



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO BARRENJOEY'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND HERITAGE VALUES

Environment and Heritage Minister Robyn Parker today visited Barrenjoey Headland to reaffirm there will be no large scale development of the headland under changes to the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park plan of management.

Ms Parker, who was joined by Pittwater MP Rob Stokes, said there would be no fast food outlets, conference facilities, souvenir shops or new commercial buildings at the top of the headland, apartments, resorts or public roads.

"The NSW Government is committed to retaining Barrenjoey's character, heritage buildings and natural environment," Ms Parker said.

"There will be no commercial developments of new buildings on the top of the headland and the community will continue to enjoy the scenic views, walk the trails and have access to tours of the headland and lighthouse.

"The NPWS has received 170 submissions on the draft amendments to the plan and we will continue to listen to the community about the future of this special location.

Mr Stokes said NPWS will prepare a detailed concept plan for Barrenjoey Headland in close consultation with the community to guide how the area will be managed.

"NPWS will investigate appropriate, sensitive uses for vacant cottages on the headland through adaptive reuse of the assistant lighthouse keepers' cottages and potentially the lightkeeper's house - consistent with their heritage values.

Ms Parker said the Government had a strong record of breathing new life into historic buildings so they're enjoyed and used by more people and protected into the future.

"Communities around five similar lighthouses along the NSW coast, at Byron Bay, at Smoky Cape and Seal Rocks on the mid north coast, and at Montague and Green Cape on the Far South Coast have welcomed the sensible restoration of the buildings.

"Montague Island has won many environmental tourism awards and guests contribute to habitat restoration for the little penguin colony.

“Any plans for the adaptive reuse of this site will go through an extensive approval process including environmental, planning and heritage examination, including approvals by the NSW Heritage Council.”