

Michelle Carter, Road Safety Officer
Phone 9970 1196

7 January 2015

Bill Gye
Scotland Island Residents Association
PO Box 70
CHURCH POINT
NSW, 2105

Dear Mr Gye,

Re: Newport Public School

Thank you for your letter dated 19 December 2014 regarding improved traffic safety for students of Newport Public School.

Pittwater Council has been in communication with Newport Public School on several occasions during 2014 where these items have been discussed.

i) – Extension of School Zone

The Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) have the authority to extend school zones. It has been recommended to Newport Public School that they write to RMS to consider a school zone extension on Queens Parade West to accommodate the children travelling to school by ferry.

I would like to advise that it would be unlikely that RMS would consider a request for a school zone extension due to the distance from the ferry wharf to the school. Standard RMS practice is to implement school zones to cover a distance of 100m from school access points.

ii) 10km/h Shared Zone

Pittwater Council could consider the area from the top of Queens Parade West to the ferry wharf in our future delivery plans for a Shared Zone, however our preferred option would be to construct a footpath (refer to iii). Shared Zones also required the support of RMS and do not meet their guidelines if footpaths are in place.

iii) Footpath

Pittwater Council has a concept design for a footpath to be constructed on Queens Parade West from the driveway entrance west of the Newport Arms Hotel to the ferry wharf. It may be possible to include the construction of this footpath on the Schools Footpath Program for consideration in future years, and when funding becomes available.

With the high number of pedestrians in the area from the Newport Arms Hotel, Newport Mirage and other venues, it would be our preferred option to construct a footpath, rather than implement a Shared Zone, so that pedestrians can be kept off the road environment and remain on a dedicated footpath.

iv) School bus service from Church Point

Pittwater Council and Newport Public School have discussed the possibility of a school bus service to travel between Church Point and Newport Public School. This is unlikely to be supported by State Transport due to a number of factors relating to the provision of school bus services.

As council does not have any authority over school bus services, I recommend that the Principal of Newport Public School write to the State Transit Authority requesting that they consider this request.

I would also like to inform you that Pittwater Council are currently conducting school zone footpath maintenance work within the school zone on Queens Parade West to improve safety for students of Newport Public School.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss this in more detail.

Kind regards,



Michelle Carter
ROAD SAFETY OFFICER

