



Ku-ring-gai Council  
*Environmental Levy*

## Attachment 5

Community consultation materials



# COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MATERIALS

## Table of contents

<b>Pre-consultation information campaign .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Excerpt of SRV application information in July 2018 rates notice .....	1
Environmental Levy display and information sessions.....	3
<b>Pre-consultation digital communication campaign .....</b>	<b>6</b>
Environmental Levy video .....	6
Webpage 1: Information on 'having your say' .....	6
Five Facebook posts .....	9
<b>Direct engagement .....</b>	<b>14</b>
Information pack for recruited survey respondents .....	14
Recruited survey questionnaire .....	18
Community consultation workshop agenda .....	23
Community consultation workshop PowerPoint presentation .....	28
Community consultation workshop handouts .....	54
Webpage 2: Information on 'having your say' .....	65
Council's 'OurSay' online engagement platform .....	68
Promotional poster for completion of opt-in, printed survey .....	79
Copy of opt-in, printed survey.....	80
Media release .....	84
Corporate advertisement.....	85
Ku-ring-gai website homepage banner.....	86
Beeswax wrap.....	86
Advertisements in the Sydney Observer, Hornsby Advocate and North Shore Times .....	87
Direct mail-out to businesses .....	90
Six Facebook posts.....	91
Tweets .....	97
Email notifications to email subscriber lists.....	98
Notification in Sustainability E-news .....	100
Notification in Ku-ring-gai E-news .....	101

## Pre-consultation information campaign

### Excerpt of SRV application information in July 2018 rates notice \*

- sent to 43,986 households

# SUSTAINING SYDNEY'S GREEN HEART

Ku-ring-gai Council's Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 as a 5% levy on top of the annual rate. It funds around \$2.5 million worth of environmental programs and works every year that:

- reuse water for irrigation
- protect our bushland, waterways and wildlife
- reduce our energy and water use
- reduce and recycle our waste
- boost sustainable transport
- provide recreation activities in natural areas
- ensure best practice environmental management
- foster environmental research
- help our local businesses and community to be more sustainable
- has secured an additional \$9.9 million in grants from other government agencies since 2005



## WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

Sustainable  
transport



**8.9 km** of new cycle ways stretch across Ku-ring-gai from Roseville to St Ives  
**30 km** of walking tracks created and maintained

Bushland  
and wildlife



**60 hectares**  
of bushland reserves managed to  
enhance biodiversity

**Over 600** environmental  
volunteers dedicating over 12,000  
volunteer hours per year

Community



**Over 25,000**  
participants in Council's Loving Living  
Ku-ring-gai program since 2012

**Over 10,000**  
actions taken by residents to  
benefit the environment since 2012

Water and  
catchments



**86%** of total water demand at  
our harvesting / reuse sites met by  
harvested / reused water in 2016/17

**10,845 tonnes**  
of rubbish diverted from our waterways  
since 2012

Energy



Solar PV installed at **7** Council  
facilities and solar capacity doubled  
over the past 3 years





## Future of the Environmental Levy

The current Environmental Levy is due to expire on 30 June 2019. Under the current levy the average residential ratepayer pays around \$80 as part of their annual rates. The average business ratepayer pays around \$65 as part of their annual rates.

Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers. This would commence from 1 July 2019.

If the Levy is not renewed Council will need to significantly review its environmental programs and works as we will be unable to deliver these at current service levels.



## Why does the Council want to make the Environmental Levy permanent?

Much has already been achieved by the Environmental Levy. However all this work needs to be maintained and more needs to be done if Council is to continue protecting Ku-ring-gai's unique natural environment. Our population and housing density is increasing, meaning our natural areas need even more protection and improved management.

## Have your say

As a ratepayer, your opinion is very important. You are invited to learn more about the Environmental Levy and to have your say on its future. Over the coming months Council will be seeking your feedback on the continuation of the Levy and what programs and works should be funded if it continues. Keep watching our website at [kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy) for ways to have your say.



\* Please note that the annual Levy funding amount, leveraged grant amount and 'What We've Achieved' was updated in future communication materials to reflect funding, grants and program outcomes until 30 June 2018 (this notice was prepared in May 2018).



## Environmental Levy display and information sessions

- Wildflower Garden Festival (26 August 2018)



- Gordon Shopping Centre (29 August, 8 September and 19 September 2018)





- That Great Market, East Lindfield (16 September 2018) and Turramurra Fresh Produce and Gourmet Market (7 November 2018)





- Turrumurra Library (display only) for one week in October 2018 and Gordon Library (display only) for three weeks in October 2018





# Pre-consultation digital communication campaign

## Environmental Levy video

- View the video at <http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy>

## Webpage 1: Information on 'having your say'

Home > Current projects & priorities > Key priorities > Environment & sustainability > Environmental Levy

### Environmental Levy

**Supporting you to enjoy and protect our natural environment**

The Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue. It funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works every year, to ensure Ku-ring-gai's unique bushland, waterways and urban environment are conserved and maintained. Under the current Environmental Levy the average residential ratepayer pays around \$80 as part of their annual rates. The average business ratepayer pays around \$65 as part of their annual rates.

### The current Environmental Levy is expiring

The current Environmental Levy is due to expire in June 2019.

Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers, which would commence from 1 July 2019.

### Have your say

We are inviting all ratepayers to have a say on the future of the Environmental Levy.

In October 2018, Council will be seeking feedback on the continuation of the Levy and what programs and works should be funded, if it continues, through an online survey and community workshops.

To be kept informed about these feedback opportunities [register here](#).

Come and have a chat at these locations throughout September/October.

- Wildflower Garden Festival: 26 Aug
- Gordon Centre: 29 Aug, 8 Sep, 19 Sep
- That Great Market, East Lindfield: 16 Sep
- Turramurra Fresh Produce And Gourmet Market: 7 Nov
- Turramurra Library (display only)
- Gordon Library (display only)

**FREE Register at events and get your Beeswax Wrap!**

Beeswax wraps will only be available at the above events.  
Stocks are limited.

## Why does Council want to make the Environmental Levy permanent?

The revenue Council receives from rates is not enough to cover the investment required to adequately manage these assets into the future. We need a permanent income source that funds an adequate level of environmental programs and works to secure the long term protection of our unique natural environment as our population grows and housing density increases; whilst continuing to support our community to live more sustainably.

Much has already been achieved by the Environmental Levy to date. A permanent Levy will:

- Secure the ongoing delivery and continuity of Council's environmental programs and works at service levels that will effectively manage our bushland and waterways and the sustainability performance of our buildings and facilities, at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long term planning for environmental programs and works, ensuring we maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost;
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy; and
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works (often grants require matched funding).

## Environmental Levy works and programs

Read more about the [key programs and projects](#) being delivered.

Discover the work we are doing across our bushland and waterways through the Environmental Levy - [click here to watch our Environmental Levy video](#).

## Benefits of the Environmental Levy

Key programs and works enable us to:

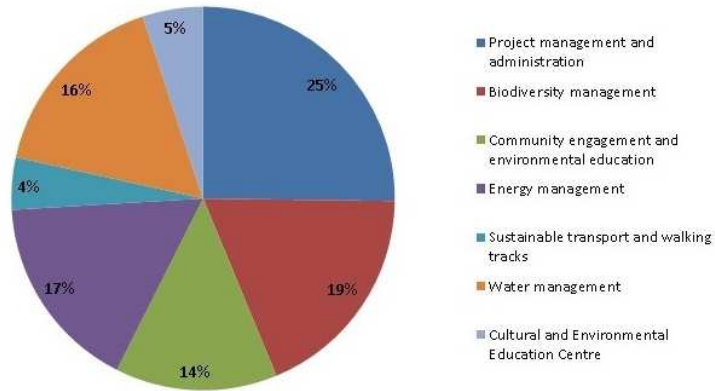
- reuse water for irrigation
- protect our bushland, waterways and wildlife
- reduce our energy and water use
- reduce and recycle our waste
- boost sustainable transport
- provide recreation activities in natural areas
- ensure best practice environmental management
- foster environmental research
- help our local businesses and community to be more sustainable

The Environmental Levy has secured an additional \$10 million in grants from other government agencies.



Read our [Environmental Levy fact sheet \(pdf, 3MB\)](#) for more detail on what we have achieved.

## Current Environmental Levy budget allocation



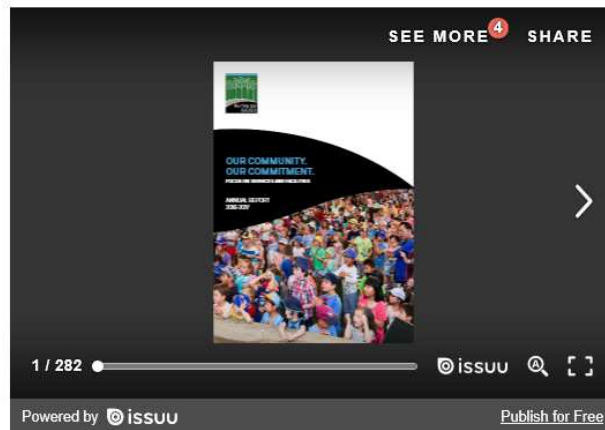
## Find out more

An [independent program assessment \(pdf, 920KB\)](#) of the Levy processes and outcomes was completed for 2012-2015.

## Annual Report 2016-17

Go to page 65 of Council's Annual Report 2016-2017 below for an outline of the Levy program.

[Annual Report 2016-2017 \(pdf, 11MB\)](#)



Interactive version: Click the 'rectangle page' icon to view the interactive report in full screen. You can preview the pages of the report by clicking the arrow on the far right (to go to the next page) and then left (to go to previous page).

## More information

Contact the Environment & Sustainability Team on 9424 0893 or [sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au)

Give feedback on this page





## Five Facebook posts

- Featured on both the Loving Living Ku-ring-gai and Ku-ring-gai Council Facebook pages, reaching 13,697 people

 **Loving Living Ku-ring-gai** 13 September · 🌐

Your Environmental Levy  
The Loving Living Ku-ring-gai team wants to meet you and share the work we are doing across our unique bushland and waterways. Come and say hello at a range of venues and grab a free beeswax wrap! Next up is That Great Market in East Lindfield this Sunday 10am-3pm.  
Find out more and register to have your say <http://bit.ly/2PVXo5D>



250 People reached      13 Engagements      [Boost Post](#)

 Like       Comment       Share      



**Ku-ring-gai Council** shared a video.



Published by Ku-ring-gai Council [?] · 7 September 2018 · 🌐

Discover the work we are doing across our bushland and waterways through the Environmental Levy.

Our sustainability team will be at Gordon Centre tomorrow Sat 8 Sep 10am-3pm. Come and say hello, learn more about the Environmental Levy and grab a free beeswax wrap!

<http://bit.ly/2PVXo5D>



3,342 Views

**Loving Living Ku-ring-gai**

6 September 2018 · 🌐

Discover the work we are doing across our bushland and waterways through the Environmental Levy. We want to meet you at various locations through Sep/Oct.

Come ...

[See more](#)





## Loving Living Ku-ring-gai



6 September · 🌐

Discover the work we are doing across our bushland and waterways through the Environmental Levy. We want to meet you at various locations through Sep/Oct. Come and say hello and grab a free beeswax wrap! Next is the Gordon Centre Sat 8 Sep 10am-3pm.

Find out more and register to have your say <http://bit.ly/2PVXo5D>



8,470

People reached

295

Engagements

[Boost Again](#)

### Recent activity

Boosted on 6 September

Audience: Australia: Gordon (+25 mi), Hornsby (+2...

Completed

[View results](#)



5 shares · 3.3K views

Like

Comment

Share







### Loving Living Ku-ring-gai



29 August · 🌐

Council staff are at the Gordon Centre till 4pm today Wednesday 29 August talking to residents about the environmental levy. Drop in and see us and pick up a free beeswax wrap!



483

People reached

40

Engagements

[Boost Post](#)



1 Comment

Like

Comment

Share





### Ku-ring-gai Council



Published by Ku-ring-gai Council [?] · 29 August 2018 · 🌐

Council staff are at the Gordon Centre till 4pm today Wednesday 29 August talking to residents about the environmental levy. Drop in and see us and pick up a free beeswax wrap!



✔ Get more likes, comments and shares  
Boost this post for \$30 to reach up to 28,000 people.

1,152  
People reached

42  
Engagements

[Boost Post](#)



1 share

# Direct engagement

## Information pack for recruited survey respondents



# What is the Environmental Levy

The Environmental Levy funds the annual delivery of approximately \$2.8 million of environmental programs and works and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue. The Levy commenced in 2005, was renewed in 2011 with strong community support, and is due to expire in June 2019.

The current levy equates to approximately \$80 per annum for the average residential ratepayer, demonstrated by the sample rates notice below. Your 2018/19 rates notice will provide you with the annual Levy amount for your household.

Property Location & Description		PROPERTY NO.	
19 Residential Road TURRAMURRA NSW 2074		333333	
Lot 2 DP 1212121			
Rates and Charges	Rate / Charge	Rateable Value	Amount
Residential Rate	0.00066010	1130000	\$745.91
Environmental - Special Rate Variation	0.00007126	1130000	\$80.52
Infrastructure - Primary Rate	0.00030548	1130000	\$345.19
Infrastructure - Primary Rate Base Amt	Base Amount	1	\$272.00
Infrastructure - Special Rate Variation	0.00003726	1130000	\$42.10
Infrastructure - Special Rate Variation Base Amt	Base Amount	1	\$32.00
Stormwater Management Charge	per property	1	\$25.00
Residential Waste Charge 120L Full Service	per service	1	\$455.00

1st Instalment	2nd Instalment	3rd Instalment	4th Instalment	OVERDUE	TOTAL AMOUNT
\$500.72 31/08/2018	\$499.00 30/11/2018	\$499.00 28/02/2019	\$499.00 31/05/2019	\$0.00	\$1,997.72



**You can now receive your rates notice by email**  
To register go to council's website or scan this QR code with your mobile device.

J McKee  
GENERAL MANAGER

### 2018/2019 RATE NOTICE





## What does the Environmental Levy fund?

The Environmental programs and works funded through the Environmental Levy enable us to:

- reuse water for irrigation
- protect our bushland, waterways and wildlife
- reduce our energy and water use
- reduce and recycle our waste
- boost sustainable transport
- provide recreation activities in natural areas
- ensure best practice environmental management
- foster environmental research
- help our local businesses and community to be more sustainable

The Environmental Levy has leveraged an additional \$10 million in grants from other government agencies since 2005 through matched funding arrangements.



## WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

### Sustainable transport and recreation



**9 kms** of new cycle ways stretch across Ku-ring-gai from Roseville to St Ives  
**30 kms** of walking tracks created and maintained

### Water and catchments



**86%** of total water demand at our harvesting / reuse sites met by harvested / reused water in 2017/18  
**12,900 tonnes** of rubbish diverted from our waterways since 2012

### Bushland and wildlife



**60 hectares** restored within 38 bushland reserves to enhance biodiversity  
**7 kms** of major fire trail upgrades since 2012  
**23** ecological burns completed covering 14 hectares since 2012

### Community



**28,000** participants in Council's Loving Living Ku-ring-gai program since 2012  
**Over 10,000** actions taken by residents to benefit the environment since 2012  
**Nearly 700** environmental volunteers dedicating 13,610 hours per year

### Energy



Solar PV installed at **10** Council facilities, 13% reduction in annual electricity use in Council buildings





## Future of the Environmental Levy

Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) in early 2019 for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy, under 508(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers. This would commence from 1 July 2019. The application must demonstrate to IPART:

- the need for a continuation of the Environmental Levy
- the purpose of the Levy and what the Levy will fund
- the impact to ratepayers should the Levy continue
- the level of ratepayer support to continue the Levy

If the application is approved, the \$2.8 million will continue to be invested in environmental programs and works. If the application is not approved, rates will be reduced by approximately \$80 per annum for the average residential ratepayer.

## Why is Council applying for an extension of the Environmental Levy?

Through our community satisfaction survey, residents have told us that the 'natural environment and open spaces' are a strength of the local area and rated a 'focus on protecting the environment' as one of the 6 highest priority issues within the Ku-ring-gai area in the next 10 years. Everyone benefits from the enhancements to the natural environment through the Levy; through improved amenity, lifestyle and wellbeing.

Should we no longer have an Environmental Levy, Council would need to significantly review and reduce its environmental programs and works as we would be unable to deliver these at current service levels. Without an Environmental Levy, funds in Council's ordinary budget would need to be diverted from other key Council services, activities and facilities that are important to our community, such as road maintenance, footpaths, drainage, parks/ gardens, sporting facilities, libraries and community facilities, to enable us to deliver a condensed environmental program.

This would likely lead to a decline in (i) the quality of our waterways and bushland; (ii) the energy and water efficiency of our buildings; (iii) support for community programs; (iv) operational cost savings; and (v) the essential service functions provided by Levy funded staff.

## Why a permanent Environmental Levy?

Council has extensive natural and built assets to manage, including over 1,100 hectares of bushland, over 170km of riparian land and numerous community buildings and facilities. The revenue Council receives from rates is not enough to cover the investment required to adequately manage these assets into the future. We need a permanent income source that funds an adequate level of environmental programs and works to secure the long term protection of our unique natural environment as our population grows and housing density increases; whilst continuing to support our community to live more sustainably.





Much has already been achieved by the Environmental Levy to date. A permanent Levy will:

- Secure the ongoing delivery and continuity of Council's environmental programs and works at service levels that will effectively manage our bushland and waterways and the sustainability performance of our buildings and facilities, at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long term planning for environmental programs and works, ensuring we maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost;
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy; and
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works (often grants require matched funding).

## What will the Levy fund in the future?

Whilst there will be a need to be responsive and adaptive, the types of environmental programs and works Council intends to fund through the Environmental Levy are:

**Water and catchment management:** stormwater harvesting and reuse systems to conserve water and irrigate our sports fields and ovals; works to improve the quality of our creeks and waterways (such as sediment basins; biofilter systems; gross pollutant traps and erosion control works); creek restoration projects; flood mitigation measures; water efficiency in buildings; and water quality monitoring.

**Energy management and climate change:** solar panels; air conditioning upgrades; energy efficient lighting upgrades; solar hot water systems; energy efficient street lighting; energy management systems; the procurement of renewable energy; and programs to help the community prepare for bushfire, floods and storms and heatwaves.

**Biodiversity management:** bush restoration in high value reserves; burns to replicate the natural fire cycle and promote biodiversity; pest species management; environmental monitoring programs; native bee hives for residents; dumping prevention in bushland and fauna monitoring and management.

**Bush fire management:** fire trail construction and maintenance.

**Community engagement:** home sustainability rebates; events and workshops; environmental volunteering programs; EnviroTube Youtube channel; interpretive signs; advisory services; information campaigns; energy, water and waste audits; and community grants.

**Business engagement:** advisory services; energy, water and waste audits; and plastic reduction programs.

**Sustainable transport and community recreation:** the creation of cycle ways; maintenance of walking tracks; transition of fleet to electric vehicles; and provision of infrastructure for recreation in natural areas.





## Ku-ring-gai Environmental Levy Residents Survey

### Survey Introduction

Hello, my name is .... from Woolcott Research. You may remember that we telephoned you about a week ago to ask you to take part in a survey for Ku-ring-gai Council?

1. And recently you should have received a pack of information to read before completing the survey?

Yes – CONTINUE

No – I'm sorry to hear that. Do you have an email address so that I can email the information to you?

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ok, thanks. I will arrange to have the information emailed to you today/tomorrow. And can I arrange a time to call you back in a few days time, after you have had a chance to read the information I'm going to email you?

Call back day and time \_\_\_\_\_

Thanks very much. We'll call you back then. Goodbye.

2. And have you had a chance to read the information?

Yes – CONTINUE

No – Ok, can I arrange a time to call you back in a few days time, after you have had a chance to read the information?

Call back day and time \_\_\_\_\_

Thanks very much. We'll call you back then. Goodbye.

Great, ok I'm just going to ask you a few questions.

1. How important would you say it is for Council to continue to deliver programs and works that improve Ku-ring-gai natural environment?

Very important 1

Somewhat important 2

Not important 3

Don't know 4

2. Before receiving the information pack, were you aware of the Environmental Levy and what it delivers?

Very aware 1 GO TO Q3

Somewhat aware 2 GO TO Q3

Not aware 3 GO TO Q4

Don't know 4 GO TO Q4

3. How satisfied are you with the delivery of programs and works funded through the current Environmental Levy?

Very satisfied 1

Somewhat satisfied 2

Not satisfied 3

Don't know 4

4. As mentioned in the information sent to you, the current Environmental Levy is due to expire on 30 June 2019. Under the current levy the average residential ratepayer pays around \$80 as part of their annual rates. Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers. This would commence from 1 July 2019.

After reading the information, which of the following options do you prefer?

Continue the Environmental Levy at the existing rate (around \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer) 1 GO TO Q7

Continue the Environmental Levy at a reduced rate – and reduce the environmental services and programs offered 2 GO TO Q6

Discontinue the Environmental Levy – fund environmental programs and works from base rates and reduce other Council services 3 GO TO Q5

5. Can you please tell me why you don't support an environmental levy? (THEN GO TO CLOSING SCRIPT)

---

---

---



---



---

6. The current environment levy costs around \$80 for the average residential ratepayer per year. What proportion of this levy would you be willing to pay? Please answer with a \$ amount.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

7. As outlined in the information, Ku-ring-gai Council proposes to fund a range of programs and works through the Environmental Levy. Please rate your level of support for funding each program area on a scale of 0 (do not support at all) to 10 (very strong support).

Program	Rating from 0-10
<b>Water and catchment management</b> to improve the condition of our waterways and creeks; to harvest and reuse water for the irrigation of our sports fields and ovals; and to improve the water efficiency of our buildings.	
<b>Energy management and climate change renewable energy</b> (such as solar) and energy efficiency projects to reduce our energy use and carbon footprint and programs to help our community prepare for bushfire, floods and storms and heatwaves.	
<b>Biodiversity management</b> bush restoration in high value reserves; burns to replicate the natural fire cycle and promote biodiversity; pest species management; native bee hives for residents; dumping prevention in bushland; and wildlife monitoring and management.	
<b>Bush fire risk management</b> fire trail construction and maintenance.	
<b>Community engagement</b> home sustainability rebates and advice services; events and workshops; environmental volunteering programs; educational signs; energy, water and waste audits; and community grants for environmental projects.	
<b>Business engagement</b> advisory services; energy, water and waste audits; and plastic reduction programs.	
<b>Sustainable transport and community recreation</b> the creation of cycle ways; maintenance of walking tracks; transition of fleet to electric vehicles; and provision of infrastructure for recreation in natural areas.)	

8. Please choose the three program areas you think are most important to fund from the above list.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

9. At the moment the levy lasts for 7 years and then has to be applied for again. A permanent Levy will:

- Secure the delivery of Council’s environmental programs and works at service levels that will ensure the long term protection of our unique natural environment and continued support for our community to live more sustainably, at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long term planning for environmental programs and works, ensuring we maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost;
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy; and
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works (often grants require matched funding).

Do you support permanent continuation of the environmental levy?

Yes      1      GO TO CLOSING SCRIPT

No        2      CONTINUE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Don’t know      3

10. Can you please tell me why you don’t support the permanent continuation of the environmental levy?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**(CLOSING SCRIPT)**

11. We will also be running a community workshop about the Environmental Levy on Thursday 18 October for two to three hours, and we offer \$80 as a token of appreciation for your time if you are able to attend. Are you happy for us to re-contact you in the next few weeks to see if you are available to participate in the workshop?

Yes      1

No        2

Final comments (if they wish to add anything)

---

---

---

---

Respondents Name:

---

Address:

---

---

---

Phone No.:

---



## Community consultation workshop agenda

Time	Session details	Responsibility	Materials
6.05-6.08pm	<p><b>Welcome and Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Woolcott Research Lead Facilitator to welcome and thank participants for coming and introduce opening speaker (Marnie Kikken)</li> </ul>	WR Lead Facilitator	
6.08-6.12pm	<p><b>Brief introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome, acknowledgment of country and thanks to community for participating in consultation process.</li> <li>The Environmental Levy funds the annual delivery of approximately \$2.8 million of environmental programs and works and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue.</li> <li>The Levy commenced in 2005, was renewed in 2011 with strong community support, and is due to expire in June 2019.</li> <li>Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers.</li> <li>Our community satisfaction survey has told us that the 'natural environment and open spaces' are strongly rated in the local area. Residents rated a 'focus on protecting the environment' as one of the 6 highest priority issues within the Ku-ring-gai area in the next 10 years.</li> <li>Before applying to IPART, Council is seeking the level of ratepayer support for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy and feedback on what the Levy should fund, if it continues.</li> <li>Should there be strong ratepayer support, Council will submit its application to IPART in February 2019, and if approved, the new Environmental Levy will commence on 1 July 2019.</li> </ul>	K-R-G representative (Marnie Kikken)	PP slides
6.12-6.15pm	<p><b>How the session will run</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Woolcott Research Lead Facilitator to give overview of forum agenda and approach, the key sessions, guidelines and housekeeping. Location of toilets and evacuation in emergency.</li> </ul>	WR Lead Facilitator	PP slides
6.15-6.30pm	<p><b>Presentation: The Environmental Levy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recap of details:</li> </ul>	K-R-G	PP slides





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Want to find out their level of support for the projects proposed for each program areas and if there is anything missing.</li> <li>Introduce program areas – pie chart and budgets</li> <li>Community Survey Results at program level – the importance ratings</li> </ul>		
7.20-7.30pm	<p><b>Table Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Give out handout 2 (program areas pie chart and survey results)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reactions to survey results?</li> <li>What do you think might be the reasons for any differences between Council budgets for program areas and priorities for ratepayers from the survey?</li> </ul>	Table facilitators	Handout 2
7.30-7.35pm	<p><b>Presentation topic 1: Energy management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief outline of what projects are proposed to be funded within this Program Area.</li> </ul>	K-R-G representative	
7.35-7.45pm	<p><b>Table discussion topic 1: Energy management</b></p> <p><b>Give out Handout 3 (list of projects/areas to be funded in this Program Area)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How strongly do you support the package of projects is within this Program Area – strong, medium or little support?</li> <li>What are the strengths of this package of projects?</li> <li>What are the weaknesses of this package of projects?</li> <li>Are there any other projects that you think should be funded in this Program area?</li> </ul> <p><b>Give out rating sheet and ask to fill in overall level of support for this Program Area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain vote for this Program area</li> </ul>	WR Table Facilitators	HANDOUT 3  Voting sheet 2
7.45-7.50pm	<p><b>Presentation: topic 2: Biodiversity and bushfire management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief outline of what projects are proposed to be funded within this Program Area.</li> </ul>	K-R-G representative	
7.50-8.00pm	<p><b>Table discussion topic 2: Biodiversity and bushfire management</b></p> <p><b>Give out Handout 4 (list of projects/areas to be funded in this Program Area)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How strongly do you support the package of projects is within this Program Area – strong, medium or little support?</li> <li>What are the strengths of this package of projects?</li> <li>What are the weaknesses of this package of projects?</li> <li>Are there any other projects that you think should be funded in this Program area?</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain vote for this Program area</li> </ul>	WR Table Facilitators	HANDOUT 4  Voting sheet 2



8.00-8.10pm	DESSERT – participants to bring back to tables		
8.10-8.15pm	<p>Presentation topic 3: Water and catchment management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief outline of what projects are proposed to be funded within this Program Area.</li> </ul>	K-R-G representative	
8.15-8.25pm	<p>Table discussion topic 3: Water and catchment management</p> <p>Give out Handout 5 (list of projects/areas to be funded in this Program Area)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How strongly do you support the package of projects is within this Program Area – strong, medium or little support?</li> <li>What are the strengths of this package of projects?</li> <li>What are the weaknesses of this package of projects?</li> <li>Are there any other projects that you think should be funded in this Program area?</li> <li>Obtain vote for this Program area</li> </ul>	WR Table Facilitators	HANDOUT 5  Voting sheet 2
8.25-8.27pm	<p>Presentation topic 4: Sustainable transport and community recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief outline of what projects are proposed to be funded within this Program Area.</li> </ul>	K-R-G representative	
8.27-8.35	<p>Table discussion topic 4: Sustainable transport and community recreation</p> <p>Give out Handout 6 (list of projects/areas to be funded in this Program Area)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How strongly do you support the package of projects is within this Program Area – strong, medium or little support?</li> <li>What are the strengths of this package of projects?</li> <li>What are the weaknesses of this package of projects?</li> <li>Are there any other projects that you think should be funded in this Program area?</li> <li>Obtain vote for this Program area</li> </ul>	WR Table Facilitators	HANDOUT 6  Voting sheet 2
8.35-8.40pm	<p>Presentation topic 5: Community engagement and environmental education (includes business engagement)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief outline of what projects are proposed to be funded within this Program Area.</li> </ul>	K-R-G representative	
8.40-8.50pm	<p>Table discussion topic 5: Community engagement and environmental education (includes business engagement)</p> <p>Give out Handout 7 (list of projects/areas to be funded in this Program Area)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How strongly do you support the package of projects is within this Program Area – strong, medium or little support?</li> <li>What are the strengths of this package of projects?</li> <li>What are the weaknesses of this package of projects?</li> <li>Are there any other projects that you think should be funded in this Program area?</li> </ul>	WR Table Facilitators	HANDOUT 7  Voting sheet 2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain vote for this program area</li> </ul>		
8.50-8.55pm	<p><b>Table discussion: Rating the support for the Program Areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Now you have discussed each of the program areas which program areas did you support the most? Why?</li> <li>Does this differ from the community survey results? Why?</li> </ul>	WR Table Facilitators	Voting sheet 2
8.55-9.00pm	<p><b>Summing up, thank you</b></p> <p>Any Ku-Ring-Gai Council closing remarks – what they will take from today and confirmation of next steps.</p>	K-R-G representative	
9.00pm	<p><b>CLOSE</b></p> <p>Woolcott Research Lead Facilitator – thanks and reminder to fill in end of session questionnaire on tables. Facilitators to collect feedback forms.</p>	WR All	End of session feedback, incentives and signing sheet





# Environmental Levy

Community consultation



## Ian Woolcott

Woolcott Research & Engagement



# Marnie Kikken

## Manager Environment and Sustainability



## Introduction

- Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers
- Council is seeking the level of ratepayer support for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy and feedback on what programs and projects the Levy should fund, if it continues
- Should there be strong ratepayer support, Council will submit its application to IPART in February 2019, and if approved, the new Environmental Levy will commence on 1 July 2019

# Community forum

## How the forum will run



## The agenda

Time	Session details
<u>6.00pm</u>	Welcome and Introduction
<u>6.15pm</u>	Future of the Environmental Levy
<u>6.45pm</u>	Table feedback
<u>6.50pm</u>	DINNER
<u>7.15pm</u>	The Program areas
<u>7.30pm</u>	Energy and climate change management
<u>7.45pm</u>	Biodiversity and bushfire management
<u>8.00pm</u>	DESSERT
<u>8.10pm</u>	Water and catchment management
<u>8.25pm</u>	Sustainable transport and community recreation
<u>8.35pm</u>	Community engagement and environmental education
<u>9.00pm</u>	CLOSE



# Guidelines



- There are no right or wrong answers

---

- Please let everyone express their views

---

- Take a break when you need one

---

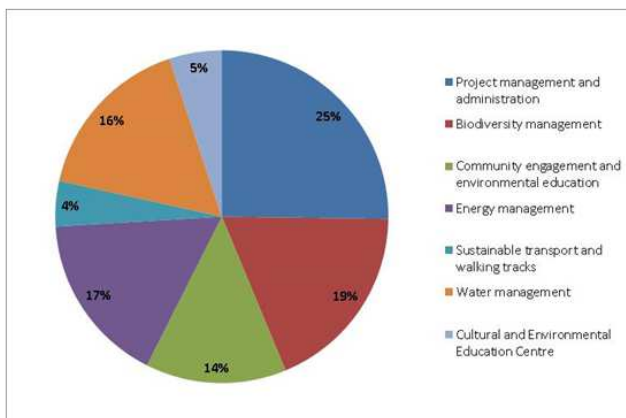
- Mobile phones off please

---

# Environmental Levy overview

The Environmental Levy currently funds the annual delivery of approximately \$2.8 million of environmental programs and works and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue.

## Current Environmental Levy funding allocation



\*2011/12 – 2018/19

## Water and catchment management

Activity	Benefits
18 stormwater and rainwater harvesting and reuse systems	66% of total demand met by harvested water
2 sewer mining systems	100% of total demand met by reused water
2 leachate reuse systems	92% of total demand met by reused water
46 bio filter gardens	Improved condition of bushland and creeks / waterways
12 creek restoration projects	
78 stormwater quality improvement devices	12,915 tonnes of rubbish diverted from our waterways

66% of total demand in 17/18, equivalent to the water used by 813 households and \$275,694 worth of potable water



## Sustainable transport and walking tracks

Activity	Benefits
Creation of Jubes Mountain Bike facility	Social and health benefits of community recreation Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from fewer car trips
Creation of 9km of new cycle ways from Roseville to St Ives	
Maintenance of 27.8kms of walking tracks	
Renewal of 2.3kms of walking tracks	





**Biodiversity and bushfire management**

Activity	Benefits
Bush restoration program	Bush restoration activities in 38 priority reserves (60 hectares each year) Improved bushland condition and protection of threatened vegetation communities and flora and fauna
Ecological burning program	23 ecological burns covering 14 hectares
BioBanking	99 hectare BioBanking site created at Sheldon Forest, Rafe Park and Commenarra Creek Reserve
Management of Conservation Agreement Land	Browns Forest and Ku-ring-gai Flying-fox Reserve managed according to objectives of the Conservation Agreement
Environmental monitoring program	Greater understanding of flora and faunas species distribution and abundance to inform environmental and development assessments
Construction and maintenance of fire trails and fire breaks	Completion of 7km of major fire trail upgrades
Dumping and encroachment program	645 dumping and encroachment issues resolved 36 bushland reserves proactively monitored
Environmental volunteering	687 volunteers dedicating 13,610 volunteer hours per year



**Biodiversity and bushfire management**

Activity	Benefits
Bush restoration program	Bush restoration activities in 38 priority reserves (60 hectares each year) Improved bushland condition and protection of threatened vegetation communities and flora and fauna
Ecological burning program	23 ecological burns covering 14 hectares
BioBanking	99 hectare BioBanking site created at Sheldon Forest, Rafe Park and Commenarra Creek Reserve
Management of Conservation Agreement Land	Browns Forest and Ku-ring-gai Flying-fox Reserve managed according to objectives of the Conservation Agreement
Environmental monitoring program	Greater understanding of flora and faunas species distribution and abundance to inform environmental and development assessments
Construction and maintenance of fire trails and fire breaks	Completion of 7km of major fire trail upgrades
Dumping and encroachment program	645 dumping and encroachment issues resolved 36 bushland reserves proactively monitored
Environmental volunteering	687 volunteers dedicating 13,610 volunteer hours per year





## Energy management

Activity	Benefits
Solar PV installation at 10 Council sites	
LED lighting upgrades at 13 community sites	\$150,000 reduction in annual electricity costs
Solar hot water at 10 community sites	13% reduction in annual energy use across Council facilities
Heat pump upgrades at 2 community sites	
Improvements to HVAC (air conditioning) controls at 7 Council sites	
Installation of smart metering at 18 Council sites	440kws solar capacity



28,000 participants in Council's Loving Living Ku-ring-gai program since 2012

## Community and business engagement

Activity	Benefits
Energy Smart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$112,100 in community rebates for the installation of 383 energy-efficient pool pumps and 5 home retrofits</li> <li>annual savings of \$170,800 and energy savings of 490MW</li> <li>matched community investment of \$426,000</li> </ul>
Water Smart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$43,500 in community rebates for 67 rainwater tanks with 328 kL of capacity and 7 raingardens</li> <li>matched community investment of \$179,980</li> </ul>
Smart Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tailored sustainability action plans and rebates for 22 unit blocks</li> </ul>
Smart Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online resources and annual event series</li> </ul>
Wild Things	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>75 Pool to Pond conversions and 1,264 native bee hives distributed</li> </ul>
Greenstyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tailored sustainability advice for 169 households and garden advice for 211 households</li> </ul>
Compost revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>96 worm farms and 386 compost bins distributed</li> <li>63 tonnes of waste from land fill</li> </ul>
Better Business Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tailored sustainability action plans / audits for 263 businesses</li> </ul>
Climate Wise Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assisted over 1,500 residents prepare for more extreme weather events</li> </ul>
Community grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$786,365 distributed to community groups for 217 projects</li> </ul>
Cultural connections for sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 400 members of the Chinese / Korean community participating in workshops and bushwalks</li> </ul>



IMPACT ON RESIDENTIAL RATES							
OPTION 1: Impact on average residential rate with Environmental Levy expiring and not being renewed*	Base Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Cumulative increase
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	
Average residential rate under the assumed rate peg of 2.5% per annum	\$1,500	\$1,461	\$1,498	\$1,535	\$1,573	\$1,612	
Annual increase (%)		-2.6%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	13.1%
Cumulative impact (\$) of Environmental Levy not being renewed above base year levels after current Environmental Levy expiry (\$1,425)		\$36	\$73	\$110	\$148	\$187	
OPTION 2: Impact on average residential rate with Environmental Levy expiring and being renewed*	Base Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Cumulative increase
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	
Average residential rate with an expiring Environmental Levy of 5% in 2018/19 and a new Environmental Levy of 5% commencing in 2019/20	\$1,500	\$1,532	\$1,570	\$1,609	\$1,649	\$1,690	
Annual increase (%)		2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	18.6%
Cumulative impact (\$) of Environmental Levy being renewed above base year levels after current Environmental Levy expiry (\$1,425)		\$107	\$145	\$184	\$224	\$265	

\* Assumed rate peg of 2.5%. Rate on average land value of \$1,128,000.



### EFFECT OF CONTINUATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY FOR AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL RATE PAYER \*

1. DISCONTINUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY (AT CURRENT RATE OF 5%)							
	Base year 2018/19	2019/20 **	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	5 Year Total
Basic rate with estimated inflation (pegging) increase of 2.5% p.a	\$1,435	\$1,472	\$1,509	\$1,547	\$1,586	\$1,626	
Environmental Levy ceases from 2019/20	\$80	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Rates payable with discontinuation of the Environmental Levy with estimated inflation (pegging) increase of 2.5% p.a	\$1,515	\$1,472	\$1,509	\$1,547	\$1,586	\$1,626	\$7,740
2. CONTINUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY (AT CURRENT RATE OF 5%)							
	Base year 2018/19	2019/20 **	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	5 Year Total
Basic rate with estimated inflation (pegging) increase of 2.5% p.a	\$1,435	\$1,472	\$1,509	\$1,547	\$1,586	\$1,626	
Environmental Levy continues from 2019/20 with estimated inflation (pegging) increase of 2.5% p.a	\$80	\$88	\$90	\$93	\$95	\$97	
Rates payable with continuation of the Environmental Levy with estimated inflation (pegging) increase of 2.5% p.a	\$1,515	\$1,560	\$1,599	\$1,640	\$1,681	\$1,723	\$8,203
<b>EXTRA RATES PAID IF ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY CONTINUES</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$88</b>	<b>\$90</b>	<b>\$93</b>	<b>\$95</b>	<b>\$97</b>	<b>\$463</b>

\* Rate on average land value of \$1,128,000

\*\* Rates based on estimated total income for 2019/20

# Future of the Environmental Levy

## Options

1. Continue the Environmental Levy at the existing rate (around \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 a year for the average business ratepayer)
2. Continue the Environmental Levy at a reduced rate
3. Discontinue the Environmental Levy

## Why a permanent Environmental Levy?

- Secure the ongoing delivery and continuity of Council's environmental programs and works at current service levels at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long term planning for to maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works





# Table discussion

## Future of the Environmental Levy



---



# Table feedback

## Future of the Environmental Levy



---

# Dinner break



---

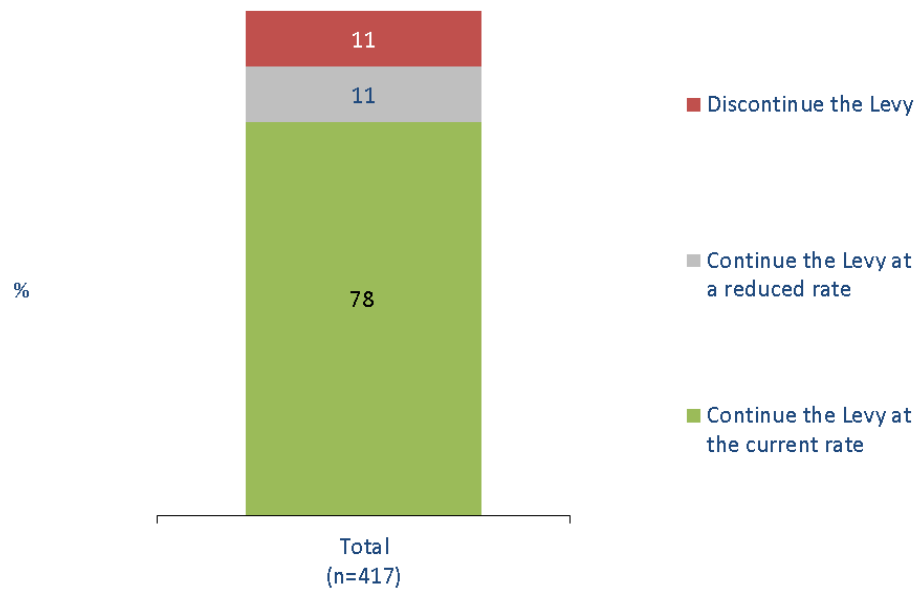
---

# Community survey results

## Future of the Environmental Levy



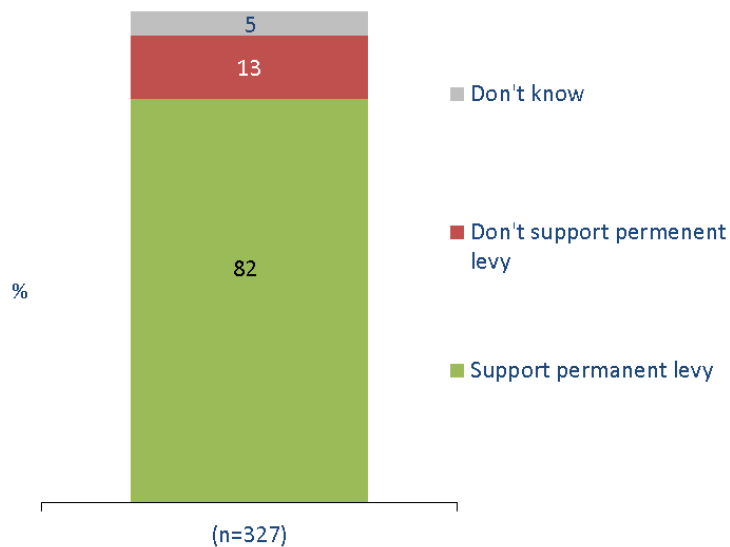
# Preferences for the continuation of the Levy



4. As mentioned in the information sent to you, the current Environmental Levy is due to expire on 30 June 2019. Under the current levy the average residential ratepayer pays around \$80 as part of their annual rates. Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Review Tribunal (IPART) for the continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Kuring-gai ratepayers. This would commence from 1 July 2019. After reading the information, which of the following options do you prefer?  
 Base: All respondents (n=417)

# Preferences for the permanency of the Levy

Amongst those supporting the continuation of the Levy at the CURRENT RATE



Do you support permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy?  
 Base: Respondents who supported the continuation of the Levy at the current rate (n=373)

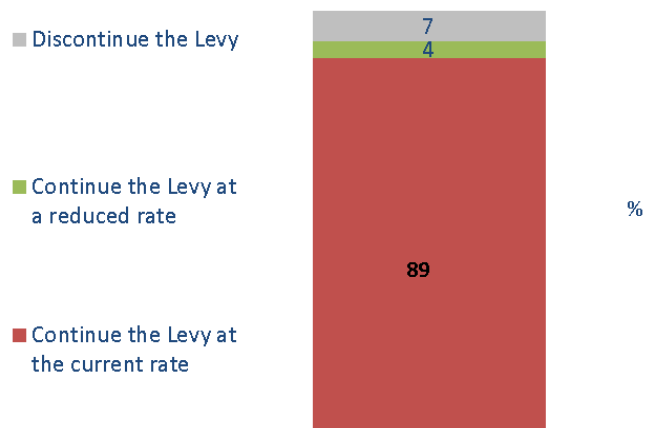


# Forum results

## Future of the Environmental Levy

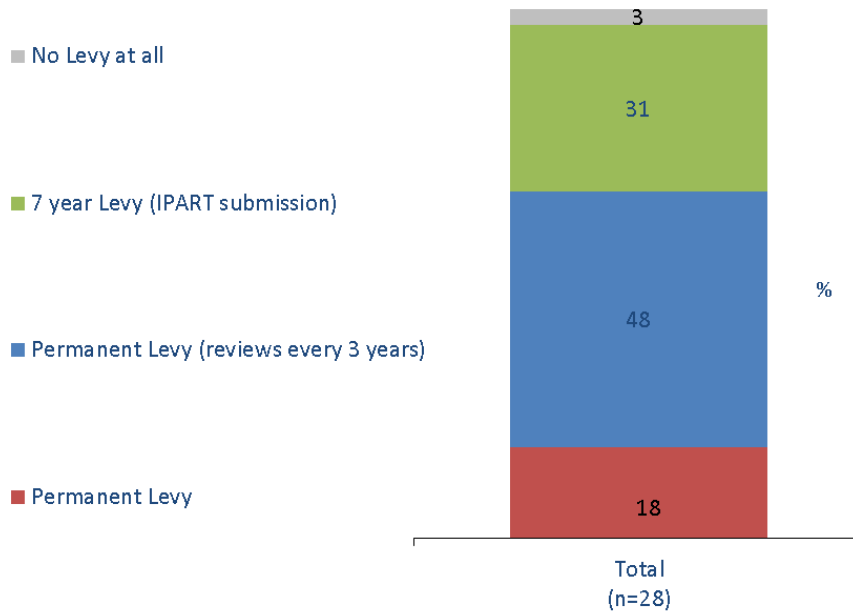


## Preferences for the continuation of the Levy



n = 28

# Preferences for the permanency of the Levy



## Marnie Kikken

Manager Environment and Sustainability

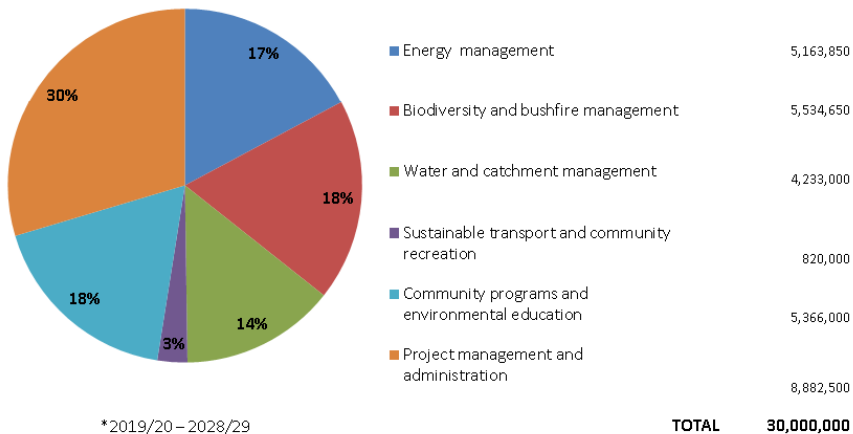
# Future Environmental Levy

## Program areas



## Future Environmental Levy program

### Proposed 10 year Environmental Levy program budget

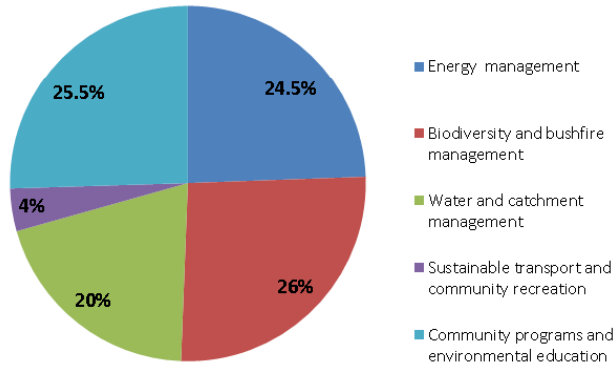




# Future Environmental Levy program

Proposed 10 year Environmental Levy program budget \*

Excluding project management and administration



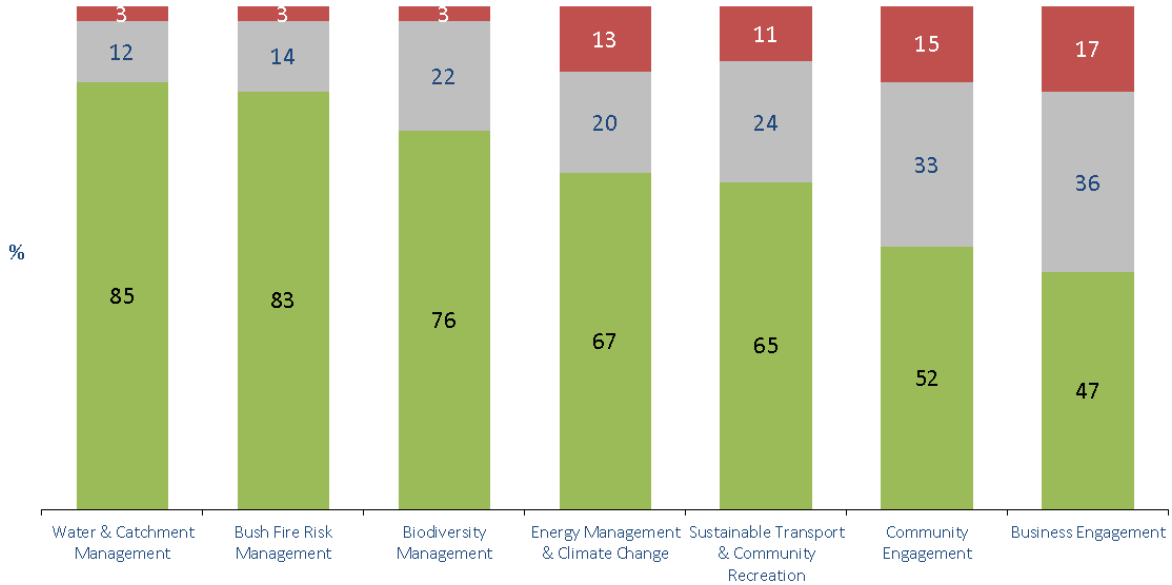
\* 2019/20 – 2028/29

## Community survey results

### Program area preferences

# Support for Program area options

■ High Level Support (8 to 10)   ■ Mid Level Support (5 to 7)   ■ Low level/No Support (0 to 4)



7. As outlined in the information, Ku-ring-gai Council proposes to fund a range of programs and works through the Environmental Levy. Please rate your level of support for funding each program area on a scale of 0 (do not support at all) to 10 (very strong support).  
 Base: Respondents with a preference for the continuation of the Environmental Levy (n=373)

## Table discussion

### Program area preferences

# The program areas

## Energy management



---

## Future Environmental Levy program

### Energy management – key projects and activities

- Solar panel installations
- Air conditioning upgrades
- Energy efficient lighting upgrades
- Solar hot water systems
- Energy efficient street lighting
- Energy management systems
- Data management and reporting system
- Procurement of renewable energy
- Transition of fleet to electric vehicles





# Table discussion

## Energy management



---



# The program areas

## Biodiversity and bushfire management



# Future Environmental Levy program

## Biodiversity and bushfire management – key projects and activities

- Bush restoration in high value reserves
- Projects to enhance biodiversity corridors and urban forest
- Ecological burns to replicate the natural fire cycle and promote biodiversity
- Pest species management
- Environmental monitoring programs
- Native bee hives for residents
- Dumping prevention in bushland
- Fauna monitoring and management
- Fire trail construction and maintenance

---

## Table discussion

### Biodiversity and bushfire management

---

# Dessert break



---

# The program areas

Water and catchment management





# Future Environmental Levy program

## Water and catchment management – key projects and activities

- Stormwater harvesting and reuse systems
- Works to improve the quality of our creeks and waterways (sediment basins; biofilter systems; gross pollutant traps and erosion control works)
- Creek restoration projects
- Flood mitigation measures
- Water efficiency in buildings
- Water monitoring in buildings
- Water quality monitoring of creeks and waterways

---

## Table discussion

### Water and catchment management

# The program areas

## Sustainable transport and community recreation



## Future Environmental Levy program

Sustainable transport and community recreation – key projects and activities

- Creation of cycle ways
- Maintenance and renewal of walking tracks
- Provision of infrastructure for recreation in natural areas



# Table discussion

Sustainable transport and  
community recreation



---



# The program areas

Community programs and  
environmental education



# Future Environmental Levy program

## Community and business programs – key projects and activities

- Home sustainability rebates
- Events and workshops
- Environmental volunteering programs
- Wild Things urban biodiversity program
- Smart suite of programs (Energy Smart, Water Smart, Smart Units and Smart Homes)
- Climate Wise Communities program
- [EnviroTube](#) channel
- Interpretive signs
- Sustainability advisory services (Greenstyle and Better Business Partnership)
- Information campaigns, eg, Plastic Free July
- Energy, water and waste audits
- Community grants

---

## Table discussion

### Community programs and environmental education





# Table discussion

## Prioritisation of program areas



---



# Environmental Levy

## Community consultation



**THANK YOU**

---



# HANDOUT 1A

## Future of the Environmental Levy

Options	Impact
<p><b>1.</b> Continue the Environmental Levy at the existing rate (around \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 a year for the average business ratepayer)</p>	<p>Delivery of environmental programs and works continue at current service levels, equating to approximately \$3 million a year from 1 July 2019</p>
<p><b>2.</b> Continue the Environmental Levy at a reduced rate</p>	<p>Council will need to significantly review its environmental programs and works compared with current service levels and reduce the environmental services and programs offered.</p>
<p><b>3.</b> Discontinue the Environmental Levy</p>	<p>Rates will be reduced by approximately \$80 per annum for the average residential ratepayer and by approximately \$65 per annum for the average business ratepayer. Environmental programs and works will need to be funded from base rates and other Council services will therefore be reduced.</p>



# HANDOUT 1B

## Why a permanent Environmental Levy?

Council has extensive natural and built assets to manage, including over 1,100 hectares of bushland, over 170km of riparian land and numerous community buildings and facilities. The revenue Council receives from rates is not enough to cover the investment required to adequately manage these assets into the future. We need a permanent income source that funds an adequate level of environmental programs and works to secure the long term protection of our unique natural environment as our population grows and housing density increases; whilst continuing to support our community to live more sustainably.

Much has already been achieved by the Environmental Levy to date. A permanent Levy will:

- Secure the ongoing delivery and continuity of Council's environmental programs and works at service levels that will effectively manage our bushland and waterways and the sustainability performance of our buildings and facilities, at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long term planning for environmental programs and works, ensuring we maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost;
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy; and
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works (often grants require matched funding).

# VOTING SHEET 1

## Future of the Environmental Levy

Options	I vote for... (tick preference)	I vote for... (circle preference)
<b>1.</b> Continue the Environmental Levy at the existing rate (around \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 a year for the average business ratepayer)		Permanent / 7 years
<b>2.</b> Continue the Environmental Levy at a reduced rate		Permanent / 7 years
<b>3.</b> Discontinue the Environmental Levy – fund environmental programs and works from base rates and reduce other Council services		

**IF OPTION 2 SELECTED:**

What proportion of the current Levy amount do you feel should be applied in the future? \_\_\_\_\_ %



# VOTING SHEET 2

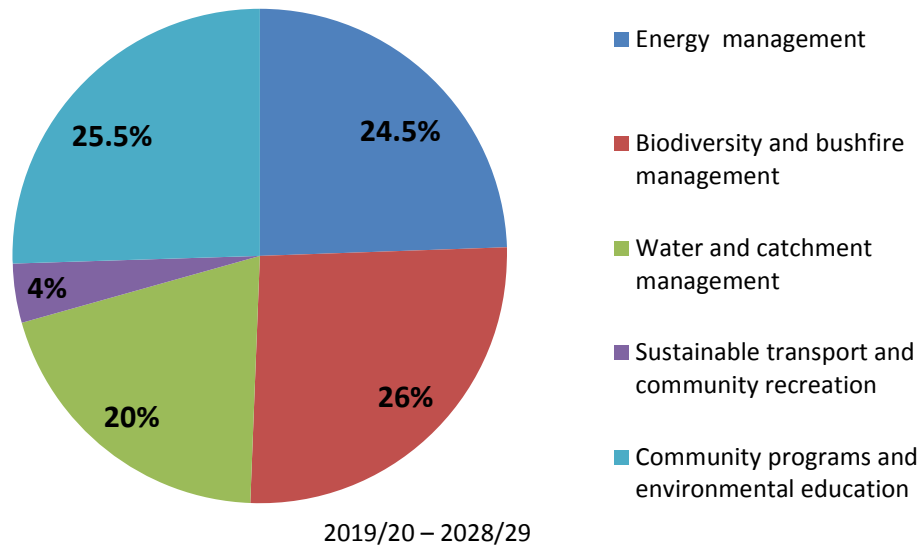
## Support for proposed projects in program area

<b>Program area</b>	<b>Support level</b> (0 to 10, where 0 = do not support at all and 10 = very strong support)
<b>Energy management</b>	
<b>Biodiversity and bushfire management</b>	
<b>Water and catchment management</b>	
<b>Sustainable transport and community recreation</b>	
<b>Community programs and environmental education (includes business engagement)</b>	

# HANDOUT 2

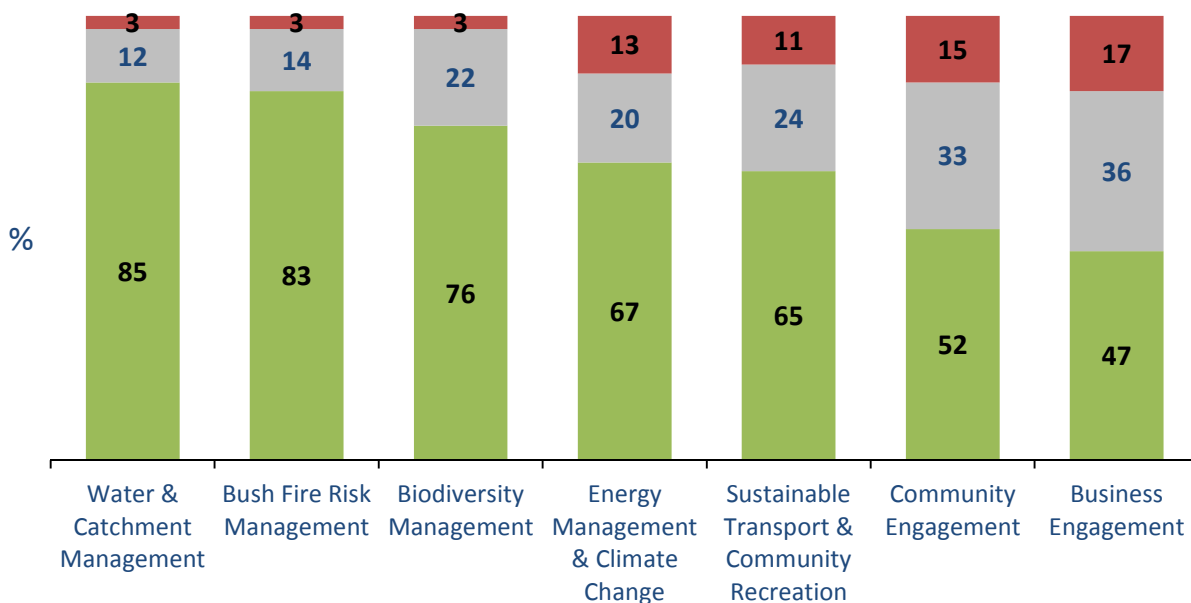
## Proposed 10 year Environmental Levy program budget allocation\*

\* excluding project management and administration



## Community survey: support for program areas

High level support (8-10)    Mid-level support (5-7)    Low level / no support (0-4)



# HANDOUT 3

## Energy management

### Key projects and activities

- Solar panel installations
- Air conditioning upgrades
- Energy efficient lighting upgrades
- Solar hot water systems
- Energy efficient street lighting
- Energy management systems
- Data management and reporting system
- Procurement of renewable energy
- Transition of fleet to electric vehicles

# HANDOUT 4

## Biodiversity and bushfire management

### Key projects and activities

- Bush restoration in high value reserves
- Projects to enhance biodiversity corridors and urban forest
- Ecological burns to replicate the natural fire cycle and promote biodiversity
- Pest species management
- Environmental monitoring programs
- Native bee hives for residents
- Dumping prevention in bushland
- Fauna monitoring and management
- Fire trail construction and maintenance





# HANDOUT 5

## Water and catchment management

### Key projects and activities

- Stormwater harvesting and reuse systems
- Works to improve the quality of our creeks and waterways (sediment basins; biofilter systems; gross pollutant traps and erosion control works)
- Creek restoration projects
- Flood mitigation measures
- Water efficiency in buildings
- Water monitoring in buildings
- Water quality monitoring of creeks and waterways



# HANDOUT 6

## Sustainable transport and community recreation

### Key projects and activities

- Creation of cycle ways
- Maintenance and renewal of walking tracks
- Provision of infrastructure for recreation in natural areas



# HANDOUT 7

## Community programs and environmental education

### Key projects and activities

- Home sustainability rebates
- Events and workshops
- Environmental volunteering programs
- Wild Things urban biodiversity program
- Smart suite of programs (Energy Smart, Water Smart, Smart Units and Smart Homes)
- Climate Wise Communities program
- EnviroTube channel
- Interpretive signs
- Sustainability advisory services (Greenstyle and Better Business Partnership)
- Information campaigns, eg, Plastic Free July
- Energy, water and waste audits



# VOTING SHEET 3

**Would you prefer to see (please tick):**

A permanent Environmental Levy	
A permanent Environmental Levy with community program reviews every three years	
A 7 year Environmental Levy, after which a new submission to IPART would be required	
No Environmental Levy at all	



## Current projects & priorities

### Key priorities

- Activate Ku-ring-gai
- Marian Street Theatre Community Reference Committee
- Environment & sustainability**
  - Our community programs
  - Sustainable Living
  - Sustainability events calendar
  - Environmental Levy Grants
  - Environmental Levy**
    - Bushfire
    - Water
  - Snapshot of our achievements
  - Integrated Planning and Reporting framework
  - Reclassification of Council-owned land
  - Warrimoo downhill Mountain Bike Track
  - Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy
  - Doing Business in Ku-ring-gai
  - Former Gordon and Roseville East Bowling Club Sites
  - Land Use Planning for the Future
- Initiatives and campaigns
- Current works and upgrades
- roads and upgrades

## Environmental Levy



### Supporting you to enjoy and protect our natural environment

The Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue. It funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works every year, to ensure Ku-ring-gai's unique bushland, waterways and urban environment are conserved and maintained. Under the current Environmental Levy the average residential ratepayer pays around \$80 as part of their annual rates. The average business ratepayer pays around \$65 as part of their annual rates.

### The current Environmental Levy is expiring

The current Environmental Levy is due to expire in June 2019.

Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers, which would commence from 1 July 2019.

### Have your say

We are inviting all ratepayers to have a say on the future of the Environmental Levy.

You can do this by completing a survey, by attending our consultation workshop on 23 October 2018 (6-9pm) at Council Chambers or by sending your comments via email.

Visit our [Have your Say](#) page to complete the survey, send us an email and register for the workshop.

Feedback via our [Have your Say](#) page closes on Sunday 4 November 2018.

Come and have a chat about the Environmental Levy at these locations:

- Wildflower Garden Festival: 26 Aug
- Gordon Centre: 29 Aug, 8 Sep, 19 Sep
- That Great Market, East Lindfield: 16 Sep
- Turramurra Fresh Produce And Gourmet Market: 7 Nov
- Turramurra Library (display only)
- Gordon Library (display only)



Beeswax wraps will only be available at the above events. Stocks are limited.

## Why does Council want to make the Environmental Levy permanent?

The revenue Council receives from rates is not enough to cover the investment required to adequately manage these assets into the future. We need a permanent income source that funds an adequate level of environmental programs and works to secure the long term protection of our unique natural environment as our population grows and housing density increases; whilst continuing to support our community to live more sustainably.

Much has already been achieved by the Environmental Levy to date. A permanent Levy will:

- Secure the ongoing delivery and continuity of Council's environmental programs and works at service levels that will effectively manage our bushland and waterways and the sustainability performance of our buildings and facilities, at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long term planning for environmental programs and works, ensuring we maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost;
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy; and
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works (often grants require matched funding).

## Environmental Levy works and programs

Read more about the [key programs and projects](#) being delivered.

Discover the work we are doing across our bushland and waterways through the Environmental Levy - [click here to watch our Environmental Levy video](#).

## Benefits of the Environmental Levy

Key programs and works enable us to:

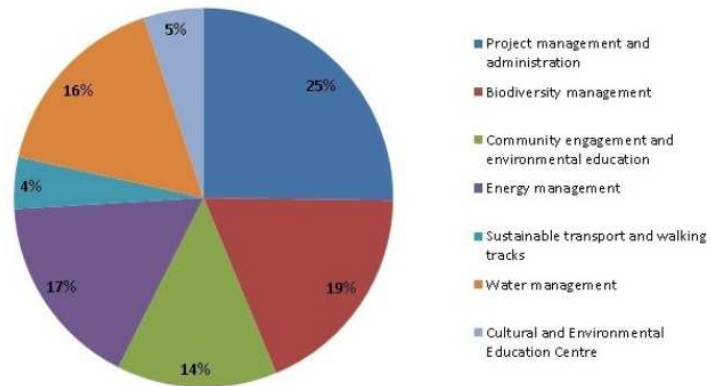
- reuse water for irrigation
- protect our bushland, waterways and wildlife
- reduce our energy and water use
- reduce and recycle our waste
- boost sustainable transport
- provide recreation activities in natural areas
- ensure best practice environmental management
- foster environmental research
- help our local businesses and community to be more sustainable

The Environmental Levy has secured an additional \$10 million in grants from other government agencies.



Read our [Environmental Levy fact sheet \(pdf, 3MB\)](#) for more detail on what we have achieved.

## Current Environmental Levy budget allocation



### Find out more

An [independent program assessment \(pdf, 920KB\)](#) of the Levy processes and outcomes was completed for 2012-2015.

### Annual Report 2016-17

Go to page 65 of Council's Annual Report 2016-2017 below for an outline of the Levy program.

[Annual Report 2016-2017 \(pdf, 11MB\)](#)



Interactive version: Click the 'rectangle page' icon to view the interactive report in full screen. You can preview the pages of the report by clicking the arrow on the far right (to go to the next page) and then left (to go to previous page).

### More information

Contact the Environment & Sustainability Team on 9424 0893 or [sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au)

Give feedback on this page



## Council's 'OurSay' online engagement platform

- Live from 5 October – 4 November 2018

## Home page

### Have your say about the future of the Environmental Levy

The Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue. It funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works every year to support Ku-ring-gai's unique environment.

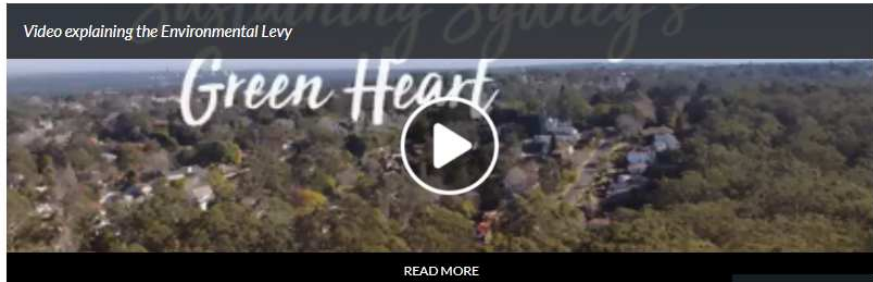
**The current Environmental Levy is due to expire in June 2019.** Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for a permanent continuation of the Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers, commencing on 1 July 2019.

Before we apply for the Levy extension we need to measure our community's support for its continuation. This website is designed to give you information about the Levy and the chance to have your say about continuing it.



[Tell us what you think](#)





[Get involved and have your say](#)

[Get more information](#)

[Register for Workshop](#)




## What is the Environmental Levy and what does it fund?

[Home](#) / [What is the Environmental Levy and what does it fund?](#)

### What is the Environmental Levy and what does it fund?

The Environmental Levy funds the annual delivery of approximately \$2.8 million of environmental programs and works and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue. The current Levy is due to expire in June 2019.

The current Levy equates to approximately \$80 per annum for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 per annum for the average business ratepayer. The sample rates notice below highlights where you can see the annual Levy amount for your household or business.

Property Location & Description		PROPERTY NO.			
19 Residential Road TURRAMURRA NSW 2074 Lot 2 DP 1212121		333333			
Rates and Charges	Rate / Charge	Rateable Value	Amount		
Residential Rate	0.00066010	1130000	\$745.91		
<b>Environmental - Special Rate Variation</b>	<b>0.00007126</b>	<b>1130000</b>	<b>\$80.52</b>		
Infrastructure - Primary Rate	0.00030548	1130000	\$345.19		
Infrastructure - Primary Rate Base Amt	Base Amount	1	\$272.00		
Infrastructure - Special Rate Variation	0.00003726	1130000	\$42.10		
Infrastructure - Special Rate Variation Base Amt	Base Amount	1	\$32.00		
Stormwater Management Charge	per property	1	\$25.00		
Residential Waste Charge 120L Full Service	per service	1	\$455.00		
 <b>You can now receive your rates notice by email</b> To register go to council's website or scan this QR code with your mobile device.					
1st Instalment	2nd Instalment	3rd Instalment	4th Instalment	OVERDUE	TOTAL AMOUNT
\$500.72 31/08/2018	\$499.00 30/11/2018	\$499.00 28/02/2019	\$499.00 31/05/2019	\$0.00	<b>\$1,997.72</b>
J McKee GENERAL MANAGER		<b>2018/2019 RATE NOTICE</b>			

The Environmental Levy funds programs and works that enable us to:

- reuse water for irrigation
- protect our bushland, waterways and wildlife
- reduce our energy and water use
- reduce and recycle our waste
- boost sustainable transport
- provide recreation activities in natural areas
- ensure best practice environmental management
- foster environmental research
- help our local businesses and community to be more sustainable

## What has the Environmental Levy achieved?

### WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

Sustainable transport  
and recreation



**9 kms** of new cycle ways stretch across Ku-ring-gai from Roseville to St Ives

**30 kms** of walking tracks created and maintained

Water and  
catchments



**86%**  
of total water demand at our  
harvesting / reuse sites met by  
harvested / reused water  
in 2017/18

**12,900 tonnes**  
of rubbish diverted from our  
waterways since 2012

Bushland  
and wildlife



**60 hectares**  
restored within 38 bushland  
reserves to enhance biodiversity

**7 kms** of major fire trail  
upgrades since 2012

**23** ecological burns completed  
covering 14 hectares since 2012

Community



**28,000** participants in Council's  
Loving Living Ku-ring-gai program since 2012

**Over 10,000** actions taken  
by residents to benefit the environment  
since 2012

**Nearly 700**  
environmental volunteers dedicating  
13,610 hours per year

Energy



Solar PV installed at **10** Council  
facilities, 13% reduction in annual  
electricity use in Council buildings

## What is the Environmental Levy's impact on rates now and in the future?

[Home](#) / [What is the Environmental Levy's impacts on rates now and in the future](#)

### What is the Environmental Levy's impacts on rates now and in the future

The Environmental Levy is levied as 5% of Council's total rate revenue, which currently equates to approximately \$80 per annum for the average residential ratepayer (or \$1.54 per week) and \$65 per annum for the average business ratepayer (or \$1.25 per week).

Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) in early 2019 for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers. If the application is approved, the approximately \$2.8 million generated annually by the Levy will continue to be invested in environmental programs and works.

If the application is not approved, **rates will be reduced by approximately \$80 per annum for the average residential ratepayer and by approximately \$65 per annum for the average business ratepayer.**

For detailed information on the impact on ratepayers of a continuing Environmental Levy click on the button below which links to an extract of Council's [Delivery Program and Operational Plan \(2018-2021\)](#)

#### [DETAILED EXPLANATION ABOUT LEVY IMPACT ON YOUR RATES](#)

We're asking ratepayers about three options:

1. Continuing the Environmental Levy at the existing rate (around \$80 per annum for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 per annum for the average business ratepayer)
2. Continuing the Environmental Levy at a reduced rate – and reducing the environmental programs and works offered
3. Discontinuing the Environmental Levy – funding environmental programs and works from base rates and reducing other Council services.

## Detailed explanation about Levy impacts on your rates

### WHAT WILL BE THE IMPACT ON RATEPAYERS OF A CONTINUING ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY?

IMPACT ON RESIDENTIAL RATES							
OPTION 1: Impact on average residential rate with Environmental Levy expiring and not being renewed*	Base Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Cumulative increase
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	
Average residential rate under the assumed rate peg of 2.5% per annum	\$1,500	\$1,461	\$1,498	\$1,535	\$1,573	\$1,612	
Annual increase (%)		-2.6%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	13.1%
Cumulative impact (\$) of Environmental Levy not being renewed above base year levels after current Environmental Levy expiry (\$1,425)		\$36	\$73	\$110	\$148	\$187	
OPTION 2: Impact on average residential rate with Environmental Levy expiring and being renewed*	Base Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Cumulative increase
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	
Average residential rate with an expiring Environmental Levy of 5% in 2018/19 and a new Environmental Levy of 5% commencing in 2019/20	\$1,500	\$1,532	\$1,570	\$1,609	\$1,649	\$1,690	
Annual increase (%)		2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	18.6%
Cumulative impact (\$) of Environmental Levy being renewed above base year levels after current Environmental Levy expiry (\$1,425)		\$107	\$145	\$184	\$224	\$265	

\* Assumed rate peg of 2.5%. Rate on average land value of \$1,128,000.

This table have been developed as per the guidelines issued by IPART, however, they may not represent the exact impact on individual ratepayers due to various factors impacting Council's rating structure.

#### UNDER OPTION 1:

- The current Environmental Levy of 5% above the ordinary rate expires in June 2019 and is not renewed. This reduces the average residential rate by 2.6% from \$1,500 in 2018/19 to \$1,461 in 2019/20 due to the expiring Environmental Levy causing rates to decrease to \$1,425 and the 2.5% rate peg causing rates to increase from \$1,425 to \$1,461.
- From 2020/21 rates are impacted by the rates peg (2.5%) increase only.
- The cumulative increase in rates until 2023/24 (over 5 years) is 13.1% or \$187 (applied to the level of rates after the Environmental Levy has expired of \$1,425).

#### UNDER OPTION 2:

- The current Environmental Levy of 5% above the ordinary rate expires in June 2019 and is replaced with a permanent Environmental Levy at the same rate (5%). This increases the average residential rate by 2.1% from \$1,500 in 2018/19 to \$1,532 in 2019/20 due to the expiring Environmental Levy causing rates to decrease to \$1,425 and the new Environmental Levy of 5% and the 2.5% rate peg causing rates to increase from \$1,425 to \$1,532.
- From 2020/21 rates are impacted by the rates peg (2.5%) increase only.
- The cumulative increase in rates until 2023/24 (over 5 years) is 18.6% or \$265 (applied to the level of rates after the Environmental Levy has expired of \$1,425).

Renewing the Environmental Levy, compared to not continuing with the Environmental Levy, therefore equates to a difference in the average residential rate of \$78 by Year 5.

We have provided the impact on the average residential rate as this affects the broadest number of ratepayers.



IMPACT ON BUSINESS RATES							
OPTION 1: Impact on average business rate with Environmental Levy expiring and not being renewed*	Base Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Cumulative increase
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	
Average business rate under the assumed rate peg of 2.5% per annum	\$4,800	\$4,674	\$4,791	\$4,911	\$5,034	\$5,160	
Annual increase (%)		-2.7%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	13.2%
Cumulative impact (\$) of Environmental Levy not being renewed above base year levels after current Environmental Levy expiry (\$4,560)		\$114	\$231	\$351	\$474	\$600	
OPTION 2: Impact on average business rate with Environmental Levy expiring and being renewed*	Base Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Cumulative increase
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	
Average business rate with an expiring Environmental Levy of 5% in 2018/19 and a new Environmental Levy of 5% commencing in 2019/20	\$4,800	\$4,902	\$5,025	\$5,151	\$5,280	\$5,412	
Annual increase (%)		2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	18.7%
Cumulative impact (\$) of Environmental Levy being renewed above base year levels after current Environmental Levy expiry (\$4,560)		\$342	\$465	\$591	\$720	\$852	

**UNDER OPTION 1:**

- The current Environmental Levy of 5% above the ordinary rate expires in June 2019 and is not renewed. This reduces the average business rate by 2.7% from \$4,800 in 2018/19 to \$4,674 in 2019/20 due to the expiring Environmental Levy causing rates to decrease to \$4,560 and the 2.5% rate peg causing rates to increase from \$4,560 to \$4,674.
- From 2020/21 rates are impacted by the rates peg (2.5%) increase only.
- The cumulative increase in rates until 2023/24 (over 5 years) is 13.2% or \$600 (applied to the level of rates after the Environmental Levy has expired of \$4,560)

**UNDER OPTION 2:**

- The current Environmental Levy of 5% above the ordinary rate expires in June 2019 and is replaced with a permanent Environmental Levy at the same rate (5%). This increases the average residential rate by 2.1% from \$4,800 in 2018/19 to \$4,902 in 2019/20 due to the expiring Environmental Levy causing rates to decrease to \$4,560 and the new Environmental Levy of 5% and the 2.5% rate peg causing rates to increase from \$4,560 to \$4,902.
- From 2020/21 rates are impacted by the rates peg (2.5%) increase only.
- The cumulative increase in rates until 2023/24 (over 5 years) is 18.7% or \$852 (applied to the level of rates after the Environmental Levy has expired of \$4,560).

Renewing the Environmental Levy, compared to not continuing with the Environmental Levy, therefore equates to a difference in the average business rate of \$252 by Year 5.

We have provided the impact on the average business rate as this affects the broadest number of ratepayers.

\* Assumed rate peg of 2.5%. Rate on average land value of \$905,000.

This table have been developed as per the guidelines issued by IPART, however, they may not represent the exact impact on individual ratepayers due to various factors impacting Council's rating structure.

### Future of the Environmental Levy and what it will fund

Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Review Tribunal (IPART) in early 2019 for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy, under 508(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers. This would commence from 1 July 2019. The application must demonstrate to IPART:

- the need for a continuation of the Environmental Levy
- the purpose of the Levy and what the Levy will fund
- the impact to ratepayers should the Levy continue
- the level of ratepayer support to continue the Levy

If the application is approved, the approximately \$2.8 million generated by the Levy annually will continue to be invested in environmental programs and works.

#### What will the Levy fund in the future?

Whilst there will be a need to be responsive and adaptive, the types of environmental programs and works Council intends to fund through the Environmental Levy are:

- **Water and catchment management:** stormwater harvesting and reuse systems to conserve water and irrigate our sports fields and ovals; works to improve the quality of our creeks and waterways (such as sediment basins; biofilter systems; gross pollutant traps and erosion control works); creek restoration projects; flood mitigation measures; water efficiency in buildings; and water quality monitoring.
- **Energy management and climate change:** solar panels; air conditioning upgrades; energy efficient lighting upgrades; solar hot water systems; energy efficient street lighting; energy management systems; the procurement of renewable energy; and programs to help the community prepare for bushfire, floods and storms and heatwaves.
- **Biodiversity management:** bush restoration in high-value reserves; burns to replicate the natural fire cycle and promote biodiversity; pest species management; environmental monitoring programs; native bee hives for residents; dumping prevention in bushland; and fauna monitoring and management.
- **Bush fire management:** fire trail construction and maintenance.
- **Community engagement:** home sustainability rebates; events and workshops; environmental volunteering programs; EnviroTube Youtube channel; interpretive signs; advisory services; information campaigns; energy, water and waste audits; and community grants.
- **Business engagement:** advisory services; energy, water and waste audits; and plastic reduction programs.
- **Sustainable transport and community recreation:** the creation of cycle ways; maintenance of walking tracks; transition of fleet to electric vehicles; and provision of infrastructure for recreation in natural areas.

### Why is Council applying for an extension of the Environmental Levy?

Our community satisfaction survey has told us that the 'natural environment and open spaces' are strongly rated in the local area. Residents rated a 'focus on protecting the environment' as one of the 6 highest priority issues within the Ku-ring-gai area in the next 10 years.

If the Environmental Levy ceases, we would need to significantly review our environmental programs and works compared with current service levels. Without the Levy, alternative Council funds would need to be diverted from other key services that are important to our community to enable us to deliver a limited environmental program.

This would likely lead to a decline in the quality of our local environment, our ability to enhance the energy and water efficiency of our buildings and services and a reduction in support for community programs. Everyone benefits from the enhancements to the natural environment through the Levy; through improved amenity, lifestyle and wellbeing.

#### Why a permanent Environmental Levy?

The revenue Council receives from rates is not enough to cover the investment required to adequately manage these assets into the future. We need a permanent income source that funds a level of environmental programs and works that secure the long-term protection of our unique natural environment and continues to support our community to live more sustainably.

Much has already been achieved by the Environmental Levy to date. A permanent Levy will:

- Secure the ongoing delivery and continuity of Council's environmental programs and works at service levels that will effectively manage our bushland and waterways and the sustainability performance of our buildings and facilities, at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services;
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long-term planning for environmental programs and works, ensuring we maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost;
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy; and
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works (often grants require matched funding).

## Tell us what you think



Tell us what you think

[Home](#) / [Have your say about the future of the Environmental Levy](#)

### Have your say about the future of the Environmental Levy

We want to know what your thoughts are on the future of the Environmental Levy. You can do this via the survey on this webpage (see button below), via a paper survey (available at Council's libraries and customer service centre at Council Chambers), by attending our consultation workshop on 23 October 2018 (6-9pm) at Council Chambers or by sending your comments via email.

[COMPLETE THE SURVEY](#)

[REGISTER FOR THE WORKSHOP](#)

Send us your comments via email - [dtowns@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dtowns@kmc.nsw.gov.au)

If you have any questions please contact David Towns, Council's Environmental Levy Program Leader P: 9424 0961 E: [dtowns@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dtowns@kmc.nsw.gov.au)



## “ Welcome to the Environmental Levy Online Survey

Thank you for accessing Ku-ring-gai Council's Environmental Levy resident and business survey. Before completing the survey please familiarise yourself with the information about the Levy on this website. The purpose of the survey is to measure our community's support for the continuation of the Environmental Levy for our application to IPART. The survey will also ask you some questions relating to what the Levy should fund in the future, should it continue. The survey should take about five minutes to complete. We really appreciate you taking the time to participate.

**Continue** press ENTER

## Promotional poster for completion of opt-in, printed survey

- At St Ives, Lindfield and Gordon libraries, and Council's Customer Service Desk

*Sustaining Sydney's Green Heart*

**LOVING LIVING**  
KU-RING-GAI  
Sustaining Sydney's green heart  
Environmental Levy

Kuring-gai Council

**Complete the survey to have your say on the future of the Environmental Levy**

The Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works each year and is levied at 5% of Council's total rates revenue. It equates to \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 a year for the average business ratepayer. The current Environmental levy is due to expire in June 2019.


**Council is seeking feedback on the permanent continuation of the Levy at the current rate of 5%.**

Read all about the Levy in the information pack provided and place your completed survey in the box to have your say on its future.

For more information, visit [kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy)

## Copy of opt-in, printed survey

- available at Lindfield, Gordon and St Ives libraries and Council's Customer Service Desk from 5 October – 4 November 2018 and accompanied by the information pack on page 14



**Welcome to the Environmental Levy Survey**

**Before you complete this form**

Thank you for accessing Ku-ring-gai Council's Environmental Levy resident and business survey. Before completing the survey please familiarise yourself with the information pack on the Levy accompanying this survey or visit [www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy). The purpose of the survey is to measure our community's support for the continuation of the Environmental Levy. The survey will also ask some questions relating to what the Levy should fund in the future, if it continues. **We really appreciate you taking the time to participate.**

**1. Importance of environmental programs and works**

How important would you say it is for Council to continue to deliver programs and works that improve Ku-ring-gai's natural environment?

Very important       Somewhat important       Not important       Don't know

**2. Awareness of the Levy**

Before reading the information accompanying this survey, how aware were you of the Environmental Levy and what it delivers?

Very aware       Somewhat aware       Not aware       Don't know

**3. Satisfaction with Levy programs**

If you are aware of the Levy and what it delivers, how satisfied are you with the delivery of the programs and works it funds?

Very satisfied       Somewhat satisfied       Not satisfied       Don't know       Not aware of Levy programs

**Continuation of the Levy**

The current Environmental Levy is due to expire on 30 June 2019. Under the current Levy the average residential ratepayer pays around \$80 and the average business rate payer pays \$65 as part of their annual rates. Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers. This would commence from 1 July 2019.

**4. Options for the future**

Which of the following options do you prefer? (tick one)

Continue the Environmental Levy at the existing rate (around \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 a year for the average business ratepayer)

Continue the Environmental Levy at a reduced rate – and reduce the environmental services and programs offered

Discontinue the Environmental Levy – fund environmental programs and works from base rates and reduce other Council services

**5. If you don't support an Environmental Levy please tell us why**



## 6. Current Levy Costs

The current Environment Levy costs around \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 a year for the average business ratepayer. If you indicated that you would support the continuation of the Levy at a reduced rate, what proportion of the existing Levy would you be willing to pay? Please answer with a \$ amount.

Proportion of existing Levy willing to pay (residential ratepayer) \$

Proportion of existing Levy willing to pay (business ratepayer) \$

## 7. Proposed programs and works

Ku-ring-gai Council proposes to fund a range of programs and works through the Environmental Levy. In the following table please rate your level of support for funding each program area on a scale of 0 (do not support at all) to 10 (very strong support).

Program	Rating from 0-10
<b>Water and catchment management:</b> to improve the condition of our waterways and creeks; to harvest and reuse water for the irrigation of our sports fields and ovals; and to improve the water efficiency of our buildings.	
<b>Energy management and climate change:</b> renewable energy (such as solar) and energy efficiency projects to reduce our energy use and carbon footprint and programs to help our community prepare for bushfire, floods and storms and heatwaves.	
<b>Biodiversity management:</b> bush restoration in high value reserves; burns to replicate the natural fire cycle and promote biodiversity; pest species management; native bee hives for residents; dumping prevention in bushland; and wildlife monitoring and management.	
<b>Bushfire risk management:</b> fire trail construction and maintenance.	
<b>Community engagement:</b> home sustainability rebates and advice services; events and workshops; environmental volunteering programs; educational signs; energy, water and waste audits; and community grants for environmental projects.	
<b>Business engagement:</b> advisory services; energy, water and waste audits; and plastic reduction programs.	
<b>Sustainable transport and community recreation:</b> the creation of cycle ways; maintenance of walking tracks; transition of fleet to electric vehicles; and provision of infrastructure for recreation in natural areas.	

## Your views on a permanent Levy

At the moment the Environmental Levy lasts for 7 years and then has to be applied for again. A permanent Levy will:

- Secure the delivery of Council's environmental programs and works at service levels that will ensure the long term protection of our unique natural environment it will ensure continued support for our community to live more sustainably, at the same time as maintaining all the other Council services;
- Allow Council to undertake coordinated, long term planning for environmental programs and works, ensuring we maximise environmental outcomes at the lowest cost;
- Guarantee funding for the ongoing maintenance of important environmental infrastructure delivered through the current Environmental Levy; and
- Make it easier for Council to secure grant funding to further support its environmental programs and works (often grants require matched funding).

## 8. Do you support the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy?

Yes  No  Don't know

## 9. If you do NOT support a permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy:

If you indicated that you do NOT support a permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy, please tell us why



## About you

So we best understand the opinions of different groups in our community and so we can stay in touch, please provide the following information.

### 10. Are you a Ku-ring-gai

Tick one

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential ratepayer              | <input type="checkbox"/> Local resident (non-ratepayer)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business ratepayer                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Local business (non-ratepayer)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential and business ratepayer | <input type="checkbox"/> None of these <input type="text"/> |

### 11. Location

Your residential / business suburb

### 12. Your gender

Male  Female  Other

### 13. Your age

Please tick: Under 18  18 - 35  36 - 50  51-70  Over 70

### 14. Email address

### 15. Any further comments

**Thank you for completing the survey.**

Your responses will help us decide how we progress with the Environmental Levy. If you have provided your email address, we'll be in touch with further updates.

- Survey return boxes were available at Lindfield , St Ives and Gordon libraries and Council's Customer Service Desk



## Ratepayers consulted on the Ku-ring-gai environmental levy

---

Published on 10 October 2018

Ku-ring-gai's ratepayers are being asked if they wish to continue the levy that funds a range of environmental works and programs in the local area.

Ku-ring-gai's Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue, equating to \$80 a year for the average residential ratepayer and \$65 a year for the average business ratepayer. The current Levy is due to expire in July 2019.

The Council is seeking ratepayer views on continuing the Levy on a permanent basis at its current rate of 5%. Ratepayer feedback on the Levy will become part of a formal submission by the Council to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal early next year, should it be supported.

The Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of programs and works every year in Ku-ring-gai's bushland, waterways and urban environment.

These include weed eradication, stormwater harvesting, solar panels on public buildings and creek protection.

The Levy also funds an extensive program of community education, such as teaching residents how to keep native bees and reduce their power bills.

Ratepayers are being invited to have their say on the Levy through an online survey until 4 November. They can also register to attend a community workshop on 23 October at the Council Chambers in Gordon between 6pm and 9pm.

Feedback can also be emailed to the Council at [kmc@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kmc@kmc.nsw.gov.au) or mailed to Locked Bag 1006 Gordon NSW 2072.

[Click here for more information about the Levy and giving feedback.](#)

ends

Media enquiries: Sally Williams Ku-ring-gai Council Ph: 9424 0982





# Ku-ring-gai Council

Sign up for our monthly e-news at [kmc.nsw.gov.au/subscribe](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/subscribe)



## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

7pm Tuesday 19 October 2018 • All welcome  
Council Chambers, #18 Pacific Highway, Gordon



### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A large part of the Council's forward planning is being taken up with meeting the future needs of our growing population. Ku-ring-gai's current population, is just over 123,000. It is projected to grow to over 130,000 in the next decade. Many of our new residents have young families and are drawn to Ku-ring-gai because of the perception that it is a safe and healthy place to raise children.

One of our plans, on exhibition until 2 November for comment, is focused on renewing our public buildings. Many of the Council's community centres and halls are operating at capacity and due to their age, no longer meet community expectations for modern, accessible public buildings. According to the draft strategy, the Council currently owns and operates 14 halls and centres available for hire by the community, four libraries, an arts centre and three youth centres.

With some of these community buildings now over 50 years old, replacement or major renovations are needed. The strategy addresses ageing public facilities and the shortage of space for hire by taking a regional approach to community buildings and centralising public facilities into 'community hubs'. These hubs, such as the one planned for the western side of Lindfield centre, could contain a mix of attractive multi-purpose buildings which people can use for a variety of activities. For example, at the Lindfield Village Hub residents could visit the library, meet a friend in the nearby park, do some shopping and have a bite to eat – all within walking distance.

Among the draft Strategy's recommendations are:

- A sub-regional cultural facility in Gordon, co-located with Gordon Library, the Council Administration and Chambers. This supports the Council's vision to develop a new civic/cultural precinct in Gordon

- A performing arts hub in Killara centred around the redeveloped Marian Street Theatre
- Three new district community hubs in Turramurra, St Ives and Lindfield, ideally co-locating branch libraries with flexible multi-use public spaces
- Amalgamating a number of existing facilities into the new district hubs
- Upgrading several smaller local facilities.

Please have your say on this important plan by 2 November at [kmc.nsw.gov.au/exhibition](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/exhibition)

With the weather warming up, there are some exciting events happening in Ku-ring-gai. Our free Twilight Concert is on next Saturday night between 5pm and 8pm at Wahroonga Park. This year's concert will be reliving the tunes of the 1990s, so if you're a Prince or Spice Girls fan, this is sure to please! Please bring a picnic and low folding chair, or buy dinner from the stall holders at the venue.

At the Wildflower Garden, there is a special one-off performance of the children's classic The Wizard of Oz on Saturday 13 October between 11am and 12 noon. This enchanting tale is perfect for children aged 5-12; there are some tickets still available at [kmc.nsw.gov.au/wizardofoz](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/wizardofoz)

For the cyclists among us, we are celebrating Ride2Work Day next Wednesday 17 October between 6.30am and 8am in Gordon Recreational Reserve, Rosedale Road. Cycle to the city and enjoy a free bacon and egg roll cooked by us, giveaways and bike checks, plus the chance to go into the draw for a \$300 gift voucher. More info is available at [kmc.nsw.gov.au/ride2work](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/ride2work)

Jennifer Anderson, Mayor of Ku-ring-gai

E [mayor@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mayor@kmc.nsw.gov.au) | P 9424 0709 | [facebook.com/komayor](https://facebook.com/komayor)

### Have your say

The Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works every year, to ensure Ku-ring-gai's unique bushland, waterways and urban environment are conserved and maintained. Have your say on the future of the Levy and what programs and works should be funded if it continues. Complete a survey, attend a consultation workshop on 23 October or email your comments. Visit [kmc.nsw.gov.au/alevy2018](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/alevy2018)



### Active Ku-ring-gai – Term 4 2018

Open to people of all ages, fitness abilities and interests, stay fit, strong and healthy during the spring months with our qualified and experienced fitness staff! 10 week term – 15 October - 21 December 2018 – \$11.00 per class. Program(s) include: Social Tennis, Yoga, Pilates, Gym Without Walls, Mums and Bubs Fitness, Walking Groups, Junior Golf, Tai-Chi and Stepping On. Book now by visiting [kmc.nsw.gov.au/active](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/active) or call 9424 0802.



### Recycling Your Food Waste – Composting & Worm Farming Workshop

Did you know that up to half of the contents of an average household waste bin can be compostable food waste? Come to a free workshop on Wednesday 14 November, 10am to 1pm at the Kimbri Eco Garden, Terrey Hills and learn how to reduce your waste while creating natural fertiliser for your garden. Bookings: 9424 0793. Visit: [kmc.nsw.gov.au/composting](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/composting)



### Chemical CleanOut

Clean out your shed and your cupboards and dispose of old household chemicals safely at Ku-ring-gai Council's Chemical CleanOut at St Ives Showground on Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 October, 9am to 3.30pm. Ku-ring-gai Council residents only. For more information and a full list of chemicals accepted, visit [kmc.nsw.gov.au/chemicals](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/chemicals)



### PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Planning Proposal to add 'Recreation Facilities (indoor)' as an additional permitted use at 169-177 Mona Vale Road, St Ives

Ku-ring-gai Council is seeking comments on a planning proposal to amend the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan (Local Centres) 2012 to add 'Recreation Facility (indoor)' as an additional permitted use at 169-177 Mona Vale Road, St Ives.

Exhibition: The planning proposal and supporting material will be on exhibition from 11 October 2018 to 26 October 2018 and can be viewed at Council's website [kmc.nsw.gov.au/exhibition](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/exhibition), at our customer service counter at 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon.

Feedback: Comments must be provided in writing and should quote 'S11745'. Comments can be emailed to [kmo@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kmo@kmc.nsw.gov.au) or post to The General Manager, Ku-ring-gai Council, Locked Bag 1006 Gordon, NSW 2073.

Submissions close 26 October 2018

Enquiries: Urban Planning 9424 0000

All submissions are public documents and will be considered in a final report to Council.

Development application under assessment Submissions close 12 November 2018

DA	Address	Description
DA0419/18	20-24 Montyre Street GORDON	Sales office for units approved under DA0569/16 and associated parking area
Applicant: Bechara Chan & Associates		

The above development application is available for public inspection free of charge at Ku-ring-gai Council or on the [datracking.kmc.nsw.gov.au](http://datracking.kmc.nsw.gov.au)

### Development consents

DA0453/17	21 Daly Avenue NORTH WAHROONGA	Alterations and additions including new garage and pool
DA0260/18	18-20 Lady Game Drive KILLARA	New signage
DA0062/18	53 Springdale Road KILLARA	Alterations and additions including new pool, studio and front fence - heritage conservation area

Notice is given under Section 101 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (as amended) of the above development consents granted by the Council. They are available for public inspection free of charge at the Council offices during business hours (8.30am-5pm).



# Ku-ring-gai website homepage banner

- October 2018

Ku-ring-gai Council  
*Environmental Levy*

Have a chat with us  
and find out more

LOVING LIVING  
KU-RING-GAI  
Sustaining Sydney's green heart

Environmental Levy

Community  
Sustainable Transport and Recreation

# Beeswax wrap

To help preserve our environment, open here.

LOVING LIVING  
KU-RING-GAI  
Sustaining Sydney's green heart

Environmental Levy

beeswax food wraps  
PLASTIC WRAP ALTERNATE

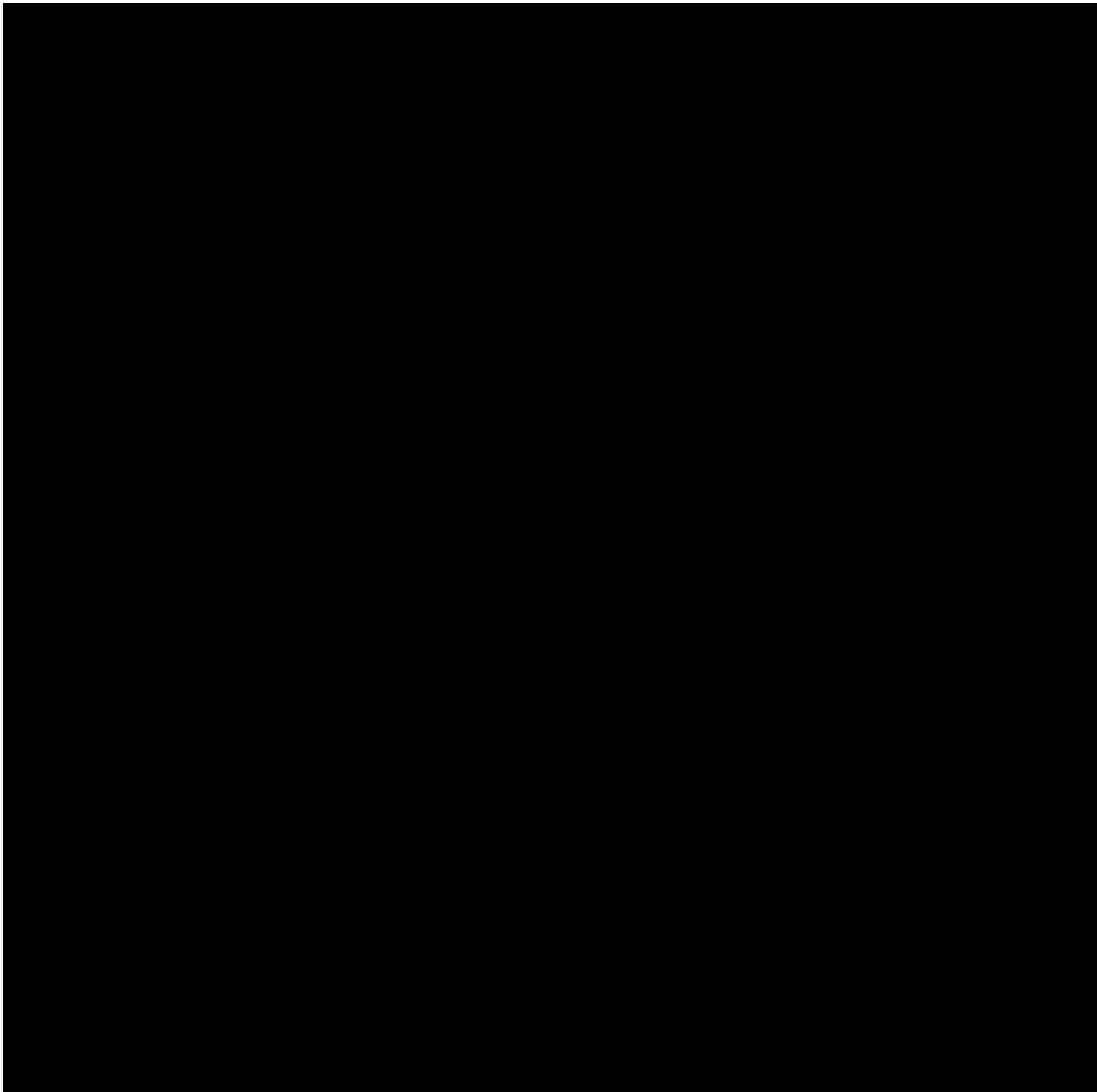
Thank you for caring for Ku-ring-gai.  
Ku-ring-gai Council's Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 as a 5% levy above the ordinary rate. It funds around \$2.5 million worth of annual environmental programs and works.  
The Levy helps us to protect our waterways, bushland and wildlife; reduce our energy and water use and waste to landfill; and provide sustainable transport and recreation in natural areas.  
Have your say on its future: [kmc.nsw.gov.au/levy](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/levy)

**Using your wrap**  
**Wrap & Store**  
Cut fruit and vegetables (some of our favourites are avocado, tomato, citrus, pumpkin, cabbage, celery), bread and cheese  
**Cover**  
Salad bowls, leftovers, plates  
Fold  
Into pouches for sandwiches, carrot sticks, berries, crackers and more

**Care for your wrap**  
• Wash in cool, soapy water  
• Do not use hot water  
• Drip-dry in the dishrack  
• Do not use solvents, acids, vinegar or bleach  
• Keep away from the oven or microwave & sources of heat  
• Do not cover hot bowls or hot food  
• Do not use on raw meat, raw poultry or raw fish  
• Lasts up to 6-12 months

BEE WRAPPY BEESWAX FOOD WRAPS® are an alternative to single-use plastic, zip-lock bags and traditional cling wrap.  
MADE FROM: Printed 100% GOTS certified organic cotton, Australian organic beeswax, Australian jojoba oil, organic coconut oil, dammar resin.

A PRODUCT OF BEESWAX  
A percentage of all profits go to CofHarvest



Ku-ring-gai Council  
*Environmental Levy*

**Have your say**

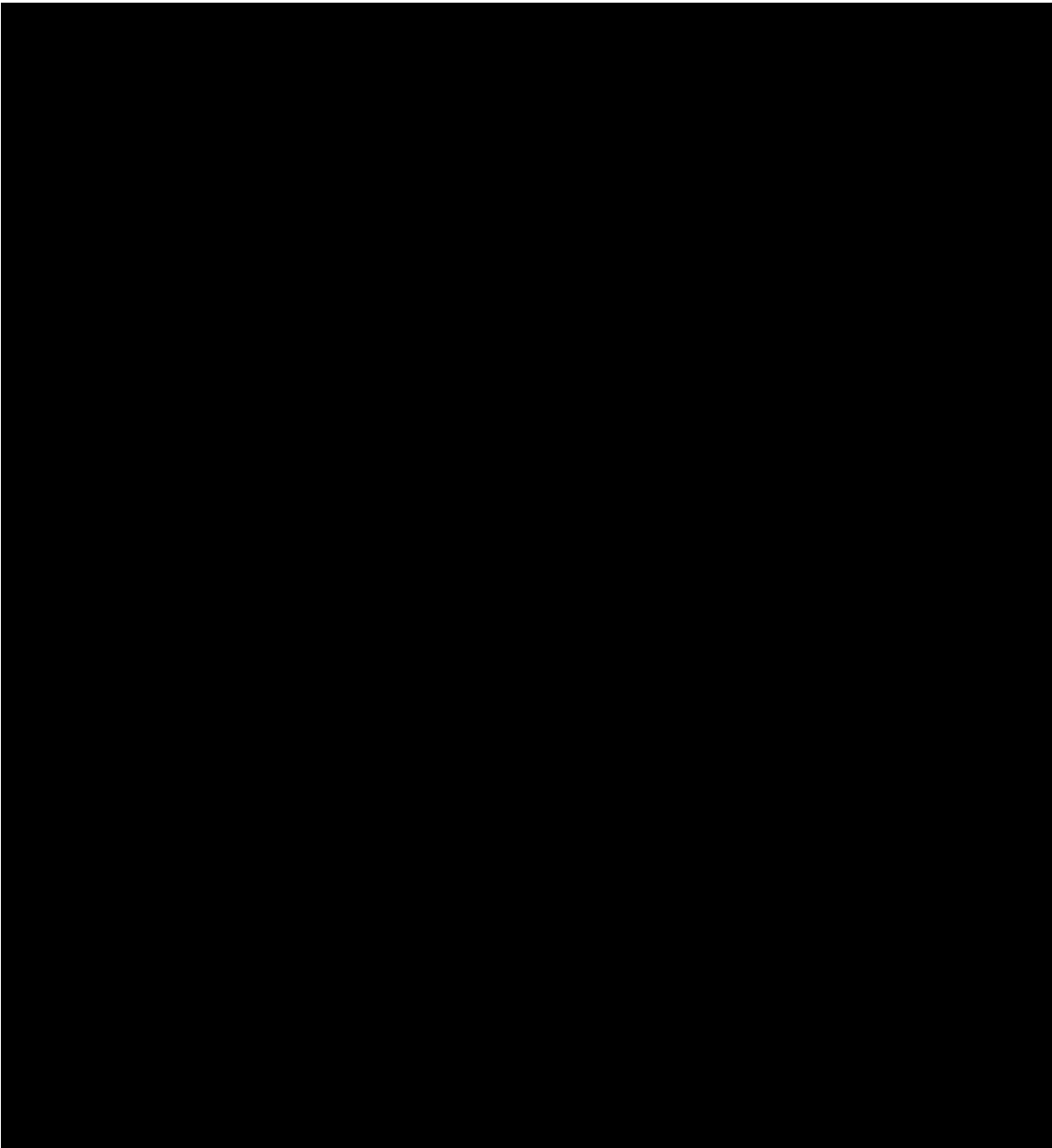
The Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works in Ku-ring-gai every year.

Register online and take the survey: [kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy2018](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy2018)

Feedback via our Have your Say page closes on Sunday 4 November 2018.

LOVING LIVING  
KU-RING-GAI  
Sustaining Sydney's green heart  
*Environmental Levy*

Ku-ring-gai Council

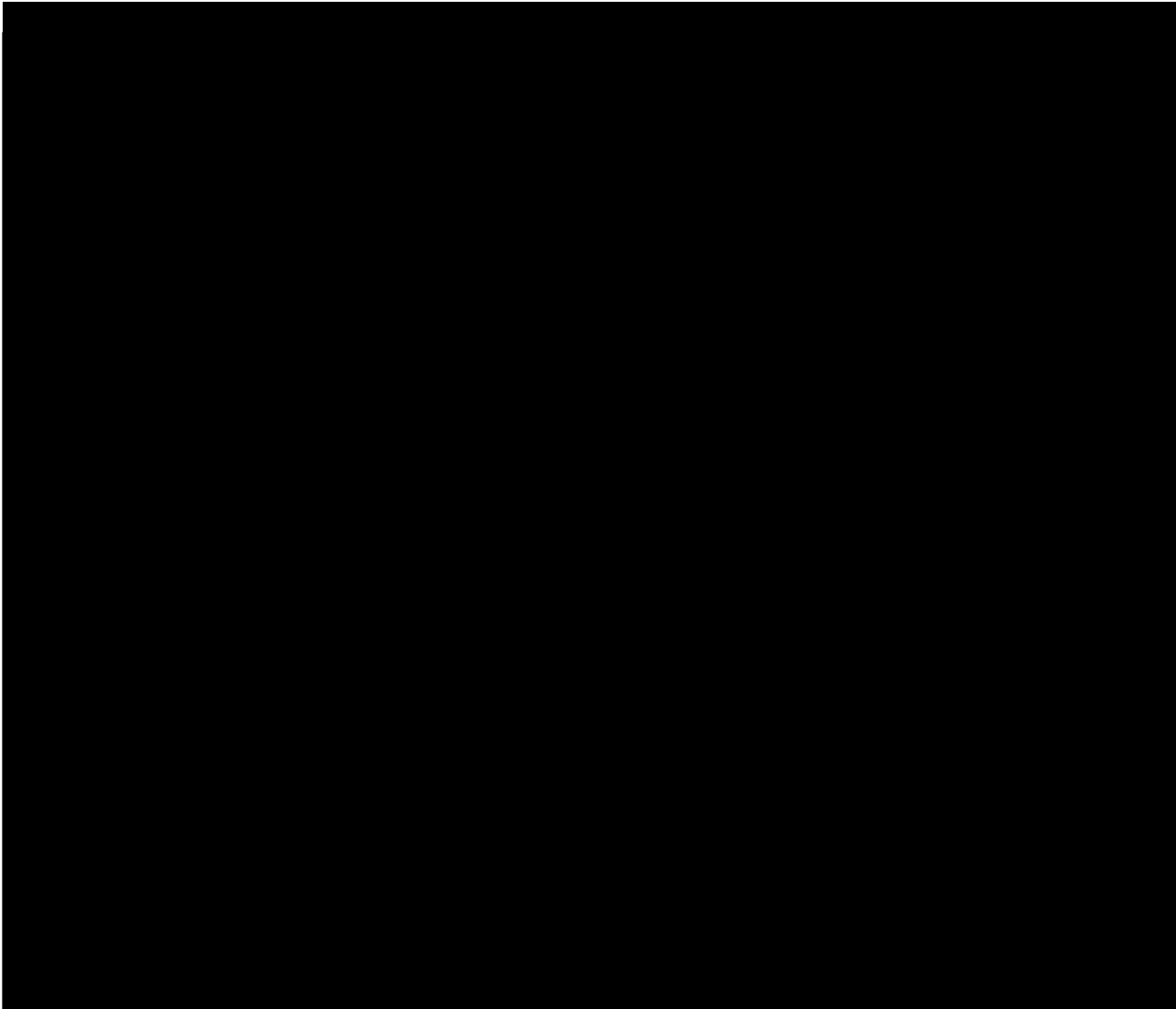


Ku-ring-gai Council  
*Environmental Levy*

**Have your say**

The Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works in Ku-ring-gai every year. Have your say on its future through an online survey or face-to-face consultation workshop on 23 October. Register online and take the survey: [kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy2018](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy2018)

**LOVING LIVING**  
KU-RING-GAI  
Sustaining Sydney's green heart  
*Environmental Levy*



Ku-ring-gai Council  
*Environmental Levy*

**Have your say**

The Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works in Ku-ring-gai every year.

Have your say on its future through an online survey or face-to-face consultation workshop on 23 October.

Register online and take the survey: [kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy2018](http://kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy2018)

LOVING LIVING  
KU-RING-GAI  
Sustaining Sydney's green heart  
*Environmental Levy*

Ku-ring-gai Council

V1 - NSSE01201MA



## Direct mail-out to businesses

- sent to 773 business ratepayers, considering business ratepayers were not surveyed through the recruited survey

818 Pacific Highway, Gordon NSW 2072  
Locked Bag 1004, Gordon NSW 2072  
T 02 9424 0000 F 02 9424 0001  
DX B703 Gordon TTY 133 677  
E [kmc@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kmc@kmc.nsw.gov.au)  
W [www.kmc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au)  
ABN 86 408 856 411



Contact: David Towns

Reference: S11574  
11 October 2018

John Smith  
1 Example Road  
ST IVES NSW 2075

### HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY

Ku-ring-gai Council's Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 and is levied at 5% of Council's total rate revenue. It funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works every year to protect and enhance Ku-ring-gai's unique environment. Under the current Environmental Levy the average residential ratepayer pays around \$80 as part of their annual rates and the average business ratepayer pays around \$65 as part of their annual rates.

The current Environmental Levy is due to expire in June 2019. Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers, which would commence from 1 July 2019. Before we apply for the Levy extension we need to measure our community's support for its continuation and we are inviting all ratepayers to have a say.

#### Have Your Say

Visit our Have Your Say page <https://oursay.org/kmcenvlevy2018> to complete an online survey on the future of the Environmental Levy, to register for our consultation workshop on 23 October 2018 (6-9pm) at Council Chambers, or to send us your comments via email. Alternatively, visit one of Council's libraries or our Customer Service Centre at Council Chambers (818 Pacific Highway, Gordon) to complete a printed survey. **Feedback via our Have your Say page closes on Sunday 4 November 2018.**

Further information on the Environmental Levy can be found on our Have Your Say page <https://oursay.org/kmcenvlevy2018> or by visiting [www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy). Information packs on the Environmental Levy are also available at Council libraries and the Customer Service Centre to accompany the paper survey. Should you require further information on the Environmental Levy consultation process please contact David Towns by email at [dtowns@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dtowns@kmc.nsw.gov.au) or by phone on 9424 0961.

#### Join our Better Business Partnership program

You may also be interested in joining our Better Business Partnership (BBP) program, which offers tailored sustainability advice to assist you as a Ku-ring-gai business to reduce your energy and water use, reduce your waste and save money. Contact Nathan John by email at [nathan.john@bbp.org.au](mailto:nathan.john@bbp.org.au) or by phone on 9777 7516 to find out more about joining the BBP program or visit <http://www.bbp.org.au>.

Yours sincerely



John McKee  
General Manager

## Six Facebook posts

- reaching 10,591 people



**Loving Living Ku-ring-gai**  
7 November · 🌐

Turrumurra Markets TODAY  
Come and say hello at the Turrumurra Fresh Produce and Gourmet Market as we join the wonderful Anita Horan and Boomerang Bags to talk about the future of our Environmental Levy in Ku-ring-gai. Pick up a free beeswax wrap and have your say on its future. Karuah Park, 8am-1pm.  
Find out more about the Levy here <http://bit.ly/2Q7YIC3>



**459** People reached      **39** Engagements      [Boost Post](#)

   1 share

 Like       Comment       Share      





## Loving Living Ku-ring-gai



31 October · 🌐

### Your Environmental Levy

Find out what we achieved for the unique bushland and wildlife of Ku-ring-gai over the last year. Opportunities to have your say on the Levy through our online survey close Sun 4 November.

Complete it now <http://bit.ly/2AAVjX4>



460

People reached

29

Engagements

[Boost Post](#)



1 Comment 1 share

Like

Comment

Share





## Loving Living Ku-ring-gai



27 October · 🌐

### Have Your Say

Our Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works in Ku-ring-gai every year. Have your say on its future through an online survey.

Take the survey here <http://bit.ly/2DSQpsc>



Ku-ring-gai Council  
*Environmental Levy*

**Have your say**  
Click here

775

People reached

41

Engagements

[Boost Post](#)



2 shares

Like

Comment

Share







# Loving Living Ku-ring-gai

5 October · 🌐

## Have Your Say

Our Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works in Ku-ring-gai every year. We want your feedback on its future through an online survey or face-to-face consultation workshop in October.

Register and take the survey <http://bit.ly/2DSQpsc>



8,198

People reached

623

Engagements

[Boost Again](#)

### Recent activity

Boosted on 5 October

Audience: Australia: New South Wales, 18-65+

By [redacted] Completed

[View results](#)

👍❤️👹 162

6 Comments 10 shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share





**Ku-ring-gai Council** shared a post.



Published by Ku-ring-gai Council [?] · 5 October 2018 · 🌐

Have your say! Complete our online survey and have your say on the future of our Environmental Levy.

<http://bit.ly/2DSQpsc>



**Loving Living Ku-ring-gai**

5 October 2018 · 🌐

Have Your Say

Our Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works in Ku-ring-gai every year. We want your feedback on its...

[See more](#)

**308**

People reached

**57**

Engagements

Boost Unavailable





## Loving Living Ku-ring-gai

28 September · 🌐

### Have your Say

We are inviting all ratepayers to share their opinion on the future of our Environmental Levy in Ku-ring-gai. We will be looking at which programs and works should be funded through an online survey, discussion forum and community workshop in October.

Register now to be included in feedback opportunities and find out more <http://bit.ly/2PVXo5D>



391  
People reached

33  
Engagements

Boost Post



Like

Comment

Share



## Tweets

- reaching 533 people

**LoveLiveKu-ring-gai** @KRGCouncilSusty · Oct 9

Have Your Say: Our Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works in Ku-ring-gai every year. We want your feedback on its future. Register and take the survey [bit.ly/2DSQpsc](https://bit.ly/2DSQpsc)



🗨️ 🔄 1 ❤️ 📌

**LoveLiveKu-ring-gai** @KRGCouncilSusty · Sep 14

Come and say hello to us throughout Sep/Oct and grab a free beeswax wrap! Next up is That Great Market in East Lindfield this Sunday 10am-3pm. Find out more and register to have your say [bit.ly/2PVXo5D](https://bit.ly/2PVXo5D)



🗨️ 🔄 1 ❤️ 📌



## Email notifications to email subscriber lists

- reaching 2,073 subscribers

## Email sent to Wildthings and Bushcare mailing list

[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear Resident,

The Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 and funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works every year, to ensure Ku-ring-gai's unique bushland, waterways and urban environment are conserved and maintained.

The current Levy is due to expire in June 2019. Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers, which would commence from 1 July 2019.

### Have your say

We want your feedback on the future of the Environmental Levy and what programs and works should be funded, if it continues. You can do this via a survey, by attending a consultation workshop on 23 October 2018 (6-9pm) at Council Chambers or by sending your comments via email.

Visit our [Have Your Say](#) page to complete the survey, send us an email or register for the workshop.

Feedback via the Have Your Say page closes on 4 November 2018. Your feedback will help us decide how we progress with the Environmental Levy.

For further information on the Levy visit [www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy) or contact the Environment & Sustainability Team on 9424 0893 or [sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au)

Thanking you for your participation,

The Environment and Sustainability team – Ku-ring-gai Council

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

## Email sent to 'What's on' mailing list

Dear Resident,

As a key supporter of Ku-ring-gai's environment, we'd like to invite you to provide feedback on the future of Ku-ring-gai Council's Environmental Levy and the review of our Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy.

For details on how you can Have your Say, please see the information below.

We look forward to your participation,

The Environment and Sustainability team – Ku-ring-gai Council



## The future of the Environmental Levy

The Environmental Levy has been in place since 2005 and funds around \$2.8 million of environmental programs and works every year, to ensure Ku-ring-gai's unique bushland, waterways and urban environment are conserved and maintained.

The current Levy is due to expire in June 2019. Council is considering applying to the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at the amount currently paid by Ku-ring-gai ratepayers, which would commence from 1 July 2019.

We want your feedback on the Environmental Levy and what programs and works should be funded, if it continues. You can do this via a survey, by attending a consultation workshop on 23 October 2018 (6-9pm) at Council Chambers or by sending your comments via email.

Visit our [Have Your Say](#) page to complete the survey, send us an email or register for the workshop.

Feedback via the Have Your Say page closes on 4 November 2018.

For further information on the Levy visit [www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/elevy) or contact the Environment & Sustainability Team on 9424 0893 or [sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@kmc.nsw.gov.au)

## Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy

Ku-ring-gai Council is currently reviewing its Recreation in Natural Areas Strategy to help us manage the way people use our natural areas for recreation. The Strategy aims to support diverse and accessible recreation opportunities within our natural areas in a way that protects and enhances our local environment. We are seeking input from individuals and groups with a strong interest in the Strategy from an environmental perspective. Input will be sought through an online survey and consultation workshop, to be held in mid-November 2018.

To register your interest in participating in the consultation process, please complete the EOI form here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G9GB6BK>

Please register your interest by midnight on Wednesday 24 October 2018.

Should you have any queries or require any further information please contact Jacob Sife on 9424 0819 or at [jsife@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jsife@kmc.nsw.gov.au).

## Notification in Sustainability E-news

- reaching 2,882 subscribers



Ku-ring-gai Council  
*Environmental Levy*

**Have your say**  
Click here



**WIN: Local pollinators**

Help us celebrate the bees, lady bugs and beetles that make our gardens thrive. Tell us your favourite native flower and go in the draw to WIN a Pollinator linen tea

**Calling birdwatchers**

Would you be keen to get together with other novice or experienced birdwatchers at different locations through the year and enjoy and learn more about local bird



## Notification in Ku-ring-gai E-news

- reaching 9,336 subscribers



### Environmental Levy - have your say

The Environmental Levy funds around \$2.8 million worth of environmental programs and works every year to support Ku-ring-gai's unique environment. Have your say on its future through an online survey or face-to-face consultation workshop in October.

[Register and take the survey](#)



### Weed awareness and native plants

Discover how to identify weeds and select native plants for your garden. Meet our expert Horticulturalist and view plants on display as part of the Gordon Markets. A Mandarin interpreter will be present.

**11 November**

[Read more](#)



Join the fun!

## WONKY TO WONDERFUL

Wed 24 Oct | 6pm - 8pm | \$10

