

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The Quarantine Station situated on Sydney's North Head is currently part of the Sydney Harbour National Park. It has significant cultural and historical values that make it unique among National Parks and Wildlife lands.

The object of this Bill is to establish a new Trust, to be known as the Quarantine Station Preservation Trust, to advise the Minister on the care, control and management of the Quarantine Station, to approve leases or licences relating to the Quarantine Station site and to assist with the preservation of the natural and built environment of North Head.

Outline of provisions

Part 1 Preliminary

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent.

Clause 3 defines certain words and expressions used in the proposed Act.

Quarantine Station site is defined to mean the land described in Schedule 1 to the proposed Act.

Part 2 The Quarantine Station Preservation Trust

Clause 4 constitutes the Quarantine Station Preservation Trust.

Clause 5 provides for the Trust to consist of specified members appointed by the Minister, and specifies that further provisions dealing with the members and the procedure of the Trust are set out in Schedules 2 and 3.

Part 3 Objects and functions of the Trust

Clause 6 sets out the objects of the Trust. They include advising the Minister on the care, control and management of the Quarantine Station site as part of the North Head precinct, encouraging the use and enjoyment of the Quarantine Station site by the public by promoting the recreational, historical, scientific, educational and cultural heritage value of that site and ensuring the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage values of the Quarantine Station site and the protection of the environment within that site. They also include supporting the natural and built environment and cultural heritage of the North Head precinct and assisting the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust to develop a concept and final plans for a North Head Sanctuary.

Clause 7 sets out the functions of the Trust. They include permitting the use of the whole or any part of the Quarantine Station site for activities of a cultural, natural, historical, educational, scientific and recreational nature.

Part 4 Limitations on grant of leases and licences relating to Quarantine Station site

Division 1 Application of Part

Clause 8 specifies the powers to grant leases and licences under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 relating to the Quarantine Station site to which the proposed Part applies.

Division 2 Procedure

Clause 9 requires public notice to be given of the proposed grant of a lease or licence relating to the Quarantine Station site.

Clause 10 prohibits the Minister from granting a lease or a licence relating to the Quarantine Station site without the prior approval of the Trust.

Clause 11 requires the Trust to consider certain factors before granting approval to the grant of a lease or licence relating to the Quarantine Station site.

Division 3 Restrictions on grant of leases or licences

Clause 12 prohibits the Minister from granting a lease or licence relating to the Quarantine Station site unless he or she has had regard to certain factors.

Clause 13 prohibits the Minister from granting a lease or licence relating to the whole of the Quarantine Station site to one person.

Clause 14 prohibits the Minister from granting a lease or licence relating to the Quarantine Station site for a term longer than 10 years.

Part 5 Administration

Clause 15 provides that the financial year of the Trust is the year commencing on 1 July.

Clause 16 empowers the Trust to establish committees to assist in connection with the exercise of any of its functions.

Clause 17 provides for the employment of staff.

Clause 18 empowers the Trust to delegate its functions to a member of the Trust, to a committee of the Trust or to any other officer of the Trust.

Part 6 Miscellaneous

Clause 19 empowers the Governor to make regulations.

Clause 20 provides for the making of savings and transitional regulations consequent on the enactment of the proposed Act.

Schedule 1 Quarantine Station site

Schedule 1 contains a description of the Quarantine Station site.

Schedule 2 Provisions relating to the members

Schedule 2 makes provision for the members of the Trust.

Schedule 3 Provisions relating to the procedure of the Trust

Schedule 3 makes provision for the procedure of the Trust.