

# Clover Moore

MEMBER FOR SYDNEY

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19 June 2007

Maria Lopes and Gerald Ganglbauer  
Free Beach Action Group  
PO Box 522  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

Dear Maria and Gerald

I have received a reply from the Minister for Local Government in response to my representations on behalf of the Free Beach Action Group about declaring Little Congwong Beach a nudist beach under Section 633 of the Local Government Act 1993. I enclose a copy of the letter.

The Minister tells me that Randwick Council refused to allow nude bathing at Little Congwong Beach at its meeting on 22 November 2005. He says that he will not approve the beach for nude bathing unless both Randwick Council and the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water agree with this decision, due to the beach's proximity to Botany Bay National Park.

It is likely that it will require a concerted community campaign to reverse the Randwick Council decision and to gain support from the National Parks and Wildlife Service for this proposal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clover Moore".

Clover Moore  
Member for Sydney



New South Wales

18 JUN 2007

The Hon. Paul Lynch MP

Minister for Local Government  
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs  
Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)

The Hon Clover Moore MP  
Member for Sydney  
58 Oxford Street  
PADDINGTON NSW 2021

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MIN: 07/0058  
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06 JUN 2007

Dear Ms Moore

I am writing in reply to your letter of 11 April 2007 on behalf of the Free Beach Action Group, who have requested that an additional nudist beach be declared in Sydney and recommending that Little Congwong Beach be listed as such.

As Little Congwong Beach is in the Randwick City local government area, the Council is responsible for regulating activities on the beach. Section 633 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) empowers councils to erect signs to permit nude bathing on local beaches within their local government area. Councils are also responsible for enforcing penalties for nude bathing in areas where it is prohibited, such as Little Congwong Beach.

I understand that Randwick City Council, at its meeting on 22 November 2005, considered this issue and resolved not to allow nude bathing at Little Congwong Beach. As you would be aware councils regularly have to make decisions about what activities can be conducted on their land and when doing so have to balance the many and often conflicting desires of their community.

I am advised that the Botany Bay National Park is adjacent to this beach and that people using the beach also often use the National Park. Therefore I am not willing to consider including Little Congwong Beach in the list of 'designated beaches' under section 633(6) of the Act without an approach from Randwick City Council and the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water who is responsible for the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

You may wish to raise the Group's concerns with the elected councillors at Randwick City Council and the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Paul Lynch MP  
Minister