

A vibrant lorikeet with a blue head, red face, and red body, perched among green leaves and yellow flowers.

Mosman STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

Scorecard 2018-19



THE MOSMAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

The Mosman LGA is located 8km north-east of the CBD on Sydney's lower north shore. It is one of Australia's premier suburbs with an unmatched harbourside setting. Occupying some 8.7 sq km, Mosman features stunning bays and beaches punctuated by rugged headlands, sandstone cliffs, bushland areas and foreshore parklands.

Mosman's undulating foreshore is approximately 24km in length and is emphasised by more than a dozen headlands. Mosman is home to many popular swimming and recreation beaches and bays including Chinamans, Balmoral The Spit, Cobblers and Clifton Gardens. The majority of the foreshore include significant rocky areas, bushland, including many protected areas, parks and tourist attractions, such as Sydney Harbour National Park and Taronga Zoo.

The 2018 data showed 30,877 people lived in Mosman, with the median age of residents 42 years old. Children aged 0-14 years account for 17.6% of Mosman's population and people aged 65 years and over equate to 19.1% of the population.

Mosman Council's vision is to preserve and enhance biodiversity, including Mosman's bushland, parks, tree canopy, beaches and marine environment through best practice operational and maintenance programs, infrastructure upgrades, regulatory practice and education campaigns. Council's aim is to also reduce its carbon footprint and minimise its waste to landfill.

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

This report aims to show that Council is sustainable and is actively managing the use of our local environment whilst conserving and protecting it for the enjoyment of future generations.

The State of the Environment (SOE) Report provides an annual snapshot of the condition of the environment, current impacts on the environment and the Council's response to these impacts.

The 2018-2019 SOE Scorecard summarises key areas of operation and projects undertaken by Council to improve the local environment for residents and visitors alike.

KEY AREAS

This SOE focuses on seven key areas chosen by the State Government, these include:

- Climate Change and Air Quality
- Total Water Cycle
- Biodiversity
- Waste
- Transport
- Planning, Built Environment and Heritage
- Engagement and Education for Sustainability

Within these areas are a number of standard indicators used to measure change. These indicators align with the goals and objectives of Council's MOSPLAN and allow for change in environmental management to be measured over time.





CONTENT

- CLIMATE CHANGE AND AIR QUALITY
- TOTAL WATER CYCLE
- BIODIVERSITY
- WASTE
- TRANSPORT
- PLANNING, BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE
- ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

CLIMATE CHANGE AND AIR QUALITY

AIR QUALITY	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change from previous year
Number of air pollution complaints received by Council	2	2	12	12	↔
ENERGY					
Electricity use Council operations (kWh)	1,666,642	1,588,203	1,598,413	1,523,945	↓
Council energy and consumption (GJ)	7,087	6,648	6,880	7,254	↑
GHG emissions from Council energy and gas use (tonnes CO ₂ -e)	1,588	1,511	1,493	1,414	↓
Total residential and non residential electricity use for Mosman (MWh)*	137,569	136,916	134,219	131, 834	↓
Solar generation exported to the grid (MWh)*	640	757	767	997	↑

*Data provided by Ausgrid.

SOLAR SCOPING AND FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT FOR THE CIVIC CENTRE AND LIBRARY

Council's Civic Centre and Library consume 45% of Council's electricity use, excluding street lighting. In April 2019 a solar scoping and feasibility report was undertaken for the Civic Centre and Library. The feasibility study included an onsite inspection for solar PV suitability of roof areas and electrical infrastructure required.

The roof of the Civic Centre had good orientation with good access. These factors resulted in the building rated as excellent for solar PV installation. Panels can be installed on the newly refurbished flat metal roof however there are issues with the tiled roof area. At this location some of the timber roof frames require replacement due to water damage and in many areas the tiles are approaching the end of their useful life. This was identified during the recent refurbishment works where minor maintenance was undertaken on this area as the works did not require immediate attention. These works have been scheduled to occur in the 2020/2021 financial year. Once this has been completed Council will look to install solar panels

COUNCIL ENERGY SAVING INITIATIVES THROUGH CIVIC CENTRE UPGRADE WORKS

Lighting upgrade of the Civic Centre and Library was part of the renovation work. This included:

- Upgrades of old fluorescent lights and fittings with LEDs'
- Installation of motion sensors and lights
- Automated light control units throughout Civic Centre to match lighting with usage requirements
- Upgrade of the Council Civic Centre air conditioning units to provide energy efficiency

Other initiatives include becoming an active member of Resilient Sydney Strategy which is focusing on Action 13: 'Measuring metropolitan environmental footprints' and continued use of Azility who provide quarterly audits of Council's energy and water use.



SOLAR MY SCHOOL PROGRAM

In order to reduce energy costs and reduce air pollution an exciting new partnership was formed earlier this year between Mosman Council and Solar My School to bring solar panels onto the roofs of public schools. Mosman Public School was the first school to be part of the Solar My School Project in Mosman. A great deal of background work was executed by different stakeholders including Councillors, teachers, parents and other community members who generously donated their time.

Support funding was raised through a Go Fund Me campaign launched at the screening of 2040 the film. The environmental documentary film had a positive message, exploring ideas based on how an expansion of existing sustainable technologies could create a healthier Earth by 2040. Over 500 people saw the film at the Orpheum. Ticket sales also contributed to the funding. Producer Damon Gameau and local Federal MP Zali Steggall answered questions from eager students at the end of the film.

Mosman Public now have all the funding required to proceed with the installation of a 50 kWp solar powered system for their school.

TOTAL WATER CYCLE

STORMWATER	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change from previous year
Number of gross pollutant traps (GPTs)	35	35	35	35	↔
Total gross pollutants removed from GPTs (tonnes)	376	368	N/A	305	↓
WATER CONSUMPTION					
Total LGA potable water use (kilolitres)#	3,062,906	3,201,659	3,429,718	Awaiting Data	
Total residential potable water use (kilolitres per capita#)	100	89	113	Awaiting Data	
Total Council potable water use (kilolitres)	61,850	71,329	63,313	60,739	↓

Data provided by Sydney Water

SQID IMPROVEMENT WORKS

To ensure Council Gross Pollutant Traps (GPT's) are functioning well Council is constantly monitoring performance and completing upgrade works. In 2016 Council assessed all of its GPT's to determine functionality and if improvements or increased cleaning was necessary. The result was the development of a GPT priority improvement program. In 2018/19 four GPT's were improved. These were at Pearl Bay, Spit Hill, Sirius Cove and Cowles Road. The majority of the works involved repair to baskets, extensive cleaning, removal of foreign materials from sump areas and improvements to entry points to limit size of material able to enter the chambers. In total the GPT's collected 305 tonnes of solid waste namely litter and organics.

SUPPLY OF WATER STATION FOR MINI MOS

Council supported the Mosman Public School Mini Mos fun run and fair in 2019 by donating a 20 bubbler water station to be used at the end of the race instead of handing out single use plastic water bottles to race participants. This helped the school in their efforts to embrace sustainability across the event and raise awareness for reduction of single use plastics.

WATERWISE GARDENING

Council hosted a waterwise gardening workshop for residents to help them reduce the amount of water they are using on their gardens whilst still meeting the aesthetic and functional outcomes that many residents value in their yards and gardens. Residents were provided with handy hints and tips about the orientation, plant selection, mulches, irrigation and soil improvement.

MAINTAINING URBAN CREEKLINES

Local creeks are continually maintained by Council each year. To preserve the condition of these natural areas, our bushland contractors conduct weeding, slashing and sediment control as required. From time to time more significant events such as felled trees do occur in these areas and are removed by Council to keep our waterways running efficiently.



BIODIVERSITY

BIODIVERSITY CONDITION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change from previous year
Noxious weed notices	0	0	0	0	↔
Noxious weed assessments undertaken	11	15	14	22	↑
Number of registered active bushcare volunteers	79	86	86	95	↑
Bushcare Program volunteer hours	1,750	1,860	1,700	2,200	↑
Number of active bushcare groups	17	21	22	20	↓
Total number of native plants supplied to volunteers, contractors and residents	8,500	13,000	10,000	9,000	↓
Number of native plant species recorded in LGA	490	490	490	490	↔
Number of threatened flora species	3	3	3	3	↔
Number of threatened fauna species	5	5	5	5	↔
Number of endangered ecological communities	2	2	2	2	↔
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	↔

BUSHLAND VEGETATION MAPPING 2019

Throughout March, this year, Council conducted in depth mapping of native vegetation through managed bushland sites, including studies on weed density and comparisons to the 2011 and 2016 studies. Findings were positive and reflected the quality work conducted across managed bushland in Mosman.

The survey recorded 74% of Mosman's Bushland reserves at the top tier for native resilience, meaning an overall 10% increase from the previous survey conducted in 2016. The survey also reaffirmed 490 indigenous flora species (including two threatened species) and two significant ecological communities within our LGA.

As a result of the survey, Council resolved in May 2019 to extend the bushland restoration contracts for a further and final 3 years until the end of May 2020.

STREET AND PARKS TREE PLANTING PROGRAM 2019

Through March/April 2019 Council conducted the Street and Park Tree planting contract. Over 300 advanced trees and shrubs were planted throughout Mosman's Streets and Parks. The plantings follow Council's adopted Street Tree Masterplan 2017. There was a 95% success rate which is an excellent outcome given the prolonged dry weather conditions presented during the planting period.

WEED ACTION PROGRAM GRANT

Mosman Council initiated and assisted in a grant for Taronga Zoo to eradicate Boneseed, a Sydney region priority weed. The funding is for three years and will allow Taronga Zoo to eradicate Boneseed on its foreshore bushland areas.



WASTE

WASTE	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change from previous year
Total waste to landfill, including general cleanup (tonnes)	7,097	6,701	7,050	6,695	↓
Total waste to recycling including paper, co-mingled, metal and green waste (tonnes)	5,156	4,326	3,928	3,856	↓
Total waste to landfill, including general cleanup per capita (kg)	232	218	248	217^	↓
Total waste to recycling, including metal and green waste per capita (kg)	169	141	138	125^	↓
Green waste diverted from landfill per capita (kg)	71	49	43	46^	↑
Total e-waste collected (kg)	50,371	59,039	52,871	34,189	↓

* Decrease mainly attributed to drop in vegetation due to dry weather and reduced paper tonnage.

^ Figures based of last years population data of 30,877 residents. Figures will be updated when new population data is available.

IMPROVED RECYCLING OF WASTE AT THE COUNCIL DEPOT

As of February 2019 staff implemented the separation of waste streams at the Council Depot. Whilst tree mulch and milled sportfield soil is placed back onto Council's parks and reserves, general waste, street sweeping and garden waste is taken to the Council Depot for bulking and then transportation to a waste/ landfill facility. Metals were already separated with Council now separating its green waste material (street sweeping and garden waste) from general waste. It is expected that Council will increase its recycling rate of waste at the Depot by up to 60%.

MATTRESS RECYCLING

During the August 2018 Council clean-up over 500 mattress were collected from Mosman residents. This means the diversion of approximately 15 tonnes of waste going into landfill.

The mattress is taken apart and recycled. The metal springs are removed and turned into products like roof sheeting. The foam is removed and recycled into carpet underlay. The timer and husk is used for kindling, weed matting, mulch and animal bedding

The only component not reused is the cloth materials and the company are looking for opportunities to better utilise this material.

Council will be introducing a new collection system next year where resident can book a mattress collection at anytime to further improve services provided to Mosman residents and to recycle as many mattresses as possible as they are still a commonly dumped item.

EWASTE RECYCLING

The 2018/19 financial year saw a total of 34.2 tonnes of e-waste dropped off at e-waste events conducted in the Mosman Council Car Park. Council held two events over this period with over 1400 people participating. There was an increase in the number of people walking to the car park, rather than driving to recycle their items.

Of the attendess 95% of people were from the Mosman LGA with TV's and computers being the most common items delivered.



INTRODUCTION TO MODERN CLOTH NAPPIES

Council held a workshop for 25 mums and expectant mums introducing them to the reusable, modern cloth nappies. These are a great alternative to disposable nappies and are becoming more mainstream. The workshop was run by Nappy Lane and offered practical ways to reduce some of the waste to landfill associated with raising young children.

COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRE

In 2018 Council, through the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils agreed to contribute to a Community Recycling Centre located at Artarmon for one year. The Community Recycling Centre provides a valuable free collection service to Mosman residents to dispose items not permissible in landfill sites through normal waste disposal practices. The majority of items are recycled and include paints, gas bottles, ink cartridges, x-rays, car oil and other types of oil.

The site at Artarmon is roughly 15 minutes from the Mosman Local Government Area and Mosman contribution cost equates to \$4.13 per Mosman household.

A review of usage by Mosman residents has been completed in early 2019 and in April 2019 Council resolved to commit to a further three years of funding for the centre.

TRANSPORT

TRANSPORT	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change from previous year
Registered vehicles in Council LGA*	19,497	19,791	19,820	19,697	↓
Number of Council fleet vehicles	22	22	21	21	↔
GHG emissions from Council fleet vehicles (tonnes CO2-e)	110	117	79	66	↓
Number of people using the carshare scheme	713	825	889	996	↑

* Data from RMS Website "Table 1.1.9 Registered vehicles by vehicle type by postcode as at 30 June for each year"

SPIT EAST PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE PROJECT UPGRADE

Council undertook an upgrade of Spit East and Parriwi Road. The aim of the project was to provide the missing bike and pedestrian link along Spit East, reduce conflict between buses, pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists, provide improved bus stop facilities, provide a separation between Spit Road and Spit East to improve traffic flow and safety as well as improve landscaping to the streetscape area.

BONDI TO MANLY WALK

The 80km Bondi to Manly Walk was launched in December 2018. Council is one of the many participating Councils connecting Sydney in this iconic 80km walk. The Walk starts at Bondi Beach, passes around South Head, over the Harbour Bridge and along to North Head Sanctuary before finishing at Manly Beach.

The Walk is rich in Indigenous heritage and includes four iconic Australian landmarks. It will provide an unsurpassed experience to explore Sydney, and discover our beautiful natural harbour, cultural gems and rich heritage.

CAR SHARE UPDATE

Council continued to support Car Share by updating the Car Share Policy. The policy allows for multiple car share providers to provide services within Mosman.

Council received 10 new applications for designated car spaces. Staff assessed and consulted with the community and recommended to the Traffic Committee that five be approved.

BIKE PLAN 2014-2019

Over the past 5 years Council successfully completed over 90% of the works listed in the 2014-19 Bike Plan. This includes over 22km of bicycle works costing \$467,000.

The completion of these works continues to make bike riding safer for Mosman residents and visitors, whilst improving the visual amenity of the area.



PLANNING, BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

POPULATION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change from previous year
Estimated population of LGA – at 30 June (ERP)	30,215	30,465	30,877	30,877 ¹	N/A
Residential density (persons per hectare)	34.93	35.22	35.70	35.70 ¹	N/A
NOISE					
General noise complaints received by Council	38	49	83	33	↓
Barking dog complaints received by Council	25	25	38	66	↑
DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS					
Total number of development applications received by Council	332	260	258	224	↓
Number of development applications approved	301	197	231	262	↑
ABORIGINAL HERITAGE					
Total number of Aboriginal heritage sites	105	105	105	105	↔
NON ABORIGINAL HERITAGE					
Total number of non-Aboriginal heritage items	483 [^]	483	481	481	↔
Number of built items*	444	444	445	445	↔
Number of landscape items*	34	34	34	34	↔
Number of archeological items	13 [^]	13	10	10	↔
Heritage conservation areas	13	13	13	13	↔

[^] Change is a result due to review of archeological sights undertaken in 2016.

¹ Data for ERP 2018 ERP data. Will update once updated data figures are released in March 2020.

MOSMAN DESIGN AWARDS 2019

Held every two years by Council, the Mosman Design Awards offers architects, builders and owners of recently completed developments in Mosman the opportunity to nominate their property for recognition of quality design.

The 2019 Mosman Design Awards were once again a big hit, celebrating the high quality development Mosman has to offer. A panel of esteemed architects, comprising Gabrielle Morrish, Renato D'Ettorre and Nick Tobias, assessed each of the 18 nominations. After visiting the properties and careful deliberation judges unanimously agreed that the overall winner of the 2019 awards was Almora House by Tonkin Zulaikha Greer Architects. The judges commented that Almora House is a house where "the senses are heightened to a loftier level and is a testimony to the design calibre of the architects".

The People's Choice Award was once again a popular award with over 350 people voting for their favourites of the nomination. Clanalpine House by McNally Architects had the most votes and was the 2019 People's Choice.

The awards provide a platform for Council to raise community awareness for good urban design in Mosman and provide the opportunity for the community to get involved through online voting. The next Mosman Design Awards will be held in 2021.

PROTECTING MOSMAN'S SCENIC PROTECTION AREA

Mosman's Scenic Protection Area is identified in Mosman Local Environmental Plan as land below the 60m contour line. The Scenic Protection Area is recognised for its significance in terms of views to and from Sydney Harbour, and its unique balance of natural landscape, vegetation and the built environment.

In November of 2018 Council secured a further three year exclusion from the Housing Code of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 for the Scenic Protection Area. Following extensive campaigning by Council the NSW Government granted the exclusion.

The previous exemption was within weeks of lapsing and, if lapsed, would have allowed new dwellings and significant alterations to existing dwellings to be built without the need to submit a development application. This would have left the foreshore slopes vulnerable to development that had no consideration of Council's policies to maintain the existing landscape, consider submissions from the community and to protect neighbouring properties from view loss, privacy loss and overshadowing.

The three-year extension ensures the protection of the foreshore slopes until 2021. Council will continue its campaign of lobbying the State Government in an attempt to secure a definitive solution.

IMPROVING MOSMANS HISTORIC CHARACTER

Council adopted changes to the Mosman Heritage Fund that seek to increase uptake of the Fund and improve Mosman's historic character.

The Heritage Fund is a Council operated initiative that provides dollar for dollar grants for property owners undertaking works to heritage properties throughout Mosman that maintain and improve heritage features.

The changes to the Heritage Fund included increasing the yearly budget of the fund from \$30,000 to \$60,000 and increasing the maximum grant available through the Heritage Fund from \$3000 to \$5000 for Heritage Items and from \$1000 to \$1500 for Heritage Conservation Areas.

The changes will encourage the proper maintenance of Mosman's heritage properties and preserve the historic charm that makes Mosman's local character outstanding.



ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

EDUCATION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change from previous year
Total number of environmental programs (workshops, events, surveys) delivered to the community.	102	87	63	65	↑
Total number of environmental programs (workshops, events, surveys) delivered to Council staff.	9	11	5	12	↑
Number of HarbourCare volunteers	N/A [^]	19	26	67	↑

[^] HarbourCare was a new program introduced in July 2016.

LIVING MOSMAN PROGRAM

Council continued to run its “Living Mosman” environmental education series over the past year. Workshops included foodwaste and pickling workshops, make your own insect hotel, waterwise gardening, introduction to modern cloth nappies, rockpool rambles, organic skin care, and decluttering workshops.

Over 390 people attended the Living Mosman series over the past year and have extended their skills in a wide range of sustainability issues and topics.

Council also send a e-newsletter 6 times a year to over 800 residents informing them about current projects, Council works and opportunities for residents.

HARBOURCARE PROGRAM

Council's HarbourCare Program has continued to grow in numbers as Council have welcomed more volunteers on board. Council has volunteers collecting rubbish from along our foreshores and beaches, helping to keep our Harbour clean. Data is then reported back to Council to help shape education campaigns and infrastructure development

This year Council also created a new branch of HarbourCare Teen. This allows teenagers a volunteer avenue where they can give back to the community whilst achieving volunteer hours required for school or extra-curricular programs.

Between HarbourCare and HarbourCare Teen it is

Council's largest growing volunteer group for the year.

RETHINK RUBBISH POP UP

All activities were conducted at Clifton Gardens and focused on cigarette butts, outdoor party litter and fishing tackle. The Ocean Action Pod and a pop- up marine education display run by Shark in a Bus guided many participants through waste reduction educational activities and interactive displays. An artist taught people how to weave discarded plastics to create works of art. A giant jellyfish was compiled over several days and was built by many hands. The resulting jellyfish will be on display at the AAEENSW 2019 Conference. Fish Care Volunteers (run by DPI) came to talk to fisherman about better fishing practices and waste generated from fishing tackle. Three new fishing tackle bins were installed and are now well utilised.

The ever popular Seaside Scavenge returned. Here litter collected on the beach was exchanged for tokens which in turn were swapped for previously donated second hand goods. Over 141 kg of second hands goods were swapped. Collectively over 1600 programme interactions took place and a litter survey conducted by Two Hands Project revealed a 32% reduction in litter compared to the previous year.

TREES MOSMAN APP

Mosman residents can now easily find all the information required for the management of trees via a newly launched app called Trees Mosman.

Trees Mosman houses all tree information in one handy

app and will simplify the tree permit process and better define tree-related policies while providing images and descriptions of exempt tree species.

Created by Mosman Council's tree experts, Trees Mosman offers a simplified way to submit a tree permit application, request a street tree planting, report suspicious tree work and determine tree protection zones when planning construction or development works.

The app is set to not only become a one-stop tree shop for residents, it has added features to encourage contractors to download and use it and is also set to improve the administration process by streamlining back office processes which will lead to improved efficiencies.

The easy-to-navigate app features a streamlined homepage with clear icons to simplify navigation through the functions and, as a primary web-based app, initial downloading will be small and the app will be relatively fast to use.

Key functionality includes:

- Tree permit applications for private and public property
- Reporting of suspicious activity to assist Council investigate and prevent unauthorised tree work
- Exempt species profiles with clear images and descriptions for easy identification
- Comprehensive FAQs for users
- Tree protection area calculator where excavation of development works have potential for impact to trees and
- Request a street tree to be planted to help increase Mosman's canopy cover.

Trees Mosman can be downloaded free from the iPhone App Store and Google Play.

CROSS COUNCIL PARTNERSHIPS

Council's Environment Team worked collaboratively across Council with various other teams to help embed sustainability in their programs and activities.. This has included the Youth, Events and Aged and Disability Services.

An example of this is working with both the Events and Aged and Disability Services teams in producing more environmentally friendly promotional materials for events. These teams have replaced single use lolly packets or other promotional materials with reusable cloth bags and reusable silicon straws.



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Mosman Council is committed to protecting the environment and reducing its ecological footprint by identifying areas where improvements can be made and to formulate strategies to achieve better environmental outcomes in the future.

Going forward for 2019/20 and beyond Council aims to:

- Replace the solar panels on the Marie Bashir Sports Centre.
- Develop a business case for acceleration of residential and main street lights to LED.
- Develop a new Active Transport Plan.
- Develop a business case to install solar panels on Council Civic Centre roof.
- Investigate options for domestic waste disposal to improve diversion rates from landfill.
- Continue to monitor Council and community water and energy use.
- Continue to monitor MUD waste disposal and educate as necessary.
- Continue to expand the HarbourCare and Bushcare volunteer programs and encourage foreshore community engagement and connectedness based on environmental protection works.
- Continue the street tree planting program.
- Continue bushland restoration works including increase in 90%+ native vegetation cover target.
- Undertake the Wyong Road bicycle path works.
- Review the number of e-waste events Council runs.



