



---

# Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

---

P.O Box 989, Lane Cove NSW 1595

ABN 50 518 833 556

All Councillors and  
The General Manager  
Mr Craig Wrightson  
Lane Cove Council

24 May, 2023

Dear Councillors and Mr Wrightson

**RE: Heritage Listing BANDANGI**

The Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society (LCBCS) is pleased to provide comments on the State Heritage Listing of the foreshore area to be known as Badangi. The Lane Cove portion of the Badangi area covers Manns Point, Holloway Reserve and Greendale Park.

These bushland reserves, as well as the other Lane Cove bushland reserves offer the opportunity to experience our indigenous vegetation and gain a glimpse of an earlier Australia prior to urbanisation. The Society supports the state heritage listing of this foreshore area and hopes that this will provide added protection of our valuable urban bushland.

We provide comments to address Council's request for feedback on (1) Impacts on Council activities, and (2) Impacts for development activities adjacent to the sites. Further, we suggest (3) the need for funding opportunities through the State government, Heritage Council etc to support Council in its management of these State significant areas and public education. We provide some further detail below.

**1. Impacts on Council activities**

Council has a duty of care in its management responsibility of this urban bushland. This covers a wide area, including:

**Vegetation Management:** weed management and regeneration including the use of fire, indigenous planting where necessary, habitat restoration including on creek and foreshore embankments, the strengthening of wildlife corridors, erosion mitigation.

**Fauna management:** provision of indigenous fauna habitat, management of pests with approved methods, creation of wildlife protection areas.

In addition, it is vital that Council can guarantee resident and visitor access to its bushland. Access needs to be ensured for the routine management of the reserve, for the public to enjoy the reserves, and, for emergency responses. This includes:

**Access for emergency response:** such as storm water damage, chemical spills, fire, land contamination, potential land slide.

*Access for the public:* both currently and in the future through, for example, the maintenance and creation of tracks, managed access from waterways, provision of seating as deemed appropriate by Council bushland staff.

## **2. Impacts for development activities on adjacent land**

Lane Cove Council's DCP must be clear and unequivocal in its protection of the bushland from development activities, which is invariably on steep slopes above the bushland. To further assist in mitigating future development activities on the State Heritage listed bushland, Council should ensure that the areas surrounding Badangi remain R2 zones.

Further, if the area between Manns Point and Holloway Reserve, the long-standing working waterfront currently occupied by Viva oil refinery, changes in status, Lane Cove Council must act quickly to ensure that this area becomes part of the public foreshore domain. Perhaps there is a mechanism that Council can put in place to earmark this area should its status change in future.

## **3. External funding opportunity**

Lane Cove Council has a well-developed plan of management for all its bushland reserves. The pressures of urbanisation add substantially to the costs of this management. The elevation of Manns Point, Holloway Reserve and Greendale Park to State Heritage Listing recognises the uniqueness of Sydney's native vegetation along the harbour foreshore. It is important in that Badangi provides a 'showcase' for Sydney residents and visitors of what the natural environment looked like prior to settlement. As such there should be funding available, on a competitive basis, to councils to assist in their maintenance of this exceptional resource. A public education program, perhaps run in conjunction with adjoining councils, should also be developed. To this end, the LCBCS urges Lane Cove Council to write to the appropriate authorities and to the State Minister for the Environment and the State Minister for Heritage to highlight this need and request that **competitive funding be made available on an ongoing basis.**

We trust that these comments are helpful and thank Council for the opportunity to comment on this important development.

Yours sincerely,  
Shauna Forrest- President  
on behalf of Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society  
bushlandpresident@gmail.com