried out extensive works to the Park, including the planting of Norfolk Island pines and the establishment of a 'model garden', Garside Gardens. During WW2 gun emplacements and bomb shelters were erected within the park, being finally demolished in 1978.

Thematic Significance

- Convict (2) - penal colony
- Land tenure (6)
- Environment (9)
- Defence (23)
- Leisure (27)
- Sport (28)

Recommended Status

King Edward Park and its environs contain many important features of the development of the historic city. The Park is also an outstanding example of a Victorian recreational place in a dramatic coastal setting, despite some conflicting aspects of its design. It thus has particular importance within the Hunter Region.

Recommended status : Regional Heritage.

Evaluation Summary :

	historical	aesthetic	research	social
rare	regional	regional	regional	regional
representative				

Description

Category of land: Crown land

Character Statement

The Park takes much of its character from two contrasting landscape conditions, the open coastal headlands and cliffs, and the more enclosed landscaped gully in which the rotunda is located. It is also surrounded by a number of significant landscape and constructed features which add greatly to the experience it offers. As a result, the Park forms a unique focus of landscape and heritage interest.

Physical

Area

Total Area : 36 ha, total historic reserve area including Obelisk Hill, Arcadia Park and Shepherds Hill Fort site; 13.5 ha bounded by Ordnance Street, Reserve Road, The Terrace, Defence Department site, the ocean;

Exclusive Areas :	Bowling Club site	0.6 ha	4 %
	Tennis club site	0.3 ha	2%
	Shepherds Hill cottage & fort	0.6 ha	4%

Landform

Coastal headland rising from N to crest at Shepherd's Hill to S, with steep cliffs to ocean along E,S perimeter. In N part a valley falls across the park to the E.

Current Uses :

Use

public & private ceremonial functions
active organised events (eg MG car rally)
active & passive casual leisure

bowling
exclusive use of club house and

tennis

Facilities

rotunda

BBQ, toilets, children's play area
Garside Gardens

bowling clubhouse & greens - City Bowling Club has greens, direct lease with Crown Lands dept

tennis clubhouse and courts.

Access

- Disabled access very limited with no access to rotunda, BBQ area;
- toilets require modification;
- unsuited to significant traffic levels or traffic at speed.

Selected Inventory of Significant Elements within the Boundaries of the Space:

Structures

- Bogey Hole, 1822
- Obelisk, 1850, on high point to N
- Rotunda, 1898;
- stone fountain, reconstructed 1888;
- Shepherds Hill Cottage 1889-90;
- Shepherd's Hill defensive works;
- stone gateposts at S entry, ex 1907;

Landscape

- Obelisk Reserve;
- stands of Norfolk Island pines within valley area;

- row of palms along W edge to the Terrace;
- Garside Gardens.

Selected Inventory of Significant Elements Adjoining the Space

Structures

- Victorian villas on The Terrace, dating generally from the 1880s, including numbers 22 & 40 by F.B. Menkens architect and no. 20 by J. Henderson architect, and forming the W edge to the park.

Landscape

- Arcadia Park;
- Fletcher Park;

Non-Contributory Elements:

- S flank of bowling clubhouse;
- treatment of bowl below Garside Gardens
- approach to Bogey Hole
- toilet block
- overhead power lines
- proliferating signs

References:

- Bagley C. and Trigger J Research Report No 39: *The Future of an Historic Park: King Edward Park Management Strategy*, 1901, The Hunter Valley Research Foundation Newcastle.

Issues:

The following points need to be considered in deciding how best the combination of features in the Park can be enhanced :

- a major landscape opportunity appears to have been lost by the rejection of Alfred Sharp's proposal for the gully; the filling of the lower part of the gully has created an odd area of indeterminate character; the whole ravine area needs reconsideration to recover its potential as a contained and dramatic landscape feature;
- the Bogey Hole may well be one of the oldest visible artifact of white settlement in the Hunter Valley; while some work has been done to clean up its surroundings (the demolition of the former public toilets) its present setting is quite inadequate to celebrate this distinction, and integrate it into the overall experience of the Park;
- the high point of Shepherd's Hill at the south end of the Park is significant as one of a sequence of rising landforms along the coast, of which Fort Scratchley and Nobbys Headland form the culmination; these three places are linked also by their former coastal defence role, and the defence emplacement on Shepherd's Hill should be seen and celebrated in this context, not as an isolated object, but as part of a coherent chain of defence works extending from the mouth of the Hunter;
- while it has enjoyed a long history on the site, the bowling club does not present a positive aspect to the Park, especially on its south side, and consideration should be given to improving this when the opportunity arises;
- improvements to the Park should be integrated with work to surrounding features and spaces, and particularly Obelisk Hill, so that the former unity of the landscape of this area (before the construction of Reserve Road) can be restored; for example, a walk could be created from the Obelisk into the Park, down through the gully, and terminating at the Bogey Hole, thus linking two of the oldest landmarks of the convict settlement;
- the management of traffic within the Park has received attention in the past, and could now usefully be reviewed, including the question of closing the lower road to vehicular access.

Issues raised at community workshops:

- sympathetic use of Shepherds Hill House eg as artists residence or interpretive centre
- area requires an integrated landscape plan (no more fiddly constructions)
- remove visual clutter, eg powerlines and signs
- area vulnerable to overuse and not robust enough to support too many mass events
- headland below gun emplacement is original pasture and should be kept unmown
- disabled access needs improvement eg access ramps to rotunda and BBQ, with appropriate surface modifications to rotunda and BBQ area (however, this would have to be compatible with heritage guidelines for the rotunda)
- close at night to through traffic for safety reasons,
- closing Park to through traffic at night would mean the Park cannot be used as part of any proposed one way traffic scheme (however through traffic increases pedestrian visitor safety).

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN CONSIDERATIONS MAY 2000

KEY ISSUES FOR KING EDWARD PARK

Pedestrian access/pathways

1. Pathway surfaces generally uneven and poorly patched.
2. Pedestrian/vehicle conflicts occur on a regular basis, pedestrians use the roadway system for access through the park. Need to provide bollards/barriers along sections of the road to reduce road width and provide pedestrians with safe access/walkways
3. Soil erosion is occurring on casual pathways especially on Shepherds Hill, and above the Bogey Hole.
4. Need for a safe pedestrian access across Reserve Road to Obelisk possibly near the intersection of Newcomen Street and Reserve Road.
5. Possible paving required in the area from the Rotunda to the existing stairs to York Drive.

Toilets

1. Improve safety.
2. Disabled access difficult.

Playground equipment

1. Standard of existing equipment is poor.
2. Soft fall appears to be inadequate.
3. Lack of shade.

Formal grassed/garden areas

1. Some areas of grass are in poor condition – amphitheatre area has worn patches and poor grass growth, old bitumen paths exposed (near top car park), large bare patches appearing in some areas.
2. Existing shrub areas should be thinned with some replanting of more appropriate species.

Fencing

1. Different fencing styles used in a number of locations.
2. Fencing along the front boundary of the Bowling Club requires repairs.

Retaining Walls

1. Walls in some locations (esp Bogey Hole) are crumbling/collapsed.
2. Inconsistent treatments/finishes used in the park not in keeping with Heritage objectives for Park.

Lighting

1. Current lighting is to a minimal standard, poorly located and in a style that is inappropriate for a major park. Overhead wires detract from the scenic quality of the park.

Park furniture and BBQ

1. The style and location of existing furniture does not service park users and is not in keeping with Heritage objectives.
2. The number of rubbish bins is inadequate to meet usage especially in summer.
3. Vehicles park in BBQ area.

Vehicle access/parking

1. High vehicle speeds in York Drive and Shortland Esplanade threaten the safety of pedestrians.
2. High vehicle speeds in Reserve Road threaten the safety of pedestrians trying to cross to the Obelisk area.
3. Car based vandalism occurs on a regular basis in grassed areas, to park furniture and around carparks.
4. Vehicles have unrestricted access to the park especially after dark.
5. Vehicle and pedestrian/dog conflicts occur on a regular basis.
6. Vehicle occupants leave/through rubbish in car park areas.
7. Because the off street parking limited.
8. Traffic problems occur in surrounding streets during events.

Park entrances/edges

1. Park entrances are generally ill defined and road edges also ill defined

Access for people with disabilities

1. People with disabilities have access problems to some areas especially the rotunda, toilets and BBQ area

Native Vegetation

1. Native vegetation areas are severely affected by Bitou bush invasion.
2. Existing Themeda grassland areas are poorly managed and suffer from weed invasion and excessive mowing
3. Area on the southern side of the bowling club is severely degraded by weed growth and bowling club activities.

Drainage

1. Serious soil erosion is occurring in the eastern gully near the Bogey Hole.
2. Seepage occurring below Garside Gardens.
3. Damage to road pavement due to seepage - adjacent to Garside Gardens.
4. Damage to existing drainage system eg near toilet block has not been repaired.

Tree Management

1. Some Norfolk Pines have severe dieback and may have to be removed.
2. Dead trees through out the park have not been removed and planting of replacement trees is not ongoing.
3. Current maintenance practices appear to cause tree damage and health problems and young trees appear to be stunted.

Northern Gully

1. Lacks a clear use and is generally unattractive.
2. Area is difficult to maintain due to the terrain.

Garside Gardens

1. Loss of display during the change over at the end of the display period.

Staff facilities

1. Current facilities visually unattractive and below an acceptable standard.

Heritage Items

1. A number of heritage items are degrading and require maintenance - sandstone fountain, Bogey Hole, Shepherds Hill gun emplacement.
2. Use of heritage items should be sympathetic to the nature of the item. Shepherds Hill Cottage now has a proliferation of aerals that detracts from the visual appeal of the site.

Switchback Carpark (below Shepherds Hill)

1. Large bitumen area and limit inappropriate vehicle use eg 'Burnouts'.
2. Fencing style not consistent with 'Ordinance' style and existing fence is easily vandalised.

Event management

1. The impacts of major events (Mattara Hill Climb, pictures in the park, musical events and Carols by Candlelight) needs to be reviewed to ensure that degradation of park values and environment does not occur.

Obelisk

1. Need to remove weeds (especially bitou bush, ficus vine and Pattersons curse).
2. Exposed soil near the obelisk and soil erosion.
3. Informal carparking in the park along Reserve Road adjacent to the Tennis Club causes damage to grassed areas.
4. A section of concrete paving is missing from the main paved access on the eastern side of the Obelisk. Pathway connection is required from the top of the obelisk to the top of the pathway on the eastern side.
5. Existing native vegetation on some of the terraces should be managed as native themeda grassland rather than mowed.
6. Entry to the top of the Obelisk (from the eastern side) is unattractive and restricted by a low retaining wall.
7. Area owned by Hunter Water

LANDSCAPE CONCEPT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

- Change the way the vegetation is managed along the eastern edge of the park to reduce the reliance on mowing and allow the regeneration of existing native species to create more naturalised vegetation communities like Themeda grasslands and coastal heath/low scrub.
- Prepare and implement a program to remove weeds from the reserve in particular Bitou Bush infestations along the eastern edge.
- Carry out an audit of existing trees in the park and implement a program to remove dead or senescent trees and provide appropriate arboricultural management practices to ensure the health and longevity of remaining trees.
- Design and construct a new coastal walkway system ('Bathers Way') along the eastern edge of the park. Include necessary public safety features and directional/interpretive signage.
- Investigate opportunities to develop the main gully area below Garside gardens as either a dramatic but contained gully landscape using water features and native vegetation as envisaged by Alfred Sharp (1890 Masterplan) or as possible public outdoor performance area.
- Carry out traffic management works on the internal roadway system to reduce vehicle/pedestrian conflicts, reduce vehicle speed, formalise parking and restrict vehicles to sealed areas. Ensure the park is closed to vehicular traffic from dusk to dawn each day.
- Carry out traffic management works in Reserve Road to improve pedestrian access to the northern side of Reserve Road.
- Design and construct stormwater management works to limit scouring and soil erosion especially near the Switchback Carpark and the Bogey Hole. Rehabilitate areas where vegetation cover has been degraded or lost.
- Upgrade and/or relocate the existing playground area and standard of softfall to at least that of a district facility.
- Design and construct new staff amenities and equipment storage area in the existing location.

Heritage Places Strategic Plan and Plans of Management 06/09/10

- Carry out a general audit of existing park structures, services, furniture, fencing and paving to identify safety issues, location/supply problems and maintenance requirements. Following the audit carry out the necessary works to rectify the identified problems. Any proposed works should be sympathetic to the setting and any heritage items located nearby.
- Prepare and implement a program of works to conserve heritage items located in the park. Ensure that any uses of heritage items is sympathetic to the item and its setting.
- Upgrade the existing lighting in the park and place the existing overhead electrical supply underground.
- Establish and document events co-ordination and bookings and licensing procedures. Includes provisions for access, parking catering, special equipment, power and lighting and clean up.
- Review impact and appropriateness of major events, particularly Mattara Hill climb, in relation to proposed traffic and pedestrian management works. Ensure comprehensive stakeholder consideration.

Appendix F: Condition of existing built assets

(Taken from Councils Asset Management Plan)

Sector	Precinct	Map Key	Asset No.	Description/Use	Condition
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	393	BU000393	Lynn Oval - Grandstand	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	167	BU000167	Lynn Oval - Pavilion	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	394	BU000394	Lynn Oval - Shelter Shed North	6-Fair to poor, some service loss
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	782	BU000782	Lynn Oval - Shelter Shed South	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	291	BU000291	Lynn Oval - Tennis Club	6-Fair to poor, some service loss
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	632	BU000632	Stockton - War Memorial	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	633	BU000633	Stockton Beach - Lifeguard Tower	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	166	BU000166	Stockton Beach - Surf Club (new Pavilion)	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton Beach	165	BU000165	Stockton Beach - Surf Club (old Pavilion)	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	837	BU000837	Stockton - Lions Park - Skate Board Ramp	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	170	BU000170	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Amenities No1	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	615	BU000615	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Amenities No2	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	731	BU000731	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - BBQ Shelter	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	824	BU000824	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - BBQ Shelter 2	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	637	BU000637	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Bunkhouse Cabins (4*)	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	295	BU000295	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Camp Kitchen	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	172	BU000172	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Managers Residence	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	171	BU000171	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Old Residence/kiosk	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	643	BU000643	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Relocatable Cabin	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	769	BU000769	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Southern Toilet Block	3-Very good, minor deterioration

Sector	Precinct	Map Key	Asset No.	Description/Use	Condition
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	665	BU000665	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Special Access Cabin	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	768	BU000768	Stockton Beach Tourist Park - Work Shed	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	778	BU000778	Stockton Foreshore - Shelter Shed	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	177	BU000177	Stockton Swim Centre - Caretakers Residence	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	173	BU000173	Stockton Swim Centre - Child Pool	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	174	BU000174	Stockton Swim Centre - Filter Room	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	176	BU000176	Stockton Swim Centre - Ladies Pavilion	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	175	BU000175	Stockton Swim Centre - Mens Pavilion	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	168	BU000168	Stockton Swim Centre - Olympic	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	832	BU000832	Stockton Swim Centre - Shade Shelter	NA
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	697	BU000697	Stockton Swim Centre - Shelter A	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	698	BU000698	Stockton Swim Centre - Shelter B	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	699	BU000699	Stockton Swim Centre - Shelter C	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	700	BU000700	Stockton Swim Centre - Shelter D	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton East	701	BU000701	Stockton Swim Centre - Shelter E	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Stockton (Northern)	Griffith Park	636	BU000636	Hunter Street Reserve - Shade Structures (3*)	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Griffith Park	392	BU000392	Stockton Ferry - Toilet Block	1-Near new, time based
Stockton (Northern)	Griffith Park	887	BU000887	Stockton Griffith Park - Fishing Jetty	1-Near new, time based
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton West	857	BU000857	Stockton - Boat Ramp	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton West	523	BU000523	Stockton Ballast Ground Clyde St - Public Toilets	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Stockton (Northern)	Stockton West	307	BU000307	Ballast Ground Booth St - Public Toilets	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Nobbys	612	BU000612	Foreshore - Shade Shelter	3-Very good, minor deterioration

Sector	Precinct	Map Key	Asset No.	Description/Use	Condition
City Beaches (Central)	Nobbys	749	BU000749	Nobbys Beach - Lifeguard Shed	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Nobbys	854	BU000854	Nobbys Beach - Grounded	2-Excellent, obvious not new
City Beaches (Central)	Nobbys	395	BU000395	Nobbys Beach - Shade Shelter	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Nobbys	131	BU000131	Nobbys Beach - Surf Clubhouse	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	893	BU000893	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Shade Shelter	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	764	BU000764	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Canoe Pool	5-Fair, some service loss
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	322	BU000322	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Pavilion	2-Excellent, obvious not new
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	586	BU000586	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Picnic Shelters	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	714	BU000714	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Pools	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	730	BU000730	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Pumphouse	5-Fair, some service loss
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	587	BU000587	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Sandstone Shelter Shed	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Baths	611	BU000611	Newcastle Ocean Baths - Shade Structure	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	403	BU000403	Fletcher Park - Monument	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	806	BU000806	Newcastle Beach - Observation Tower	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	396	BU000396	Newcastle Beach - Shade Shelter 1	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	805	BU000805	Newcastle Beach - Shade Shelter 2	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	321	BU000321	Newcastle Beach - Surf Pavilion	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	397	BU000397	South Newcastle Beach - Shade Shelter	6-Fair to poor, some service loss
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	538	BU000538	South Newcastle Beach - Skate Facilities	5-Fair, some service loss
City Beaches (Central)	Newcastle Beach	398	BU000398	South Newcastle Beach - Toilet Block	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	317	BU000317	Hill Club - Tennis Club	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park /	720	BU000720	King Edward Park - Shelter	3-Very good, minor deterioration

Sector	Precinct	Map Key	Asset No.	Description/Use	Condition
	Bogey Hole				
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	402	BU000402	King Edward Park - Fort	5-Fair, some service loss
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	585	BU000585	King Edward Park - Fountain	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	401	BU000401	King Edward Park - Gardner Shed	6-Fair to poor, some service loss
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	400	BU000400	King Edward Park - Gardners Room	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	863	BU000863	King Edward Park - Gateway Pillars	1-Near new, time based
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	399	BU000399	King Edward Park - Rotunda	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	858	BU000858	King Edward Park - Shade Shelter	2-Excellent, obvious not new
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	319	BU000319	King Edward Park - Toilet Block	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	318	BU000318	Shepherds Hill - Cottage	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	525	BU000525	Shepherds Hill - Laundry Shed	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	412	BU000412	Shepherds Hill - Old Fort Building	5-Fair, some service loss
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	540	BU000540	Strzeleckie - Communication Tower	NA
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	823	BU000823	Strzeleckie - Communication Tower 2	3-Very good, minor deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	539	BU000539	Strzeleckie - Communication Shed	4-Good, obvious deterioration
City Beaches (Central)	King Edward Park / Bogey Hole	886	BU000886	The Hill - Obelisk	3-Very good, minor deterioration

Sector	Precinct	Map Key	Asset No.	Description/Use	Condition
	Bogey Hole				
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	717	BU000717	Bar Beach - Shelter	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	765	BU000765	Bar Beach - Lifeguard Tower	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	767	BU000767	Bar Beach - Northern Shade Shelters x3	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	128	BU000128	Bar Beach - Pavilion	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	825	BU000825	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelter 1	5-Fair, some service loss
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	826	BU000826	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelter 2	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	827	BU000827	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelter 3	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	828	BU000828	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelter 4	2-Excellent,obvious not new
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	829	BU000829	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelter 5	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	830	BU000830	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelter 6	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	831	BU000831	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelter 7	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	766	BU000766	Bar Beach - Southern Shade Shelters x2	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	629	BU000629	Bar Beach - War Memorial	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	143	BU000143	Cooks Hill - Surf Clubhouse	5-Fair, some service loss
Suburban Beaches	Bar Beach/Empire Park	440	BU000440	Empire Park - Pavilion	3-Very good, minor deterioration

Sector	Precinct	Map Key	Asset No.	Description/Use	Condition
(Central)	Park				
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	906	BU000906	Empire Park - Skate Facility	1-Near new, time based
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	441	BU000441	Empire Park - Tennis Club	4-Good, obvious deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	728	BU000728	Empire Park - Timber Shelter A	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	729	BU000729	Empire Park - Timber Shelter B	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Bar Beach/Empire Park	144	BU000144	Reid Park - Tennis Club	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Dixon Park	851	BU000851	Dixon Park - Shade Shelter 1	1-Near new, time based
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Dixon Park	475	BU000475	Dixon Park - Kiosk	6-Fair to poor, some service loss
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Dixon Park	852	BU000852	Dixon Park - Shade Shelter 2	1-Near new, time based
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Dixon Park	850	BU000850	Dixon Park - Shade Shelter Large	1-Near new, time based
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Dixon Park	473	BU000473	Dixon Park - Shelter Shed	3-Very good, minor deterioration
Suburban Beaches (Central)	Dixon Park	105	BU000105	Dixon Park Surf Club And Amenities	4-Good, obvious deterioration

<i>Asset No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Asset Class</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>NCC Owned</i>	<i>Overall Inspection Details</i>
BU000031	Merewether - Community Centre - Alice Ferguson	Building	Community Halls	Active	YES	2-Excellent,obvious not new
BU000104	Merewether - Baby Health Centre	Building	Baby Health Centres	Active	YES	3-Very good, minor deterioration
BU000185	Merewether Ocean Baths - Pools	Building	Ocean Baths	Active	YES	8-Very poor, needs rehab
BU000379	Merewether Ocean Baths - Pavilion	Building	Pavilion	Active	YES	4-Good, obvious deterioration
BU000380	Merewether Ocean Baths - Garden Shed	Building	Storage Facility	Active	YES	3-Very good, minor deterioration
BU000381	Merewether Ocean Baths - Shade Shelter	Building	Ocean Baths	Active	YES	3-Very good, minor deterioration
BU000382	Merewether Ocean Baths - Pumphouse	Building	Pump House	Active	YES	3-Very good, minor deterioration
BU000526	Merewether Beach - Shade Shelter	Building	Shade & Shelter Structure	Active	YES	4-Good, obvious deterioration
BU000551	Merewether Beach - Surf Clubhouse	Building	Surf Club	Active	YES	5-Fair, some service loss
BU000628	Merewether - War Memorial	Building	Monument	Active	YES	2-Excellent,obvious not new
BU000888	Merewether Jefferson Park - Shade and Seating A	Building	Shade & Shelter Structure	Active	YES	4-Good, obvious deterioration
BU000889	Merewether Jefferson Park - Shade and Seating B	Building	Shade & Shelter Structure	Active	YES	4-Good, obvious deterioration

Appendix G: Current usage of each sector and precinct

Location	Description (existing condition)	Current Uses	Built Improvements
<i>Northern (Stockton) Sector</i>			
Stockton Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve area referred to as 'Stockton Beach' runs along the eastern side of Stockton, with beach access a prime use and the various reserves, including Rawson Park, Dalby Oval and Lynn Oval supporting a number of sporting facilities and sporting clubs. Attractive views are available to the harbour's northern breakwater from the beach. The area is subject to coastal erosion and the dunes lack vegetation in some areas. Investigations into long term solutions to reduce the erosion are being investigated by Council in partnership with the NSW Government. Terrain is relatively flat. Heritage Norfolk pines are located around Lynn Oval. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to Stockton Beach Sporting clubs and facilities (Bowling Club, Tennis Club, Surf Club), netball, cricket and football. Café dining (Lexies café near Lynn Oval) Picnicking Playground War memorial (northern end) Car parking (for parks and Stockton Beach) Public toilets and change rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockton Surf Life Saving Club building Bowling Club (with 3 bowling greens) Tennis Club (with 4 courts, club house and storage shed) 2 netball courts 2 combined cricket/football/soccer ovals Car parks Pavilion (heritage building previously used as surf club now provides public change rooms and separate toilets) Café (Council owned) Grandstand (heritage) and tiered seating War memorial
Stockton East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockton East contains a public swimming pool, skate facility and genera parkland within Pitt Street Reserve at the southern end. From this area access is possible to the northern breakwater. The area is particularly popular during summer holiday periods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming Skate boarding Access to breakwater (fishing/walking) Playground Picnicking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public swimming pool Skate facility Limited pathways Playground Picnic tables/shelters War Memorial
Stockton Beach Tourist Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockton Beach Tourist Park offers a picturesque beach frontage on a patrolled swimming, surfing and fishing beach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourist accommodation (cabins) Camping (caravan and tent sites) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabins, disability access cabin, bunk cabins

Location	Description (existing condition)	Current Uses	Built Improvements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The park has camping and caravanning sites that are spacious and well grassed. ▪ It is a popular coastal holiday area that is only a short drive or five minute ferry ride to Newcastle's City Centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permanent and casual caravan accommodation (permanent private on-site caravans) ▪ Beach access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spacious sites and open grounds ▪ Parents room ▪ 3 outdoor electric BBQ areas and LPG facility ▪ 2 Children's playgrounds ▪ Powered van sites, unpowered & powered tent sites ▪ modern amenity block including disabled facilities ▪ Beach wheelchair access ▪ Camp kitchen (seats up to 80 people with TV) ▪ Sealed designated shared roads.
Griffith Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Griffith Park covers the large relatively undeveloped reserve to the east and west of the Stockton Ferry Terminal, as well as the terminal itself. Landscape and built improvements are mainly focussed around the ferry terminal. ▪ Outstanding views are available from Griffith Park south to the Harbour, breakwaters and Newcastle CBD. ▪ The ferry is well used as a quick access to the CBD, and a unique and well-loved part of Newcastle. ▪ There is a large car parking area and a drop-off area located adjacent to ferry terminal and informal parking on adjacent grassed areas are also used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to Stockton Ferry Terminal ▪ Parking ▪ Walking/cycling/running ▪ Fishing ▪ Access to water ▪ Public toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stockton Ferry Terminal ▪ Car parks ▪ Pathways ▪ Public toilets

Location	Description (existing condition)	Current Uses	Built Improvements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The park is used for formal and informal recreation uses, however, lacks mature trees in many parts. 		
Ballast Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This area is named due to it consisting of mostly land that was reclaimed through past dumping of ballast from ships using Newcastle Port. ▪ The Ballast Ground is a linear, relatively undeveloped reserve that follows the western shoreline of Stockton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fishing ▪ Sailing ▪ Boat launching ▪ Walking/cycling ▪ Community groups ▪ Relaxing ▪ Views over industrial port 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disused toilet block (should probably be removed) ▪ Girl Guides Hall ▪ Scouts Hall ▪ Pontoon ▪ Port Hunter 16' Sailing Club and Stockton Prawner's Club building ▪ 2 small boat harbours ▪ 2 boat ramps ▪ Car and boat parking areas ▪ Sandstone wall along water edge (historic) ▪ Shared path along most of its length
Central (City Beaches) Sector			
Nobbys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This location includes Nobbys beach and Lighthouse, the breakwater, Horseshoe Beach and dunal areas and the eastern end of Foreshore Park. The Pilot Station is located outside its north-western boundary. ▪ The proximity of Nobbys Beach and the general area to the Newcastle CBD and adjoining foreshore parkland makes the location popular for tourists and local residents. ▪ Car parking adjacent to the surf club and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walking along breakwater ▪ Beach activities (swimming, sun bathing, fishing) ▪ Eating (kiosk at surf club) ▪ Dog walking (off-leash dog area on Horseshoe Beach with water access) ▪ Picnicking ▪ Viewing location for Newcastle Port and Nobbys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nobbys Surf Life Saving Clubhouse ▪ Nobbys walk (along breakwater) ▪ Nobbys Lighthouse ▪ Car parking ▪ Pathways ▪ Picnic shelters

Location	Description (existing condition)	Current Uses	Built Improvements
	<p>Horseshoe Beach is limited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited access currently exists to the Nobbys Head Lighthouse, however the walk along the southern breakwater is popular with visitors and locals. ▪ Horseshoe Beach is a popular off-leash dog area, which provides one of the few locations where dogs have access to a beach and water location in Newcastle. ▪ The area behind the beach has a natural dune appearance, where regeneration works have been implemented ▪ The precinct is listed on the State Heritage Register. Nobbys Surf Life Saving Clubhouse has an iconic heritage design well-loved by tourists and locals. 		
Newcastle Baths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The precinct consists of Tramway Park to the north-west of Shortland Esplanade and the Newcastle Baths to the south-east. ▪ Tramway Park is a small park with a steep embankment located at the edge of Shortland Esplanade. ▪ The heritage listed Newcastle Baths have long provided public swimming facilities for Newcastle, however, the baths have degraded somewhat due to their age and coastal location. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swimming/water play ▪ Sun bathing ▪ Eating ▪ Walking ▪ Relaxing ▪ Coastal views 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Newcastle Baths - pools (ocean baths and 'canoe pool'), public toilets and change rooms, kiosk, life guard facilities ▪ Pathways
Newcastle Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Newcastle Beach is the main city beach, located in close proximity to the CBD, and within walking distance of Newcastle Station. ▪ The connection between the Newcastle CBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swimming ▪ Sun bathing ▪ Eating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Newcastle Beach Surf Life Saving Club ▪ Seating ▪ Small skate facility

Location	Description (existing condition)	Current Uses	Built Improvements
	<p>and Newcastle Beach could be improved, with the location and built form of the Newcastle Beach Surf Life Saving Club are not ideal for users nor for enabling access to the beach promenade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The development surrounding the beach negatively impacts on pedestrians' experience, with limited active street frontages facing the beach and some tall blank masonry walls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walking ▪ Enjoying views 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pedestrian underpass ▪ Public art installations
King Edward Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ King Edward Park is a well-loved major park in a special coastal setting that hosts a number of regional events. ▪ It is well-used for passive and active recreation and affords significant views to the coast. ▪ The Park is located in The Hill Heritage Conservation Area (Newcastle DCP 2005) which was subject to coal mining during the 19th century, as well as having the remains of a heritage fort. ▪ Shortland Esplanade along coastal edge is closed due to safety issues, thus reducing vehicular circulation through the park and some parking opportunities. ▪ There are currently no commercial facilities that service this precinct, however the proposed redevelopment of the former bowling club site will result in a function centre and restaurant on the King Edward Park Headland site (with this site just outside the Coastal Reserves PoM boundary). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walking/jogging ▪ Relaxing ▪ Playing ▪ Concerts (historic band stand) ▪ Outdoor amphitheatre (outdoor concerts and cinema) ▪ Hill Climb (annual car rally within park) ▪ Playground ▪ Coastal viewing/whale watching (from elevated lookout) ▪ Walking/cycling ▪ Heritage appreciation ▪ Picnicking ▪ Popular location for wedding photographs ▪ Off-leash dog areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Historic band stand ▪ Public toilets ▪ Lookout and viewing area ▪ Small playground ▪ Walking/cycling path (Bathers Way) ▪ Picnic tables and shelters ▪ Recently improved playground ▪ Heritage bandstand rotunda ▪ Park roads ▪ Car parks ▪ Heritage fort (Shepherds Hill) ▪ Public toilets

Location	Description (existing condition)	Current Uses	Built Improvements
The Obelisk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'The Obelisk' and its surrounding park is located on a local highpoint opposite King Edward Park on Reserve Road. ▪ The obelisk structure is situated at the highest point, and provides a popular elevated viewing area over Newcastle city and the surrounding coast. ▪ Sited below and nearby the obelisk is a Tennis Club. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Viewing platform for extensive and attractive views ▪ Tennis ▪ Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tennis Clubhouse ▪ Tennis courts (5) ▪ Steps ▪ Pathway
Bogey Hole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Bogey Hole, a convict constructed swimming hole cut in the rock platform, is a popular swimming spot and special Newcastle place. ▪ It has a number of safety issues; however investigation into the upgrade of safety and access is currently underway, which could include additional facilities such as change rooms and life guard facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swimming ▪ Sun bathing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Steps (poor condition)
Southern (Suburban Beaches) Sector			
Strezlecki Lookout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local coastal highpoint that provides extensive views to north and south along Newcastle coastline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coastal lookout ▪ Hang gliding launch point 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coastal viewing ▪ Hang gliding launch point
Bar Beach and Empire Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bar Beach is a popular destination where visitors can experience wide views. ▪ The Cooks Hill Surf Lifesaving Club is a popular location, providing café/kiosk facilities. ▪ Empire Park, located immediately adjacent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swimming ▪ Sun bathing ▪ Eating ▪ Walking ▪ Picnics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cooks Hill Surf Lifesaving Club - lifeguard tower, public toilets, café/kiosk ▪ Picnic facilities ▪ Pathways ▪ Empire Park - a sporting oval

Location	Description (existing condition)	Current Uses	Built Improvements
	<p>to the beach is used for formal and informal recreation, with a recently constructed large skate facility drawing substantial numbers of users. The north-east corner of the park is also a favoured landing area for hang gliding. Other uses include a playground, oval and tennis courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A large car park is located on the south-facing slope of Cooks Hill; with the car park rather unsightly. ▪ Stability issues exist with the cliffs at the northern area of the beach. ▪ The general area is relatively bare with few trees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Skate boarding/ scooter riding (skate facility) ▪ Sport ▪ Bowling Club/lawn bowls ▪ Heritage War Memorial. 	<p>(football/cricket) and grandstand, 3 cricket practice nets, tennis club building (with 6 tennis courts), bowling club (private), storage sheds, bat/ball wall, major skate facility, playground</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heritage War Memorial.
Dixon Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dixon Park is quite exposed, comprising open grassed areas with some shade structures, barbeque facilities and play equipment. ▪ A steep, unused slope exists between the northern end of Ocean Street and the Dixon Park Surf Club. There is also a considerable change in level between the park and the beach. ▪ There are stormwater management issues in the northern part of this precinct. ▪ The beach receives high visitation and is popular with families, particularly due to the recent installation of new play equipment. ▪ The existing freestanding kiosk building on the edge of Dixon Park does not provide outdoor seating and is not attractive to visitors or tourists. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Swimming ▪ Sun bathing ▪ Walking/jogging ▪ Picnicking ▪ Playground ▪ Eating (kiosk) ▪ Off-leash dog areas ▪ Hang gliders ▪ Children's playground ▪ Boot camps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shade structures ▪ Barbeque facilities ▪ Large picnic shelter ▪ Play equipment ▪ Dixon Park Surf Club ▪ Pathways

Appendix H: Heritage Guiding Principles

Guiding Principles: Heritage

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Council's management of heritage places will be underwritten by the following guiding principles:

Continuity

Newcastle's heritage places are integral to the City's identity and a rich resource with which to shape its future. Council will protect and conserve the City's heritage places for future generations.

Investment

Newcastle's significant heritage places, and in particular its five convict sites at Nobbys Headland, Fort Scratchley, King Edward Park, Cathedral Park and the Convict Lumber Yard, are a unique historical resource in Australia and represent an asset for the continuing educational, cultural and economic development of the region. Council will invest in this asset as part of the City's economic and cultural development.

Reconciliation

Newcastle City Council recognises that the City occupies an area previously inhabited for thousands of years by indigenous people of Australia. In fostering the common interests and shared futures of its residents, Council will, in consultation with the Aboriginal community, acknowledge and present the indigenous heritage of the City along with the presentation and interpretation of its European heritage.

Integrity

The integrity of heritage places can be undermined by inappropriate uses, unsympathetic structures, uncoordinated landscaping and visual presentation and inadequate interpretation. These can damage the fabric, aesthetic, ambience or meaning of the heritage place. Council will protect the integrity of heritage places by ensuring consistent and sympathetic uses, physical and aesthetic treatments and interpretation.

Urban open space as a public good

The City's heritage places are also urban open spaces. Urban open space is a valuable but finite and limited resource which is often under threat. Newcastle City Council will protect its stock of urban open space as a public good for the use of future generations.

Public Access

In this Plan, heritage places are community land or Crown land in the care of Council. These places and any facilities on them, should not be alienated from public access and use. Council will ensure that heritage places on community and Crown land are not alienated from public use.

Equitable Access

Heritage places and facilities on them should be accessible to the public on an equitable basis. Council will ensure equity of access through fair pricing policies (including, where appropriate, free entry), by providing physical access for people with a disability wherever this can reasonably be achieved and through the appropriate multi-use of facilities.

Appendix I: Heritage Items Located Within the Study Area

Heritage Item	Address	Heritage Status*	PoM Precinct
Bogey Hole	Shortland Esplanade, Newcastle	NSW Heritage Act	King Edward Park and Bogey Hole
Coal River Precinct	Nobbys Road, Newcastle	NSW Heritage Act	Nobbys
Newcastle Government House and Domain site	72 Watt Street, Newcastle	NSW Heritage Act	Newcastle Beach
Shepherd Hill Defence Group Military Installations	41 The Terrace, Newcastle	NSW Heritage Act	Newcastle Beach
Brynhfryd (residence) ¹	44 Kilgour Avenue Merewether	LGOV	Bar Beach
Beach Cafe ¹	115 Mitchell Street, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton Beach
Boat Harbour (Place) ¹	Fullerton Street, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton West
Boat Rowers Hotel ¹	130A Fullerton Street, Stockton	LGOV	Griffith Park
Cooks Hill Life Saving Memorial	1 Kilgour Ave Bar Beach	LGOV	Bar Beach
Empire Park	1 Kilgour Avenue, Bar Beach	LGOV	Bar Beach & Empire Park
Empire Park Bowling Club Fence	29 Kilgour Avenue, Bar Beach	LGOV	Bar Beach & Empire Park
Fletcher Park	Watt Street, Newcastle	LGOV	Newcastle Beach
Fort Scratchely Group	31 Nobbys Road, Newcastle East	LGOV	Nobbys
John Slade Memorial Pavilion	124 Mitchell St R79066, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton
King Edward Park Group (Bogey Hole) Public Baths	3 Ordnance Street, The Hill	LGOV	King Edward Park
Locomotive Ash Pit (Former)	Fullerton Street, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton West
King Edward Park Group – Reserve, Drinking	3 Ordnance Street, The Hill	LGOV	King Edward Park

Fountain & Rotunda				
Macquarie Pier (including sandstone wall and stone steps)	Newcastle East		Heritage Act	Nobbys
Mine Disaster Memorial	cnr Clyde and Mitchell Sts, Stockton		LGOV	Stockton
Newcastle East Heritage Conservation Area	Scott St, Pacific St, Foreshore Dr, Stevenson Place, Alfred St, Parnell Place		LGOV	Newcastle Beach
Newcastle Hospital North Wing ¹	21 Pacific Street, Newcastle		LGOV	Newcastle Beach
Newcastle Ocean Baths	30 Shortland Esplanade		LGOV	Newcastle Beach
Nobbys Beach Pavillion	35 Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		LGOV	Nobbys
Nobbys Foghorn	Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		SGOV	Nobbys
Nobbys Grounds	Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		SGOV	Nobbys
Nobbys Gun Emplacement & Government Post	Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		SGOV	Nobbys
Nobbys Head Bunker	Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		SGOV	Nobbys
Nobbys Lighthouse Cottages	Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		SGOV	Nobbys
Nobbys Lighthouse & Breakwater	Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		LGOV	Nobbys
Nobbys Signal Station	Nobbys Road, Newcastle East		LGOV	Nobbys
Northern Breakwater & Adolphe Wreck	End of King Street, Stockton		SGOV	Stockton East
Prawners Slipway	Fullerton Street, Stockton		LGOV	Stockton West
Shepherd Hill Reservoir	Lot 3247 Memorial Drive, Bar Beach		SGOV	Bar Beach
Sister Brown's Residence (Former)	139 Mitchell Street, Stockton		LGOV	Stockton Beach
Soldiers baths	Shortland Esplanade,		LGOV	Newcastle Beach

Newcastle East			
Stone Boat Harbour (Relic)	48 Wharf Road, Newcastle East	LGOV	Nobbys
Submarine Trap & Gun Emplacement, Pilot Station	51-55 Wharf Road, Newcastle East	SGOV	Nobbys
The Ballast Ground (Place)	Fullerton Street, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton West
The Hill Heritage Conservation Area	The Hill, Newcastle	LGOV	King Edward Park
The Laurels	48 Fullerton Street, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton West
War Memorial	124 Mitchell Street, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton Beach
Wreck of Adolphe	Pitt Street, Stockton	LGOV	Stockton West

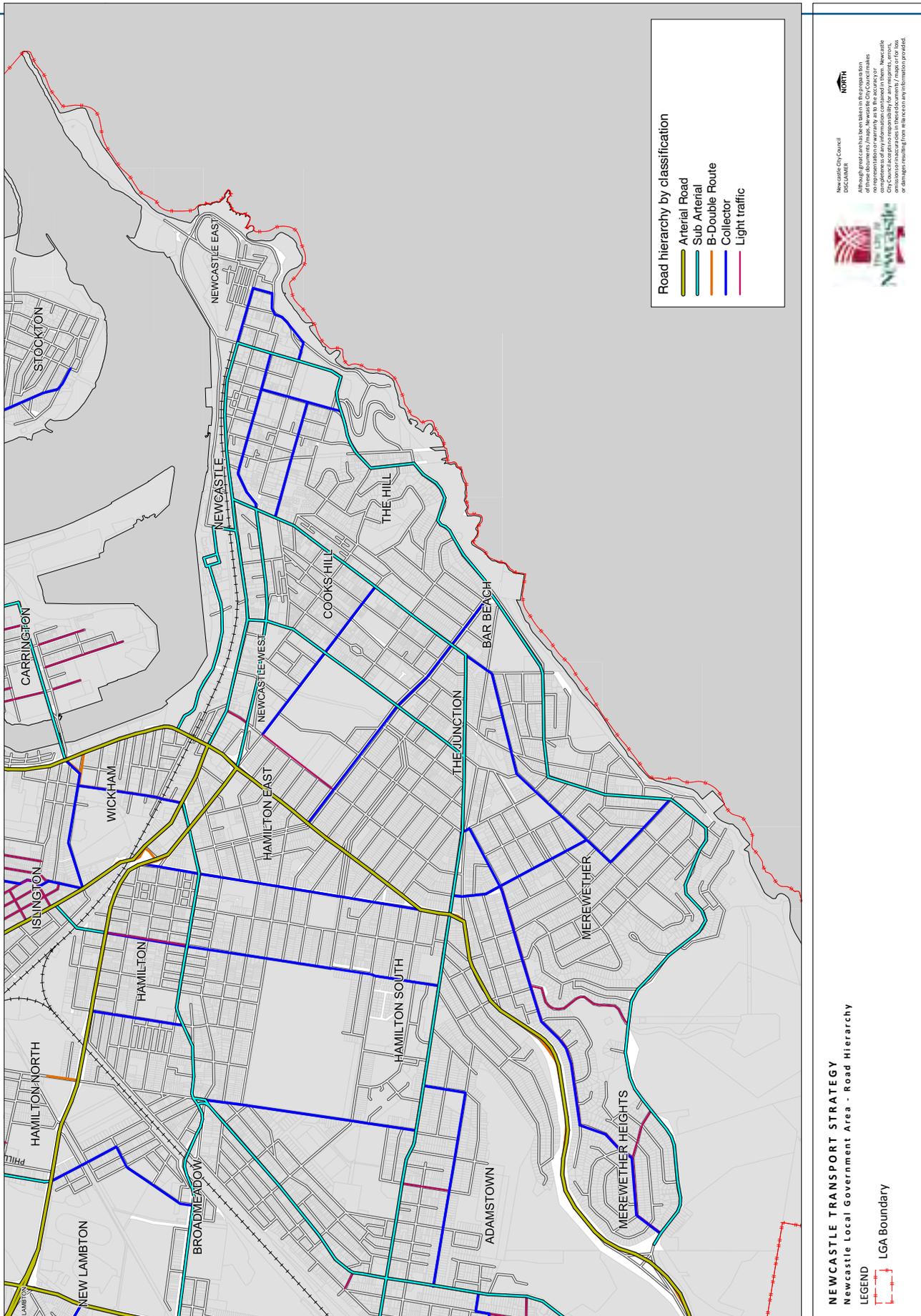
Heritage items within the Study Area

* NSW Heritage Act = listed by Heritage Council under the NSW Heritage Act 1977, SGOV = listed by a State Government Agency, LGOV = included in a Local Environmental Plan.

¹ outside study area but within proximity to be affected by development within the study area.

For up-to-date Heritage Listings please refer to Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Appendix J: Coastal road hierarchy map



Appendix K: Principles within Coastal Masterplan

Social Values

- Reflect user preferences, values and needs.
- Encourage diversity and enable access to and between facilities.
- Minimise conflicts between users of the coastline.
- Maintain Indigenous and European heritage sites, artefacts and where appropriate.
- Develop interpretation strategies for public spaces where these are located.

Access and Movement

- Ensure efficient pedestrian and cycle connectivity within precincts and linking the coastline together.
- Provide safe and legible movement routes along the coastline and connections to other parts of the Local Government Area.

Parking and Transport

- Locate parking as close as possible to key activity nodes within each precinct without compromising the historic or landscape character of the coastline.
- Car parks are not to be located on prominent coastal sites that compromise the visual landscape connection and/or physical accessibility to the coast.
- Landscape car parks to provide shade, shelter and improve visual character.
- Locate public transport towards focal points and places in each precinct.
- No net loss of car parking.

Place

- Ensure high quality security and passive surveillance, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).
- Manage interface with adjoining residential areas.
- Cluster buildings to create protected open spaces that capture breezes in summer and protection from winter winds.
- Maintain solar access to beaches and minimize shadow impacts of development.
- Utilise existing physical and built form assets where possible.
- Maximise connectivity between waterfront and the city and other areas in the Local Government Area.
- Highlight 'gateways' to the coastal area, historic areas and beaches.
- Enhance the character of the coastline as a whole as well as within each sector and individual precinct.
- Maintain views from adjoining areas and from the public domain.
- Design parks to ensure adaptability for a variety of potential uses.
- Ensure parks and open space form a sequence of spaces and are linked by a pedestrian and cycle system.

Sustainability and Environmental

- Maximise principles of environmental sustainability.
- Ensure the Planning Criteria for Proposed Development in Coastal Risk Areas is addressed for all proposed development within the 90m landward maximum coastal recession investigation area for sandy coastlines (NSW Coastal Planning Guideline: Adapting to Sea Level Rise, 2010).
- Encourage local activity opportunities by providing activity nodes for new and existing activities to occur.
- Ensure commercial sustainability for coastal areas by:
 - Establishing opportunities to subsidise public domain costs through development sites and leased premises.
 - Providing retail and commercial space to improve the vitality of the precincts.
 - Improving links to existing centres.
 - Building employment opportunities.
 - Encouraging tourism.

Public Domain

- Reinforce the landscape character of the coastline by stabilising eroded areas, removing
- weed species and replacing, where suitable with local native species ensuring view corridors are maintained.
- Enhance the public domain through the provision of increased and upgraded:
 - Toilets and shower facilities
 - Lighting
 - Bicycle parking near beaches and in parks
 - Seating
 - Shade structures
 - Trees, shrubs and grass
 - Waste and recycling bins

Establish public domain concepts for which detailed public domain plans can be prepared.

Appendix L: Funding Opportunities

Organisation	Funding grant	Details
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (Federal government)	Heritage Projects (Jobs funding), Community Grants (large and small projects)	Heritage places of local, state or national significance (including places with historic, Indigenous or natural heritage values). To be eligible for funding, your project must provide an immediate employment benefit, and ongoing economic benefits, while also contributing to the conservation, protection, adaptation or interpretation of a heritage place. The types of projects that may be appropriate for this funding include: conservation or adaptation works on a heritage place; construction of infrastructure to assist in the interpretation or presentation of a heritage place (eg. a visitors centre, interpretive signs or heritage landscaping works); development of walking trails; and projects that improve visitor experience and/or visitor safety at a heritage place.
NSW Department of Planning	NSW Coastline Cycleways grants program	The NSW Coastline Cycleway program provides grants to non-metropolitan coastal councils (including Newcastle) to improve cycling facilities as part of the development of a cycleway along the entire NSW coast. A number of grants are offered each year with funding to be matched dollar-for-dollar by the participating councils. It should be noted, however, that at this stage there are no priority routes with the Coastal Public Lands area.
NSW Department of Education and Communities (Office of Communities, Sport and Recreation)	Sport and Recreation Facility Grant program	The primary focus of this program is to assist with the funding for the development of local and regional level sport and recreation facilities. The aim of this program is to increase the availability, standard and quality of sport and recreation facilities in NSW.
NSW Maritime	Better Boating Program – Regional Infrastructure Grants	Aim to assist in providing improved recreational boating facilities on waterways across NSW (outside of Sydney Harbour). 50% contribution required.
Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport. (Federal)	Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF)	Aiming to provide important community infrastructure which will significantly enhance the liveability and long term viability of regions

Organisation	Funding grant	Details
Government)	Community Infrastructure Grants Program	and regional towns.
Department of Infrastructure and Transport (Federal Government)	Liveable Cities Program	The Australian Government developed the Liveable Cities Program to support State, Territory and local governments in meeting the challenges of improving the quality of life in our capitals and major regional cities. 50% contribution required.

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