

WHAT WE HEARD REPORT #2

DAVID WOOD INCLUSIVE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

The Wingecarribee Shire Council has an upgrade planned for David Wood Playing Fields Playspace in East Bowral which will be funded by Wingecarribee Shire Council through the Retford Park Planning Agreement, in partnership with local community group, The 4K's. Funding has also been secured for the project through the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Round 5 Fund.

The upgrade of the playspace aims to deliver an all-inclusive adventure playground that is adjacent to the David Wood Playing fields.

In October 2022, Council presented a masterplan and concept design of the proposed playspace to the community. The design included a variety of play opportunities encouraging explorative play, all abilities equipment, pathways, seating, BBQ and picnic facilities, shade structures and soft landscaping elements including semi-mature tree plantings. Feedback on this first round of community consultation can be found on the project page.

THE CONVERSATION

This second round of community consultation was focused on the local First Nations community, to seek feedback on the history of the area so that indigenous themes and references could be incorporated into the final design.



Feedback was sought on;

- What makes the area special and unique?
- Any special people or events that should be celebrated?
- What energy do you feel and sense in the space?
- Any other feedback that could help theme the playspace.

Consultation commenced on Thursday 14 September 2023 and ran until Thursday 19 October 2023, culminating in an onsite meeting David Wood Playing Fields on Thursday 19 October 2023.

WHO WE ENGAGED

The consultation targeted the local First Nations community. The consultation was promoted via flyers and feedback forms that were distributed via;

- Wingecarribee Aboriginal Community and Cultural Centre, Mittagong.
- The Dhungung Food Share Program.
- Council libraries.
- Council's Civic Centre, Moss Vale.

The consultation was also promoted via the Wingecarribee Aboriginal Network.

WHAT WE HEARD

We would like to thank those who provided feedback as part of this round of consultation, especially those who attended the onsite meeting on Thursday October 19 2023.



<p>Comments in relation to the importance of the place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area is welcoming to all, a unifying place. - The space works well as a family place where all people come together. - Consider naming the playspace to reflect the theme. Murrual? (A waterhole at the junction of the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee Rivers).
<p>Comments in relation to playspace theme and references</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theme of providing comfort for all via habitat, shelter and food. - A yarning circle could be included to represent the bringing together of the people. - Incorporate Gundungurra language in some form. - Creation story of the rivers in the area, the story of Gurangatch and Mirragan. The story describes an almighty struggle between two ancestral creator spirits. One a giant eel-like creature, Gurangatch, an incarnation of the ancestral rainbow serpent and the other, a large native cat or quoll, Mirragan. - Incorporate indigenous design into the playspace, either via art of symbols/references in the playspace items.
<p>Comments in relation to landscaping and habitat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion of native plants for wildlife habitat with corridor links to existing areas of bushland. - Incorporate local fauna into the design e.g. fauna totems. - Consider opportunities for indigenous art/graffiti/murals.



Further reading on the story of Gurangatch and Mirragan can be found below;

[Gurangatch and Mirragan – Jenolan Caves](#)

WHATS NEXT?

Thank you once again to all the community members who provided us with valuable feedback. The design will now be progressed, integrating themes and references from this round of consultation.

Updates will continue to be provided via the project page. If you have any questions about this project or would like to be kept updated on its progress, please email Matt Harvey (Project Manager) via mail@wsc.nsw.gov.au.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

