

# Alfresco Randwick Program Guidelines

UPDATED:  
FEBRUARY 2024

# Contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b>                         | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>SECTION ONE - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST</b> | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>1. ON-ROAD ACTIVATION ELIGIBILITY</b>    | <b>5</b>  |
| 1.1. Management                             | 5         |
| 1.2. Compliance                             | 5         |
| 1.3. Eligible Street Features               | 6         |
| 1.4. Ineligible Street Features             | 6         |
| 1.5. Equipment                              | 7         |
| 1.6. Length of Approval                     | 7         |
| 1.7. Public Liability Insurance             | 8         |
| 1.8. Liquor Licencing                       | 8         |
| <b>SECTION TWO - PROCESS</b>                | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>2. OPERATIONS &amp; MANAGEMENT</b>       | <b>10</b> |
| 2.1. Operations                             | 10        |
| 2.2. Concrete Barriers & Ramps              | 10        |
| 2.3. Fees                                   | 13        |
| <b>3. IMPORTANT LINKS</b>                   | <b>14</b> |

---

## INTRODUCTION

Alfresco dining – or on-road dining - plays an important role in the wellbeing and character of a city by adding life and activity to streets and public spaces. It provides space for the community to interact and strengthens the economy. Randwick City Council is committed to working collaboratively with businesses to build a sustainable 24-hour economy that creates local employment opportunities and supports a prosperous community. A diverse Alfresco dining program is a key component of this.

In response to this the Alfresco [on-road] Randwick Program has been developed with a focus on supporting, highlighting and, where practical, increasing Randwick's dining experience for our communities and visitors to the LGA. While recognising the individuality of business precincts the program aims to support businesses to plan, operate, maintain and increase new dining areas by providing an opportunity for on-road activations, where practical, supported by an overarching marketing campaign.

For the purposes of these guidelines Alfresco dining refers specifically to the activation of on-road space including decorated concrete barriers. This type of activation has grown in popularity since COVID and is now widely seen across several Sydney councils as a normal part of the Alfresco dining program and supported by key state and local government authorities and businesses.

It is important to note whilst Council encourages Alfresco dining, it is responsible for maintaining standards for the safety, accessibility and appearance of its streets, footpaths, and public spaces. Council's Alfresco dining procedures sets clear standards and has a rigorous approval process to ensure that Alfresco dining areas are planned, operated and maintained in an appropriate manner and that the needs of all users are balanced.

**To be eligible to participate in the Alfresco Randwick Program businesses will already need to have a [current Occupation of Footway agreement](#) in place.**

---

## SECTION ONE - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Recognising the importance of Alfresco dining as part of community wellbeing, economic growth, and the visitor economy is a proactive strategic approach that has been designed to support and boost this area of community life. The Alfresco Randwick Program creates a framework around on-road dining allowing eligible Randwick food and drink premises to increase their dining experience, in partnership with Council, to better connect with the community and their customers while fostering an increase in economic activity and boosting the night-time economy.

Randwick's streetscapes include elements from a variety of different periods and styles, creating a unique character which is an identifiable and valued feature. As outside and on-road dining areas have a strong impact on the appearance and character of a precinct, it is important that the guidelines that apply to them support the general standards for the city as a whole. Businesses looking to participate in the Alfresco Randwick Program will need to comply with the following two principles:

1. Any existing features which contribute to the character of the streetscape, as deemed by Council, will not be able to be removed, relocated or modified as part of an Alfresco On-Road Activation area. Features such as street trees must be maintained and integrated into the design.
2. The Alfresco On-Road Activation area must be well presented and maintained in an attractive, clean and orderly manner and furniture must be high quality, durable and also well maintained to enhance the character and appearance of its location.

In addition, to be eligible to participate in this Program businesses will need to have a **current Occupation of Footway-agreement** in place.

---

# 1. ON-ROAD ACTIVATION MANAGEMENT & ELIGIBILITY

Re-allocating parking spaces to Alfresco dining is a complex task that requires the coordination of multiple Council departments, community consultation and specific details and commitments from business operators. Central to this process is the determination if the proposed road space is eligible for Alfresco dining and that the business already has a current **Occupation of Footway**-agreement in place.

Space reclaimed from the road area may be used for Alfresco dining if the area is protected by vehicle-proof barriers appropriate to the speed of traffic.

The on road Alfresco dining area may extend beyond the alignment of the business tenancy provided it is not in front of another food and drink premises, and the space in front of a non-food and drink premises is equally shared with any other food and drink premises that adjoins the non-food and drink premises.

A combined application from a row of businesses can be made, however careful consideration would be given to the impact on other businesses, parking, residents and the precinct. A combined approval would need to demonstrate that the loss of parking will not have considerable negative impact.

These guidelines list the circumstances where a On-Road Activation may be possible and where it is prohibited. Further to this, consideration will be given to the safety, useability, community impact and appropriateness of the space.

Potential On-Road Activation locations will be explored by Council through invited EOI, along with the promotion of an EOI process for business interested in expanding their on-road dining experience. Potential locations would include precincts where there the community has indicated a need, around complementary businesses and/or existing footway dining areas, ensuring a geographic spread and businesses that trade after 6pm.

To maintain oversight and manage risk Council will be responsible for the establishment of the On-Road Activation. The business will be responsible for the operation of the area.

Below is a list of considerations for businesses before submitting an On-Road Activation EOI.

## 1.1. Management

To ensure that On-Road Activation contributes positively to the local area it is necessary to ensure that appropriate management issues are considered including noise, hours of operation and health and safety. It is the responsibility of the business to:

- Ensure the operation of the On-Road Activation does not have an adverse impact to the amenity of adjoining and nearby properties and residents.
- Ensure that furniture only occupies space within approved areas.
- Keep public areas surrounding the approved On-Road Activation clear of prams and dogs associated with their customers. Where customers with prams are regular clientele, consider providing extra space around for prams.
- Ensure the On-Road Activation is kept clean and free of litter and furniture/accessories are removed, where reasonably practical from the public realm after trading hours.
- Ensure that the requirements of the Food Standard Code, Liquor Amendment Regulation 2021, Randwick DCP are fully met.

## 1.2. Compliance

Cafes, bars, restaurants and cultural venues that already have an Occupation of Footway agreement in place can apply for a On-Road Activation space. Council's Alfresco application procedures set clear standards and have a rigorous approval process to ensure that Alfresco dining areas are planned, operated, and maintained in an appropriate manner and that the needs of all users are balanced.

However, having an existing Occupation of Footway agreement will not guarantee approval for an On-Road Activation, there will be a range of locations that may or may not be suitable. Each street and town precinct is unique and this is a complex issue that requires a detailed assessment. All applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis due to the complexity of the town precinct, streets, community and infrastructure, the specific context of the location, any parking restrictions, impact on residents and neighbouring businesses and the road environment. The eligibility criteria for an On-Road Activation is detailed and follows strict risk minimisation protocols.

### 1.3. Eligible Street Features

- Parallel or 90-degree parking
- Straight road geometry ensuring uninterrupted sight lines for drivers
- At least 10m from an intersection (measured from the building line)
- Any On-Road Activation within 20m of the departure side of a signalised intersection will be considered on a case-by-case basis and subject to Transport for NSW approval
- Shared zones with 10km/h speed limit
- Small streets with 20km/h speed limits
- Main streets with 40 km/h speed limits
- Main streets with 50km/h speed limits. Any requests in 50km/h streets will be considered on a case-by-case basis for inclusion of mitigating measures to reduce any risk.
- Hourly parking, including metered parking
- Permit exempt parking spaces
- Drop off/pick up 15min parking
- Loading, Taxi and No Parking Zones.

### 1.4. Ineligible Street Features

Due to safety reasons and vehicle access issues, streets with the following elements are not suitable:

- Areas obstructing access for deliveries, essential and emergency vehicle access, access to commercial carparks and residential building car parks
- Roads with clearways/tow-away zones
- Streets with protected cycle lanes and there is impact on the lane
- Streets with service/utility access panels or storm drains within the parking space (unless furniture is movable, and no platforms are involved)
- Spaces designated as accessible parking zones (unless suitably relocated)
- Construction zones (unless relocated with support of building company and Council)
- Parking for Australia Post, police, fire or ambulance
- Bus stops or bus zone
- Clearways
- No stopping zone
- In-road fire hydrant.

The On-Road Activation area may extend beyond the alignment of the business premises provided it is not in front of another food and drink premises, and the space in front of a non-food and drink premises is equally shared with any other food and drink premises that adjoins the non-food and drink premises. It may be considered across the frontage of adjacent vacant retail tenancies; however, approvals may be amended by Council if that vacant premises becomes occupied by a food and drink premises.

Impact on town centres and impact to local parking will be considered.

Extending in front of an adjacent premises is acceptable if:

- The applying premises does not have an opportunity for a On-Road Activation directly in front of their own
- The proposed On-Road Activation area is viewable from within the premises and/or can be effectively managed

- The adjoining premises has opted not to apply or they are not eligible to
- There is evidence of consultation with adjacent businesses from the applicant.

### 1.5. Equipment

The On-Road Activation area should make a positive contribution to the street environment and be of a style that is practical and that integrates into the surrounding area. The objective is to ensure all furniture and accessories meet safety standards, and that they are high quality and of an appropriate design and that the liability for these is with the business not with Council.

1. The On-Road Activation area may include - Tables and chairs, planter boxes or pot plants, outdoor heaters, astro turf, outdoor rugs, dividers, theming, decks and umbrellas.
2. Furniture should be of a high quality, clean, undamaged, level, sturdy, safe, visually appealing and meet safety standards. Benches are generally not suitable for seating as they limit participation for wheelchair users. Furniture may only be located within the approved On-Road Activation area.
3. The concrete safety barriers (provided and installed by Council) are likely to be decorated by a local artist from the Randwick Arts Listing. The barriers cannot be moved, and third-party advertising is not permitted. Businesses can choose their preferred artwork from the choices available.
4. Umbrellas must:
  - Be commercial grade and suitable for outdoor use (UV resistant, provide rain and hail protection, fire resistant, wind rated and easily maintained) ideally, a square canopy shape and sympathetic to the surrounding environment
  - Not have heaters mounted to the underside of the canopy
  - Be securely anchored by the applicant to the satisfaction of Council. The cost of the umbrellas and securing them will be borne by the applicant
  - Be collapsed and/or brought in during windy weather, overnight and out of business trading hours
  - Umbrellas may overhang a maximum of 300mm outside the approved footpath seating area but not across the roadway
5. Heaters must be tall, free standing, portable radiant gas heaters
6. Any lighting should provide adequate illumination to Council's satisfaction, be temporary, be stored away outside the approved hours of operation, and not cause light to spill into habitable living areas of any adjacent residential buildings. N.B. – cables are not permitted across pedestrian walkways.

### 1.6. Length of Approval

Each On-Road Activation has a maximum installation timeframe of 12 months. Prior to the approval period ending, a business must re-apply. Council may at any time terminate or temporarily suspend the Activation under any of the following circumstances:

- Safety or accessibility issues
- Non-compliance with the Alfresco business agreement, guidelines and/or relevant Local Approval conditions
- Business not activating the space on a regular basis
- Council requiring the space for other purposes
- Access for maintenance or works to the public domain
- Significant community concerns
- Requests from Police, Transport for NSW, Office of Liquor and Gaming, or other external State government agencies
- Cancellation of the Occupation of Footway agreement.

## 1.7. Public Liability Insurance

As part of Occupation of Footway agreements business must have \$20,000,000 Public liability insurance. This coverage must remain in place for the entirety of an On-Road Activation. In addition, the policy must cover any action that may arise as a result of the activation and:

- Indemnify Randwick City Council against any claims
- Specify the equipment to be used on the Alfresco on-road space.

If the insurance policy lapses during the Occupation of Footway agreement period, use of the On-Road Activation area must cease immediately.

## 1.8. Liquor Licencing

If the business premises has a liquor licence and would like to serve alcohol in the proposed On-Road Activation area, this must be made clear in the EOI. The Liquor Licence Application: Temporary Change of Boundaries Form must be submitted to the Office of Liquor and Gaming separately. They will issue their approval alongside Council approval for the activation.



---

## SECTION TWO - PROCESS

1. Business to check eligibility as per guidelines, e.g. must have in place an Randwick Council Occupation of Footway agreement.
2. Complete online EOI form and submit with a site plan and any supporting evidence.
3. Once an On-Road Activation EOI is received Council will assess it against eligibility guidelines and conduct a site visit. Note: The application will be assessed from the perspective of traffic, planning, safety and amenity considerations. An On-Road Activation area will only be supported by Council where it is considered safe.
4. If approved, Council will issue a letter to notify neighbouring businesses and residents of the conversion of road space to an On-Road Activation.
5. Business to complete Council's Local Approval application and Business Agreement and return to Council.
6. Risk Assessment will be carried out in consultation with the business and Council.
7. Upon final approval a contractor, hired by Council, will then install the On-Road dining infrastructure. Council will coordinate application.

For any questions, please contact [business@randwick.nsw.gov.au](mailto:business@randwick.nsw.gov.au). Below is a summary of the application process.



---

## 2. OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT

There will be no change to the current Occupation of Footway process. All Council Footway Dining policies, procedures, conditions and approvals apply to the Occupation of Footway areas. For a business to be considered for the Trial On-Road Activation they **must already have an Occupation of Footway agreement** in place. The On-Road Activation area approved is to be operated in accordance with these Alfresco On-Road Activation guidelines (also available on Council's website). Important items to note:

- Hours of operation - Maximum hours of operation for approved On-Road Activations are between 6am and 11pm, 6 days per week and until 10pm on Sunday for Local Centre Business zone B2. In Neighbourhood Centre Business zone B1 between 6am and 10pm Mondays to Saturdays and up to 9:30 pm on Sunday.
- Storage of furnishings - All On-Road Activation furnishings, as far as reasonably practical, are to be brought inside at the end of trading, as identified in the hours of operation condition above.
- Alcohol - Alcohol may only be sold/served in accordance with the premises liquor license.
- Amenity - It is the businesses responsibility to ensure that patrons behaviour is reasonable and does not negatively impact on the amenity of nearby residences, residents, or other patrons. If Council receives feedback from local residents regarding any noise impacts or other issues, Council staff will liaise with each business to address these concerns.
- Smoking is prohibited.
- Clear path of travel – A 2 metre wide unobstructed path of travel must be maintained, at all times, along the footpath adjacent to the On-Road Activation.
- Access - Use of the Alfresco dining area must not obstruct access for Council, any statutory authority, or any other person under the authorisation of Council to carry out maintenance, repairs, or replacement of public works and utility services such as, electrical power, communication cabling, water, sewer, stormwater, or alike. If works are undertaken - use of the Alfresco on-road area can only resume when declared acceptable to do so.
- Health Orders - Operation of the On-Road Activation area must be in accordance with all Federal and NSW Government public health orders.
- Community impact will be considered.

### 2.1. Operations

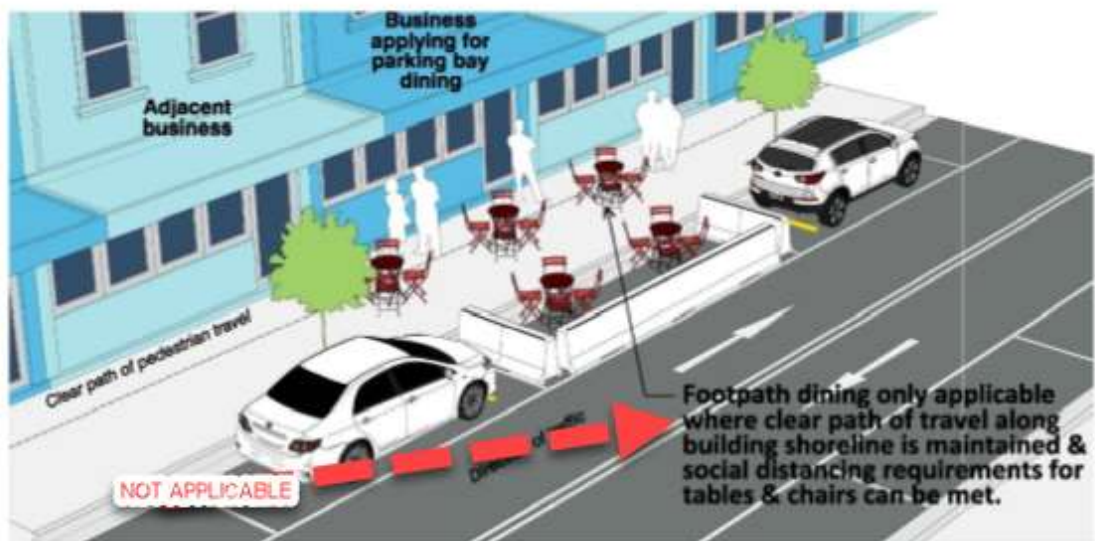
Operating procedures applicable to On-Road Activations

1. All furniture, such as tables and chairs, as far as reasonably practical, should be removed at the end of each business trading day.
2. The business must ensure that the table settings are secure and cannot blow away, e.g. menus.
3. The business is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the Activation area and it must, at all times be clean and well-maintained and to a suitable standard determined by Council.
4. Outdoor heaters cannot be installed in existing garden beds and must be a minimum of 2 metres from trees and planters.
5. No furniture can be installed in a garden bed.

### 2.2. Concrete Barriers & Ramps

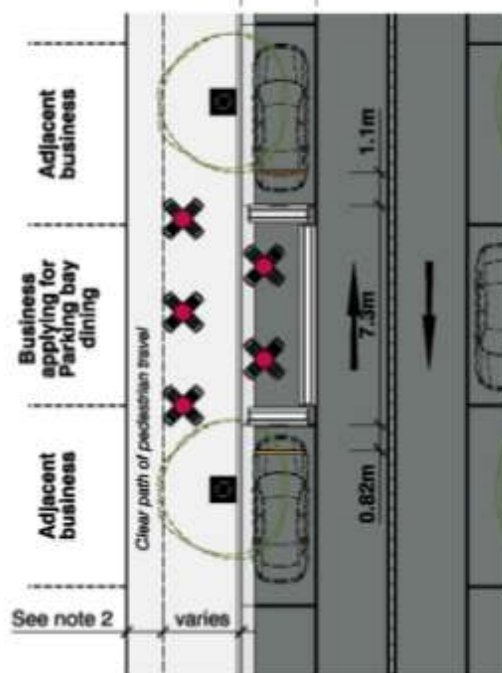
As part of this Program, Council will be responsible for the placement of heavy infrastructure / safety barriers. T-Lock Transport for NSW approved concrete barriers are likely to be used, and the design will not impede the safe passing of road traffic.

The T-Lock barriers come in 2 lengths – 6 metres and 3 metres. The standard space allocated per business will be 18 square metres. However, this may be adjusted to accommodate existing street infrastructure and risk mitigation measures.






Axonometric view

Parking bay width varies  
2m - 2.5m



Typical plan

#### Legend

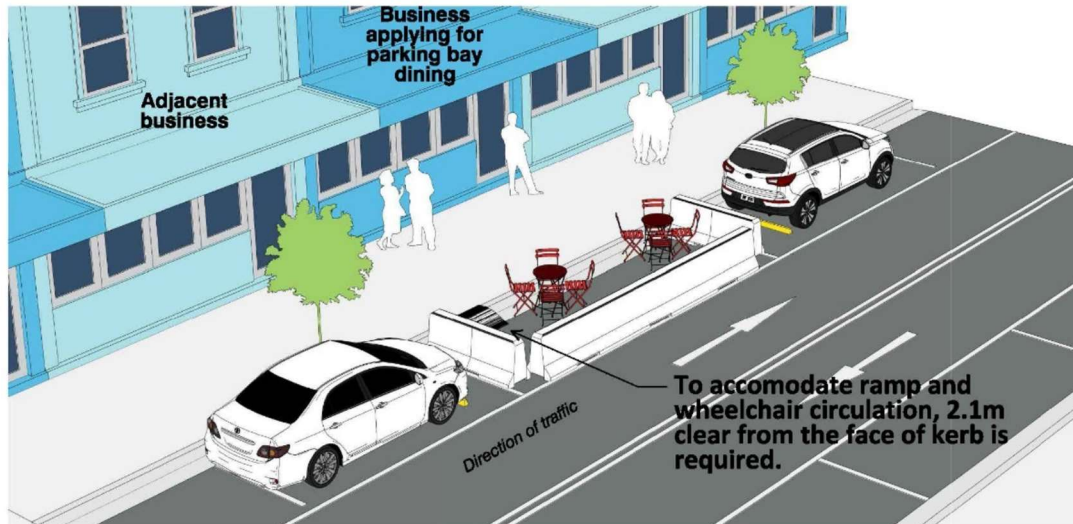
-  Cafe table and chairs
-  6m long concrete jersey barrier
-  Wheel stop

#### General notes

1. Dining furniture and layout of table and chairs must adhere to social distancing requirements.
2. A minimum 1.8m clear path of travel must be maintained along building shoreline. A reduction to 1.2m may be considered if there are wider passing spaces.
3. This option does not provide ramp access to parking bay dining area. Option is only feasible if alternate seating is available on the footpath.

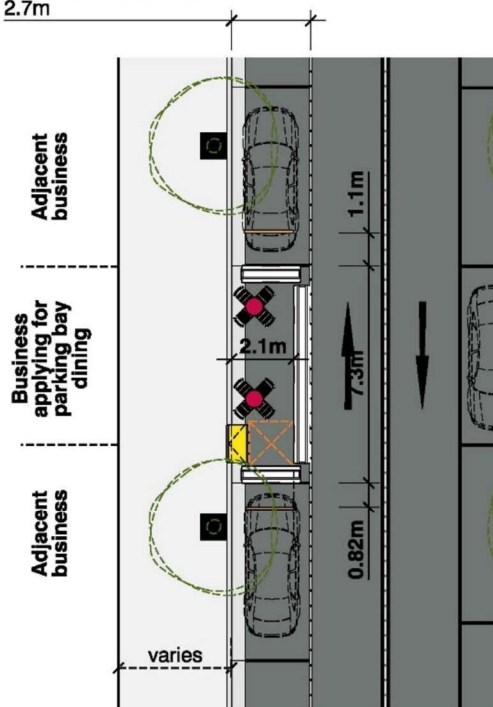
Image: Courtesy of City of Sydney showing on-road dining diagram

To adhere to accessibility requirements ramps may need to be installed to ensure the On-Road Activation area is accessible. Multiple ramps may be required. An obstruction free 900mm squared landing at the base of the ramp should be maintained at all times to ensure users can effectively manoeuvre around the space.








## Axonometric view

Parking bay width min. to accomodate ramp & wheelchair circulation 2.7m



## Typical plan

### Legend

-  Cafe table and chairs
-  6m long concrete jersey barrier
-  Wheel stop
-  SafeKerb Supagrip Ramp
-  Wheelchair circulation for 90 deg. turn (1.5 x 1.5m)

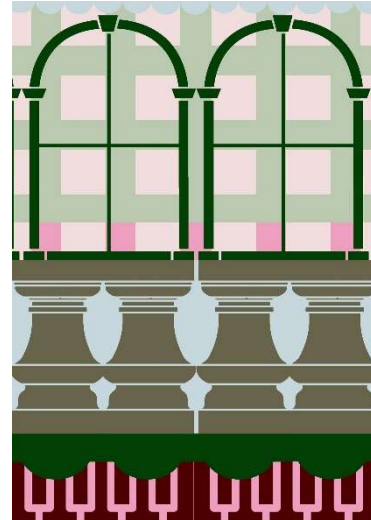
### General notes

1. Dining furniture and layout of table and chairs must adhere to social distancing requirements.
2. Where footpath dining cannot be accommodated, parking bay dining must be made accessible with ramp access. To accommodate ramp and wheelchair circulation, 2.1m clear from the face of kerb is required and width of dining area will need to be greater than 6m to allow for two tables.

Image: Courtesy of City of Sydney showing on-road dining diagram



The concrete barriers will be decorated by a professionally produced overlay (either ACM board or decal/sticker) organised by Council, based on artwork commissioned from a selected artist from the Randwick Arts Listing (see examples of works by artists Natalie Bateman and Amanda O'Carroll) – successful applications will have a choice of two “skins” for their barrier perimeter.



## 2.3 Fees

The Alfresco Randwick Program trial will fund the installation of 10 On-Road Activation areas. Should demand extend beyond the 10 areas Council will adopt a cost recovery fees structure around each On-Road Activation.

Businesses are currently responsible for all compliant approved furniture. Council is currently responsible for the hire, installation and decoration of the barriers and any additional accessibility equipment. As the nature of each On-Road Activation is unique this will be costed on a case by case basis and form part of the approval process.

## 2.4 Risk Assessment

As part of this Program, Council will be making a risk assessment for each on-road alfresco dining activation. Council will determine whether on-road dining is appropriate for the area through site visits. Council will assess noise levels and parking availability for residents, neighbouring businesses and other community members.

---

## IMPORTANT LINKS

<https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/planning-and-building/do-i-need-approval/other-approvals/footway-trading>

[http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol\\_act/ra199373/s125.html](http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/ra199373/s125.html)

[https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/13817/Application-to-modify-a-consent-S4.55-Application.pdf](https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/13817/Application-to-modify-a-consent-S4.55-Application.pdf)

[https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/13748/Specific-Commercial-Uses.pdf](https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/13748/Specific-Commercial-Uses.pdf)

<https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/pdf/asmade/sl-2022-41>

FOLLOW US ONLINE



1300 722 542  
[council@randwick.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@randwick.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.randwick.nsw.gov.au](http://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au)

**Randwick City Council**  
30 Frances Street  
Randwick NSW 2031