



17 May 2021

Mr Simon Wilkes
President
River Canoe Club of NSW
By email: pres.rivercanoecclub@gmail.com

Dear Mr Wilkes

Thank you for your letter dated 25 March 2021 regarding the Cooks River and access arrangements for canoes. I apologise for the delay in responding to your letter.

Council agrees that it is important to ensure that recreational assets be maintained for safe and effective use by the community. Council has inspected the wall. The deterioration of the river wall is significantly less than comparative sea walls which experience wash from powered vessels and tidal forces. Whilst the river wall is in poor condition in sections, Council is not of the view that there is an imminent risk of failure or safety risk to the public.

Council has a Cooks River Parklands Plan of Management and Masterplan which incorporates the area occupied by the River Canoe Club. The Masterplan incorporates an Implementation Plan which prioritises works in the Cooks River Parklands. At this time, there is no proposal to undertake improvement works for access by canoes.

As you have noted, land ownership at this location is complicated. The tidal part of the Cooks River is the responsibility of TfNSW (previously Maritime Services) and other land is owned by Crown Lands. Moving forward, Council will arrange a survey of the area to determine the location of assets in relation to the property boundaries and provide assistance and support to the River Canoe Club for grant applications.

Thank you for bringing this matter to Council's attention. To discuss further, please contact Cathy Edwards-Davis on 9335-2210.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Gainsford', written in a cursive style.

Peter Gainsford
General Manager