



Health Impact Assessment of Stage 3 of the Airds Bradbury Renewal Project

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Executive Summary

Airds Bradbury Renewal

The Airds Bradbury Renewal project is a large public housing estate renewal plan with the objective to redevelop the area as a mixed tenure neighbourhood of 30% social housing and 70% private housing. This involves redeveloping some areas of the estate where new private and social housing homes can be constructed and also making new road connections and building new community facilities.

Specific to this report, stage 3 of the Project concept plan is redevelopment of the suburban town centre which contains the retail centre, local tavern and a multipurpose facility. This stage will also include development of new playing fields, a multipurpose community centre, the manmade Airds Pond located off the town centre, a new road connection, the Smiths Creek Reserve and new housing lots.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

HIA is an established method used to examine the potential health impacts of a policy or proposal and then make recommendations to improve that proposal. Stage 3 of the Airds Bradbury Renewal project was selected for this HIA as it included crucial community infrastructure that residents of Airds-Bradbury identified as key to a successful renewal and redevelopment of the area.

The HIA focused on three elements of the Airds Town Centre which are critical to the well-being of the local community once stage 3 of redevelopment is delivered. These elements are: the creation of the new multipurpose community centre; improving the area around the manmade Airds Pond; and the to-be-relocated sporting fields.

The standard steps of the HIA process were followed (screening, scoping, identification, assessment, recommendations and evaluation). The potential impacts of redevelopment of the Airds town centre, as proposed under the concept plan, were considered through creation of a pathway diagram. This considered the potential impacts that changes to the town centre will have upon the local community. The impacts were considered through examination of existing evidence and through data collected in a workshop with Community Reference Group (CRG) members.

This report provides an overview of the potential positive and negative health impacts of the three main elements of the stage 3 plans.

Key Findings

Upgrades and relocation of the playing fields:

The HIA found that the relocation of the playing fields had the potential to positively impact the community. Evidence from the literature and the community demonstrates that improvements in the built environment and improved access to recreational equipment both have the potential to lead to an increase in usage which in turn leads to improvements in physical activity, social cohesion and mental wellbeing.

Upgrades to pond and surrounding areas:

The HIA found that redevelopment of the pond had the potential to positively impact the community. Evidence from the literature and the community demonstrates that improvements to the built environment have the potential to lead to ownership and improve positive community interaction, such as connectedness and social cohesion, while also decreasing stigma and improving mental wellbeing.

Creation of new multipurpose centre:

The HIA found that the creation of the new multipurpose centre had the potential impact the community both positively and negatively. Evidence from the community demonstrates that there is an opportunity for the integration of the childcare centre into the new multipurpose centre to result in an increase in local access to childcare as well as local employment opportunities for the local community. However, evidence from the community suggests that shifting the current model of practice at AB Central would lead to a decrease in established community ownership and connection. Evidence from the community also demonstrated that the reduction of community facility space within the new centre would lead to a reduction of community and service utilization. This would lead to a decrease in community activity and involvement and a subsequent decrease in physical activity and community connectedness.

Recommendations

In order to achieve the positive health impacts identified through the HIA, while also avoiding any potentially negative impacts, we have provided the following recommendations. These have been prioritised by the community to identify 'essential' recommendations, or those that are required to attain optimal health outcomes, and also 'to consider' which are recommendations that would be of benefit to the community but would not negatively impact the community if not implemented. The existing Community Reference group is currently well placed to monitor and review the undertakings of the recommendations cited in this report.

Throughout these recommendations we refer to 'the responsible party'. This is defined as:

- *Short term*: within stage 3, 4 & 5 of the renewal, the responsibility of delivery sits within Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) and/or Urban Growth
- *Medium term*: within stages 6, 7 & 8 of the renewal, the responsibility to fund and facilitate sits with LAHC and/or Urban Growth or the nominated developer.
- *Long term*: In stages 9 (approximately) and beyond the responsibility of delivery would sit with Campbelltown City Council as agreed in the voluntary planning agreement (VPA) or by negotiation.

These are all subject to VPA considerations. The recommendations are detailed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Recommendations

1	Recommendations for the playing fields	Classification
1.1	Seek advice to identify local need within the Local Government Area, with priority given to the needs of Airds Bradbury of sporting field types and then build fields to fit local sport need – e.g. Rugby league, Soccer, AFL, Cricket or adaptable grounds. These should have low level fencing to deter motor bikes.	Essential
1.2	Develop a promotion strategy with the local sports clubs in order to promote use of sporting fields. This could include encouraging sporting clubs to employ local coaches and managers.	Essential
1.3	Develop a promotion strategy to local residents and work with sporting clubs to develop options for low cost participation. Council and schools should facilitate subsidies for local disadvantaged children to participate in sporting clubs	Essential

1.4	Ensure that sporting fields and associated amenity buildings and spaces are safe and have excellent natural surveillance from neighbouring homes, streets and shops; adequate lighting to accommodate night training; as well as no alcohol zones	Essential
1.5	With regards to physical design, signage and information regarding Kevin Wheatley (history and significance) should be present on a plaque or other public art memorial at the fields. Explore the option of possible support of this project from local RSL.	Essential
1.6	Establish adjacent spaces to cater for all ages and ability levels with, for example, chess tables and seats, shaded areas and playgrounds and acknowledge the sensitivity of the placement of the playing fields near significant Aboriginal land.	To consider
2	Recommendations for The Pond	Classification
2.1	<p>Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sufficient, adequate and appropriate bins and waste disposal surrounding the pond b. Adequate maintenance of vegetation and lawns c. Improvement and maintenance of water quality d. Improvement of water safety and cleanliness through landscaping 	Essential
2.2	<p>With regards to physical design, the following should be included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Information around the pond about local flora and fauna and the local Aboriginal community, its history and significance. This should be done with consultation and direction from the local Tharawal community. b. Facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Shade, lighting, play equipment (appropriate for various ages), public art, bins, workout stations, bubblers. ii. BBQs iii. Tables and chairs. 	Essential
2.3	<p>To increase usage and encourage participation in physical activity the upgrades to the pond should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Installation of walking circuit which is accessible and appropriate b. Improved walkability all around the pond which encourages physical activities and safety c. Paths which are wide enough to enable cycling d. Intermittent seating to accommodate people with a disability and/or seniors 	Essential
3	Recommendations for the Multipurpose Centre	Classification
3.1	Physical Design - In order to ensure that there is effective community use, include within the physical design:	Essential

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Acoustics- with better design, particularly acoustic design, than the Minto community centre b. Meeting rooms of various sizes including one large meeting room for community meetings and a minimum of two smaller rooms c. Adequate, secure storage space/lockers for groups to store program resources. d. At a minimum, have enough space to continue to accommodate existing programs and usage of AB Central (meetings, special events, weekly and annual programs, etc.) 	
3.2	Have a reception area that has adequate space for a desk and information stands (including a directory of services/groups/times/etc.) in full view of the front door and staffed by a person during open hours (could be a local volunteer).	Essential
3.3	Include kitchen and toilet facilities which are accessible for people with disabilities.	Essential
3.4	Being open five days per week, as well as nights and weekends in addition to as required by user groups, so as to ensure accessibility to various local groups and organisations.	To consider
3.5	Have accessible toilets even when the centre is closed, which would service the sporting/pond area (for example, the toilets in Mawson park).	To consider
4	Recommendations for Participation	Classification
4.1	For social participation and inclusion to continue within this social housing estate going through a period of significant change, employ a community development officer whose responsibilities include: encouragement and support of health and wellbeing, and social participation in the community.	Essential
4.2	Continue to support existing relationships between AB Central and local residents. This would include honouring the free booking system of the current AB Central. The responsible party should also foster community participation by engaging with new residents in the future; this could be done by the community development officer.	Essential
4.3	Ensure that all three design components of stage 3 (the pond, playing fields, and multipurpose centre) are easily accessible and integrated to each other, to encourage interactive use between the 3 components. This could be facilitated through design elements such as accessible distance, shared pathways, intermittent seating to accommodate people with a disability and/or seniors. Include the exploration of traffic calming strategies for the road crossing of the new Campbellfield Road, so as to provide safe use of facilities and the retail precinct on both sides of the road.	Essential
4.4	In the longer term when Council is responsible for the centre, Council should consider an alternative model of operation which reflects the needs of the changing community. Council should use the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation (Appendix 1) at a minimum of 'collaborate' which has been current best practice in the community since 2010. The delivery of operations should be acceptable and appropriate for the community.	To consider

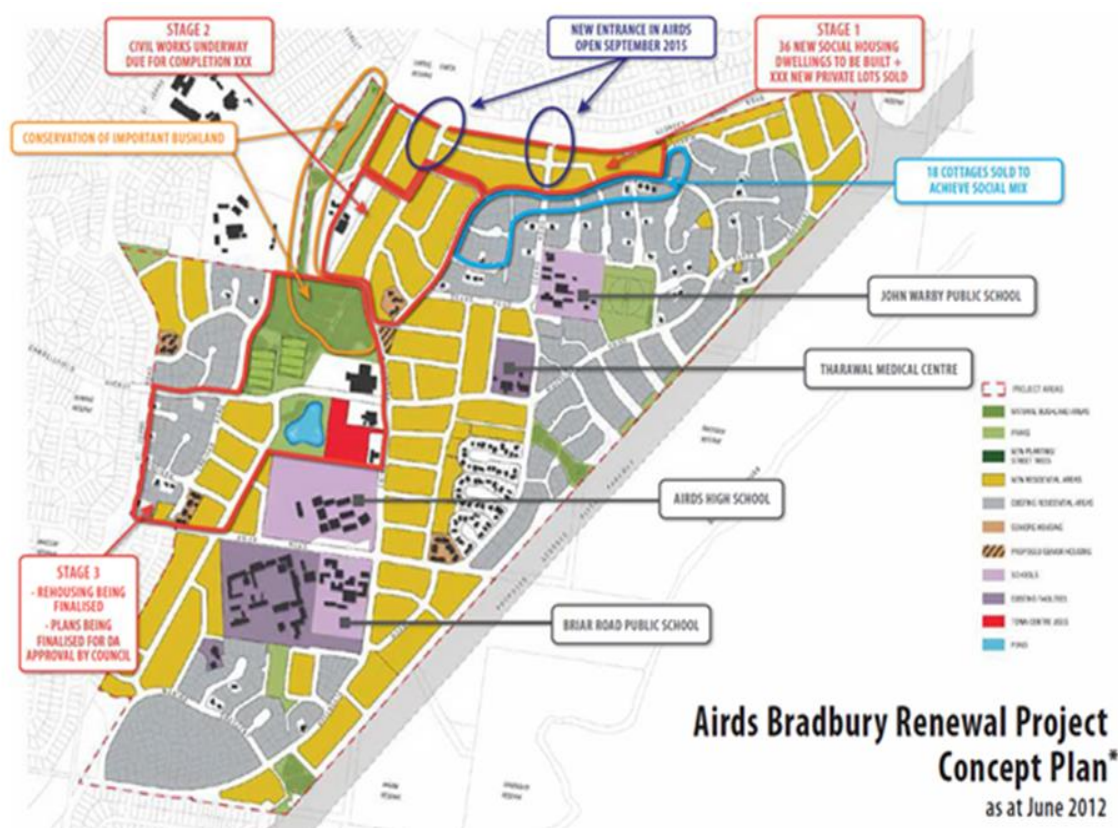
4.5	Where there is a possibility to name existing or newly established infrastructure, the naming decision should be made in consultation with the local community, including the local Aboriginal community, in order to reflect the identity of the local community	To consider
5	Recommendations for Cultural Participation	Classification
5.1	Ensure appropriate engagement with local Aboriginal community to recognise the significance of the local Aboriginal community, especially with regards to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sensitivity and acknowledgement of the placement of the playing fields near significant Aboriginal land b. Using public art as a recognition of the significance of the local Aboriginal community c. Local Aboriginal information should be displayed around the pond e.g. creation of a story board. 	Essential
5.2	Consider the introduction of a cultural learning/sharing space within the town centre e.g. community gardens	To consider
5.3	Consider regular organisation of cultural events/days that reflect all cultural groups in the area.	To consider
5.4	Consider the use of public art which reflects all cultural diversity within the local area in order to promote harmony and inclusiveness.	To consider

Introduction

Airds Bradbury Renewal Project

The Airds Bradbury Renewal project was announced in 2009 by the then Housing NSW. The project's objective is to redevelop the public housing estate area as a mixed tenure neighbourhood of 30% social housing and 70% private housing. This involves redeveloping some areas of the estate where new private and social housing homes can be constructed and also making new road connections and building new community facilities.

As part of the project, existing cottages will also be sold over time to achieve the 30/70 social-to-private mix. The concept plan for the area, approved in 2012, outlines a blueprint for the redevelopment. As of 2016 stages 1 and 2 are under redevelopment and the occupation of new homes of land within these stages is expected to commence by October 2016.



In 2012 the Airds Bradbury Renewal Project concept plan was approved by Campbelltown City Council. The concept plan outlines a long term blueprint for redevelopment of the Airds Bradbury public housing estate. The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC), as part of the NSW Department of Family And Community Services (FACS), has responsibility for the project, and Urban Growth as the contracted developer.

The progress of the Airds Bradbury Renewal Project has been recognised for its community consultation and engagement through being awarded the AIP2 Most Innovative Project of 2010.

Stage 3 of the Project concept plan is redevelopment of the suburban town centre which contains the retail centre, local tavern and a multipurpose facility. This stage will also include development of new playing fields, a multipurpose community centre, the manmade Airds Pond located off the town centre, a new road connection, the Smiths Creek Reserve and new housing lots.

This project stage is not yet approved. However, the HIA was developed under the auspice of the Health and Housing Partnership 2nd objective of sharing partners input and expertise in decision making that impacts health and well-being. This objective has been operationalised as part of the 'Learning By Doing' project facilitated by the Centre for Health Equity Training Research and Evaluation (CHETRE) funded by South Western Sydney Local Health District .

Health Impact Assessment

This Health Impact Assessment (HIA) has been delivered through applying the Learning by Doing approach. An HIA is a systematic process that considers the potential impacts to health from future policies, programs or plans, and offers recommendations to improve potential benefits and mitigate harms. An HIA also considers the distribution of impacts within a population. The team conducting the HIA consists of LAHC community renewal members, Airds Bradbury community members, and a research assistant from CHETRE. The goal of the HIA is to assess the three main physical aspects of Stage 3 using local expertise and knowledge of community requirements, past consultation data and outcomes, and ongoing stakeholder engagement.

It was apparent during 2009 and 2010 consultations that when developing the concept plan, the establishment of a good quality town centre is very important to the Airds-Bradbury community. Therefore it is of keen interest to the local community that Stage 3 follows a similar level of success to previous stages of the Airds-Bradbury redevelopment.

Community Profile

The suburbs of Airds and Bradbury are within the Campbelltown Local Government Area, approximately 2.5km southeast of the Campbelltown city centre.

The Airds Bradbury Renewal Project consists of the social housing estate of Airds and a section of social housing dwellings located in Bradbury. The suburb has a population of approximately 3,507 and the area has a relatively young median age of 26 (median age of NSW is 38).¹

The suburb has a large Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community with 525 people identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, making up 14.9% of the total Airds population.² Airds is home to an influential Aboriginal Controlled Health Service called the Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation.

The main country of birth for residents in Airds is Australia however the suburb also has a high proportion of residents born in Samoa (2.7% versus 0.1% in NSW), New Zealand (3.5% versus 1.7% in NSW), Fiji (0.9% versus 0.1% in NSW) and Lebanon (0.9% versus 0.8% in NSW).³

The suburb has 26.8% unemployment rate which is much higher than the NSW average of 5.9%. Overall, family compositions in the suburb are similar to NSW averages however single parent families are significantly higher than the NSW figures (56.4% versus 16.3%).

A family living in Airds without children has a median weekly income of \$2,107, similar to that of NSW (\$2,120) whereas a family with children in Airds has a median wage of \$1,928, which is substantially lower than the NSW average of \$2,370.⁴

Motor vehicle ownership of one car in Airds is 43.3%, slightly higher than the NSW average of 37.8%. However the number of dwellings which

indicated they had no cars was more than twice the NSW average (28.4% in Airds versus 10.4% in NSW). ⁵

Evidence from the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicated that the suburb of Airds is one of the most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas in New South Wales. ⁶ The suburb consists of 1,540 dwellings which the majority are publically owned and managed (94%). ⁷

Methodology

Stage 3 of the Airds Bradbury Renewal project was selected for this HIA as it included crucial community infrastructure that residents of Airds-Bradbury identified as key to a successful renewal and redevelopment of the area.

The HIA focuses on three elements of the Airds Town Centre which are critical to the well-being of the local community once stage 3 of redevelopment is delivered. These elements are the creation of the new multipurpose community centre; improving the area around the manmade Airds Pond; and the to-be-relocated sporting fields.

Examination of these elements involved accessing data collected during past consultations; literature review; data collected by the Airds Community Renewal team, City of Campbelltown and Department of Sports and Recreation; and anecdotal evidence from CRG members.

Members of the HIA team also have a sound understanding of the current needs of the community, as well as direct experience within the community, and these were also incorporated into the HIA.

The potential impacts of redevelopment of the Airds town centre, as proposed under the concept plan, was considered through creation of a pathway diagram. This considered the potential impacts that changes to the town centre will have upon the local community. The impacts were considered through examination of existing evidence and through data collected in a workshop with CRG members.

Undertaking the HIA required adhering to the following steps:

1. Screening

The purpose of screening is to determine whether or not the HIA is appropriate and required.

Members of the HIA team met with trainers from the Centre for Health Equity, Training, Research and Evaluation (CHETRE) to discuss the possibility of conducting an HIA on the AB renewal project. This was to be conducted as part of a Learning-by-Doing training conducted by CHETRE.

2. Scoping

The purpose of scoping is to establish the scope and work plan of the HIA.

The HIA team hosted a scoping workshop that included members of the AB CRG, local school administrators, and local high school students. Various impacts of the AB renewal project were considered and it was agreed that the HIA would focus on three main areas: the creation of the new multipurpose community centre; improving the area around the manmade Airds Pond; and the to-be-relocated sporting fields. Initial health pathways were developed in relation to the three focus areas. These pathways were shared with and validated by a member of the local Aboriginal community.

3. Identification

The purpose of the identification stage is to develop a community profile and collect information to identify potential impacts.

Members of the work team conducted a literature review focused on the health impacts of each of the focus areas. Additionally, previous surveys that had been conducted in AB were identified and examined for relevance to the AB project renewal.

4. Assessment

The assessment step of an HIA consists of analysing the information in order to determine and prioritise health impacts.

An assessment meeting was held with stakeholders, including local community members, service providers, police, council members, members from the local high school (including administrators and students) and LAHC staff, which presented the findings of the literature review and previous surveys. Participants gave feedback on the findings and developed

draft recommendations. The draft findings were also shared with and validated by a member of the local Aboriginal community.

5. Decision making and Recommendations

The purpose of the decision making and recommendations phase of HIA is to establish a set of final recommendations and offer these to the decision makers in order to improve the proposed plan.

The HIA team developed an initial set of recommendations based on feedback from the assessment workshop and local Aboriginal Mens group. These were then sent out to stakeholders who were given the opportunity to comment on and prioritise the recommendations. The draft recommendations were shared with a member of the local Aboriginal community who also shared and validated these with members of the local Tharawal Men's Group. This feedback was taken into consideration and incorporated into the final recommendations. This report will be formally submitted to the CRG, the developers (Urban Growth), Land and Housing Council Development Director and Campbelltown City Council.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

This step of the HIA method is to evaluate the process involved in the HIA and its impact.

An evaluation plan will be developed by the HIA team. The implementation of the HIA recommendations will be monitored by the CRG.

HIA Stakeholders

The Airs Bradbury HIA has been conducted through the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, including government, non-government organisations, outside volunteers, and the local community. The HIA was facilitated through the support of CHETRE and South Western Sydney Local Health District Population Health through a series of 'learning by doing' training workshops coordinated by CHETRE.

The HIA was conducted in collaboration with the Airs Bradbury Community Reference Group (CRG). There was careful consideration given by the CRG on how the HIA team would engage with the broader community. This was required so as not to raise suggestions and confusion

within the broader community that stage 3 of the redevelopment had officially commenced.

The CRG meets monthly and the HIA became a standing agenda item at each meeting. In addition, with consent of the CRG, the HIA team also engaged other stakeholders. This included the local high school, students, and Aboriginal representatives.

As well as the monthly CRG meetings, the HIA team also coordinated an open forum for stakeholders to discuss the development of the HIA recommendations, and involved these stakeholders with refining and expanding the recommendations.

As well as providing the main source of stakeholder feedback, the CRG also oversaw the HIA. Two members of the HIA team were also long term members of the CRG .The CRG also includes members of Urban Growth, the LAHC Development Director, Population Health, Council and select local residents who have been highly engaged by these agencies.

As the CRG comprises of agencies that will ultimately deliver the redevelopment project in Airds, the CRG was therefore regarded as a suitable governance forum to report the progress of the HIA. The stakeholder engagement strategy is detailed in Table 2.

Table 2: HIA Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

<i>Stakeholder</i>	<i>Interest</i>	<i>Influence</i>	<i>When to engage</i>	<i>Potential role in HIA</i>
Members of the Community Reference Group members	High	Med	Throughout	Members of the team Governance of HIA
Urban Growth	High	High	Throughout	Provide input Recipient
Population Health	Med	Med	Throughout	Member of team Source of info and data
Campbelltown City Council	High	High	Through CRG	Feedback Risk management advice
Tharawal Aboriginal Medical Service	High	High	Throughout	Member of team Identify funding Recipients
Land and Housing Corporation- Project	High	High	Throughout	Recipient

Director				
Airds High school,	Med	Med	Throughout	Identify source data and evidence
CHETRE	High	Low	Throughout	Support of HIA
Airds Shopping Village	High	Nil	Through CRG	Nil
Airds Tavern	High	Nil	Through CRG	Nil

Assessment

Each of the three proposed activities from the proposed concept plan were assessed to determine their potential impacts to health, and to provide recommendations for their improvement. The proposed activities are described below, followed by an assessment of their impacts and recommendations.

Proposed Concept Plan Activity: Upgrades to pond and surrounding areas

The area around the Airds manmade pond is designated as Deane Park South in Stage 3, which is to be an area of leisure and recreation. Council requirements for the proposed Deane Park South area include:

- Outdoor furniture to be built within the area to be of simple and robust material, vandal resistant and accessible to Australian Standards (1428) for relevant items.
- Installation of rubbish bins with appropriate lids and sealing.
- Three electric BBQs and three shade structures with small grassed play areas.
- Designated walking circuit of pond area with seated viewing areas.
- Ornamental planting to be provided around pond.

Design elements of the area include:

- Upgrading the pond to include a bio-retention system.
- Providing open play areas for small and school age children which are close to shelter and seating, as well as playing facilities for older children.
- Disability access to the area.

- Pockets of tree planting will maintain open views of the area, promoting regular surveillance of the area by local residents.
- Recreation area to include grove of flowering deciduous trees and accompanying table settings.
- Performance and gathering space.
- Displaying of public art.

Evidence from the literature

There is prior literature to suggest the importance of landscape design as part of greater urban development. For example, in 2010 Manukau City Council carried out an HIA that focused on urban design as a means of increasing community health and safety within the Council's LGA⁸. Of relevance to the Airds-Bradbury project, the Council focused on improvement of parks, recreation and natural landscapes such as wetlands and rivers, as a means of better health and safety. Through creation of a Spatial Structure Plan (SSP), the Council's HIA found the following amongst other conclusions:

- Strong support for the development of landscape features such as the development of a reserve or parks, village greens and a raised walkway along a stream running through the township.
- Creating a safer place for all to live, work and play through improved lighting, well maintained safe paths and walkways.

In this instance the HIA demonstrated how water features and accompanying footpaths added to an overall community sense of wellbeing and security.

Evidence from the community

As part of community consultation for the HIA, CRG members were asked about their views on the levels of social activity currently around the pond.

The responses from the members are consistent with data gathered during prior town planning bus trips and 'Design Outloud' activities previously organised by the 'Design Outloud' Project. The consensus from members is that the prior building of the manmade pond was a good idea, as it has made a positive difference to the town landscape, and the improvements

to the pond suggested by the concept plan will make the pond an even greater asset to the local community.

People have stated anecdotally that if the pond is upgraded, people will be encouraged to use the area more, but this is also dependent on what happens with the town centre overall, as what will happen to other facilities will impact upon peoples' general usage of the pond area.

It has been noted by local residents that the pond area needs more rubbish bins, particularly if people come down for lunch they will need bins otherwise rubbish will end up in the pond. Bins also need to be specifically designed to consider scavenging by birds i.e. enclosed lids. Any bins that are installed need to be emptied regularly.

As stormwater drainage goes into the pond, a lot of rubbish goes into the pond and this is compounded through passers-by throwing rubbish. Local residents identified a need for this to be addressed.

Current Usage

Social activities near the pond are normally facilitated through coordinating large community events such as 'Design Outloud'. There are also forms of more individual use such as families passing by the area from the shops, people exercising or people walking their dogs.

Activity level is slightly higher during school holidays. It is noted that AB Central staff once approached a fitness group to run a boot camp there. The area is otherwise used by local teenagers as a 'party place'.

Development will mean the area will become more urbanised through the introduction of further high density housing. Smaller blocks of land and less public open space mean more people will be taking advantage of the use of public space for leisure pursuits.

Future Usage

CRG members were asked if the pond were to be improved, then how would this impact social activity. The response from members was that the pond needs to be advertised as an area for public use. This is because the

pond in its present guise is isolated, and so a lot of people do not know it is there except for the local people who frequent it.

The isolation of the pond also means the area is prone for misuse. Passing traffic would increase more awareness and more activity would lead to increased surveillance of the area.

Feedback also indicated that lighting within the pond area needs to be improved. Regarding amenities, members suggested the need for more tables and chairs and outdoor toilets that are accessible. Lawns and pathways need to continue to be maintained so people will use it more. The area should have paths with sizeable width for children to ride their bikes, and also public workout stations with descriptions on the use of the apparatus.

It was felt that landscaping could ultimately improve safety and accessibility, and therefore minimise the risk of accident. Members also felt that these improvements would encourage usage from different groups such as disability services, day groups and fitness groups.

People were asked what important things should be considered when upgrading the pond and surrounding areas. The list includes increased shade in the open areas (e.g. pergolas, sails or more trees), lighting, and swings for kids.

Public indigenous art was also mentioned as people thought it would be good to make an Aboriginal connection at the pond.

Recommendations to improve the pond and surrounding area

Throughout these recommendations we refer to 'the responsible party'. This is defined as:

- *Short term*: within stage 3, 4 & 5 of the renewal, the responsibility of delivery sits within Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) and/or Urban Growth
- *Medium term*: within stages 6, 7 & 8 of the renewal, the responsibility to fund and facilitate sits with LAHC and/or Urban Growth or the nominated developer.

- *Long term:* In stages 9 and beyond the responsibility of delivery would sit with Campbelltown City Council as agreed in the voluntary planning agreement (VPA) or by negotiation.

To ensure the pond is appropriately utilised by the community, the responsible party should ensure the following:

Essential Recommendations:

1. Maintenance
 - a. Sufficient, adequate and appropriate bins and waste disposal surrounding the pond
 - b. Adequate maintenance of vegetation and lawns
 - c. Improvement and maintenance of water quality
 - d. Improvement of water safety and cleanliness through landscaping
2. With regards to physical design, the following should be included:
 - a. Information around the pond about local flora and fauna and the local Aboriginal community, its history and significance. This should be done with consultation and direction from the local Tharawal community.
 - b. Facilities:
 - i. Shade, lighting, play equipment (appropriate for various ages), public art, bins, workout stations, bubblers.
 - ii. BBQs
 - iii. Tables and chairs.
3. To increase usage and encourage participation in physical activity the upgrades to the pond should include:
 - a. Installation of walking circuit which is accessible and appropriate
 - b. Improved walkability all around the pond which encourages physical activity and safety
 - c. Paths which are wide enough to enable cycling
 - d. Intermittent seating to accommodate people with a disability and/or seniors

Proposed Concept Plan Activity: Relocation and upgrades to playing fields

Stage 3 Plans for playing fields

The existing Kevin Wheatley Memorial fields, currently located eastward of the Stage 3 site, will be relocated to the area at the rear of where the existing retail shops are currently situated. This relocation is scheduled so that the new fields are established before the existing fields are redeveloped.

Design elements included within the concept plan include:

- Replacing/relocating two playing fields.
- Installing exercise equipment and a water station near the playing fields.
- Create an amenities block.
- Create car park for playing fields.
- Install night lighting for training and safety purposes.
- Create playground area for young and older children and provide shade.
- Upgrade existing basketball courts.

Evidence from the literature

Sporting and recreational activities are fundamental to healthy local community and urban development. The Clearing House for Sport reports evidence suggesting “the provision of appropriate and sufficient sports facilities has considerable influence on participation in sport. The availability of suitable sports facilities, access to those facilities, and the conditions under which a facility operates can either encourage participation or act as a barrier to participation.”⁹

The success of sporting fields in a community is influenced by:

- Access, whether it be active, public or private transport;
- Availability and suitability, be it year-round or seasonal;
- Operating hours and maintenance, lighting, toilet facilities; and,

- The socio-economic circumstances and age of the surrounding community.

The ABS in 2012 reported low rates of participation by children, and especially by adults, in field based sports across NSW. Children sometimes miss out on regular exercise and access to sporting opportunities, as well as other physical activity which may help to overcome associated problems¹⁰.

The Healthy Urban Development Checklist published by NSW Health outlines the elements of good public open space. This public open space includes sporting fields along with other elements such as streets, paths, playgrounds and natural areas among others. The checklist highlights qualities listed by the Project for Public Spaces in 2008:

- Accessibility
- People engaged in activities there
- The space is comfortable and has a good image
- The space is one where people meet each other.¹¹

There are several HIAs emphasising the importance of maintaining an active built environment within disadvantaged communities. When addressing the need to improve physical space, a 2009 HIA conducted during the redevelopment of a low-income US neighbourhood called 'The Crossings' identified the following benefits created through improvement of parks and recreational facilities:

- Increased physical activity;
- Better mental health;
- More extensive social networks; and,
- Improved safety for local residents.¹²

A 2013 HIA focusing on the nearby social housing estate of Villawood noted the virtues of enhancing walkability within estates, as well as increasing a real and perceived safety and access to green space, which could impact positively on levels of physical activity, community pride and access to resources resulting in potentially positive impacts on health¹³.

This was determined through consultation with local residents of Villawood, as well as observation of the physical environment of Villawood

at the time of a release of a redevelopment master plan by the social housing agency maintaining the estate (FACS).

A 2011 HIA addressing the redevelopment of a UK local council ward took a more critical examination of greenspace and recreation areas within the site¹⁴. Whilst noting that the presence of greenspace raises the potential to promote criminal, social or psychological aggression, as well as drug abuse and anti-social behaviour, the HIA ultimately found that the health benefits of parks and open spaces outweigh the negative behaviour that can arise. This is particularly true if there are policies and management practices in place by local stakeholders to address and overcome problematic community behaviour within the greenspace.

Evidence from the community

Upon consideration of relocating Kevin Wheatley Memorial Reserve from its current location, to the new area proposed in the stage 3 concept plan, the HIA committee considered feedback from the Airds Bradbury Project Community Reference Group (CRG), the local high school and Campbelltown City Council.

The current location of the sporting fields is in a mainly landlocked area, and so the current natural surveillance of the fields is poor with the fields being 80 metres away from the street frontages.

Feedback from Campbelltown City Council indicates that there is no regular organised use of Kevin Wheatley fields, and local residents' advice is that anti-social behaviour and vandalism has been left unchecked on the fields due to a lack of general surveillance by local residents or police.

Current usage

The current playing fields located in the Airds community are found in the middle of the estate. The playing fields are named in honour of a local resident, Kevin Wheatley, a Victoria Cross recipient from the Vietnam War who was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously.

As they presently stand, the fields have reduced street frontage and little natural surveillance. The fields have been used sporadically for a number of

years, leaving the fields in poor condition. The amenities block has been demolished after it was vandalised in 2014.

There is another playing field in Airds (Riley Park) which is located on Riverside Drive. This park, which also has an amenities facility, does not seem to be subject to the same level of vandalism as Kevin Wheatley Reserve. Despite this, like Kevin Wheatley Reserve, Riley Park does not currently host any form of organised sport.

Future usage

The voluntary planning agreement with Campbelltown City Council outlines the plan to relocate and improve the playing fields to a new location in Stage 3 while maintaining the name of the fields as Kevin Wheatley Reserve.

There is potential for the newly relocated sporting fields to have both local and district sporting clubs using the fields. The local community expressed a need to ensure that local residents had access to sporting clubs that used the fields into the future and that the clubs were not priced out of participation.

Airds High School, of which its students currently travel to nearby Leumeah for carnivals and other similar sporting events, have expressed interest in using the newly relocated sporting fields. This would also likely be the case for the two local public schools found in Airds-Bradbury.

Council advises that the fields need good surveillance with two to three sides needing to have street frontage and an amenity building that is within view of residents and streets.

Local feedback also highlighted the need for the area to be inclusive by accommodating all ages and levels of physical ability in spaces around the sporting fields, for example, chess tables, shaded spaces and playgrounds.

Availability of bathroom facilities to users of the area was also important to the local community.

Recommendations for the relocation and upgrade to playing fields

Throughout these recommendations we refer to ‘the responsible party’. This is defined as:

- *Short term*: within stage 3, 4 & 5 of the renewal, the responsibility of delivery sits within Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) and/or Urban Growth
- *Medium term*: within stages 6, 7 & 8 of the renewal, the responsibility to fund and facilitate sits with LAHC and/or Urban Growth or the nominated developer.
- *Long term*: In stages 9 and beyond the responsibility of delivery would sit with Campbelltown City Council as agreed in the voluntary planning agreement (VPA) or by negotiation.

To ensure that the playing fields are utilised and are appropriate for the community, the responsible party should:

Essential recommendations:

1. Seek advice to identify local need within the Local Government Area, with priority given to the needs of Airds Bradbury of sporting field types and then build fields to fit local sport need – e.g. Rugby league, Soccer, AFL, Cricket or adaptable grounds. These should have low level fencing to deter motor bikes.
2. Develop a promotion strategy with the local sports clubs in order to promote use of sporting fields. This could include encouraging sporting clubs to employ local coaches and managers.
3. Develop a promotion strategy to local residents and work with sporting clubs to develop options for low cost participation. Council and schools should facilitate subsidies for local disadvantaged children to participate in sporting clubs.
4. Ensure that sporting fields and associated amenity buildings and spaces are safe and have excellent natural surveillance from neighbouring homes, streets and shops; adequate lighting to accommodate night training; as well as no alcohol zones.
5. With regards to physical design, signage and information regarding Kevin Wheatley (history and significance) should be present on a plaque or other public art memorial at the fields. Explore the option of possible support of this project from local RSL.

Recommendations to consider:

1. Establish adjacent spaces to cater for all ages and ability levels with, for example, chess tables and seats, shaded areas and playgrounds.

Proposed Concept Plan Activity: Development of multipurpose centre

The Voluntary Planning Agreement between the Land And Housing Corporation and Campbelltown City Council cites the building of a new multipurpose centre within the town centre. The new multipurpose centre will replace current infrastructure, including the local community centre, AB Central, the local child care centre and the former youth centre.

The existing Amarina Child Care Centre, a thirty-nine place local child care centre, will be re-established within the new multipurpose centre. At this time it is uncertain what other facilities provided within the prior infrastructure will be included.

Stage 3 Plans

- Replace AB Central with a new community facility.
- Integration of community centre with a council-run child and family centre.
- Relocate childcare facility into new community centre.
- Reducing community facility space.

Evidence from the literature

As well as advocating for the need of good water features as part of a healthy community-minded landscape, the 2010 Manukau City Council HIA also supported the need for a support for a leisure/ recreation centre to be built in the township, providing entertainment, help and support for local residents, particularly youth¹⁵. This continues the trend of the HIA of promoting a well-planned built environment as an effective way of creating community vitality.

Evidence from the community

As part of the development of the concept plan there were a number of surveys and reviews conducted, some of which examined possible future needs to arise through redevelopment and measuring levels of usage of community facilities at the time.

The 2009 Airs Community Facilities Review reported in respect to the need to maintain substantial community facilities during the changes that redevelopment would make to the local community:

These changes will take place over the middle to longer term and are not likely to result in significant changes in the next 15 to 20 years (based on the long term projections of Campbelltown Council). Therefore the recommendations for community facilities and services in Airs Bradbury for the longer term are based on what facilities in services are needed to meet the future needs of an Airs with a similar population make up to the one that is in Airs now.

The main considerations for the master plan to take into account are that:

- A community precinct for Airs Bradbury be considered as part of the master planning
- Suitable disability access provisions be incorporated into the design of all future facilities
- Safety mechanisms (e.g. street frontage, lighting) should be considered into the design of all future facilities
- The Master Plan design should consider social inclusion as a core design principle.¹⁶

In addition to the Airs Community Facilities Review the Airs Bradbury Community Survey was conducted in 2009. This was a telephone survey of Airs-Bradbury residents, where residents were asked on their views regarding local community facilities access and usage¹⁷. The survey found that 10% of respondents made mention of the local community facilities and 7% of those “like” the facilities. Sixty-one percent of respondents surveyed reported good ease of access to the facilities and 30% reported there are not enough local services¹⁸.

In 2009 Housing NSW implemented a comprehensive community engagement program to consult on the concept plan, and as part of this consultation a large community event called “Design Outloud” was organised. Feedback and evaluation from this event indicated that 70% of

respondents expressed a low awareness of local community facilities and programs.

Past facilities

The existence and make up of community facilities in Airds has changed over the years. For instance the Campbelltown City council handed the Airds Indoor Sports Centre over to Housing NSW in 2011. Prior to 2011 the facility was not overly used by local residents due to the costs associated with accessing the facility.

Upon taking ownership of the facility Housing NSW, now known as the Land And Housing Corporation (LAHC), set up the project office within the centre and ran it as a free community space for local groups. The building was renamed as AB Central and is still in operation.

In addition, between 2011 and 2014, smaller community facilities such as The Reach Out Centre run by Mt Annan Community Church closed, Youth Off The Streets withdrew and The Work Ventures Connect Centre closed. This increased the importance of AB Central as a vital community hub for local residents.

Current Usage

At present there is no one multipurpose centre in Airds. Community programs are run from various locations such as AB Central, Community Centre, Pepps Playgroup, Youth Centre, and the Anglican Church. Previously Hart House was also used before it was demolished. One of the local shops has also been used for various activities.

At times the hall at the local high school has been utilised for community activities, for example the 'Design Outloud' event.

Between 2011 and 2014 the Airds Youth Centre closed for renovations and reopened as a training facility.

AB Central currently operates to deliver training spaces, health and wellbeing, and social inclusion activities. As of writing there are currently twenty community, cultural and faith groups that provide programs and activities for local people. The Airds Bradbury Community Centre operates a number of activities mainly aimed at seniors.

The Amarina Child Care Centre is a thirty-nine place Long and Short Day child care centre run by Campbelltown City Council. The Campbelltown Child and Family Centre runs PEPPs supported playgroups and a family referral centre.

Future Usage

The advantage of establishing a multipurpose centre would be that everything would be located in the same place, and all services and programs could be managed by the one agency.

It is imperative that local residents are included within the establishment and ongoing operations of the centre. This view is informed by previous experiences of the local community being overcome by services introduced to Airds without prior local community consultation. Consultation and review of services will not only ensure the long term viability of these services, but it will also assist with improving the mental and emotional health and wellbeing of local residents, and will ensure the ongoing patronage of the centre by local residents.

Many residents travel around the estate by foot, and finding key programs and community information in the one easily accessible place can lead to more conventional streams of communication within the local community. This would also save time for local participants and reduce local parents' frustrations and concerns if children's activities are located in the same area.

Recommendations for the development of a multipurpose centre

Throughout these recommendations we refer to 'the responsible party'. This is defined as:

- *Short term*: within stage 3, 4 & 5 of the renewal, the responsibility of delivery sits within Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) and/or Urban Growth
- *Medium term*: within stages 6, 7 & 8 of the renewal, the responsibility to fund and facilitate sits with LAHC and/or Urban Growth or the nominated developer.

- *Long term:* In stages 9 and beyond the responsibility of delivery would sit with Campbelltown City Council as agreed in the voluntary planning agreement (VPA) or by negotiation.

To ensure appropriate utilisation by the community of the multipurpose centre, the responsible party should:

Essential Recommendations:

1. Physical Design - In order to ensure that there is effective community use, include within the physical design:
 - a. Acoustics- with better design, particularly acoustic design, than the Minto community centre
 - b. Meeting rooms of various sizes including one large meeting room for community meetings and a minimum of two smaller rooms
 - c. Adequate, secure storage space/lockers for groups to store program resources
 - d. At a minimum, have enough space to continue to accommodate existing programs and usage of AB Central (meetings, special events, weekly and annual programs, etc.).
2. Have a reception area that has adequate space for a desk and information stands (including a directory of services/groups/times/etc.) in full view of the front door and staffed by a person during open hours (could be a local volunteer).
3. Include kitchen and toilet facilities which are accessible for people with disabilities.

Recommendations to consider:

1. Being open five days per week, as well as nights and weekends in addition to as required by user groups, so as to ensure accessibility to various local groups and organisations.
2. Have accessible toilets even when the centre is closed, which would service the sporting/pond area (for example, the toilets in Mawson park).

Impact Characterisation

Impact characterisations analyse the potential positive and negative health impacts and characterise the changes according to selected indicators.

The impact characterisations in Table 3 below are based upon relevant literature and data collected for this assessment.

The following indicators have been used to describe the impacts:

Nature of impact

- Positive- impacts that improve or maintain wellbeing
- Negative- impacts that decrease wellbeing

Timing and duration of impact

- Short Term- within stage 3, 4 & 5 of the renewal
- Medium Term- within stage 6, 7 & 8 of the renewal
- Long Term- in the later; stages 9 and beyond of the renewal

Likelihood of impact

- Possible-may or may not happen. Plausible but with limited evidence from local community and/or other data sources.
- Probable- more likely to happen than not. Direct but limited evidence but local community and/or other data sources.
- Definite- very likely to happen. Strong evidence from local community and/or other data sources.

Table 3: Impact Characterisation Airds Bradbury HIA

Activity: Playing Fields- Changes to built space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Relocating playing fields ○ Create amenities block ○ Create car park ○ Install night lighting ○ Providing shade 						
<i>Health Determinant</i>	<i>Source of Information</i>	<i>Nature and explanation of impact</i>	<i>Timing and Duration of Impact</i>	<i>Who is impacted (whole population, vulnerable groups)</i>	<i>Likelihood of impact</i>	<i>Is differential impact avoidable and/or unfair?</i>
Changes to physical activity Social Cohesion Mental wellbeing	Community Workshops Key informants Literature	Positive Evidence shows that improvements to the built environment and amenities in park spaces lead to increases in the use of the equipment which leads to improvements in physical activity, social cohesion and mental wellbeing.	Timing: Short term- Implemented in stage 3 plans Duration: Long term and/or the lifespan of the playing fields	Local community: people participating in sporting clubs primarily young people. Greater MacArthur area: people participating in sporting clubs primarily young people.	Probable	Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community may be excluded if not adequately consulted and involved in process.
Activity: Playing fields- Changes to recreational and exercise equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Installing exercise equipment ○ Creating playground area ○ Upgrading existing basketball courts 						

<i>Health Determinant</i>	<i>Source of Information</i>	<i>Nature and explanation of impact</i>	<i>Timing and Duration of Impact</i>	<i>Who is impacted (whole population, vulnerable groups)</i>	<i>Likelihood of impact</i>	<i>Is differential impact avoidable and/or unfair?</i>
Changes to physical activity Social Cohesion	Community Workshops Key informants Literature	Positive Evidence shows that improvements in access to recreational and exercise equipment in park spaces lead to increases in the use of the equipment which leads to improvements in physical activity, social cohesion and mental wellbeing.	Timing: Short term- implemented in Stage 3 plans Duration: long term and/or the lifespan of the playing fields	Local community: people participating in sporting clubs primarily young people Greater MacArthur area: people participating in sporting clubs primarily young people.	Probable	Potential to affect disabled people and the elderly in that the equipment is not appropriate for these groups. Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community may be excluded if not adequately consulted and involved in process.

Activity: Integration of AB Central with council-run child and family centre

<i>Health Determinant</i>	<i>Source of Information</i>	<i>Nature and explanation of impact</i>	<i>Timing and Duration of Impact</i>	<i>Who is impacted (whole population, vulnerable groups)</i>	<i>Likelihood of impact</i>	<i>Is differential impact avoidable and/or unfair?</i>
Community Ownership Community Disconnection	Community Workshops Key informants	Negative Evidence from the local community shows that the current model of operation of AB Central through Land and Housing Corporation is effective	Timing: Short term- implemented in Stage 3 plans Duration:	Current users of AB Central and future users of the community centre. This includes local community members.	Definite	Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community may be excluded if not adequately consulted and involved in process.

		in engaging the local community. Changes in the model of operation would lead to a decrease in the established community ownership and connection to AB Central.	Medium and long term-existence of the multipurpose centre			
Activity: Reducing community facility space within the new community centre						
<i>Health Determinant</i>	<i>Source of Information</i>	<i>Nature and explanation of impact</i>	<i>Timing and Duration of Impact</i>	<i>Who is impacted (whole population, vulnerable groups)</i>	<i>Likelihood of impact</i>	<i>Is differential impact avoidable and/or unfair?</i>
Community activity and involvement Physical activity Community Disconnection	Workshops Key informants	Negative Evidence from the local community shows that the AB Central is currently well utilised by local community members and local services. A reduction in community space would lead to a reduction in community and service utilisation. This would then lead to a decrease in community activity and involvement and a subsequent decrease in physical activity and community connectedness.	Timing: Short term-implemented in Stage 3 plans Duration: Medium and long term-existence of the multipurpose centre.	Current users of AB Central and future users of the community centre. This includes local community members.	Definite	Decrease in youth activities could lead to an exclusion of youth from the community centre. Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community may be excluded if not adequately consulted and involved in process.

Activity: Relocate childcare facility into new community centre

<i>Health Determinant</i>	<i>Source of Information</i>	<i>Nature and explanation of impact</i>	<i>Timing and Duration of Impact</i>	<i>Who is impacted (whole population, vulnerable groups)</i>	<i>Likelihood of impact</i>	<i>Is differential impact avoidable and/or unfair?</i>
Employment	Community workshops Key informants	<p>Positive</p> <p>The development plan and community workshops suggested that there is an opportunity for the relocated childcare centre to increase number of available childcare places which would lead to an increase in local access to childcare.</p> <p>The evidence also suggests that the relocated childcare centre has the potential to increase employment opportunities in the local community.</p>	<p>Timing: Short term- implemented in Stage 3 plans</p> <p>Duration: medium and long term- existence of the multipurpose centre</p>	<p>Parents (increased access to childcare enables parents to return to employment)</p> <p>Community members with early childhood qualifications</p> <p>Community members (especially youth) with an interest in early childhood</p>	Probable	<p>Community members from low socioeconomic background unable to afford childcare at the new community centre.</p> <p>Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community may be excluded if not adequately consulted and involved in process.</p>

Activity: Pond: changes to built space

- Improving the pond
- Put in 3 BBQs near pond

<i>Health Determinant</i>	<i>Source of Information</i>	<i>Nature and explanation of impact</i>	<i>Timing and Duration of Impact</i>	<i>Who is impacted (whole population, vulnerable groups)</i>	<i>Likelihood of impact</i>	<i>Is differential impact avoidable and/or unfair?</i>
Community ownership Stigma Community connectedness Social cohesion Mental wellbeing	Community workshops Key informants Literature	Positive Evidence shows that improvements to the built environment in open spaces lead to increases in the use of facilities which leads to an increase in community ownership, social cohesion and community connectedness, a decrease in stigma and improved mental wellbeing.	Timing: Short term-implemented in Stage 3 plans Duration: long term-over the lifespan of the pond.	Local community Wider MacArthur area	Probable	Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community may be excluded if not adequately consulted and involved in process.

Activity: Pond: changes to recreational equipment

- Install walking circuit

<i>Health Determinant</i>	<i>Source of Information</i>	<i>Nature and explanation of impact</i>	<i>Timing and/or Duration of Impact</i>	<i>Who is impacted (whole population, vulnerable groups)</i>	<i>Likelihood of impact</i>	<i>Is differential impact avoidable and/or unfair?</i>
Changes in physical activity Social cohesion Community	Community workshops Key informants	Positive Evidence shows that improvements in access to recreational and exercise equipment in park spaces lead to	Timing: Short term-implemented in Stage 3 plans	Local community Wider MacArthur area	Probable	Potential to affect disabled people and the elderly if the circuit is not appropriate for these groups. Local Aboriginal and Torres

connectedness Mental wellbeing	Literature	increases in the use of the facilities which leads to improvements in physical activity, social cohesion, community connectedness and mental wellbeing.	Duration: Long term- over the lifespan of the pond.			Strait Islander community may be excluded if not adequately consulted and involved in process.
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Overall Recommendations

In order to achieve the positive health impacts identified through the HIA, while also avoiding any potentially negative impacts, we have provided the following recommendations. These have been prioritised by the community to identify 'essential' recommendations, or those that are required to attain optimal health outcomes, and also 'to consider' which are recommendations that would be of benefit to the community but would not negatively impact the community if not implemented. The existing Community Reference group is currently well placed to monitor and review the undertakings of the recommendations cited in this report.

Throughout these recommendations we refer to 'the responsible party'. This is defined as:

- *Short term*: within stage 3, 4 & 5 of the renewal, the responsibility of delivery sits within Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) and/or Urban Growth
- *Medium term*: within stages 6, 7 & 8 of the renewal, the responsibility to fund and facilitate sits with LAHC and/or Urban Growth or the nominated developer.
- *Long term*: In stages 9 and beyond the responsibility of delivery would sit with Campbelltown City Council as agreed in the voluntary planning agreement (VPA) or by negotiation.

These are all subject to VPA considerations.

Playing Fields

Recommendations for the playing fields to ensure that the playing fields are utilised and are appropriate for the community, the responsible party should:

Essential recommendations:

1. Seek advice to identify local need within the Local Government Area, with priority given to the needs of Airds Bradbury of sporting field types and then build fields to fit local sport need – e.g. Rugby league, Soccer, AFL, Cricket or adaptable grounds. These should have low level fencing to deter motor bikes.

2. Develop a promotion strategy with the local sports clubs in order to promote use of sporting fields. This could include encouraging sporting clubs to employ local coaches and managers.
3. Develop a promotion strategy to local residents and work with sporting clubs to develop options for low cost participation. Council and schools should facilitate subsidies for local disadvantaged children to participate in sporting clubs
4. Ensure that sporting fields and associated amenity buildings and spaces are safe and have excellent natural surveillance from neighbouring homes, streets and shops; adequate lighting to accommodate night training; as well as no alcohol zones
5. With regards to physical design, signage and information regarding Kevin Wheatley (history and significance) should be present on a plaque or other public art memorial at the fields. Explore the option of possible support of this project from local RSL.

Recommendations to consider:

1. Establish adjacent spaces to cater for all ages and ability levels with, for example, chess tables and seats, shaded areas and playgrounds

The Pond

To ensure the pond is appropriately utilised by the community, the responsible party should ensure the following:

Essential Recommendations:

- c. Maintenance
 - i. Sufficient, adequate and appropriate bins and waste disposal surrounding the pond
 - ii. Adequate maintenance of vegetation and lawns
 - iii. Improvement and maintenance of water quality
 - iv. Improvement of water safety and cleanliness through landscaping
- d. With regards to physical design, the following should be included:
 - i. Information around the pond about local flora and fauna and the local Aboriginal community, its history and significance. This should be done with consultation and direction from the local Tharawal community.
 - ii. Facilities:
 - i. Shade, lighting, play equipment (appropriate for various ages), public art, bins, workout stations, bubblers.

- ii. BBQs
 - iii. Tables and chairs.
- e. To increase usage and encourage participation in physical activity the upgrades to the pond should include:
 - i. Installation of walking circuit which is accessible and appropriate
 - ii. Improved walkability all around the pond which encourages physical activities and safety
 - iii. Paths which are wide enough to enable cycling
 - iv. Intermittent seating to accommodate people with a disability and/or seniors

Multipurpose Centre

To ensure appropriate utilisation by the community, the responsible party should:

Essential Recommendations:

- a. Physical Design - In order to ensure that there is effective community use, include within the physical design:
 - a. Acoustics- with better design, particularly acoustic design, than the Minto community centre
 - b. Meeting rooms of various sizes including one large meeting room for community meetings and a minimum of two smaller rooms
 - c. Adequate, secure storage space/lockers for groups to store program resources.
 - d. At a minimum, have enough space to continue to accommodate existing programs and usage of AB Central (meetings, special events, weekly and annual programs, etc.)
- b. Have a reception area that has adequate space for a desk and information stands (including a directory of services/groups/times/etc.) in full view of the front door and staffed by a person during open hours (could be a local volunteer).
- c. Include kitchen and toilet facilities which are accessible for people with disabilities.

Recommendations to consider:

1. Being open five days per week, as well as nights and weekends in addition to as required by user groups, so as to ensure accessibility to various local groups and organisations.
2. Have accessible toilets even when the centre is closed, which would service the sporting/pond area (for example, the toilets in Mawson park).

Participation

In order to facilitate positive community participation in conjunction with the stage 3 development, the responsible party should:

Essential Recommendations:

1. For social participation and inclusion to continue within this social housing estate going through a period of significant change, employ a community development officer whose responsibilities include: encouragement and support of health and wellbeing, and social participation in the community.
2. Continue to support existing relationships between AB Central and local residents. This would include honouring the free booking system of the current AB Central. The responsible party should also foster community participation by engaging with new residents in the future; this could be done by the community development officer.
3. Ensure that all three design components of stage 3 (the pond, playing fields, and multipurpose centre) are easily accessible and integrated to each other, to encourage interactive use between the 3 components. This could be facilitated through design elements such as accessible distance, shared pathways, intermittent seating to accommodate people with a disability and/or seniors. Include the exploration of traffic calming strategies for the road crossing of the new Campbellfield Road, so as to provide safe use of facilities and the retail precinct on both sides of the road.

Recommendations for Consideration:

1. In the longer term when Council is responsible for the centre, Council should consider an alternative model of operation which reflects the needs of the changing community. Council should use the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation (Appendix 1) at a minimum of

‘collaborate’ which has been current best practice in the community since 2010. The delivery of operations should be acceptable and appropriate for the community.

2. Where there is a possibility to name existing or newly established infrastructure, the naming decision should be made in consultation with the local community, including the local Aboriginal community, in order to reflect the identity of the local community.

Cultural Participation

In an effort to be inclusive of the whole community, the responsible party should:

Essential Recommendations:

- d. Ensure appropriate engagement with local Aboriginal community to recognise the significance of the local Aboriginal community, especially with regards to:
 - a. Sensitivity and acknowledgement of the placement of the playing fields near significant Aboriginal land
 - b. Using public art as a recognition of the significance of the local Aboriginal community
 - c. Local Aboriginal information should be displayed around the pond e.g. creation of a story board.

Recommendations to consider:

1. Consider the introduction of a cultural learning/sharing space within the town centre e.g. community gardens
2. Consider regular organisation of cultural events/days that reflect all cultural groups in the area.
3. Consider the use of public art which reflects all cultural diversity within the local area in order to promote harmony and inclusiveness.

What Happens next

Once endorsed by the broader Community Reference Group (CRG) and forum participants, this report will be submitted to the three organisations that are responsible for the long term implementation of the project. These organisations are the NSW Land And Housing Corporation (LAHC) as the land owner, Urban Growth as the developer and Campbelltown City Council as the Local Government Agency.

In the short term the LAHC are responsible for the project and have engaged Urban Growth as developers to implement overall development of the estate, including Stage 3. Urban Growth will have the responsibility to engage the community (with LAHC support) and to ensure the development application submitted to Campbelltown Council meets the Voluntary Planning Agreement and local community expectation.

In the medium term both LAHC and Urban Growth will have a role in progressing implementation of Stage 3 facilities.

In the medium to long term these facilities will be progressively handed to Council for management and operation.

It is suggested that further monitoring and evaluation of consultation and implementation recommendations found in this report should rest with the CRG. The CRG is a group that has been meeting regularly since 2009 and is attended by key stakeholders linked to the Airds-Bradbury redevelopment.

It is also recommended that the progress of Stage 3 be minuted in the CRG meeting so that a formal written record is maintained and can be measured against the recommendations of this report.

Conclusion

It is hoped this report is received by the Airds-Bradbury Community Reference Group (CRG), and that the CRG acknowledged and incorporates the recommendations this report makes towards the undertaking of Stage 3.

Redevelopment of the local multipurpose centre, manmade pond, and playing fields, as part of the Stage 3 redevelopment, are crucial parts of the local infrastructure within Airds as a suburb. Successful redevelopment of these sites will have a hugely beneficial impact on the future wellbeing of the local community.

A successful undertaking of Stage 3 will also complement the work being carried out in other stages of the redevelopment, which chiefly involves the building of new housing stock within the Airds-Bradbury redevelopment area, and a preservation of a private-to-public social mix of tenancy as part of the redevelopment overall.

On a health impact basis this report welcomes any future works of the Airds-Bradbury redevelopment that will incorporate recommendations cited within this report.

References

¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics. Census: Data and Analysis [Internet]. Canberra: Australian Bureau of Statistics; 2011. Accessed 29 June 2016. Available from: <http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/data?opendocument&navpos=200>.

² Australian Bureau of Statistics. Census: Data and Analysis [Internet]. Canberra: Australian Bureau of Statistics; 2011. Accessed 29 June 2016. Available from: <http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/data?opendocument&navpos=200>.

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