

Section 1.13 Supplementary information

As tables are not accepted in the online submission form, supplementary information for question 1.13 is provided below.

Table 1 lists the key engagement activities and tools, outlines their purpose, and describes how each tool/activity has been used to engage the community and stakeholders during EIS preparation.

Table 1 Key engagement activities and tools

Activity	Stakeholders	Detail
Phone/ face to face interviews	Existing and potential user groups	<p>15 interviews, either face to face or via telephone were held with existing and potential users during November 2016, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPWS • Richmond Vale Rail Museum • Newcastle University • Hunter Wetlands Centre • Towns with Heart/Kurri Kurri Visitor Centre • Kurri Kurri Business Chamber • Newcastle Cycleways Movement • Richmond Vale Rail Inc • Kurri Kurri Mongrels • Hunter Bird Observers Group • Kurri Kurri Motorcycle Club • Boomerang Bike Hire <p>The purpose of the interviews was to discuss the perceived socio-economic impacts (positive and negative), opportunities, and construction impacts of the proposal on potential user groups.</p>
Face to face meetings	Impacted landholders	<p>Six meetings were held with directly impacted landholders.</p> <p>Meetings provided residents with the opportunity to talk directly to the project team and provided an opportunity to discuss the potential impacts of the proposal.</p>
Survey	All	<p>A short survey, consisting of 14 quantitative questions was prepared using SurveyMonkey® to gain a better understanding of the current activities of the local and regional community to understand how the proposal might be used in the future.</p> <p>The survey was available between 3 November and 1 December 2016 and 890 responses were gathered during this period.</p>
Workshop	Council staff from within the regional area and NPWS	<p>A workshop with local government staff was held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 1 November 2016, 9:30 am – 12 pm Shortland Wetland Centre. <p>The workshop provided a project overview and summary of social impact assessment findings to date.</p> <p>Between 20 and 30 representatives attended the workshop from the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Newcastle • Lake Macquarie City Council • Cessnock City Council • Maitland City Council • NPWS.
Community information sessions	All	<p>Community information sessions were held at the following locations, dates and times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 3 November 2016, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Fletcher Community Centre

Activity	Stakeholders	Detail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 8 November 2016, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Beresfield Public School Wednesday 9 November 2016, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Kurri Kurri Business Enterprise Centre Thursday 10 November 2016, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Shortland Wetland Centre. <p>The community information sessions provided residents and interested community members the opportunity to talk directly to the project team.</p> <p>Attendee numbers ranged from 6 to 43 at each session with 98 community members in total attending the information sessions. 21 completed feedback forms were received.</p>
Community contact and feedback	All	<p>Contact mechanisms were established to enable the community and stakeholders to provide feedback and ask us questions about the proposal via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project information line: 1800 066 243 email: contact@ghd.com <p>All contacts were recorded in a Consultation Manager database set up for the project. 58 phone contacts were made and 67 emails received.</p>
Bulk mail out	Nearby residents	<p>A two page information brochure providing an overview of the proposal and the details of the public consultation process was mailed to over 500 households and properties in the suburbs of Shortland, Tarro, Fletcher, Minmi and Kurri Kurri, in advance of the drop in sessions.</p>
Advertisement	All	<p>Advertisements were placed in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcastle Weekly on 27 October 2016 Cessnock Advertiser on 26 October 2016 Newcastle Herald Weekender on 29 October 2016 Lower Hunter Star on 29 October 2016. <p>The purpose of advertisements was to provide information about the display locations and information sessions.</p>
Symposium with Newcastle University	University	<p>Council presented an overview of the proposal to the University at a Symposium.</p>
Council website	All	<p>Details of the proposal are provided on the Council website.</p> <p>http://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Council/News/Projects-Works/Richmond-Vale-Rail-Trail</p>

The design for the proposal has been developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders. Input was sought at several stages through the design process and the design was modified accordingly.

Consultation undertaken during the preparation of the EIS also provided input from the community and stakeholders. The consultation undertaken is summarised in Table 2.

Table 2 Summary of stakeholder consultation

Stakeholder	Comments raised	Design response
Bird Observers Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of Hexham Swamp to avifauna and other biodiversity. Conflict between cyclists and bird watchers and pedestrians. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pathway has been widened to 4 m to allow more room for bird watchers and cyclists. 1.5 m wide x 6 m long observation area has been

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require vehicle access for bird watchers to undertake survey. • Construction requested to be undertaken in April. • Offered to provide input into the education signage. • Speed to be limited to 10 km/h to reduce likely impacts on fauna. 	<p>provided on the boardwalk in the national park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered rest areas off the track to provide refuge areas along the trail. • Educational signage has been included in the concept design cost estimate. Detail to be developed during the detailed design stage. • Urban design treatments included in the concept to slow down cyclists. No formal speed limit has been provided but advice will be included on signage.
Community via information sessions	Intermediate trail head required to provide suitable (distance) pedestrian access to Tunnel 1 and Tunnel 2.	Additional access point provided at George Booth Drive between Tunnel 1 and 2 along an old construction access road for the Hunter Expressway.
	Fletcher connection needs to manage on-street parking in quiet streets.	Direct connection to existing facilities at Fletcher Community Centre provided in design. Parking and fencing restrictions to be considered in detailed design.
	Shortland parking affecting residents and current quiet environment	Off-street parking on the HWC easement to be considered in detailed design.
Wetland Centre	Provide wheelchair friendly viewing locations along the boardwalk and trail.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viewing platforms 1.2 m high have been provided on the boardwalk. • AS1428 compliant toilet facilities provided.