


PITTWATER
COUNCIL

ADAPTATION FUTURES 2016

**Achieving Bottom-up
Adaptation through
Local Planning Policy
at the Development
Consent Stage**

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Outline

- Environmental planning in Australia
- Climate pressures on local development planning
- Policy and plans as response measures
- Development for climate resilience
- Strengthening planning policy approaches & pathways forward



Environmental Planning in Australia



1 Federal Government + 6 State & 2 Territory Governments + 565 Local Governments

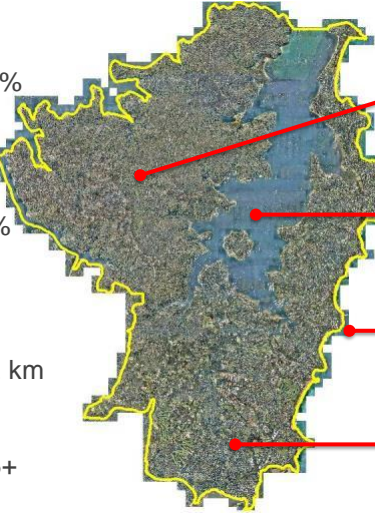


Pittwater Local Government Area

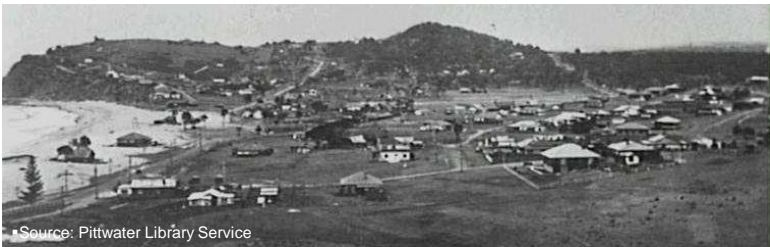


Pittwater Local Government Area

- Area: 125 km²
 - National Park: 43%
 - residential: 41%
 - commercial: 9%
 - light industrial: 1%
- Population: 64,200
- Coastline: 18 km
- Estuary perimeter: 52 km
- Beaches: 9
- Coastal floodplains: 5+



Urban Development in Pittwater



Source: Pittwater Library Service



Newport Beach 1930 and 2004

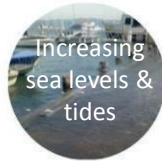
- 23,417 private dwellings (2011)
- 73% separate houses
- Median house value 880,390€
- 200 approved residential buildings 2014/15
- 70% residential
- Value of total approvals 146,661,160€



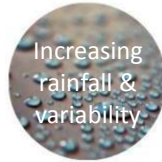
Climate Pressures

Present Day

- Maximum tidal range 1.86m
- 100 year ARI ocean 1.4m AHD
- Number of hot days a year >35°C: 3 days
- Annual average rainfall 1094mm
- East Coast Lows commonly during Autumn and Winter



Climate Change Impacts on Pittwater



2070 - 2100

- 0.9 metres sea level rise
- 100 year ARI ocean 2.3m AHD
- Number of hot days a year >35°C: 5.6 days
- Annual average rainfall + 10.4% increase
- Rainfall in Autumn -15% to +42%

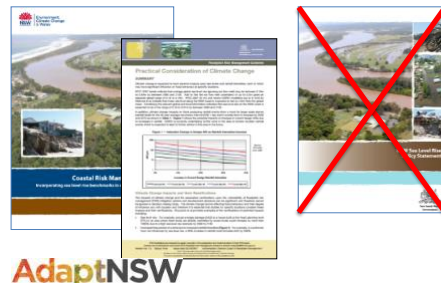


Top-down Climate Adaptation?

Federal Government



State Government



- National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy 2015
- Sea level rise mapping tool
- Guidelines, data and research

- Gazetted manuals for natural hazards (flood/coast/fire)
- Practice guidelines
- Regional projections and data

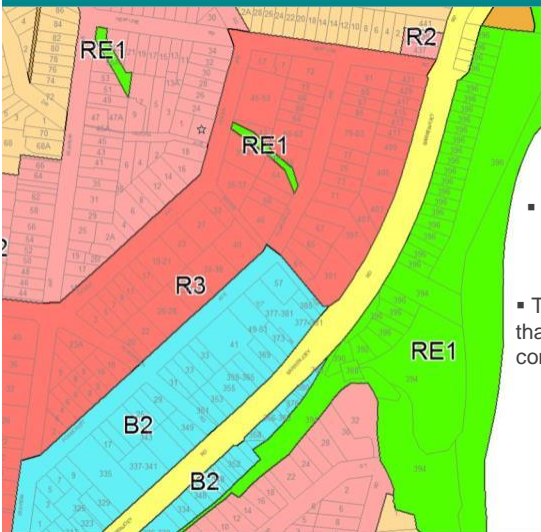


Key Legislation, Plans & Guidelines

State	LEGISLATION	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes planning authorities defines procedures to obtain development approval makes Environmental Planning Instruments (EPIs) 	Climate Change? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	EPI	State Environmental Planning Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> relates to the whole or part of the State 	
Local	EPI	Local Environmental Plans (LEP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> relates to a Local Government Area - Pittwater LEP sets land use zones & permissible development 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (sometimes)
	GUIDE	Development Control Plans (DCP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> relates to a Local Government Area - Pittwater DCP sets development criteria 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (sometimes)



Pittwater Local Environmental Plan (LEP)



Climate Change References

- Occurs in the Aim:
 - “... to minimise risks to the community in areas subject to environmental hazards including climate change...”*
- Development needs to take into account the future impacts of climate change on coastal processes and flood hazards
- The planning authority needs to be satisfied that climate change has been appropriately considered:
 - “Development consent must not be granted under this clause unless the consent authority is satisfied that:... sea level rise, coastal erosion and recession, or change of flooding patterns as a result of climate change, have been considered....”*



Pittwater Development Control Plan (DCP)

Hazard Controls

Based on hazard mapping and depending on proposed land use:

- Coastline Hazard
- Estuarine Hazard
- Flood Hazard
- Plus Climate Change



Control Outcomes

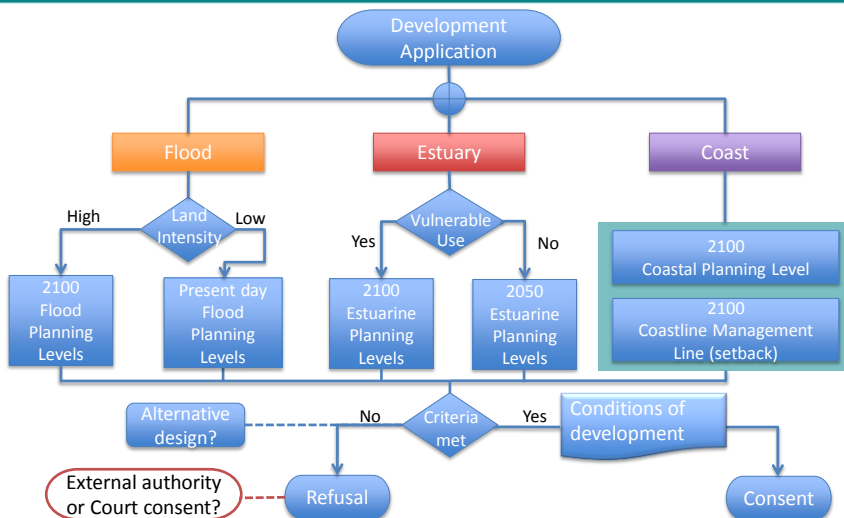
- To protect people
- To protect the natural environment
- To protect private and public infrastructure and assets

- Climate change to assess for sea level rise and increased rainfall

- A higher level of hazard assessment to incorporate climate change impacts when intensifying development



Development Consent



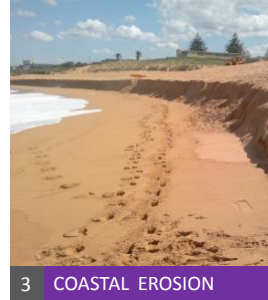
Policies to Practice



1 CATCHMENT FLOODING



2 ESTUARINE INUNDATION



3 COASTAL EROSION

- 175 survey respondents – 80% thought that an uncertain future climate should take into account Flood Planning Levels
- About 50% nominated restrictions on new development to manage flood risk
- Challenges to planning controls based on hazard rather than climate change
- Lot-based development favours building defences over retreat options
- Time limited approvals unreasonable?

General Development Conditions

Minimum Flood/Estuarine/Coastal Planning Levels

- habitable and non-habitable floor levels
- all access points and potential water entry points
- carpark levels and entry crest of basement carparks
- new subdivisions in land release areas



Flood-proof below Planning Levels

- electrical equipment, power points, wiring, fuel lines or any other service pipes and connections
- use flood compatible materials for all structural elements below the planning level



General Development Conditions

Allow for free passage of flood waters

- construction on piers
- no buildings or open carparking over floodways
- flood compatible fencing



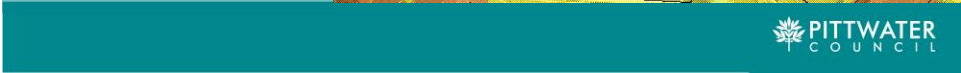
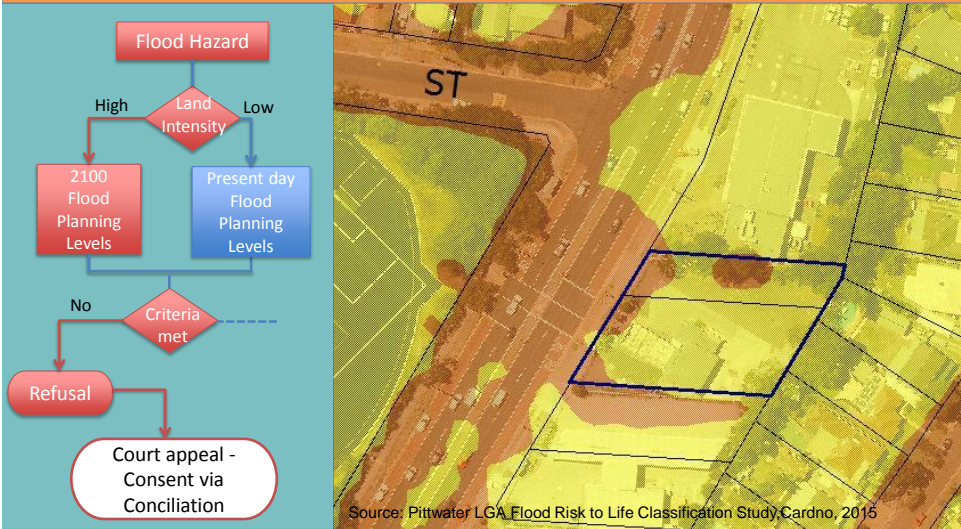
Ensure safety of occupants

- storing hazardous materials above the planning level
- implementing a Flood Emergency Response Plan
- compliance with the Flood Risk Management Plan



1 CATCHMENT FLOODING – CASE STUDY

New Business - Warehouse



1 CATCHMENT FLOODING

New Business – Adaptive Solutions

Special development conditions (via negotiated outcomes):

- Adaptation above the present day Flood Planning Level by mitigation measures
- Flood doors/gates on entry and exit driveways
 - simple operation
 - have fail-safe backup power
 - must be maintained in good working order
- Flood-proof perimeter walls
- Structural certification to withstand flood forces



- Risk to life response by sheltering on-site in upper storey

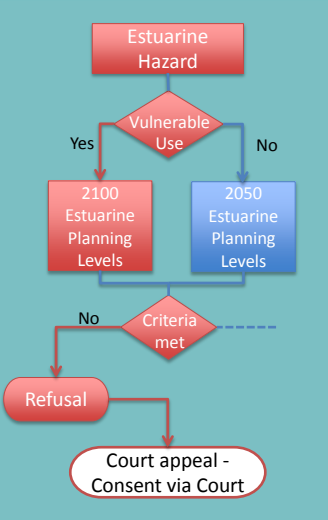
Table 1 Flood Risk to Life Development Matrix

Adapted Response	Land Use Group	Flood Life Hazard Category			
		H1-H2a	H2-H3a	H3a	H3b
Evacuation	All	No outcome	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shelter-in-Place	Residential and environmental	No outcome	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a	Development not permitted
	Commercial	No outcome	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a	Development not permitted
	Residential	No outcome	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5b	Development not permitted
	Business and industrial	No outcome	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5b, 5c	Development not permitted
	Vulnerable Uses	No outcome	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5b, 5c	Development not permitted
	Critical	No outcome	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b	Hb, 2, 3, 4, 5b, 5c	Development not permitted



2 ESTUARINE INUNDATION

Strata Subdivision - Seniors Living



Source: Pittwater Estuary Mapping of Sea Level Rise Impacts, Cardno, 2015

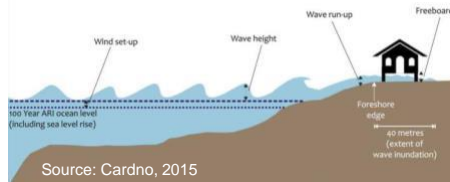


2 ESTUARINE INUNDATION

Strata Subdivision – Adaptive Solutions

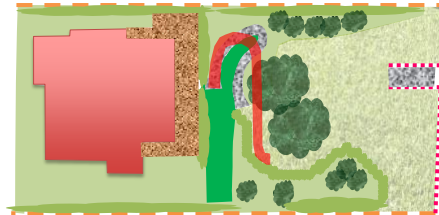
Development controls (via Court decision):

- Retained 2100 Estuarine Planning Level
 - Minimum habitable floor level
 - Entry crest into basement
 - Electrical services



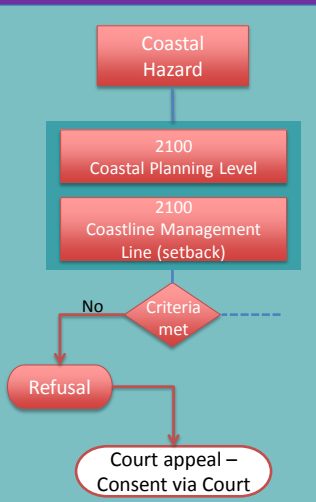
Additional adaptation solutions:

- Re-orientation of access way to divert tidal inundation
- Resilient landscaping works and vegetation selection



3 COASTAL EROSION

New Dwelling and Landscaping



New Dwelling – Adaptive Solutions

Development controls (via Court decision):

- Reduced the 2100 setback using piled foundations
- Reduced the 2100 Coastline Planning Level and offset by:
 - Building design standards to cater for some wave action
 - Landscaping design to accommodate wave overtopping



Source: Lex Neilson



Source: Haskoning Australia

- Waterproof basement
- Flood compatible fencing
- Requirement for landowner to remediate any beach erosion on their property

Bottom-up Climate Adaptation

Now

- Local planning policy driving climate adaptation in development
- Extension of hazard mitigation
- Innovation in development consents



Forward Path

- Reduce challenges to local policy
- Climate resilience at a strategic level rather than at property-scale
- More top-down direction and regulation





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THANK YOU

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