

Bondi Water Resource Recovery Facility

Sydney
WATER

Community update - December 2022



Update on our current work

The Bondi Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) at Blair Street, North Bondi, works behind the scenes to treat wastewater safely ensuring the community continues to enjoy safe and clean water at our iconic beaches.

Our facility is 68 years old and serves 750,000 people. Over the past year, we've been working on a number of projects to update this facility so we can keep things running reliably.

We know that our work can have an impact on our community, and we'd like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we upgrade Bondi WRRF. Following is an update on our current and future work:

Ventilation system upgrades

This June we completed the second phase of the ventilation system upgrade at the Bondi WRRF. Our ventilation systems remove and treat foul air from the underground area.

The Bondi ventilation upgrade involves comprehensive work to improve the existing underground and fresh air ventilations systems, improving underground health and safety conditions for our staff and reducing odour impact for our community.

What's Next – Further ventilation systems upgrades are planned in 2023. This work is scheduled to be done during winter, when we have less odour impact due to cooler temperatures.



An underground view of the ventilation systems at the Bondi WRRF.

Ben Buckler Stack refurbishment

Standing tall within the North Bondi Golf course, the Ben Buckler shaft is an integral part of the Bondi WRRF underground ventilation system. Constructed more than 100 years ago, this heritage listed asset is showing signs of deterioration and needs repairs.

Earlier this year we completed a condition assessment to help us determine our short and long term upgrade plans.

What's Next – Our engineers are currently finalising upgrade options which we plan to have completed early in the new year. We will communicate our final plans to the community when these are finalised.

Short term repairs are expected to begin early in 2023 and long term plans will be determined after the condition assessment has been completed. Our aim is to ensure that we preserve the Ben Buckler shaft so that it continues to work for another 100 years, as well as protect its important heritage value.



Our crews doing an external condition assessment of the Ben Buckler Shaft.

Eastern Safe Haven

Sitting below the Bondi cliff-face and adjacent to the Tasman Sea, the eastern safe haven building (ESH) serves as an evacuation point in the event of an underground emergency at the Bondi WRRF.

This year we completed an assessment of this site to fully understand the work needed to upgrade this asset.

What's Next – We're currently working on plans to either refurbish or rebuild the ESH. This will ensure that this vital evacuation point continues to function as an emergency exit point and will also prevent salt water from entering the plant.

Upcoming project - Civil and Geotech Project

The Bondi WRRF is largely a series of underground tunnels and caverns, located below the surface, underneath the North Bondi Golf course (William Park) and the Hugh Bamford Reserve.

Being almost 70 years old, we will soon be doing some civil and geotechnical investigations, to evaluate the structural condition of these underground chambers. A program of work will also be developed to address any identified risks.

This project will have minimal impact on the community, however, there will be times where we may have some staff and machinery on site at the Bondi Golf course for various Geotech testing.



One of many underground caverns housing underground assets.

Other projects at a glance

- **Smoke, gas, and electrical systems upgrade** – to help improve safety for our staff working underground we are upgrading our critical systems which include the smoke gas and electrical systems.
- **OOPS pumping stations** – The ocean outfall pumping station (OOPS) comprises six large effluent pumps which transfer treated wastewater to the deep ocean outfall (DOOF) and out to sea. This project involves the renewal of aging infrastructure and will ensure that we continue to pump treated sewage out to the ocean and protect our iconic surroundings.
- **Digester 4 Renewal** – Bondi WRRF has a total of four digesters which biologically treat the sludge and scum removed from Primary

Sedimentation Tanks. Over time, grit builds up in digesters which reduces the capacity to treat scum and sludge. This project involves isolating Digester 4 to remove years of grit build up and increase digester capacity. Condition Assessments will also be done to determine whether renewal work is also required to ensure that this critical asset continues to operate reliably.

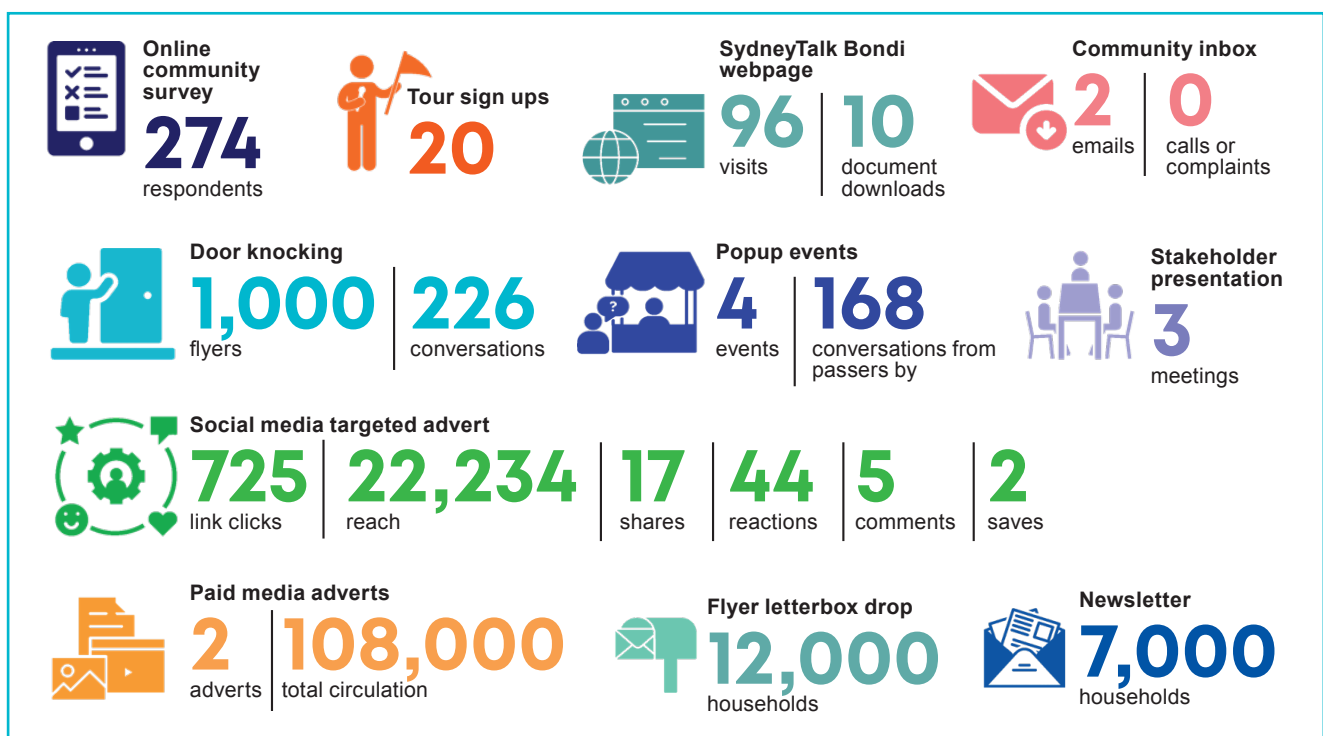
- **Cathodic Protection** – Bondi WRRF plant and equipment are predominately located underground. This environment accelerates the rate of corrosion and reduces the service life of infrastructure. Cathodic Protection involves the installation of energised metals that act as ‘sacrificial assets’ to extend the service life of infrastructure.

Listening to our community

Between April and June this year, we invited the community surrounding the WRRF and the wider Bondi community to tell us their views on the area, the treatment plant and what living in Bondi means to them. We also asked you what could be improved to make the area even better than it is.

We spoke to a lot of people and got some great insights on what is important to the community, and we are using these insights to inform our engagement approach as we progress with the WRRF upgrade.

Engagement activity in numbers:



If you'd like to know more about these results, visit www.sydneywatertalk.com.au/bondiwrrf or scan this QR Code



Expression of Interest - Bondi Community Reference Group

There are many ways to get involved and contribute to the success of the Bondi facility. Your insights and feedback are valuable and will help us to deliver the best outcome for all involved.

We are forming a community reference group (CRG) to work with us and provide input and feedback on issues and plans that may be impacting the community. Members of the CRG will meet regularly with our team and will be able to provide feedback about their experiences as well as provide community feedback during the final design and construction of our upgrade projects. This will help us to identify key community issues and understand what information the community wants.

To register your interest please contact Dounnia Lahoud from our community engagement team at Delivering4Customers@sydneywater.com.au or call 1800 006 113 option 6



If you are experiencing odour issues, let us know

If you're experiencing odour issues you can let us know using a short online form via this QR Code. This is the quickest way to submit your experience and for us to respond.

You can also let us know when there is no odour present. This is valuable information too.

Reporting odour issues

Open the QR Code reader on your smart device.

Hold your device over the QR Code to scan it. The form should automatically open, or prompt you to click to open the form.



Staying updated – on time, every time

We're committed to ensuring you're kept informed. If you'd like to receive email notifications about our work, please send your details to:

Delivering4Customers@sydneywater.com.au

Or open this QR Code and fill in your details

We take both the privacy and security of your data seriously. To find out how we use and protect your data, please refer to the *Sydney Water Privacy Policy* on our website.

Need to contact us on another matter? Call our Contact Centre on 13 20 92

