

Friday 6 December 2013

Livvi's Place – the playground that makes Sydney more liveable

It's official. Livvi's Place at Yamble Reserve in Ryde is Sydney's favourite new public space, as voted by the people in the Sydney Morning Herald's Premier's People's Choice Award.

In a night of celebration, Livvi's Place won the award with a massive 56% of the 18,000+ online vote and also took out the Special Award for Best Metro Greenspace selected by the Minister for Planning.

City of Ryde Mayor, Roy Maggio, said the Council was delighted to have won the people's vote. "Livvi's Place began with a pledge, a modest budget and a group of staff dedicated to see a vision become a reality.

"Its evolution into a multi-award winning project that has united our community with others right across Sydney is a wonderful achievement.

"This is a great honour for all the partners who helped create Livvi's Place and it is a very satisfying win for our community.

"The greatest reward, however, is seeing so many children and families enjoying the playground," the Mayor said.

In October City of Ryde won Australia's top project management industry award for Livvi's Place Inclusive Playground at Yamble Reserve.

Ryde is the first Council to win the prestigious Australian Institute of Project Management (Community Service and Development) award.

Partnering with Touched by Olivia Foundation, the Council's Livvi's Place project team guided the planning, funding and construction of the playground for children with a range of physical, intellectual and emotional abilities.

Livvi's Place features traditional play equipment as well as purpose-built play and landscape elements that offer opportunities for inclusion across all age groups. The high level of integrated creative design, including public art created for Livvi's Place, is a benchmark in inclusive playground design.

Livvi's Place was opened in March 2013 and attracts over 3,000 people each week.