



James Griffin MP
MEMBER FOR MANLY

Our community, your MP



Dear Resident,

In this community update, you will find some local funding wins and information on projects I am working on and issues I am fighting for on your behalf across the area.

Keeping Local Voices in Planning Decisions

Good planning requires matching growth with the infrastructure to support it.

There are a number of major development proposals being considered that will dramatically increased the density of the Northern Beaches.

I welcome more housing, especially affordable housing, however it must be delivered alongside appropriate public transport and infrastructure investment.

To restore local decision-making, the NSW Liberals have announced the Low and Mid-Rise (LMR) Alternate Plan Pathway. This policy allows councils to meet their housing targets through community-led alternatives tailored to local needs. Under our approach, out-of-scale developments that ignore community feedback and local constraints will be stopped in favour of better, locally supported outcomes.

The NSW Government need to commit to a comprehensive, and clear plan about how they will ensure we get the public transport we need to accommodate the proposed population growth.

Back to Basics: Why We Need a New Bus Timetable

As the private operator, Keolis Downer is responsible for putting drivers behind the wheel, but it has always been Transport for NSW that determines the routes, frequency of services and timetable the operator is required to deliver. After three years of persistent issues and driver shortages, it is time to acknowledge that the current timetable is simply not feasible. With roughly 160 drivers still missing from the workforce, continuing to demand a timetable that cannot be reliably delivered will only produce the same outcome: cancellations, delays, ghost buses and a workforce stretched thin.

The Government needs to consider all options to improve services, whether that be better wages, essential worker housing or other measures to attract and retain drivers. But in the short term, I am calling on Transport for NSW to go back to the drawing board and design a bus timetable that is realistic and capable of being delivered with the workforce we currently have. As residents have explained to me, a bus that reliably turns up every thirty minutes is more useful than a bus scheduled every ten minutes, with no guarantee that it will actually show up. It's time to go back to basics, and I have written to the Minister asking for a review of the network from the ground up, with reliability prioritised over frequency.



Queenscliff Bridge Delivered

The **Queenscliff Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge** is officially open! In 2023, I was proud to secure **\$3.95M** from the former NSW Coalition Government for this project.

It's great to see so many locals using it already. Huge thanks to Council for delivering this fantastic infrastructure!

I'm proud to see another commitment delivered.

Have Your Say in Shutting Down Illegal Tobacco Stores

Following my petition which was signed by nearly 2,000 local residents, the NSW Opposition proposed new laws to give authorities stronger powers to shut down stores selling illegal products. Those laws are now in full swing, with three stores closed in Dee Why, one in Seaforth and more on the way. **If you know of a store selling illegal products**, please make a report online via NSW Health's website. These stores are popping up on every corner, targeting young people and their health and undercutting legitimate businesses.

Northern Beaches Women's Shelter Patron's Luncheon

As Patron of the Northern Beaches Women's Shelter, it was a privilege to host the outstanding volunteers and staff at NSW for the annual Patron's luncheon. These individuals dedicate their time and energy to supporting vulnerable women and children who are facing domestic and family violence. They represent the very best of our community, and I cannot thank them enough for their efforts.



Defence of Sydney Commemorative Service



It was great to see such a huge turnout for the **31st Defence of Sydney Commemorative Service** held annually at North Head to remember the night Japanese submarines entered Sydney Harbour during World War II. As the Patron of Australia Remembers, Northern Beaches and North Shore Committee, it is an immense privilege organising this event every year.

Thank you to all the local schools, RSL sub-branches and organisations who took part this year, and especially to **Rear Admiral Chris Smith, Commander of Australian Fleet**, Royal Australian Navy for being our guest of honour. As always, the day was wonderfully supported by RSL NSW and the Harbour Trust.

2026 Bi-annual Manly Youth Hospice Gala



As the Member for Manly, there is no project I am prouder of than the funding and construction of Australia's first and only dedicated young adult hospice at North Head, Manly.

In June, the third bi-annual Gala dinner in support of **the Manly Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice (AYAH)** was a fantastic success, with more than 200 guests coming together to raise close to **\$100,000** in support of this nation-leading facility. A sincere thank you to everyone who supported the evening, **particularly Her Excellency Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of New South Wales**, for joining us as our special guest and making the night so memorable.

Located on a portion of the former Manly Hospital site, the Manly AYAH was borne out of an idea to give children at Bear Cottage a place to transition to once they reach the age of 16, and since opening its doors in 2023 has cared for more than **340** young adults from across NSW.

Damaged Telstra Bollard Removed from Corso



Sometimes it's the little things that count! The damaged Telstra bollard on Manly Corso became a long-standing eyesore and tripping hazard. It has now finally been removed. After seeing crowds constantly dodging it, I stepped in, asking Telstra to fast-track the 4G network migration of nearby payphones in order to get it removed.



LOCAL WINS

Condamine Street, Manly Vale Upgrades Commence

Many of you raised concerns with me about the poor condition of Condamine Street in Manly Vale. While the southbound lanes were resurfaced last year, the northbound stretch was only partially fixed. I took your concerns directly to the Minister for Roads, calling for the remaining section between Kenneth Road and King Street to be resurfaced.

As a result, Transport for NSW will now resurface these overdue sections, along with additional parts of Condamine Street through Manly Vale and Brookvale. I'm proud to secure this fix for our community.



Pittwater Road Resurfacing Works Delivered

A number of residents have contacted me about the condition of Pittwater Road. I have raised this with Transport for NSW, and I'm pleased that resurfacing works have now been carried out along certain problematic sections, in North Manly between Oliver Street and Hillcrest Place and in Manly between Pine Street and Raglan Street to create a smoother and safer surface.

Frenchs Forest Rd, Seaforth Upgrades

Thank you to the residents contacted me about safety concerns and reports of dangerous driving along Frenchs Forest Road, Seaforth. I escalated this to the Roads Minister who has now confirmed that this location is being reviewed for traffic calming and safety improvements – including exploring the feasibility of a speeding camera, pedestrian refuge, and reviewing existing signage and traffic signals. I will continue to press the Government on progressing these safety improvements as quickly as possible.

Safety Upgrades Delivered at Pittwater Road, Dee Why

Following red-light running at Pittwater Road and Pacific Parade in Dee Why, I advocated directly to Transport for NSW and Police. Transport has now agreed to lengthen the pedestrian green phase and install signal louvres to improve safety.

Countdown Timers and AI Cameras Installed at Manly Corso

Following my direct advocacy to Transport for NSW, countdown timers are coming to Darley Road and Manly Corso.

Paired with crowd-detecting AI cameras at Manly Wharf, I've secured commonsense improvements to make Manly's busiest intersections safer and easier to navigate.

Towards a Safer Crossing at Pittwater Road, North Manly

I know many of you are eager to see the long-overdue pedestrian safety upgrades delivered along Pittwater Road, North Manly adjacent to Nolan Reserve. I have continued to press the Government to get this project moving. Recently, I lodged a series of Questions on Notice with the Government, and the Minister has now advised that site investigations are finally expected to commence this second half of 2026. Convincing Transport to repave the median strips was a great short-term win, but these more substantive works cannot come soon enough for the many residents, families and school children who cross this busy stretch of road every day.

Safety Improvements Delivered in North Balgowlah

After residents wrote to me about reports of speeding at the intersection of Warringah Street and Bangaroo Street in North Balgowlah, I contacted the Northern Beaches Council to raise these concerns and seek a solution. Pleasingly, Council has now installed a give way sign at this location and painted new lines which is a huge win for pedestrian safety in this area.

Safety Bollards Installed Opposite Stockland Carpark Exit

Over the years, there has been an unusually high number of vehicles colliding with homes on Condamine Street, Balgowlah opposite the Balgowlah Village carpark egress. After raising this with the Northern Beaches Council on behalf of those residents, Council agreed to install safety bollards at the traffic lights. Transport for NSW has also implemented new line markings and adjusted signal phasing to deter drivers from exiting the carpark at speed.

Fighting to Stop the Sale of Victoria Barracks

I'm proud to stand with colleagues from across the political spectrum in calling on the Federal Government to reconsider any proposal to sell the historic Victoria Barracks as part of its broader Defence divestment. Victoria Barracks is not surplus land – it is the beating heart of the Australian Army. As with the planned sale of HMAS Penguin at Balmoral, these are historically significant, strategically located operational bases – not assets to be sold off to the highest bidder. Recently in NSW Parliament, the NSW Liberals and Nationals introduced legislation to ensure no Defence land can be rezoned without approval from both Houses of the NSW Parliament. This legislation is currently before Parliament, and if passed will ensure any redevelopment must be subject to proper oversight and scrutiny.



WORKING FOR YOU.



Presenting Daniel Peterson of LocalKind with the NSW Government's Community Service Award



Presenting Kaya Punter with her State Representative Award for Cricket



Acknowledging the wonderful community volunteers at LocalKind



Presenting Royal Far West CEO Briony Scott with a Community Recognition Statement



Supporting the Manly Branch of the Country Women's Association

Pruning Overgrown Vegetation and Updating Directional Signage at Wellings Reserve, North Harbour

After local Balgowlah Heights residents and business owners invited me to visit Wellings Reserve near North Harbour Reserve, it was clear the area was overdue for some attention with lots of overgrown vegetation, ageing and unclear signage, and worn paths. I raised these concerns with Council, and I'm pleased they've agreed to inspect the site, carry out any necessary pruning, and investigate additional directional signage to help pedestrians navigate the Spit to Manly Walk through this beautiful part of our electorate.

Funding our Local Surf Clubs



Our surf clubs are at the heart of our community, and I'm delighted to announce that the following clubs have been successful under the NSW Government's 2025-26 Surf Club Facility Program:

Queenscliff Surf Life Saving Club – **\$42,855**
North Curl Curl Surf Life Saving Club – **\$89,700**
South Curl Curl Surf Life Saving Club – **\$59,248**
Dee Why Surf Life Saving Club – **\$58,830** to replace deteriorating sections of the clubhouse roof and **\$88,461** to upgrade the Club's Nippers and Patrol Kitchen.



James Griffin MP
Liberal Member for Manly.



@jamesgriffinmp



www.jamesgriffinmp.com