

1 Introduction

This document on “Recreation, Events, Functions and Tourism in the Domain” is a supporting paper to the Domain Site Master Plan.

Recreation, events, functions and tourism are defined and differentiated in this report as follows:

Recreation active and passive informal recreation activities, and organised sporting competitions.

Events organised community and cultural events attracting large crowds, that are accessible to the public and are generally free, with some events ticketed.

Functions private invitation-only events held in designated areas within the Domain.

Tourism organised tours and visits to the Domain that focus on Mrs Macquarie’s Point and the Art Gallery of NSW.

However, some activities that occur in the Domain “cross over” between these definitions.



Tropfest 2000

2 Significance of the Domain for recreation, events, functions and tourism

The Domain:

- is located at the northern end of an extensive chain of parks and gardens located along the eastern and southern edges of the Sydney CBD, including the Royal Botanic Gardens, Hyde Park, and Cook and Phillip Parks.
- can cater for a number of concurrent activities.
- functions largely as a regional park. However, in some important aspects, such as the annual Sydney Festival concerts and the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and Centenary of Federation events, it will function at a metropolitan and State level.
- is one of Sydney’s most visited open spaces, ranking only after Centennial Park, Hyde Park and the Royal Botanic Gardens in terms of annual visitation of between 4 million and 5.2 million visits per year.
- has an image as a “people’s place” compared to the adjacent Royal Botanic Gardens.
- is open 24 hours a day.
- is free of cost to enter.
- is a venue for a wide range of recreational activities that are enjoyed alone or in larger groups.
- hosts popular community and cultural events that attract up to 80,000 people.
- is a sought-after venue for private functions due to its harbourside location and pleasant open space setting.
- has international significance, attracting large numbers of overseas visitors, especially to Mrs Macquarie’s Point.

The significance of the Domain for recreation, events, functions and tourism is illustrated as follows:

	Significance				
	Local (central Sydney)	Sydney Metropolitan Area	NSW	Australia	International
Recreation					
- informal activities					
- active sport					
Events and functions					
- one-off events and Olympics					
- annual large community events					
- corporate functions					
Tourism					
- package coach tours					
- visits to Mrs Macquarie’s Point and Art Gallery of NSW					

3 Role of the Domain in Sydney’s urban open space network

3.1 Role in the regional open space system

The recreation, events, functions and tourism roles of the Domain within the urban regional open space system in Sydney, and other public spaces that fulfil these roles, are outlined below.

Key tourist destination

Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney
Sydney Harbour National Park
(North Head and Arabanoo Lookout)

Large harbourside open space

Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney
Rushcutters Bay Park
Sydney Harbour National Park
Darling Harbour
Taronga Zoo

DOMAIN

Outdoor entertainment and function venue

Hyde Park
Centennial Park
Darling Harbour
Parramatta Regional Park
Rushcutters Bay Park

Outdoor recreation venue

Hyde Park
Parramatta Regional Park
Darling Harbour

3.2 Role in the CBD open space network

The role of the Domain in the open space network in Sydney’s CBD, and other spaces that fulfil that role, are shown below.

Large informal open space

Royal Botanic Gardens – direct link
Cook and Phillip Parks – direct link
Hyde Park – direct link
Belmore Park
Prince Alfred Park

Key tourist destination

Opera House
Circular Quay
The Rocks

Outdoor sporting venue

No other in CBD

Outdoor entertainment and function venue

Hyde Park

DOMAIN

Outdoor swimming facility

Prince Alfred Park
(indoor pool at Cook and Phillip Park)

Lunchtime venue

Hyde Park
Royal Botanic Gardens
Australia Square
Circular Quay

4 Planning context

4.1 Objectives of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust

The principal objective of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, as stated in the *Royal Botanic Gardens and The Domain Trust Act 1980* relevant to recreation, events, functions and tourism is:

“To encourage the public use and enjoyment of Trust lands by promoting and increasing the educational, historical, cultural and recreational value of those lands.”

The core business of the Trust includes:

- promoting use and enjoyment of the Trust’s lands.
- increasing the educational, historical, cultural and recreational value of those lands.

The Trusts’ objective regarding recreation in the Domain is to achieve “the right mix of tranquility and conservation with recreation and entertainment”.

4.2 Vision and mission

The *Corporate Plan New Directions 1998-2001* articulates the vision, mission, and policy and program commitments of the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney. Their vision is:

“To be recognised by the community, the Government and our peers as a centre of excellence in management of public open space of high cultural, heritage and aesthetic significance.”. . .

The Trust’s mission is:

*“To work with the community to increase the knowledge and appreciation of plants and their critical role in the sustainability of our natural and urban environments, **and to manage our open spaces as inspirational places for recreation, cultural events and celebration.**”*

These objectives come together in the Trust’s vision for the Domain as:

“A special green space of high cultural, heritage and aesthetic significance which is managed so as to sustain these qualities as well as provide an inspirational place for recreation, festival, protest, cultural events and celebration.”

4.3 Challenges facing the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust

Corporate challenges set by and for the Trust in 1998 to take the Trust's management of the Domain beyond 2000 include:

- **"The Olympics and major event management – seizing the opportunities and managing the threats.** The Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney will be a focus for visitors to Sydney, and for the people of Sydney, for many significant events up to and past the year 2000. Planned major events present a range of threats and opportunities for all parts of the Royal Botanic Gardens. We will ensure that we manage the threats and take best advantage of the opportunities. "

- **"The Sydney Domain – getting the right mix of tranquility and conservation with recreation and entertainment.** The Domain is a key part of the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, and the focus of lunchtime recreation. Mrs Macquarie’s Point is a major tourist destination. The Domain generates substantial income through rental of its key sites for concerts, weddings and other significant social functions. We will manage the Domain in the best possible way for the people of Sydney, evaluating whether the current uses of the Domain are all appropriate and how best to mix active and passive uses, in parallel with recognising its heritage significance. "

4.4 Strategic policies and principles

Strategic policies were developed by the Trust to ensure there are consistent guiding principles across the four sites managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney (the Domain, Royal Botanic Gardens, Mount Annan and Mount Tomah). Development of strategic policies is intended to precede the development of Master Plans for each site.

Site plans to be prepared for the Domain, Royal Botanic Gardens, Mount Annan and Mount Tomah would include the following strategic areas:

- Recreation.
- Functions and events.
- Visitors and stakeholders.

The context and general principles defined by the Trust for each strategic area are outlined below.

Context	General principles
Recreation Strategic Policy	
<p>The Recreation Strategic Policy establishes principles for all sites concerning recreation and the way in which the Royal Botanic Gardens will serve the recreational needs of visitors. The principles set out at right should be incorporated in planning and management for the four Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational activities within the Royal Botanic Gardens sites should be consistent with the core purposes of the sites. • Recreational use should not adversely impact on other values of the sites. • Optimisation of the visitors’ recreation experience of the Gardens sites is fundamental to successful management. • Recreation planning should incorporate consideration of the links between recreation and other functions and activities at the sites and the role which promotion, regulation and fees play in the management of recreation. • Lessons learnt from past experience are a major contributor to development of future policies and procedures. • Recreational objectives have a direct relationship with planning for interpretation of the sites and the management for functions and events.

Context	General principles
Functions and Events Strategic Policy	
<p>The Functions and Events Strategic Policy establishes principles for all sites concerning the way in which functions and events will be managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens organisation. It provides consistency of policy in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the criteria for determining the appropriateness of function and event types. • provision of facilities. • fees and charges for use of the Domain that are cost-neutral to the RBG. • clean-up and recovery requirements for events. • controls on public and private events. • mitigation of impacts on other users. • criteria and protocols for prioritising uses of spaces within sites. • post-event evaluation and reporting. <p>The principles set out (at right) should be incorporated in planning and management for the four Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions and special events have an important role in the public use of each site, but should not dominate all other uses. • The interpretation and recreation principles should guide the planning and management of functions and events. • Functions and events should be considered in terms of the capacity of infrastructure and assets to support proposed uses, and impacts on neighbouring uses. • Continue to assess functions and events in terms of duration, intensity of impact and relevance to the core purpose of The Domain.
Visitors and Stakeholders Strategic Policy	
<p>The Visitors and Stakeholders Strategic Policy provides for visitors and stakeholders to have meaningful and productive involvement in the RBG's management of functions and site management, and through which their visits and other contacts with the organisation and its sites will be more rewarding.</p> <p>The principles set out (at right) should be incorporated in planning and management for the four RBG sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of visitors to the sites, as well as stakeholders and potential visitors off-site is integral to planning and management of the sites. • Consultation programs should incorporate strategies to ensure that the stakeholders and visitors have the opportunity to become well-informed in advance of the consultation process. • The staff of the organisation and trustees are legitimate and essential stakeholders in any strategy development process. • Key informed stakeholders include other similar botanic gardens organisations around Australia, the Friends of the Botanic Gardens, and site neighbours. • The objective of optimisation of the enjoyment of each visitor to the sites, within the capacity of that site to assimilate that visitor use, is fundamental to planning

Principles and policies for recreation, functions and events, and visitors and stakeholders developed by the Trust relating specifically to the Domain are outlined below.

Principles	Policies
Recreation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation activities should be consistent with the core purpose of the site. • Recreation pursuits should not adversely impact on other values of the site. • Recreation planning should incorporate consideration of links between recreation and other functions and activities at the Domain, and the role that promotion, regulation and fees play in the management of recreation. • Optimise the visitor recreation experience of the 	<p>-Recreation Policy Continue to manage The Domain as a place for public recreation and community events consistent with its cultural significance.</p> <p>Tourism Policy Manage tourism so as to welcome visitors and to engender respect for the cultural significance of the place.</p>

Domain.	
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Principles	Policies
Functions and Events	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions and events are important as a component of public use of the Domain, but should not dominate over other uses. • Functions and events should not compromise the significance of the site. • Functions and events should be considered in terms of the capacity of infrastructure and impact on neighbours. • Functions and events should be considered in terms of relevance to the RBG core purpose, and duration and intensity of impact. • Interpretation and recreation principles should guide planning and management of functions and events. 	<p>Cultural Policy Manage functions and events in accordance with the Cultural Policy.</p> <p>Use of Place Policy Continue to manage The Domain as a place for public recreation and community events consistent with its cultural significance.</p> <p>Events Policy Permitted events should be consistent with the cultural policy and core business of the Trust, and should not diminish the cultural significance of the place. No permanent purpose built events or functions structures will be constructed within The Domain. Fenced events will be assessed on their merits, and if allowed, should be for limited period only.</p> <p>Media Policy Use of The Domain will be made available for interviews, commercials and films on a limited licence/permit basis with appropriate cost recovery principles applied. Fencing or exclusion of the public should be assessed on the individual merits of the proposal, and if allowed, should be for limited periods only.</p> <p>Cost Recovery Policy Costs of development and maintenance of facilities and assets that are used for recreation, activities and events organised by commercial operators will be recouped from these organisers.</p>
Visitors and Stakeholders	
<p>RBG seeks to collaborate with its stakeholders and the community in managing The Domain.</p>	<p>Visitor & Stakeholder Policy Involve interested visitors and stakeholders in RBG management processes. Provide regular communication of management initiatives, coming events and street closures to stakeholders, neighbours and visitors.</p> <p>Public Risk Policy Minimise public risk.</p> <p>Personal Security Policy Improve perception and means of personal security</p> <p>Companion Animals Policy Leashed animals are permitted in the Domain, however visitors are encouraged to kerb their dogs and remove excrement.</p>

5 Recreation, events, functions and tourism in the Domain

Recreation, events, functions and tourism activities in the Domain are described below.

5.1 Recreation

Recreational activities are enjoyed in all precincts. Recreation activities range from sitting and enjoying the scenery, walking and fishing, to jogging and active ball sports.

Most recreational activities appropriate to the site are permitted, including bike riding, rollerblading and skateboarding. However, recreation activities that are not permitted in the Domain include:

- camping, to discourage use at night.
- bat sports in the Phillip precinct, due to the risk of balls hitting pedestrians, other park users, and cars.

5.2 Events

A diverse range of events are held in the Domain, ranging from Festival of Sydney concerts, triathlons and fun runs, outdoor cinema, and New Year's Eve celebrations. Events are generally community-based and free, with Homebake (a youth-oriented music event) and the Open Air Cinema being the only ticketed events currently held in the Domain.

Events in the Domain are held largely at three events sites – at Fleet Steps, and in the Phillip and Tarpeian precincts. Events also flow over into the Woolloomooloo and Art Gallery precincts in the case of road races, running events, and triathlons. Events that occur in each precinct, and infrastructure available to support events in each precinct, are outlined in **Section 7**.

The general process followed in the organisation of events in the Domain is:

- Application received from the event organiser.
- Assessment of the event by RBG staff (or by the Cultural Events Committee for large-scale events), in terms of the Trust guidelines for events including:
 - size of activity and timing – large activities with a close timing are avoided.
 - distance of activity from trees.
 - consideration of setting up in wet weather.
 - number of people expected.
 - protection of grassed surfaces.
 - whether merchandise or alcohol is sold.
 - use of grass or paths.
 - potential damage to the Gardens.

- minimal stress on RBG resources.
- can be supported by existing infrastructure.
- financial viability.
- If the event is approved, an Agreement for Use (licence), Terms of Licence, Standard Conditions of Approval for Use of Trust Lands, and any additional provisions are negotiated with the event organiser and are issued by the Trust prior to the event.
- Neighbours and regular users of the Domain are informed of the event date and any road closures.
- The Trust's requirements are issued to caterers and contractors.
- An event plan is submitted by the event organisers and agreed to by RBG.
- Briefing and site handover to the event organiser.
- Bump in.
- Event is held.
- Bump out, including cleaning of the site.
- Handover of the site back to RBG.
- Any damage is repaired by RBG (such as needing to re-turf areas), and the cost is deducted from the bond paid by the event organiser.
- Debrief between the event organiser and RBG staff. Outcomes of the debrief are used to fine-tune conditions of approval and the requirements for RBG resources for future events.

5.3 Functions

Functions held in the Domain include corporate functions and product launches, and private ceremonies, such as weddings.

There is one marquee function site in the Domain at Fleet Steps, which can accommodate up to 600 people.

5.4 Tourism

Tourism activities are focused on Mrs Macquarie's Point and the Art Gallery of NSW. Operators of half-day and full-day bus/coach day tours around Sydney for tourists from overseas (particularly Asia) and from within Australia promote Mrs Macquarie's Point as having "superb views of the harbour, Opera House, Sydney Harbour Bridge and city skyline". No charge is made to tour/bus operators to conduct tours through the Domain. A hard-stand area is available at Mrs Macquarie's Point for visitors to take photographs and enjoy the views. Three photographers have leases to take photographs of tour groups at Mrs Macquarie's Point.

The characteristics and satisfaction of tourist visitors with their visit to the Domain is outlined in **Section 6.3**.

6 Visitation to the Domain

6.1 Visitor numbers

6.1.1 History

An account of recreation, events and functions held in the Domain since the early settlement of the Sydney colony is described in Volume 2 of the Domain Site Master Plan (Cultural Landscape Study: (Section 2.0 Historical Overview).

In the 1898 Botanic Gardens Annual Report, visitation to the Domain was described as follows:

“On Sunday 11th December, we counted the number of persons coming into the Domain, between 2 and 5 o’clock pm. At the two principal gates only, viz., Macquarie Street entrance and St Mary’s Road entrance, and found as follows: - 11,140 pedestrians, 196 vehicles, 56 bicycles, and 7 equestrians (5 gentlemen and 2 ladies). The day turned out dull and cloudy, and there was no band or any special attraction in the Domain.”

6.1.2 Current visitation

Over 100 years later, the Domain continues to attract significant numbers of people that use the Domain as a venue for a wide range of activities, including organised functions, large commercial events and concerts, tourism, organised sport, and informal recreation.

Since the 1970s, sporting, tourism, leisure and recreational uses of the Domain have intensified significantly as a result of increasing CBD office populations. In the 1990s, use of the Domain has continued to increase as a result of the return to the CBD of large numbers of permanent residents, for whom the Domain can be considered as their “backyard”.

The Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney has estimated that there has been an increase in visitation to the Domain over the past 10 years. Current annual visitation is estimated at between 4 million and 5.2 million visits per year (Manidis Roberts Consultants, 1998). Estimates of the number of visitors for various recreation activities, events and functions are as follows:

- up to 80,000 people in Phillip precinct for Symphony in the Domain, 75,000 people for Jazz in the Domain, and 67,000 for Opera in the Domain.
- up to 72,000 people for Carols in the Domain.
- 65,000 people for Tropfest in February 2000.
- 60,000 people at Mrs Macquarie’s Point and in the Tarpeian precinct for the New Years’ Eve 1999 celebrations.
- 40,000 visits per year for sporting competitions.
- approximately 2 million tourists on tour buses (200-350 buses a day, 5 days a week, 50 weeks a year, 40 people per bus).

Recreation, events, functions and tourism activities are concentrated in the Yurong and Phillip precincts.

Peak times for visits to the Domain are:

- in summer, as large events are focused on the Festival of Sydney in January, and because winter is typically wetter, thus discouraging many visitors.
- on Sundays, which is the busiest day of the week.
- in the middle of the day on weekdays, as CBD workers eat lunch, the number of tourist coaches peak between 11am and 2pm, and sporting competitions are held at lunchtime.

Visitor capacity for events has been determined at 20,000 people in Tarpeian, 40,000 people in Yurong, and 140,000 people in Phillip. There should be more than 100,000 people in the Domain, in one event, only once a year.

6.1.3 Expected future visitation

Visitation to the Domain is expected to increase in the near future, due to planned large events in the next two years including activities associated with New Year's Eve 2000, the Centenary of Federation celebrations, and an increase in the Sydney resident population (Manidis Roberts Consultants, 1998). The Millennium celebrations will include large-scale public activities within the Domain, and incidental activities that will impact on the Domain, such as harbour-focused activities.

6.2 Visitor access

Visitors can directly access the Domain by a variety of transport modes, including:

- pedestrian entry from Woolloomooloo, Cook and Phillip Parks, Art Gallery Road, Hospital Road, Macquarie Street and from the Opera House.
- bicycle.
- public vehicle access at Art Gallery Road and from the Domain carpark.
- public bus via the Sydney Explorer (stops at Mrs Macquarie's Chair, the Art Gallery, Sydney Hospital, on Macquarie Street, and at the Opera House at 17-minute intervals), and the Bondi to Bay Explorer (stops at Hyde Park and Sydney Hospital at 30 minute intervals).
- tourist coach.

The closest railway stations to the Domain are at Martin Place, St James and Circular Quay.

6.3 Characteristics of visitors to the Domain

6.3.1 Results of visitor surveys

Limited visitor survey information applying to the Domain has been collected to date. Three surveys for which information on visitors to the Domain can be drawn are:

- a telephone survey of Sydney residents in October-November 1998 (Centre for Visitor Studies, 1998), from which the characteristics of visitors to the Domain were obtained.

- an on-site survey of visitors (University of Technology Sydney, 1999).
- an on-site survey of tourists to Mrs Macquarie’s Point (Invetech Operations Pty Ltd, 1996).

Results of surveys of these three groups are presented below in **Table 6.1**.

Table 6.1: Results of surveys of visitors to the Domain

Sydney residents that have visited the Domain ⁽¹⁾	Visitors to Phillip Precinct ⁽²⁾ (n=166)	Coach tourists to Mrs Macquarie’s Point ⁽³⁾ (n=141)
Gender		
Male (51%) Female (49%)	Male (50%) Female (50%)	Male (52%) Female (48%)
Age groups		
16 to 24 years (16%) 25 to 34 years (19%) 35 to 44 years (22%) 45 to 54 years (16%) 55 to 64 years (14%) 65 years and over (12%)	14 to 19 years (11%) 20 to 24 years (20%) 25 to 39 years (31%) 40 to 59 years (27%) 60 years and over (11%)	18 to 25 years (9%) 26 to 39 years (47%) 40 to 55 years (20%) 56 years and over (20%)
Level of education		
High school (31%) Trade/technical (18%) Undergraduate (20%) Postgraduate (19%)		
Origin of visitors and people that use the Domain		
Sydney – inner (33%) - north (22%) - west (14%) - outer (12%) Outer West/Blue Mountains (5%) Gosford/Wyong (3%) Outer South-west (1%)	Local – within 50 km (60%) Within NSW (10%) Interstate (7%) Overseas (23%)	Japan (43%) Australia (20%) USA/Canada (13%) Other Asia (12%) Other Europe (5%) United Kingdom (4%)
Level of awareness of the Domain		
94% of Sydney residents are aware of the Domain.		
How found out about the Domain		
Always known (51%) Found it (16%) Work nearby (13%) Travel guide (10%) Word of mouth (6%) Television (2%) Live nearby (2%)		
How travelled to the Domain		
On foot (47%) Car (36%) Public transport (14%) Bicycle (2%) Private bus/coach/minibus (1%)	Walked/jogged (44%) Public transport (43%) Car (12%) Bike/skate/blade (1%)	Coach (50%) Minibus (37%) Hire car (7%)
Group size		
1 person (54%) 2 people (36%) 3 people (5%) 4 people (4%) 5 or more (1%)		

Table 6.1: Results of surveys of visitors to the Domain (cont.)

Sydney residents that have visited the Domain (1)	Visitors to Phillip Precinct (2) (n=166)	Coach tourists to Mrs Macquarie's Point (3) (n=141)
Frequency of visit		
Visited by 20% of Sydneysiders at least once in previous 6 months.	Daily (7%) More than once a week (22%) Weekly (4%) Twice weekly (2%) Monthly (4%) Every few months (19%) Yearly (13%) Every few years (8%) First visit (21%)	
Reasons for visiting/activities		
Walking (36%) Passing through (31%) Spend time with family and friends (28%) Relax/unwind (27%) Special events (8%) Particular plant, bed, display (8%) Café / restaurant (7%) Exercise (5%)	Passing through (64%) Relaxing (28%) Lunch (19%) Exercising (5%) Informal sport (4%) Spending time with family and friends (2%) Watching sport (2%) Organised sport (1%)	Looking at views (45%) Domain on tour itinerary (44%) See harbour, Opera House, Mrs Macquarie's Point, Harbour Bridge (24%) Taking photographs (5%) Group photo/wedding (2%)
Peak time of visits		
	12.30-1.45 pm	11am-12 noon
Length of visit		
Short visits – 77% stay less than 1/2 hour	< 30 mins (54%) 30 mins-1 hour (23%) 1 to 2 hours (13%) 2 to 3 hours (5%) More than 3 hours (5%)	Average 18 minutes
Visitor satisfaction		
98% found visit enjoyable	% satisfied/very satisfied with: Shade (98%) Trees (98%) Appearance (93%) Lawns (87%) Paths (83%) Place to play sport (79%) Seating (58%) Bins (51%) Tourist information (13%) Toilets (12%)	
Visitors most like:		
Trees and greenery (30%) Quietness (22%) Scenery/views (22%) Spaciousness (10%) Cleanliness (6%) Fauna (5%)	Greenery/trees/lawns (41%) Open space (27%) Relaxing qualities (8%) Atmosphere (5%) Wildlife/birds (3%) Saved from development (3%)	Scenery/views (84%) Trees and landscape (9%) Quiet/peace (8%) Water/harbour/boats (4%) Special place (4%) Photo opportunity (4%) Clean/no rubbish (3%) Fresh air / space (3%)

Table 6.1: Results of surveys of visitors to the Domain (cont.)

Sydney residents that have visited the Domain (1)	Visitors to Phillip Precinct (2) (n=166)	Coach tourists to Mrs Macquarie's Point (3) (n=141)
Visitors most dislike:		
No dislikes (43%) Poor maintenance (7%) Lack of facilities/amenities (4%)		No dislikes (72%) Lack of/distance to toilets (7%) Crowds/too busy (5%) Litter (5%) Parking problems (4%) Windy weather (3%) Traffic congestion (2%) Lack of drinks (1%)
Facilities and improvements desired		
More/updated facilities - toilets, bins, seats in sun and shade (22%) Maintenance (10%) More trees/flower beds (9%) More/better signposting (2%)	Improvements needed (62%): More bins (19%) More seating in sun and shade (18%) Paths - even, clean, paved (8%) More trees/greenery (5%) No organised sport (3%) Better toilets (3%) Better maintained lawns (3%) More drinking fountains (2%) Flowers (2%) More children's facilities (2%) More tourist information (2%)	Improvements needed (28%): Toilets closer to Mrs Macquarie's Point (38%) Takeaway food and drinks (19%) Tourist information/signage in other languages (13%) Ashtrays, garbage bins (6%) Public telephone (3%) Restaurant (3%) Clear signs to toilets (3%) On-site guides (3%) Improved parking (3%)
Major roles of the Domain are considered to be:		
Passive recreation/picnics (78%) Outdoor events (74%) Community events/activities (72%) Informal sporting activities (52%) Permanent performance space (47%) Corporate functions (29%) Major sporting functions (15%)		

Sources: (1) *Centre for Visitor Studies (1998)*
(2) *University of Technology Sydney Research (1999)*
(3) *Invetech Operations Pty Ltd (1996)*

Note: Level of statistical significance of the sample size of surveys was not stated in source documents.

6.3.2 Visitor segments

A number of “visitor segments”, or types of visitors, can be derived from the visitor surveys and general observations of visitors to the Domain. Identifying visitor segments can assist in understanding the value of the Domain to various types of visitors, and in managing the Domain to cater for the needs of these different groups. These visitor segments are outlined below. Please note that the proportion of visitors in these segments is not available from visitor survey information.

Overseas tourists

Come in groups by bus/coach to Mrs Macquarie's Point

Casual visitors

Enjoy picnics
Attend events and functions

Specialised activities

Swimming pool users
People attending special community and cultural events
People attending private functions
Diners in the restaurant / café

CBD workers

Lunch
Sporting activities
Walk through Domain to / from work

Local residents

Live in Woolloomooloo and East Circular Quay in medium- to high density dwellings.
Walk to and from the city through the Domain.

Flowovers

Visitors to Royal Botanic Gardens
Visitors to the Art Gallery and St Mary's Cathedral
People who park their car in the Domain carpark and walk to the city

Weekenders

Attend special events



View from Mrs Macquarie's Point

7 Recreation, events, functions and tourism use by precinct

Recreation activities are enjoyed in all precincts. Event and function sites are at Fleet Steps in the Yurong precinct, Phillip precinct, and the Tarpeian Precinct.

Use of each precinct is described below in a clockwise direction from Mrs Macquarie’s Point.

Yurong precinct

Features and attractions	Mrs Macquarie’s Point Mrs Macquarie’s Chair Fleet Steps Foreshore walk
Recreational activities	Fishing from Mrs Macquarie’s Point Fitness training and hill running at Fleet Steps Personal fitness training Walking and jogging along foreshore walk circuit Looking at the harbour view during the day and at night Taking photographs Some picnicking Dog walking
Organised functions/events	Mrs Macquarie’s Point – triathlons, weddings, photography, filming. 200 tourist coaches a day. Fleet Steps – marquee functions for 200 to 1,000 people (cocktail parties, launches), filming, photography, picnics BRW Corporate Team Triathlon (swim in Farm Cove, cycle and run legs along Art Gallery and Mrs Macquarie’s Roads – 3,500 people) Race running – Corporate Cup, Sydney Morning Herald Half-Marathon
Large events	New Year’s Eve (up to 40,000 people) Sydney Festival Events Open-Air Cinema in January-February (capacity 1,700 people)
Peak use	Summer Weekends and public holidays
Visitor facilities and services	Wharf structure Toilet block Seats Bubblers Photographers (3 leases) Mr Whippy mobile food van (lease) Interpretive signage Touch and tell interpretation aids
Utility services available	Telephone line, power, water Sewer at Fleet Steps Vehicle access for events setup

Woolloomooloo precinct

Features and attractions	Andrew “Boy” Charlton Pool (managed by Sydney City Council) Foreshore walk on Woolloomooloo Bay Sculpture Walk
Recreational activities	Swimming Walking (local residents in the morning and evening) Jogging Some picnicking and sitting Dog walking
Organised functions/events	BRW Corporate Team Triathlon (swim in Farm Cove, cycle and run legs along Art Gallery and Mrs Macquarie’s Roads – 3,500 people) Race running – Corporate Cup, Sydney Morning Herald Half-Marathon Biathlon (swimming and running) - 500 people on Friday nights
Large events	None – too narrow, no views
Peak use	Summer swimming season Early mornings, lunchtime, evenings
Visitor facilities and services	Interpretive signage along foreshore walk
Utility services available	None



Mrs Macquarie’s Road, Woolloomooloo precinct

Art Gallery precinct

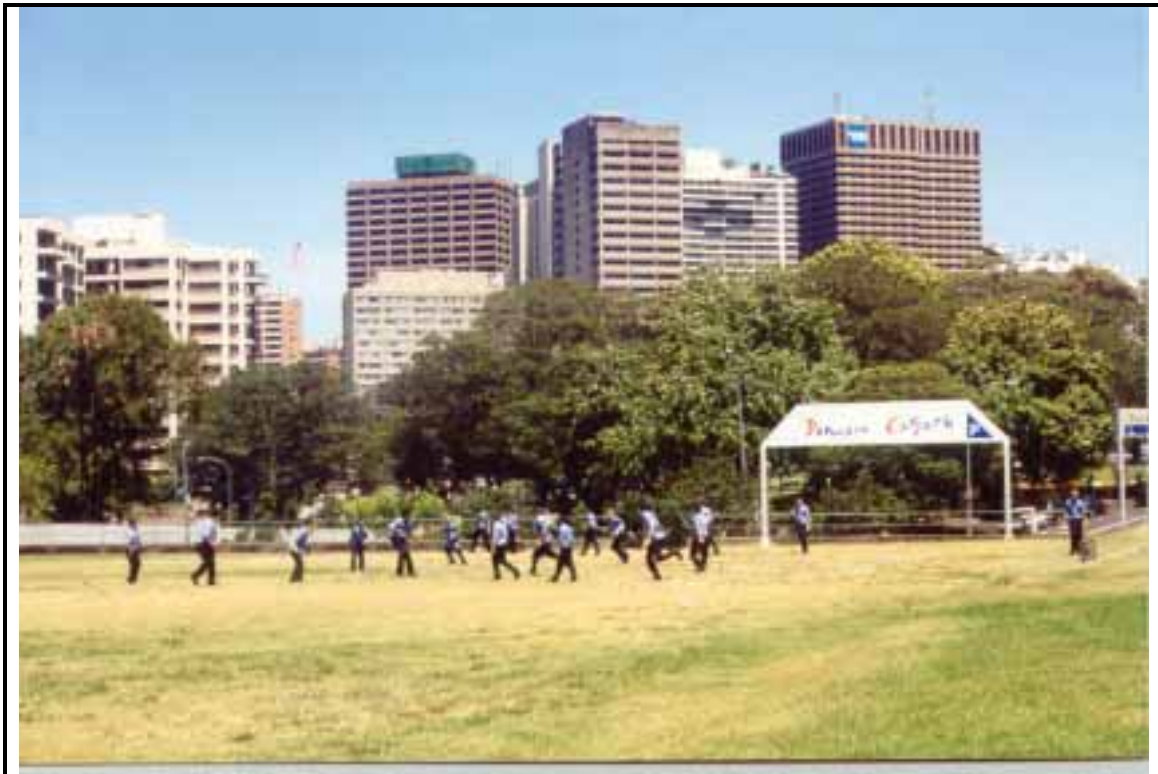
Features and attractions	Art Gallery of NSW Land bridge
Recreational activities	Walking through Jogging Sitting
Organised functions/events	BRW Corporate Team Triathlon (swim in Farm Cove, cycle and run legs along Art Gallery and Mrs Macquarie's Roads – 3,500 people) Race running – Corporate Cup, Sydney Morning Herald Half-Marathon
Large events	None
Peak use	Lunchtime
Visitor facilities and services	Seats
Utility services available	None



Art Gallery of NSW

Crescent precinct

Features and attractions	Flat area above Domain carpark Sloping grassed area
Recreational activities	Touch football Netball Jogging Unstructured recreation Personal fitness training Sitting School PE classes and games (St Mary's Cathedral School) Rallies Sky-diving Drug use
Organised functions/events	None
Large events	None
Peak use	Lunchtime during the week
Visitor facilities and services	Seats Bubbler
Utility services available	None



Crescent precinct

Phillip precinct

Features and attractions	Large open grassed area “Pavilion in the Park” restaurant and kiosk Exercise equipment
Recreational activities	Jogging Social/informal sport Eating lunch Speaker’s Corner on Sundays “Milling place” for Art Gallery patrons and school students
Organised functions/events	Annual and one-off events Community festivals Corporate picnics Organised sport (Domain Soccer League and Sporting Spectrum “Lunchtime Legends”) - touch football (at night), soccer, netball, volleyball Lunchtime sporting competitions (2 hours at lunchtime, and after work in daylight saving, all year) Triathlons Fun runs (Corporate Cup) – every second Wednesday
Large events	Preferred site within the Domain for large events and sport – open green space Sydney Festival concerts - Jazz in the Domain (up to 75,000 people), Symphony in the Domain (up to 80,000 people), Opera in the Domain (up to 67,000 people) Homebake (20,000 people in December) – 3 stages, fenced, ticketed Australia Day Carols in the Domain (up to 72,000 people) The Big Breakfast along Central Avenue (1,500 people on October long weekend) Tropfest (February) – 65,000 people in 2000 Community events – Walk Against Want, Red Nose Day, Sydney Women’s Festival
Peak use	Used by 3,000 people per day Lunchtime during the week Winter (March to September) - sport Summer (December to February) – events
Visitor facilities and services	Toilets Exercise equipment stations / fitness circuit Seats Bubblers Bins Signage
Utility services available	Power - few outlets especially in the south. Power is run from generators at the northern end. Sewer – connection in north, and to toilet block Water Drainage and irrigation Vehicle access for events setup

Macquarie precinct

Features and attractions	Garden Palace Kiosk (leased for 8 years) Conservatorium of Music “Salad Bowl”
Recreational activities	Walking Eating lunch
Organised functions/events	None
Large events	None
Peak use	Lunchtime
Visitor facilities and services	Kiosk
Utility services available	None



near Garden Palace kiosk

Tarpeian precinct

Features and attractions	Tarpeian Way walkway Tarpeian steps
Recreational activities	Walking Jogging Non-official sport, including frisbee
Organised functions/events	Filming – movies, television SOBO broadcasting compound during Olympics
Large events	New Year's Eve (20,000 people)
Peak use	Not heavily used – fig trees are a constraint. More use could be encouraged Lunchtime
Visitor facilities and services	None
Utility services available	No power (powerboard being installed to Lawn 64) No sewer



Tarpeian precinct

8 Planned events and facilities

8.1 Recent and planned events

Recent and planned large events in and adjacent to the Domain include:

- The Olympic Torch Relay.
- Olympic events, including the triathlon, sailing, and the marathon.
- during the Olympics, the Domain will be one of six “Olympics Live” venues in Sydney where visitors can watch Olympic events on a large screen. 40,000 people per day are expected in the Domain. 14,000 people attended the part held in the Domain after the Olympics Closing ceremony.
- New Year’s Eve 2000.
- The Centenary of Federation celebrations in 2001, which will involve a parade up Macquarie Street adjacent to the Domain.

8.2 Planned facilities and improvements

New facilities and improvements to existing facilities within the Domain that have been approved are as follows:

- Construction of improvements to the Andrew “Boy” Charlton Pool by Sydney City Council are due to commence in 2001. Improvements include redesign of the pool layout, the pool entrance and change rooms, and upgrading the pools.
- The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust is seeking an adaptive reuse for the former Navy oil tanks on the eastern side of the Domain. Fundamental to the redevelopment is that the roof structure will be upgraded, and will be designed to complement the landbridge.

9 Assessment of the Domain for recreation, events and functions, and tourism

The strengths and weaknesses of the Domain, and opportunities for and threats to recreation, events, functions and tourism are outlined overleaf in **Table 9.1**.



Andrew "Boy" Charlton pool and Woolloomooloo Bay

Table 9.1: Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats regarding recreation, events, functions and tourism in the Domain

	General use	Recreation	Events and functions	Tourism
Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pleasant, landscaped green space. Accessible by foot and by a range of transport modes. Reasonable access for people with disabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proximity to Sydney CBD. Can accommodate a range of recreational activities. Range of open and enclosed spaces that offer flexibility of activities. Extensive network of walking paths. Specialised recreation facilities, eg. pool. Proximity to/links with other spaces – Cook and Philip Parks, Hyde Park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considered one of the best large events sites in Sydney by event organisers. Major venue for prestige private and public events. RBG events staff held in high regard by events organisers. Vantage point for viewing the harbour and city. High demand site. Large open grassed area in Philip can accommodate large crowds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spectacular harbour and city views from Mrs Macquarie's Point in a pleasant landscaped setting. Mrs Macquarie's Chair is promoted as a key tourist destination for tourists.
Weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage and landscape sensitivity to use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No children's facilities. Limited information on needs and expectations of visitors to assist with management. Conflicts between recreational activities and other uses. No integrated recreation and leisure planning with other CBD open space and recreation providers. Restrictions on numbers allowed for lunchtime sport. Infrastructure and road closures needed for events restricts recreation activities. Lack of visitor amenities (seating, bins, toilets) in some areas. Macquarie precinct (Conservatorium and "Salad Bowl") is limited for recreation use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited RBG staff resources to monitor compliance with events policies and guidelines, and to rehabilitate events sites. Perception by event organisers of high hire fees charged for events. Sensitivity of the landscape. Inadequate infrastructure at events sites or for large crowds (power, water, toilets, seating, lighting, acoustics, access). Difficult access by large vehicles. Restrictions on numbers of people at events and functions is required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crowds of vehicles and tourists at Mrs Macquarie's Point at peak times in the middle of the day. Lack of multi-lingual signage. Lack of distance to toilets. Lack of food and drinks.

Table 9.1: Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats regarding recreation, events, functions and tourism in the Domain (cont.)

	General use	Recreation	Events and functions	Tourism
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Olympics and other celebrations. Possible redevelopment of the Domain carpark after lease expires in 2008. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing resident populations using the Domain for casual recreation. Increased use of Tarpeian precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New events site at Woolloomooloo Bay. Planned improvements to infrastructure, eg. drainage in Philip. Encourage younger people to visit the Domain through selection of events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed wine tasting and sales facility. Imminent increase in tourist numbers due to the Olympics.
Threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased demand for use of the Domain likely to result in increased conflicts, and degradation of the landscape. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing numbers of people using the Domain for recreation is likely to result in increased conflicts between activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redevelopment of the Attorney-General's site may restrict events in the Philip precinct. Limits on attendance at popular events due to high demand. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricted coach access to Mrs Macquarie's Point. Increased numbers of tourists will result in increased crowding at Mrs Macquarie's Point, thus diminishing the visitor experience.

10 Issues and strategies

10.1 Introduction

The key issues facing the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney regarding management of the Domain for recreation, events, functions and tourism are:

- management of intensive public recreation at a site of national heritage significance.
- accommodation of increasing demand to use the Domain for a wide variety of recreation activities, functions, events, and tourism, within a sustainable capacity to ensure protection of the landscape and heritage.
- management of conflicts between groups of users (such as tourists, sport and recreation, venue operators and the general visitor) due to competing demand for space and facilities.

Strategies to address these broad issues, as well as other issues raised during preparation of this plan, are outlined below.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
RECREATION		
GENERAL		
Limited information collected regarding the characteristics and expectations of visitors to the Domain on which to base management decisions.	RBG has a clear understanding of visitor characteristics and expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a comprehensive visitor survey, including interviews, gate/entry counts and observations. • Prepare a Visitor Management Strategy.
There is some confusion among visitors regarding permitted and prohibited activities.	Visitors are aware of permitted and prohibited activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install signs at key entrances that state permitted and prohibited activities.
Organised sporting activities damage the grass.	Minimal damage to grass resulting from sporting activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program sporting activities to allow areas to recover. Lay hardy turf in the Phillip and Crescent precincts.
Safety concerns regarding increased pedestrian use of the Domain at night.	Safe, designated pedestrian routes at night.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install lighting along key pedestrian routes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State Library-Pavilion on the Park-Cowper Wharf Road. - Hospital Road to the Domain carpark entrance.
Increasing use of the Domain by personal trainers and their clients.	A financial return to the RBG from personal trainers for use of the Domain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a system for licencing of personal trainers using the Domain.
Memorials are located throughout the Domain.	Future memorials located in the Domain are relevant to the site and core business of the Trust.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess applications for installation of memorials in terms of their relevance to the site and Trust core business.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
Joggers conflict with pedestrians on footpaths.	No conflicts between joggers and pedestrians on footpaths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the feasibility of installing a dedicated jogging track throughout the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens. • Actively manage “joggers routes” and enforce prescribed codes of conduct for joggers, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - giving way to other pedestrians. - keeping left wherever possible.
There are no recreation facilities for young children in the Domain.	All age groups, including young children, are catered for.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and install a heritage-themed children's playground.
There is some conflict between pedestrians, cyclists and in-line skaters.	Cyclists and in-line skaters give way to pedestrians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install signage at entry points and along pathways where conflicts occur regarding cyclists and in-line skaters giving way to pedestrians.
People sleep overnight in the Domain.	No sleeping or camping in the Domain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to enforce the "No Camping" policy.
There are limited opportunities for bike storage.	Bike storage facilities are available throughout the Domain at key destination points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install coin-operated bike lockers at the Andrew (Boy) Charlton pool and Art Gallery. • Install bike racks near Mrs Macquarie's Point and in the Phillip precinct.
Cars parked at the Art Gallery and along Mrs Macquarie's Road are broken into.	Security of cars parked at the Art Gallery and along Mrs Macquarie's Road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of the Domain carpark and lighted path. • Increase ranger patrols along Mrs Macquarie's Road and at the Art Gallery.
Waste from dogs on footpaths and grass.	No waste from dogs in the Domain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage visitors to manage their companion animals. • Police dog walkers to ensure that dog waste is disposed of.
YURONG PRECINCT		
Rock fishing at Mrs Macquarie's Point conflicts with other users.	No conflict between rock fishers and other users at Mrs Macquarie's Point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education fisher people regarding the code of conduct.
Rocky areas within the Yurong Precinct do not have hand rails for safety.	No insurance claims against RBG by people injuring themselves on rocky areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install hand rails at rocky areas where appropriate.
Some visitors have requested a hand rail adjacent to Fleet Steps for easier access, but the steps are of heritage significance.	Safe access to and on Fleet Steps, while recognising their heritage significance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a policy regarding the appropriateness of handrails for heritage steps.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
Fleet Steps are used for fitness training, which conflicts with marquee events held at the bottom of the stairs.	No conflicts of use at Fleet Steps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforce the code of conduct for joggers at Fleet Steps.
Difficult pedestrian access between the foreshore level and the upper level of Yurong precinct.	Easy pedestrian access between the foreshore and upper levels on Yurong precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install signs indicating access paths and steps between the foreshore and upper levels.
WOOLLOOMOOLOO PRECINCT		
There is no access for people with disabilities to the Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool, except via the driveway ramp.	People with disabilities can access Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolve access for people with disabilities from Cowper Wharf Road to the path at the swimming pool. Liaise with Sydney City Council to ensure that proposed improvements to the pool include access for people with disabilities.
The steps near the electricity sub-station are slippery and narrow, which is dangerous for joggers.	The steps near the electricity sub-station are safe for runners and joggers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair steps and install hand rails.
Runners are at risk of hitting their heads on palm trees overhanging paths near the proposed wine storage area.	No overhead hazards for people using footpaths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trim palm trees near the proposed naval fuel store.
There is a proposal by Sydney City Council to extend the boardwalk further along Woolloomooloo Bay to link the wharf terraces to a small island and sculpture.	Any extension to the boardwalk does not conflict with the use of Woolloomooloo Bay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority/City of Sydney regarding the impacts of extending the boardwalk into Woolloomooloo Bay. Review the proposal on its merits.
ART GALLERY PRECINCT		
Congested area near the bus stop outside the Art Gallery for joggers and pedestrians.	No conflict between joggers and pedestrians outside the Art Gallery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Widen the path north of the bridge over the Cahill Expressway. Relocate the bus stop. Redesign the Art Gallery forecourt.
Conflict between traffic and pedestrians in the area at the front of the Art Gallery, which is used as a milling area for gallery patrons and by school groups.	Safety of pedestrians outside the Art Gallery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the configuration of the pedestrian crossing on Art Gallery Road outside the Art Gallery.
There is a confusing maze of accessways between Woolloomooloo and the landbridge.	Clear and easy access between Woolloomooloo and the landbridge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rationalise accessways. Install directional signage to various destinations from the landbridge.
An increasing number of residents in Woolloomooloo and Darlinghurst are using the Domain as their backyard.	Encouragement of visitation by local residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure easy access between the Domain, Woolloomooloo and Darlinghurst.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
CRESCENT PRECINCT		
Conflict between pedestrians and delivery vehicles south of the Art Gallery. The path to Darlinghurst and the Domain carpark conflicts with the Art Gallery service road and the sandstone wall.	No conflict between pedestrians and delivery vehicles south of the Art Gallery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconfigure delivery vehicle access to minimise conflict with pedestrians.
The grassed bank in the Crescent becomes wet and muddy after rain, which affects pedestrians walking along the unformed track between the Art Gallery and Domain carpark.	Easy access for pedestrians between the Art Gallery and Domain carpark in wet weather.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sealed walking path between the Art Gallery and the Domain carpark.
The ground above the Domain carpark is compacted and thin, resulting in problems with weight loadings and safety issues for playing sport.	The Crescent playing fields are safe for sporting users, while not adversely affecting the structure of the Domain carpark.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the short term investigate means improving turf playing surface. In the long term provide better quality fields with upgrade of Domain carpark redevelopment.
The lease of the Domain carpark expires in 2008.	Use of the Domain carpark after 2008 is compatible with the recreational and historical values of the Domain, and ensures a financial return to RBG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the demand for and feasibility of alternative uses of the carpark.
Vehicle access from Art Gallery Road and Hospital Road into Prince Albert Road and St Mary's Road is difficult due to increased traffic coming out of the Eastern Distributor.	Resolve traffic circulation at the Art Gallery Road entrance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> liaise with City of Sydney and RTA re means of improving traffic movement at St Mary's Road entry Address as part of Redesign of entry
Loss of balls from games played on the Crescent playing fields onto Sir John Young Crescent and the rail line.	No danger to motorists or rail users from balls from games played in the Crescent precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the short term install net fencing between the Crescent playing fields, Sir John Young Crescent and the rail line.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
PHILLIP PRECINCT		
Conflict between pedestrian and traffic movement on the path at the back of the stage.	Limited conflict between traffic and pedestrians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocate stage and redesign the back-stage and accessway to eliminate conflicts.
Conflict between pedestrians, joggers and traffic along Hospital Road, especially at dusk.	Limited conflict between traffic and pedestrians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No buses permitted along Hospital Road. Progressively limit traffic and parking in Hospital Road. Provide a lit walkway along Hospital Road.
Sporting uses conflict with informal recreation.	No conflict between sporting activities and informal recreation in Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to keep sporting activities away from the treed area and Central Avenue.
There are no change or shower facilities for women.	Change and shower facilities are available for women in the Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct change, shower and toilet facilities for women in Phillip precinct.
Poor drainage in Phillip precinct results in fields being closed during and after rain, limiting the sporting competition season.	Minimal disruption to sporting competitions due to rain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a policy for field closures. Remove OZ tag Mow less fields and rotate use of fields, so field closures are less frequent.
Toilets are in an exposed location, and are closed in mid-afternoon.	Toilets are accessible to visitors during daylight.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close toilets at sunset.
Grass planted in Phillip is not robust enough for sport.	Grass in the Phillip precinct can better withstand sporting use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lay grass suitable for both sport and passive recreation. Allow a resting period for grass after sport. Rotate fields used for sport.
Exposed sprinkler holes are dangerous for sports players.	Sprinkler outlets do not pose a safety risk for sports players.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that counter sink sprinkler heads are flush with the grassed surface.
People loiter around the toilets.	Discourage people loitering near toilets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase ranger patrols around toilets. Review layout of the Domain to reduce opportunity to loiter. Close toilets at sunset.
Lunchtime sports organisers have requested equipment storage facilities.	Adequate storage space for sporting equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a storage room for equipment for lunchtime sports in proposed facility.
Sydney Festival events preclude twilight sport being played in January.	The Sydney Festival events take precedence over twilight sports in January in the Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocate twilight sporting competitions to Crescent precinct if upgraded.
Water affects furniture in the storeroom near the men's toilets.	Items stored in the storeroom are not affected by water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade the storeroom to prevent the entry of water.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
MACQUARIE PRECINCT		
The "Salad Bowl" is perceived as a wasted space due to its small size and isolation from the rest of the Domain and the Botanic Gardens.	Increased integration of the Salad Bowl into the Domain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Address as part of urban redesign link with paving, planting etc
The lessee of the Garden Palace Kiosk wishes to extend the area of seating adjacent to the kiosk.	No conflict between seated patrons of the kiosk and pedestrians walking from Macquarie Street through the Garden Palace gate, or along the path parallel to Macquarie Street.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the proposal to extend the seating area adjacent to the Garden Palace Kiosk on a merits basis.
TARPEIAN PRECINCT		
The Tarpeian precinct is generally underutilised but is used extensively on New Year's Eve. A high level of use of this area would be difficult to maintain due to compaction on trees.	Increased use of the Tarpeian precinct for informal recreation activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install exercise stations/ fitness equipment off the access path near the Government House wall.



Open Air Cinema – Yurong precinct

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS		
General		
The number of large events in summer, especially as part of the Sydney Festival, stretches RBG's resources.	The number of visitors to events sites does not exceed maximum sustainable levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan the calendar of events according to maximum visitor capacity for each precinct.
Lack of infrastructure to support events and functions in most precincts where events are held.	Infrastructure required to support large events is available within the Domain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factor costs of improved infrastructure into setting fees for events and functions. Install all required infrastructure at all event and function sites.
Events and function marquees damage the grass. The need to allow grass to recover restricts the number and frequency of marquee events that can be held.	Adequate rest periods are allowed after community and marquee events to allow the grass to recover.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include regrassing of marquee site as part of use fees Allow 3 weeks minimum (2wks in summer) between marquee events bookings to allow grass to recover. All cost of additional RBG hort staff in Sept – March to manage events factored into events and functions fees
Some event organisers do not adhere to conditions of agreement of using the site, including removal of rubbish after events by contractors.	All standard and special conditions for use of the events site are adhered to.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to require event organisers to meet the agreed conditions for holding events. Enforce appropriate penalty clauses for not adhering to the conditions of agreement (if they are broken three times, the contractor is not permitted back on site).
Poor appreciation of the significance of the site by some special events companies, promoters, contractors and caterers. Some hirers and subcontractors have been banned from the Domain.	All event organisers and subcontractors appreciate the significance of the site and subsequent limitations to holding their events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate special events companies, promoters, contractors and caterers about the significance of the Domain. Continue to issue conditions to event organisers for use of the Domain and requirements for subcontractors.
Fees charged to use the Domain are considered high by event organisers.	Fees paid by event organisers cover the cost of RGB management and labour in hosting the event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to charge event and function organisers for use of the Domain on a cost-neutral to RBG basis.
Fenced events can alienate some visitors from using some areas of the Domain.	Limited duration of fenced events that limit access to large areas of the Domain for long periods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a policy and guidelines for fenced events.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
Road closures required for fun runs and triathlons, which can occur once a week in winter, inconvenience patrons of the Art Gallery, Pavilion on the Park, Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool, and people who wish to drive/park on Art Gallery and Mrs Macquarie's Roads.	Minimal inconvenience of road closures on Domain users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop guidelines for notification of road closures.
Events held at the same time in the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens have the potential to conflict regarding noise.	Events held concurrently in the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens do not conflict in terms of noise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to adhere to Environment Protection Authority restrictions on decibel levels of events. Continue to monitor decibel levels during the event to minimise noise conflicts.
Some events and advertising are aesthetically inconsistent with the Domain's values.	A high standard of visual presentation of events held in the Domain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop visual presentation criteria for banners and billboards above and along the Cahill Expressway. Develop visual presentation criteria for promotional materials and structures used for events.
YURONG PRECINCT		
There are no water, sewer, telephone or power connections at Mrs Macquarie's Point.	Permanent water, sewer, telephone and power connections are available at Mrs Macquarie's Point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install water, telephone, power and sewer connections at appropriate area in close proximity to Mrs Macquarie's Point.
High demand for weddings, commercial filming and media results in crowding at Mrs Macquarie's Point.	Crowding and clutter at Mrs Macquarie's Point is minimised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclude visitor vehicular traffic from the northern loop of Mrs Macquarie's Road. Create an opportunity for a series of lookout points along the road which would reduce the concentrated visitor impact at Mrs Macquarie's Point. In the long term operate the trackless train to take tourists to the Point.
Limited vehicle access to Mrs Macquarie's Point for service use only.	Controlled vehicle access to Mrs Macquarie's Point for service use only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement guidelines for vehicle access to Mrs Macquarie's Point.
Upgraded power supply is required at Fleet Steps to replace use of noisy diesel generators.	Upgraded power supply at Fleet Steps. Restriction on use of diesel generators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade the power supply at Fleet Steps.
Marquee bump-in and bump-out compromises enjoyment of Fleet Steps.	Minimal disruption to visitors at Fleet Steps due to bump-in and bump-out of marquee functions at Fleet Steps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the requirement for efficient bump-in and bump-out at Fleet Steps.

Some caterers tip dirty water from functions on to the grass at Fleet Steps.	No dumping of waste water on grass.	• Prescribe means of waste water disposal by caterers etc at Fleet Steps.
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Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
Expensive grass planted near Fleet Steps is not suitable for people to walk on.	Grass planted near Fleet Steps is a hardy species that can tolerate high levels of pedestrian traffic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lay hardy turf species near Fleet Steps.
Fleet Steps – green space or function space?	Fleet Steps is utilised as an event/ function space within a green setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the frequency of events, and the location and size of marquees permitted at Fleet Steps. Review options for alternative venues for marquee functions. Rotate large and small functions on the two lawn spaces.
Fleet Steps is not a competitive events space, as it requires sewer, power and water connections.	Infrastructure at Fleet Steps is adequate to support events and functions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade infrastructure at Fleet Steps.
WOOLLOOMOOLOO PRECINCT		
A marquee events site for 40-60 people at Woolloomooloo Bay has been proposed.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the feasibility and demand for an events site at Woolloomooloo Bay. Consult with residents of Woolloomooloo Bay and other stakeholders regarding the possible location of an events site in Woolloomooloo Bay.
RBG was not informed about a New Year's Eve Recovery party held at Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool which affected bump-out plans after New Year's Eve.	RBG is aware of all events and functions held within the Domain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with City of Sydney and other stakeholders regarding proposed events and functions in the Domain.
PHILLIP PRECINCT		
Large events require substantial maintenance of lawns.	Maintenance of grass resulting from events is minimised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a policy regarding the frequency and size of events held in Phillip precinct that minimise damage to grass, based on past events experience.
More power outlets in the southern section of Phillip precinct are required.	Additional power outlets in the southern section of Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install additional power outlets in the southern section of Phillip precinct.
Poor drainage in Phillip precinct.	Improved drainage in Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement measures to improve the drainage in Phillip precinct.
Few water taps are available in Phillip for use for functions and events. Water supply is from sprinklers.	Improved water supply in Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement measures to improve the water supply in Phillip precinct.

Issue	Desired outcome	Strategies to address issue/ achieve desired outcome
An upgrade of the sewer connection in northern Phillip precinct is required, as it is ready to burst. No can not do this – better management required	Better manage Upgraded sewer connection in northern Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade the sewer connection in northern Phillip precinct.
There are narrow openings from Phillip precinct to Hospital Road, affecting trucks involved with events.	Hazard free vehicle access for events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review vehicle access and circulation for bump-in and bump-out of events. Formalise the preferred vehicle routes for events.
Illegal parking in Hospital Road.	No illegal parking in Hospital Road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase ranger patrols and fines for illegal parking in Hospital Road.
Poor pedestrian access to the toilets in Phillip precinct.	Easy pedestrian access to the toilets in Phillip precinct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a sealed path accessible for people with disabilities between the toilets and Hospital Road in the short term (in the long term, provide an accessible toilet in new facility).
A proposal to change the location of the Sydney Festival events stage to the north of Phillip precinct would reduce the number of people that can be accommodated in the Domain, make set-up more difficult, and would result in increased noise to Sydney Hospital.	The Sydney Festival events stage remains in its current position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the Sydney Festival events stage in its current position.
There is no permanent stage in Phillip precinct.	A stage suited to each event requiring a stage is erected for that event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the requirement of for event organisers to provide their own stage.
TOURISM		
300 coaches a day visit Mrs Macquarie's Point, resulting in a concentration of vehicles and visitors at peak times.	Management of vehicles and visitors to Mrs Macquarie's Point at peak times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage tour operators to limit visit times at Mrs Macquarie's Point during peak times.
Tour operators do not pay to bring visitors to Mrs Macquarie's Point.	Tour operators contribute towards the costs of maintaining access roads and Mrs Macquarie's Point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a business plan for charging tour operators a fee for bring tour groups to Mrs Macquarie's Point.
Desire by tourists for toilets at Mrs Macquarie's Point.	Use of existing toilets at Mrs Macquarie's Point./	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve signage to existing toilet block at Mrs Macquarie's Point. Ensure tour guides are aware of the location of the toilet block. * In the long term provide an additional toilet block near Mrs Macquaries Point



Sydney Festival events stage – Phillip precinct



“Salad Bowl” – Macquarie precinct

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