

<p>Neighbourhood Forum 5</p> <p>Wollongong's Heartland</p> <p><i>Collaborating with Council on community aspirations, visions, needs & concerns.</i></p>		<p>Coniston, Figtree, Gwynneville, Keiraville, Mangerton, Mount Keira, Mount St Thomas, North Wollongong, West Wollongong, Wollongong City.</p>
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**AGENDA meeting WEDNESDAY 2nd July 2025 at 6.30
In the Library Theatre**

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| 1 | Welcome | |
| 2 | Presentation | Felicity Skoberne on the Botanic Gardens Master Plan |
| 3 | Apologies | Harold Hanson, Patricia Calbro |
| 4 | Minutes | of meeting of 4 th June and matters arising: see pp. 18-22 |
| 5 | Comments | If you wish to comment on, or object to, any of the recommendations in this agenda please respond before the meeting date. |
| 6 | Caveats | See p. 2. |
| 7 | Responses | 7.1 Building Commissioner Certification see rec p. 2
7.2 Beaton Park feasibility study: see p.2 rec p3
7.3 Wollongong Harbour Breakwall safety upgrade: see p.4
7.4-7.9 Responses: see p. 4
7.10 Awaiting responses: see p.7 |
| 8 | Reports | 8.1 Freight Policy see p.7 rec p.8
8.2 Meeting with Lord Mayor: see p.6
8.3 Delivery Program 2025-29 /Operational Plan 2025-26: see p.9
8.4 Wollongong Botanic Gardens Master Plan: see p.9
8.5 Central Floodplain Risk Management: see p.10
8.6 Temporary Events: see p.6, rec p,11
8.7 Open Streets Program 2025-2028 Grants: see p.11
8.8 NSW Budget: see p.12 |
| 9 | Planning | 9.1 Planning see p.13
9.2 DA-2025/376 see rec p,14
9.3 DA determinations: see p.15 |
| 10 | General Business | see p.16 |
| 11 | Snippets | see p.17 |

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 452 households

6 Caveats

Please note that whilst these reports and reviews, together with the recommendations and actions based on them, have been prepared with all due care and objectivity, no legal responsibility is accepted for errors, omissions or inadvertent misrepresentations, nor for any outcomes which might result from them.

7 Responses 7.1 Building Commissioner Certification

Thank you for your further correspondence outlining the desire to raise your concerns regarding the practice of Certifiers in Wollongong with the NSW Building Commissioner.

I refer you to Council's previous correspondence of 27 May 2025 which provided the necessary contact details for the Office of the NSW Building Commissioner.

Council is not in a position to act as an agent for Neighbourhood Forum 5 in making representations to the Office of the NSW Building Commissioner. In the first instance, I recommend you contact their office on telephone 132 700.

Information relating to complaints about Certifiers can be found on the Building Commission NSW website

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/building-commission>.

Manager Development Assessment and Certification

Comment

Unfortunately this does not respond to NF5 requests to meet with Council representatives to discuss this and other matters of concern to residents. Building Certification issues, which have become emerging concerns to many residents and Councils here and apparently statewide, have been the subject of reports to NF5 meetings in Feb, March, May, June and now July. NF5 supported Council's earlier representations and has sought a meeting to discuss a joint approach, but this has not been fruitful to date.

Also the Manager's response referring to acting "as an agent" is at odds with Council's 2014 Charter for NFs which is fundamentally "assisting Council with information and knowledge about their local community's aspirations, visions, needs and concerns amongst other things."

Recommendations

- 1 a meeting be sought with the Building Commissioner be approached about concerns by residents and NSW Councils to private certification issues.

- 2 Council be requested to urge Local Government NSW to make representations to the Building Commissioner to discuss ways to improve the NSW Building Certification System..

7.2 **Beaton Park feasibility study**

On 2 May 2025, Council announced it had appointed consultants to conduct a feasibility study to provide future options for the Beaton Park Leisure Centre.

In a statement, Council said the study would provide insights into what Beaton Park caters for well, where there are opportunities and where there are gaps. "It will provide a clear understanding of the costs and benefits of future facilities and help Council to determine priority projects and potential funding opportunities," the statement said.

Council said the study was "not simply a desktop review. We're having conversations with all major indoor sport organisations who use indoor courts at venues across Wollongong, to improve our understanding of what may have changed since the adopted 2018 Master Plan, including utilisation and demand for courts."

Late last year, there was considerable community opposition Council after it said publicly its priority was to remove all sports using Ted Tobin Hall (badminton, table tennis, pickleball and fitness classes) to free up the 40-year-old facility for basketball. After a sporting community outcry, Council reviewed their position and said no sport would be relocated until they'd been found a facility at least the equal of Ted Tobin Hall as a new home.

It seems clear that the needs of the basketball community are the Council's top priority. In its public statement about the current feasibility study Council said "The Illawarra Basketball Association...need additional courts and venues as they have a waiting list of players and are using a number of school sites to enable children to play sport."

A recent *Illawarra Mercury* story said the consultants had held numerous discussions with Illawarra Basketball as part of their consultation. However, it is understood the consultants have not held discussions to date with any of the other sports using Beaton Park's indoor sporting facilities. They've expressed their concerns publicly that the consultancy appear not to be acting in the best interests of all indoor sporting public.

Nevertheless, Council has said "it's important we get this process right and ensure the future requirements of indoor sports are considered and tested through analysis for things that may have changed. We are committed to keeping our community informed as we work through this process - we're anticipating to see the draft proposals by spring this year."

Recommendations:

Council be:

- 1 commended for conducting a timely review of its 2018 Beaton Park Master Plan.
- 2 requested to ensure that the consultancy provides an open, even-handed and transparent review of the needs of all sports using Beaton Park to deliver an outcome that is to the equal benefit of all sporting groups, be they community based or elite.

7.3 Wollongong Harbour Breakwall safety upgrade

On Good Friday a Sydney fisherman was washed off the harbour breakwall at dawn to his death. Witnesses said a big wave swept him through a gap in the ageing safety fence which had previously collapsed into the ocean. It was the second drowning death on the breakwall in three years.

The tragedy prompted calls for an urgent upgrade of the popular fishing spot and Cr Kit Docker sought the installation of warning signs in multiple languages to warn fishers of the dangers at the breakwall.

Last week, commencing Monday 23 June, new safety fencing was installed by contractors engaged by NSW Maritime to replace the barriers that were missing and the old, rusted fencing which clearly needed to be removed.

7.4 The responses which follow were received this evening

Thank you for your enquiry regarding the e-bikes on behalf of Neighbourhood Forum 5. Please note Council has responded multiple times to constituents within Neighbourhood Forum 5 on many of these items. Council's response remains and is reiterated below.

Comment

The responses which follow have come in after the executive reviewed the draft agenda so that it has not been possible to research them and include in this agenda appropriate comments or responses and recommendations where relevant. Members should review the responses, advise concerns to the secretary or raise them at the meeting.

7.5 Community Improvement District

Council does not support setting up a Community Improvement District (CID's) for the CBD to respond to e-bikes.

Acknowledging this remains in the discovery phase through Government, Council's understanding is that a CID is formed by a group of businesses in a defined area.

CIDs members pay a special levy to fund services or improvements in that area with a view of attracting more people and supporting businesses – a “strata for the street” of sorts. Council undertakes ongoing engagement with their community to inform cycling infrastructure, further, regulation and enforcement for e-bikes is not the responsibility of Wollongong Council. Council will continue to engage with NSW Government through the development of CID's legislation.

7.6 Bourke and Virginia Street:

Yes, Risk Assessments and/or Road Safety Audits are undertaken to inform the detailed design process. Risks are also considered when scoping projects. Concept designs were made available for Virginia Street and Bourke Streets, and the community were able to raise their concerns and support during this consultation period.

These are still accessible via Council's Our Wollongong Page. Revisiting the risk assessments that have been considered to inform the final implementation of the project will delay the project delivery. In addition, NSW Road Rules prevail which requires drivers to give way to pedestrians on driveways. Ultimately, determining liability will depend on the particular facts of each case; however, the creation of a shared zone, of itself, does not create liability for Council where a robust risk assessment has first been undertaken and implemented.

NSW Road Rules don't specify a minimum width - it is simply either the signage or line marking that delineates a shared path and enable cyclists and pedestrians to mix safely. Virginia Street is a shared path and predominately 2.5 m. Bourke Street is proposed to be a shared path also.

7.7 Virginia Street and Bourke Street

Advice from TfNSW on whether Virginia Street and Bourke Street are compliant with Road Rules and whether they're designed shared ways. Virginia Street has been designed and constructed to be a compliant width shared path, to be accessible for both cyclists and pedestrians. Council is currently working through the design to extend this shared path along Bourke Street, to facilitate walking and cycling between North Wollongong Station and the Foreshore.

We have observed cyclists using the current 1.2 m footpath along Bourke Street and consider this east-west connection a key corridor for improving mobility between key attractors.

Formalising this path to a compliant shared path width will improve safety and reduce the chance of pedestrian/cyclists conflicts. As per the NSW Road Rules, a person travelling on a wheeled recreational device on any of our shared paths must give way to any pedestrian who is on the path. TfNSW were not required to provide feedback on this project.

7.8 Fairy Creek Crossing

We acknowledge the Ajax Creek crossing as an alternative route to the Virginia Street/Bourke Street alignment and this route will be further investigated in the future, however, is not currently programmed as a priority.

Council's initial key concerns regarding this location include;

- 1 Location is currently impacted extensively by flooding as identified in Council's Fairy Creek flood study. This includes Montague Street and the lower end of Virginia Street which are both being impacted by the 1% AEP flood event.
- 2 Any new bridge structure in this location would need to be above design flood events with blockage by any bridge a key consideration for downstream flooding.
- 3 Route along Virginia Street and Bourke Street also services the local residents' street frontage – encouraging use of active travel, enabling passive surveillance as well as making use of the existing street lighting for path users during the evening.
- 4 The costs of this bridge crossing - design, construction and ongoing maintenance are expected to be substantial, and other critical connections have been prioritised through the Infrastructure Delivery Program (IDP) for design and delivery.

7.9 NSW Road Rules cyclists on footpaths

Generally, bicycle riders must not ride on a footpath. However, children under the age of 16 years can ride on the footpath unless there is a NO BICYCLES sign. NSW Road Rules apply, and all users utilising or engaging with the shared path should abide by these rules to ensure the safety of our community. More information on using our Shared Paths can be found using the link below: [Using Our Shared Pathways | City of Wollongong](#)

7.10 Issues awaiting responses

Partial responses/acknowledgements/actions have been made to some of these items * but substantial responses are still to come.

1	City Centre Movement and Place Plan	7/08/2024
2	Housing Mix –	9/10/2024
3	Parking for Carers & Service People –	9/10/2024
4	Corrimal Street Footpath	24/10/2024
5	Community use of Local Parks –	24/10/2024
6	Allotments and Community Gardens -	25/10/2024
7	Ted Tobin Hall at Beaton Park	04/11/2024
8	Pedestrian crossing Cliff Road and GHD	06/11/2024
9	Construction activities on Footpaths	24 /11/2024
10	Loss of CBD parking	7/2/2025
11	Pedestrian Safety in Keiraville	7/2/2025
12	Electric Scooters	7/2/2025
13	Acceptable Major Event locations	7/2/2025
14	Continental Pool opening hours	15/3/2025
15	Wiseman Park Playground	2/4/2025
16	Recycling of packaging	2/4/2025
17	*Robinson Park	2/4/2025
18	Wollongong Bus Layover	7/5/2025
19	*Wollongong Harbour Breakwater	7/5/2025
20	Delivery and Operational Plan meeting	7/5/2025
21	UoW access road congestion	7/5/2025
22	*Irvine St Gwynneville proposal	7/5/2025
23	Train Services to Sydney	7/5/2025
24	Breakwater Public Access	7/5/2025
25	Parking Restrictions adjacent to Stuart Park	9/6/2025

8 Reports 8.1 Freight Policy

At its meeting of 4 June 2025, Neighbourhood Forum 5 resolved to ask when the NSW Freight Policy Reform Program would be released.

As it happened, the Freight Policy Reform Independent Advisory Panel's final paper, 'Delivering freight policy reform in New South Wales' was quietly released on 6 June (Friday before a long weekend). It had the briefest of mentions of the Maldon Dombarton rail link and although it states that the most substantial immediate reduction in freight emissions would come from a shift from road to rail.

Measures recommended throughout the report focus on making rail more competitive to enable this shift" the reforms appear to be more about giving access to even larger and heavier trucks on public roads, with very little in the way of track upgrades to improve rail freight.

In addition, as reported in The Land for 12 June 2024 in an article “More trucks are not the answer” the NSW Farmers Association is most concerned at proposals to close more branch lines.

Our plea that “The final version (of the reform program) should put much more emphasis on. improving heavy truck road safety” appears to have been treated very lightly, and this is at a time, as reported (<https://datahub.roadsafety.gov.au/safe-systems/safe-vehicles/quarterly>) deaths from crashes involving articulated trucks have been trending upwards by 43.3 per cent from 27 in 2021 to 39 in 2024..

Long Term Actions (start within 5 years)"In the longer term, note that a dedicated freight route around Sydney may be needed and consideration should begin on the Outer Sydney Orbital to increase rail capacity. This route would extend from Hexham in the Hunter to Dombarton in the Illawarra, connecting to the extended Southern Sydney Freight Line at Picton.

Recommendation

That the Forum write to Paul Scully MP and Ryan Park MP asking that our concerns with the NSW Freight Policy Reform report and requesting them to approach the NSW Minister for Transport about:

- 1 the potential closing of more branch lines (shared with the NSW Farmers Association) and seeking an assurance from any proposed closure of a branch line will be preceded by public consultation,
- 2 what measures the NSW Government will be taking to
- 3 improving heavy vehicle safety within NSW;
- 4 improving the NSW rail infrastructure to increase rail's competitive position re freight; and
- 5 ensuring that the timing of the work on the dedicated freight route round Sydney is elevated to medium term – say 2 years.

8.2 Meeting with Lord Mayor

The Convenor and Secretary had an informal meeting with the Lord Mayor to which were invited Directors Linda Davis and Kerry Hunt.

It was ostensibly to talk about activating the City centre and what the Forum could do which would be helpful. It also ranged over a number of other issues. It seems NF 5 agendas and minutes and are well read and the effort we put in is appreciated. Concern was expressed at the number of issues to which Council has not responded. It seems that recent growth in jobs have mostly been in the service sector.

The issue of Desired Future Character Statements came up. They are thinking of preparing them on a generalised geographic basis: near the escarpment; near the ocean; close to the lake or to major centres, etc.

A number of other issues were touched on: - State interference in planning; building commissioner; parking; traffic; etc and will be ongoing

- 8.3 Delivery Program 2025-2029 & Operational Plan 2025-26**
Council's meeting 30 June Agenda item 1 is Post Exhibition – Draft Our Wollongong Our Futures report and documentation over 1,120 pages, which includes recommending adoption of the Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-2026. On 7 May 2025 NF5 agreed to Council's relevant Director/s to arrange a meeting with a small Working Group of NF5 representatives to review the process and timing for early community involvement in developing draft IDP priorities and projects; Also to request Council to review and prioritise funding for the efficient and effective maintenance of its ageing assets, in particular those related to stormwater and flooding.

The relevant Manager has arranged a meeting with NF5 representatives for Friday 15 August, which is greatly appreciated.

- 8.4 Wollongong Botanic Gardens Master Plan**
NF5 Minutes 2 April 2025 included it was agreed that Council be requested to provide an update on WBG MP matters raised by NF5 in Dec 2023 and expedite exhibition of the revised draft WBG Master Plan noting the implications of Homes NSW Irvine Street proposals.

On 15 May Council's relevant Manager advised that the revised draft MP was recently presented to Councillors along with the Conservation Management Plan for Gleniffer Brae, and that mini-consultation with key stakeholders would be carried out. It was then arranged with the acting Manager Open Space and Environmental Services for a presentation to NF5 meeting 2 July, which is much appreciated.

After a previous presentation in Dec 2023 on the then draft MP (which was an update of the 2018 MP), NF5 made a submission which noted seven main issues of which #7 was re a Multi-function Facility/Visitor Information Centre, ie to consider functional design and location for a facility combining visitors information, gift shop, kiosk/café, public toilets and work spaces.

Council's meeting 30 June includes item 2 Public Exhibition Wollongong Botanic Garden draft Masterplan and recommends public exhibition for 28 days. The draft MP has many similarities with the draft 2023 MP and includes explanatory matters from the draft 2018 MP, which is very helpful. The issues raised in NF5 submission Dec 2023 have mainly been dealt with, which is appreciated, and most initiatives are supported.

The report to Council includes a table showing Priorities in order of Short term (1-2 years), Medium term (3-5 years), and long term (5.10 years). A significant outstanding item is re planning for a multi-function facility (including a visitors information centre and kiosk/café), capable of being built in stages as funding becomes available. No doubt this can be raised on 2 July during the presentation and discussions.

To help co-ordinate community involvement in negotiations with Council, it is proposed to form a Community Working Group comprising representatives of NF5, KRAG and Friends of WBG to liaise with Council and other key stakeholders.

This is compatible with provision for Working Groups in Council's long-standing Community Engagement Strategy at level 3 Involve. It follows recent successful experiences in developing excellent working relationships amongst representatives of the community Working Group, TfNSW and Council re negotiations to re-introduce a shared path bridge on the Mt Ousley Intersection project .

8.5 Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee

At NF5 meeting 2 April it was agreed to request Council to ensure that invitations be expedited seeking membership of the new Floodplain Committees, they meet more regularly than in previous years, and a combined meeting of all committees be held asap to receive an update following the April 2024 flood, and to develop a Strategy and Action Plan to minimise flooding impacts in all catchments.

This week it was welcome that Council advised successful applicants re membership of the Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee. The Charter includes that the Committee consist of "up to two (2) representatives from flood action groups or neighbourhood forum groups" This will enable Committees to resume considerations and progress on critical floodplain management issues. Both Dorte Eklund and David Winterbottom have been appointed to the committee.

Also the Charter states that “each Committee shall meet as required to progress the work involved in the Floodplain Risk Management Process, and it is anticipated that meetings will be scheduled on a quarterly basis. More frequent meetings may be required where timing is critical, or less frequent where there are no new matters to be reported to the Committees.

Council’s website includes the most recent Minutes of Central FRMC on 3 April last year, and there were three Central Minutes in the 3.7 years since Council elections in Oct 2021.

8.6 Temporary Events

It is noted that page 1393 of the report to Council 30 June 2025 re Temporary Events refers to NF5 submission requesting Council support the proposed LEP amendment to exempt events on Council owned and managed land subject to the event being advertised and community consultation being undertaken before being determined.

The response is that” Community Consultation would not be undertaken for Temporary Events on Council owned or managed lands that are deemed Exempt Development”.

Yet temporary events on privately owned land will still require Development Consent and public notification and consultation.” Residents have queried why Council does not require the same apply for Council as for private land re public notification and consultation.

Recommendation

That action by the executive be endorsed to seek support from Ward 2 Councillors and the Lord Mayor to ensure that all Temporary Events are subject to public notification and consultation.

8.7 Open Streets Program 2025-2028 Grants

TfNSW website includes ”the Open Streets Program 2025 to 2028 is a \$14.65 million grant that will provide successful Council applicants with up to \$350,000 in funding to help transform our streets into more vibrant, walkable public spaces for people to enjoy and safely access.” TfNSW invited NSW councils to apply “for funding to deliver events over three years that are free to the community and temporarily close streets to vehicles and open them to people to help establish enduring vibrancy in our local neighbourhoods that support the community, creative sector and local businesses.”

A NF5 rep became aware of the program and after discussions with people involved with events in NF5 area it was suggested that Council could apply for an event which has been operating here successfully for 10 years. Council rep advised they would apply for a different event for the three-year period, and recently TfNSW website listed the good news for all successful Councils including a grant of \$350,000 for the Surf and Sound event at Thirroul.

This follows an earlier \$150,000 grant for the Spring Festival held at Port Kembla in Oct 2024 under the 2024-25 Open Streets Program. No doubt Council will advise details of the Surf and Sound event in due course.] The Open Streets program is one stream of the \$39M Vibrant Streets Package, part of the NSW Government's ongoing commitment to enhance vibrancy in NSW. Relevant TfNSW link is: <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/industry/cities-and-active-transport/place-and-precinct-revitalisation/vibrancy-initiatives/grant>.

The Vibrant Streets Package seems to be an excellent initiative by distributing Government funding to most Councils in NSW, which will support local initiatives and build a broad collection of publicly available case studies. Another stream is the Permit/Plug/Play Pilot Program, an \$8.5 million partnership program with 17 pilot councils across NSW. It aims to reduce the cost and complexity of delivering street-based events through an innovative "local problems, local solutions" model. Wollongong Council has received a \$500,000 grant, which is mentioned in the report to Council 30 June item 5 re Temporary Events and includes "the grant application identified the DA process as adding complexity to the organisation of park and street-based events."

8.8 NSW 2025-26 Budget local implications

The latest NSW Government Budget has provided new funding for a number of significant projects in the Wollongong/Illawarra region. What follows is a summary of some of the main items as they affect Wollongong LGA in general and NF 5 area in particular:

Wollongong Hospital and Health Precinct:

The Illawarra will benefit from a \$220 million commitment to plan for the future expansion of the hospital and health precinct.

The new funding will meet significant increases in healthcare demands, due to a growing and ageing population with the Illawarra expecting 25,000 more admissions and an additional 39,000 emergency department presentations by 2031.

Also at Wollongong Hospital \$70 million to expand emergency department short stay units to reduce ED wait times by nearly 80,000 hours.

Transport and roads:

- \$390 million investment to build a new Mt Ousley Interchange in partnership with the Commonwealth.
- \$10 million for Illawarra Rail Resilience Plan to determine options to upgrade and rebuild infrastructure along the South Coast Line.
- \$6.5 million to continue planning and assessments to update Picton Road between Nepean River and the M1 Princes Motorway at Dapto.

Jobs and Economy:

- \$47 million to establish the TAFE NSW Centre of Excellence in Wollongong
- \$5 million for the BlueScope Surplus Land Masterplan, preparing for the creation of a jobs centre for the State within the Illawarra.
- \$500,000 to investigate the transport infrastructure needed to support the redevelopment of BlueScope's surplus lands.

For noting.

There was no money in the budget for the long-awaited upgrade (or replacement) of the ageing Wollongong Entertainment Centre or to progress Wollongong Council's desire to attract a large passenger cruise terminal to Port Kembla.

9 Planning

9.1 This review has only been made with the information available.

9.2 DA-2025/376 5 townhouses William St Figtree

20th June



This is a proposal to construct 5 two storey townhouses in an area in which there are a significant number of them although next door is a single storey house. It appears to comply with all council requirements. It does not comply with our Figtree Locality Plan being 1.5 kilometres from the Figtree Grove centre and has a somewhat brutal design facing the street compared to anything else in the area.



Recommendation

Endorse the submission of objection

9.3 DA Determinations

23/1008 faulty	Keiraville	8 Burradool St	Dual Occ	Object	Approved Panel
24/2 faulty	Gwynnville	13 Francis St	Dual Occ	Object	Approved
24/11 complies	W'gong	106,120,122 Smith St, 3A Charlotte St	8 lot subd.	Support	Approved
24/23 faulty	Mangerton	51 Byrarong St	Dual Occ	Object	Refused
24/24 faulty	Mangerton	7 & 9 Woodlawn Ave	2 x Dual Occs	Support	Refused
24/26 faulty	W'gong	23-27 Auburn St	16 stories, 61 units	Support	Deemed refusal
24/87 complies	N.W'gong	39-41 Montague St	16 warehouse units	Support	Approved
24/96 complies	Keiraville	74 Grey St.	Dual Occ	Support	Withdrawn
24/100 faulty	Figtree	4A Arter Ave.	13 dwellings	Object	Withdrawn
24/162 complies	W. W'gong	473 Crown St	7 affordable units + facility	Support	Approved
24/181 complies	Mt Keira	Mt Keira Road	Archery clubhouse	Support	Approved
24/207 faulty	N. W'gong	26-30 Ajax Ave	12 houses	Support	Refused
24/210 faulty	W'gong	41-47 Denison St	17 stories, 75 units	Support	Refused
24/290 complies	W'gong	2 Auburn St	Dog day care	Support	Approved
24/436 complies	W'gong	55 Corrimal St 5 Georges Place	6 stories 11 units	Support	Approved Panel
24/476 faulty	W'gong	264-6 Kenny St	19 stories, 113 units	Object	Deemed refusal
24/477 faulty	W. W'gong	33 Parsons St.	3 houses	Object	Refused
24/538 complies	W'gong	65 Gladstone Ave	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
24/608 faulty	W'gong	Keira and Kenny Sts	14 stories, 116 units	Object	Withdrawn
24/776 faulty	W'gong	14 Finlayson St	Dual Occ	Support	Approved
24/860 faulty	Keiraville	13 Braeside Ave	Dual Occ	Support	Withdrawn
24/722 faulty	W'gong	49 Mangerton Rd	Dual Occ	Not to object	Approved
24/796 faulty	Figtree	14 Mallangong Close	Dual Occ	Support	Approved

Not yet determined

23/765 faulty	W'gong	1-3 Stewart St	13 stories, 27 units	Object
23/945 complies	W'gong	98-104 Gipps St	5 storey commercial	Support
24/574 complies	Coniston	47 Robertson St	Dual Occ	Support
24/599 faulty	W'gong	109-115 Church St	9 stories, 45 units	Object
24/708 faulty	W.W'gong	93 Robsons Rd	10 Co-living rooms	Object
24/788 faulty	Keiraville	19 Rose St	Dual Occ	Object
24/803 faulty	W'gong	34 Evans St	Dual Occ	Support
24/812 faulty	Gwynneville	26 Crawford Ave	Dual Occ	Support
25/79 complies	Keiraville	35 Bulwarra St	Dual Occ	Support
25/131 faulty	W'gong	89 Evans St	Dual Occ	Noted
25/139 faulty	W'gong	15 Marr St	Extra 6 units, 2 stories	Object
25/162 complies	Gwynneville	222 Gipps Road	Dual Occ	Support
25/1226	W'gong	37-39 Burelli St,	Extra 19 units, 4 stories	None

General Business

10.1

Next Meeting
6.30pm Wednesday 6th August 2025
Library Theatre

Current active membership of Neighbourhood Forum 5 : 452 households

Snippets

Design Matters

The creation of inclusive, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities. Being clear about design expectations, and how these will be tested, is essential for achieving this and all local authorities should put in place rigorous arrangements to ensure that design quality is secured.

Plans, accompanied, as appropriate, by more detailed design guidance should set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable. Design policies and guidance should be developed with local communities, so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area's defining characteristics.

Neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and by engaging in the production of design policy and guidance by local planning authorities.

Design quality should be considered throughout the evolution and assessment of individual proposals. Early discussion between applicants and the local planning authority and meaningful engagement with the local community about the design of emerging schemes is important for clarifying expectations and reconciling local and commercial interests. Applicants should work closely with those affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views of the community. Applications that can demonstrate early, proactive and effective engagement with the community should be looked on more favourably than those that cannot.

Mathew Carmona

