The redevelopment of the Wetlands Precinct is a priority project for the City to upgrade a key community and environmental asset. A Wetlands Precinct Place Visioning Concept Plan was developed in 2017 by UDLA, with input from the site tenants. A steering committee was formed on completion of this concept plan consisting of two members from each of TWCC, NARC and BLS.

The scope of the redevelopment as identified in the Wetlands Precinct Place Visioning Concept Plan to:

1. Demolish and rebuild the main NARC building, with opportunities to re-use other elements of the site and materials in construction
2. Renovate and extend TWCC to include an education room, dedicated scouts room, educational artificial wetlands and state of the art community nursery
3. Relocate the BLS Shed
4. Provide more parking and improved traffic and public access to and across the site
5. Create interconnected landscaped walkways and outdoor classrooms to support multiple uses and events
6. Ensure Ecological Sustainable Design features are included across all aspects of the project

The Wetlands Precinct is defined by the area housing The Wetlands Centre Cockburn (TWCC), Native ARC (NARC) and the Bibra Lake Scouts (BLS). It is located within the Bibra Lake Reserve, Hope Road, Bibra Lake. It is a major hub for environmental education, wildlife rehabilitation, scouting activities and community involvement. The three site tenants are all significant and passionate environmental community organisations. The site therefore has the potential to be an environmental community hub for a much wider region.

The current Wetlands Precinct facilities are out-of-date, run down and in need of upgrades to meet the demands of the growing local and regional population. The future redevelopment must respond to the needs of those who currently use it and those who intend to use it. The redevelopment also needs to have both socially and environmentally positive impacts to genuinely reflect its core purpose and the culture and values of its users.
ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The City, supported by consultants Creating Communities, is now seeking to engage community members and other key stakeholders to build upon the vision developed by UDLA and the steering committee.

Consultation between September and November 2018 will include:

**PHASE 1**

- One-on-one meetings with key stakeholder organisations
- Targeted engagement with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community at the Wetlands Precinct
- An online survey on Comment on Cockburn (closes 26 October)
- A community drop-in session at the Wetlands Precinct Open Day - Scouting, Wetlands and Wildlife Community Fundraiser 21 October 9am - 2pm
- Targeted Children’s and Youth Workshop Sunday 11 November 2.30 - 4.30pm at the Wetlands Precinct

**PHASE 2**

There will be an opportunity to provide a formal submission on the detailed architect designs as part of the City’s Development Application process via Comment on Cockburn.

**How Community and Stakeholder Feedback will be used:**

Community and stakeholder feedback is one important consideration that will help to inform:

- Methods to improve the frequency and volume of users
- Types of activities and services available at the Wetlands Precinct, including environmental education, land care services and wildlife rehabilitation
- Opportunities for Aboriginal cultural recognition and education
- Methods to connect the various built forms, spaces and organisations

Other important considerations include:

- The design and built form of the centre will be primarily informed by the needs of the three site tenants, their existing members and their patrons
- To reflect the core purpose of the site and the values of its tenants and users, enhancing positive environmental impacts is a priority

**MORE INFORMATION**

If you have any questions about the consultation process please contact Joseph at joseph@creatingcommunities.com.au or on 9284 0910.

If you have any questions about the redevelopment project please contact Chris Beaton, Environmental Services Manager, City of Cockburn at cbeaton@cockburn.wa.gov.au or on 9411 3444.