

Appendix F

Consultation Strategy

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The *Planning Proposal*, representing an amended *Housing Strategy* will be exhibited for 28 days. The exhibition of the amended *Strategy* will include the following:

Bushland Shire News

Subject to the timing of the exhibition, an article will be placed in the Bushland Shire News. The Bushland Shire News is distributed to all households in the Shire. Distribution is due to occur in March 2010. Depending on the dates of the exhibition period, the article would advise residents of the exhibition of the amended *Strategy*.

Press Releases and Journalist Briefing Sessions

Council's Community Relations Branch will issue a press release 2 days prior to the exhibition period. The Community Relations Branch will also assist facilitate a briefing session to inform local journalists about the amended *Strategy* prior to the exhibition period.

Letters to newly affected property owners

A letter and information sheet will be sent to newly affected property owners, advising of the exhibition of the amended *Strategy* and inviting submissions. The letter will advise where the amended *Strategy* can be viewed and how submissions can be made and an information sheet including frequently asked questions (FAQs) and a map of the relevant precinct will be attached.

Letters to property owners in the vicinity of new precincts

A letter and information sheet will be sent to property owners within a 500m radius of new precincts proposed to be rezoned. The letter will advise where the amended *Strategy* can be viewed and how submissions can be made and an information sheet including frequently asked questions (FAQs) will be attached.

Letters to submitters and property owners in existing precincts

A letter will be sent to previous submitters and property owners in existing precincts, advising of the exhibition of the amended *Strategy* and inviting submissions. The letter will identify the main changes to the *Strategy* and will include information on where the *Strategy* can be viewed and how submissions can be made.

Advertisements in local newspapers

An advertisement will be placed in the newspapers listed below on 2 occasions during the exhibition period.

Hills News
Hornsby Advocate
Northern District Times
Bush Telegraph
Monthly Chronicle

The advertisement will identify the main changes to the amended *Strategy* and where the amended *Strategy* can be viewed.

Advertisement on the Council website

The amended *Strategy* will be exhibited on the Council website (www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au) under What's New – exhibitions. Council's libraries have access to the website.

The Housing Strategy webpage (www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/housing) will also be updated to include the latest information and a link to the amended *Strategy*.

Letters to Community groups

Notification letters will be sent to community groups advising of the exhibition of the amended *Strategy* and inviting submissions.

Letters to Industry groups

Notification letters will be sent to the following industry groups advising of the exhibition of the amended *Strategy* and inviting submissions.

Housing Industry Association
Royal Australian Institute of Architects
Urban Development Institute of Australia
Real Estate Institute of Australia

Letters to local Members of Parliament

Notification letters will be sent to local Members of Parliament, advising of the exhibition of the amended *Strategy* and inviting submissions.

Referrals to Statutory Authorities

Notification letters and an electronic copy of the amended *Strategy* will be sent to statutory authorities advising of the exhibition of the amended *Strategy* and inviting submissions.

Referrals to other Divisions/Branches

An electronic copy of the amended *Strategy* will be forwarded to all Divisions of Council for comment.

Displays at the Council Administration Building and local libraries

The amended *Strategy* will be displayed at the Council Administration Centre, 296 Pacific Highway, Hornsby and the following libraries:

Hornsby Library
Berowra Library
Galston Library
Pennant Hills Library
Epping Library

Bang the Table

A consultation space will be set up at www.bangthetable.com, allowing residents to view the amended *Strategy* and make comment. Advertising for the amended *Housing Strategy* will include directions concerning the Bang the Table forum and website details. This form of consultation allows the community to engage in online discussion and debate in a convenient, independently moderated space.

Community Drop-in Sessions

A total of four Community drop-in sessions will be held during the exhibition period as follows:

- a day session and a night session will be held in two locations;
- the day time session will run from approximately 12pm to 3pm;
- the night time session will run from approximately 6pm to 9pm; and
- the sessions will focus on the major changes to the *Strategy*.

At the drop-in sessions, information will be displayed identifying the major changes to the *Strategy* and Council officers will be available to answer questions concerning the amended *Housing Strategy*. This form of consultation maximises community access to exhibition material by allowing it to be viewed over a number of hours, and provides the opportunity for people to raise issues of individual interest rather than attending a structured presentation.

Mayors Column

The Mayors Column in the local newspapers will incorporate information identifying the major changes to the *Strategy*, where the amended *Strategy* can be viewed, and inviting submissions.