



NORTHBRIDGE  
PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

*Working for the advancement of Northbridge since 1919*

ABN 733 956 702

PO Box 357 Northbridge 2063

January 31 2007

Mr Nick Tobin  
General Manager  
Willoughby City Council  
PO Box 57  
CHATSWOOD NSW 2057

Dear Mr Tobin

**Re: Draft Sustainability Charter**

The committee of Northbridge Progress Association has reviewed Council's draft Sustainability Charter. In general, we support strongly an ongoing effort by Council to improve the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the City.

We note that the draft Charter is: "a statement of our sustainability vision and principles and outlines *specific directions* (our italics) for achieving a sustainable city."

We would have preferred that the Charter contained more specific directions or commitments to achieve sustainability. We would have liked to have seen simple, key performance indicators and an action plan incorporated into the Charter. Without these, the Charter's very general statements (like "building sustainability into all facets of our organisation, from cradle to grave") sound like "motherhood" - noone could take exception to them but noone can take action based upon them.

We fear that the absence of specific targets and ways to meet them make it likely that the Charter will be filed away and forgotten.

We believe that the Willoughby community is ready to accept a plan and specific actions from Council to implement the broad principles of the Charter and we look forward to Council generating these in consultation with the community in coming months.

Yours sincerely

John Becroft

President  
Copy: Sailors Bay Ward councillors