



ALLWORTH TIDAL POOL RENAMING

OCTOBER 2019

Engagement Outcomes Report



Introduction

This report provides a summary of community consultation that was undertaken between 23 September and 18 October, 2019 to ascertain the level of support to change Allworth Tidal Pool name to Sketchley Tidal Pool.

This report is presented in seven sections:

1. Introduction and background
2. What were people engaged on?
3. Who did we engage with?
4. How did people have their say?
5. What people said?
6. Summary
7. Next steps?
8. Appendix

Project background

The Allworth tidal pool is located on the Karuah River along the foreshore of Allworth. The location offers a swimming enclosure and undercover picnic area. The tidal pool has a marine life net and is subject to large tidal movement, upstream 200m from the tidal pool is the boat ramp.

There is a long family history within the Allworth district, one of the Sketchley family. Mr Thomas Sketchley purchased Flying Fox Island in the 1922. Thomas was a wharf manager at Allworth for 30 years with the Hunter River Steam Ship Co. During this time Thomas Sketchley established the dairy on the island. The island remained in the family for three generations. In 1941 the youngest son of Thomas Sketchley, Percy, continued the dairy for another 50 years retiring in 1991.

MidCoast Council have been approached by Sketchley family members to rename the Allworth Tidal Pool to Sketchley Tidal Pool, honouring the history of the Sketchley family within Allworth and surrounds.

What were people engaged on?

Purpose of engagement

The overall purpose of the engagement is for community to provide feedback that informs the decision outcomes and ascertain whether community support changing the tidal pool name.

Who did we engage with?

Consultation was targeted to Allworth residents/land owners through direct mail informing them of their opportunity to participate by completing a feedback form.

The feedback form provided an opportunity to either;
 Yes, support the name change to Sketchley Tidal Pool, or
 No, not support the name change, or
 Other – make another suggestion

How did people have their say?

Given the size of Allworth and the specific impact on the Allworth community, engagement was undertaken directly with each of the 110 Allworth residents/landowners via a letter. Each letter included a feedback slip and reply paid envelope. Each letter detailed alternative feedback methods such as email or telephone.

Communication

We completed a direct method of communication to get the word out to the community. A summary of these activities is provided in the table below:

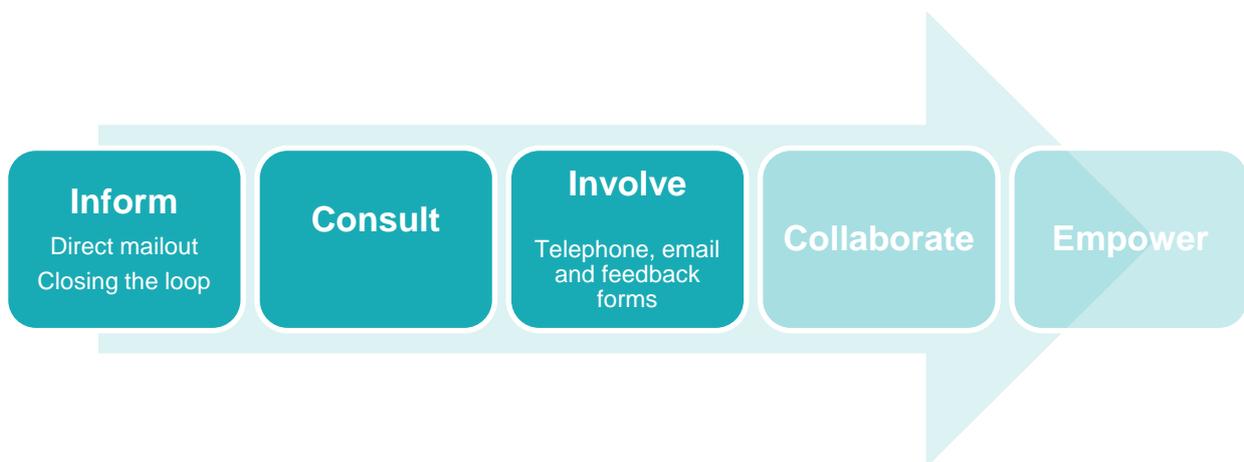
Communication method	Date distributed	Reach
Letter	20 September	110 residences

Level of engagement

As outlined in MidCoast Council’s Community Engagement Policy we utilise the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) five-point framework for measuring the level of community engagement for each project.

Within this scale, this project achieved an Inform /Consult /Involve level of engagement. At this level our commitment to the community was to listen to and acknowledge the benefits and limitations of the proposed design and consider these in the development of the final design.

The diagram below shows the levels of engagement and the activities undertaken within each level.



What people said?

Participants in the engagement were asked to respond to the following;

Yes, support the name change to Sketchley Tidal Pool;

No, not support the name change; or

Other.

We received the following responses.



Many participants took the opportunity to make additional comments, which are provided in Appendix 1.

Summary

From the 110 letters direct mailed;

39 responded in favour of the change of name

5 responded with no or other

9 were returned to sender

What's next?

The engagement data contained in this report will be used to inform on the outcomes of the consultation for the request to change Allworth Tidal Pool to Sketchley Tidal Pool.

Once a decision has been made by Council a request will be made to the Geographical Names Board.

A copy of this report will be made publicly available on Council's website following confirmation of the change of name from the Geographical Names Board.

Appendix

1. Additional comments

Appendix 1

Additional Comments

Allworth Tidal Pool Additional Comments

1	Upgrade/maintenance need as lots of people use the pool.
2	What's the point of a renaming when money needs to be spent and the pool repaired so it can be used!
3	I am hopeful that some maintenance will be done in the near future please
4	Thank you for the repairs done last year. The pool is safe again.
5	Only if council is prepared to keep the pool maintained in the future. Please don't let the pool fall into disrepair.
6	Very pleased about that.
7	It needs work doing to it.
8	Great idea, great family.
9	It would be better if it was done up, at the moment I would not swim down there.
10	Gladly, what a great idea, lovely thought!
11	That would be lovely.
12	Yes, very good idea.
13	It would make a lot more sense to me to spend tax payers money on the Bucketts Way than wasting it on this, but what would I know.
14	It's great having a pool but a shame no one can swim in it. It's just a mud hole, myself and grandchildren have tried but end up in the mud up to our knees - uck!
15	I would like to see the pool maintained as well. Perhaps bbq and maybe a toilet. With the amount of shark sightings this pool is an asset for the community.
16	I also would like this tidal pool to be upgraded and deepened to make it a family event.
17	There are mixed feelings in town regarding this issue. Most people are not concerned over the renaming, however the majority of people are concerned that this is a waste of funds that could have been used in the upkeep of the pool itself.

	<p>i.e. dredging the pool annually of silt, tipping a load of sand in annually, and re-instating the boardwalk that originally went along the whole front of the pool.</p> <p>We all appreciate the historical significance of the Sketchley family, however there is already a museum in Raymond Terrace dedicated to the family, and now Flying Fox island is already referred to as Sketchley Island. There are no longer any Sketchleys in Allworth as far as I am aware. Could I suggest you investigate Kathy Haynes swimming history. She grew up in Allworth and trained in the pool. I have been told that she was selected for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games but had to withdraw due to her father being terminally ill. She would be a more fitting name change as she still lives in Allworth and trains young kids at Clarence Town Pool.</p>
18	<p>We would like to express our delight in the renaming of the pool. We knew Mr and Mrs Sketchley and admired them greatly. We have also been using the pool since we were children.</p>
19	<p>We have been pleased lately to see that the council workers have been maintaining the surrounds of the pool.</p>