

Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Monday, 20 November, 2017
Location: Osprey Training Room, Level 1, City Administrative Building, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 11.00 am

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Agenda

1. **Apologies**
2. **Confirmation of Minutes**
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3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Presentations**
 - SAA17.37 Disability Inclusion Action Plan - Update
 - SAA17.38 National Disability Insurance Scheme - Update by Mel Gorman, Spinal Cord Injuries Australia
 - SAA17.39 Accessibility of Beach Tracks for Wheelchair Users
 - SAA17.40 Liliana Hutchinson - Berry District Park
5. **Reports**
 - SAA17.41 Applications for Membership - Chris Mitchell and Kylie Knight 7
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6. **General Business**

Membership

Clr Nina Cheyne - Chairperson

Clr Annette Alldrick

All other Councillors as observers

Mr Russ Pigg or nominee

Ms Ann Sudmalis MP (or nominee Mr Gregory Coulthart)

Ms Leonie Dippel

Mr Alex Collins

Ms Jodie Hoger

Mr Bill Deaves

Ms Jackie Kay AM

Ms Mel Gorman

Mr Neville Foord

Ms Andrea Wallace

Mr Theo Bagou

Mr Arthur Ball

Ms Nola Stephens

Ms Deb McKenzie

Ms Annette Pham

Mr Stephen Taylor

Ms Donna Dives

Mr Brett Tory – non attending member

Quorum – Five (5)

Purpose

- To identify the major needs of the different disability groups in the Local Government area.
- To make recommendations to Council to resolve the local access problems in priority order.
- To develop a policy on access which can be used in conjunction with the Building Code of Australia in the consideration of applications for building or development and generally in the preparation of Council's own plan for recreation facilities.
- To increase public awareness of access barriers and the extent to which they disadvantage people with disabilities, the aged and parents with children etc.

MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Monday, 21 August 2017

Location: Osprey Training Room, Level 1, City Administrative Building, Bridge Road, Nowra

Time: 11.00 am

The following members were present:

Clr Nina Cheyne – Chairperson

Clr Annette Alldrick

Ms Mel Gorman

Ms Jackie Kay

Mr Bill Deaves

Mr Theo Bagou

Ms Nola Stephens

Mr Arthur Ball

Ms Annette Pham

Mr Stephen Taylor

Others present:

Clr Patricia White

Brad Davis – Manager, Asset Strategy

Melissa Andrews – Community Development Officer

Gary George – Project Manager

Clr Cheyne acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land by paying respect to Elders past and present.

Clr Cheyne congratulated Chris Mitchell for receiving the NSW Maritime Museum award which was presented to Chris by Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, Melinda Pavey for selfless, outstanding and sustained contributions to the boating and maritime community in NSW.

Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Tony Fraser (General Manager's nominee)

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Jackie Kay / Arthur Ball)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee held on Monday 22 May 2017 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS**SAA17.27 Action Table****HPERM Ref:**
D17/246947

The action table was updated and the following noted:

- Jackie Kay raised the issue of disabled access parking at the East Nowra shopping centre, advising the Committee that there is only one accessible car parking place.
- Annette Pham advised that the Department of Industry have indicated that by 2019 adult change facilities will be incorporated into the standards. There is a further meeting with the Department in Brisbane in October 2017.
- Cllr White advised the Committee that she will raise the DIAP and prioritisation of issues at the workshop for Councillors on 31 August 2017.
- Jackie Kay enquired about the accessing the National Public Toilet Map. The link to the Map can be accessed via Council's website <https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Community/Community-Facilities/Public-amenities> or at <https://toiletmap.gov.au/>. The Map identifies if there is an adult change table or if there is a right or left hand transfer for a AS1428 compliant toilet.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Committee receive this report for information.

RESOLVED (By consent)

1. That the Committee receive this report for information.
2. Council investigate the required number of car spaces at the East Nowra Shopping Centre for people with disabilities, and, if legally able to, request an additional accessible car parking space.
3. Invite Council's Coast and Estuaries Officer to attend the next SAAC meeting on 20 November 2017
 - a. To discuss the issue of inaccessibility of beach tracks for wheelchair users.
 - b. To bring a list of tracks to the meeting.
4. Annette Pham to research what products are on the market that could be used to upgrade beach tracks to make them more accessible for wheelchair users.

CARRIED

SAA17.28 Disability Inclusion Action Plan - Launch Event**HPERM Ref:**
D17/263128

Bill Deaves provided an update with regard to accessibility in the Nowra CBD. Issues were identified such as, access to shops, cafés, restaurants and other business entrances, narrow aisles and high counters. Jackie Kay noted that there are many retail establishments where people with disabilities require assistance. The launch was positive overall and it was important to highlight the

issues faced by people with disabilities.

Melissa Andrews advised the Committee that numbers invited to the Launch were limited to 20 as its purpose was also for a media release.

Nowra CBD Access Improvement Program Council is offering Nowra CBD shop owners the opportunity to receive financial assistance of up to \$3,000 to upgrade your shop accessibility. Applicants must make a financial contribution of 50% of the total cost of the upgrade. The aim of the program is to encourage building and business owners to improve physical access to their place of business through financial assistance.

The guidelines recognise the program area as highly utilised for pedestrian movement and allows building owners and business operators to apply to receive financial assistance for labour and materials to improve physical access to their business. More information can be found on Council's website <http://getinvolved.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/DIAP> Members were asked to promote the Program by distributing flyers to CBD businesses as appropriate. Arthur Ball agreed to participate on the group that will assess applications.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority):

That the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee be invited to all future events for the Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

RESOLVED (By consent)

1. That the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee be invited, when possible, to all future events for the Disability Inclusion Action Plan.
2. The Nowra CBD Access Improvement Program information flyers to be distributed to the Committee.
3. Arthur Ball to participate on the group that will assess applications received for the Nowra CBD Access Improvement Program.

CARRIED

SAA17.29 Plans - New Basketball Stadium Bomaderry

**HPERM Ref:
D17/263150**

Gary George, SCC Project Manager, addressed the Committee noting that the correct name of the venue is the Shoalhaven Indoor Sports Centre (SISC).

Gary showed the Committee site plans and gave an overview which included location and options for accessible car parking.

It was noted that Council is committed to the applicable standards for accessibility and Council engaged an access consultant to review the the Sports Centre plans for accessibility and a consultant for the Building Code of Australia.

The Committee discussed the number of proposed accessible car parking spaces in the design. It was noted that more car parking spaces for people with disabilities may be made available under the traffic management plans for specific or large events.

The SISC is a large project and council staff are working to achieve the greater good within the available budget.

Other accessible issues discussed were:

- Lower level counters
- Automated doors
- Accessible spaces for wheelchairs in the spectator seating, including around the perimeter
- Wheelchair ramps

- Lift and change facilities with regard to the whole precinct and possible locations

The Committee discussed policy with regard to lift and change facilities and Clr White suggested that a workshop be held to consider formulating a policy with regard to provision of facilities in new Council buildings.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That:

1. The Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee be allowed to review plans for the new stadium
 - a. Plans to include:
 - i. accessible toilets with push button electronic door openings.
 - ii. seating inside the stadium to allow places for wheelchair users to view games.
 - iii. counter heights that are accessible to wheelchair users.
2. SAAC to review placement of accessible parking spaces.

RESOLVED (By consent)

1. That the report be received for information.
2. That a workshop be scheduled to develop a Council policy with regard to provision and installation of adult lift and change facilities in new Council buildings.

CARRIED

SAA17.30 Door Replacement for the Disabled Toilets at the Nowra Aquatic Centre

**HPERM Ref:
D17/263204**

The Committee was advised that the door is in a walkway and there may not be sufficient room to install a sliding door.

Bill Deaves advised that the door is also hard to open and awkward. Jackie Kay also advised that, because the door is inward opening it can be difficult for people using a wheelchair to exit the room.

Recommendation

That Council replace the door of the disabled toilet at the Nowra Aquatic Centre with an electronic sliding door.

RESOLVED (By consent)

Jackie Kay, Bill Deaves, Arthur Ball and Gary George (SCC Project Manager) to undertake an inspection of the door of the toilets for people with disabilities at the Nowra Aquatic Centre with a view to improving access.

CARRIED

SAA17.31 Review Terms of Reference

**HPERM Ref:
D17/259854**

Melissa Andrews advised that no formal Terms of Reference exists for the Committee.

The Committee agreed that a planning meeting should be scheduled with a view to establishment of a formal terms of reference and an external facilitator should be engaged to guide the SAAC through the process.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That Council review and expand the terms of reference for the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee to reflect the growing awareness and importance of access issues in the Shoalhaven.

RESOLVED (By consent)

1. That Council develop a terms of reference for the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee to reflect the growing awareness and importance of access issues in the Shoalhaven.
2. A planning meeting to be scheduled to prepare a draft terms of reference.
3. An external facilitator be engaged to guide the Committee through the process to develop a terms of reference.

CARRIED

SAA17.32 Lift and Change Toilet for Huskisson

**HPERM Ref:
D17/259879**

Clr Alldrick left the meeting at 12.59 pm.

Brad Davis provided background and advised that there are substantial costs incurred when installing a lift and change facility. Brad spoke about Council's public toilet strategy and prioritisation of replacement or upgrade with regard to budget. Currently there is no budget identified for implementation of a lift and change toilet for Huskisson this financial year.

Recommended (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Committee be advised when the lift and change toilet will happen and what budget has been allocated.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Committee receive the report for information.

CARRIED

SAA17.36 Additional Item - Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan

Nola Stephens asked if the Committee could be provided with a copy of the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Committee regularly be provided with a copy of Council's Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP).

CARRIED

SAA17.33 Allocation of an appropriate budget to fund Shoalhaven City Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP)

**HPERM Ref:
D17/263046**

Clr White advised the Committee that there is a workshop for councillors on 31 August 2017 to discuss Council's 2018/19 budget and priorities. The DIAP will also be discussed.

Clr Cheyne left the meeting at 1.15 pm.

Melissa Andrews chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Recommendation:

That Council engage an actuary to cost Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan, set KPI's to ensure the plan's objectives are being met and allocate and quarantine sufficient funds to achieve the KPI's and goals set out in the DIAP.

Recommendation (By consent)

That Council strongly consider funding the Disability Inclusion Action Plan as soon as possible .

CARRIED

Clr White left the meeting at 1.22 pm

ADDENDUM REPORTS

SAA17.34 Notification - Development Applications

**HPERM Ref:
D17/182826**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report regarding Notification - Development Applications be received for information.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the report – Notification, Development Applications - be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee on 20 November 2017.

CARRIED

SAA17.35 Lift and Change Facilities

**HPERM Ref:
D17/245377**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That when Council installs "adult lift and change facility" the room still complies with AS1428 design for access and mobility.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the report - When Council installs "adult lift and change facility" the room still complies with AS1428 design for access and mobility - be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee on 20 November 2017.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 1.27 pm.

Clr Nina Cheyne
CHAIRPERSON

SAA17.41 Applications for Membership - Chris Mitchell and Kylie Knight

HPERM Ref: D17/280938

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

Section: Human Resources, Governance & Customer Service

Purpose / Summary

The Committee consider the applications for membership from Mr Chris Mitchell and Ms Kylie Knight in conjunction with its deliberations on the draft Terms of Reference.

Recommendation

That

1. Mr Chris Mitchell and Ms Kylie Knight be appointed as community members on the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee.
2. Mr Mitchell and Ms Knight be notified of their appointments and be invited to all future meetings.

Options

1. As recommended.
2. Mr Mitchell and Ms Knight not be appointed as members.
3. Adopt an alternate recommendation.

Background

Mr Chris Mitchell

Mr Mitchell assists community member, Jackie Kay to attend the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee meetings.

While Mr Mitchell does not hold a formal membership position, his participation and contribution at Committee meetings and in the community is highly valued.

In his application, Mr Mitchell lists his interests and experience as follows:

- *Universal / Inclusive Design*
- *Inclusion of all people with differences into mainstream community*
- *Designer and manufacturer of Hansa Sailboats that are used around the world in inclusive sailing programs, for example, Sailability*
- *Sponsor of the Inclusion Awards for Shoalhaven Business Awards and South Coast Tourism Awards*

- *Working with Council on design of the Non-powered water sport facility at Parringa Park and the facilities of Nowra Community Sailing Club on the eastern side of the bridge*
- *A member of the Shoalhaven River Festival Committee*

Ms Kylie Knight

In her application for membership, Ms Knight listed her interest and experience as follows:

I have recent, but extensive knowledge of disability. A member of my family has a disability, I work in the disability sector, and since acquiring a disability in 2012, I have experienced a range of different social challenges myself. None of which (with hard work and perseverance) have been insurmountable.

I am fortunate to have experienced life both with and without disability which allows me to consider access matters from a range of different perspectives.

To my mind, access is more than just ramps and signs. It's about attitude and equality and I am committed to making a difference to the lives of people with disability in my community.

Prior to my injury I had worked extensively within the public sector and have excellent knowledge of policy development and Governance.

I am thoughtful, curious and creative and believe I could bring a variety of useful skills to the Committee. I similarly believe, that being part of the Committee would allow me to share in the knowledge and experience of other, socially conscious Shoalhavers. I am grateful of your consideration.

Policy Implications

The Committee should consider the applications for membership in conjunction with its considerations on the draft Terms of Reference.

SAA17.42 Action table

HPERM Ref: D17/362896

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

Section: Recreation Community & Culture

Purpose / Summary

To update the Committee about the progress on actions from previous committee meetings.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Committee receive this report for information.

Options

1. That the committee receive this report for information

Implications: The committee is informed about progress on actions arising from past business.

2. That the committee does not accept this report for information and makes an alternative recommendation.

Implications: Areas of priority identified by the committee are not addressed in a timely way.

File Number	Added to Action Table	Issue	Actions	Outcome
1228E SAA17.9	June 2016	Riverfest Public Access and Transport	Grant application successful. -Kennedy's to provide accessible shuttle to run continually between railway station, CBD and festival site throughout both days. - Promotion Plan required - Gold coin donation - Record numbers using the bus - If we can prove success, will be able to reapply annually.	Awaiting numbers from bus company. Melissa to provide verbal report at meeting.

7481E	September 2016	Car Parking Code and Car Parking Standard	Jenna Tague Team Coordinator – Strategy Planning South still working on Amendment 7 and I will let you know when we are ready for consultation with the Committee.	No action.
SAA17.14 D17/120270	May 2014	Membership - NSW Ageing Disability and Home Care	Donna Dives will represent Uniting NDIS Illawarra & Shoalhaven Local Area Coordination.	Governance to follow up with Donna prior to meeting as she did not attend August meeting.
SAA17.18 D17/137395	May 2017	Summary of the Federal Government response (March 2017) to the review into the Access to Premises - Building 2010	The issue of adult lift & change facilities has been the subject of discussion for some time. If changes are made to the standard, then it will become mandatory for all new buildings to have adult lift & change facilities installed. This may also be extended to developments for alterations and additions. It would be a great initiative to include these adult & lift change facilities now. A recent development at the cross roads in Vincentia has included these facilities. Current approach is actively discussing at a DAU.	A policy to be drafted by staff and SACC to provide a strategy for future location of Adult Lift and Change Facilities. This will occur at Planning session on 15/11/17
SAA17.22 D17/149775	May 2017	Lift and change Toilet For Huskisson	Recommendation (By consent) That Council consider co-funding a Lift and Change Facility for people with disabilities at White Sands Park Huskisson.	To be considered with above strategy.
SAA17.24	May 2017	Additional Item - Access Issues at Nowra Aquatic Centre and Narrawallee Beach Carpark	RESOLVED (By consent) 1. Staff to meet Theo Bagou on site to inspect the carpark issues at Narrawallee Beach. 2. Staff to inspect the need for a rail for the ramp at the Nowra Aquatic Centre.	Brad to provide verbal report at meeting.

SAA17.42

SAA17.25	May 17	Additional Item: Accessible Carparks - Lighting in toilets at the Lions Park, Sussex - Accessible Icon Project	RESOLVED (By consent) 1. That staff write to RMS for a determination on using the new Accessible Icon for disabled car parking spaces. 2. The Accessible Icon can be used on toilet facilities which are non- regulative. Update 21/10/17: Council has written to RMS (item 1). RMS recommended that as a proposed regulatory pavement symbol, that the application needs to be made through Standards Australia for review, as the item would need to be adopted into AS1428/AS2890. If adopted in the Australian standards, RMS may adopt the symbol in the RMS guidelines. Once included in AS2890 and adopted by RMS for use in NSW, Council may then implement the symbol in regulatory situations.	No further action required at this time.
SAA17.36	August 17	Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan - regular distribution to members	Nola Stephens asked if the members could be provided with a copy of the PAMP.	The file too big to share, relevant chapters would need to be identified

SAA17.42

<p>SAA17.30 HPERM Ref: D17/26320 4</p>	<p>August 17</p>	<p>Door Replacement for the Disabled Toilets at the Nowra Aquatic Centre</p>	<p>The Committee was advised that the door is in a walkway and there may not be sufficient room to install a sliding door. Bill Deaves advised that the door is also hard to open and awkward. Jackie Kay also advised that, because the door is inward opening it can be difficult for people using a wheelchair to exit the room. Recommendation That Council replace the door of the disabled toilet at the Nowra Aquatic Centre with an electronic sliding door. RESOLVED (By consent) Jackie Kay, Bill Deaves, Arthur Ball and Gary George (SCC Project Manager) to undertake an inspection of the door of the toilets for people with disabilities at the Nowra Aquatic Centre with a view to improving access.</p>	<p>A number of staff, councillors and SAAC members inspected the door and a decision was made to re-hinge the door on the other side to improve accessibility. It is hoped this work will be completed before January.</p>
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SAA17.42

SAA17.34 Notification - Development Applications

HPERM Ref: D17/182826

Group: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

Section: Human Resources, Governance & Customer Service

Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee at its meeting on 21 August 2017 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 20 November 2017.

Purpose / Summary

To advise the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee of the distribution process for Development Applications.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report regarding Notification - Development Applications be received for information.

Options

1. As recommended

Implications: Nil

2. The Committee adopt an alternate recommendation

Background

At its meeting of Monday 22 May 2017 the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee (SAAC) resolved as follows:

1. *Staff to investigate appropriate ways in which to distribute Development Applications received by Council to the Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee.*

The Development Applications (DA's) received by Council each week can be upwards of 50 applications. The majority of the applications are on private land which would not be relevant to the SAAC.

For clarification purposes, the key DA's that would be relevant to the SAAC would be new major projects and substantial renovations to major public buildings, for new council facilities and for public accessible buildings.

Due to the timing of the Committee Meetings, development matters need to be progressed between SAAC meetings, including community consultation and submissions processes.

At this time, Council's Planning, Environment and Development Services have identified that the most practical way for the members of the SAAC to remain informed about Development in the Shoalhaven is via Council's Website.

Council has public access to this information on its website via this link:
<http://www3.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/masterviewUI/modules/ApplicationMaster/Default.aspx>

Where members can simply search which DA's have been received. The search can be narrowed by one or more of the following:

- Date range
- Description
- Application type
- Street No
- Street Name
- Suburb
- Lot and DP

When and if an application arises that the members feel is relevant to their Committee they can make a submission via the Council website <https://shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/>

SAA17.35 Lift and Change Facilities

HPERM Ref: D17/373617

Group: Assets & Works Group

Section: Asset Management

Shoalhaven Access Advisory Committee at its meeting on 21 August 2017 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 20 November 2017.

Staff have been undertaking a survey of patrons utilising the lift & change facilities at the Nowra Aquatic Park. Utilisation levels have been very low for April to October thus the survey will continue over the summer period. Staff are requesting that this matter be deferred until the May 2018 SAAC meeting so that a detailed report can be provided in relation to this matter.

Purpose / Summary

To determine the preferred design layout for adult lift and change facilities.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That when Council installs “adult lift and change facility” the room still complies with AS1428 design for access and mobility.

Options

1. That when Council installs “adult lift and change facility” the room still complies with AS1428 design for access and mobility.

Implications:

A compliant AS1428 toilet for persons with disabilities is required by Australian Standards and it will also include in the same room and adult lift and change facility. Changing Places accreditation will not be able to be achieved. Changing Places is not an Australian Accreditation. This option provides for inclusivity

2. That when Council installs “adult lift and change facility” it construct a separate facility for adult lift & change and a separate accessible toilet compliant to AS1428

Implications:

Changing Places accreditation will be able to be achieved. The cost of construction is far greater as there are two rooms that cater for persons with disabilities; one to the Australian standard and one to “changing places accreditation.”

3. Do nothing

Implications:

Adult lift & change facilities are not an Australian standard requirement. However Shoalhaven City Council has two facilities and are currently constructing another which is proposed to be commissioned later this year at Mollymook all-inclusive play space.

Background

Council has been a strong supporter of *adult lift and change* facilities previously referred to as “changing places toilets” over recent years.

The Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) <http://doc.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/DisplayDoc.aspx?record=D17/111498> identifies at strategy S2.1 progressively increase the availability of **accessible toilets** across the Shoalhaven. An outcome of the DIAP is at O2.1.2 and strategy is identify potential Council projects that could accommodate a Changing Place facilities. Action A2.1.2 is to identify Council projects that could accommodate a Changing Places facility and lobby for funds to provide for them. Please note that Changing Places is now referred to as adult lift and change facilities.

An adult lift and change facility is a room that caters for persons with severe and profound disabilities and their carers as they are unable to use the current standard accessible toilets. Council has strongly supported these facilities in recent years. The room includes an electronic hoist, adjustable adult change table and has more circulation space than a room provided for under the current legislation. The WC in a changing places design is peninsular to allow for two carers either side of the WC. This is non-compliant with the current AS1428 standards in relation to toilets for persons with disabilities. The WC is not able to be used by most wheelchair users who rely on grab rails on the wall. Thus there is a requirement for a compliant accessible toilet room as well when providing a separate adult lift and change room if accreditation is to occur for “changing places design”.

An adult lift and change room is not currently a requirement of the current building code, premises standard or Australian Standards. Council has already demonstrated strongly its commitment to adult lift and change facilities.

Shoalhaven City Council has demonstrated its commitment to adult lift and change rooms with facilities currently located at

- Nowra Aquatic Park – this is able to be used without paying for entry to the Nowra Aquatic Park
- Public toilet at Burrill lake – Lions Park
- Public toilet at Mollymook all-inclusive play space – proposed to be open for patron use this year

All three of these facilities have been designed with a peninsular toilet in the adult lift and change room and a separate compliant accessible toilet has also been provided.

Adult Lift and Change facilities provided by others for public use in the Shoalhaven are located at

- Nowra at Stockland’s shopping centre – this WC is AS 1428 compliant and not a peninsular toilet and
- Vincentia at the Bay & Basin shopping complex.

In major CBD areas such as

- Nowra – options are Nowra Aquatic Park or Stockland shopping Centre
- Ulladulla – options are public toilet at Burrill lake and in near future Mollymook All-inclusive play space
- Bay & Basin – options are Bay & Basin Shopping Complex

What is Shoalhaven City Councils Public amenity (Toilet) Strategy?

Shoalhaven City Council has over 100 public amenities (toilets) which are provided in areas of high demand associated with the use of other services such as:

- commercial/shopping centres

- parks or
- waterway facilities

There are many other public amenities provide at sporting facilities not included in this total which are opened for patron use. 58 of the 119 public toilets provided by Council were compliant for persons with disabilities at the time they were constructed.

Current asset strategy for public amenities is to replace those that are highly utilised, in poor or very poor condition, with current legislation that is to cater for the 80 to 90th percentile of persons with disabilities. The current public amenity capital budget allows for on average the replacement, refurbishment or new public amenity each financial year. Council has with public amenity buildings replaced 6, refurbished 4 and constructed 7 in the past 13 years, 2 of which included changing places rooms.

The previous financial year no current public amenity was replaced due to limited funds as Council contributed the public toilet budget to part of the construction costs of the new adult lift and change facilities. Unfortunately these are a higher cost than the compliant public toilet for persons with a disability at Mollymook all-inclusive play space.

A survey is being undertaken of the patrons of the Nowra Aquatic Park adult lift and change room since late May 2017 has identified no patrons with severe and profound disabilities have used the room for 3 months. It was well received and patronised over summer months but utilisation levels were very low. It highlights however if the room was designed to comply with AS1428 that other persons with disabilities could have patronised the room.

Random utilisation surveys are conducted at public amenities and the adult lift and change room at the public amenity at Burrill Lake Lions Park has had nil patronage during these surveys which are for 2 hour periods during the day. One survey form has been received from the Disability Trust Organisation which is highly thankful for the facility. Patronage to this facility is affected by current replacement of bridge.

Community Engagement

Community engagement occurs with resident groups as to public toilet strategy. Resident groups maybe unaware of persons with severe and profound disabilities and their priority is to replace existing high utilised public amenities with modern equivalent to cater for persons with disabilities.

Policy Implications

There is no policy on provision of adult lift and change facilities. Provision for adult lift and change facilities will be considered in asset management plans.

Financial Implications

Public toilet budget in the past 10 years has minimal replacement of existing well served public amenities. The number of public amenities coming to 50 years of age and greater will increase significantly in the next decade and current funding model will not be able to provide the existing service level. If adult lift and change facilities are required by law and Council continues to advocate for them then extra funding sources will need to be identified. Combining an adult lift and change facility where able to in replacement facilities that provide compliant accessible toilets will reduce the impact on the budget. Currently where public amenities are provided, if there are two then they are both compliant for persons with disabilities with one left hand transfer and one right hand transfer.

If providing provision of adult lift and change table facilities are to be installed the location of the facilities may need to be determined and consideration given to 50% of the Shoalhaven public amenities do not provide provision for persons with disabilities.

If retrofit of the existing adult lift and change facilities was to occur then this cost could be funded from public toilet budget for 2017/18

Risk Implications

Provision of adult lift and change facilities is not legislated. Review recently by the government of the premises standard highlighted that AS1428 currently provides provision for the 80 to 90th percentile but not for all.