

COMMUNICATIONS

Community Consultation Report

Les Bridge Kensington playground upgrade

02 July 2026

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1. Summary

Randwick City Council is replacing outdated play equipment at the Les Bridge playground on the corners of Baker Street and Virginia Street, Kensington.

This report presents the feedback received from the community on the proposed concept design of the playground upgrade. Consultation for the proposed design was open from 18 May 2026 to 13 June 2026.

A total of 9 submissions were received from the community, with the majority of respondents providing their feedback via the survey on Council's Your Say website.

What we heard:

Feedback on the design of the proposed upgrade was largely positive. Common feedback from the community included:

- Amending the proposed equipment and add additional equipment
- Changing the orientation of the furniture and requests to add new furniture items.

How we responded:

We have considered all comments received throughout the consultation period.

As a result of community input, we have included the shade sails at the playground within Council's list of ongoing maintenance works.

We also reviewed the location and orientation of the amenities and proposed equipment and determined that the current location of furniture and equipment at the site is the most suitable.

Next steps:

We will now progress with construction of the upgrade, with the upgraded playground set to open by the end of 2026.

2. Community engagement strategy

2.1. Background

Randwick City Council is replacing ageing play equipment at the Les Bridge playground in Kensington.

The proposed changes include:

- New equipment for a wide range of ages and abilities, including inclusive fun with a nest swing, challenging balance trail, slide and double swing
- New nature play area
- New integrated concrete footpaths for improved accessibility
- Upgraded furniture with more seating options for carers and visitors
- Additional planting within existing garden beds
- New, rubber soft-fall surfacing
- Retained shade cloths, trees and fencing.

2.2. Objectives

The consultation aimed to:

- Inform the playground users and nearby residents of the proposed upgrade
- Exhibit the concept plans to the community
- Gather community feedback on the proposed designs to help inform the final designs
- Assess community sentiment of the proposed designs
- Collect contact details of community members who may want to be involved in future potential activation events.

2.3. Consultation activities

- Dedicated website: Your Say Randwick webpage
- Letterbox drop: A5 flyer sent to residents 300 metres from the playground
- Signage: A2 posters installed around the park
- Email campaigns: Sent to Your Say Randwick subscribers and Randwick City Precincts
- Weekly eNews: Featured in Randwick News during the consultation period
- Randwick Council website: Listed on Current Consultations webpage
- Councillor Notification: Councillors were informed
- Pop-up event: Council staff were available to answer questions from community members on-site (26 May 2026).

3. Consultation outcomes

- Website visits: 631
- Downloads of the playground concept design: 93
- Total submissions: 9

3.1. Submissions

3.1.1. Submission Type

7 submissions received via the Your Say site

1 submission received via email

1 submission received in person at a pop-up event at the playground.

3.1.2. Submission summary

The feedback received on the planned changes were mixed. Whilst many residents appreciate the upgrade, there is concern about some of the playground items.

Theme	Description	Number of mentions
Swing set	Changes to the swing set were proposed	5
General support	Overall support for the concept design	4
Non-equipment related playground amenities	Comments on the amenities at the playground that were not the equipment	2
Suggestions for other equipment	Playground equipment not in the current design was suggested such as: • Water play • A seesaw	2
Shade sails	Comments on the condition of the shade sails	1
General objection	Overall objections to the concept design	1

All comments received were carefully considered by the project team. However, due to the budget of the upgrade and scale of the playground no changes to the concept design were able to be accommodated.

4. Next Steps

We thank everyone for commenting on the proposed design for the upgraded Les Bridge playground.

We are currently finalising the design and working towards commencing construction. We will keep the community informed of the anticipated timeline prior to construction commencing.

A. All submissions

All submissions received	
1	I approve. Please ensure signage shows no dogs allowed inside fenced playground. My son with disabilities is often scared away from local parks by selfish dog owners who don't follow the dog rules.
2	I live very close to this park and the number of young family I see visit this park is very high, especially given it is opposite a childcare. Everything but the proposed double swing is great. The current double swing accommodates older babies with the bucket seat and metal clip bar design. The propose double swing gets rid of that and instead introduce a netted swing which in my experience and experience of a lot of parents is not well tolerated by babies as they have to lay flat. I think council can certainly upgrade the swing, but please pick something that older babies can enjoy too. I would like to recommend council consider the face to face double swing (Example at waverley park playground). It is loved by babies, toddlers as well as caregivers.
3	- The design needs some more exciting features like Fitzpatrick or Maroubra Beach playground (we pay the same rates) - Move bin from current location next to playground to elsewhere in the park (people dump all sorts of things in there that smell terrible) - Make swing set larger to accommodate four swings - Add a water play area, there is plenty of wasted grass that is never used - The shade sails are old and don't protect from sun very well - Design looks like it's for older children but I only ever see young children playing here. Older children are mostly going into swimming lessons next door after school
4	Looks great! I love the additional climbing structures and seating. I didn't really think it needed an upgrade but the new design looks great.
5	My first impression is "where are the small swings suitable for a child under 2 years of age". I cannot think of one playground I have visited in the last three years that does not have a small supportive swing with a back support for a young child. The rubber flooring under the equipment is a great idea and is an obvious safety feature. I cannot see any interactive play areas for the under two year olds; so while the swings for under two's is a no brainer, a little more consideration for younger participants is necessary. I have used this sad little playground many times over the past 3 years with. my grandchildren who live locally.

All submissions received

6	Is there a swing for toddlers? IE a swing with a strap? Thanks
7	Alot more important priorities in the LGA to prioritise limited budget than replacing perfectly functional play equipment.
8	To Whom It May Concern Randwick City Council NSW I am writing regarding the proposed plans for the upcoming Les Bridge Playground Kensington upgrade. I am a resident who lives within walking distance to the playground. We have four children aged between 1 and 11 years who frequently visit playgrounds in our Randwick LGA. As a parent of young children who frequently visit this playground, it is positive to see investment in a well-used playground, particularly as the playgrounds current form is restrictive, due to its dated and basic equipment. The current concept proposed feels limited and somewhat underwhelming, especially when compared to other playgrounds that have been updated in the Randwick City Council area. It appears to retain the existing footprint without any meaningful expansion to improve the facilities. I am especially concerned about the plan's removal of the baby swing, given this piece of equipment is consistently well used by children aged 0-5 years. I witness children playing at Les Bridge playground waiting for a turn on the baby swing daily, due to its popularity. A standard flat or belt swing is not suitable for children under the age of 4 who have not developed the balance, core strength, and grip that is required to swing without falling off. Age-appropriate swing sets serve as an important part of playgrounds for young families in the area and I strongly encourage council to retain the baby swing and modify the current concept. The children who attend childcare centres in the surrounding streets (Kensington Castle Virginia St/Milroy Ave, Wee Wonders Myrtle St, Kensington Kids Kingdom Todman Ave) are all under the age of five years old. I ask council to consider the following: - Look to rotate the swing set 180 degrees and expand the crossbeam length. This would allow for a nest swing, standard flat/belt swing, as well as an infant swing that has appropriate back support. I have included an image from the Woomera Reserve Little Bay playground upgrade for reference (image 1). - Move the swing set to another location on the playground grounds. This would also allow for a more appropriately scaled playground structure, given the parks generous land size. - Include a nest and multi-age swing like those pictured below (image 1

All submissions received

	& 2). I also encourage council to consider incorporating additional play elements that increase the appeal and capacity of the playground, especially during its busy periods. Features such as: - An in-ground trampoline and double slide, like the one recently installed at Bieler Park Playground (image 3 & 4). - Consider including a seesaw or carousel, like those included in the recent upgrade to Wills Reserve playground (image 5 & 6). Thank you for your consideration of these suggested improvements. I appreciate the council's work creating a safer and more enjoyable space for children to play. Sincerely, A Local Kensington Resident
9	Community member stopped by on his bike ride to advise he loves the concept and is very excited for it to be delivered. The community member lives around the corner from the playground and has a 2.5-year-old daughter who he imagines will love it!

