



HORNSBY KU-RING-GAI HOSPITAL

Woodhead Architects

Landscape Statement

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SUMMARY

This statement seeks to describe the various components and design principles of the proposed landscape works for the proposed development of Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Hospital and specifically the southern boundary, adjacent to Burdett Street.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The landscape design has been derived as a response to the physical conditions on the site, its proposed character, as well as the functional brief requirements and the developed architectural response.

The following principles have been embraced:

- To create appropriate, flexible and varied arrangements of open space responding to the connections and access to the site and the existing and proposed neighbouring buildings and amenity;
- To utilise recommended vegetation types that are successful in the local surrounds and to establish biological diversity on this site;
- Create landscape spaces that are human in scale to assist in the functionality of the design and uses;
- The selection of robust and hardy plant material to minimise irrigation requirements for the site;
- To create a landscape language across the development for more efficient way finding and visual continuity to activate the extent of the site.

LANDSCAPE TYPOLOGY

The extent and quality of soft landscaping will be a major feature of this development. It is intended that each of the spaces will sympathetically reflect the uses as well as provide flexibility and variety.

- Burdett Street / Southern Edge

The proposed landscape design to the Burdett Street edge is focused on providing a soft, green edge to the proposed development to mitigate visual impact and situate the built form within the surrounding landscape.

This principle led to the following design moves:

- Retention of existing verge tree planting
- Narrowing of the concrete path to the building edge
- Increase in the quantity and density of garden bed planting
- Introduction of layered garden bed planting that retains sightlines and improves amenity
- Maximisation of deep soil for tree plantings
- Proposed native evergreen tree plantings at regular spacings
- Tall fencing and buffer hedging to minimise visual access into the loading area
- Complement the proposed planting scheme to other open spaces and verge treatments
- Retention of turf verge to the streetscape edge for contextual consistency

The design retains the majority of the trees which currently grow in the verge, and uses these as a major structuring element of the softworks to the southern edge of the site. The proposed trees, *Tristania laurina* (Water Gum) supplement the existing screening. These are native evergreens and will reach a mature height of over 6 metres with a

canopy spread of 4 - 6 metres. At regular 5m spacings these will offer a year round buffer to the built form and provide a cohesive streetscape edge.

The garden bed between the building path and the existing streetscape footpath has been increased slightly and varies in width between 1.75 – 1.95 metres (from 1.8 metres previously) which capitalises on deep soil and allows for more varied planting with a combination of groundcovers, grasses and shrubs to create a layered effect with visual appeal. This garden bed is intended for viewing from Burdett Street which the planting arrangement reiterates. Variations in texture, colour and scale of plants will be most perceptible from the south.

The soft landscaping to Burdett Street will provide adequate separation from the road and car parking whilst allowing for passive surveillance between the two. Species selection also considers retention of sightlines for safety with mature shrub heights not expected above waist height.

MATERIALS

The proposed vegetation on the site is to offer a variety of different landscape character types which fulfil different functions such as screening and shade, as well to as provide variety of colour, texture while still remaining part of the cohesive landscape pattern.

The proposed vegetation is to reflect and punctuate the different landscape characters and uses ranging from the streetscape and open spaces to the car park buffer and shade planting. The garden beds will demonstrate a functional planting palette with densities sufficient to out compete weeds.

Proposed plant species include native species found in the local area which are suitable for foreseen soil and local microclimatic conditions. A proposed variety of plant species aims to reflect the landscape patterns of the area, as well as to ensure that a variety of landscape settings are provided.

Plant species have been specifically chosen to fulfill various different functional requirements such as shading to pedestrians, solar access for windows, screening of noise and visual amelioration, reduction of impermeable hard surfaces where appropriate and embellishment of streetscapes, as well as the improvement of general amenity for the users and tenants of the facility.

Landscape materials such as hardwood timbers are to be sourced from either plantation or regrowth supplies. Hardwood stakes used for trees establishment are to be recycled when no longer required. Imported mulch and soil products are to incorporate recycled and or composted materials where possible.

All material will be selected to conform to and with the relevant standards and codes.