

INDENTED HEAD MASTER PLAN

— What We Heard



Bellarine
Bayside
Coastal Management



Phase 1 of public consultation to develop a master plan for approximately 3.5 hectares of coastal Crown land at Indented Head was conducted during March-April 2021.

We invited people to tell us how they use the area, what they love about the area, and what would encourage or improve use.

Prior feedback identified three key priorities for the master planning area and, as a result, we also sought specific feedback on:

- the alignment of the Bellarine Coastal Trail;
- the need for a permanent public toilet outside the Indented Head Community Hall; and
- preferences for consideration in upgrading the Batman Park amenity blocks and camp kitchen.

Values and Use

A majority of respondents commented on the ambience of the area which they overwhelmingly described as peaceful, relaxed and family-friendly.

Further to this, respondents placed high value on the beaches, natural environment, coastal trail and the holiday park.

'The natural landscape, the safe family friendly beach, the peaceful camping ground and friendly general store'

Feedback shows that the area is predominantly used for walking and water activities (swimming, boating, snorkeling, etc.). This is closely followed by other recreational activities including cycling, camping and meeting up with family or friends. Use of the area for BBQs or picnics was the lowest.

The most identified suggestions to encourage greater use of the area were improvements to facilities and access; however, 'no change' was also a common response.

Bellarine Coastal Trail

Individual survey results showed majority support (78%) for the proposed alignment of the Bellarine Coastal Trail near the Indented Head Community Hall. This proposal is also endorsed by the Indented Head Yacht Club and Indented Head Boat Club, both of which have facilities adjacent to the proposed trail.

Given the support for this proposal and the need for the completion of the Bellarine Coastal Trail, we will be progressing this part of the master planning project in the coming months prior to the development of a draft Master Plan concept.

Any matters of concern raised during the consultation will be taken into consideration during the detailed design and planning of the trail alignment.

We are looking to complete this prior to the end of the year.

'This is a great idea it will help keep people to the paths and save the vegetation'

Provision of a permanent public toilet near Indented Head Community Hall

67% of respondents indicated a preference for permanent public toilets to be located near the Indented Head Community Hall, reaffirming that current community needs match those that we have previously heard.

'Would be good to have toilets like the one built near the Indented Head pier'

There was no clear preference for the location of these facilities. We will explore all feasible options to determine the most suitable location, based on statutory approvals and nearby services and utilities.

Preferences for consideration in upgrading the Batman Park amenity buildings and camp kitchen.

There was overwhelming support for the proposal to upgrade the camp kitchen, camp amenity blocks, and public toilet in Batman Park.

While feedback indicated that return visits (both public and camper) are not based on facilities, there was a clear need expressed for modern and accessible amenities.

'They are outdated and way too small, the entrance needs to accommodate a pram and wheelchair access is needed'

The most requested facilities for the camp kitchen were cooktop/hot plates, BBQs and sink facilities. There was an even split in preference for indoor or outdoor seating. Campers also expressed the need for ovens, fridges and other small kitchen appliances.

Next steps

We are currently working with a landscape architect to develop a draft Master Plan concept for public release and Phase 2 of consultation. This public consultation period is expected to occur in September 2021.

Following the Phase 2 consultation period, we will review feedback and finalise a Master Plan design for approval by the Bellarine Bayside Committee of Management.

When the Phase 2 consultation period commences, we will be in contact with those who have provided their contact details and indicated they would like to be involved in further consultation.

How can you contribute?

To find out about future public consultation on this project you can:

- Keep an eye on our website: www.bellarinebayside.com.au/coastal-management/projects/current/ihmasterplan
- Follow our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bellarine.bayside
- Register your interest via email: contactus@bellarinebayside.com.au

