

Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan: Phase 1



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Background

This part of Redfern has gone through significant change in recent years. The Aboriginal Housing Company's Pemulwuy redevelopment was mostly complete at the time of consultation and new services have opened up. Aboriginal community members have moved back to the Block.

This is a place where many people live, work, study, visit, play, gather and pass through.

It's an important place for the local Aboriginal community.

The streets, parks, community facilities and public art should reflect the needs and values of the people who share these spaces.

Any plans to improve local public spaces will be informed by the community's vision for their neighbourhood.

This is part of a broader piece of work looking at the public domain in the Redfern and Waterloo area. These suburbs are undergoing significant change with redevelopment of several major sites and new transport infrastructure at Redfern station and the new Waterloo Metro station. These changes will affect the way the public domain works with more residents and workers using the streets and public spaces.

We'll work with our communities to develop an overarching public domain plan and neighbourhood visions to inform future projects. This local neighbourhood vision and plan is the first to be developed.

This feedback will inform the draft vision and priorities, which will be available in 2023 for further community feedback.

Feedback will help develop a vision and plan for the streets, parks and public spaces in this neighbourhood. It will also inform the development of future individual projects. This includes any future street improvements and upgrades for Redfern Community Centre park, Hugo Street Reserve and Yellowmundee Park. We will continue to consult the community on the development of this plan and individual projects.



Engagement summary

From 15 November 2022 to 16 December 2022, we asked the community to help us develop a vision and plan for this part of Redfern.

Consultation provided an opportunity for community involvement on a vision for the public spaces in their local neighbourhood. This is the first stage in the engagement process.

Consultation activities included online engagement, face to face engagement and targeted engagement with organisations, groups, and children's services.

This report outlines the community engagement activities that took place to support the consultation and summarises the key findings from the consultation.

Purpose of the engagement

The purpose of the engagement was to:

- gather overall community values and aspirations for this neighbourhood
 - understand the current issues, uses and what is valued about it now
 - identify key issues or themes raised by community
 - inform the draft vision and plan
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Outcomes from the engagement

Over 200 pieces of feedback were received during the consultation. Below is a break-down of the feedback received:

- 142 people completed a survey
- 44 discussion guides were completed by adults and young people
- 29 discussion guides were completed by children
- 39 comments were made by 15 unique stakeholders on the interactive map
- 1 email submission was received (Far West Redfern Dwellers).

Consultation activities:

- Workshop held at Redfern OOSH, 21 November, 40 children
 - Workshop held at Redfern Youth Connect, 21 November, 15 young people
 - Pop-up stall at Edward Street Fair, 20 November, 30 people
 - Community drop-in session, 28 November, 200 people
 - Redfern Community Centre end of year celebration, 30 November, 100 people
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Participation

A diverse range of community members participated in the consultations from over 10 cultural backgrounds. Of those who chose to supply demographic information:

- 38% identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Ages ranged from 5-79 years
- 57% identified as female and 42% as male

Key findings

These are a summary of the consultation's key findings. More detail can be found in the following chapters.

What people value about this neighbourhood

People are strongly connected to the neighbourhood, valuing:

- the strength of Aboriginal culture and history in the neighbourhood
- the sense of community spirit creating a safe, welcoming neighbourhood that is friendly and family orientated
- the walkability of the area
- the low-rise heritage buildings
- green space and trees
- parks which are used as social gathering spaces, spaces of relaxation, play and for sporting activities

The area is considered highly accessible with proximity to transport, community support and education services, cafes, bars, restaurants, galleries and central Sydney.

Vision for the Future

When looking to the future the community wants a place:

- that celebrates its Aboriginal culture and history
- that is green and cool with native trees and plants
- where communities come together to socialise and celebrate
- where people feel a sense of connection and belonging
- that is safe to move around and play

Achieving the vision

The community members identified ways to enhance and improve places within the neighbourhood to achieve this vision:

A place that celebrates its Aboriginal culture and history

A large majority of people that participated felt that connecting with Country was important to the future of this neighbourhood.

Connecting with Country includes learning about Country, healing Country, practicing and sharing culture. Participants identified that this should involve:

- cultural activities led by local Aboriginal people
- culturally informed design, planting and signage

The community leadership of Elders was identified as important to the future of the neighbourhood.

A place that is green and cool with native trees, plants and community gardens

- replacing hard surfaces with grass and garden beds
- increasing native trees and plants in parks
- opportunities for bush tucker, community gardens and verge gardens

A place where communities come together

People said that it was important to:

- better plan the purpose of open spaces – the right things in the right places
- improve and add to existing facilities
- provide outdoor spaces for community events and activities

A place where people feel a sense of connection and belonging

People said it was important to offer a range of experiences in the public spaces that accommodate the needs of all community members:

- quiet, natural spaces
- places for engaging in culture and learning
- places for play, sport and exercise
- places for social events, gatherings and celebrations
- fun, safe and challenging play spaces

A place that is safe and comfortable to move around and play, with:

- improved footpaths
- improved seating
- calmer streets
- increased lighting
- safe open spaces for children to run and play

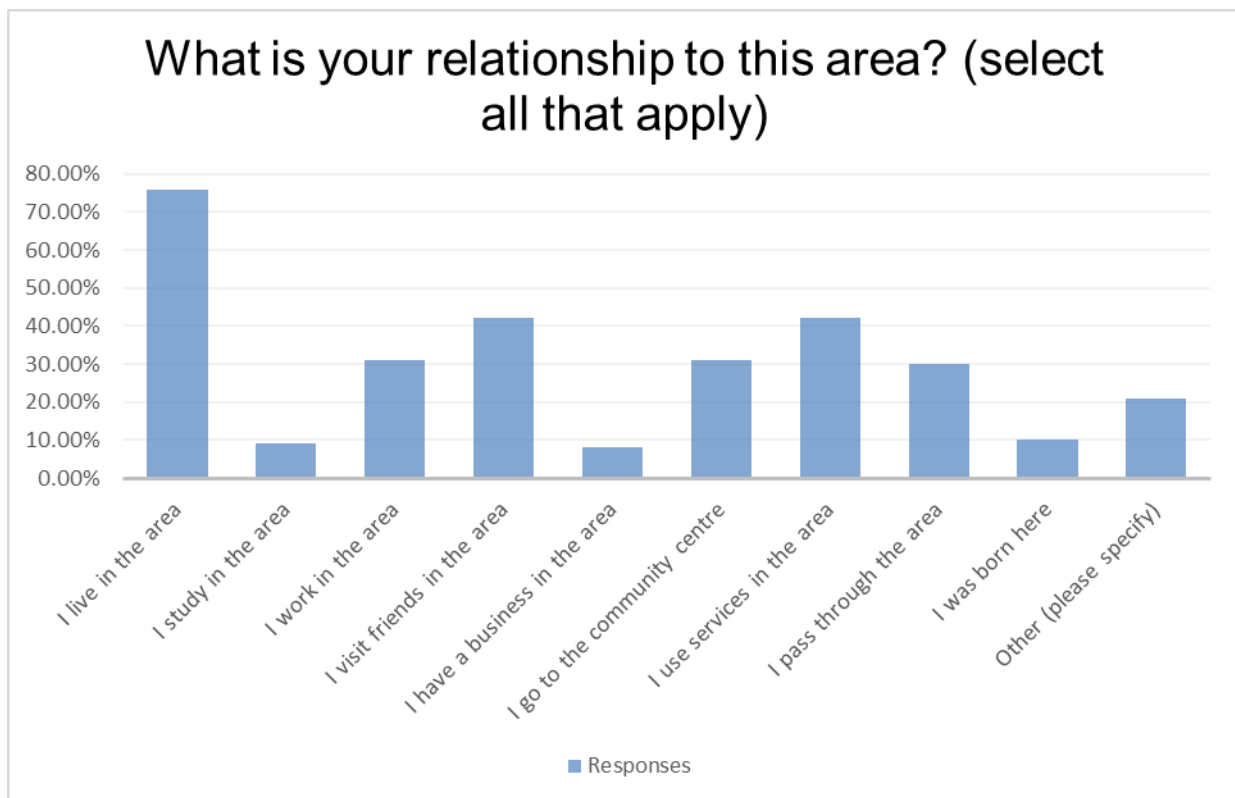
Current connection, uses and concerns

The consultation started by asking participants to think about their area as it is now, what connects them to this space, ways they currently use it, what they value about it now and what are the most pressing issues.

Relationship to the area

The below graph shows survey and discussion guide participants' relationship to the area, with the majority of participants residing locally.

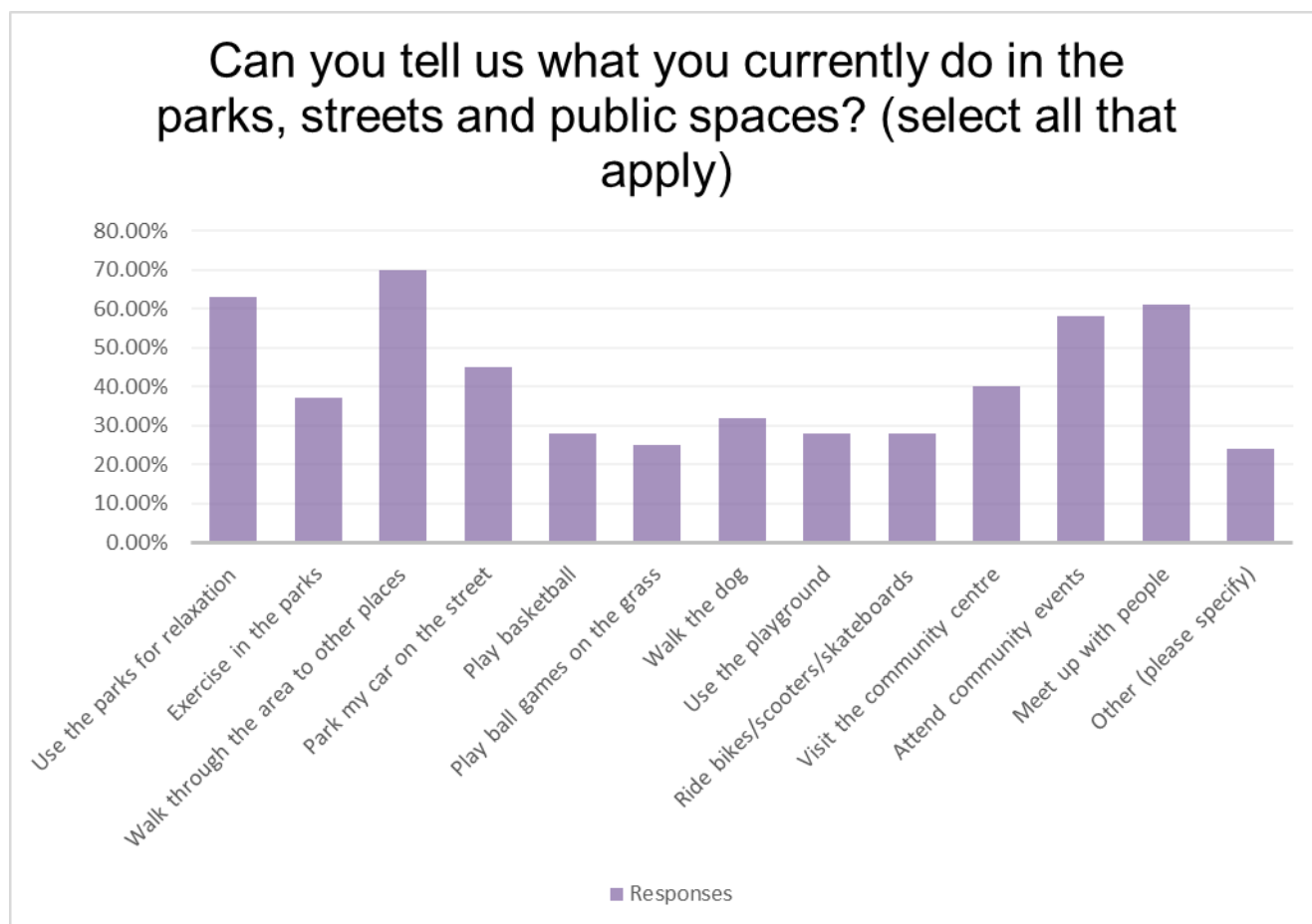
Participants identified with over 10 cultural backgrounds. 38% of participants who provided information identified as Aboriginal. Participants ranged in age from 5 years to 79 years. 57% of participants who provided information identified as female and 42% as male.



Other comments regarding people's relationship to the area include: visit family and extended mob; grew up here; live nearby; used to own a home here; cultural events, ceremony and gatherings; use play and sporting equipment, attend Barayagal Choir, study at Eora Tafe.

Current uses

Participants were asked about their current activities in the area's public spaces and the responses speak to a community that engages in a diverse range of pastimes within a localised area. This increasing high-density area makes particular use of public space for relaxation, exercise, play and community social activities. The question regarding walking speaks to the central location of the area, its proximity to transport hubs, places of work and study, and its general walkability.



Other comments expanded on and reinforced the key activities already noted: connect to my mob, visit family & community, walk to shops and transport nodes, we have large community gatherings (birthdays, Xmas, Halloween etc), celebrate NAIDOC, South Sea Islander Recognition Day, Mabo Day, supporting Eora Nation and other Aboriginal Nations, work for a local Aboriginal radio station/Aboriginal dancer, bring the grandkids to play, go to the free food pantry in the centre on Tuesday, interact with neighbours and support the community, enjoy good food and cafes, cultural activities/ceremony/dance, read/meet people in parks, picnic in the parks, play footy and ball games on grassed area, study, get some sun and quiet time.

What do you value about this neighbourhood now?

Participants were asked what they valued about their local community now – these included:

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- The strength of Aboriginal culture and history in the neighbourhood
- The sense of community spirit, a safe, welcoming neighbourhood that is friendly and family orientated. People referred to extended Aboriginal families raising children
- The walkability of the area
- The low-rise heritage buildings
- The amount of green space and trees
- The parks which are used as social gathering spaces, spaces of relaxation, play and for sporting activities

The area was considered highly accessible with proximity to transport, community support, health and education services, cafes, bars, restaurants, galleries and central Sydney.

Areas for improvement

Participants were asked what elements in the neighbourhood needed improvement. They were asked how important it is to improve the following areas on a scale from very important to not at all important. Participants were also given the opportunity to add further detail in open-text comments and comment on specific locations in the Social Pinpoint mapping engagement tool.

Areas for improvement	% who think it is either very important or important to improve
Green open spaces and parks	89%
<p>Community feedback supported the need for the preservation and increasing of green space and shading plants. There was a focus on replacing hard surface areas with grass – in particular the large concrete area under the metal awning in front of the Redfern Community Centre and the basketball court on Hugo Street. It was also suggested that the Harry Burland Activity Centre be turned into a greenery and education centre for native edible / medicinal plants.</p> <p>More seating using natural materials (remove aluminium seating), better overall maintenance of green space, more planting of native flora and trees and the development of a community garden (edible, flowering, medicinal).</p> <p>The Dog Park was a topic of specific discussion with views ranging from renovating and extending the space to having fences removed and an overall redesign for off-leash multipurpose uses.</p>	
Lighting in streets and parks	83%
<p>More lighting was widely mentioned – specifically in the context of safety for walking (footpaths) and children, visibility for night sporting activities (basketball courts) or social gathering activities. Lighting should be environmentally sustainable (solar) and integrated into the overall design so that it is subtle but effective. Lighting up the artwork on Hugo Street was also mentioned by several participants.</p> <p>Specific areas requiring more lighting mentioned were Redfern Community Centre Park, Lawson Street, Ivy Lane, the basketball courts, Hugo and Vine Streets, Eveleigh Street (between Hudson and Cleveland Street) and Rose Lane (southern side of Harry Burland Activity Centre (participant noted a council sensor light which previously provided some light has been deactivated)).</p>	
Traffic safety management	77%

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Slowing traffic was a primary concern for participants, with better signage (children playing / slow down signs on Eveleigh Street / speed limits signage at intersections), lower overall speed limits, converting streets to one-way (bicycles excepted), speed humps, greater speed limit enforcement, the need for more 'shared zones' (and signage as such) and road closures (Louis, Eveleigh at Vine Street, Hugo Street at Caroline Street) were all mentioned.

Particular areas of traffic congestion mentioned included Eveleigh Street and Louis Street, intersection of Eveleigh and Lawson (removal of the left turn space at Gibbons when the bike lane went in), Abercrombie and Hugo Streets, Eveleigh at Vine Street (block off so it's not used as a shortcut from Lawson to Cleveland).

Particular areas where traffic speed was noted as an issue were Abercrombie, Cleveland, Vine, Eveleigh, Hugo, Louis and Caroline Streets. There was a suggestion that Vine, Louis, Caroline and Eveleigh Streets all have speed limits reduced to 10km/h due to increased number of residing families and young children. A suggestion was made for zebra crossing at Little Eveleigh and Lawson Street junction.

Street trees and garden beds	75%
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An increase in trees and shrubs of various native varieties that offer extra shade and the development of community gardens (including 'bush tucker'/edibles) were popular suggestions. The need for programs that support community members to create their own footpath and street gardens were suggested. The planting in Abercrombie Street was praised as were the raingardens in the northern end of the street. Particular issues with Plane trees and allergies were noted.

Mention of specific locations in need of more trees/planting were Eveleigh Street, Hugo Street, Shepherd Street, Lawson Street, Vine Street. It was noted that water drains into Vine Street and would be appropriate for bioswales/rain gardens.

Participants also noted the need to be mindful of traffic sightlines when planting and maintaining foliage.

Several participants commented on the need for more regular maintenance of grass, shrubs, trees and rubbish (more collections and more bins (Ibis-proof)). The area of Woodburn Street and Hudson Street near the train lines was mentioned as a particular hotspot for rubbish dumping.

Places to gather (eg BBQ and picnic areas etc)	75%
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There was strong overall support for a BBQ area that has seating (wooden), is well shaded and well-lit at night and has adequate bins. The preference for grassed areas over concrete was widely expressed.

On-street parking management	75%
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Many participants noted the need for residents' parking permits. Increase onsite/local parking for institutions like Carriageworks to reduce parking flow-over into the area. All day commuter parking was noted as an issue with remedial suggestions including increase paid short-term parking and resident-only parking (with permits). Introducing a drop-off zone near Redfern Station was suggested.

Other comments included that Caroline Street should be a no parking zone so children can play freely in Yellowmunde Park, that the Council should review its need for the 8-10 parking spaces

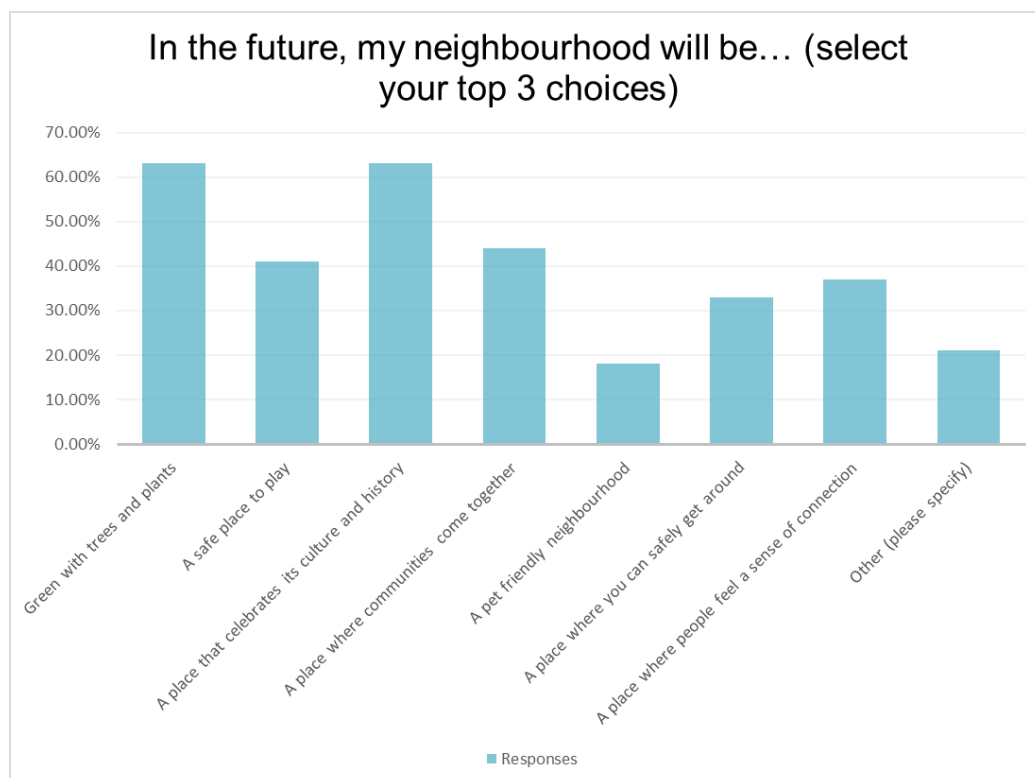
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on corner of Shepherd and Ivy Street either side of the Harry Burland Activity Centre and that motorbike parking be introduced where they do not take up street parking places.

Play and sports facilities (eg ball courts, playgrounds etc)	74%
<p>Facilities for sport, exercise and play were considered an important part of the overall mix of spaces in the area. Participants mentioned the desire for more options including cricket nets, courts for tennis and badminton, basketball, volleyball (sand versions as well), netball, ping-pong tables, large chess board and outdoor exercise areas.</p> <p>Community feedback regarding the existing basketball court included the need for upgrading, lighting, noise mitigation, regular maintenance and the inclusion of the markings for other sports on the playing surface. A number of submissions suggested the court be moved from its present location in Hugo Street Reserve to the Redfern Community Centre Park (see Social Pinpoint comments number 1 and 5 on page 19-20 and submission from Far West Redfern Dwellers, Appendix D).</p> <p>Wide consensus that the existing playground in the Redfern Community Centre Park be redesigned and upgraded so that it was safer, more interesting and engaging for a wider range of ages. An enclosed space for younger children, a water play area, skating facilities, trampolines, flying foxes and climbing walls were all mentioned (see Children and Youth consultation section for more details specific to the playground, page 22).</p>	
Walking and cycling	71%
<p>Improvements to the surface and width (widening) of footpaths and their lighting was widely expressed.</p> <p>The preference for separate zones for pedestrians and cyclists was mentioned numerous times as a safety issue. Numerous references are made to the speed of electric bikes as a safety issue.</p> <p>Better signage for 'shared zones', car speed limits and increasing the number of zebra crossings were all noted. A particular area of concern mentioned a number of times was the intersection of Eveleigh and Lawson Streets. The pedestrianisation of Woodburn Street was also mentioned.</p> <p>Regarding footpaths the following locations were mentioned: retain the footpath crossing to Redfern Station in Lawson St, improve footpaths on Shepherd Street (near the mechanical engineering university buildings), improve footpath on Louis Street near the Redfern Community Centre as well as Lawson (add footpath to west side of street), Ivy and Vine streets.</p>	

Future Vision

The community articulated a vision for a safe place that preserves and extends its green spaces, celebrates its local Culture and history, and where its public spaces support and foster connection to place and community.



Other comments included: Indigenous ownership, clearly defined boundaries (shared space at Lawson and Eveleigh Street is dangerous for both pedestrians & drivers without clear boundaries), a place for children to do sports, play footy, connect with homeless (hear their concerns, build a facility for the homeless), places for older kids to play with more challenging playgrounds, a water play area, historical information plaques, easier access to the play areas across busy roads.

Connecting with Country

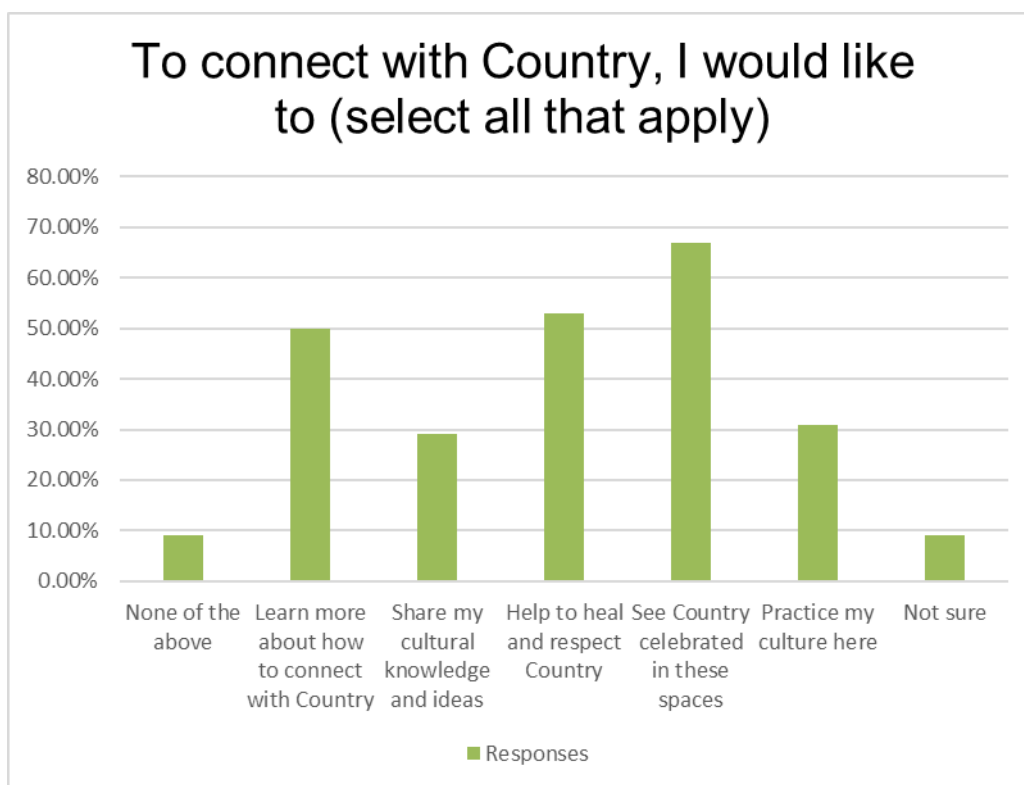
We asked people how they would like to connect with Country. We defined Connecting with Country as: *describing a way to plan our work that values and respects the relationship between land and Aboriginal people. This approach seeks to heal Country and embed truth-telling, strengthen communities and celebrate culture.*

Both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people (over 80% of participants) saw this as centrally important to the future vision of the area.

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A vision which sees the celebration and healing of Country through practice, knowledge sharing and learning.

- 67% of people wanted to see Country celebrated in these spaces
- 53% of people wanted to help heal and respect Country
- 50% of people wanted to learn more about how to connect with Country
- 31% of people wanted to practice their culture here
- 29% of people wanted to share cultural knowledge and ideas



Participants were asked what other ideas they had about connecting with Country. The following is a selection of the responses collected under three main themes, noting the total number of comments made related to each theme.

It is important to note the distinction being made by Aboriginal people between practicing culture to connect with Country; and performing or sharing culture with people outside the Aboriginal community. People identified a need for spaces to practice culture everyday not just through public performance.

Theme	Selection of verbatim comments
Cultural activities led by local Aboriginal people.	“Connect with land via Elders and qualified individuals. Learn about culture, traditional, dress, food.”
	“Aboriginal music and musicians and performing arts programs. Outdoor cinema under the stars - Aboriginal films and promoting Aboriginal Actors. Sports clinics.”

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Total number of comments 24	"Ongoing Indigenous cultural practice that is visible and can be seen throughout community – Theatre, street theatre, poetry, song and dance. Evening performance (singing) in the park / mall / community centre."
	"Practical sharing of knowledge, e.g.: painting workshops, native food growing, etc."
	"Aboriginal food events, Aboriginal food plants planted around that can be picked."
	"More communal events to celebrate our culture in the parks to connect with nature and culture and our people."
	"Connecting to country is unique and personal to every individual living in Country. We have bloodlines connecting us back to our Maternal/Paternal and Redfern is a unique place that has welcomed and more bloodlines need to be embedded and celebrated here."
	"Community education for all community led by Indigenous people."
	"See local stories being told, highlighting culture and also past practices that impacted Aboriginal people."
	"Learn about Country - boundaries etc. Stories, boundaries, landforms, waterways - Belonging."
	"Community events where First Nations residents can teach us about culture and what used to happen on the land. Would love to see dance and arts performed and celebrated."

Theme	Selection of verbatim comments
Culturally informed design, planting and signage.	"Having space for our families to practice culture daily. Not just performative culture here."
Total number of comments 19	"We need a safe space to practice our cultural dance/healing/ceremony. More opportunity for us to show-case the longest living culture."
	"A botanical garden featuring Aboriginal plants of cultural and healing significance open to public. Could also be used during the Aboriginal Science Fair for demonstration etc. Such a project embraces both the old and the new as the area on Vine and surrounding streets was part of the Darlington Nursery."
	Create culturally safe environment such as Aboriginal art in the parks and honouring our Elders who have fought for places like the Community Centre.

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	"The creation of a bush tucker trail that spreads from this area to the rest of Redfern-Waterloo and beyond."
	"More photos and plaques about COUNTRY...celebrate, display refresh ...keep people interested and proud."
	"We need a venue/gallery to celebrate First Nations culture in Redfern."
	"Perhaps more local/native plants and information about the history of the area in community spaces, public art celebrating Country."
	"Ensure that the beautiful mural on Hugo Street is taken care of and respected."
	"Help to connect to local history (Aboriginal) by installing street plaques with information on history of local area and its Aboriginal inhabitants."
	"Incorporate Indigenous place names."

Theme	Selection of verbatim comments
Ongoing involvement of local Aboriginal people. Total number of comments 3	"Invite Aboriginal peoples (of all political and cultural background) to honest and true discussion; in particular the Elders in the Community - those with a history linked to Aboriginal Rights & the establishment of social services in the area."

Strengthening Connections – People and Places

The consultation gave participants further opportunities to suggest specific ways that connection could be strengthened between people and place with respect to the Community Centre, streets, parks and other public spaces. Information in this section of the report also draws on consultation feedback gathered in sessions with Children and Young People, and the Social Pinpoint tool.

Redfern Community Centre park
<p>The Redfern Community Centre is valued as a community hub with the capacity to further strengthen connections between people and place.</p> <p>The redevelopment of the Redfern Community Centre park was a key area of discussion by consultation participants who felt there was significant potential to improve it as a</p>

multi-functional area for exercise, cultural expression, community gathering and stimulating play.
Suggestions for improvements included:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximising green space by replacement of concrete area bordering Caroline Street with grass.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesigning the awnings over the concrete area – they are not functional, providing no shade or rain protection.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a full basketball court in park outside Redfern Community Centre where cement area is on Caroline Street.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesign the front of the Community Centre to be more welcoming – glass frontage to Elouera gym as a model.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The addition of community gardens with Indigenous edible plants and medicinal herbs and an associated series of educational and recreational events (several additional locations for community gardens were mentioned including in the Yellowmunde Park area and in a redesign vision for the Hugo Park / Basketball court area).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The addition of BBQ, seating using natural materials (wood) and adequate bins to support communal gathering and social events.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The addition of a fire pit, yarnning circle for cultural activities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remodelling the children's playground with improved equipment, natural materials, Indigenous-themed design elements, sunken trampolines, a flying fox and water play areas (removal of wall around the play area so it is more integrated into the site). See further details from Children and Youth consultation, page 22.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making the area dog free.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design improvements/signage to encourage pedestrian traffic to flow around the outside of the green space used by children and other community members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interchangeable signage advertising upcoming events to improve awareness.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of the metal struts next to the cement area on Caroline Street.
Other ways the Community Centre could strengthen connections in the local area:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining existing valued services such as internet access, clean toilets, free food pantry.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The addition of an Elders area within the Centre.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend centre operating hours.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding regular community lunches.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff wearing uniforms with Aboriginal designs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employing more local Aboriginal people.

- Event/workshop programming that encourages the flow of activity inside and outside the building.
- Produce a local community newsletter.
- Subsidise community use of the Community Centre venues.

Streetscapes - general

Comments specific to street scapes and connectivity mentioned in this part of the report build on ideas already mentioned elsewhere, they include:

- Resident parking permits and remove 24-hour free parking zones.
- Better signage about where community centres/spaces/parks are, especially the small ones tucked away in local streets.
- More bicycle paths and pedestrianised streets.
- Cleaning, more greenery, improved park and feeling of connection between the green spaces through shared zones, footpath widening and limiting of steps to improve accessibility.
- More public bins and communal resident bin areas to keep footpaths clearer.
- Closing Hugo Street where it meets Caroline Street to increase connectivity between the Yellowmunde Park and the Redfern Community Centre Park.
- Woodburn Street along the trainline: an increase in height and density and commercial creative space to bring in employment to the area will bring more life to the area and help support the local food and services within the area.
- Public power outlets to recharge disability scooters.
- Flyover cycle/pedestrian bridges across Abercrombie Street, Lawson Street and Cleveland Street were all mentioned as ways to increase safety and area connectivity.
- Upgrade the Seymour Centre carpark with Aboriginal art and greenery creating publicly accessible rooftop garden.
- More connected cycleways, especially into the city. Abercrombie street is particularly disconnected across Cleveland Street.
- A further crossing of the train lines near the 'Large Erecting Shop' in South Eveleigh will be required.

Streetscapes: Aboriginal acknowledgement and celebration

Infrastructure and signage were seen as important ways to strengthen connections between people and place, specifically in relation to deepening connection to Country.

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- Take into account the unique character and history of the Block. This should be at the centre of decisions made in this place. We will look back at this place in decades as a rebirth place for Aboriginal Australia and one of the most significant chapters of Australia's history.
- Welcoming and informative signage. History plaques, sculptures, honouring Indigenous Elders and local Indigenous people of note as well as the history of the area.
- Walking tour as a way for people to learn about Aboriginal culture, history and places.
- Indigenous place names displayed.
- Preserve and increase public art by Aboriginal artists.
- Establish an Aboriginal cultural centre.

Streetscapes: Terrace building on corner of Caroline and Hugo Streets.

Specific community comments regarding future uses of Caroline/Hugo Street terrace.

Locating a museum in the terrace is suggested in the submission from the Far West Redfern Dwellers (see Appendix D).

'The idea of making this terrace house a museum for the Block is great.' (comment was placed on Social pinpoint data map and was 'liked' by other community members 8 times).

Two other specific comments were made in the consultation regarding this building:

- 'Welcome to Redfern - coffee shop run by local enterprise. Extend the corner building on Hugo/Caroline streets for a hole in the wall cafe with seating benches.'
- 'Opening a Café at the Community Centre (potentially extend building on Hugo/Caroline streets to be small café).'

Street scapes – Hugo Street: Basketball Court, Yellowmundee Park, Hugo Street Dog Park, and Hugo Street Reserve

The mixed-use area on the western side of Hugo Street was the subject of much discussion with a general consensus that renovations are necessary. Opinions ranged from the retention of existing infrastructure footprints with a general upgrading of facilities coupled with potential changes to usage and noise mitigation to a significant restructure of the area's overall layout and usage mix.

Basketball Court

The basketball Court is a significant point of contention within the community.

Feedback demonstrates the basketball court is important to a diverse range of local teenagers and adults. Feedback highlighted the need for renovation of the existing court to improve lighting and the playing surface.

Other community members have suggested that the basketball court should be removed as part of a remodelling of the area to maximise quieter passive green space. They raised noise as impacting on the surrounding residents. These submissions, including Far West Redfern Dwellers, proposed using Hugo Street reserve as a place for passive recreation, plantings and off-leash dog area.

Participants have suggested moving the basketball court to the Community Centre Park or to the northern edge of Hugo Street Reserve and potentially reducing it to a half court.

Hugo Street Dog Park

A number of comments regarding the dog park were in favour of reviewing its current usage with the overall sentiment being that it could be better utilised as a naturally planted multi-use green space. It was noted that having a dog park area that is fenced encourages attendance by more dangerous dogs and professional dog walkers with multiple dogs; both factors being seen as negatives for the local community.

The Charles Kernan Reserve in Darlington was mentioned as a possible model for a mixed-use alternative with an off-leash area for dogs.

Consultation highlighted that a further cultural element to be considered when thinking of the future development of the Hugo Street site is the mural by Bronwyn Bancroft (created in collaboration with Dale Jones-Evans and local community), 'United we stand, divided we fail the future'. This mural runs the length of the wall behind the dog park, the basketball court and the Hugo Street Reserve. Comments were made about the importance of incorporating the mural into the overall design of the area and the potential addition of subtle lighting at night.

Hugo Street Reserve

A number of participants saw this space as having greater potential for community gatherings, off-leash dog play and a community garden. There was also the suggestion made to restore rear access into the Hugo Street Reserve (and any wider redeveloped green space along Hugo Street) for homes on Abercrombie Street. Currently this is where the Bronwyn Bancroft mural is situated.

Yellowmundee Park

Changes to Yellowmundee Park that were suggested included its use as the site for a community garden, the inclusion of sculptural markers of previous terrace buildings (see Appendix D) and more native planting.

Local Activities and Events	
Local activities and events were seen as an important way to foster connections between People and Place. Specific suggestions made regarding the nature of these events are as follows:	
• Being consultative and inclusive of local community members to improve communication and engagement regarding workshops and events to increase participation and ensure relevance to the local community.	
• Ensuring events were free or very low cost.	
• By welcoming political discussion and debate from a wide range of figures.	
• Supporting local arts and music scene through concerts and exhibitions.	
• Specific development of intergenerational activities.	
• More events with street closures like the Fair day and street parties or night markets so neighbours meet each other.	
• Communal food events – night markets, fresh food markets, Elder’s lunches and public BBQs.	
• Regular events celebrating the uniqueness and diversity of living in Redfern.	
• Increase activities for local Indigenous cultural groups.	
• More themed events: Singles night, parents' night, sporting nights, playgroups.	
• Events aimed at fostering connections between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.	
• Events in parks celebrating Indigenous culture: street theatre, dance, poetry performances in park	
• Events aimed at bringing together local residents, businesses and organisations.	

Social Pinpoint Data

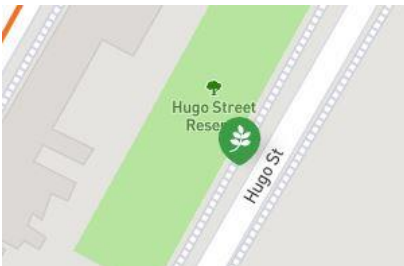
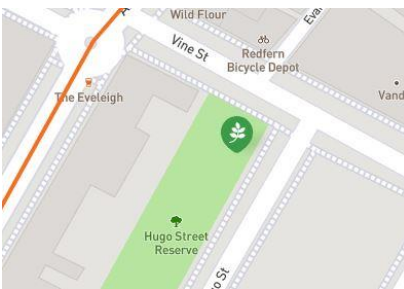
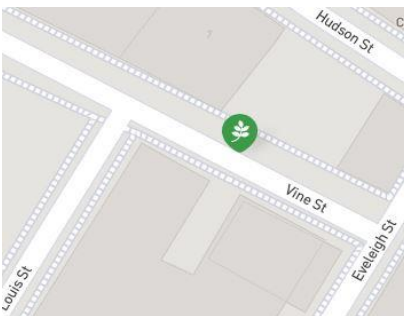
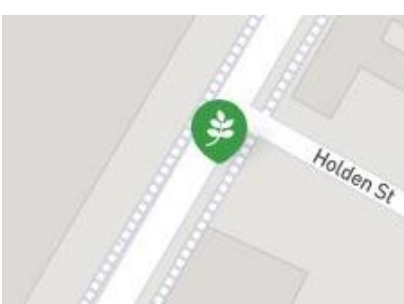

The Social Pinpoint site for the area engaged a total of 192 people during the consultation period.

A total of 39 comments were made by 15 people. The remaining visitors to the site participated by ‘liking’ the comments that appealed to them.

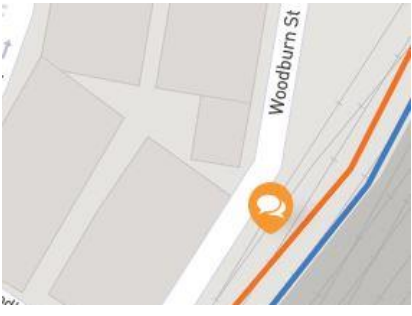
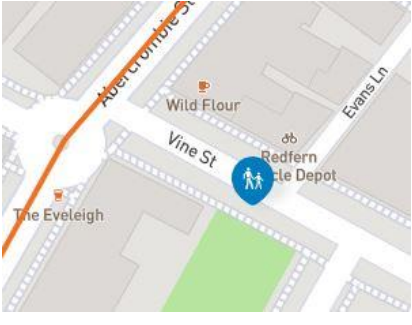
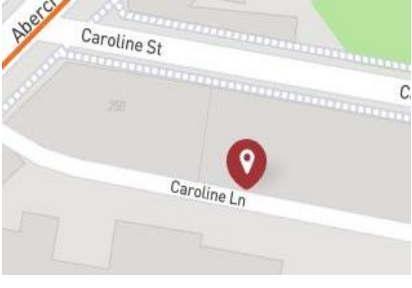


All relevant Social Pinpoint comments are noted throughout this document in support of the wider themes identified in the consultation. Additionally, to follow, the ten most ‘liked’ comments are listed verbatim.

Map	Comment	Likes
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Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan:
Phase 1

	<p>1. Hugo street reserve has huge potential to become a gathering place for the community. To do this we would need to replace the basketball court with a green space, and provide access to the green space to the terraces adjacent the reserve on Abercrombie Street. This model is used successfully in many other reserves/parks in Redfern and Surry Hills (e.g. The Chelsea Street Playground).</p>	<p>29</p>
	<p>2. Native planting for educational purposes would be great (a native medicinal garden or similar) also as a gathering place where people can meet.</p>	<p>19</p>
	<p>3. This end of Vine is unfortunately decaying - it would be great if the area could be done up with verges and more trees.</p>	<p>18</p>
	<p>4. More trees on Eveleigh St would be great (a couple of Eucalypti unfortunately have been snapped broken).</p>	<p>17</p>
	<p>5. Hugo Street reserve must surely be one of the most frequented parks in all the South Sydney area, so something about its design must surely be seen as a success! Unfortunately, the use of the middle area as a basketball court causes significant distress to neighbours, as balls are frequently kicked with vigour into the mural/fence, the noise of which reverberates loudly directly into the small adjoining courtyards of the terraces there. Perhaps the basketball court could be relocated?</p>	<p>14</p>

Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan:
Phase 1

	<p>6. This end of Woodburn Street is a hotspot for rubbish dumping. It needs more cleaning or surveillance perhaps?</p>	<p>14</p>
	<p>7. Vine Street is becoming increasingly dangerous as cars speed through completely disregarding speed limits and prevailing conditions. In conjunction with conversations about reducing the speed limit to X, it would be nice to see some visual communication to drivers, traffic calming devices and actual enforcement of traffic laws.</p>	<p>13</p>
	<p>8. Recognise the history of the Block and the community leaders who fought create it.</p>	<p>13</p>
	<p>9. The area could be better accessible - footpaths are currently not very good for people with disabilities and access to Lawson Street requires quite a few steps.</p>	<p>13</p>
	<p>10. The playground is well used and could be increased (more and better equipment).</p>	<p>12</p>

Feedback from children and young people

We ran workshops with Redfern Out of School Hours Care (OOSH) and Redfern Youth Connect.

The feedback documented below is from the discussions we had with children and young people as part of the consultation.

Workshops

- Redfern OOSH: 40 students, ages 5-12, 21 November, 3pm – 6pm.
 - Redfern Youth Connect: 15 students, ages 13-16, 21 November, 3pm – 6pm.
-

Key themes

Road safety

Identified designated areas for crossing roads, more signage making drivers aware that a high number of children are in the area.

Improved lighting after dark.

Hugo Street Basketball Court

Basketball as an important community activity was widely noted in discussions and surveys. The need for court renovation was widely commented on – specifically resurfacing of the playing area, fixing the fence and the addition of lighting. The basketball court was seen as a space where older young people felt comfortable to exercise and socialise.

Redfern Community Centre Park redesign

Children and young people participating in the consultation emphasised the need for more green space in front of the Community Centre including the grassing of the cement area bordering Caroline Street for ball games like football which benefit from a flat grassed area.

There was strong interest in a community garden (native and edible) that children can participate in.

There was strong support for a BBQ area, seating and natural shading from trees.

Suggestions were made for a basketball half court to be included in the redesign of the area.

Playground Redesign

The consultation workshopped playground redesign with local children by exploring innovative and culturally engaged designs of playgrounds from different locations around Australia.

Major themes included:

Elements connecting children to Country should be embedded in the design: totems, Aboriginal artistic designs and elements from nature (shells / animals / plants). Preference was expressed for natural materials (wood / sand) and organic lines with areas that cater to active play and quieter reflection (yarning circle / gardening areas / tree house).

Elements of waterplay were mentioned, and challenging and exciting play equipment like flying foxes, slides, monkey bars, rock climbing wall, big swings, climbing frames, trampolines and skating facilities (half pipe).

Selection of designs from children

Participants were asked to design their own park. They used images of innovative parks from around Australia and their own drawings. After they drew their parks, facilitators discussed the elements with them and wrote the names of the equipment onto the drawings. A selection of these are as follows:

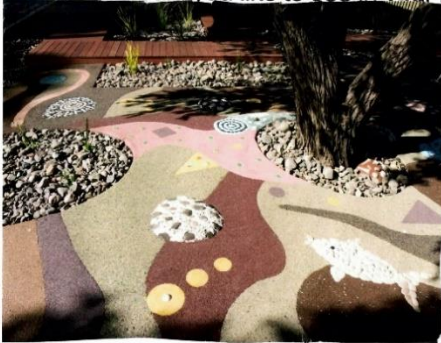




Ideas for the future



What would you like to see in your neighbourhood in the future?



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Ideas for the future



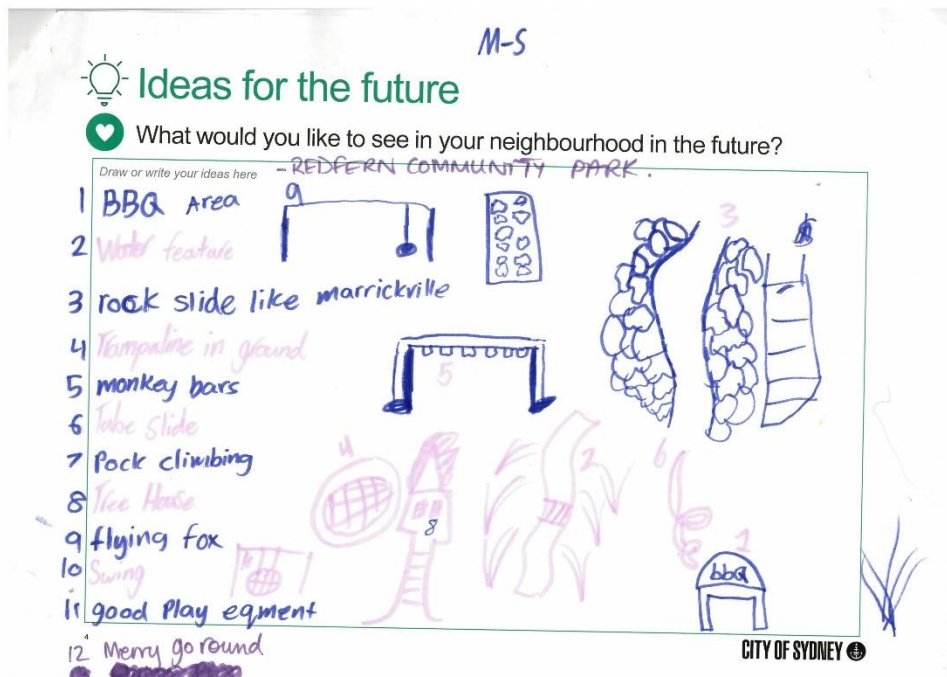
What would you like to see in your neighbourhood in the future?

Draw or write your ideas here



- Playground - FUN! + BIG
- Skate Park
- Real grass
- Shelter
- Tree House
- Fire pit
- Community garden/ Native garden
- BBQs
- Swings
- community gathering space
- Water park

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Communications activities

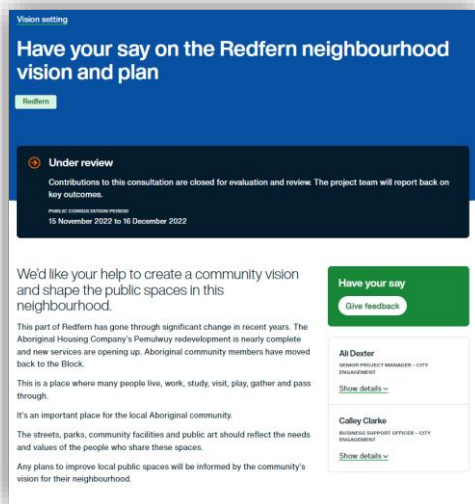
Activity	Outcome
Sydney Your Say webpage The Sydney Your Say page had high time on site and scroll depth which suggest people were reading the content.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 594 unique page views• 43 document downloads
Social Pinpoint The Social Pinpoint site was visited a total of 812 times during the consultation period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 39 comments by 15 unique users• 192 Unique users
Lord Mayor letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To 3,490 properties in the area
Notification email to key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To 133 key stakeholders on 16 November
eNewsletters Sydney Your Say November edition Redfern Community Centre December edition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To 7,075 subscribers on 21 Nov• To 369 subscribers on 5 Dec
On site signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 signs were displayed in local parks, community centre and businesses

Appendices

Appendix A: Communications activities

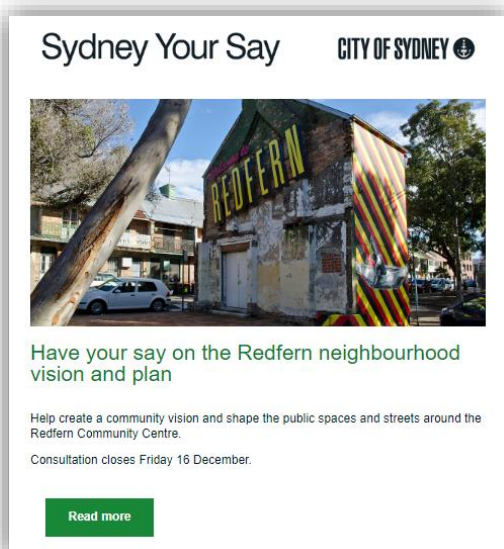
Webpage

- Sydney Your Say webpage with survey, interactive map, discussion guide and other key information about the consultation.



Notification via eNews

- Inclusion in Sydney Your Say eNewsletter on 21 November (7,075 subscribers) and Redfern Community Centre eNewsletter on 5 December (369 subscribers).



Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan: Phase 1

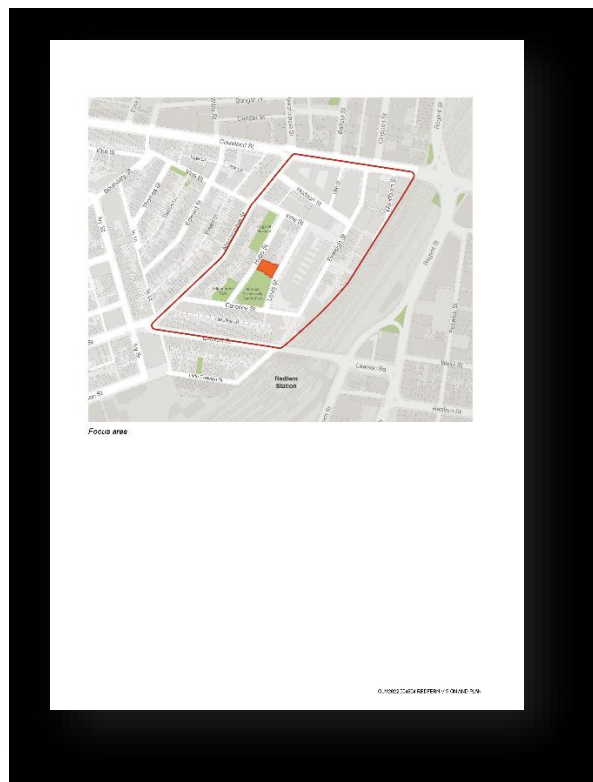
Posters in the local area

Posters were displayed in local parks, community centre and businesses during the consultation.



Letter to local area

A letter was sent to 3,490 addresses in the local area notifying them of the consultation.



Email to key stakeholders

An email was sent on 16 November to 133 key stakeholders notifying them of the consultation.

Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan: Phase 1



Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan

I invite you to help us create a community vision to shape the public spaces around the Redfern Community Centre. This is part of a broader, long-term plan to improve the public spaces in Redfern and Waterloo.

This part of Redfern has gone through significant change in recent years.

The Aboriginal Housing Company's Pemulwuy redevelopment is nearly complete, and new services are opening. Aboriginal community members have moved back to the Block.

This is a place where many people live, work, study, visit, play, move through, and gather. It is an important place for the local Aboriginal community.

The streets, parks, community facilities and public art should reflect the needs and values of the people who use them. Our plans to improve these public spaces will be informed by the community's vision for their neighbourhood.

How to give feedback

I invite you to join me at a community session in the Redfern Community Centre at 4pm on Monday 28 November. We will have a barbecue and the project team will be available from 3pm to 7pm to talk to you about the projects and hear your ideas.

There will also be a stall at the Edward Street Fair on Sunday 20 November and at the centre's end of year celebration on Wednesday 30 November.

[Visit our interactive map](#), fill in a survey, or download a discussion guide by 5pm on Monday 16 December.

Have your say

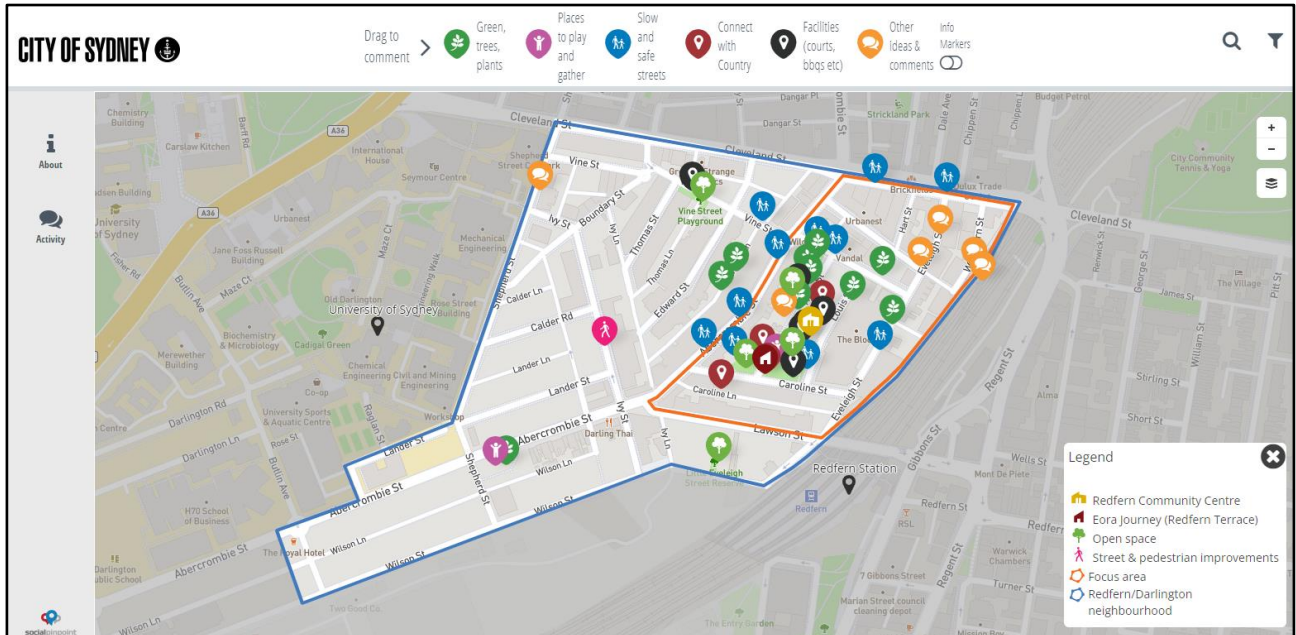
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clover Moore".

Lord Mayor
Clover Moore

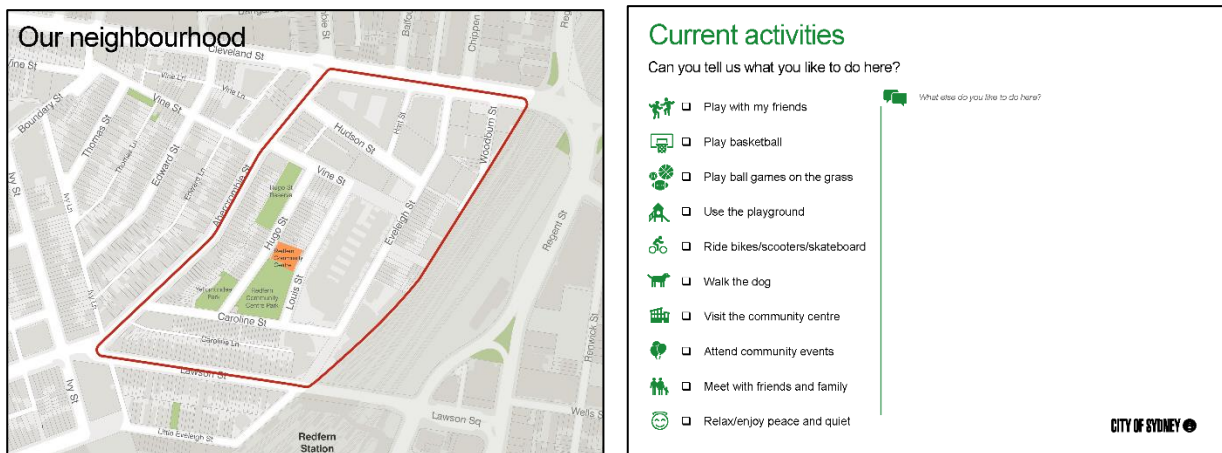
Appendix B: Consultation materials

The following materials were created to support the consultation.


Social Pinpoint: Interactive online mapping tool




Activity sheets for children and youth workshops



Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan: Phase 1


 **Group brainstorm**


 **What do you love about your neighbourhood?**

Record keywords or full sentences from your discussion here

1

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 **Ideas for the future**

 **What would you like to see in your neighbourhood in the future?**

Draw or write your ideas here

2

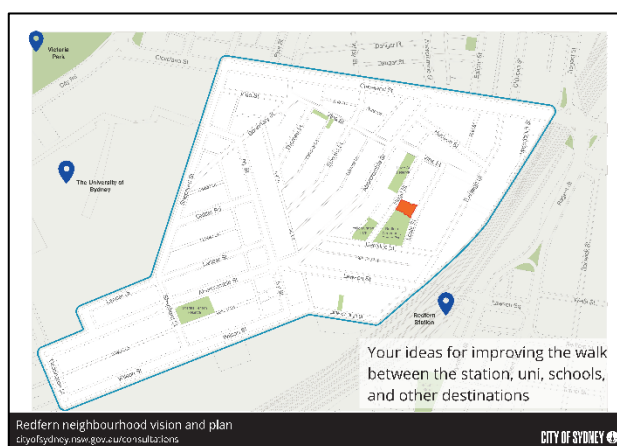
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Discussion guide

A discussion guide was developed to be used at meetings, workshops and events. Forty-four discussion guides were submitted.



A1 information boards used at pop-up sessions



Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan: Phase 1

<p>What do you value about this place now?</p>	<p>What do you want for this place in the future?</p>
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Appendix C: Selection of photos from the consultation



Photos from workshop with Redfern OOSH



Photos from community session on 28 November

Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan:
Phase 1



Photos from Edward Street Fair on 20 November

Appendix D: Far West Redfern Dwellers submission (E-mail)

Trim ref. 2022/619442 and 2022/644896 (additional info)

Dear Joel, Eva, Laurie and Mark

REDFERN NEIGHBOURHOOD VISION AND PLAN

The community consultation for the public spaces in our area has started. This is an incredibly exciting process for our community and (as you well know!) we have been advocating for it for a very long time. Thank you for making it happen!

We have prepared a consolidated concept plan to show what is important to us, please find it attached. We hope you will find it useful going forward. We will be submitting this also to councillors with a summary of our advocacy activities over the past four years.

Have a good weekend!

for FWRD

Matteo, Jose, Judex (Abercrombie Street)

Nick, Bob, Rachel, Helen (Hugo Street)

Brian (Vine Street)



FWRD

Far West Redfern Dwellers

@FarRedfern

HUGO STREET AND YELLOMUNDEE PARKS

COMMUNITY GROUP VISION AND IDEAS



FAR WEST REDFERN DWELLERS
@FarRedfern

Engagement report – Redfern neighbourhood vision and plan: Phase 1

Additional info supplied (2022/644896)

Dear Clover and Jess

REDFERN NEIGHBOURHOOD VISION AND PLAN

The community consultation for the public spaces in our area has started. This is an incredibly exciting process for our community and (as you well know!) we have been advocating for it for a very long time. Thank you for supporting us so far!

We have prepared a consolidated concept plan to show what is important to us, please find it attached. We hope you will find it useful going forward. We have also compiled and attached for you a summary of our community activity over the past four years:

March 2021

Petition to extend shared traffic zones and implement traffic calming measures in West Redfern and Darlington - over 200 signatories

January 2020

Petition to restore access to properties affected by the Hugo Street Reserve artwork - 13 signatories

July 2019

Petition to relocate the basketball practice court - 36 signatories

June 2019

Hugo Street Reserve Proposal - 40 signatories

We hope we will be able to count on your ongoing support to make the public spaces of our area better and accessible to everyone.

Have a good weekend and see you on Monday at the community consultation!

for FWRD

Matteo, Jose, Judex (Abercrombie Street)
Nick, Bob, Rachel, Helen (Hugo Street)
Brian (Vine Street)



FWRD

Far West Redfern Dwellers
@FarRedfern