

Tarago Former Station Masters Cottage Community information session - 13 February 2023

Questions & Answers

Why can't you tell us what level it will be remediated to?

The level of remediation will depend on the future use of the site. We are seeking community views so we can build this into the Detailed Site Investigation and the Remediation Options Assessment. The level of remediation will ensure the site is suitable for the intended use.

The purpose of this session is to listen to the community and find out what the community would like to see in the future.

Be clear about the start of remediation on the cottage. The community need to hear this to help them make decisions and offer options.

All of our current reports are available on the website. Report 28 is the assessment of public spaces. It also assessed the yard of the Former Station Master's Cottage.

If the community takes ownership of the building who will pay the insurance?

This will be discussed once the future use of the cottage is agreed. In other areas, community and stakeholder groups using buildings such as this pay their own insurance.

Will it be demolished?

There was a comment from a community member at the community meeting in December 2022. They suggested demolition as an option. Demolition could be one of the options, but Transport did not state this. We are seeking community feedback on future uses of the site.

Could we visit the property to give us an idea of the space available?

We will supply a floor plan and block dimensions if they are available.

Will community groups take precedence over commercial interests?

Community groups and other parties will be able to express their interest as our planning work continues. The expressions of interest will be assessed by Transport.

Things are taking too long, when will we get a timeframe for remediation?

We acknowledge that there have been delays. We do not have an updated timeframe today. We have experienced delays in finalising the remediation options as the Mine and Veolia are not willing to take the contaminated soil.

We submitted an updated Voluntary Management Proposal to the EPA in December, and this is on our website. There may be further delays as we need to reassess the options. We will update the community when more information is available.

The purpose of the engagement today is to discuss the future land use of the Cottage, so we can progress our planning work and the remediation options.

We could use the cottage for a women's shed - although it may be too small.

We will supply a floor plan and block dimensions if they are available.

Why can't you tell us what level the site will be remediated to?

The site will be remediated to ensure that it is suitable for the proposed use.

What is happening with the garden around the cottage?

The cottage is currently fenced off. The yard and garden will be remediated to ensure it meets the guidelines for lead in soils.

What is happening to the stockpile? This cannot go by road. We already have too many trucks on the roads. If it is going to be shipped out it needs to go by Rail.

The preferred option has not been decided. We will update the community as the remediation options are developed. We will provide the options assessment for the community to review and provide feedback.

We have written to Council and Veolia regarding the long grass at the northern end of Stewart Street. The grass needs cutting and there are blackberries that need removing.

The land in this area is outside the rail corridor and is not owned by Transport for NSW. UGL Regional Linx as the Service Provider for the Country Regional Network is responsible for maintaining the rail corridor at this location.

Blackberries need clearing along the area next to the rail corridor.

UGL Regional Linx as the Service Provider for the Country Regional Network is responsible for maintaining the rail corridor at this location. UGL Regional Linx have completed track patrols in the rail corridor at this location and will continue to maintain the area. The blackberries are on land owned by Veolia.

People are frustrated. Transport needs to be open and honest.

Transport acknowledges the community's frustrations. We have listened to the community and have been sharing information as it becomes available via email and on our website.

We will continue to hold community information sessions and share reports as they are developed for the community to provide feedback. The next report to be shared is the Remediation Options Assessment.

Who is responsible for the intersection on Braidwood Road? The stop sign has been installed but there are no road markings, and the potholes need fixing.

Transport is responsible. We have followed up with our Maintenance teams to investigate and address this.

This section of road in the main part of town needs to be 50km/h not 60km. Trucks are going too fast.

This question was taken on notice. The feedback has been shared with the appropriate Transport teams to investigate.

What is the plan for the Sheep loading building in the corridor (south of the Station)?

The building is known as the Goods Shed and is listed on the State Heritage Register.

Can you take the lead back to where it came from?

Investigations indicate the lead came from the Woodlawn site. Veolia have advised they are unable to accept the lead under their current Environmental Protection Licence.

Transport should consider advertising future sessions in the Tarago Times.

Thank you for this suggestion. We will consider this for future sessions and community updates.

The two entrance posts into the station are falling over. Can something be done to fix these?

The posts are heritage listed. We will follow up with the relevant team and update you on the outcome.

Can Transport remove the trees and branches that have been left in a pile at the Station?

We have followed up with our contractor to remove the pile of branches.

We suggest that Transport call the Tarago Landcare Group regarding blackberries near the rail corridor.

Transport contacted a representative of the Group to discuss. The blackberries are outside the rail corridor.

The steps used to help elderly passengers on and off the train are too heavy for staff to lift and they can’t use them.

The project team has passed on this feedback to the Station Manager to investigate.

Options for future engagement - use the Tarago times, sessions after work hours at the Tarago Town Hall.

Thank you for this suggestion. We will consider this for future sessions and community updates.

Why are you engaging here?

We have set up in this location to provide the opportunity for people in the town to stop by and discuss future uses for the Former Station Master’s Cottage. The recent sessions at the Town Hall have not been well attended.

The following comments at the session have been noted by Transport and will be considered going forward:

- Don’t want to see the building demolished. There is a lot of history in the cottage.
- It is a historic building and I want to see it retained for future generations.
- The community can't afford insurance for the Hall (CWA insurance is \$2000) and future costs would also include water, septic and rates.
- I would like to see it used for the community.
- It could be a Gallery for local artists.
- The population is increasing and there is a new housing estate nearby.
- I don’t want to see commercial uses.
- I don’t want to see a Veolia sign outside.
- Could be a museum, craft centre, Doctor or nurses drop-in health centre for locums.

Further information

Transport will keep you informed as planning continues.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our project team on:

Phone: 1800 491 566

Email: landassessment@transport.nsw.gov.au

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