

# A guide to the draft Jack Evans Boat Harbour Plan of Management



## What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management provides guidelines as to how public land will be used and effectively managed.

The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and the *Local Government Act 1993* set out when a plan of management is required, the process for adopting a plan and the required content. A plan of management is to include objectives and performance targets and must outline land management and permitted uses, including the issuing of licences.

Consistent with the *Tweed Shire Open Space Strategy* and Council's policy for *Commercial Recreation Activities on Public Open Space* the draft Plan of Management has been approved by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for public exhibition.

The following elements are proposed as the focus for the draft Plan of Management for Jack Evans Boat Harbour. These priorities have been informed by the results from the community consultation undertaken in November 2018. A detailed report outlining the feedback received from the community engagement is located within Appendix C of the draft Plan.

## What does the draft Jack Evans Boat Harbour Plan of Management address?

- **Protection and management of environmental and heritage conservation values:**
  - including ecology, erosion protection and water quality.
- **Infrastructure management:**
  - Existing infrastructure maintenance or replacement:  
including the existing level of service for maintenance, boardwalk replacement, revetment wall works and review of existing toilet and picnic facilities.
  - Proposed infrastructure additions:  
including a children's playground upgrade associated with Goorimahbah – Place of Stories, additional BBQs and picnic shelters with improved landscaping for shade provision.
- **Land use regulation:**
  - Regulation that supports activation of the precinct whilst effectively managing amenity issues given the importance of the precinct to the community.
  - Activation is considered to assist in minimising antisocial behaviour. Land use regulation includes nominating permitted leases and licences (only where Council is Crown Land Manager), guidelines for land use conflicts, safety concerns, amenity concerns and commercial uses.

View the draft Jack Evans Boat Harbour Plan of Management at [www.yoursaytweed.com.au/JEBH](http://www.yoursaytweed.com.au/JEBH)

## What is proposed in the draft Jack Evans Boat Harbour Plan of Management?

The draft Plan of Managements proposes only minor works given the relatively recent redevelopment of Jack Evans Boat Harbour and community feedback that conveyed that the precinct generally should be left as is. The projects include:

- **Across the precinct:**

- Environmental management including addressing erosion problems by reconstruction of revetment walls and protection of vegetation north of Coral Street in accordance with *State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018*.
- Additional seating, lighting and picnic/BBQ facilities.
- Additional natural shade (tree planting).
- Infrastructure that facilitates the use of the park for markets and events such as power and temporary vehicular access.
- A signage review addressing all-abilities access, facility provision and land use regulation.
- A car parking, pathway and cycleway review.
- Ongoing maintenance schedule for infrastructure and landscaping.
- Replacement of the boardwalk.



- **Waterway:**

- Improved water access for swimmers and non-motorised water sports on the eastern sides of the harbour.
- Small scale facilities and water access supporting scuba diving or snorkelling.
- Investigate opportunities for additional shade, natural or built structures in proximity to Central Beach or McMahon's Beach.
- Encouraged as a mixed use area primarily for swimming and non-motorised water sports with boating permitted as a secondary use.



- **The area north of Coral Street:**

- Protection of the vegetation consistent with *State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018*.

### Investigate feasibility and opportunities for:

- exercise equipment
- youth precinct featuring for example, volleyball nets, table tennis or basketball half court
- stage for live music (similar to Rowan Robinson Park)
- an artificial reef in conjunction with proposed facilities and water access that supports scuba diving and snorkelling
- inclusion of small scale water play within the playground upgrade within Goorimahbah
- appropriately designed storage building for non-motorised water sports hire to operate from
- construction of a kiosk/café which formed part of Stage 2 of the 2009 redevelopment or commercial kitchen building for hire or seasonal lease.



## FAQs, updates or actions related to concerns raised in the Community Consultation

### Goorimahbah – Place of Stories

Goorimahbah – Place of Stories' is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander botanic and artwork garden and contemporary meeting place planned for the northern section of the precinct as the not constructed Stage 2 of the JEBH redevelopment. Given the history and level of commitment by Council to the Aboriginal community, a workshop has been undertaken regarding a future redesign of the project, which was supported by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) in August 2018 and a design brief has been compiled.

This design brief for a future redesign supported by the AAC will be included in the Plan of Management and includes (but not limited to) an inclusive and accessible park and playground that integrates Aboriginal elements and stories. The open space is retained and embellished to facilitate occasional larger scale uses and includes more shade, power and BBQ facilities. The children's playground is extended and designed integrating Aboriginal storytelling utilising clever and subtle approaches rather than large art installations. The playground addition should feature interactive media, nature play, a sensory and edible garden and a mix of story boards and interactive pieces.

### Social issues

Homelessness and anti-social behaviour were raised as important issues for consideration.

Addressing the social issues within the precinct is to be undertaken in accordance with Council's *Homelessness Strategy* rather than under the Plan of Management. This is due to its complex nature, the issue not being restricted to the confines of the nominated precinct and ensuring consistency in Council's approach.

As per Council's policy, homeless people have the right to access and use Council spaces and facilities just like anyone else. However, illegal and anti-social behaviour will be reported to police. Activation of the park will help minimise the frequency and negative consequences of anti-social behaviour.

### Dog regulation

Consideration of the use of the space by dogs is to be regulated by signage and not by controls within the draft Plan of Management. As the provision of dog friendly facilities requires a broader, strategic approach across the whole shire, this is considered the most appropriate method in addressing the matter.



## Permissible land uses and commercialisation

No large permanent commercial, residential or marina development is proposed within the precinct.

Where Council is the land manager, applications for permits, leases or licences will be assessed in accordance with principles and controls within Council's policy on *Commercial Recreation Activities on Public Open Space*, the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Applications for permits, leases or licences may still be subject to other approvals under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* or *Local Government Act 1993*. Council's (as Crown Land Manager) support for the lodgement of any Development Application is first subject to consistency with the Plan of Management.

## Gaps in the map

The proposed scope of the draft Plan of Management (cl 3.1) does not include all the land in mapping associated with the initial community consultation for the following reasons.

The **Old Aquatic Club site** was excluded from the scope of the draft Plan of Management given concerns raised related to an undetermined Aboriginal Land Claim over the site. Council resolved to develop a separate plan of management for this area in consultation with the NSW Aboriginal Land Council.

The odd shaped section of **Ebenezer Park** and the main section of **the waterway** have been excluded as Council has not been appointed Crown Land Manager of these Crown land areas. Council requested to be appointed Crown Land Manager of these areas however, the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands declined the request. As such, Council has no authority to develop a plan of management over these areas.

