

April 2018

Refresh Vaucluse and Diamond Bay

We're investigating long-term solutions for the
wastewater outfalls at Vaucluse and Diamond Bay

The wastewater system on the South Head Peninsula is different from the rest of Sydney.

A legacy from Sydney's early network, wastewater from the peninsula is not treated. Instead, it flows directly into the ocean at three locations, called "ocean outfalls".

These outfalls are located at Vaucluse and Diamond Bay and date as far back as 1916. They are the last three in NSW and it's time we did something about them.

Fixing this problem won't be easy – it's a complex system. But, we want to work together to try and fix this problem once and for all.



Our call to action

These outfalls have been operating for over 100 years in a largely inaccessible part of the coastline.

Beachwatch data continues to show that water quality at the nearby recreational beaches is 'good' or 'very good'.

However, we recently published a study into the outfalls that showed a small number of

people access the water in the immediate area and that the water at the outfalls is unsafe. This is not good enough for Sydney Water.

It's time to improve the wastewater system on the South Head Peninsula and bring it up to the same standard enjoyed by the rest of Sydney.

What we need to do

Our goal is clear – we need to improve the water quality and environment around the outfalls. At the same time, we need to make sure the solution minimises any impact on the community, maximises environmental benefits and is affordable.

We'll start by reviewing options we explored in the past. We'll consider the latest in construction technology and talk to the experts - the Environment Protection Authority, NSW Health, your local MPs and councils.

"We take our responsibility to protect the environment and public health very seriously"

– Kevin Young, Sydney Water's Managing Director

But, the key to our success is you! We need your input if we're going to succeed in fixing this issue. Keep reading to see how you can get involved.



What you can do

Sydney Water needs to design a solution so it can gain planning and funding approvals.

To help us do this work, we'll be calling on a Community Reference Group (CRG).

The CRG will consist of up to 12 people who reflect the diversity of views shared by communities on the peninsula.

There will be at least five meetings between May and August. Attendance at all of these sessions is crucial to becoming a member. Proposed CRG sitting dates (evenings) are:

- 29 May 2018
- 3 July
- 18 July
- 31 July
- 14 August

If this sounds like something you'd like to be a part of, call or email us for an information pack and Expression of Interest form.

Expressions of Interest will be accepted until Friday 18 May.

We want to hear from you

We've set up a secure webpage to allow you to provide feedback on the work we're doing.

There's an online poll and interactive map for comments and ideas.

Simply register at **sydneywatertalk.com.au** and go to the Refresh Vacluse Diamond Bay project page.

By registering, you will also receive regular updates as work progresses.

Community drop-in sessions

In July, we'll be holding community drop-in sessions. Sydney Water will be available to talk to you about our work with the CRG and the various options under review.

More information on these drop-in sessions will be provided closer to the date.

Call or email

If you'd like to know more about our work, we have a dedicated community information line and email address.

Contact us

Phone: 1800 645 466

Email:
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Visit us online at
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Cliff-face outfall locations

