



MEDIA RELEASE

October 2023

Proposed new building reforms for NSW signal need for developers and builders to ‘get the site right’

With the NSW Government set to overhaul the construction industry with new building reforms in the coming year, developers and builders are urged to install and maintain best-practice erosion and sediment controls on their sites.

The proposed reforms are expected to improve legislation, ensure higher standards of design, construction, and maintenance, and increase protection and support for consumers and workers.

The call for greater compliance on building and construction sites comes in the lead up to the Get the Site Right inspection ‘Blitz Week’ being held from 16-20 October, involving councils across Sydney and parts of NSW.

The inspection blitz aims to build on the six per cent improvement in compliance achieved in the month-long campaign held in May.

Regulatory staff from 22 councils conducted 1,177 inspections of 825 building and construction sites with \$376,789 in fines issued.

Sydney Coastal Councils Group Chair, Councillor Jack Boyd, welcomes the proposed changes to the building and construction industry that will contribute to improving the health of Greater Sydney Harbour and other waterways across Sydney and NSW.

“We have known for a long time that developers and builders play an important role in preventing sediment laden runoff from leaving their sites and polluting our waterways,” Cr Boyd said.

“Waterway health is a key focus for our councils and their communities. The Get the Site Right campaign is an important part of our initiatives for improving stormwater quality and reducing litter to improve the water quality and enjoyment of our waterways.”

Get the Site Right is a joint taskforce between the Cooks River Alliance, Georges Riverkeeper, Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Parramatta River Catchment Group, Sydney Coastal Councils Group, WaterNSW, and local councils.

Members of the public are encouraged to report pollution incidents, including poor sediment control, to their local council or the EPA’s 24/7 Environment Line on 131 555.

– ENDS –



Participating councils: Bayside Council, Blacktown City Council, Blue Mountains City Council, Campbelltown City Council, City of Canterbury Bankstown, City of Parramatta, City of Ryde, Georges River Council, Lake Macquarie City Council, Northern Beaches Council, North Sydney Council, Randwick City Council, Shoalhaven City Council, Strathfield Council, Sutherland Shire Council, Waverley Council, Willoughby City Council, Wollondilly Shire Council, Woollahra Municipal Council.

Note to Editors:

Images available on request.

Sydney Coastal Councils Group media enquiries:

Sarah Joyce

Executive Officer

Email: admin@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au

Phone: M.0407733075