



STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Summary Scorecard 2010 - 2011

Biodiversity | Climate Change & Air Quality | Waste | Transport | Total Water Cycle

Planning, Built Environment & Heritage | Engagement & Education for Sustainability

THE MOSMAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

Mosman is a harbourside suburb located on Sydney's lower North Shore. It is bordered by Middle Harbour, Sydney Harbour and Port Jackson. The Mosman Local Government Area (LGA) is approximately 8.52 square kilometres and is home to approximately 29,232 people. The Council forms part of the Shore Regional Organisation of Councils (SHOROC), which also includes Manly, Warringah and Pittwater.

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING

A State of the Environment Report (SOE) provides a snapshot of the condition of the environment, pressures impacting on the environment and the Council's response to these pressures.

The 2010/ 2011 SOE takes the form of a "scorecard" allowing community members to quickly ascertain the state of Mosman's environment and the Council's response. It will be followed by a comprehensive SOE in 2012, which will closely align with Council's Strategic Plan, MOSPLAN.

KEY AREAS

This SOE focuses on seven key areas identified in MOSPLAN:



Over the last year Mosman Council has been working hard to protect our unique environment...



Collecting waste and recycling from 13,015 premises.

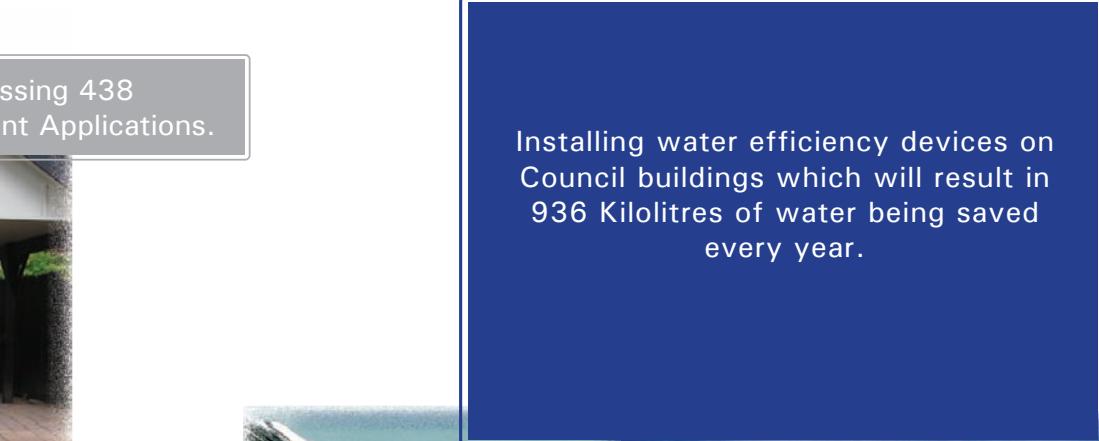
Diverting 5,559 tonnes of waste from landfill.

Responding to over 11,000 calls on Council's Waste Line.

Conducting 15 waste reduction education programs.

Cleaning up 382 instances of illegal dumping.

Actively responding to:
56 general noise complaints and
35 barking dog complaints.



Installing water efficiency devices on Council buildings which will result in 936 Kilolitres of water being saved every year.



Conducting over 23 environmental workshops & events.

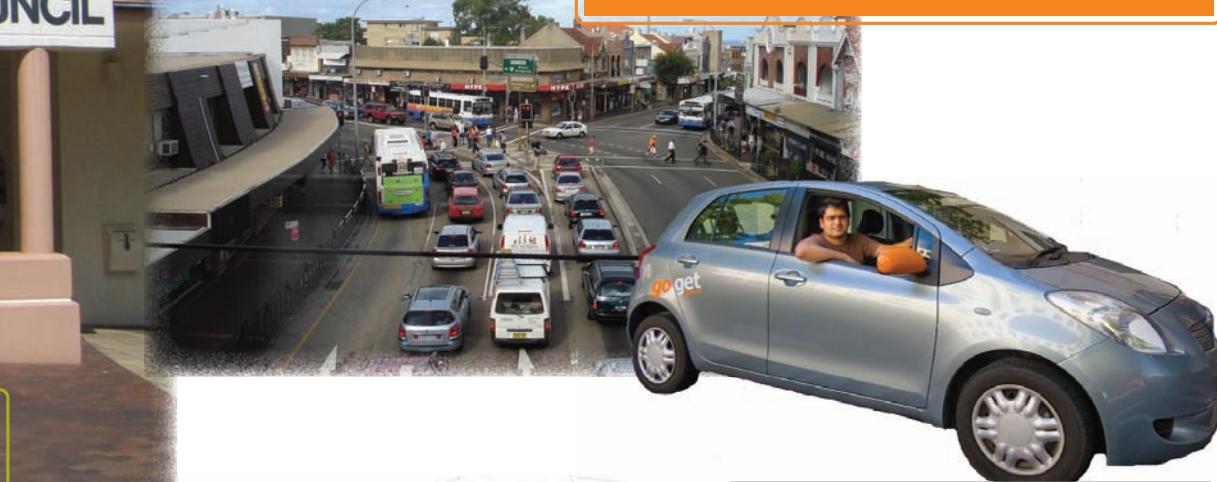


Carrying out health inspections on:
162 food outlets
25 hairdressing and beauty salons
21 cooling towers
1 swimming pool



Preventing the production of 498 tonnes of greenhouse gases through energy efficiency and abatement measures.

Purchasing 100% Greenpower for streetlights and 10% Greenpower for Council's main buildings.



Working with 97 Bushcare volunteers over 2,677 hours to restore native habitat, and to protect 3 threatened flora and 4 threatened fauna species.

Distributing 9,000 native plants to volunteers, contractors and residents.

Undertaking 17 noxious weed assessments.



Encouraging 159 residents and 18 businesses to use the GoGet Car Share Scheme.

Transporting 45,000 passengers on the Mosman Rider Bus.

INDICATORS

A number of indicators have been chosen to measure each key area. These indicators align with the goals and objectives of MOSPLAN and allow for changes in the environment to be measured over time.

1. CLIMATE CHANGE AND AIR QUALITY

AIR QUALITY	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Change from previous year
Number of air pollution complaints received by Council	3	2	3	2	↓
ENERGY					
Electricity use Council operations (kWh)	2,853,297	2,846,023	2,847,151	2,769,062	↓
GHG emissions from Council electricity use (tonnes CO2-e)	2,962	2,694	1,840*	1698*	↓

*Council has significantly reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by purchasing 100 per cent Greenpower for streetlights and 10 per cent Greenpower for Council's main buildings.

RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE & AIR QUALITY ISSUES – CASE STUDIES



Council Energy Retrofits

Mosman Council completed phase one of an energy efficient lighting retrofit in the Council Civic Centre, Community Development Administration Building and Council Youth Centre. The retrofit, which involved changing lights to more energy efficient LED lighting, will save approximately 65 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) per year - the same as taking 22 cars off the roads.

Earth Hour

Earth Hour is a global initiative which encourages people to take a stand against climate change by turning off their lights and appliances for an hour. In 2011 Earth Hour embraced 5,251 cities and towns in 135 countries and reached an estimated 1.8 billion people worldwide. Council supported Earth Hour by switching off lights and appliances in Council buildings and promoting the event to the community.

Fridge Buy Back Program

The Fridge Buy Back Program encourages residents to give up their old second fridge, which can be one of the biggest energy users in the home. Fridges are collected and then degassed and recycled. In 2010/11 a total of 70 fridges were collected from Mosman households, whilst over the life of the project a total of 228 fridges have been collected within the Mosman LGA. This has saved 1,880 tonnes of CO2-e, 18.2 kg of CFCs, resulted in the recycling of 20.4 tonnes of metal and collectively saved residents \$51,300 on their electricity bills.



Switch Off Campaign

In an effort to encourage Council staff to switch their computers off at the end of the day, the PIRATES, a staff volunteer group commenced a "Switch Off Campaign". Staff were educated about energy savings and prizes were given to the individuals and departments who showed the greatest improvement. The campaign achieved a 93 per cent shut down of computers at the end of the day – up from a starting point of 44 per cent. The campaign will help the Council save approximately \$7000 in energy costs and prevent 27 tonnes of greenhouse gases from entering the atmosphere every year.

2. TOTAL WATER CYCLE

STORMWATER	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Change from previous year
Number of gross pollutant traps (Council control)	30	31	32	32	↔
Total gross pollutants removed from GPTs (tonnes)	302	286	180	300	↑
WATER CONSUMPTION					
Total LGA potable water use (kilolitres)	2,816,409	2,915,400	3,019,243	2,966,059	↓
Total residential potable water use (kilolitres per capita)	83	86	89	86	↓
Total Council potable water use (kilolitres)	43,981	49,690	48,861	48,352	↓

RESPONDING TO TOTAL WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT ISSUES – CASE STUDIES



Water Saving Retrofits

To reduce water consumption Mosman Council undertook a water audit and retrofitted its buildings and amenities blocks with water saving devices. Flow regulators were installed on most Council taps and showerheads while toilets and urinals had their float valves and cisterns adjusted to reduce water use. These initiatives will assist Council in saving 936 Kilolitres of water every year.

Stormwater and Catchment Education Programs

During 2010/ 2011, Council partnered with Lands Edge Education Centre at Chowder Bay, to present a stormwater education program. Over 220 high school students took part in field excursions to learn about Mosman's stormwater systems and catchments. Students followed the path of stormwater through natural and man made systems including the Balmoral Oval remediation site, the Botanic Road Stormwater Harvesting and Reuse site, The Esplanade stormwater outlets and Rocky Point, where students participated in an underwater litter and sea urchin audit. Through this process students gained a better appreciation of how urbanisation has a direct impact on the quality of our catchments and water in Sydney Harbour.

World Ocean Day and National Whale Day

Mosman Library celebrated National Whale Day as part of its After School Program. The day started with a whale quiz and scavenger hunt and finished with the production of a huge poster celebrating whales. One lucky girl won a whale t-shirt which she proudly wore home. For World Ocean Day children learnt about the ocean and made fish kites with swirling coloured tails to take home.

3. BIODIVERSITY

BIODIVERSITY CONDITION	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Change from previous year
Noxious weed notices	0	0	0	0	↔
Noxious weed assessments undertaken	24	9	18	17	↓
Number of registered active bushcare volunteers	196	87	90	97	↑
Bushcare Program volunteer hours	5,292	2,054	2,550	2,677	↑
Number of active bushcare groups	34	17	22	23	↑
Total number of native plants supplied to volunteers, contractors and residents	7,600	7,234	9,724	9,000	↓
Number of native plant species recorded in LGA	454	454	454	454	↔
Number of threatened flora species	3	3	3	3	↔
Number of threatened fauna species	4	4	4	4	↔
Number of endangered ecological communities	3	3	3	0*	
Number of endangered fauna populations	0	0	0	0	↔
Number of feral fauna species targeted through programs (eg. rabbits, foxes, cats)	1	1	1	1	↔

* In previous years, Australian Government data was used for identifying endangered ecological communities to ensure capability of data sources with the SHOROC Council's. However in 2010/ 2011, Council's own detailed field assessments did not identify any endangered ecological communities within the Mosman LGA.

RESPONDING TO BIODIVERSITY ISSUES – CASE STUDIES



Mosman Bay Creek Restoration

During 2010/ 2011, construction work took place at Mosman Bay Creek to stabilise erosion and return the weed infested banks to healthy riparian zones – an important element of the creek ecosystem.

The work was carried out by specialist stone masons who split, shaped and moved rock by hand to form ‘armoured’ creek banks and a clear central channel. The slopes within the creek were covered by woven geotextile to prevent soil being washed out from behind the boulders while still allowing natural seepage into the soil. Higher on the slopes the area was treated for weed growth and ‘jute’ matting was laid down and planted with indigenous fern and riparian species. The 1000 native tube stock planted in the area are establishing and the creek is performing well, after being tested by recent heavy storm events.

Bushland Restoration Contracts

The current Bushland Restoration Contracts 2001–2011 have expired. These contracts were introduced concurrently with the Community Environmental Contract and were innovative in regard to their duration, catchment based approach, and performance measurement criteria. They have been very successful with on-ground results consistently exceeding targets. For example, the 2010–11 MOSPLAN target for areas under contract having greater than 90% native vegetation cover was 45%. The actual figure achieved was 58%. This is a significant increase from Council’s target and highlights the positive contribution the bushland contract work has had on our bushland sites.



National Tree Day

Over 50 volunteers participated in National Tree Day at Rosherville Reserve spending an average of 1.5 hours digging holes, planting tube stock, watering plants and installing plant protectors. Over the course of the day participants planted a total of 500 indigenous plants, contributing to increased habitat and shelter for wildlife by linking with previous planting projects and vegetated areas.

Bushcare Training, Workshops and Walks

The Mosman Bushcare group hosted three training workshops which attracted participants from all over Sydney. The Bushcare Essentials TAFE workshop trained new and existing volunteers in the basic skills required to undertake Bushcare activities, while a booked out sedges workshop helped participants gain botanical knowledge and plant identification skills. A Native Bee workshop was conducted as part of Mosman Council’s Bushcare Quarterly Meeting with guest speaker and native bee expert Adrian Lewis. The Spit to Parriwi Bushwalk and the Autumn Sunrise Bird Walk taught participants about local wildlife, restoring natural ecosystems and how the bush changes over time.

Corporate, Community and School Bushcare Days

Over the last year Mosman Bushcare has been working with other groups to improve local bushland. Employees from Westpac assisted Mosman Bushcare during their Community Corporate Day by clearing 250m² of weed cover, spreading 20m³ of mulch and planting 350 indigenous plants at Rosherville Reserve. Year 9 students from Pacific Hills Christian School assisted Mosman Bushcare by planting 500 indigenous tube stock and clearing 300m² of weed cover. Community members came together on Trees for Mums Day to plant 800 indigenous tube stock at Rawson Park. These projects have helped increase biodiversity, improve habitat and link green corridors.

4. WASTE

WASTE	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Change from previous year
Total waste to landfill, including general cleanup (tonnes)	6,891	6,363	6,409	6,382	↓
Total waste to recycling including paper, co-mingled, metal and green waste (tonnes)	5,609	5,567	5,528	5,559	↑
Total waste to landfill, including general cleanup per capita (kg)	244	224	223	218	↓
Total waste to recycling, including metal and green waste per capita (kg)	199	196	192	190	↓
Green waste diverted from landfill per capita (kg)	54	56	59	59	↔

RESPONDING TO WASTE GENERATION ISSUES – CASE STUDIES



Second Hand Saturday

Second Hand Saturday encourages residents to host garage sales to sell items they no longer need. It promotes reuse and repair, rather than disposal in landfill, and is a great way for residents to meet their neighbours. Council supports residents by advertising in the Mosman Daily and promoting Second Hand Saturdays on Council's website and through banners and flyers. In the last financial year 22 households participated, enabling unwanted items to be passed on to residents who can use them.

Clean Up Australia Day

Clean Up Australia Day held in March 2011, inspires Australians to head to their local beach, bushland or park to clean up their local environment. Mosman Council provided support for Clean Up Australia Day by helping in the clean up of 5 sites around Mosman including an underwater dive site. Approximately 80kg of recyclables, 10-15kg of metal and 140kg of garbage was collected on the day.

Clothes Swap

To celebrate National Recycling Week in November 2010, Mosman Council held a clothes and accessories swap for residents. The event encouraged residents to swap clothes and accessories they no longer needed, rather than buying new ones, resulting in less waste going to landfill and reductions in water use, resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Over 60 residents participated in the event which sent a strong environmental message about waste reduction and re-use.

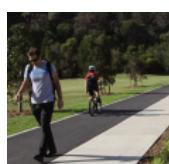
Chemical-Free Workshops

Mosman Council hosted two chemical-free workshops encouraging residents to reduce their use of chemicals in the home. Over 60 people participated in the two workshops. In the Living with Less Chemicals workshop residents were taught how to make their own beauty and cleaning products without using chemicals and were provided with a non-toxic home recipe booklet containing alternatives to using harmful chemicals in the home. The Chemical-Free Kids workshop helped parents to make informed choices for their family by covering topics such as how chemicals are absorbed into the human body and why children are particularly susceptible.

5. TRANSPORT

TRANSPORT	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Change from previous year
Registered vehicles in Council LGA	17,305	17,649	17,967	18,247	↑
Number of Council fleet vehicles	35	28	26	29	↑
GHG emissions from Council fleet vehicles (tonnes CO2-e)	202	157	174	185	↑
Number of passengers using the Mosman Rider Bus	-	-	21,404	45,000	↑
Number of people using the GoGet carshare scheme	-	-	33	177	↑

RESPONDING TO TRANSPORT ISSUES – CASE STUDIES



Active Mosman Website

Mosman Council launched a website encouraging people to get active and reduce their carbon footprint by walking and cycling. The website highlights Council's plans to improve pedestrian and cycling facilities, offers information on walking and cycling routes and provides data on bike, pedestrian and vehicle counts.

Mosman Rider Bus

The Mosman Rider provides a safe, convenient and environmentally friendly alternative to use of the private car. This free shuttle bus operates on a 9.1km loop around Mosman every half hour and is easily recognisable with its distinctive blue and pink wrap, depicting Mosman's affiliation with whales. The Mosman Rider has continued to grow in popularity with 45,000 passengers using the service in 2010/11, up from 21,404 in 2009/10.

Car Share Scheme

The Go-Get Car Share Scheme has continued to grow, with 177 people participating in the scheme in 2010/11. The scheme has been so popular that Council has established 2 additional car parking spaces in Cowles Rd and the Stanton St Carpark to meet the increased demand. The car share scheme provides a great opportunity for residents to get rid of their second car and reduce their carbon footprint.

6. PLANNING, BUILT ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE

POPULATION	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Change from previous year
Estimated population of LGA – at 30 June 2010	28,152	28,356	28,767	29,232	↑
Residential density (persons per hectare)	33.04	33.28	33.76	34.31	↑
NOISE					
General noise complaints received by Council	79	71	51	56	↑
Barking dog complaints received by Council	41	38	50	35	↓
DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS					
Total number of development applications received by Council	505	369	444	438	↓
Number of development applications approved	405	225	433	376	↓
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE					
Total number of Aboriginal heritage sites	105	105	105	105	↔
NON ABORIGINAL HERITAGE					
Total number of non-Aboriginal heritage items	478	478	478	478	↔
Number of built items*	437	437	437	437	↔
Number of landscape items*	34	34	34	34	↔
Number of archeological items	16	16	16	16	↔
Heritage conservation areas	11	11	11	11	↔

*Some items in Mosman are classified as both built and landscape items, therefore the breakdown figures add up to a number greater than the total number of items.

RESPONDING TO PLANNING, BUILT ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE ISSUES – CASE STUDIES



Mosman Cenotaph Redevelopment

A second memorial was constructed at the Mosman Cenotaph site at Mosman Park to commemorate WWII and post WWII returned servicemen and servicewomen involved in conflicts in Korea, Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor and Peacekeeping missions. The Cenotaph previously only commemorated WWI Mosman enlistees. The redevelopment was a joint project between Mosman RSL, Mosman Anzac Memorial Hall Trust and Mosman Council.

Curlew Camp Artists' Walk

An interpretive sign was installed along the Curlew Camp Artists' Walk. The sign is an empty frame which looks onto the site of the former artists' camp at Sirius Cove, which was occupied at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth centuries by artists wishing to capture the beauty of Sydney Harbour by painting outside. The framed scene was painted in 1892 by Arthur Streeton, one of Australia's prominent impressionist artists of the time, and one-time camp resident.

Balmoral Tramshed

The former tramshed at Balmoral Beach, which is the Balmoral bus terminus and shelter, was restored in the summer of 2010. This was done in conjunction with the construction of a modern, sympathetic amenities building at the rear of the tramshed.

7. ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

EDUCATION	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Change from previous year
Total number of environmental programs (workshops, events, surveys) delivered to the community.	-	-	20	24	↑
Total number of environmental programs (workshops, events, surveys) delivered to Council staff.	-	-	3	4	↑

* This indicator was introduced into MOSPLAN in 2009, hence why there is no comparative data for the years 2007 - 2009.

RESPONDING TO ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES – CASE STUDIES



Sustainable Living in Multi Unit Dwellings

Recognising that there are multiple barriers to improving sustainability in unit blocks, this program fostered sustainability by auditing the common areas of unit blocks and providing recommendations on improving energy and water efficiency, reducing waste and improving backyard biodiversity and local food production.

Through a Sustainability Blitz Day residents were encouraged to set up a compost bin or worm farm, establish a veggie garden or biodiversity haven and upgrade lighting and water devices to improve efficiencies.

Community Environment Survey

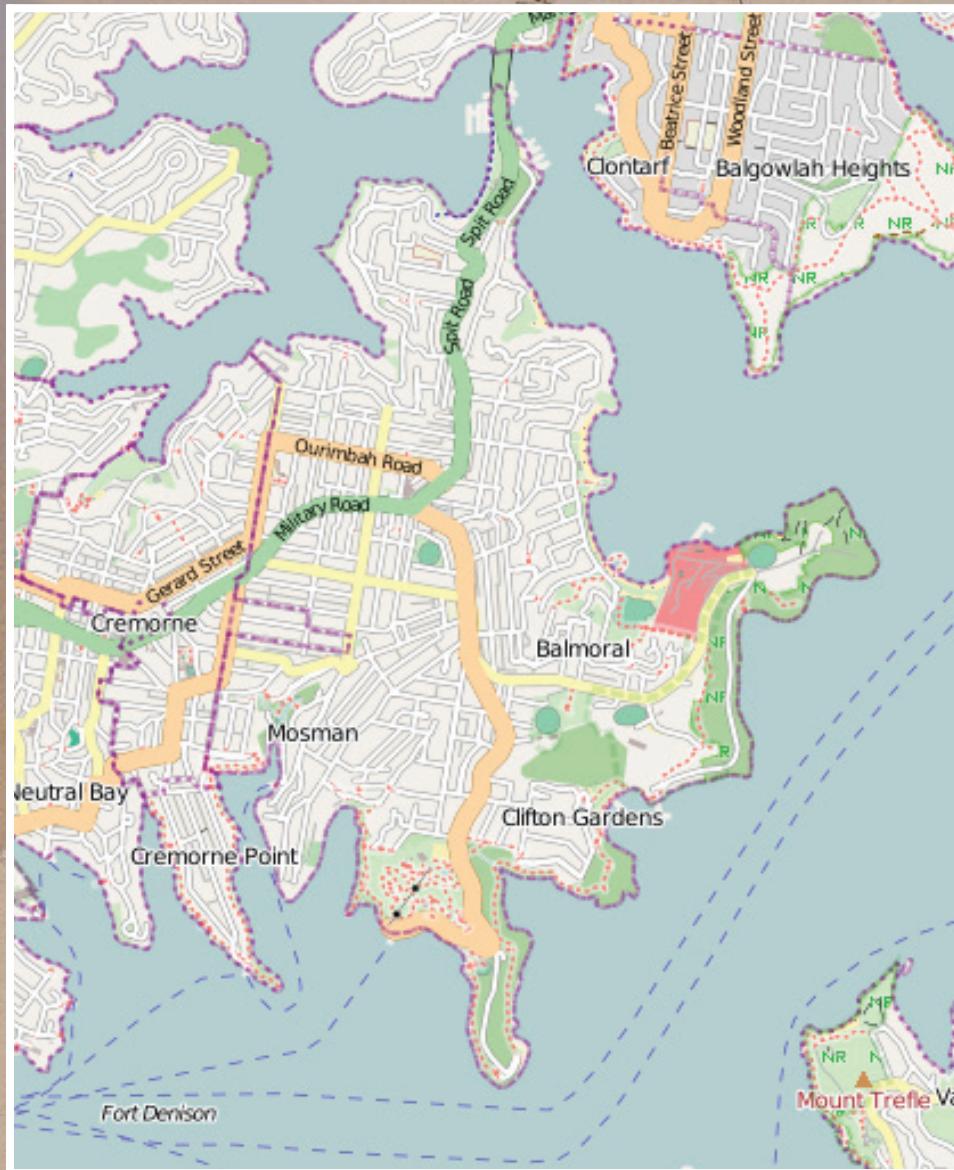
To help shape environmental education and engagement plans Mosman Council conducted a survey to better understand the community's environmental perceptions and priorities. The survey covered local environment and sustainability issues including the quality of our bushland areas, energy and water conservation, water quality and waste and recycling. Mosman residents rated "pollution due to transport", "recycling" and "waste generation" as the three most important issues facing Mosman.

Living Mosman Photography Competition

Mosman Council held a photographic competition in conjunction with the launch of its new environment and sustainability branding, Living Mosman. Photographers were asked to capture what Living Mosman meant to them. Over 50 entries were received, demonstrating outstanding talent within the Mosman community. Photographs captured Mosman's unique wildlife, scenic bushland and beaches, cultural heritage and vibrant streets. The winning entry was a panoramic photograph of Rocky Point, a stunning rock outcrop accessible from Balmoral Beach.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Mosman Council is committed to protecting the environment and reducing its ecological footprint. The Council will use the data in this report to identify areas where improvements can be made and to formulate strategies to achieve better environmental outcomes in the future.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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