

Waverley Council acknowledges the Bidjigal and Gadigal people, who traditionally occupied the Sydney Coast and we acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders both past and present.

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### **Executive summary**

The Our Liveable Places Centres Strategy (Strategy) provides a plan for how our centres will be maintained and evolve into the future as part of the Planning in Waverley project

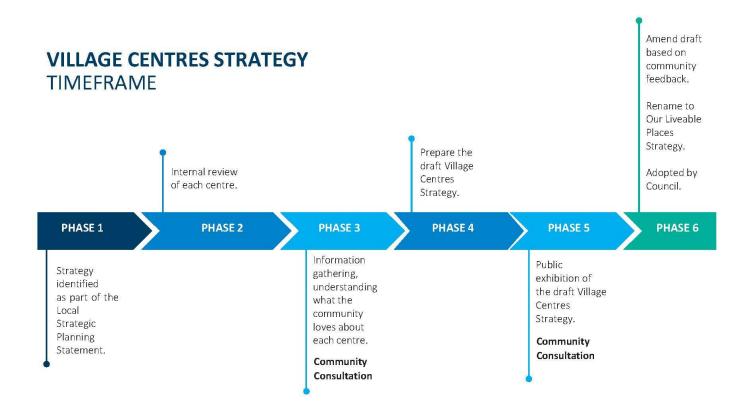
The Strategy received a good amount of engagement, over two separate engagement periods, period of time, including online surveys, in-person workshops, and a public exhibition of the Draft Strategy (then named the Village Centres Strategy).

The key themes that the community raised related to the importance of the centres and access to local businesses and community, the historic character of the centres, and the heritage significance of the centres.

### **Background**

The preparation of the Our Liveable Places Centres Strategy was undertaken as part of the Planning in Waverley project. The Planning in Waverley project is a three year project which involves the comprehensive review of the existing planning framework at Waverley against the Eastern City District Plan, the preparation of a Local Strategic Planning Statement, the preparation of a number of strategies including housing and centres, and the preparation of an updated Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan.

The Strategy was originally known as the Draft Village Centres Strategy, however as a result of feedback on the draft document, the title was modified to better reflect the intent of the Strategy.



### **Approach**

The formal public exhibition period of the draft Village Centres Strategy ran from 25 March to 10 May 2020, with written submissions and workshops held until end of August 2020.

Noting that the project consultation was during COVID-19 restrictions, face to face engagement opportunities were unavailable.

The engagement approach initially focused on the online survey on the dedicated Have Your Say project page, as the best way to reach the whole community. As it progressed, the most impactful engagement method was workshops and conversations with identified interested community members, particularly the following precinct committees:

- Bronte
- Bronte Beach
- Bondi Beach
- Dover Heights
- South Bondi Tamarama
- Charing Cross

### Consultation objectives:

- Sense check strategy and action plan with key stakeholders and general community
- Close the loop with people who were involved in Stage 1 consultation
- Overview approval and awareness of Strategy

### **Engagement methodology**

The Draft Village Centres Strategy was publicly exhibited for a period of six weeks from 25 March—10 May 2020. To advertise the exhibition, an ad was placed in the Wentworth Courier, as well as social media updates throughout the exhibition period.

This period was during the COVID-19 lockdown, and during the exhibition period very few written submissions were received. To ensure that the community had adequate input, additional presentations were organised with the Combined Precincts Group, as well as more detailed workshops with some Precinct groups.

The engagement process aligned with Waverley Council's adapted IAP2 model for community engagement.

Method	Overview	Date	Response
Have Your Say website	Council's 'Have Your Say' website had a dedicated page for the project: haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/waverley- village-centres-strategy	Launched in April 2019 as part of the initial stage of community engagement.	Since inception: 1.5k total visits 644 informed (opened a doc or the map) 603 document downloads
Online survey	A 13-question online survey on the Have Your Say Waverley dedicated project page, addressing the draft document.	25 March—10 May	23 survey responses
Long form submissions	Including all submission received outside of the Have Your Say Waverley survey, primarily direct emails sent to Council staff.	March— August 2020	98 written submissions
Stakeholder outreach	Email notifications to precincts and previous respondents. Ongoing meetings with the precinct committees were undertaken.	June—August 2020	2 Combined Precinct Meetings 6 Precinct workshops
Social media posts	Facebook & Twitter Encouraged people to complete the survey	4 April 2020	Reach: 1837 Engagements: 36
Advertising	Advert in the Wentworth Courier as part of the Council page	23 March 2020	_
Council Enewsletters	Waverley Weekly x 6	27 March; 3, 16, 23, & 30 April, 7 May	1450 recipients 9 click-throughs to the HYS project page
	Engagement Enewsletter x 2  1 x dedicated enewsletter to Planning in Waverley-related project subscribers  1 x general engagement enewsletters	22 April 14 April	67 subscribers 12 click-throughs to the HYS project page 2280 subscribers
	T V Beneral engagement enemaletters	14 April	2200 30030110613

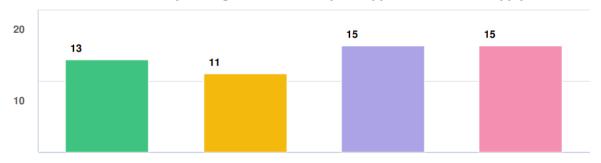
### **Data overview**

### **Have Your Say Waverley results**

23 people completed the survey on the Have Your Say project page: <a href="https://haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/waverley-village-centres-strategy">haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/waverley-village-centres-strategy</a>.

The following are the results of the quantitative questions:

Which of the four key strategic outcomes do you support? Tick all that apply.



### **Question options**

- To work with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and neighbouring councils to deliver key transport infrastructure projects to improve accessibility to Bondi Beach via Bondi Road and Curlewis Street
- O To work with TfNSW to improve bus service and capacity along Old South Head Road and Bronte Road
- Prioritise public domain improvements in Bondi Beach, Bondi Road, Curlewis Street, Charing Cross, Rose Bay North and South
- Provide sustainability upgrades and public domain upgrades across all centres

### Rank the Priority Projects in the order of importance to you.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Deliver bike paths and footpath upgrades along Curlewis Street and investigate activation and expansion of this commercial centre.	2.35
Under-grounding of overhead power lines and wires in our village centres.	2.48
Investigation of Bus Rapid Transit on Bondi Road and acquisition of lanes and lots parallel to Bondi Road for Tier 1 Cycle routes.	2.75
Pedestrianisation of Gould Street, Bondi Beach and to create a share-way along Hall Street, Bondi Beach.	3.24
Investigation of long-term project for solar-power catchment treatment on road surfaces in village centres to generate power off the grid.	3.77

To note: the above are ranked from most to least preferred.

# Rank the key Public Domain Improvements in the order of importance to you. OPTIONS AVG. RANK

Urban greening and planting along Bronte Road Corridor, Bondi Road Corridor and

1.52

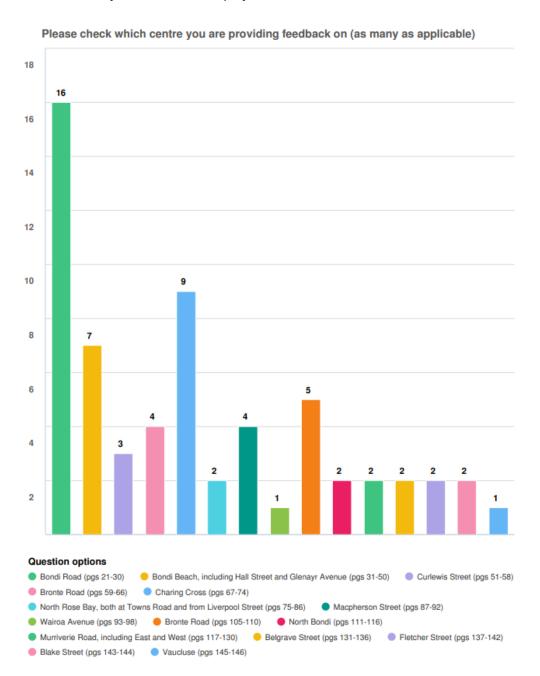
Macpherson Street Corridor.

Turn the intersection at Avoca Street and Bondi Road into a Pocket Park with trees, 2.45 public furniture and shade infrastructure.

Water Sensitive Urban Design Treatment along the Bronte Road corridor, due to its 2.48 proximity to the Centennial park stormwater catchment and the Bronte Gully Catchment.

Waste Management: investigate or trial the use of a sub-surface waste management 3.38 system for key commercial centres with a large number of services and uses.

To note: the above are ranked from most to least preferred.



### Petition (via change.org)

The petition received over 1,000 signatures (as at 18 August 2020 and was addressed to the Minister for Planning and Open Spaces, the Greater Sydney Commission's Eastern City Commissioner, and to Council. A flyer was also distributed by the residents group Save Bondi Road.

#### Overview of concerns:

- Stop the rezoning of Bondi Road.
- Stop the destruction of Bondi Road's heritage streetscape.
- Keep the essential local shops.
- Make Bondi Road pedestrian-friendly.

The petition and accompanying image unfortunately did not accurately represent the Strategy document, using emotive language and claiming that Council was seeking to increase traffic speeds, which is not listed anywhere in the Strategy. This is thought to be a misinterpretation by the community of the 'Bus Rapid Transit' system. However, the number of signatures and comments added by signatories did make clear that they individually did not support some of the key changes that were outlined in the Strategy, including changes to the height of buildings, setbacks of buildings, or the provision of a Bus Rapid Transit system due to the loss of parking on the strip.

The petition has not been submitted to Council. However, it has been used to inform the revision of the Strategy.

### **Key themes**

From feedback received, the key themes were as outlined below:

- The centres are very important to the community
  - Overwhelmingly people care about what happens in the centres. They are perceived as:
    - o Important to tell the history of the development of the Waverley area second to the beach/coastline, they provide the identity of Waverley for locals.
    - A place for community connection, shopping, eating, working, living— the lifeblood of the urban area.
    - Key pieces of social and public infrastructure, and vital to the resilience of the area and the community.

### Public transport must be improved

- Existing density of the area requires better public transport.
- Additional density above the existing controls is generally not supported due to inadequate infrastructure.
- Street frontage setbacks should not be changed to accommodate public transport—the existing historic carriageway has proven itself to be adaptable to mode changes over time and should remain as such.

### • Walkability and safe cycling is paramount to Waverley's success

- Overwhelming support for the 'end of the car-dominated era' and move to value pedestrians.
- Strong support for removing parking and replacing with (1) cycling infrastructure, (2) green infrastructure and (3) some additional public domain.
- Recognition of how the centres developed along public transit routes, and how this continues predominance of walking and public transport can be achieved again.

### • Employment uses must be protected, particularly to support locals

- New developments drive up the rent on any retail/office space provided (often excluding local businesses from being able to rent, and attracting chain stores).
- Generally, chain stores and larger supermarkets are not supported, with the Precinct Committee's requesting a 200 sqm cap on supermarkets across the B1 Neighbourhood Centre
- Residential development within the centres is not supported as there is existing high-density surrounding the centres, and conflicting land uses.
- Small businesses have traditionally offered employment opportunities and apprenticeships to locals.

### <u>Diversity of uses within the centres must be protected, particularly to support locals</u>

- Many submissions cited COVID-19 as having highlighted the importance of having a diverse range
  of shops available within walking distance.
- Diversity seen as a key attractor and historic characteristic of the centres, no need for anchors.
- Fine grain subdivision pattern is seen to greatly contribute to this variety, as well as the character.

### • Council's role is not to increase heights or FSR

- Numerous submissions noted the view that it is Council's role to uphold the ratified instruments
  that represent the community's vision. Council's role should be to develop protection
  mechanisms to support and protect employment, goods and services functions of the centres.
- Waverley is able to meet residential targets under existing controls; Council should not be seeking to increase provision of residential as it is not required.

### Increased heights and redevelopment will lead to loss of historic character

- Acknowledgement of 'tired' appearance of some centres; however the historic nature of centres is perceived as integral to the overall character of Waverley.
- Historic development pattern of the area lead to the location and provision of the centres.
- Increasing heights is seen to result in the loss of the historic character for many centres as well as change the nature of the employment, goods and service offering of the centre.

### Desire for increased culture in centres

- Small performances, galleries, micro-breweries.
- Support for dual uses (i.e. daytime use/night-time use).
- Greater flexibility around hours of operation and uses.
- Residential uses within centre are seen to conflict with the provision of culture—residential not supported within centres.

- Additional residential development not supported in the centres
  - Priority should be given to employment generating uses, goods and services to support the community.
  - Residential targets are already addressed as outlined in the LHS.
  - Residential uses seen to conflict with night-time uses that could bring more life and culture to the area.
- Urban greening and sustainability is desired across the board
  - Strong support for greener places.
  - Numerous submissions made the point that better maintenance of existing green infrastructure would be preferable to additional poorly maintained plantings.

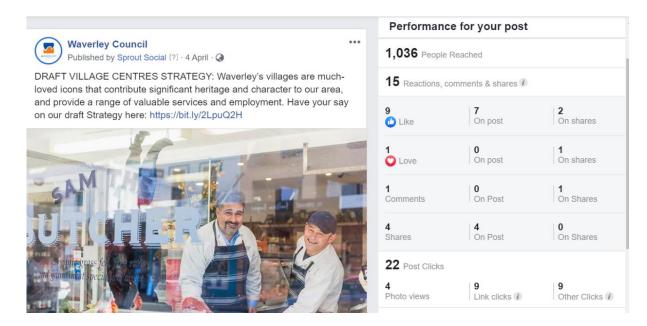
### **Conclusion**

The community response on the draft Village Centres Strategy demonstrated that that centres are important to the community, specifically their historic and local nature.

It is recommended the feedback received from community consultation, as outlined in this report, is considered when finalising the Our Liveable Places Strategy before Council adoption.

### Appendix A – Social media posts

### Facebook:



### **Twitter:**



### Appendix B — Advertising

Wentworth Courier, 23 March 2020

## **Waverley Council Update**





### Mayor's Message

I would like to remind the community that in response to COVID-19, all our beaches remain closed until further notice.

These closures apply to everybody and are to help stop the spread of this deadly virus.

We have installed fencing and barricades at all our beaches and closed access points. Please do not make plans to visit our beaches. Our beaches are closed.

to take ownership of their health and respect the restrictions we have in place. I also ask you to



Together, we can all make a difference to protect the health of our community. For the latest updates on how Council is responding to COVID-19, please visit our website and stay tuned • Despite the above closures. on social media. If you need assistance, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 9083 8000 or lodge a request with us online. Our Officers will continue to work with key community stakeholders I am appealing to the community including Precincts to distribute general information about available support and services in relation to COVID-19 especially

- · Bondi Pavilion is closed with the exception of the public amenities and some retail tenancies
- Council will however continue to provide facilities for critical
- All beaches Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte - are closed
- Council's free JP Service has been suspended
- Most Council run events and activities have been cancelled 23 April, 10am

#### How to Contact Us

With social distancing top of mind, here are some easy ways

- Snap Send Solve The fastest and easiest way to report an issue to Council. Download the Snap Send Solve app from the App Store or Google Play
- · Lodge a request via our website waverley.nsw.gov.au
- · Email us at info@waverley. nsw.gov.au
- Call us on 9083 8000

### Council Meetings April 2020

Operations and Community Services Committee

Strategic Planning and **Development Committee** 

7 April, 7.30 pm

21 April, 7pm

7 April, 7pm

Traffic Committee

### **Public Notices**

### Planning in Waverley

Council is undertaking an important strategic planning project that will shape the future of Waverley. On 3 March. Council endorsed the Draft Local Housing Strategy and Draft Village Centres Strategy for public exhibition. These documents are available to view online at haveyoursay. waverley.nsw.gov.au

You are invited to view the public exhibition material and make comments. To comment. please submit your feedback by 8 May 2020 at the above website or post to: Ross McLead. General Manager, Waverley Council, PO Box 9, Bondi Junction

Reference: Planning in Waverley

Please note that the comments submitted will form part of Council's public record and as such can be made available for public viewing on request. For more information, please contact Council's Strategic Planning team on 9083 8400.

### **Appendix C — Council enewsletters**

### **Waverley Weekly overview:**

#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**



The projects below are progressing, however, in consideration of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, we will update you of any changes.

#### Consultation starting:

- <u>Village Centres Strategy</u> and <u>Local</u>
   <u>Housing Strategy</u> on exhibition until 10
   May
- Proposed reduced resident fee for a monthly pass at <u>Hollywood Avenue Car</u>
   <u>Park</u> open for feedback until 21 April.

All consultations available at <a href="https://hatelear.ncb/haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au">haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au</a>.

### N TOUCH



Have your say and inform Council decisionmaking on projects that affect you

Register online

at <u>haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au</u> to be the first to hear of upcoming engagement projects and to let us know your ideas, feedback and views on Council's projects.

Currently, we have four projects open for feedback, including:

- our <u>draft Village Centres</u> and <u>Local</u> <u>Housing</u> strategies
- information gathering for an upcoming <u>Charing Cross Streetscape</u>
- an online feedback survey for our

#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**



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#### On consultation:

- <u>Village Centres Strategy</u> and <u>Local</u>
   <u>Housing Strategy</u> on exhibition until 10
   May.
- Information gathering for <u>Charing Cross</u> <u>Streetscape Upgrade</u> currently in progress

All engagement projects available at

### **Engagement enews**



Hi there.

You're receiving this as you've signed up to receive updates on a Planning in Waverley-related project.

Following consultation last year, we now have drafts of the Village Centre Strategy and Local Housing Strategy we'd like your feedback on. This round of feedback closes on 10 May 2020. More info on each is below:

#### Village Centres Strategy (VCS)

The VCS aims to celebrate the heritage and character of our village centres throughout the Waverley area, protect and enhance their character, improve transport connections and opportunities for active transport in particular, to increase the amount of public space for gathering, and to ensure our centres are safe, lively and attractive places to be. To achieve these outcomes, this Draft Strategy proposes:

- To work with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and neighbouring councils to deliver key transport infrastructure projects to improve accessibility to Bondi Beach via Bondi Road and Curlewis Street
- To work with TfNSW to improve bus service and capacity along Old South Head Road and Bronte Road
- Prioritise public domain improvements in: Bondi Beach, Bondi Road, Curlewis Street, Charing Cross, and Rose Bay North and South centres
- 4. Provide sustainability upgrades and public domain upgrades across all centres

#### View the draft Village Centres Strategy and have your say here.

#### Local Housing Strategy (LHS)

The future of housing is an important issue to the Waverley community. We heard what the community said about housing through the Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), and Local Housing Discussion Paper (LHDP) which highlighted the

need to develop a holistic vision for sustainable development. This aligns with the state government requirement for all Councils to prepare the Draft Local Housing Strategy.

The housing vision is supported by five main priorities listed below:

- H1 Manage housing growth sustainably and in the right locations
- H2 Encourage a range of housing options to support and retain a diverse community
- H3 Increase amount of affordable rental and social housing
- H4 Improve liveability, sustainability and accessibility through high quality residential design
- H5 Ensure new development is consistent with desired future character

View the draft Local Housing Strategy and have your say here.

#### How to Have Your Say

To make submission in relation to the draft strategies can do so online at haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au, or may do so in writing, until Sunday 10 May. Please quote reference number SF19/3075 (for the Local Housing Strategy) or SF20/2294 (for the Village Centres Strategy), and address any written correspondence to:

The General Manager Waverley Council PO Box 9 Bondi Junction NSW 1355

or email at info@waverley.nsw.gov.au.

Please note that all submissions will form part of Council's public record and as such can be made available for public viewing on request.

### Other Planning in Waverley Updates

The first Waverley Local Strategic Planning Statement (March 2020) (LSPS) was made on 17 March 2020, and became effective on 18 March 2020 when it was placed on the <a href="NSW ePlanning">NSW ePlanning</a> Portal.

This completes the first two phases of the Planning in Waverley project. The next phase is to undertake a comprehensive review of our existing LEP and DCP and prepare an update to these documents which would become a 'new' LEP and DCP.

The LSPS will be used to guide and inform the comprehensive review, as well as a number of subject specific strategies that are currently being prepared. These include areas such as housing, local character, village centres, open space and recreation, a review of the Bondi Junction Urban Design Review, resilience and adaptation, urban greening, and other areas as they are completed.

We look forward to seeing your input on our projects.

## **Appendix D** — Online survey

### **Draft Village Centres Strategy - Feedback**

To help inform the final Village Centres Strategy, we are seeking your feedback on the key ideas that are proposed in the strategy, as well as any more detailed feedback that you have for any of the centres presented. This survey will take approximately 5 minutes.

If you have more detailed feedback, please scroll down to Question 9 to submit a general response. Alternatively, you may consider submitting a letter addressed to the General Manager at info@waverley.nsw.gov.au and quote reference number \$F20/2294.

submitting a letter addressed to the General Manager at <a href="mailto:info@waverley.nsw.qov.au">info@waverley.nsw.qov.au</a> and quote reference number SF20/2294.
Strategic Outcomes
On Page 8 of the Village Centres Strategy, we outline some key outcomes we are aiming to achieve.
Here we ask for your specific feedback on them.
Which of the four key strategic outcomes do you support? Tick all that apply.
(Choose all that apply)
To work with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and neighbouring councils to deliver key transport infrastructure projects to improve accessibility to
Bondi Beach via Bondi Road and Curlewis Street  To work with TfNSW to improve bus service and capacity along Old South Head Road and Bronte Road
Prioritise public domain improvements in Bondi Beach, Bondi Road, Curlewis Street, Charing Cross, Rose Bay North and South
Provide sustainability upgrades and public domain upgrades across all centres
Why or why not?
If you have truther teadback, on the atreteric outcomes or averagetime for additional outcomes, places let us know have
If you have further feedback on the strategic outcomes or suggestions for additional outcomes, please let us know here:
Priority Projects and Public Domain Improvements
On Page 14 of the Village Centres Strategy, we outline key projects to enhance the street-scape and walk-ability, sustainability,
productivity and liveability of our centres.
Here we ask your feedback specifically on these Priority Projects and Public Domain Improvements listed.
Rank the Priority Projects in the order of importance to you.
(Rank each option)
Investigation of Bus Rapid Transit on Bondi Road and acquisition of lanes and lots parallel to Bondi Road for Tier 1 Cycle routes.
Pedestrianisation of Gould Street, Bondi Beach and to create a share-way along Hall Street, Bondi Beach.
Deliver bike paths and footpath upgrades along Curlewis Street and investigate activation and expansion of this commercial centre.

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Under-grounding of overhead power lines and wires in our village centres.  Investigation of long-term project for solar-power catchment treatment on road surfaces in village centres to generate power off the grid.	
Rank the key Public Domain Improvements in the order of importance to you.	
(Rank each option)  Turn the intersection at Avoca Street and Bondi Road into a Pocket Park with trees, public furniture and shade infrastructure.  Urban greening and planting along Bronte Road Corridor, Bondi Road Corridor and Macpherson Street Corridor.  Water Sensitive Urban Design Treatment along the Bronte Road corridor, due to its proximity to the Centennial park stormwater catchment and the Bronte Gully Catchment.  Waste Management: investigate or trial the use of a sub-surface waste management system for key commercial centres with a large number of services and uses.	
If you have further feedback on the Priority Projects and Public Domain Improvements, please outline them here:	
Centre Strategies	
Pages 21 to 146 of the Village Centres Strategy outline the strategies specific to each centre.	
Here we're looking for your feedback relevant to each centre.	
Please check which centre you are providing feedback on (as many as applicable)	
(Choose all that apply)  Bondi Road (pgs 21-30)  Bondi Beach, including Hall Street and Glenayr Avenue (pgs 31-50)  Curlewis Street (pgs 51-58)  Bronte Road (pgs 59-66)  Charing Cross (pgs 67-74)  North Rose Bay, both at Towns Road and from Liverpool Street (pgs 75-86)  Macpherson Street (pgs 87-92)  Wairoa Avenue (pgs 93-98)  Bronte Road (pgs 105-110)  North Bondi (pgs 111-116)  Murriverie Road, including East and West (pgs 117-130)  Belgrave Street (pgs 131-136)  Fletcher Street (pgs 137-142)  Blake Street (pgs 143-144)  Vauduse (pgs 145-146)	
Please outline your specific feedback on the individual Centre Strategy here:	

Page 2 of 3

General Submission				
If you have further feedback about the draft Village Centres Strategy, please provide it below:				
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