The Spit Master Plan - Producing the Vision

The draft vision statement for The Spit master plan was produced on the basis of the following:

- The feedback received at the pop-up consultation sessions held during February and March 2018 – describing what people like about The Spit, what they value about the place and what they would like to see there in the future – was presented to the participants at the workshop on 28 and 29 April 2018 so they could be aware of the extensive amount of knowledge already collected to inform an understanding of the community’s views about The Spit.

- The first day of the workshop provided participants with an extensive guided tour of the many features of The Spit and a series of presentations that enabled participants to appreciate the background and context for considering the future of The Spit.

- On the second day of the workshop, participants assembled in six groups to discuss their ideas for the vision of the future of The Spit in relation to the following themes:
  - Promoting the recreational and community role of The Spit
  - Enhancing the environmental attributes of The Spit
  - Boosting the business opportunities on The Spit
  - Producing a superior form of development on The Spit
  - Improving connectivity and delivering infrastructure on The Spit
  - Advancing the maritime functions of The Spit.

- The discussion of each theme by the groups was facilitated by a member of the master planning consortium. The facilitator was assisted by a subject matter expert and a scribe whose role was to record, as accurately as possible, the many visioning ideas put forward by participants.

- Toward the end of the discussion of each theme, the groups were each asked by their facilitator to nominate their top three visioning ideas for that theme. These were recorded on butcher’s paper and displayed for viewing by the workshop participants at the end of the day.

- Following the workshop, each facilitator was tasked with reviewing the top three ideas from each group and all of the content recorded by their respective scribes to produce a succinct vision statement relating to their particular theme.
• The main issue the facilitators had to deal with in the process of doing this is that many of the ideas recorded, although very good, are proposals for quite specific initiatives (such as, “Build a pedestrian and cycle path from here to there”) rather than visionary concepts (such as “There will be high quality and safe access for pedestrians and cyclists to maximise connectivity to and throughout The Spit”).

• The facilitators have therefore focussed on producing a thematic statement that is suitably conceptual and visionary.

• In approaching the task of producing this statement, the facilitators were intent on ensuring that the vision provides a suitable framework for exploring the many specific initiatives put forward by the workshop participants. The exploration of these initiatives will occur in the next stage of the master planning process during which a range of options will be produced and refined.

• The various aspects of the vision prepared by each facilitator have been assembled into a consolidated draft vision statement for The Spit master plan, which is presented for the consideration and comment of the community.

• The vision statement will be refined in light of the comments received and provide the basis for the preparation and evaluation of master planning options in due course.