



Manly Social Plan 2004-2009

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Executive Summary.....	3
Manly Social Plan: Priority Issues Grid.....	7
<i>1. Introduction.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>2. The Context.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>4. Review of 1999-2003 Social Plan.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>5. The Methodology.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>6. Manly's Social & Economic Profile</i>	<i>14</i>
Age Group	15
Household Characteristics	15
Proportion of population.....	15
Mean household size.....	15
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community	16
Characteristic	16
Labour force	16
Working full-time.....	16
<i>7. Major Finding from Consultations.....</i>	<i>17</i>
Manly's Advantages.....	17
Manly's Needs.....	17
<i>8. Major Findings</i>	<i>17</i>
A. Health.....	19
B. Community Information and Support Servies	24
C. Physical Infrastructure & Local Amenity.....	34
D. Affordable Housing.....	39
E. Community Safety & Crime Prevention.....	44
F. Discrimination & Community Relations.....	47
G. Entertainment and Recreation.....	50

Manly Social Plan 2004-2009 Executive Summary

1. Introduction

The Manly Social Plan 2004-2009 has been developed on the basis of consultations with the community and service providers to identify issues affecting the well-being of people within Manly.

2. The Context

The **Local Government (General) Regulation 1999** requires all councils in NSW to develop Social Plans every five years and to report on identified access and equity activities in their annual reports. The plan is for the community as a whole but must address the needs of children, young people, women, older people, people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and people from different cultural and language backgrounds. It may also include other groups in the community who have particular needs.

Manly Council's Business is "to provide and facilitate quality services and infrastructure responsive to community need, through consultative and innovative management." The Council's Strategic Directions, including a focus on social and environmental sustainability, provide the context for the Manly Social Plan.

3. The Objectives

The core objectives of the Manly Social Plan are to assist Council, health and community service agencies, and community groups to:

- ♦ understand the local community and the needs of individuals and groups within the community;
- ♦ identify gaps in current service provision; and
- ♦ take a role in community development and the provision of services.

4. The Methodology

- ♦ In July 2003 Manly's **Social Plan Implementation Committee** was given responsibility for guiding and overseeing the development of the Social Plan.
- ♦ **Demographic data** from the 2001 Census of Population and Housing was analysed.
- ♦ **Needs Assessments** were conducted targeting women, men, older people, youth, people with a disability, children and families, the gay and lesbian communities, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and precincts. Reference was also made to the separate Northern Sydney Aboriginal Social Plan findings¹.
- ♦ **Analysis and Priority Setting** was done in consultation with community members, community groups and services.
- ♦ **Action Plans** to address each of the priority issues were compiled by the Council's Human Services Division.

5. Manly Social & Economic Profile

The 2001 census data² indicates changes in the population profile in Manly in recent years.

- ♦ Increases in the population groups: children under 14 years of age, adults 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and over 75 years of age. And decreases in the number of youth 15-24 years and adults aged 60-74 years of age.

¹ See Attachment 8. Needs Assessment and Priorities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Northern Sydney ATSI Social Plan project.

² Extracted from Census of Population and Housing, August 2001, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

- ♦ Relative to the wider northern beaches area and the Sydney Metropolitan area Manly has significant numbers of residents living in group housing (7.1%) and living alone (11.9%)
- ♦ Manly has a high proportion (18,610, 96.1%) of the potential labour force in employment.
- ♦ A higher mean weekly income than the residents in the northern beaches and Sydney Metropolitan areas.
- ♦ Manly residents were more qualified than those living in the Sydney region and the Northern Beaches. 6.8% of Manly residents held a postgraduate qualification, compared to 4.2% in the Sydney region, and 4.5% in the Northern Beaches, whilst 20.3% of Manly residents held a bachelor's degree, compared to 12.3% in the Sydney region, and 14.3% in the Northern Beaches.
- ♦ Of those aged 15 years and over, Management and Commerce was the most common field of study.

6. The Major Findings.

As a result of the analysis and priority setting of the needs identified in the 2003 – 2004 consultations, seven major issues were identified as requiring the attention of Manly Council, local service providers and community groups.

A. Health

Many groups identified health as a priority issue. Specific concerns about health include:

- ♦ falls prevention and risk of osteoporosis amongst older people and women;
- ♦ nursing homes and older people;
- ♦ sexual health and services for women and the young gay and lesbian communities;
- ♦ mental health and the general community, particularly men and youth;
- ♦ child health issues such as obesity, respiratory problems associated with passive smoking, safety in the home, and lack of a children's ward in the Manly hospital.

B. Community Information & Support Services

Many people expressed their interest in, and concerns about, community information and access to support services. Specific concerns about information and support services include:

- ♦ difficulties accessing information about child and family support services and activities, including information on disability services;
 - ♦ limited awareness in the community of the local gay and lesbian community, and the accessibility of information and educational material on homosexuality and support services;
 - ♦ the need for an increase in the level of home and community support services for frail older people;
 - ♦ the need for more affordable, accessible and quality child support, childcare and child education services;
 - ♦ a lack of local support services for children and families with disabilities;
 - ♦ the need for a centrally located and accessible drop-in-centre for older people;
 - ♦ the need for a social support group for young adult gay and lesbian people, similar to [GL@M](#) which focus on youth under 18 years.
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C. Local Amenity and Physical Infrastructure

Consultations, particularly with older people, people with a disability, services and families with young children, gave high priority to the issues of local amenity and physical infrastructure. Aspects of specific concern include:

- ♦ loss of the Quarantine Station;
- ♦ residential overdevelopment;
- ♦ public toilets;
- ♦ footpaths;
- ♦ playgrounds;
- ♦ the Manly CBD area;
- ♦ the Early Childhood Health Centre (Totem);
- ♦ accessible public transport including medical related transport for people with a disability; and
- ♦ access into public buildings for people with a disability.

D. Housing

Many groups within the Manly community including youth, adult men, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, women and a number of community and health services identified affordable housing as a major issue. Specific concerns about housing include:

- ♦ the need in the Manly area for medium-term housing and boarding house accommodation for women, men and youth;
- ♦ the lack of affordable housing for single men, youth, women, families and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities;
- ♦ the shortage of affordable rental housing especially for young people; and
- ♦ the lack of housing options including supported accommodation for young people with a disability.

E. Community Safety and Crime Prevention

Community safety and crime were identified as issues of concern by a series of community groups in 2003. Specific concerns about community safety include:

- ♦ anti-social behaviour in The Corso identified by older people, young men, families, and youth including gay and lesbian youth;
- ♦ domestic violence and sexual assaults identified by women; and
- ♦ violence and personal safety for men.

F. Discrimination and Community Relations

Particular issues arising under Discrimination include:

- ♦ homophobia and heterosexism experienced by young gay men and lesbians; and
- ♦ racial and religious discrimination experienced by women and youth in the Muslim community and by some others groups from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

G. Entertainment and Recreation

Issues of concern around access to entertainment and recreation include:

- ♦ a lack of entertainment for youth under 18 years of age;
 - ♦ a lack of awareness of existing social activities among youth under 18 years;
 - ♦ concern, among youth 18-25 years of age that local licensed venues may be forced to close at 12 midnight; and
 - ♦ lack of day time recreation activities for unemployed young people with a disability and adults with a disability.
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Action Plans: Manly Council's Division of Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) has compiled Action Plans to address the issues listed under the Major Findings. These will be progressively addressed over the period 2004-2009 as outlined in the Social Plan document in conjunction with other departments in Council, local agencies and community groups.

Manly Social Plan: Priority Issues Grid

Major Findings	Target Population Groups in the Manly Community								
	ATSI³ Communities	Men	Children 0- 12 years & families	Gay and Lesbian Communities	Older people	Youth	CALD⁴ Communities	Women	People Disabilities
A. Health		*	*	*	*	*		*	
B. Community Information and Support Services	*		*	*	*		*		
C. Local amenity and physical infrastructure			*		*		*		*
D. Housing		*				*		*	*
E. Community Safety and Crime Prevention		*						*	
F. Discrimination and Community Relations	*			*			*	*	

³ ATSI Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Priority Issues were identified by the Northern Sydney ATSI Social Plan Project

⁴ CALD: culturally and linguistically diverse communities

<i>G. Entertainment and Recreation</i>						*			*
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⁵ Discrimination was the third priority for Women this related to community relations and discrimination for CALD communities, hence the inclusion of Housing as priority.

1. Introduction

The Manly Social Plan 2004-2009 is a summary of ongoing processes of engagement with the community to identify issues affecting the well-being or quality of life of people within Manly. Observations and findings in the Manly Social Plan have emerged from consultations and surveys conducted with community members, services and community groups in Manly in 2003-2004. The Manly Social Plan 2004-2009 identifies issues relevant to the general community and to specific community groups.

Specific groups involved in the community consultations included:

- ♦ local resident precinct committees
- ♦ families with children aged 0 – 11 years old
- ♦ youth and young adults aged 12 – 24
- ♦ women
- ♦ men
- ♦ older people 55 years and over
- ♦ young gay men and lesbians
- ♦ people with disabilities
- ♦ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- ♦ people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds; and
- ♦ non-government and government community and/or health service providers.

2. The Context

NSW Government: The **Local Government (General) Regulation 1999** requires all councils in NSW to develop a social plan and to report on identified access and equity activities in their annual reports. The regulation also prescribes the inclusion of seven of the above target population groups. This regulation was part of a social justice strategy introduced by the NSW State Government in 1998.

The social justice strategy aims to ensure social sustainability by promoting access to resources and services, and by ensuring equity in participation and consultation. The guiding principles for securing social justice and social sustainability are defined in the NSW Government's strategy as:

- ♦ Equity - fairness in the distribution of resources, particularly for those in need.
- ♦ Access - securing fairer access for people to economic resources, services, and rights essential to improving their quality of life⁶.
- ♦ Participation - achieving maximum opportunity for all people to participate in decisions, which affect their lives.
- ♦ Rights - establishing and promoting equality of rights.

⁶A persons well being or quality of life may be influenced by such factors as: health; employment and quality of work; personal economic situation; education and training; security of housing; personal safety and protection from crime; social opportunity and participation; pursuit of culture and leisure activities; a satisfactory physical environment; and recognition and protection of human rights and civil liberties. (Source Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation 1987.)

Manly Council: The Council's Strategic Directions and governing principles provide the local context for the Manly Social Plan 2004 - 2009. Key aspects include:

- ♦ Council's Business: to provide and facilitate quality services and infrastructure responsive to community need, through consultative and innovative management.
- ♦ Council's Vision: a thriving community where residents and visitors enjoy a clean, safe and unique natural environment enhanced by heritage and lifestyle.
- ♦ Council's Values: Quality; Effectiveness; Access and Equity; Dedication; Efficiency; Customers and Consultation.

Council is ideally placed to identify community needs, to advocate on behalf of the community, and to address the issues of concern in working relationships with the local community and/or other governments.

3. *The Social Plan's Objectives*

The objectives of the Manly Social Plan 2004-2009 are to assist Council, other agencies and community groups to:

- ♦ understand the local community and the needs of individuals and groups within the community;
- ♦ identify gaps in current service provision;
- ♦ plan for current and future needs;
- ♦ allocate resources in the most effective way;
- ♦ express equity and fairness in allocating resources;
- ♦ address the needs of social and cultural diversity in the community;
- ♦ take a leadership role in community development and the provision of services;
- ♦ integrate social and environmental sustainability⁷ considerations; and
- ♦ establish a framework and process to engage with special needs groups, the wider community and other agencies.

4. *Review of 1999-2003 Social Plan.*

The 2000 – 2004 Social Plan adopted by Manly Council in 1999 is a comprehensive document being over 50 pages and listing over 80 individual actions.

The detailed reporting on each of these actions takes place via Council's Social Plan Implementation Committee which in turn reports to Council. It is not intended to report against each of these individual actions here but rather to try and summarise the significant achievements which have occurred. These are as follows:

Housing

⁷ "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (World Commission on the Environment and Development, "Our Common Factors" Oxford Press 1987). In considering sustainability, social scientists give greater emphasis to social and cultural factors and quality of life issues.

- Council obtained funding for and then proceeded to employ a Regional Housing Coordinator position (in 2003) a joint project between the State Government, Warringah and Manly Councils.
- The position has assisted Council and the other stakeholders look at ways to try and retain, encourage and establish affordable housing in the local area. Affordable housing remains an ongoing and high priority issue within Manly.
- Council's Homelessness Working Party met a number of times to ascertain the needs of people who are homeless in Manly and to ensure better service delivery between the respective agencies in the local area and region.

Transport

- Council Committees were active with giving feedback in relation to a major timetable review for the STA in 2002/3.
- The Late Night Summer Bus program was successfully trialed and became a financially self sustaining service over 2002/3. The service continues each summer season. The bus aims to provide a safe and cheap alternative for late night visitors to Manly to get home.
- Council's community bus service has been well utilised thanks to better marketing particular to local community groups and organisations. Council also continued its involvement / representation on the Manly Warringah Community Transport Service Management Committee to ensure clients within the Manly LGA receive the services they require from this program.

Government Agencies

- Council staff have continued to be proactive in ensuring well coordinated service delivery to people within the Manly LGA through participation on a range of inter agency forums relating to HACC funded programs, children's services within the region, Families First and the SHOROC Community services portfolio.
- The development of a kit to advise private providers with a step by step guide to how to establish childcare services within the SHOROC region was a constructive low cost initiative aimed at enhancing the possibility of attracting new childcare providers to the local area.
- The lack of key government agencies within the Manly LGA (eg Centre Link, Medicare etc) was an issue and a trend Council was unable to change. The trend is that such services are more and more provided on a regional rather than local basis.

Children's Services

- Council opened its new Harbour View childcare Centre in Ross Street, Seaforth offering 40 care places per working day. Despite this significant additional undertaking by Council towards Children's Services direct service provision, waiting lists remain high in Manly as they are across the region.
 - Council participated in the development of a Families First strategy for the Manly / Northern beaches region.
 - Council's Playground Committee endorsed a strategy for the ongoing re-development of key playgrounds in strategic high use locations across Manly.
 - Manly Council despite its best efforts at Marketing continues to experience difficulties with recruiting family day carers and numbers of
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carers have declined by about 25 percent over the last four years. This is a regional issue and is reflective of the demographics of the local area and the high number of professional people that live in the local area.

Young People

- Manly Council's Youth Council (the first of its kind in the state) continues to be extremely active with Youth Council programs servicing approximately 1400 people per month. These services include family and individual counselling, education, community health, programs for young people with a disability and programs with a cultural focus.
- Manly Council's Youth Council has been active in providing volunteers to assist Council with the implementation of their environmental sustainability and community safety education programs.

Older People

- The Manly Meals on Wheels program has been successful in obtaining new program funding for its designated client group to run a community restaurant, a shopping "on line" program and community shopping program (clients are taken to Warringah Mall Shopping Centre each week following the closure of the Totem Shopping Centre)
- Council has in 2004 completed the relocation of its Meals on Wheels facility to the Manly Senior Citizens Centre.
- As part of the above process the Manly Seniors Citizens Centre has been comprehensively upgraded and a new community hall and storage spaces added. This facility is nearing completion at the time of writing and is planned to reopen in September / October 2004.

Access

- Council's Access Committee has been particularly active in reviewing new capital projects and programs running locally to ensure that key access issues are addressed. The committee reports monthly to council on the projects it is involved in.
- A Manly Access Audit was undertaken in the Manly CBD and recommendations arising from the audit have been progressively implemented.

Safety

- Following consultation with the local community Manly Council's Community Safety Committee developed a comprehensive Crime Prevention Plan. Council has worked at implementing the high priority recommendations of the plan. Projects such as the late night summer bus, the Manly Liquor Licensing Accord and resulting 2am restricted access policy at licensed venues within the Manly CBD, beach lockers, the installation of CCTV at key locations within the CBD are a small part of a range of initiatives Council has worked with other stakeholders in implementing.
 - Council works on Community Safety initiatives in conjunction with the NSW Police, local community based organisations, Manly Drug Education Centre, The Manly Community Centre, other government agencies and precinct representatives. The Attorney General's department has been the major funding body of many of the initiatives
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undertaken to date. Thanks must also go to the STA for their assistance with the late night bus initiative.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

- Council was an active participant on the Northern Sydney Aboriginal Social Plan project and provides program / administrative funds to the auspice agency (Manly Community Centre) which oversees the project worker employed to implement the plan.
- Council, over the last four years, has worked hard via the Manly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee to develop the profile, diversity and status of the Gurringai festival now one of Sydney's key annual cultural events celebrating Aboriginal Culture and Heritage in the Northern Sydney region. This support included being the host Council to convene the festival steering committee of the Committee from 2000-2003. This role now rotates between the participating Councils across the region now event has an established format.
- Council in 2004 employed an Aboriginal Heritage Officer to assist in addressing issues relating to site management and Aboriginal heritage in the local area.

CALD & NESB

- Council continued to be an active member on the Northern Beaches Multicultural network who have facilitated such events as the recent Migration Information Day.
- Cross cultural awareness training was provided as part of a joint Warringah and Manly Council project in 2003.
- Manly Council provided funding assistance to the Manly community centre who employs a multicultural sessional worker

5. The Methodology

Manly Council has used the following processes in developing the Social Plan 2004/2009.

Overall Guidance/Management: In July 2003 Manly Council engaged the Social Plan Implementation Committee to oversee and guide the development of the Social Plan. The Committee's membership includes community representatives from the Precinct system and the wider community, Councillors, Council officers, and representatives from a cross section of community based and government services.

Needs Assessment:⁸ Community needs were identified through a range of methods including:

- ♦ A literature review of state and local reports
- ♦ An analysis of census data
- ♦ Focus groups (12 groups, 193 participants) with target population groups and with service providers
- ♦ Surveys completed (approx 450) across all target populations and resident Precinct committees.

⁸ Needs Assessment documents (Attachments 1-7) specify the method, and the number and name of each stakeholder group consulted.

- ♦ The needs of the ATSI community were researched and provided by the Northern Sydney Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Plan project officer.⁹

Analysis and Priority Setting: Once community needs were identified, further community consultations were undertaken in 2004 to allocate priorities.

Needs Assessment documents were circulated for comment to a large range of stakeholders (residents and service providers) and series of workshops were held with services and residents to prioritise the needs for older people, children and families, the young gay and lesbian communities, youth, women and culturally and linguistically diverse communities¹⁰.

Action Plans: On the basis of the needs assessment, analysis and prioritising of the issues, the Manly Council Division of Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) has compiled Action Plans to address each of the Priority Issues. These will be progressively implemented over the period of the Social Plan, 2004-2009.

6. **Manly's Social & Economic Profile**

In the 2001 national census¹¹, Manly's population was **37,587**, including overseas visitors. This represents a growth of 3.6% since the 1996 Census (36,265), and an increase of 7.7% since the 1991 Census (34,895)

Between 1991 to 2001 Manly's population and housing structure included **increases** in:

- ♦ the 30-59 year age group
- ♦ the 0-14 year age group
- ♦ couple families without children
- ♦ professional and associated professional workers
- ♦ those living in a group household
- ♦ those paying higher than average rental or housing loan costs
- ♦ the number of flats/apartments and townhouses

Between 1991 to 2001 Manly's population and housing structure included **decreases** in:

- ♦ the 15-24 year age group
- ♦ the 60-74 year age group
- ♦ couple families with children
- ♦ tradespersons and unskilled workers
- ♦ those who own their own home
- ♦ those who come from a non-English speaking background
- ♦ the number of separate houses

Changes in the age structure of Manly's community between 1991 and 2001

The census data indicates that there have been significant changes in the age profile in Manly.

⁹ See Attachment 8. Needs Assessment and Priorities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Northern Sydney ATSI Social Plan project.

¹⁰ People with a disability and services had prioritised their issues at the original Needs Assessment workshops.

¹¹ This and subsequent population data was extracted from 2001 Census of Population and Housing, August 2001, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Population Profile</i>
<i>Children under 14 years of age</i>	♦ Increased from 14.9% in 1991 to 16.7% in 2001
<i>Youth 15-24 years of age</i>	♦ Declined from 14.4% in 1991 to 11.2% in 2001
<i>Adults 30-39 years of age</i>	♦ Is the most populous age group in Manly ♦ Increased from 16% of the total population in 1991 to 19% of the population in 2001
<i>Adults 40-49 years of age</i>	♦ Increased from 13% in 1991 to 14% of the total population in 2001
<i>Adults 50-59 years of age</i>	♦ Increased from 9.1% in 1991 to 11.3% in 2001
<i>Adults 60-74 year age</i>	♦ Significantly decreased as a proportion of the population from 14.3% in 1991 to 10.6% in 2001
<i>Adults 75 years and over</i>	♦ Increased slightly from 7.5% in 1991 to 8% in 2001.

Household Characteristics

The following categories of households may have some overlap, for example a one-parent family, a couple family with or without children, may live within a group household or in their own household. The table below provides a snapshot of the characteristics of households in Manly in 2001.

<i>Household Characteristic</i>	<i>Proportion of population</i>
<i>Mean household size</i>	♦ The number of people per household increased from 2.3 persons in 1996 to 2.4 persons in 2001, compared to Northern Beaches (2.6 persons), and the Sydney region (2.7 persons).
<i>Group household</i>	♦ 7.1% of residents lived in a group house in 2001, compared to Northern Beaches (3.9%), and the Sydney region (3.7%).
<i>Living alone</i>	♦ 11.9% of people in Manly in 2001 lived alone compared with the Northern Beaches (8.9%), and the Sydney region (8.2%). ♦ In Manly 39.5% of those living alone were aged over 65 years.
<i>Couple families with children</i>	♦ 42.4% of all families in Manly in 2001 had children.
<i>Couple families without children</i>	♦ 43.4% of all families in Manly in 2001 had no children.
<i>One-parent families</i>	♦ 11.9% of all families were one- parent families. ♦ 61.6% of persons in one-parent families were females

Cultural & Linguistically Diverse Communities

In 2001 the proportion of Manly residents born overseas was **28.2%** compared to 29.5% in 1991. Manly had a lower number of people born overseas compared to the Sydney region (31.2%), but more than the Northern Beaches (25.3%). Of those Manly residents who were born overseas, the three main countries of birth have remained relatively constant since the 1991 census, and were all English speaking countries (United Kingdom, New Zealand and the United States of America).

Local Manly services note that the local student population, the transient community and some new arrival groups may not show up on the census data and that while the numbers in this group may be small that these groups often experience considerable difficulties in accessing information and essential services.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community

There were 93 people (**0.3%**) (57 males and 36 females) who identified as being of Indigenous origin¹² in the 2001 Census. There are approximately 1900 indigenous residents with the Northern Sydney Region (11 local government areas).

Education

- ♦ Manly experienced an increase in attendance numbers at infant/primary schools, 5.7% of the population in 1991 to 6.7% in 2001.
- ♦ 58.7% of Manly residents aged 15 years and over had completed Year 12 or equivalent, compared to 49.1% of Northern Beaches residents.
- ♦ Enrolment at University among the Manly population increased from 3.7% in 1991 to 4.8% in 2001.
- ♦ Enrolments in TAFE among the Manly population decreased from 3.3% in 1991 to 2.7% in 2001.
- ♦ Manly residents were more qualified than those living in the Sydney region and the Northern Beaches. 20.3% of Manly residents held a bachelor's degree, compared to 12.3% in the Sydney region, and 14.3% in the Northern Beaches. And 6.8% of Manly residents held a postgraduate qualification, compared to 4.2% in the Sydney region, and 4.5% in the Northern Beaches.

Employment

<i>Characteristic</i>	<i>Population Profile</i>
<i>Labour force</i>	♦ 18,610 people living in Manly were employed at the time of the 2001 census.
<i>Working full-time</i>	♦ The proportion of full time workers has decreased slightly, from 70.1% in 1991 to 67.5% in 2001. In 2001, of those working full-time, 62% were male, and 37.9% were female.
<i>Working part-time</i>	♦ There has been a gradual increase in the

¹² The 1996 and 2001 Census questions on Indigenous origin asked whether each person was of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. In the 1991 Census, respondents could select either Aboriginal only or Torres Strait Islander only.

	proportion of people working part time, from 25.4% in 1991, to 30% in 2001. Of those working part-time, 64.2% were female, compared to 35.7% men
<i>Professionals or associate professionals</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Significantly increasing from 30.2% of those employed in 1991 to 44.5% in 2001. ♦ This is significantly higher than the proportion of this group in the Sydney region (33%), and in the Northern Beaches (36.2%).

Income

- ♦ The median weekly individual income of Manly residents in 2001 was \$600-\$699. Manly's residents earn more than residents of the Sydney region (\$400-\$499) and the Northern Beaches (\$500-\$599).
- ♦ In 2001, families in Manly also earned more than those in the Sydney region and the Northern Beaches. The median weekly family income in Manly was \$1,500-\$1,999, higher than for families in the Sydney region (\$1,000-\$1,199), or Northern Beaches families (\$1,200-\$1,499).
- ♦ In 2001, over 30% of couple families in Manly (both with and without children) earned \$2,000 or more per week compared to 7.3% of one-parent families.

7. Major Finding from Consultations

Manly's Advantages

In the process of assessing community needs residents were asked what features of living in Manly and the Northern Beaches they liked. Respondents frequently named:

- the natural environment
- the proximity to services and facilities
- lifestyle
- the safety of the area
- the sense of community

Consultations with service providers and residents noted the advantage Manly has in having Council support for a range of community groups (Gays and [Lesbians @ Manly GL@M](#), and the Youth Council) and Council services including child care, Meals on Wheels and the Council's support for the Manly Community Centre (MCC).

Agencies noted the benefits, the Manly Community Centre (MCC) provided for the area, with the potential to respond to and advocate for a cross section of often marginalised groups such as, students, people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, the homeless and residents in housing crisis.

Consumers and services also noted the access the Manly community has to a range of local community health services located within and or close to Manly Hospital. The hope was expressed that not all community health services would be lost to the area with the proposed relocation of the hospital in 2009-2010.

Manly's Needs

During the Social Plan consultations residents and service providers identified a number of priority issues of concern.

- ♦ **Health**, falls prevention and risk of osteoporosis amongst older people and women; the loss of nursing homes for older people, the lack of sexual health services for women and the young gay and lesbian communities; the shortfall in mental health services for the general community; child health issues such as obesity; respiratory problems associated with passive smoking; and safety in the home.
 - ♦ **Community Information and Support Services**, gaps in information services, accessibility and affordability of community services; and the absence of any social support groups for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, older people, families with young children.
 - ♦ **Local Amenity and Physical Infrastructure**, the loss of the Quarantine Station; residential over development; the supply of accessible transport; accessibility of many public buildings; footpath safety; cleanliness of public toilets; the number of suitable playgrounds; facilities in the Manly Central Business District (MCBD); and the condition of the Early Childhood Health Centre (Totem) These issues were identified by precinct committees, older people, families and people with a disability.
 - ♦ **Housing**, the lack of medium term housing and boarding houses, and affordable rental and purchase housing for a cross section of the community.
 - ♦ **Community Safety and Crime Prevention, incorporating issues of** anti-social behaviour in The Corso identified by gay and lesbian community, youth and young men; domestic violence and sexual assaults identified by women; and violence and personal safety for men.
 - ♦ **Discrimination and Community Relations** including issues of homophobia and heterosexism were identified by the gay and lesbian communities and racial and religious discrimination identified by women and youth in the Muslim community.
 - ♦ **Entertainment and Recreation**, a lack of entertainment for youth under 18 years of age and lack of daytime recreation activities for unemployed young people with a disability and adults with a disability.
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8.0 Major Findings

A. Health

B. Community Information and Support Services

C. Local Amenity and Physical Infrastructure

D. Housing

E. Community Safety and Crime Prevention

F. Discrimination and Community Relations

G. Recreation and Entertainment

A. Health

During the consultations to develop the Manly Social Plan, many people identified health as a priority issue. Specific concerns about health include:

- ♦ falls prevention and risk of osteoporosis amongst older people and women
- ♦ nursing homes and older people
- ♦ sexual health and services for women and the young gay and lesbian communities
- ♦ mental health and the general community, particularly men and youth
- ♦ child health issues such as obesity, respiratory problems associated with passive smoking, safety in the home, and lack of a children's ward in the Manly hospital.

More generally community representatives and services noted the absence of any private 24-hour medical service in the Manly area. This was of additional concern because of the proposed relocation of Manly Hospital by 2010. The relocation of the hospital also raises the possibility of community health services transferring out of the area with the hospitals in-patient services.

A.1 Health & Older People

Falls Prevention:

During the past decade there has been a decline in the 65 – 74 age group, however the number of people over 75, currently around 8%, has increased as a proportion of the Manly population.

Community members and service providers such as the Northern Beaches Health Promotion Service, the Aged Care Assessment Team and Northern Sydney Home Nursing identified a need to address the increased risk of osteoporosis among women, the high incidence of falls among older people, and the associated reduction in physical mobility among older people.

The loss of mobility among older people results in high social and economic costs for older people, the wider community and support services.

Local government can play a significant role in providing and supporting preventative measures such as:

- the home maintenance and modification service reducing hazards in the home and gardens of frail older people;
- footpath maintenance including removal of trip hazards and use of non-slip paving;
- street lighting;
- assistance with putting garbage bins out; and
- promotion of exercise, for example, walking paths with rest areas and maps of walks.

Nursing Homes, Hostels & Dementia Specific Units:

Manly's resident population over the age of 75 increased between 1991 and 2001. At the same time the area has experienced a loss of nursing homes and hostels. With the ageing of the resident population there is an increase in the demand for the limited number of dementia specific units in nursing homes. The Aged Care Assessment Team for Northern Beaches sees approximately 160-170 frail people per month. These are mainly people over the age of 80, who need nursing home care and/or significant levels of home and community

support services. In these circumstances, frail older people may wait months in hospital for a nursing home bed or they may be placed inappropriately in nursing home rooms accommodating sometimes up to 6 people.

A.2 Sexual Health

Gay & Lesbian Communities:

In consultations with young members of the gay and lesbian communities in 2003 and 2004 priority issues of concern included the risk of drug and alcohol abuse and increased sexual risk taking and the associated risk of sexually transmitted infections among gay and lesbian people.

Young people noted the importance of retaining the Manly Sexual Health Service in the local Manly area. The Service is perceived as providing confidential, specialist knowledge, and as being approachable and accessible.

This was raised in the context of the possible move of community health services to the relocated Manly Hospital in 2010. Service providers and young people identified the need for the sexual Health Service to remain in the Manly CBD to ensure ease of access.

Women:

Sexual health is an issue of particular concern for young women, with several sexually transmitted infections on the increase. Chlamydia is the main STD among young people, especially young women; notifications of this disease increased from 105 to 292 per 100,000 over the period 1991-1998.

Notifications of Chlamydia were 2.4 times greater for young women than for men in 1998 compared to 1.6 times for the total population.¹³

There are no specific women's health services in the Northern Sydney region. Women often find it difficult to approach their local GP for services such as pap smears. Local services such as the Manly Sexual Health cannot do pap smears.

Women have to go out of the area (Artarmon or Camperdown) to access termination clinics, and there are no counselling services available for women who have had a pregnancy termination. There is only one free sexual assault counsellor (part-time) on the Northern Beaches located at Manly Sexual Health service, and this worker (2004) finds it hard to meet the demand for the service.

A.3 Mental Health

¹³ NSW Department for Women (2001, p. 7), 'Young women's health: depression and risk taking behaviour'. ISBN 0 7310 5260 9

General Community:

A wide range of groups in the community highlighted concerns about mental health and the needs of people with mental health disabilities, whether short term or ongoing. A priority identified by service providers and consumers is the need for preventative and early intervention services for people with mental illness. These services can reduce the impact of an illness on an individual and the length of incapacity, reducing the stress on family and friends, and reducing the time and cost of hospitalisation. Some of the factors contributing to, and aggravating mental illness were identified as:

- substance abuse;
- the breakdown in relationships;
- the difficulties experienced trying to manage what is perceived by many to be an imbalance in the demands of family, workplace and financial security;
- the lack of adequate preventative mental health care and early intervention services.

Men:

Service providers, men's groups and youth groups identified mental health concerns of men as a particular and important issue. Specific concerns included:

- a high rate of mental illness;
- the rate of suicide among men (young men and especially men over the age of 40);
- young men with a dual diagnosis of substance abuse and mental illness and the related risks of homelessness, hospitalisation, criminal behaviour and suicide.

Service providers and residents identified and were concerned about the lack of housing options for men leaving crisis accommodation, and the need for more housing options for men with mental health disabilities. The loss of boarding houses in Manly has removed a significant supply of affordable housing for many groups. (See Issue D. –Housing.)

Youth:

Local health workers and the Department of Community Services (DoCS) noted the high demand for preventative and/or support programs specifically catering for young people. In the Manly-St. Leonard's areas there is one designated DoCS caseworker (Adolescents). In its recent planning DoCS has decided to refocus the work of this position on the broad range of adolescent issues.

On the basis of current resources, the Mental Health Services in the Northern Beaches area have to focus and respond to crisis situations and acute problems rather than engage in preventative work. Priority is given to people of all ages with acute problems where the person:

- maybe a danger to themselves or others;
 - has a dual diagnosis of a psychiatric disorder and drug misuse problems;
 - is experiencing mental health issues which have immediate and explicit impact on daily functioning; and
 - young people experiencing their first psychotic episode.
-

The local Northern Beaches Mental Health Working Group, convened in April 2004 by the member for Manly, David Barr, has identified a number of specific needs which it has put forward in a budget submission to the NSW government. The submission identifies the need for:

- a stand-alone supportive case management team to assist consumers in coordinating a very fragmented system of services;
- an expansion of the consumer support workers;
- an expansion of the Extended Hours Team at Northern Beaches Mental Health Services;
- a crisis centre for those experiencing an acute episode and respite for carers; and
- step-down or transitional community based accommodation assisting consumers moving from hospital care to independent living.

The Working Group has already achieved its first goal of funding for a Court Liaison Officer. This Officer will coordinate service provision for people with a mental illness appearing before the local Magistrate.

It is noted that the Northern Sydney Area Health service also has plans to revitalise a Community Consultative Committee, this will involve a range of stakeholders working together to provide appropriate mental health services to the community.

A4. Child & Family Health

Parents of children under 11 years of age and local health services identified a range of health concerns:

- Incidence of respiratory problems among children related to passive smoking
- Obesity among children
- Incidence of children admitted to hospitals for injuries from falls, burns and poisoning
- No children's ward at Manly Hospital.

Council is engaged in a number of forums with Area Health services including the Health Promotion Unit at Manly Hospital to identify contributing factors to these priority issues and to maintain existing health promotion activities in the community.

Target Population Groups.

Specific population groups affected by the above issues are children and families, women, older people, gay and lesbian communities, youth, and men.

Relevant Attachments.

Needs Assessment and Priority Setting documents for Older People, Women, Children and Families, Gay & Lesbian communities, Youth, & Men. Consultation with Northern Sydney Area Health; and Consultation with Department. of Community Services, (May 2004).

Action Plan – Health

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
A. Health - General			
To reduce the negative impacts on the community of the relocation of Manly Hospital on the accessibility of hospital and community health services.	Council to continue consulting with the relevant State Government departments regarding the provision of adequate community health services and maintenance of existing health services to the local area.	2004/09	CP&S
A.1. Health - Older People & Women			
To reduce the risk of falls inside and outside the home among older people and women.	a. i Initiate a hazard-reporting program in relation to Council's outdoor infrastructure e.g. trip hazards, lighting.	2005 2004/09	C S HS&F
To increase the supply of nursing homes and dementia specific beds in Manly area.	a ii Maintain and promote Councils publications on local walking tracks and exercise groups. b.i Make representations to Federal Government representatives and agencies for an increase in local nursing home, hostel and dementia specific beds in Manly area.	2004/09	HS&F
A.. Sexual Health			
a. To reduce risk of drug and alcohol use, and related incidence of sexually transmitted infections among young gay and lesbian communities in Manly.	a.i. Work with local health services to develop and provide additional preventative and support programs for young people (including GLBT). a.ii Develop a program to display appropriate health promotional messages targeting young people (including GLBT) in all Council facilities and amenities (including convenience advertising in public toilets). a(iii) Provide sharps bins and condom machines in	2005/07 2005 2006/08	HS&F HS&F HS&F

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
b. To improve the provision of support services and mental health services for men and youth	b.i. Provide preventative and support programs for young people with a mental health disability within Council's services/programs.	On-going	HS&F
	b.ii. Explore feasibility, in consultation with the Northern Area Health of a dedicated mental health caseworker for men in local area e.g. Manly Community Centre.	2005	HS&F
A.4. Child & Family Health			
a. To increase awareness of children's health issues and prevention strategies	a.i. Develop, plan and implement the delivery of educational initiatives on children's health issues through Council's Children's Services, targeting: -obesity; bullying; respiratory problems; allergies; and safety in the home.	On-going	HS&F

B. Community Information & Support Services

During the consultations to develop the Manly Social Plan, many people expressed their interest in, and concern about community information and access to support services. Specific concerns about information and support services include:

- ♦ difficulties accessing information about child and family support services and activities, including information on disability services
- ♦ limited awareness in the community of the local gay and lesbian community, and the accessibility of information and educational material on homosexuality and support services
- ♦ the need for an increase in the level of home and community support services for frail older people
- ♦ the need for more affordable, accessible and quality child support, childcare and child education services
- ♦ a lack of local support services for children and families with disabilities;
- ♦ the request for a centrally located and accessible drop-in-centre for older people
- ♦ the need for a social support group similar to GL@M, but one which provided ongoing support for young gay and lesbian adults.

B.1 Information Services

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are dispersed across Northern Sydney area. While there are approximately 1900 ATSI (2001 census) residents in the eleven Northern Sydney council areas (2001 census) and only approximately 93 ATSI residents in the Manly local government area. Small numbers in individual LGA's often results in individuals and families becoming isolated from one another.

Aboriginal people may not be aware of their own community. This isolation and apparent invisibility may make information on services for Aboriginal people difficult to disseminate. Non-indigenous people often do not recognise or acknowledge that Aboriginal people are living in their local community. The lack of a local ATSI service or organisation perpetuates the lack of awareness among the ATSI community of the potential supports available to them and their families.

Parents of Children Under 12 years highlighted the difficulty they had in accessing information about child and family support services and activities, including information on disability services. They also suggested there was inadequate coordination between the various services and activities. Consultations in 2003 identified family isolation as a problem in the Northern Beaches.

This may occur because of high mobility, lack of extended-family support networks, lack of transport, and cultural/linguistic barriers. Service providers identified a specific need to target families with children under 3 years of age.

Gay & Lesbian Communities:

Young members of the gay and lesbian communities, and service providers, suggested that there was limited awareness of the presence of these communities within Manly. This occurs with young people and the wider

community, and may result in isolation and mental health concerns for some young people.

Related to this, there is a lack of accessible information and education resources on homosexuality and relevant support services. Young people suggested that the Council library could improve this situation by ensuring Internet access to suitable sites on the World Wide Web and by keeping copies of gay and lesbian newspapers.

Raising awareness of existing networks and groups such as Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) and Gays and Lesbians at Manly ([GL@M](#)) was also suggested. Local groups have experienced resistance by local newspapers to carry articles or community notices on gay and lesbian issues and events. [GL@M](#) members were concerned that some Manly Council customer service staff may not be aware of [GL@M](#).

Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Communities in Manly are small in number and or hidden. Some of the more marginal groups include students, members of the Manly work force, back packers, and new residents with a temporary residency status.

These groups experience difficulties accessing information in part because of the lack of services and or staff with a specific focus on the needs of people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Consultations with local Northern Beaches communities identified an absence of preemployment assistance and information on the job network and work experience opportunities.

B. 2 Accessible and Affordable Community Services

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders. The small number of ATSI residents in each local government area in Northern Sydney. means government agencies are reluctant to establish/fund a local ATSI service(s). The result is not a lot of awareness raising, very little culturally appropriate services and little action to improve the situation for local Aboriginal people in Northern Sydney.

Aboriginal people easily fall through the gaps in services. Health services may see Aboriginal people with a health problem and Dept of Community Services may see people where there is a family crisis but there are no preventative services and information services readily accessible or available. The Northern Sydney ATSI communities have no accessible community centre with an ATSI identity to provide ATSI specific community services an/or social support.

Older Residents, over 65 years, identified the need for an increase in the level of home and community support services for frail older people. Older people over the age of 75 years, often because of decreasing mobility, become increasingly reliant on home and community care support services including nursing services, transport, and meals on wheels, Home Care, and Aged Care Packages.¹⁴

¹⁴ As an indication of the size of the frail older community: Manly Meals on Wheels provides meals and shopping bus assistance to 190 predominantly older age clients in the Manly area; Northern Sydney Home Nursing see approximately 60 clients a day and approximately 75% are older age

Consultations in 2003 with older people highlighted transport and access as a key issue. For many older people who no longer drive, it is difficult to get to and from the Manly CBD area. There was an identified lack of transport available to access Manly's shopping and community facilities. Service providers also identified the need for more accessible and regular public transport and community transport services.

Parents Of Children Under 5 years of age identified the need for more affordable, accessible and quality child support, childcare and child education services. Parents are seeking more:

- ♦ structured playgroups facilitated by a service provider;
- ♦ family day care places;
- ♦ long day care places, particularly for children under 2 years of age
- ♦ pre-schools places; and
- ♦ occasional or sessional child care places.

There is a general undersupply of childcare places, especially the more affordable places and places for children under 2 years of age. Parents identified affordability of childcare as a major issue, especially for single parent families and families with a child with a disability. Parents were concerned about the higher fees of private operators. Commonwealth subsidies for childcare places are not means tested and as a result, families with lower incomes have to compete with wealthier families for the more affordable community based services. While the Federal government has recently increased the number of subsidised childcare places, this has not been accompanied by capital funds for the construction of new community based childcare centres. The result is likely to be that private sector providers will absorb most of the new subsidised places.

Contributing to the shortage of childcare places and particularly the more affordable places is the decline in people wanting to become carers with the local Family Day Care scheme. This is attributed in large part to the loss of affordable housing. Parents and service providers identified the Early Childhood Health Centre at the Totem Shopping Centre as important in the support of parents and the distribution of information at a critical time, and were concerned about the state of disrepair of the Early Childhood Centre.

Services For Children With Disabilities:

Consultations in 2003 and 2004 highlighted concern about information and services for families and children with disabilities. Parents suggested there was a lack of local support services for children and families with disabilities (occupational therapy, speech pathology, special playgroups, pre-schools with assistance for children with special needs and a lack of local "satellite classes" for autistic children or other children with disabilities. Service providers highlighted a lack of respite care for children with disabilities, a lack of crisis foster care placements for children in need of temporary care, lack of weekend respite care for children in families at risk, and long waiting lists for speech pathology (6-9 months) for children over 5 years old.

residents; and in September 2003, the Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) had 56 people on their waiting list for Commonwealth Aged Care Packages (CACP) in Manly, predominantly people 80 years and over.

Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Communities in Manly find it difficult to access and/ or afford support services such as:

- ♦ assistance with negotiating employment options including assistance with the preparation of applications;
- ♦ language classes after the initial 510 hours of government funded lessons;
- ♦ social activities;
- ♦ child care including occasional child care while attending such things as language classes; and
- ♦ community health services such as mental health services for older people or people experiencing depression.

B.3 Social Support Activities

Older people expressed the need for a centrally located and accessible drop-in-centre in Manly where older people can meet and socialise. There is also a growing understanding that many older people are not always seeking segregated activities and may be seeking more varied activities than have been the focus of existing services. There are existing facilities such as, the Senior Citizens Centre which acts as a drop-in centre for older people and more recently Manly Community Centre has initiated the Thursday Wentworth Club.

Gay & Lesbian Communities:

Both PFLAG & [GL@M](#) survey respondents identified the need for a social support group similar to [GL@M](#), but one which provided ongoing support for young adults. These groups also noted the need for a drop-in centre, or an exclusive space at the Manly Youth Centre for gay and lesbian youth. To address this issue and other concerns among their communities members of [GL@M](#) and PFLAG encouraged more cooperative ventures between Council and existing gay and lesbian groups.

Male Primary Carers were seeking the introduction of support groups for male primary carers, especially outside physical activities, such as nature walks, or safe bike tracks for children so fathers could meet, socialize and supervise their children. Male primary carers commented that they often feel isolated from 'traditional' mothers groups. Fathers wanted children's service providers to recognise that fathers often play a primary role in their children's care. Most promotional or information resources are directed towards mothers as primary carers.

Target Population Groups Affected.

Specific population groups affected by the above issues are older people, children and families, gay and lesbian community and their families.

Relevant Attachments.

Needs Assessment and Priority Setting documents for Older People, Children and Families, and the Gay and Lesbian community.

Action Plan – Community Information and Support Services

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
B. Community Information & Support Services			
General community: To raise awareness of the services and facilities provided by Council and local community services for new residents and those people without access to computers.	Council officers to develop and widely distribute a 'new resident information pack', -information on Council and community organisations. Distribute through: Library, Real Estate Agents; Community Centre; etc.	December 2005	HS&F¹⁵
B.1. Information Services			
a To improve information services for the ATSI communities in Northern Sydney.	a.i. Council to continue to work with and support the ATSI Social Plan project to achieve improvements in information services for ATSI communities.	2004/09	HS&F
b To improve information services for culturally and linguistically diverse communities. <u>And</u> Increase awareness in CALD groups of the services and facilities available in Manly LGA.	b.i. Council officers to work in partnership with Northern Beaches multicultural Network Services for the development of 1. Migrant Information Day and 2. Harmony Day Project.	2004/06	HS&F
c. To improve the accessibility of information on child and family services.	c.i. Council Children's Services and Library Services to review and extend current information.	2004/09	HS&F

¹⁵ Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) is a Division of Manly Council.

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
Information Services (cont'd) d. To enhance information on and about gay and lesbian communities and activities.	d. i. Review current information on services for gay & lesbian communities and make available via the Council's webpage and Community Information Directory	2004/09	HS&F
B.2. Accessible & Affordable Community Services.			
a. To establish a community focus/ meeting place for the ATSI community in Northern Sydney.	a.i. To continue to work with the Northern Sydney ATSI Social Plan project to attract resources for an accessible community meeting place and service for the ATSI community of Northern Sydney.	Ongoing	HS&F
b. To increase the provision of home and community care services in Manly	b.i. Continue to participate in the HACC regional forum and represent the need for increased support services for frail older people, people with disabilities, and their carers in Manly.	Ongoing	HS&F
c. To increase the number of childcare places available in Manly.	c. i. Implement strategies identified in the SHOROC Childcare project including the preparation and approval of a Development Control Plan for Childcare Centres in the Manly LGA along with a Fact Sheet on How To Start A Childcare Service.	December 2005/06	HS&F

<i>Affordable and Accessible Community Services (cont'd)</i> <i>d.</i> To increase the availability and accessibility of support services for families and children with a disability.	<i>d.i.</i> Lobby State and Federal Government for increased funding for development of support services and increased childcare services for children with a disability and their families via childcare networks and parent groups and agencies.	<i>2005/06</i>	<i>HS&F</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
<i>e.</i> To increase the availability of services for culturally and linguistically diverse communities.	<i>e.i.</i> Council to work in partnership with the Northern Beaches Multicultural Network to investigate employment of regional multi cultural worker employed by SHOROC and located with a member Council or non- government organization.	<i>2006</i>	<i>HS&F</i>
<i>B.3. Social Support</i>			
<i>a.</i> To improve and increase the provision of social support activities for gay and lesbian young adults 18-21.	<i>a.i.</i> Explore feasibility of the development of a separate social support group for Gay and Lesbian young adults 18-21	<i>2006/07</i>	<i>HS&F</i>

C. Physical Infrastructure & Local Amenity

Consultations, particularly with older people and families with young children, gave high priority to the issues of local amenity and physical infrastructure. Aspects of specific concern include:

- public toilets
- playgrounds
- the loss of the Quarantine Station
- residential overdevelopment
- footpaths
- the Manly CBD area (shade, parking, facilities, etc)
- the Early Childhood Health Centre (Totem Shopping Centre)
- accessible public transport including medical related transport for people with a disability
- access into public buildings for people with a disability
- community centre for ATSI community
- cost of living and affordability of services.

Precinct committees indicate wide community concern about the loss of the Quarantine Station from public ownership and the negative impact of residential overdevelopment in the Manly local government area. Precinct committees also identified community concern about the negative effects on the residential community from traffic congestion and the pressure on parks and reserves.

C.1. Physical Infrastructure

C.1.1 Footpaths & Access To Buildings

Parents of young children (under 11 years) expressed concern for their children's safety when they were riding bicycles to school. They felt there was a need for safe corridors or bicycle lanes for cyclists, and a more stringent policing of 40km zones around schools. Parents also noted that the state of repair of many existing pathways made them unsafe for small children, young cyclists and strollers.

Older people and service providers identified damaged footpaths and the risk of people falling as a priority concern. Older residents also identified other pedestrian hazards, particularly the use of footpaths for café seating, and the riding of skateboards in the Manly CBD area. Damaged footpaths are identified as a health risk for all people in the community, but particularly older people, with the rate of falls and falls-related injuries increasing with age and frailty.

People (residents) with a disability and service providers raised the need for better infrastructure in the Manly local government area. There was general feeling that there had been poor maintenance of footpaths and kerb and gutters and kerb ramps that do not align with each other. Access into buildings for medical appointments and recreation needs was sometimes difficult for people to negotiate. People with a disability and services identified problems with wheelchair access to theatres, libraries, shops, doctors' surgeries and banks. This issue was also related to the problem of uneven footpath surfaces.

C.1.2 Public Toilets

Parents of young children (0-11years) consistently expressed concerns about the poor state of repair and general cleanliness of public toilets in Manly, the inadequate number of public toilet facilities and the inadequate number of toilets for people with a disability.

Consultations revealed the need for more family accessible toilets, which could also be used by people with a disability, or as a family changing area. Parents discussed how inappropriate it was for fathers to take their young children into a men's toilet, or send them alone into a female toilet or for mothers to send young boys alone into men's toilets. They felt it was also necessary for the toilets to be large enough to be able to fit a child's stroller. The toilets could be non-gender specific, to allow for use by fathers or mothers.

C.1.3 Playgrounds

Parents of young children stated that there was an inadequate number of reasonable quality, safe play areas. This included bike tracks for children 0-5 years and children 6-10 years of age. Parents suggested that reasonable quality and safe play areas should have fences, appropriate equipment, accessible toilets, rubbish bins, and a reasonable range of play equipment.

C.1.4 Manly CBD

Parents are seeking a more child and family friendly environment in the Manly CBD and The Corso. Suggestions included:

- the need for more adequate shade over the amphitheatre in The Corso; and
- a café and restaurant area that is safe and comfortable for families with small children. Consultations revealed that parents often felt alienated from night-time Manly, that there was a need for a safe and comfortable place for families to gather in the evenings. The suggestion was that somewhere in the Manly CBD, perhaps a contained area and surrounding cafes and restaurants could be targeted towards families, or at least include families within their commercial focus.

Older people identified concerns about the local amenity and infrastructure in the Manly CBD including:

- an inadequate length of free time in parking and disability parking zones to allow for medical and other appointments;
- no drop-off or pick up at Manly Wharf;
- loss of resident shopping facilities to tourist/visitor facilities. The range of retail and food outlets was focused on the needs of visitors at the expense of residents;
- the poor level of street cleaning near shopping areas in Manly;
- loss of street beautification practices (Manly Wharf, and street flower displays); and
- restricted footpath access for pedestrians from the expansion of cafes and the use of bikes and skateboards around The Corso and Manly Wharf.

Precinct Committees also raised the problem of free parking in parking stations being too short and a general lack of parking in the Manly CBD

C. 1.5 Early Childhood Health Centre (Totem)

Parents of young children identified Early Childhood Health Centres as a key support service and source of information. Parents and representatives of the Northern Sydney Area Health Service raised concern about the poor state of repair of the Totem Early Childhood Health Centre.

C.2 Local Amenity

C. 2.1 Transport Infrastructure

People with a disability and service providers identified the supply of accessible transport services including taxis for the disabled, transport for medical appointments in an emergency, and wheelchair friendly public transport as a high priority need for Manly residents. Accompanying this issue were the problems associated with infrastructure such as a lack of waterproof bus shelters and the short time phasing of lights at intersections.

C.2.2 Community centre/ meeting place for ATSI community (see Issue B. Community Information and Support Services)

The **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Plan** project for Northern Sydney recommends the creation of a community centre as a focal point for local ATSI residents across Northern Sydney. A Community Centre is proposed to develop a local ATSI identity, to give people from across the Northern Sydney region a meeting place, and an organisational identity. The location of a centre would need to be central to the Region and accessible by public transport. The ATSI Social Plan project proposes that a central base could provide an opportunity to auspice, establish, and locate community services, develop the community's identity and encourage community participation in local planning for government and non-government services.

C.2.3 Affordability and Cost of Living

For culturally and linguistically diverse communities the high cost of living in the Manly and Northern Beaches area was a major issue of concern. While the area provides considerable benefits the cost of such things as: groceries compared to other parts of Sydney; sporting and holiday programmes for adolescents; and housing were identified.

It was generally felt that groceries were more expensive compared to other areas of Sydney, particularly with the two major supermarkets dominating the market. Consultation with a wide cross section of the community indicated concern over the cost of housing both for rental and purchase properties.

Target Population Groups: Specific population groups affected by the above issues are older people, people with a disability and children and families.

Relevant documents: Needs Assessment and Priority Setting documents for Children and Families, and Older People, People with a disability, and Consultation with Northern Sydney Area Health (May 2004).

Action Plan - C. Local Amenity and Physical Infrastructure

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
C. Local Amenity & Physical Infrastructure			
C.1. Physical Infrastructure			
a. Footpaths and access to buildings: To increase safe travel and reduce the number of falls for pedestrians particularly the elderly, people with disabilities and people with strollers/prams.	a.i. Council develop a rolling program of footpath amenity /safety to ensure over time a reasonable network of pathways linking all Council Manly LG areas and that Council commit financial resources for this for the duration of the Social Plan (4years). a. ii. Council to implement the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) strategies.	On-going	HS&F¹⁶
b To provide clean and accessible public toilets for all sectors of the community	b.i. Explore, develop and implement a master plan identifying how a reasonable network of family friendly and accessible public toilets can be provided in each precinct of Manly.	2006/08	HS&F
C To improve the level of safety and raise public awareness of age appropriate playgrounds and bike tracks for children 0-5 years and 6-10 years of age.	c.i. Action recommendations contained in playground safety audit c.ii. Playground Committee to develop a communication system and map of LGA highlighting age appropriate playgrounds and associated amenities e.g. toilets, bike tracks, kiosks.	On-going On-going	CP&S CP&S
Physical Infrastructure (cont'd)			
d. To develop a more family friendly environment in Manly CBD and The Corso.	d.i. Incorporate "family friendly" outcomes in the proposed Development Control Plan for the The Corso and the Manly CBD.	2005/08	CP&S

¹⁶ Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) is a Division of Manly Council.

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
e. To upgrade key Council Community Services/Children's Services facilities.	e.i. Review the condition of the major community/children's services facilities and recommend to council achievable strategy to update those facilities to better meet current community demand, standards and regulations. Provide a plan for the future development of such facilities including funding strategies over the short, medium and long term. e.i.i. To ensure adequate provision of community/children services facilities.		HSF
C. 2.. Local Amenity			
a. To improve transport infrastructure for people with disabilities	a.i. Continue to lobby appropriate government departments for provision of disability taxi services and increase accessible buses on all routes	2005	HS&F
B To establish a community focus/ meeting place for the ATSI community in Northern Sydney. (See also B. Information and Support Services)	b.i. To continue to work with the Northern Sydney ATSI Social Plan project to attract resources for an accessible community meeting place and service for the ATSI community of Northern Sydney.	Ongoing	HS&F
c. To assist general community including people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to find local solutions to the high cost of living, e.g. groceries.	c.i. MCC to develop a strategy to assist groups find ways of managing high cost of living: e.g. provide a listing of food cooperatives, provide workshops in budgeting.	2005/06	Manly Community Centre (MCC)

D. Affordable Housing

Many groups within the Manly community including youth, adult men, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, women and a number of community and health services identified affordable housing as a major issue. Specific concerns about housing include:

- ♦ the need in the Manly area for medium-term housing and boarding house accommodation for women, men and youth
- ♦ the lack of affordable housing for men, youth, women, families and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- ♦ the shortage of affordable rental housing especially for young people; and
- ♦ the lack of housing options including supported accommodation for young people with a disability.

Rent and sale figures in Sydney show consistent increases over time, with the Northern Beaches figures higher than the Sydney Statistical Division [SSD]. At June 2003, the rent of separate houses was approximately 40% higher than the Sydney Statistical Division [SSD] and purchase costs were approximately 14% higher. Manly having higher average rentals than either Warringah or Pittwater.¹⁷

Current data on the supply of boarding houses is not available. Council records indicate a decline in boarding house stock in Manly from 88 boarding houses in 1983, to 55 in 1989, to approximately 16 on the Councils records in 2004.

On the Northern Beaches at 2001:

- ♦ Low to moderate-income households made up approximately one-fifth of purchasing households.
- ♦ Around half to two-thirds of low to moderate income purchasing households were in housing stress.
- ♦ The largest group in the low to moderate-income purchasers was 'couples with dependent children'.
- ♦ Over the last two decades in Manly, the affordability decline has been seen in two aspects – the cost of new stock, and the erosion of existing low cost stock.
- ♦ For the period 1996 - 2001 the amount of stock available for purchase, which was affordable, ranged between 2 - 8%¹⁸.

D.1 Medium Term Housing and Boarding Houses

The Northern Sydney Area Health Services (Northern Beaches Sector), Fairlight House (Mission Australia), and other service providers report that there remains a need in the Manly area for medium-term housing and boarding house accommodation for men and for young men in crisis. Once people have been through emergency or crisis accommodation, they need to progress to some form of transitional housing. Over the last two years

¹⁷ Data source: NSW Department of Housing, Housing and Data Analysis Service.

¹⁸ For properties sold in the December quarter 1996-2001, a property was affordable if it could be purchased on a median annual income of \$51,428. [\$989 pw] and where mortgage repayments would not exceed 30% of income. Calculations were made on the basis of a 25-year mortgage for 90% of the dwelling and a 6.7% interest rate].

Fairlight House (Mission Australia) has applied for funding for such accommodation through the Office of Community Housing.

The Women's Resource Centre reports a significant lack of medium-term accommodation for women. Emergency accommodation for women on the Northern Beaches is provided at Bringa Women's Refuge. Once women have left the Refuge, there is no local, medium-term accommodation, and often they are forced to move out of the area, or stay in temporary accommodation.

There has been a steady decline in boarding house stock in Manly from 88 boarding houses in 1983, to 55 in 1989, to approximately 16 on the Council's records in 2004 however it is thought that the number may in fact be as low as 4. Boarding houses have been impacted by the growth in property values, the demand for backpacker accommodation, and conversion to other forms of tourist accommodation. Boarding houses provide both medium to long term housing options for many groups. The loss of boarding houses results in the loss of stability and affordable housing for women, men and youth, often people with few resources and/ or housing options. It also affects people who have and will lose contact with their established social links and support services.

D.2 Affordable Rental & Purchase Housing

Consultations with **men and youth** in Manly identified the lack of affordable housing as a priority issue of concern to them. Needs assessments conducted in 2003 identified housing as a concern also for **women, families and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities**. Many people are forced to move out of the Northern Beaches to areas with more affordable rental prices and housing purchase prices. Area Health Services (Northern Beaches), Manly Family Day Care and some home and community services for older people and people with a disability find it difficult to attract staff. Significant contributing factors to this labour shortage are seen to be the high rental costs and housing purchase prices in the area.

Young people particularly identified the shortage of affordable rental housing in the Manly LGA. This may be related to the growth in group households (unrelated people sharing accommodation) between the 1991 and 2001 census. 7.1% of residents lived in a group house in 2001, compared to Northern Beaches (3.9%), and the Sydney region (3.7%).

For **people with a disability** there is a lack of supported accommodation and long waiting lists for existing supported housing. Some people felt that there was little information in regard to housing options for younger people with disabilities when they wanted to leave home. People with mental health issues have difficulty in accessing both long term and short-term accommodation.

D.3. Supported Accommodation. People with a disability and service providers identified a lack of supported accommodation for people with a disability and lengthy waiting lists for supported housing. Young people with a disability wanting to leave home find it difficult to access information on the available housing options.

Target Population Groups Affected: Specific population groups affected by the above issues are women, youth, men, people with disabilities and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Relevant Attachments: Needs Assessment and Priority Issues documents (2003-2004) for People with a Disability, Women, Men and Youth, and the Housing Data Profile.

Action Plan – D. Housing

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
<i>D. Affordable Housing</i>			
<i>D 1. Medium Term Housing</i>			
A To retain and increase the supply of medium term housing	a.i. Council to convene a Forum of local agencies /stakeholders to investigate options for increasing medium term housing services in the local area for men, youth and women.	2004	(HS&F)¹⁹
B To retain existing boarding house stock	b.i. Council investigate mechanisms to retain existing boarding house stock via the Local Government Housing Initiatives Program	2004-05	(CP&S)
<i>D.2. Affordable Rental & Purchase Housing</i>			
a. To retain and encourage the provision of affordable housing (rental and purchase) within the Manly LGA.	a.i. Council investigate appropriate mechanisms via Local Government Housing Initiatives Program	2004-05	CPS
b To create supply of affordable housing stock	b.i. Make representation to NSW & Federal Government agencies to increase affordable housing options.	2004/05	CPS
c. To consider and regulate the social impact of any proposed development.	c.i. For Development Application that is considered to be of significant scale, Council requires the submission of a Social Impact Assessment as part of the DA assessment process. This requirement be	2004-05	CPS

¹⁹ Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) is a Division of Manly Council.

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
	included in Council's planning instruments. c.ii. To introduce social planning objectives and provision in Council's planning instruments	2004-05	CPS
D. 3. Supported Accommodation.			
a. To seek to retain and where possible increase the supply of supported accommodation for people with a disability.	a.i. Council officers to work with appropriate agencies and Government Departments to identify funding sources and strategies to attract new housing options for people with a disability.	2004-09	HS&F
	a.ii. Council to make representation to NSW and Commonwealth agencies to increase the supply of supported accommodation for people with a disability.	2004-09	HS&F

E. Community Safety & Crime Prevention

Concerns about community safety and crime were identified as issues of concern by a series of community groups in 2003. Specific concerns about community safety include:

- ♦ anti-social behaviour in The Corso identified by older people, young men, families, and youth including gay and lesbian youth
- ♦ domestic violence and sexual assaults identified by women
- ♦ violence and personal safety for men.

E.1 Manly Corso and Anti-Social Behaviour

A survey of the Resident Precinct Committees identified concern with:

- ♦ the degradation of The Corso;
- ♦ late night noise;
- ♦ vandalism and anti-social behaviour; and
- ♦ personal safety.

Consultations with older residents suggested that some older people feel alienated from Manly at night, as there was a perception of it being taken over by young, often drunk people. Many older people said that they did not feel comfortable going out to eat in Manly at night because of the noise from pubs and the drunken anti-social behaviour on the streets. Older people living close to the Manly CBD were also concerned about the resultant noise and fights when the late night venues closed.

Consultations with parents, members of the gay and lesbian community, youth and young men in 2003 identified a general concern about the apparent lack of safety for young people in Manly especially close to and in The Corso, because of factors such as alcohol abuse, violence, and poor lighting.

E.2 Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

Women's services and general community and health services identified concerns about safety and violence against women:

- ♦ decline in victims reporting sexual assault;
- ♦ continuing incidence of domestic violence among women, women from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, women with a disability and older women; and
- ♦ continued incidence of spiked drinks and associated sexual assaults on women.

Domestic Violence: The NSW Government Action Plan for women (2002-2004) documents findings on violence against women from an ABS survey in 1996. The survey found that:

- ♦ 30% of women over the age of 18 had experienced physical violence since the age of 15;
- ♦ 18% had experienced sexual violence since the age of 15;
- ♦ violence is primarily perpetrated against women by men they know, generally a partner, former partner or boyfriend; and
- ♦ 23% of women who had been married or in a de facto relationship experienced violence by a partner at some time during the relationship.²⁰

²⁰ ABS (1996) Women's Safety in Australia, Cat no. 4128.0, ABS, Canberra, cited in NSW Government Action Plan for Women, 2002-2004 (p. 44).

The Manly Warringah Women's Resource Centre, a major service provider for women on the Northern Beaches, identified domestic violence as a key issue affecting women. Women with children who are suffering domestic violence at home tend to stay in these situations longer, for fear of losing their children or lacking financial support if they do leave their partner. Many women, particularly women from culturally diverse backgrounds, do not report domestic violence or sexual assault, unless they are admitted to hospital.

There is some concern that hospital staff and general practitioners may not recognise and or are not reporting incidents of domestic violence, even though it is a mandatory requirement to report these cases to the Department of Community Services if children are involved.

Spiked drinks, and associated incidents, such as **sexual assault** remain a hidden issue, as many cases are not reported. Manly Council initiated a Spiked Drinks Awareness campaign in 2002, (which won a National Crime Prevention Award), however many women are still reluctant to report suspected spiked drinks assaults. This could also be that some women do not know how to report incidents.

E.3. Violence and Personal Safety

When asked to rank priorities of concern, service providers working with men in the Manly community rated the issue of violence and personal safety for men as one of the most important issues. Significant aspects of this were identified as:

- ♦ high levels of violence and risk taking activities by young men;
- ♦ the incidence of risk-taking behaviour (e. g. driving and alcohol abuse, smoking) associated with images of “manhood”;
- ♦ harassment such as verbal abuse of young gay men; and
- ♦ a lack of programs for perpetrators of domestic violence.

Men rate highly as both victims and perpetrators of crime. Those aged 18-25 years appear to be the most vulnerable. NSW Health claim that differences in health behaviour such as risk taking behaviour resulting in injury, suicide, violence, or even cardiovascular disease may not be as much biologically influenced as they are socially influenced.

Local service providers noted that, while various agencies offer programs on anger management and programs specifically targeted at perpetrators of domestic violence, it was difficult to access these programs and apart from a current anger management group run by Life Line, there were no ongoing programs provided in the Manly area.

Target Population Groups affected: Specific population groups affected by the above issues are women, men, older people, young people, and the gay and lesbian community.

Relevant Attachments: Needs Assessment and Priority Issue documents (2003-2004) for Men, Older People, Youth, the Gay and Lesbian community; and the Precinct survey results (2004).

Action Plan – E. Community Safety and Crime Prevention

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
E.1. Safety in The Corso & Manly CBD			
a. Improve community safety in the Manly Corso and Central Business District	a.i. Continue to implement the strategies outlined in the 2000/2004 C.P. Plan addressing: alcohol related violence; antisocial behaviour in CBD ; personal theft and drink driving.	December 2004	HS&F²¹
		Sept. 2004	HS&F
	a.ii. Submit concerns raised in Social Plan Consultations to Manly after midnight working group for consideration in development of strategy.	December 2004	HS&F
		Ongoing	HS&F
	a.iii. Incorporate issues raised in SP Consultations into Crime Prevention Plan 2005/2009.	Ongoing	HS&F
	a.iv. Continue to work through Council's Community Safety Committee on all issues relating to Community Safety.		
	a.v. Continue to develop and evaluate strategies through the Community Safety Committee for SHOROC Safe Community Project.	2004	HS&F
	b Update Council's Crime Prevention/Community Safety Plan		
	bi Update the CP/CS Plan in consultation with the Community Safety Committee	2005/08	HS&F
	bii Implementation of the above		

²¹ Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) is a Division of Manly Council.

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
<i>E.2. Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault</i>			
<i>a.</i> To reduce the incidence of violence against women of CALD and disability communities.	<i>a.i.</i> Continue to work cooperatively with agencies e. g. Police, Health, and Attorney General's Department to develop and implemented awareness raising/ education among community and thereby reduce incidence of violence against women.	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>HS&F</i>

F. Discrimination & Community Relations

Particular issues arising under Discrimination and Community Relations include:

- ♦ homophobia and heterosexism experienced by young gay men and lesbians
- ♦ racial and religious discrimination experienced by women and youth in the Muslim community and by some others groups from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- ♦ violence and personal safety for men.

F.1 Homophobia & Heterosexism

Young members of the local gay and lesbian communities, representatives of service providers and parents rated as one of their priority issues of concern the level of homophobia and heterosexism in the Northern Beaches community.

Homophobia refers to an "aversion to gay or homosexual people or their lifestyle or culture" and "behaviour or an act based on this aversion." (The American Heritage Dictionary, 1992 edition). Heterosexism refers to: "an ideological system that denies, denigrates, and stigmatises any non-heterosexual form of behaviour, identity, relationship, or community" (Herek, 1990). It is seen as pervading social customs and institutions.

More specifically the concerns identified in the Social Plan community consultations were:

- ♦ a lack of general understanding of homosexuality among the youth population in the Northern Beaches, and stereotyping of gay and lesbian people;
- ♦ evidence of homophobia in schools on the Northern Beaches and concern about private schools and their exemption from aspects of the Anti Discrimination Act in NSW allowing discrimination on the basis of

sexuality.²² A report by the Attorney General's Department recommended that schools become more active and effective in addressing the issues of homophobia and homophobic abuse. This applied to primary as well as secondary schools. The NSW Anti-Discrimination Board's long-term aim is to facilitate the introduction of legislation to protect homosexuals from all types of discrimination; and

- ♦ young gay men and lesbians identified discrimination in the form of verbal or physical abuse, hassling or staring by strangers on the street. This results in some gay men and lesbians feeling isolated from the broader community.

A recent report by the NSW Attorney General's Department revealed that young people were concerned with the 'trade-off' between being true to yourself and being open about your sexuality, while at the same time avoiding hostility and abuse.²³

Young gay men and lesbians (ages 16-19 years) who took part in this survey reported relatively high levels of various forms of abuse, and also a high incidence of negative impacts, such as depression, anxiety or withdrawal. The Gays and Lesbians at Manly (GL@M) group have suggested a first step in addressing this issue may be to increase communication between GL@M and the Manly Youth Council.

In the community consultations members of the Manly gay and lesbian communities discussed the need to encourage Manly Council to:

- ♦ become proud of its support for gay and lesbian residents;
- ♦ engage in partnership projects with local consumer groups to address issues of concern; and
- ♦ encourage the Chamber of Commerce to take a more active role in supporting members of the gay and lesbian community.

F.2. Racial & Religious Discrimination.

Women and youth in the Muslim community experienced Racial and religious abuse and discrimination. The Serbian community also commented on the misinformation about their community and culture often disseminated in the media and general community.

Consultation with the Indonesian community raised concerns about abuse and discrimination towards their different appearance. This ranged from verbal abuse towards Muslim women wearing headscarves, to perceived discrimination in job interviews towards Muslim women wearing headscarves. Youth from the Muslim community also reported experiencing abuse and discrimination. This is a general issue across the Northern Beaches. While it is noted that very few members of the Australian-Indonesian community are residents in Manly they are represented in the local work force. It is likely that visitors to the area may experience similar discrimination or abuse.

²² The NSW Anti Discrimination Board note that private educational institutions are exempt from Anti Discrimination legislation in the areas of sexuality and disability.

²³ Attorney General's Department of NSW (December 2003), 'A Report on Homophobic Hostilities and Violence Against Gay Men and Lesbians in New South Wales', ISBN: 0734728166.

Indonesian women felt culturally isolated by the Australian community due to the Bali bombing. Women wearing headscarves also sometimes had problems with bus drivers. Some Indonesian women had experienced problems with bus drivers and some had suffered verbal abuse in 'road rage' incidents, where the abuse was targeted towards their cultural background.

The Indonesian community commented that their children are often the victims of racism in local schools. This included bullying on school buses by older students. The NSW Police had also received reports of racially oriented incidents at local schools. At present, schools are required to have a liaison officer for students. There is obviously a need to make sure anti-bullying programmes are enforced, possibly with a cross-cultural component to raise awareness of cultural diversity. Service providers discussed the importance of promoting and celebrating the community's diversity through existing and new community events, with a particular focus on building relationships and raising awareness of diversity.

Target Population Groups: Specific population groups affected by the above issues are gay and lesbian communities, women and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Relevant Attachments: Needs Assessment and Priority Setting documents for gay and lesbian communities, women and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Action Plan – F. Discrimination and Community Relations

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
F.1. Homophobia & Heterosexism			
a To increase the night time/general safety of GLBT young people from discrimination in the form of verbal and physical abuse.	a.i. Implement the "Safe Place Project" a community program aiming to provide a network of businesses and community organizations that gay men, lesbians and transgender people can go into if fearful of street based homophobic violence in partnership with Manly Council and GL@M (Gay and Lesbians at Manly Support Group).	December 2007	HS&F²⁴
B To increase general	b.i. To work with	December	HS&F

²⁴ Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) is a Division of Manly Council.

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
understanding among young people on the Northern Beaches of homosexuality	GL@M and PFLAG ²⁵ support groups to develop projects to raise the community's awareness of the discrimination and associated risks for young GLBT people	2007	
F.2 Racism & Religious Discrimination			
a To provide opportunities to improve the communities understanding of cultural and religious diversity.	a.i. To develop project plans for work with the Manly Community Centre to develop ways in which discrimination can be identified & community understanding of diversity improved.	Ongoing	HS&F
b To provide opportunities to engage youth in programs to promote good community relations	b.i. Youth services to devise and promote an educational program that addresses bullying and racism among young people.	December 2006	HS&F

G. Entertainment and Recreation

Issues of concern around entertainment and recreation facilities include:

- a lack of entertainment for youth under 18 years of age
- among youth under 18 years a lack of awareness of existing social activities
- concern, among youth 18-25 years of age, that local licensed venues may be forced to close at 12 midnight
- lack of day time recreation activities for unemployed young people with a disability and adults with a disability.

²⁵ PFLAG: Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gay, a community based organisation.

G.1 Youth Entertainment

Consultation with Youth in 2004 identified concerns among youth and service providers about

- ♦ a lack of entertainment for youth under 18 years of age;
- ♦ a lack of awareness among youth of existing community services and activities (social activities); and
- ♦ the threat of local licensed venues being closed at 12 midnight.

Parents and the Youth Council were concerned that most entertainment is directed towards 20-30 year olds. However, they did acknowledge that previous attempts at organizing entertainment for youth under 18 years of age have not been successful. Manly Youth Council service providers identified the lack of venues for under 18 year olds; venues where they could have free and regular access and a safe place to meet.

However youth services and local service providers expressed concern that young people were not currently accessing activities that were available to them. Manly Youth Council suggested that they could consult with under 18 year olds through schools to find out what they really wanted, and then provide feedback into the implementation of the Manly Social Plan.

G.2 Recreation For Young People With a Disability

Services and residents reported that social/recreation outlets for younger people with disabilities who do not work were difficult to access due to lack of activities during the day including supported recreational activities for adults with a disability particularly the 25+ age group.

Target Population Groups. Specific population groups affected by the above issues are youth, and young people with a disability.

Relevant Attachments. Youth Needs Assessment and Priority Issues Youth, People with a Disability Needs Assessment.

Action Plan – G. Entertainment and Recreation

<i>Objectives</i>		<i>Actions</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
<i>G.1. Youth Entertainment</i>				
<i>a</i>	To increase awareness among young people of existing community services and social activities	<i>a.i.</i> Simplifying access to Youth Services and entertainment on Manly Council's website	<i>2005</i>	<i>HS&F²⁶</i>
		<i>a.ii</i> Promote Manly Council's Youth Services website on all youth orientated material, promotional stickers and postcards	<i>2005</i>	<i>HS&F</i>
		<i>a.iii</i> Explore funding opportunities for a youth notice board in Manly CBD or surrounds	<i>2005/06</i>	<i>HS&F</i>
		<i>a.iv</i> Produce a youth friendly postcard promoting Manly Youth Council and Manly Council's Youth Services website to be distributed in local schools, libraries and other local youth services.	<i>2006/07</i>	<i>HS&F</i>

²⁶ Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) is a Division of Manly Council.
Human Services and Facilities (HS&F) is a Division of Manly Council.

Objectives	Actions	Time	Responsibility
Youth Entertainment (cont'd)			
b. To encourage and or provide appropriate leisure/entertainment options for young people	<p>b.i Continue to implement existing entertainment strategies including Clearway Friday night event based activities, the Kangaroo Rock concert program and other one off events in close consultation with young people.</p> <p>b.ii. That Council's Youth Council and Youth Services be involved in consulting other young people in the community to ensure youth services are responding to changing needs.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>HS&F</p> <p>HS&F</p>
c To provide appropriate and diverse entertainment options for young people aged 12-18	c.i. Encourage the provision of youth entertainment events by appropriate organizations other than Council	December 2006	HS&F
G.2. Recreation & Young People With a Disability.			
a. To address the need for day time activities for younger people with a disability	a.i Investigate availability and promote opportunities for day time activities for younger people with a disability	December 2007	HS&F