



PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

PO Box 85, Hunters Hill, NSW 2110
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Mr Mitchell Murphy
General Manager
Hunters Hill Council
22 Alexandra Street
Hunters Hill NSW 2110

23 May 2023

Dear Mr Murphy

We are writing with regard to **Council's Draft Local Approvals Policy**, currently on public exhibition until 25th May 2023 inviting feedback and submissions. As such, we would like to make the following observations and recommendations for your consideration.

Difficulty in Finding Information on Council website

Firstly, it must be noted how difficult it was to source all the separate and existing information in order to review and compare Council's existing policies around Outdoor Dining and the Forms for Mobile Food Vending. Important information also appears in the Schedule of Fees and Charges and the Outdoor Dining Terms and Conditions. A comprehensive or combined one stop document needs to be adopted to make it easier to read and find on HHC website.

A review of other Council's policies, descriptions and requirements covering Outdoor Dining was informative and could perhaps be useful to follow as a guide?

<https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Planning-Development/Commercial-Premises/Outdoor-Dining>

<https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/files/assets/public/council/policies/updated/outdoor-dining-policy.pdf>

Policy Name Change

We would strongly suggest a more appropriate name be given to accurately reflect purpose and meaning. This draft policy deals with Mobile Food Vending Vehicles and Outdoor Dining Areas only. We would suggest it be renamed to reflect same. Perhaps 'Outdoor Dining Areas and Mobile Food Vending Vehicle Approvals Policy' (or version of same).

Q. Could a **Goods on Footpath Policy** appear in same document?

Policy Purpose

It would seem the 'Purpose' of this draft document (p.1) does not reflect in any way the nature of policy content. Isn't the policy purpose to approve and regulate Mobile Food Vending Vehicles and Outdoor Dining Areas within our LGA?

Review of Mosman Policy Descriptions & Requirements for consideration/inclusion

A review of Mosman Council **Outdoor Dining and Goods on Footpath Policy** (attached) was informative and thorough. We provide the following examples worthy of consideration for inclusion as follows:

- A comprehensive 'Table of Contents' – covering all areas from Policy Purpose through to Application Process, Compliance, Charges, Contact, Review and Amendments.
- The listing of different Legislation and Planning instruments (4.0, p.2) provides explanation, context and clarity
- General Controls (5.0, p.3&4) are 'explicitly written' including Public Liability requirements
- Outdoor Dining Controls (6.0, p. 4) are extensive and provide a thorough list to ensure existing amenity and streetscape ideals are retained and enforceable. Word use includes 'visually relate and complement', 'align with existing features in streetscape'
- Outdoor dining may not be permitted near civic, ceremonial and memorial spaces (6.1.10, p.5)
- Council reserves the right to impose limitations on the number of tables and chairs in sensitive areas such as those adjacent residential areas and in high pedestrian traffic thoroughfares (6.1.12, p.5)
- Approved hours of use will have regard to matters such as proximity of residential properties and pedestrian congestion (6.1.14, p.6)

We hope Council will consider implementing the above suggestions in particular putting all components into one document, renaming the policy to properly reflect its purpose and making it easier to find on Council's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alister Sharp'.

Alister Sharp
President
Hunters Hill Trust