

**Submission
No 18**

REVIEW OF THE GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST ACT 2022

Name: Mrs Gretchen Gamble
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As the Greater Sydney Parklands trust encompasses four historic such lands of which Callan Park (CP) is one. I've lived in the vicinity for over 50 years and have appreciated its history, especially as a psychiatric hospital and a place for trauma impacted WWI returnees.

Over the decades it has been neglected maintenance wise.

When the 1983 Richmond Report decided that the intellectually disabled and the psychiatrically ill were to be removed into the community or to Concord Hospital the entire CP was left virtually abandoned.

The State Government appears to lack funds to undertake any work there except for the bare minimum such as mowing. As a local I view it as being "lungs" for a very densely populated area with a very small open space ration per resident. It also provides us with access to the harbour. There are several things that the Government could allocate funds to the Trust to undertake.

1 demolish the asbestos riddled and decaying timber buildings

Remove all noxious plants and re plant with native species. Neither of these are very costly. Looking to the future the solid brick buildings should be given to not for profit groups to undertake renovations being overseen and approved by State Govt authorities

To allow for commercialisation of these buildings would result in alienation of sections of this precious open space.

It is up to the Govt. to provide funds and expertise to the Trust to allow for the revitalisation of CP.

A suitable NFP group for Kirkbride could be as a public educational institution eg. TAFE or---? TAFE could specialise in outdoor environment classes as well as ones associated with buildings--plumbing, roofing etc

The Trust Act should not be weakened or altered in a manner that would permit large sections/sites as use for private companies.

The indigenous aspects need to be highlighted too as well as its past historic uses.