

# Minutes

## Liveable Cities Advisory Committee

<b>Date:</b> 2 November 2021	<b>Time:</b> 5.30pm – 7:30pm	<b>Venue:</b> via Microsoft Teams
<b>Meeting No:</b> 11	<b>Meeting Objective:</b> Liveable Cities Advisory Committee	

### 1. Welcome

#### 1.1 Attendance

Cr John MacKenzie – Chairperson  
Cr John Church  
Cr Peta Winney-Baartz  
Steve O'Connor – Planning Institute of Australia  
Kristi Jorgensen – Hunter and Central Coast Development Corporation  
Michael Nolan- Compass Housing Services  
Michelle Bisson – A/Director Governance & Chief Financial Officer  
Dianne Henry – Executive Assistant to Director Governance & Chief Financial Officer – minute taker

#### 1.2 Invited Guests

Cr Declan Clausen  
Alissa Jones – Director City Wide Services  
Joanne Rigby – A/Director Infrastructure & Property  
Kelly Arnott – Corporate Planning and Performance Manager  
Rebecca Allan - Corporate Planner  
Patricia McCarthy – Urban Planning Section Manager  
Steele Adams – Sustainability Manager

#### 1.3 Apologies

David Clarke – Director Governance & Chief Financial Officer  
Sue Anne Ware – University of Newcastle  
Ashlee Abbott – Manager, Community Strategy and Innovation (CSI)

### 2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

#### 2.1 No conflicts of interest declared.

### 3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes and Actions Arising

#### 3.1 Minutes from the #10 Liveable Cities Advisory Committee (LCAC) meeting on 3 August 2021 were approved and adopted.

### 4. Planning update – Roadmap to Deliver on Fleet Transition under Climate Action Plan

*Presentation by Alissa Jones, Joanne Rigby & Steele Adams*

The transition of CN's fleet was identified in the adopted Climate Action Plan resolved by Council on 29 June, 2021. The presentation at LCAC provided the Committee with an update on the work that the CSI team have undertaken to date analysing the best way to transition CN's fleet, which encompasses CN waste vehicles and other CN service vehicles.

Steele Adams provided a presentation about Zero Emission Transport which is one of the four key areas to reducing our Corporate Emissions:

- 100% renewable Energy Supply
- Best Practice Energy, Water & Waste Efficiency
- Reducing Supply Chain Emissions
- **Zero Emission Transport**

The plan is to reduce emissions by adopting actions to transition the fleet focusing on electric vehicles. It is aimed to transition the entire fleet to zero emissions vehicles by 2030.

Questions by the Committee:

*What happens to the end of life of the vehicles in terms of components – batteries etc. are they able to be recycled and reused?*

Batteries will need to be replaced and we will ensure there are systems in place to be able to recycle all components.

*Is there a similar plan in place around small engines eg whipper snipers, mowers, tractors etc?*

We are looking at all engines even up to the largest piece which is the compactor at Summerhill.

*What are you expecting to reach by 2025?*

We are expecting to be at the halfway point by 2025 but we are aware that commercial availability of equipment to transition into zero emissions is challenging and/or isn't as mainstream as it could be. Some of our vehicles like heavy rigid trucks still have an 8 year life span so it may be necessary to transition the fleet over time as we would not want to replace these too early.

*What would be the lifespan of the electric vehicles we are looking at now?*

Lifespan would be similar to our vehicle's current lifespan but the battery packs may need to be replaced. The life of the battery is hard to anticipate depending on how often it is driven, how long it is driven for, how often it is recharged.

Jo Rigby indicated CN is has 450 pieces of fleet that use fuel and it is critical component that the fleet transition is undertaken in a systematic and planned way to make sure that we both meet our targets and continue to meet services and community requirements.

Cr Mackenzie thanked Alissa, Jo and Adam for their presentation and making themselves available to the committee.

## **5. Community Strategic Plan – Newcastle 2040**

*Presentation by Kelly Arnott*

Kelly updated the Committee on the Newcastle 2040 plan to create a liveable, sustainable, thriving, global city, with four outcome themes, Liveable, Sustainable, Achieving Together and Thriving.

Extensive engagement with approximately 5000 community members has occurred. One insight, which was really important to our community is that our neighbourhoods are diverse with equitable housing. Having public places and spaces that bring people together and making sure everyone was connected and felt valued is required.

Four priorities were landed on:

- Enriched Neighbourhoods and Places with objectives around great spaces, well designed places and conserve heritage places
- Connected and Fair Communities with objectives around connected, inclusive, equitable and health communities
- Safe, active and linked movement across the City with objectives around connected cycleways and walking networks, road networks, managed parking and advocate for effective public transport
- Innovative and connected City with objectives around embed digital infrastructure, embracing emerging technologies and digital inclusion and social innovation

#### Question by the Committee

*Cr Church asked about employment and job opportunities as well as increasing parking supply?*

The opportunities for jobs sits under our thriving themes increasing jobs, education and innovation across our city.

We have aligned with our Parking Plan and will use the objectives in that to help guide.

*What type of indicators are going to be monitoring specifically against those groups or can you give us a bit of an idea?*

We have pulled all the indicators from our strategy documents.

Working closely with GIS gaining all the mapping data we can link back to what the Community has told us is really important.

Kristi Jorgensen advised that Sue Anne Ware and herself have completed some modelling around measuring livability and different indicators. Kristi is happy to share this information with Kelly and the team.

Kelly identified it is hard to narrow down to 4 indicators for each theme and we need to look at:

- What's the story we want to tell?
- What are the ones that are the most relevant to tell back to the community?
- What ones help us shift our focus?

Kelly advised they are currently deep in writing and testing with the relevant CN teams that once the data is reviewed a further Councillor Workshops is scheduled for Tuesday, 9 November 2021 to go through the front part of the project, what's driving it and what it looks like for the next six months.

The CSP 2040 will then be presented to the new Council in early 2022 to seek endorsement to put on public exhibition. The team is also building some awareness videos around to gain feedback from the community perspectives. Final document will hopefully be adopted in April 2022.

Cr Mackenzie thanked Kelly for her presentation.



## 6 Planning Update

*Presentations by Patricia McCarthy & Michelle Bisson*

### 6.1 Item 1 – Development Control Plan

Michelle Bisson spoke about the 7.11 Development Control Plan and Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan which was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 October 2021 with a commencement date of 1 January 2022.

Patty McCarthy advised the Committee that the draft contributions plans were publicly exhibited from 27 August 2021 to 24 September 2021. Information sessions were held online with key stakeholders, including industry groups and major landowners / developers.

Four submissions were received during the exhibition period. Submissions offered in principle support for the proposed contributions plans. Submissions acknowledged that the proposed contributions will be in line with other surrounding Councils and other LGAs further afield and that the use of development contributions to provide funding for infrastructure needs created by new development was supported. No objections were raised in regards to the introduction of a Section 7.11 development contribution on additional residential development/ residential lots across the city.

It is anticipated that the new development contributions plans will collect approximately \$10.35M per year (excluding the Western Corridor) over its 15-year time horizon. This compares to approximately \$3.8M per year under the current development contribution plan.

Steve O'Connor acknowledged the significant consultation process the team carried out and with such positive results. *To only have four submissions and generally in support of the new Contribution Plans, close to an upcoming election was remarkable and the team should be recognised for the amazing result this was.*

### 6.2 Item 2 – Housing Policy & Affordable Housing

Patty advised Council resolved to adopt the City's first Housing Policy at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 October 2021.

The policy succinctly sets out commitments to increase the range and supply of housing to meet the needs of the city, including affordable housing. The purpose of this Policy is to state CN's position and approach to facilitating a mix of dwelling types, tenures, and sizes to support the diverse needs of the community as it grows and changes.

This Policy will apply to all land in the Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA). It will:

- Facilitate a diversity of housing types and tenures and increase the supply of affordable housing using planning agreements, amending the Local Environmental Plan, and preparing an affordable housing contributions scheme in identified growth areas.
- Aim to maintain and increase the supply of affordable rental housing for key workers living in very low to moderate income households by working with all levels of government to ensure no net loss of social and affordable housing.
- Apply to planning proposals with an intended outcome to increase density or that are in Council's growth areas.

### 6.3 Item 3 – Green Roof DCP Update

An outcome of the last LCAC meeting held 3 August, 2021 was to discuss the proposed green roof DCP framework in more details with interested members and obtain their input and report back to the November meeting – see attachment A.

It was evident from the feedback received that this requires further specialist work and review to refine the DCP content. This review will unlikely be completed within the current DCP modernisation project timeline. The LCAC however thanked the team for organising this workshop and indicated similar workshops for next year's LCAC program would be great to see.

#### 6.4 Item 4 – DCP Notice of Motion

Michelle advised that the Council resolved to support a Notice of Motion regarding the review of the Development Control Plan 2012. This review will consider:

- Car stackers
- Sustainability of buildings
- Access
- Service Stations

Michelle asked the Committee for feedback, thoughts, concerns or comments.

*Cr Church asked about providing car stackers to meet council parking requirements for visitor parking. Do we have to have a hybrid separate set up for visitor parking and then residents parking are car stackers?*

Michelle advised that this is one component that would be considered as part of the DCP modernisation review and how to operate. Further areas to be investigated and considered regarding car stackers –

- Industry testing – more developments in not just Newcastle but in Sydney and higher density areas.
- Maintenance of stackers
- Body Corporates/high Strata fees
- Unreliable and expensive to maintain
- Size of stackers to fit bigger cars

*Cr Mackenzie asked if the NOM talks about measures that are in addition to Basix. Can you reflect on what opportunities there are for Council in the DCP and beyond these requirements?*

Michelle advised that it will be difficult to include additional measures in addition to Basix requirements as the DCP is a guiding document. BASIX is a requirement that developments need to meet and developments are not required to currently provide additional measures to those requirements. Some consideration could be how within the DCP can we incentivise additional sustainability of buildings.

A similar discussion within the green roof workshop regarding how to possibly incentivise or encourage people to go above; provide additional works to the minimum. Are green roofs for sustainability or to provide landscaping is a question to be answered to understand council's objective and how to incorporate this in the DCP.

Patty advised that the Draft Design and Place SEPP the State Government is proposing will include a review of BASIX and is expected to have better measures than the current BASIX requirements.

Steve mentioned again if it is possible for Council to look at other measures than BASIX as a bonus incentive – eg floor space ratio or a height concession, or landscaping concessions.

*Question asked about possible consolidation of the local centres, is there a move to combine them into a general DCP around local centres or high density transit corridors?*

Patty advised that we are thinking that there possibly will be a chapter for renewal corridors.

*Stephen O'Connor asked about character statements that councils now started to roll out and work on. Are they going to be incorporated into the DCP or do they sit below some other instrument that Council has?*

Patty advised that we have had a lot of discussion with the Tighes Hill residents group who was our pilot program and the residents had a strong view that the Statements should be in the LEP with an overlay map. A more immediate response is likely to be to put the character statement and the analysis within our Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) and then have the design controls in the DCP. We are aiming to do this as an interim step, until such time as statements be documented within any LEP including relevant clause and overlays is adopted.

*Question from Cr Mackenzie - Are there any of those sections that have stalled in the drafting stage that could benefit from some of the Members of this committee providing feedback? It might be one that there is something which is challenging for planners and the Committee may have some good ideas/options worth considering.*

Steve O'Connor made mention about the adoption process for the development contribution plans and strongly recommended that the same stakeholder engagement was carried through because there will be a lot of interest with the DCP review and showing stakeholders clearly how it's changed and why it's changed. A lot of benefit in providing the opportunity to explain in an informal way, to provide a comfortable question and answer environment rather than just going straight on exhibition.

## **7 General Business**

Michelle Bisson mentioned it would be lovely to organise a get together before the end of the year. Possible dates have been circulated with these minutes. Please advise of choice of date.

*Kristi asked about what happens now as the end of the Committee's term is coming up and this will be out last meeting?*

Michelle advised that after the election there will be the Council meeting in January 2022 that appoints Councillors to advisory committees. Council will vote on what committees will operate and if the Liveable Cities Advisory Committee is supported there will be Councillors appointed to that committee at that time.

Cr Mackenzie thanked all the committee members for their participation and involvement during the 11 meetings held since the committee has been formed. *I think we've learned a lot about how these committees work and I can also say that, with some element of satisfaction, that this has been one of the most productive committees. Further, I think that we would be the envy of every Council in the country to have a massive input into development contributions and have only positive submissions from the Community.*

Cr Church then stated: *On behalf of the Committee, I would like to express my personal and our groups thanks to you Cr Mackenzie for the way you've guided this committee over the years, your leadership is strong. You run a good tight meeting and I think*



*everybody appreciates the way that you've conducted yourself and that this has truly been a very productive committee.*

Michelle thanked everyone for their attendance, commitment and contribution to the Committee and CN's projects along and way during their time on the LCAC during this term of Council.

## **8 Closing**

8.1 Meeting closed at 7:00pm



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Chairperson  
Cr Dr MacKenzie