



HARBOUR TRUST
SUB BASE PLATYPUS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
27 NOVEMBER 2019

Time: 5:30pm – 7:18pm
Venue: Room 1001, Sub Base Platypus, North Sydney

Present

Erin Flaherty - Harbour Trust Reviewer
 Cr Stephen Barbour – Deputy Mayor, North Sydney
 Ken Williams
 Neil Schafer
 Paul Forward
 Chris Skinner, Captain RAN (retired)
 Tammy Dodd
 Christopher Stapleton
 Phil Burfurd – *Attended site tour*

In Attendance

Mary Darwell	Executive Director
Libby Bennett	Director, Projects
Kathryn Roberts	Director, Marketing & Visitor Experience
Rebecca Hage	Media & Stakeholder Engagement Officer

Apologies

Cr Jilly Gibson (Mayor North Sydney Council)
 Flynn McDermott (Trent Zimmerman MP Office)

Attendees were taken on a tour of Sub Base Platypus: 5:30pm.

1. Harbour Trust Review

Erin Flaherty (EF) provided an overview of the Independent Harbour Trust Review.

The review takes place between October 2019 and March 2020. The public also have the opportunity to submit feedback through the Department's website. EF noted that the intention of the Review is to provide the Government with a number of potential options, not one definitive position.

The Committee were overall supportive of the review, noting Sub Base Platypus is a particularly important historical site for submariners. However, they expressed concern for the future of Harbour



Trust sites should they return to NSW Government or local council. The Committee concurred that retaining the Harbour Trust as an organisation, would be best for the longevity of each site.

The Committee highlighted the Review team should identify a more realistic timeframe for consultation and that the closing date for submissions does not provide adequate time to coordinate a response.

The Committee commented on the historical interpretation Sub Base Platypus, noting there was not enough First Nations or Gasworks interpretation on site, that this should be improved. EF added similar issues regarding interpretation were raised at the North Head public forum, noting that funding was highlighted as an obstacle to achieving this. The Committee noted the review needs to establish clear and sustainable funding for Harbour Trust sites.

The Committee noted that they had worked with the Harbour Trust for a long period of time and developed a good working relationship, they would like to see the Harbour Trust maintain custodianship of the lands within their remit.

EF noted further consultation is a likely outcome of the review.

2. Executive Director update

Mary Darwell (MD) provided the committee with a map outlining the public access areas of Sub Base Platypus.

MD informed the committee that the Harbour Trust welcomed its first tenants, Australian Sailing and SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd (SLR), to Sub Base Platypus. Both tenants will commence fit outs shortly.

MD acknowledged the significant contribution of Chris Skinner and thanked him for his volunteer service to the Sub Base Platypus CAC, following his announcement to step down from the Committee. Chris Skinner provided 10 years of valuable feedback and support to the Harbour Trust throughout his time.

Paul Forward confirmed a three way meeting with Harbour Trust, North Sydney Council and an Iora representative to discuss the operation of Kiara Close access and carpark.

Meeting closed: 7:18pm