AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

6:30 PM

Location Ashfield Service Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield

Live Streaming of Council Meeting

In the spirit of open, accessible and transparent government, this meeting of the Inner West Council is being streamed live on Council's website. By speaking at a Council meeting, members of the public agree to being recorded and must ensure their speech to the Council is respectful and use appropriate language. A person who uses defamatory, discriminatory or offensive language may be exposed to liability for which Council takes no responsibility. Any part of this meeting that is held in closed session will not be recorded.

Council meetings are streamed live on Council's website. This allows our community greater access to Council proceedings, decisions and debate.

Pre-Registration to Speak at Council Meetings

Members of the public must register by 2pm of the day of the Meeting to speak at Council Meetings. If you wish to register to speak please fill in a Register to Speak Form, available from the Inner West Council website, including:

- your name;
- contact details;
- item on the Agenda you wish to speak to; and
- whether you are for or against the recommendation in the agenda.
- whether you are speaking in person or online

Are there any rules for speaking at a Council Meeting?

The following rules apply when addressing a Council meeting:

- keep your address to the point, the time allowed for each speaker is limited to three minutes. This time limit applies, no matter how many items are addressed by the speaker;
- when addressing the Meeting you must speak to the Chairperson;
- the Chairperson may curtail public participation where the information being presented is considered repetitive or irrelevant; and
- only 3 speakers for and against an Agenda Item are allowed.

What happens after I submit the form?

You will be contacted by Governance Staff to confirm your registration. If you indicated that you will speak online, you will be provided with a link to the online meeting. Your request will then be added to a list that is shown to the Chairperson on the night of the meeting.

Where Items are deferred, Council reserves the right to defer speakers until that Item is heard on the next occasion.

Accessibility

Inner West Council is committed to ensuring people with a disability have equal opportunity to take part in Council and Committee Meetings. At the Council Chambers at Ashfield, there is a hearing loop service available to assist persons with a hearing impairment. If you have any other access or disability related participation needs and wish to know more, call 9392 5536.

Persons in the public gallery are advised that under the Local Government Act 1993, a person may NOT record a Council meeting without the permission of Council.

Any persons found recording without authority will be expelled from the meeting.

"Record" includes the use of any form of audio, video and still camera equipment or mobile phone capable of recording speech.

An audio recording of this meeting will be taken for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the minutes.

Statement of Ethical Obligations

The Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath/ Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the Inner West Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act or any other Act, to the best of their skill and judgement.

It is also a requirement that the Mayor and Councillors disclose conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda or which are considered at this meeting in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.

AGENDA

1 Acknowledgement of Country

2 Apologies and Request for Remote Attendance

3 Notice of Webcasting

4 Statement of Ethical Obligations

5 Disclosures of Interest (Part 4 (Pecuniary Interests) and Part 5 (non-pecuniary conflicts of interest) of Council's Code of Conduct)

6 Moment of Quiet Contemplation

7 Confirmation of Minutes **Page**

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8 Public Forum – Hearing from All Registered Speakers

Note: Items not considered and deferred from previous Council meetings will not form part of the Public Forum session.

9 Condolence Motions

Nil at the time of printing.

10 Mayoral Minutes

Nil at the time of printing.

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15 Reports with Confidential Information

Reports appearing in this section of the Business Paper are confidential in their entirety or contain confidential information in attachments.

The confidential information has been circulated separately.

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Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 August 2025 at Ashfield Service Centre

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm

Present:

Darcy Byrne	Mayor
Mat Howard	Deputy Mayor
Izabella Antoniou	Councillor
Liz Atkins	Councillor
Olivia Barlow	Councillor
Andrew Blake	Councillor
Jo Carlisle	Councillor
Vicki Clay	Councillor
Jessica D'Arienzo	Councillor
Kerrie Fergusson	Councillor
Victor Macri	Councillor
Vittoria Raciti	Councillor
Philippa Scott	Councillor
Chloe Smith	Councillor
Ismet Tastan	Councillor
Peter Gainsford	General Manager
Simone Plummer	Director Planning
Ryann Midei	Director Property and Major Projects
Ruth Callaghan	Director Community
Peter Shields	Director Engineering
Sharon Bowman	Director Corporate
Julian Sakarai	Senior Manager Governance and Risk
Matthew Pearce	General Counsel
Gunika Singh	Team Leader Planning Operations
Manod Wickramasinghe	Traffic and Transport Planning Manager
Scott Mullen	Strategic Investments and Property Manager
George Georgakis	Administration Manager
Katherine Paixao	Business Paper Coordinator
Akelo Costa	Acting Business Paper Officer

APOLOGIES AND REQUEST FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION:

Nil.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST:

Councillor Raciti declared a significant, pecuniary interest in relation to Item 66 - *Lambert Park Sporting Ground - APIA Lease Conditions* as her husband is the President of the Leichhardt Tigers, and her son is on the board. She will leave the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillor Barlow declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 16 - *Local Traffic Committee Meetings - 16 June 2025 and 21 July 2025* as she works in the Office of Kobi Shetty MP, who in her capacity as the member for Balmain, has a representative on the Traffic Committee. She will remain in the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter as the vote is exercised through a representative.

Councillor Blake declared a significant pecuniary interest in relation to Item 30 - *Reconciliation Action Plan Update and Engagement* as the item references the Anti-Racism

bystander training. His wife is part of the Western Sydney University combatting Racism program who is delivering this training. He will leave the meeting during voting and discussion on the matter.

Councillor Blake declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in relation to Item 40 - *54 Thornley Street Leichhardt - Tree Removal* as he received and has tabled a petition by residents opposed to this item. He will remain in the chamber during voting and discussion.

Councillor Scott declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in relation to Item 31 - *Together2: Social Enterprise Cafe for disability employment* as her son works there. She will leave the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillor Scott declared a significant, pecuniary interest in relation to Item 66 - *Lambert Park Sporting Ground - APIA Lease Conditions* as she lives in close proximity to Lambert Park. She will leave the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

Motion: (D'Arienzo/Atkins)

That Council note the disclosures of interest.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Motion: (Scott/Carlisle)

That the Minutes of the Council held on Tuesday, 17 June 2025 be confirmed as a correct record.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

PUBLIC FORUM

The registered speakers were asked to address the meeting. The list of speakers is available on the last page of these minutes.

Councillor D'Arienzo left the Meeting at 7:21 pm.
Councillor D'Arienzo returned to the Meeting at 7:24 pm.

The Mayor, Councillor Byrne left the Meeting at 7:36 pm. The Mayor vacated the chair and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Howard assumed the chair.

Councillor Carlisle left the Meeting at 7:42 pm.
Councillor Carlisle returned to the Meeting at 7:44 pm.

The Mayor, Councillor Byrne returned to the Meeting at 7:50 pm. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Howard vacated the chair and the Mayor, Councillor Byrne assumed the chair.

Councillor Fergusson left the Meeting at 8:20 pm.
Councillor Howard left the Meeting at 8:25 pm.
Councillor Howard returned to the Meeting at 8:26 pm.
Councillor Fergusson returned to the Meeting at 8:33 pm.

Procedural Motion (Atkins/Fergusson)

That the meeting be adjourned for 10 minutes.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm

The meeting recommenced at 8:52 pm

C0825(1) Item 1 Condolence Motion: Sue Short

Motion: (Tastan/Byrne)

1. **That Council record our sadness at the passing of Sue Short and writes to the family expressing our condolences.**

2. **That Council recognise on behalf of the Balmain community the contribution Sue has made to the community and propose an appropriate recognition of her service to the community and considers planting a tree, in consultation with the family.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 2 Condolence Motion: Carla Stacey AO

Motion: (Howard/Byrne)

1. **That Council note the sad passing of Carla Stacey AO and write to her family expressing the sincere and deep condolences of the Inner West Council.**

2. **That Council acknowledge the significant and enduring contribution of Carla Stacey AO to the Marrickville and Inner West communities by:**
   a) **Establishing an award program in her name recognising citizens who make a contribution to nurturing participation and excellence in sport and recreation, to be included as part of the Inner West community awards program; and**
   b) **Investigate naming the pathway between Amy Street and Centennial Street, Marrickville - currently informally designated the "Amy Street pathway"- in her honour, in accordance with the Inner West Naming Policy, with a report to be forthcoming at a later date.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 3 Condolence Motion: Father Nektarios Zorbalas

Motion: (Howard/Smith)

1. **That Council note the sad passing of Father Nektarios Zorbalas and write to his family and the Parish of Saints Constantine and Helen, Newtown, expressing the**

sincere and deep condolences of the Inner West Council.

2. **That Council consult with the parish of Saints Constantine and Helen and Father Nektarios Zorbalas' family and plant a tree in his memory.**

3. **That Council work with the parish at St Nicholas of Marrickville and Parish of Saints Constantine and Helen in Newtown to discuss the potential of working together to support the 'Soup Kitchen' started by Fr. Zorbalas.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 67 Mayoral Minute: Condolence Motion: Robert Baddeley Simpson AO

Motion: (Byrne)

1. **That Council write to the family of Bob Simpson to express our gratitude for the contribution he made to the Inner West, the Marrickville and Petersham Cricket Clubs and Australian Cricket.**

2. **That Council work with the Simpson family to create a permanent memorial to Bob at Marrickville Oval where he first debuted as a grade cricketer when just a teenager and to install a commemorative plaque at his boyhood home in Marrickville.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Procedural Motion (Howard/Atkins)

That Council Suspend Standing Orders to bring forward the following items to be dealt with at this time:
1. **Item 6 - Tourism Plan Bi-Monthly Report - Updated Advertising Strategy**
2. **Item 9 - Inner West Choral Festival**
3. **Item 14 - Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Monthly Project Update**
4. **Item 20 - Post Exhibition - Lobbying Policy**
5. **Item 21 - Statutory Review of Delegations**
6. **Item 22 - Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting 21 May 2025 Minutes**
7. **Item 23 - Quarter Four - Progress Report on the Delivery Program 2022 - 26**
8. **Item 24 - Investment Report at 30 June 2025**
9. **Item 25 - Investment Report at 31 July 2025**
10. **Item 28 - Biodegradable dog waste bags main street trial - Balmain-Rozelle**
11. **Item 29 - State Emergency Services access to Inner West Council Aquatic Facilities**
12. **Item 32 - Progress Update - Parking and Land Dedication in Jubilee Place, Balmain**
13. **Item 33 - Inner West Shifting Gears Forum**
14. **Item 35 - Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment - Monthly Project Update**
15. **Item 36 - Clontarf Cottage Refurbishment Update**
16. **Item 37 - Marrickville Town Hall – Expression of Interest process for the use of the basement**

17. **Item 38 - Councillor Expenses for 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025**
18. **Item 39 - Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2025**
19. **Item 40 - 54 Thornley Street Leichhardt - Tree Removal**
20. **Item 43 - Notice of Motion: Amy Street Pathway**
21. **Item 45 - Notice of Motion: Illawarra Road Business Support**
22. **Item 46 - Notice of Motion: Youth Voice Summit**
23. **Item 49 - Notice of Motion: Steel Park Illawarra Road Pedestrian Crossing**
24. **Item 51 - Notice of Motion: Parking on Easter Street, Leichhardt**
25. **Item 53 - Notice of Motion: Audit of 'No Stopping' Zones for Potential Conversion to Shared e-Bike Parking**
26. **Item 54 - Notice of Motion: Crystal Street Business Support**
27. **Item 55 - Notice of Motion: Advertising Disability Access in Council Street Infrastructure**
28. **Item 61 - Major Capital Projects Committee and Project Summary Report**
29. **Item 65 - Camperdown Commons - Lease Assignment**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Procedural Motion (Howard/Atkins)

That the following items be moved in globo and the recommendations contained within the report be adopted:

1. **Item 6 - Tourism Plan Bi-Monthly Report - Updated Advertising Strategy**
2. **Item 9 - Inner West Choral Festival**
3. **Item 14 - Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Monthly Project Update**
4. **Item 20 - Post Exhibition - Lobbying Policy**
5. **Item 21 - Statutory Review of Delegations**
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26. **Item 54 - Notice of Motion: Crystal Street Business Support**
27. **Item 55 - Notice of Motion: Advertising Disability Access in Council Street Infrastructure**

28. Item 61 - Major Capital Projects Committee and Project Summary Report
29. Item 65 - Camperdown Commons - Lease Assignment

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 6 Tourism Plan Bi-Monthly Report - Updated Advertising Strategy

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council adopt the amended Advertising Strategy as outlined in *Table 1* of this report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 9 Inner West Choral Festival

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council endorse the proposal to deliver the inaugural Inner West Choral Festival at White Bay Power Station in August 2026 as outlined in this report.**

2. **That funding of $100,000 form part of the 2026/27 budget consideration.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 14 Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Monthly Project Update

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council endorse proceeding with a playground as a part of Stage 2 of the LPAC Upgrade as detailed within the report.**

2. **That Council endorse proceeding with the additional shade structures as a part of Stage 2 of the LPAC Upgrade as detailed within the report.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 20 Post Exhibition - Lobbying Policy

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council adopt the Lobbying Policy.**

2. **That Council update the Policy Register and publish, as applicable, internally and externally the adopted Lobbying Policy.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 21 Statutory Review of Delegations

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council increases the General Manager's delegated financial authority to enter into a contract, agreement, or memorandum of understanding to $2 million (excluding GST)/$2.2m (including GST), subject to the limitations and exclusions specified in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the General Manager.**

2. **That Council delegates to the General Manager, or to the person acting in the position of General Manager, all the powers and functions of the Council that it may lawfully delegate, subject to the limitations and exclusions specified in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the General Manager.**

3. **That Council re-affirms its delegations to the Mayor and delegates to the Mayor, or any person acting in that role, all the powers and functions specified in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Mayor, subject to the limitations and exclusions specified in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the General Manager.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 22 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting 21 May 2025 Minutes

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive the minutes and adopt the recommendations of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) meeting held on 21 May 2025.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 23 Quarter Four - Progress Report on the Delivery Program 2022-26

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 24 Investment Report at 30 June 2025

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 25 Investment Report at 31 July 2025

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 28 Biodegradable dog waste bags main street trial - Balmain-Rozelle

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 29 State Emergency Services access to Inner West Council Aquatic Facilities

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 32 Progress Update - Parking and Land Dedication in Jubilee Place, Balmain

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 33 Inner West Shifting Gears Forum

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 35 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment - Monthly Project Update

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 36 Clontarf Cottage Refurbishment Update

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 37 Marrickville Town Hall - Expression of Interest process for the use of the basement

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 38 Councillor Expenses for 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 39 Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2025

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.
Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 40 54 Thornley Street Leichhardt - Tree Removal

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 43 Notice of Motion: Amy Street Pathway

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council note that at the Council meeting on 9 August 2022, Council resolved to amend the Plan of Management for Henson Park, and that this included retaining the pathway known as the "Amy Street Pathway" connecting Amy Street and Centennial Street, Marrickville.**

2. **That Council notes this is a vital pedestrian thoroughfare connecting the north and south communities of Marrickville.**

3. **That Council notes the pathway is currently closed while construction is underway as part of Stage 2 of the Henson Park upgrades.**

4. **That Council upgrades the pathway before reopening it later this year, including:**
   a) Resurfacing the pathway;

b) Removing the barbed wire fences and replacing fences on both sides of the pathway, incorporating artistic elements that reflect the sporting, industrial and natural history of the precinct and other elements that ensure the pathway is aesthetically pleasing, safe and accessible; and
c) Incorporating interpretative signage.

5. That Council investigate naming the pathway in commemoration of the late Carla Stacey AO in accordance with the Inner West Naming Policy, to be reported at an upcoming meeting of the Council and with sufficient time to incorporate recognition prior to the pathway's reopening.

6. That should the pathway be nominated for renaming in honour of Carla Stacey AO, consultation be undertaken with her family regarding the recognition to take place.

7. That Council fund the upgrades to the pathway through the second quarter budget review.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 45 Notice of Motion: Illawarra Road Business Support

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council host a roundtable of businesses located on Illawarra Road, Marrickville, to determine ways Inner West Council can support them and promote local businesses in Marrickville, and that the Member for Summer Hill and three Marrickville-Midjuburi Ward councillors be invited to participate.

2. That Council investigate opportunities to upgrade footpaths, lighting, street furniture and other public amenities as part of the Public Domain Strategy and seek grant funding to progress this work as a matter of priority.

3. That Council commit to hosting a festival and events to celebrate the opening of the Metro in Illawarra Road, Marrickville, and around Dulwich Hill station, funded through the quarterly budget review process.

4. That Council investigate including Illawarra Road in the Marrickville Music Festival from 2026.

5. That Council consider ways to work with Illawarra Road businesses directly to activate the Calvert Street carpark for events as part of the Plug and Play program.

6. That Council report back to Council on the outcome of the Roundtable and other initiatives on or before November 2026.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 46 Notice of Motion: Youth Voice Summit

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council resolve to hold a Youth Voice Summit as part of the development of the Children and Youth Strategy, involving young people from across the Inner West and organisations that service youth.**

2. **That Council hold the Youth Voice Summit in the 2025-2026 financial year, with costs funded through the existing Communities Budget.**

3. **That Council involve the Young Leaders local democracy group and other young people in the development of the program.**

4. **That Council include as a key outcome of the Youth Voice Summit a communique that captures the discussion, outcomes and aspirations of participants and which specifically addresses opportunities for Council to improve engagement with and services for young people.**

5. **That Council report back to Council in November 2025 with a timeline, program of events, and other information, regarding the planned Youth Voice Summit, as well as further details on the Child and Youth Strategy.**

6. **That Council consider including the following elements in the Summit:**
   a) **A survey or other engagement prior to the event capturing young people's views of the Inner West, and specifically on service provision from Inner West Council and ways to meaningfully engage and serve young people;**
   b) **A stakeholder roundtable, including service representatives and young clients from organisations servicing and supporting young people across the local government area;**
   c) **Additional engagement with organisations and young people from marginalised communities, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, LGBTIQA+, disability and culturally and linguistically diverse communities;**
   d) **A plenary session featuring young leaders from the Inner West focused on youth engagement and empowerment;**
   e) **A listening, learning and engagement session for student leaders and representatives from local primary and secondary schools, and youth representatives from other local organisations with Federal, State, and Local elected representatives; and**
   f) **Other engagements, activities and events as determined by staff.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 49 Notice of Motion: Steel Park Illawarra Road Pedestrian Crossing

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council construct a raised pedestrian crossing on Illawarra Road to replace the existing at-grade pedestrian island at Illawarra Road and Wharf Street, subject to community consultation.**

2. **That Council receive a report at the Inner West Local Traffic Committee on or before November 2025 regarding a raised pedestrian crossing at this location and**

outlining a consultation schedule, preliminary designs and other information.

3. **That time consultation and program delivery to align with the upgrade of Steel Park as an inclusive playground.**

4. **That Council fund upgrades through the quarterly budget review or annual budget process, dependent on timing of the project.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 51 Notice of Motion: Parking on Easter Street, Leichhardt

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council consult with businesses on Parramatta Road and residents of Albert Street with a rear entrance on Easter Street, Leichhardt to understand the current parking situation on Easter Street.**

2. **That Council prepare a report for Council's Local Traffic Committee with recommendations for improving the parking experience on Easter Street for businesses and residents.**

3. **That Council as part of the consultation, consider the current parking zoning and whether any rezoning is recommended on Easter Street or any surrounding streets; improvements to the signage, particularly to replace the single sign at the intersection of Easter Street and National Street with signs along Easter Street; use of Council rangers; and the use of residential and business parking permits.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 53 Notice of Motion: Audit of 'No Stopping' Zones for Potential Conversion to Shared e-Bike Parking

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council conduct an audit of existing 'No Stopping' zones across the Inner West Local Government Area to identify and compile a list of locations that could be trialled as shared e-bike parking bays.**

2. **That Council prioritise locations that:**
   a) **Are in high traffic areas;**
   b) **Are situated on popular cycling and pedestrian routes; and**
   c) **Are near sites where shared bikes are frequently parked and/or problematic.**

3. **That Council provide a report to Council at the September 2025 meeting, outlining:**
   a) **A list of 'No Stopping' zones deemed suitable for conversion; and**
   b) **Estimated costs and potential funding options for implementing the conversions.**

4. **That Council provide an additional report to Council at the September 2025**

meeting outlining progress on Motion C0325(1) Item 29 from the March 2025 meeting, including proposed delivery dates for the following:

a) The shared bike roundtable with key local providers; and
b) The development of the e-Bike Strategy and e-Bike Policy.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 54 Notice of Motion: Crystal Street Business Support

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council install a 'Racism Not Welcome' street sign on the corner of Crystal Street and Brighton Street, Petersham.**

2. **That Council investigate opportunities to upgrade and improve footpaths, lighting, street furniture, pedestrian safety, and other public amenities as part of the Public Domain Strategy and seek grant funding to progress this work as a matter of priority.**

3. **That Council host a roundtable of businesses and other leaseholders, including the Metropolitan Community Church, located on Crystal Street, Petersham to determine how Council can support these businesses and improve the amenity and safety of the precinct.**

4. **That Council report back to Council on the outcome of the roundtable and other initiatives by the December 2025 meeting.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 55 Notice of Motion: Advancing Disability Access in Council Street Infrastructure

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council acknowledges the fundamental importance of accessible street infrastructure in ensuring people with disability and low physical mobility can fully participate in community life and exercise their right to equal access to public spaces.**

2. **That Council notes:**
   a) **Council's strong commitment to inclusivity and accessibility for people with disability;**
   b) **The increasing awareness of accessibility barriers in our streetscapes requires systematic and ongoing improvement of pedestrian infrastructure;**
   c) **Investment in accessible footpaths, kerb ramps, and pedestrian crossings is essential for the mobility and independence of people with disability, older residents, parents with prams, and other community members with mobility needs;**
   d) **The Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) Action Area 4 specifically commits Council to "improve the accessibility of local infrastructure, venues, parks, and**

facilities";

e) Creating truly accessible infrastructure sometimes requires difficult decisions, including the potential removal and replacement of street trees where root systems or placement significantly impact footpath accessibility; and

f) While such decisions must balance environmental and accessibility considerations, Council's commitment to inclusive infrastructure remains paramount.

3. That Council resolves to:

a) Reaffirm its commitment to accessibility throughout our communities, including Council venues, streetscapes, and open spaces, as articulated in the DIAP;

b) Prioritise the implementation of DIAP Action 4.5 regarding investment in annual footpath renewal and Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan priorities;

c) Ensure the priority works program for accessibility improvements is completed by the end of the 2025/26 financial year, including:

i. Ongoing footpath and pedestrian crossing maintenance to accessibility standards;

ii. Installation of new raised pedestrian crossings where feasible;

iii. New and upgraded kerb ramps as standalone projects; and

iv. Integration of kerb ramp improvements with scheduled footpath renewal works;

d) Maintain accessibility as a key consideration in all infrastructure planning, budgeting, and implementation decisions; and

e) Provide a report back to Council within six months on the progress of accessibility improvements in street infrastructure, including completion timelines for priority works.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 61 Major Capital Projects Committee and Project Summary Report

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive the minutes and adopt the recommendations of the Major Capital Projects Committee meetings held on 25 November 2024, 24 February 2025, 31 March 2025, 28 April 2025, 26 May 2025 and 23 June 2025.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 65 Camperdown Commons - Lease Assignment

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council as Crown land manager of Camperdown Park (R8205) and (D.500444 resolves to approve the Assignment of Lease from Camperdown Project Pty Ltd (Outgoing Lessee) to Intedie Pty Ltd (Incoming Lessee) for the Premises known as Camperdown Commons situated at part-Camperdown Park, Camperdown.

2. That Council as Crown land manager of Camperdown Park (R8205) and (D.500444

authorises the General Manager or nominated delegate to negotiate, finalise terms and formally execute the assignment of lease documentation including completion of all necessary legal and lease registration requirements.

3. **That Council as Crown land manager of Camperdown Park (R8205) and (D.500444 notes that in accordance with Lease Clause 16.8, Council cannot unreasonably withhold consent to a request to assign the lease.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Procedural Motion (Howard/Atkins)

That Council Suspend Standing Orders to bring forward Item 57 - Notice of Motion: Amendments to Inner West Local Environmental Plan and Item 17 Public Exhibition - Draft Parking Strategy & Public Domain Parking Policy to be dealt with after Item 4 - Update on 'Fairer Future for the Inner West Plan' - Council led alternate planning approach for new housing.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Procedural Motion (Byrne/Smith)

That Council allow Clr D'Arienzo to speak for 3 additional minutes on Item 4.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Procedural Motion (Howard/Carlisle)

That Council allow Clr Clay to speak for 1 additional minute on the Atkins/Antoniou amendment in Item 4.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 4 Update on 'Fairer Future for the Inner West Plan' - Council led alternate planning approach for new housing

Motion: (D'Arienzo/Byrne)

1. **That Council hold an Extraordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday 30 September 2025 at 6.30pm at the Ashfield Service Centre to consider the detailed engagement outcomes report for the Our Fairer Future Plan, and amendments recommended to the Our Fairer Future Plan in response to the submissions received by Council.**

2. **That Council publish the agenda on Tuesday 16 September 2025 for the**

Extraordinary Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 30 September 2025.

3. **That Council hold the Public Forum on Monday 22 September 2025 at 6.30pm at the Ashfield Service Centre for the Extraordinary Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 30 September 2025, and publicise details about the Public Forum on Council's website.**

4. **That Council request that any person wishing to speak at the Public Forum on Monday 22 September 2025 make an application to speak by 2pm on the day of the Public Forum.**

5. **That officers provide economic modelling including an assessment of feasibility, housing yield and scale of development in order to update the affordable housing requirements for Our Fairer Future Plan. This economic modelling should consider the feasibility of requiring affordable housing contributions at 5%, 10%, 15%, 20% and 30%.**

6. **That officers include in the Fairer Future report for the September 2025 meeting recommendations as to how the Affordable Housing Policy should be amended in response to community and organisation submissions**

7. **That officers include in the Fairer Future report for the September meeting a timeline for progressing the development of Council owned sites for conversion to not-for-profit housing through partnerships with the Community Housing sector as well as the state and federal governments.**

8. **That in response to the community consultation, officers include in the Fairer Future report for the September meeting a table of issues, outcomes of urban design modelling and testing by technical experts with recommendations and rationale to either validate or update the proposed planning control relating to land uses, heritage, Floor Space Ratio (FSR), height, setback and building envelope controls.**

9. **That officers include in the Fairer Future report an assessment of the expansion of eligibility of all tiers of Community Housing Providers (CHPs) for the management of affordable housing.**

10. **That officers include in the Fairer Future report and assessment of expanding the affordable housing scheme being applied Local Government Area (LGA) wide.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott and Smith
Against Motion: Crs Atkins, Barlow and Tastan

Amendment (Atkins/Antoniou)

1. **That Council, after the extraordinary meeting, place any revised version of the plan on public exhibition until the end of November 2025, providing information in plain English and other relevant languages.**

2. **That Council specifically seek comment on any revised plan from every Inner West Council local democracy group.**

3. **That Council during the exhibition period hold at least one public meeting in each Inner West Council Ward.**

4. **That Council add any revised plan to the list of major projects in the trial of doorknocking resolved at the 18 February 2025 Council meeting (C0225(1) Item 17).**

5. **That Council make all submissions available to the public on the council website immediately.**

6. **That Council consider a final report on the plan at a Council meeting in December 2025.**

Motion Lost
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake and Tastan
Against Motion: Crs Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott and Smith

Amendment (Macri/Raciti)

That Council hold the public forum over 2 nights on Monday 22 September (Marrickville and Ashfield Wards) and Wednesday 24 September (Leichhardt, Balmain and Stanmore Wards).

Motion Lost
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Macri, Raciti and Tastan
Against Motion: Crs Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Scott and Smith

Amendment (Antoniou/Blake)

That the report and recommendations should explicitly include acknowledgement that research states that 20% of the completed dwellings will be required to be affordable housing to meet current demand, and staff include in an updated feasibility report, alternative ways the draft LEP could meet or exceed this need.

Motion Lost
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake and Tastan
Against Motion: Crs Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott and Smith

C0825(1) Item 17 Public Exhibition - Draft Parking Strategy & Public Domain Parking Policy

Motion: (Howard/Blake)

That Item 17 be deferred until a meeting following adoption of the amended Inner West Local Environment Plan, and with the following additions:

a) **Stronger action on businesses utilising parking on residential streets; and**
b) **Consideration of offering line marking to demarcate driveways as a Council service available at a fee, in addition to residents being able to paint driveway lines at no-cost.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 57 Notice of Motion: Amendments to Inner West Local Environmental Plan

That Mayor ruled this Notice of Motion redundant.

Procedural Motion (Howard/Scott)

That Council Suspend Standing Orders to bring forward Items 63 and 64 and enter into Confidential Session. At the conclusion of resolving the above two items in Confidential Session, Council deal with Items 11, 12, 13, 19, 26, 27 and 50.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Confidential Session
That in accordance with Section 10A(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the following matters be considered in Closed Session of Council for the reasons provided:

C0825(1) Item 63 RFT 18-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment – Project Management Services (Section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act* 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature (Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the *Local Government Act* 1993) that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

C0825(1) Item 64 RFT 17-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment - Architect and Principal Design Consultant Services (Section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act* 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature (Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the *Local Government Act* 1993) that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Procedural Motion (Byrne/Howard)

That Council move back into the Open Session of the Council Meeting.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

RESOLUTIONS PASSED DURING CLOSED SESSION

C0825(1) Item 63 RFT 18-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment – Project Management Services

Motion: (Scott/Carlisle)

1. **That Council accepts Ernst and Young tender submission for RFT 18-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment – Project Management services in the amount of $1,197,163.00 ex GST ($1,316,879.30 Inc GST).**

2. **That Council delegate authority to the General Manager to execute an agreement with Ernst and Young for RFT 18-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment – Project Management services and authorise variations which may arise.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 64 RFT 17-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment - Architect and Principal Design Consultant Services

Motion: (Scott/Fergusson)

1. **That Council accepts Cox Architecture tender submission for RFT 17-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment for Architect and Principal Design Consultant services in the amount of $1,625,000.00 ex GST ($1,787,500.00 Inc GST).**

2. **That Council delegate authority to the General Manager to execute an agreement with Cox Architecture for RFT 17-25 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment – Architect and Principal Design Consultant services and authorise variations which may arise.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 11 SXSW Fest by Inner West 2025 Update

Motion: (Smith/Clay)

1. **That Council approve allocation of $150,000 for collaboration with SXSW Sydney to deliver the Fest by Inner West program.**

2. **That Council provide funding in the amount of $150,000 to be allocated as part of the first quarterly budget review.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 12 Swimming Season for Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre and outdoor fitness equipment Petersham Park

Motion: (Smith/Howard)

1. **That Council approve the summer swimming season for the Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre (FDAC) to include April and September each year at an additional cost of $140,000 per annum.**

2. **That Council approve the summer swimming season for the Steel Park Water Play area to include April and September each year.**

3. **That Council approve the location of the outdoor fitness equipment in Petersham Park near the grandstand.**

4. **That Council hold a Customer Service Stall at Petersham Park and Steel Park on**

the first Saturday of September 2025 and consider other promotional activities for the first weekend of the swimming season at FDAC and Steel Park Water Play area, including banners and signage at the pool, social media posts in the lead up to the opening, and a feature in the September 2025 newsletter.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 13 Proposed live screening of the Koori Knockout 2025

Motion: (Barlow/Byrne)

1. **That Council endorse the proposed live screening of the Koori Knockout at Leichhardt Oval in 2025 as outlined in this report.**

2. **That Council provide funding of $30,000 to be allocated as part of the first quarterly budget review.**

3. **That Council acknowledge and thank Council staff, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee, the Walgett Aboriginal Connection, NITV and Koori Radio for their collaboration and advice in formulating Council's approach to this event.**

4. **That Council staff continue to work collaboratively with the Walgett Aboriginal Connection, NITV, Koori Radio and the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council to determine the schedule for live streaming the Koori Knockout over the weekend of October 3-6 2025.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

The Mayor, Councillor Byrne left the Meeting at 10:31 pm and vacated the chair. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Howard assumed the chair.

C0825(1) Item 19 Post Exhibition - Code of Meeting Practice

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council adopt the Code of Meeting Practice.**

2. **That Council update the Policy Register and publish, as applicable, internally and externally the adopted Code of Meeting Practice.**

3. **That Council receives a further report after the Office of Local Government releases the new Model Code of Meeting Practice.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil
Absent: Cr Byrne

Amendment (Atkins/Barlow)

That point 1 be amended to:

1. **That Council adopt the Code of Meeting Practice subject to the following amendments:**
   a) **Add a new item to clause 19.2 to ensure that a foreshadowed motion which lapses is recorded in the minutes of the proceedings of the Council with the name of the councillor who foreshadowed the motion, and a notation that it lapsed.**
   b) **Amend clause 10.22 to replace "2 minutes" with "3 minutes".**

Motion Tied
For Motion: Crs Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Scott and Smith
Against Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Macri, Raciti and Tastan
Absent: Cr Byrne

The Chairperson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Howard used his Casting Vote against the **MOTION** and the **MOTION** was lost.

Councillor Raciti left the Meeting at 10:37 pm.
Councillor Raciti returned to the Meeting at 10:39 pm.
Councillor Smith left the Meeting at 10:38 pm.
Councillor Smith returned to the Meeting at 10:41 pm.

C0825(1) Item 26 Mandatory Reporting to Council of Report received from Fire & Rescue NSW - 5 and 6 Wood Street Tempe

Motion: (Howard/Blake)

1. **That Council receive and note the report.**

2. **That Council commit to conduct an urgent fire and compliance audit of all properties owned by, or under the management of, the business responsible for the premises at 5 and 6 Wood Street, Tempe.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil
Absent: Cr Byrne

C0825(1) Item 27 Mandatory Reporting to Council of Report received from Fire & Rescue NSW - 193-195 Liverpool Road Ashfield - 6-12 Dudley Street Marrickville - 4 Wood Street Tempe

Motion: (Howard/Barlow)

That Council receive and note the report.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil
Absent: Cr Byrne

C0825(1) Item 50 Notice of Motion: Centenary Park, Croydon

Motion: (Scott/Carlisle)

1. **That Council amend the sporting fields renovation schedule so that Centenary Park is upgraded in 2027/2028 at the same time as the inclusive playground construction already scheduled for Centenary Park, with planning to be completed in 2026/2027. All designs remain under consideration.**

2. **That Council bring forward the planned renovation of Ashfield Park to be upgraded in 2026/2027 with planning to be completed in 2025/2026.**

3. **That Council commence new consultation on the Centenary Park upgrade with stakeholders including Ashfield Cricket Club, Burwood Football Club, Western Suburbs District Cricket Club, Super Six-a-side Soccer, park users, and Croydon residents, and keep the Mayor and General Manager informed about the consultation and the recommendation for upgrade before it comes to Council.**

4. **That Council approve that this new schedule and new consultation will supersede the report deferred for consideration at the March 2025 Council meeting, which should not be brought back to Council.**

Motion Carried

For Motion:	Crs Atkins, Blake, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott and Smith
Against Motion:	Crs Antoniou, Barlow and Tastan
Absent:	Cr Byrne

Amendment (Blake/Antoniou)

That the renewed consultation on the Centenary Park upgrade contains an explicit option with exclusively natural turf and upgraded drainage for comment by the community.

Motion Lost

For Motion:	Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake and Tastan
Against Motion:	Crs Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott and Smith
Absent:	Cr Byrne

C0825(1) Item 5 Establishment of Business Facade Improvement Program

Motion: (Howard/Barlow)

1. **That Council approve the proposed Business Facade Improvement Program outlined in this report, with the following inclusions:**
   a) **That Council approve the proposed Business Façade Improvement Program outlined in the report with the following amendments**
      i. **Works to improve disability access in accordance with relevant building codes be included as a criteria, even if development consent is required.**
      ii. **Under the heading "What types of projects would not be funded" remove the exclusion around works that require development consent.**

2. **That as part of the trial, Council officers further consider financial barriers to small and new businesses applying and include this in the evaluation of the trial program.**

3. **That Council consider, in addition to the criteria stipulated in this report, applications from a group of businesses that:**
   a) **would otherwise meet the eligibility criteria stipulated in the report for individual properties;**
   b) **are situated in close proximity to each other;**
   c) **and are willing to share the cost for works across multiple shopfronts.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil
Absent: Cr Byrne

The Mayor, Councillor Byrne returned to the Meeting at 10:54 pm. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Howard vacated the chair and the Mayor, Councillor Byrne assumed the chair.

C0825(1) Item 7 Microforests in Every Ward Update

Motion: (Smith/Antoniou)

1. **That Council endorse the development of the "Option A" site in Stanmore-Damun Ward, and identify a site for delivery in Ashfield-Djarrawunang Ward within the next 12 months, to be reported back to Council.**

2. **That Council investigate the budget and maintenance implications of the other listed alternative sites in Stanmore-Damun, Ashfield-Djarrawunang, and Marrickville-Midjuburi Wards to progress in future years.**

3. **That Council endorse an update to Council's Environment and Sustainability and Urban Forest webpage(s) to include current information about the locations and benefits of microforests for Inner West residents, include a feature on Council's microforests trial in a future edition of the newsletter and on social media channels, and explore installing signage and information on microforests at each site.**

4. **That Council continue liaising with local environmental volunteers on opportunities to involve volunteers in the care, maintenance, and promotion of microforests.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 8 Options analysis for a solidarity crossing

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. **That Council approve the provision of a trans solidarity crossing along the footpath outside the Pride Hub in Camdenville Park subject to agreement from Trans Pride Australia.**

2. **That funding in the amount of $17,000 be allocated as part of the first quarterly budget review.**

3. **That a further meeting be held on site with Trans Pride Australia, the Sydney Rangers, Flying Bats and other local sporting teams with a demonstrated interest**

and commitment to LGBTIQA+ inclusive sport such as the Sydney Women's' Baseball League.

4. **That Council staff work with Trans Pride Australia to nominate a day to celebrate the opening of the solidarity crossing - potentially International Day of Trans Visibility in March 2026 if not earlier - and that the crossing be included in an upcoming edition of the Inner West Community News.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

C0825(1) Item 10 Town Hall Open Day Festivals

Motion: (Smith/Scott)

1. **That Council approve the program and budget proposed in this report to deliver the Town Hall Open Day program.**

2. **That Council provide funding of $105,000 to be allocated as part of the first quarterly budget review.**

3. **That funding of $105,000 form part of the 2026/27 budget consideration.**

4. **That Council receive a report to the October 2025 Council meeting outlining how the Open Day Festivals will engage local creative networks and the community to showcase the success of the Creative Town Halls Program.**

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Procedural motion (Byrne/Howard)

That Council defer Items 15, 16, 18, 30, 31, 34, 41, 42, 44, 47, 48, 52, 56, 62 and 66 to the next Ordinary Council meeting on 23 September 2025.

Motion Carried
For Motion: Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake, Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott, Smith and Tastan
Against Motion: Nil

Meeting closed at 11:00 pm.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS:

Item #	Speaker	Suburb
Item 4:	Eddie Ma	Marrickville
	Alyce Umback	Marrickville
	Edward Finn Dann	Enmore
	Caterina Pacialeo	Dulwich Hill
	Doodie Herman	Leichhardt
	Tim Austin	Ashfield
	Michael Carey	Marrickville
	Justin Simon	Summer Hill
	John Stamolis	Balmain
	Loretta Picone	Balmain
	Dan Conway	Marrickville
	Clara da Costa-Reidel	Balmain
	Hall Greenland	Leichhardt
	Stuart Gibson	Newtown
Item 8:	Warner Ward	Marrickville
	Jen Peden	Petersham
Item 16:	James Buckman	Enmore
	Doug Rosser	Enmore
	Kathryn Welch	Enmore
Item 17:	Margo Cashman	Dulwich Hill
Item 40:	Jo Blackman	Dulwich Hill
Item 41:	Rebecca Fernandez	Balmain
Item 42:	Simon Skelton	Leichhardt
	Vincent Buret	Leichhardt
Item 50:	Louise Appel	Lilyfield
Item 52:	Isheeta Gupta	Annandale
	Ben King	Balmain
	Mat Wilk	Rozelle
Item 56:	Jessica Bineth	Summer Hill
Item 57:	Timothy Flett	North Willoughby
	Louise Appel	Lilyfield
	Eddie Ma	Marrickville
	John Stamolis	Balmain
Item 66:	Rick Montrone	Russell Lea

Unconfirmed minutes from the Ordinary Council meeting held on 19 August 2025.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 1**

Subject: **ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

Prepared By: Julian Sakarai - Senior Manager Governance and Risk

Authorised By: Sharon Bowman - Director Corporate

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council determine to elect a Deputy Mayor, and if agreed, determine the length of term for the Deputy Mayor *(traditionally until September the following year)*; and**

2. **That Council determine the method of voting for the election of the Deputy Mayor (*if more than one nomination is received*).**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has been prepared to conduct the election of Deputy Mayor (if Council determines to appoint a Deputy Mayor). The decision to have a Deputy Mayor is a decision for the Council and is recommended in this report based on the current practice of Council.

The method of voting used at the election of Deputy Mayor must be determined at the meeting at which the election is being held. The options open to Council are open voting, ordinary ballot, and preferential ballot. Traditionally, Council conducts elections for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor by open voting. It is the most transparent and least bureaucratic method of voting and reflects normal Council voting methods. It is also the method of voting that can most easily accommodate any Councillors attending remotely. If a Councillor is attending remotely, and Council resolves to conduct the election by preferential or ordinary ballot, this will require all Councillors, whether in person or attending remotely, to use an online voting system to ensure secrecy. However, this is not recommended as Council has not used the system before, and there is a risk of technical issues.

BACKGROUND

Council at its meeting on 8 October 2024 conducted an election for Deputy Mayor and Councillor Howard was elected Deputy Mayor until September 2025.

The decision to have a Deputy Mayor is a decision for the Council. It is recommended in this report based on the historical practice of Council, and to ensure Council has sufficient capacity in the event the Mayor is unable to exercise the Mayoral functions.

If Council resolves to appoint a Deputy Mayor, Council has previously resolved to pay the Deputy Mayor a fee of $10,000 per annum. The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that any fee set for the Deputy Mayor is taken from the annual fee payable to the Mayor. It is at Council's discretion to determine the fee payable to the Deputy Mayor, if any.

DISCUSSION

Under section 231(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Deputy Mayor may exercise any function of the Mayor for any of the following reasons:

1. At the request of the Mayor
2. If the Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising the function
3. If there is a casual vacancy in the office of the Mayor.

If Councillors do not proceed with the election of a Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year, they may elect a Deputy Mayor at another time if the Mayor is prevented – by illness, absence or otherwise – from exercising their role.

In the event that the Deputy Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising their role, the Councillors may elect another Councillor to act as the Deputy Mayor.

Under section 3(3) of Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Regulation) *(Attachment 1),* the method of voting used at mayoral (or deputy mayor) elections must be determined at the meeting at which the election is being held. The options open to Council are open voting, ordinary ballot, and preferential ballot. Procedures for each method are detailed below.

Traditionally, Council conducts elections for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor by **open voting**. It is the most transparent and least bureaucratic method of voting and reflects normal Council voting methods. It is also the method of voting that can most easily accommodate Councillors attending remotely. If a Councillor is attending remotely, and Council resolves to conduct the election by preferential or ordinary ballot, this will require all Councillors, whether in person or attending remotely, to use an online voting system to ensure secrecy. However, this is not recommended as Council has not used such a system before, and there is a risk of technical issues.

Nomination Process

The election of the Deputy Mayor is governed by the Regulation, which provides that the general manager is the returning officer for the election.

Nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor must be in writing and signed by two or more Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee.

A standard nomination form has been prepared for this purpose and provided to all Councillors (*Attachment 2*).

Each nominee must confirm their consent to the nomination in writing.

Nominations are to be provided to the Returning Officer before or at the meeting of Council at which the election is scheduled to be conducted. The Returning Officer will announce details of the nominations at that meeting. If there is only one nominee, they are to be declared elected.

If there is more than one nominee, Council is to determine the preferred method of voting and proceed accordingly.

Procedures for Deputy Mayoral Election

1. The Chair of the meeting will announce the item of business being the election of the Deputy Mayor, and request that the General Manager conducts the election. The General Manager in their capacity as the Returning Officer will proceed to conduct the election of the Deputy Mayor.

2. The Returning Officer reads out the names of the nominees and seeks confirmation that the nominee has accepted the nomination. If only one Councillor has been nominated for the position of the Deputy Mayor, the nominee is elected.

3. If more than one candidate has been nominated, Council must determine by resolution the method of voting to be used for the election of the Deputy Mayor by way of one of the following methods:
    a) Open voting – i.e., by show of hands
    b) Ordinary ballot – i.e., a secret ballot (place an "X" against the candidate of their choice)
    c) Preferential ballot – i.e., place 1, 2, 3 etc. against each candidate

4. The Returning Officer must ask for a motion to be put to the meeting by one of the Councillors on the preferred method of voting for the election of a Deputy Mayor.

Method of Voting – Open voting

1. Each Councillor is entitled to vote for only one candidate in each round of voting. Nominations will be recorded on the tally sheet in the order in which they were received.

2. When all candidates' names have been written on a tally sheet, the Returning Officer announces the names of the candidates and starts the voting for each candidate and asks Councillors to raise their hands for the candidate they are voting for.

3. The Returning Officer announces the number of votes received for each candidate. The minute taker also records the vote for each candidate.

4. The Returning Officer checks with the minute taker that each Councillor has voted. If a Councillor has not voted it should be confirmed that they are abstaining (an informal vote).

5. If there are only two candidates for the position of Deputy Mayor and the voting is higher for one candidate than another (number of formal votes recorded on the tally sheet), the Returning Officer then announces the result. If there are only two candidates for the position of Deputy Mayor and the votes are tied, the Deputy Mayor will be chosen by lot, in accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the *Regulation*. The Returning Officer will write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in a hat to be chosen by lot and request a staff member to shake the hat. The Returning Officer will then draw a name out of the hat. The candidate whose name is drawn out will be declared Deputy Mayor.

6. If there are three or more candidates for the position of Deputy Mayor, the candidate with the lowest number of votes for the position of Deputy Mayor is excluded. If three or more candidates remain, a further vote is taken of these candidates and the one with the lowest number of votes is excluded. This process continues until only two candidates are left. A further vote is then taken of the two remaining candidates, and the candidate with the highest number of votes elected.

7. If there are three or more candidates for the position of Deputy Mayor, and two or more candidates with the lowest number of votes are tied, one of these candidates will be excluded by lot in accordance with section 11(2) of the Regulation. The Returning Officer will write the names of the candidates with the tied lowest number of votes on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in a hat to be chosen by lot and request a staff member to shake the hat. The Returning Officer will then draw a name out of the hat. The candidate whose name is drawn out will be excluded.

Method of Voting – Ordinary ballot

1. The Returning Officer announces the names of the candidates and records the nominations on the ballot paper in the order in which the nominations were received.

2. The Returning Officer writes the names on one set of the ballot papers and initials the front of each ballot paper. A staff member distributes the ballot papers and collects them when completed and gives them to the Returning Officer who counts the votes and records them on the tally sheet. The Returning Officer announces the results.

3. In the event that the lowest number of votes are tied, in accordance with section 11(2) of the Regulation, the Returning Officer will write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in a hat to be chosen by lot and request a staff member to shake the hat. The Returning Officer will then draw a name out of the hat. The candidate whose name is drawn out will be excluded.

4. The Returning Officer writes the names of the remaining candidates on a further set of the ballot papers and initials the front of each ballot paper. A staff member distributes ballot papers listing the remaining candidates and collects them when completed and gives them to the Returning Officer who again counts the votes and records them on the tally sheet and announces the results. The process continues until two candidates remain where a final vote takes place.

5. In the event of a tied vote between the two remaining candidates, in accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Regulation, the Returning Officer will write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in a hat to be chosen by lot and requests a staff member to shake the hat. The Returning Officer will then draw a name out of the hat. The candidate whose name is drawn out will be declared Deputy Mayor.

Method of Voting – Preferential ballot

1. The Returning Officer announces the names of the candidates and records the nominations on the ballot paper in the order in which the nominations were received.

2. The Returning Officer writes the names of candidates on the ballot papers and initials the front of each ballot paper. This method of voting requires only one set of ballot papers. A staff member distributes the ballot papers and collects them when completed and gives them to the Returning Officer who counts the first preference votes and records them on the tally sheet. If a candidate has an absolute majority of first preference votes (more than half), the Returning Officer declares the outcome.

3. If no candidate has the absolute majority of first preference votes, the Returning Officer excludes the candidate with the lowest number of first preference votes. The preferences from the excluded candidate are distributed. This process continues until one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes, at which time the Returning Officer announces the result.

4. In the event of a tied vote where there are only two candidates remaining in the election, in accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Regulation, the Returning Officer will write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in a hat to be chosen by lot and request a staff member to shake the hat. The Returning Officer will then draw a name out of the hat. The candidate whose name is drawn out will be declared Deputy Mayor.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW) Schedule 7 Election of mayor by councillors
2.⇩ Deputy Mayor nomination form
3.⇩ OLG Fact Sheet - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor by Councillors

Schedule 7 Election of mayor by councillors

(Section 394)

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Returning officer

The general manager (or a person appointed by the general manager) is the returning officer.

2 Nomination

(1) A councillor may be nominated without notice for election as mayor or deputy mayor.

(2) The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.

(3) The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer.

(4) The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the election is to be held.

3 Election

(1) If only one councillor is nominated, that councillor is elected.

(2) If more than one councillor is nominated, the council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by preferential ballot, by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

(3) The election is to be held at the council meeting at which the council resolves on the method of voting.

(4) In this section—
ballot has its normal meaning of secret ballot.

open voting means voting by a show of hands or similar means.

Part 2 Ordinary ballot or open voting

4 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

5 Marking of ballot-papers

(1) If the election proceeds by ordinary ballot, the returning officer is to decide the manner in which votes are to be marked on the ballot-papers.

(2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part must be determined in accordance with section 345 of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that section.

(3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

6 Count—2 candidates

(1) If there are only 2 candidates, the candidate with the higher number of votes is elected.

(2) If there are only 2 candidates and they are tied, the one elected is to be chosen by lot.

7 Count—3 or more candidates

(1) If there are 3 or more candidates, the one with the lowest number of votes is to be excluded.

(2) If 3 or more candidates then remain, a further vote is to be taken of those candidates and the one with the lowest number of votes from that further vote is to be excluded.

(3) If, after that, 3 or more candidates still remain, the procedure set out in subsection (2) is to be repeated until only 2 candidates remain.

(4) A further vote is to be taken of the 2 remaining candidates.

(5) Section 6 of this Schedule then applies to the determination of the election as if the 2 remaining candidates had been the only candidates.

(6) If at any stage during a count under subsection (1) or (2), 2 or more candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes, the one excluded is to be chosen by lot.

Part 3 Preferential ballot

8 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by preferential ballot.

9 Ballot-papers and voting

(1) The ballot-papers are to contain the names of all the candidates. The councillors are to mark their votes by placing the numbers "1", "2" and so on against the various names so as to indicate the order of their preference for all the candidates.

(2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part is to be determined in accordance with section 345 of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that section.

(3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

10 Count

(1) If a candidate has an absolute majority of first preference votes, that candidate is elected.

(2) If not, the candidate with the lowest number of first preference votes is excluded and the votes on the unexhausted ballot-papers counted to him or her are transferred to the candidates with second preferences on those ballot-papers.

(3) A candidate who then has an absolute majority of votes is elected, but, if no candidate then has an absolute majority of votes, the process of excluding the candidate who has the lowest number of votes and counting each of his or her unexhausted ballot-papers to the candidates remaining in the election next in order of the voter's preference is repeated until one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes. The latter is elected.

(4) In this section, ***absolute majority***, in relation to votes, means a number that is more than one-half of the number of unexhausted formal ballot-papers.

11 Tied candidates

(1) If, on any count of votes, there are 2 candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for the 2 candidates are equal—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have received an absolute majority of votes and is therefore taken to be elected.

(2) If, on any count of votes, there are 3 or more candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for 2 or more candidates are equal and those candidates are the ones with the lowest number of votes on the count of the votes—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have the lowest number of votes and is therefore excluded.

Part 4 General

12 Choosing by lot

To choose a candidate by lot, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes are written on similar slips of paper by the returning officer, the slips are folded by the returning officer so as to prevent the names being seen, the slips are mixed and one is drawn at random by the returning officer and the candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen.

13 Result

The result of the election (including the name of the candidate elected as mayor or deputy mayor) is—

(a) to be declared to the councillors at the council meeting at which the election is held by the returning officer, and

(b) to be delivered or sent to the Secretary and the Chief Executive Officer of Local Government NSW.

INNER WEST

NOMINATION FORM
POSITION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

We the undersigned Councillors nominate

Councillor_____

for the position of **DEPUTY MAYOR** for the period commencing 23 September 2025 until September 2026 (pending Council confirmation of Deputy Mayor's length of term)

PROPOSERS/NOMINATING COUNCILLORS:

_____	_____	_____
NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS	**SIGNATURE**	**DATE**
_____	_____	_____
NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS	**SIGNATURE**	**DATE**
_____	_____	_____
NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS	**SIGNATURE**	**DATE**

NOMINEE CONSENT TO NOMINATION

I, the above nominated Councillor _____ accept nomination for the position of **DEPUTY MAYOR.**

_____

SIGNATURE

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The nomination will be declared invalid if it is not signed by at least two (2) Councillors as proposers, one of which can be the nominated person. The nominee must also sign as accepting the nomination.

Fact Sheet

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR BY COUNCILLORS

NSW GOVERNMENT

Summary

Councillors must elect a mayor from among their number every two years unless they have a popularly elected mayor.

Councillors may also elect a deputy mayor. The deputy mayor may be elected for the mayoral term or a shorter term.

The election of the mayor and the deputy mayor must be conducted in accordance with section 394 and Schedule 7 of *the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation).

The purpose of this document is to assist councils to conduct mayoral and deputy mayoral elections in accordance with these requirements. It includes scripts for key activities to help returning officers exercise their functions. These scripts are provided in the text boxes inserted in the relevant parts of this document.

How can councils use this document?

Electing a mayor is an important activity. It is vital that the process is smooth, open and easy to follow and not rushed or confusing. Where necessary, it may be appropriate to stop and provide clarification for the benefit of councillors, staff or the gallery.

Returning officers can circulate this document prior to the meeting to help councillors understand the election process.

Election of a mayor after an ordinary election of councillors

An election for mayor must be held within three weeks of the declaration of the ordinary election at a meeting of the council.

The returning officer is to be the general manager or a person appointed by the general manager.

As no mayor or deputy mayor will be present at the start of the meeting, the first business of the meeting should be the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting. Alternatively, the returning officer may assume the chair for the purpose of conducting the election.

Mid-term election of a mayor

A mayor elected by councillors holds office for two years. A mid-term mayoral election must be held in the September two years after the ordinary election of councillors or the first election of a new council following its establishment.

Procedures

Prior to the meeting

Before the council meeting at which the election is to be conducted, the returning officer will give notice of the election to the councillors.

The notice is to set out how a person may be nominated as a candidate for election as chairperson.

> *As returning officer, I now invite nominations for the position of mayor/deputy mayor for* [name of council] *for a two year period.*
>
> *In accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, two or more councillors may nominate a councillor (one of whom may be the nominee) for the position of mayor/deputy mayor. Nominations must be in writing and the nominee must consent to their nomination in writing.*

A councillor may be nominated without notice for election as mayor or deputy mayor. The nomination is to be made in writing by two or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.

The returning officer checks the nomination forms and writes the nominees' names on a candidates' sheet.

At the meeting

At the start of the first meeting after an ordinary election, in the absence of a chairperson, the returning officer assumes the chair and announces that the first item of business is to be the election of a mayor.

If a chairperson is present, they announce that the first item of business is the election of the mayor then vacates the chair for the returning officer who will then conduct the election.

The returning officer reads out the names of the nominees and seeks confirmation that the nominee has accepted the nomination.

If only one councillor has been nominated for the position of mayor/deputy mayor, the nominee is elected.

> *As there is only one nominee for the role of mayor/deputy mayor, I declare that* [name of successful candidate] *is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

If more than one candidate has been nominated, the council must determine by resolution, the method of voting for the position of mayor/deputy mayor, by way of one of the following methods:

- Open voting – i.e. by show of hands
- Ordinary ballot – i.e. a secret ballot (place an "X" against the candidate of their choice)
- Preferential ballot – i.e. place 1, 2, 3 etc. against each candidate.

The returning officer must ask for a motion to be put to the meeting by one of the councillors on the preferred method of voting for the election of a chairperson. This must then be seconded and voted on by the councillors.

Note: In the event of a tie, if there is a chairperson, they may use their casting vote. If there is a tie and no chairperson, an election for the role of chairperson should be conducted. Then the election for mayor resumes.

Open voting (show of hands)

Open voting is the most transparent method of voting. It is also the least bureaucratic method and reflects normal council voting methods.

The returning officer will advise the meeting of the method of voting and explains the process.

> *It has been resolved that the method of voting for the position of mayor/deputy mayor will be by show of hands.*
>
> *Each councillor is entitled to vote for only one candidate in each round of voting.*
>
> *I will now write each candidate's name on a slip of paper and deposit it in a barrel. The first name out of the barrel will be written first on the tally sheet, with second name out being written second on the tally sheet, etc.*

When all candidates' names have been written on the tally sheet, the returning officer announces the names of the candidates and, commencing with the first candidate, states the following:

> *Would those councillors voting for* [name of candidate] *please raise your hand.*

The returning officer records the number of votes for each successive candidate on the tally sheet and announces the number of votes received for each candidate.

The minute taker records the vote of each councillor.

The returning officer should check with the minute taker that each councillor has voted. If a councillor has not voted it should be confirmed that they are abstaining (an informal vote).

Two candidates

If there are only two candidates for the position of mayor/deputy mayor and the voting is higher for one candidate than another (number of formal votes recorded on the tally sheet), the returning officer then announces the result.

> [Name of candidate] *has the higher number of formal votes and as a result I declare that* [name of candidate] *is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

In the event of a **tied vote**, the returning officer will advise the meeting of the following process.

> *In accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, I will now write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in the barrel. Please note that the candidate whose name is drawn out will be declared as mayor/deputy mayor.*

It is appropriate to show the meeting the names and the barrel. Councillors may inspect but not touch the items.

The returning officer places the names of the candidates into the barrel and requests a staff member to shake the barrel.

The returning officer then draws a name out of the barrel and shows the meeting.

> *I declare that* [name of candidate] *is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

The returning officer then draws out the remaining name and reads it for completeness. The second name should be shown to the meeting.

Three or more candidates

If there are three or more candidates, the candidate with the lowest number of votes for the position of mayor/deputy mayor is excluded.

> [Name of candidate]*, having the lowest number of votes, is excluded.*

The voting continues as above until there are only two candidates remaining (see voting for **two candidates** above).

In the event that the **lowest number of votes are tied**, the returning officer advises the meeting of the following process:

> *In accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, I will now write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in the barrel. Please note that the candidate whose name is drawn out will be excluded.*

It is appropriate to show the meeting the names and the barrel. Councillors may inspect but not touch the items.

The returning officer places the names of the candidates into the barrel and requests a staff member to shake the barrel.

The returning officer then draws a name out of the barrel and shows it to the meeting.

> *I declare that* [name of candidate] *is excluded.*

The returning officer then draws out the remaining name and reads it for completeness. The second name should be shown to the meeting.

Ordinary ballot – (secret ballot)

The returning officer advises the meeting of the method of voting and explains the process.

> *It has been resolved that the method for voting for the position of mayor/deputy mayor will be by ordinary ballot, in other words by placing an "X" against the candidate of the councillor's choice.*

The returning officer announces the names of the candidates for mayor/deputy mayor and writes each name on a slip of paper and deposits it in a barrel.

The returning officer requests that a staff member shakes the barrel and advises that the order in which the names will appear on the ballot paper will be determined by a draw out of the barrel, i.e. first name out of the barrel is written first on the ballot papers and so on.

It will be necessary to have a number of blank papers as this process may require more than one round of voting.

The returning officer writes the names on one set of the ballot papers and initials the front of each ballot paper.

A staff member distributes the ballot papers and collects them into the ballot box when completed and gives it to the returning officer who counts the votes and records them on the tally sheet.

The returning officer announces the results.

> [Name of candidate]*, having the lowest number of votes, is excluded.*

In the event that the **lowest number of votes are tied**, the returning officer advises the meeting of the following process:

> *In accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, I will now write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in the barrel. Please note that the candidate whose name is drawn out will be excluded.*

It is appropriate to show the meeting the names and the barrel. Councillors may inspect but not touch the items.

The returning officer places the names of the candidates into the barrel and requests a staff member to shake the barrel.

The returning officer then draws a name out of the barrel and shows it to the meeting.

> *I declare that* [name of candidate] *is excluded.*

The returning officer then draws out the remaining name and reads it for completeness. The second name should be shown to the meeting.

The returning officer writes the names of the remaining candidates on a further set of the ballot papers and initials the front of each ballot paper.

The staff member distributes ballot papers listing the remaining candidates and collects them into the ballot box when completed and gives it to the returning officer who again counts the votes and records them on the tally sheet and announces the results.

The process continues until two candidates remain, where a final vote takes place.

> [Name of candidate] *has the higher number of votes and I declare that* [name of candidate] *is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

In the event of a **tied vote** between the two remaining candidates, the returning officer makes the following statement and announces the process.

> *The votes are tied between* [name of candidate 1] *and* [name of candidate 2] *having received* [number] *votes each, and, in accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, I will now write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in the barrel.*
>
> *Please note that the candidate whose name is drawn out will be declared as mayor/deputy mayor.*

It is appropriate to show the meeting the names and the barrel. Councillors may inspect but not touch the items.

The returning officer places the names of the candidates into the barrel and requests that a staff member shakes the barrel.

The returning officer then draws a name out of the barrel and shows the meeting.

> *I declare that* [name of candidate] *is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

The returning officer then draws out the remaining name and reads it for completeness. The second name should be shown to the meeting.

Preferential ballot

The returning officer explains the process.

It has been resolved that the method for voting for the position of mayor/deputy mayor will be by preferential ballot, i.e. placing 1, 2 and so on against the candidate of the councillor's choice in order of preference for all candidates.

The returning officer announces the names of the candidates for mayor/deputy mayor and writes each candidate's name on a slip of paper and deposits it in a barrel.

The returning officer requests that a staff member shakes the barrel and advises that the order in which the names will appear on the ballot paper will be determined by a draw out of the barrel, i.e. first name out of the barrel is written first on the ballot papers and so on.

The returning officer writes the names on the ballot papers and initials the front of each ballot paper. This method of voting requires only one set of ballot papers.

A staff member distributes the ballot papers and collects them when completed and gives them to the returning officer who counts the first preference votes and records them on the tally sheet.

If a candidate has an absolute majority of first preference votes (more than half), the returning officer declares the outcome.

[Name of candidate], *having an absolute majority of first preference votes, is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

If no candidate has the absolute majority of first preference votes, the returning officer excludes the candidate with the lowest number of first preference votes.

[Name of candidate], *having the lowest number of first preference votes, is excluded.*

The preferences from the excluded candidate are distributed. This process continues until one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes, at which time the returning officer announces the result.

[Name of candidate], *having an absolute majority of votes, is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

In the event of a **tied vote** where there are only two candidates remaining in the election, the returning officer explains the process.

The votes are tied between [name of candidate 1] *and* [name of candidate 2] *having received* [number] *votes each, and, in accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, I will now write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in the barrel. Please note that the candidate whose name is drawn out will be declared as mayor/deputy mayor.*

It is appropriate to show the meeting the names and the barrel. Councillors may inspect but not touch the items.

The returning officer places the names of the candidates into the barrel and requests a staff member to shake the barrel. The returning officer then draws a name out of the barrel and shows the meeting.

I declare that [name of candidate] *is elected as mayor/deputy mayor for the ensuing two years.*

The returning officer then draws out the remaining name and reads it for completeness. The second name should be shown to the meeting.

In the event that the **lowest number of votes are tied** and where there are three or more candidates remaining in the election, the returning officer advises the meeting of the process.

In accordance with section 12 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, I will now write the names of the candidates on similar slips of paper, fold them and place them in the barrel. Please note that the candidate whose name is drawn out will be excluded and their preferences distributed.

It is appropriate to show the meeting the names and the barrel. Councillors may inspect but not touch the items.

The returning officer places the names of the candidates into the barrel and requests that a staff member shakes the barrel.

The returning officer then draws a name out of the barrel and shows the meeting.

I declare that [name of candidate] *is excluded and any votes cast for them will be distributed by preference.*

The returning officer then draws out the remaining name and reads it for completeness. The second name should be shown to the meeting.

Schedule 7 - Election of Mayor by Councillors

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Returning officer

The general manager (or a person appointed by the general manager) is the returning officer.

2 Nomination

(1) A councillor may be nominated without notice for election as mayor or deputy mayor

(2) The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.

(3) The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer.

(4) The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the election is to be held.

3 Election

(1) If only one councillor is nominated, that councillor is elected.

(2) If more than one councillor is nominated, the council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by preferential ballot, by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

(3) The election is to be held at the council meeting at which the council resolves on the method of voting.

(4) In this section:

ballot has its normal meaning of secret ballot.

open voting means voting by a show of hands or similar means.

Part 2 Ordinary ballot or open voting

4 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

5 Marking of ballot-papers

(1) If the election proceeds by ordinary ballot, the returning officer is to decide the manner in which votes are to be marked on the ballot-papers.

(2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part must be determined in accordance with section 345 of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that section.

(3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

6 Count—2 candidates

(1) If there are only 2 candidates, the candidate with the higher number of votes is elected.

(2) If there are only 2 candidates and they are tied, the one elected is to be chosen by lot.

7 Count—3 or more candidates

(1) If there are 3 or more candidates, the one with the lowest number of votes is to be excluded.

(2) If 3 or more candidates then remain, a further vote is to be taken of those candidates and the one with the lowest number of votes from that further vote is to be excluded.

(3) If, after that, 3 or more candidates still remain, the procedure set out in subsection (2) is to be repeated until only 2 candidates remain.

(4) A further vote is to be taken of the 2 remaining candidates.

(5) Section 6 of this Schedule then applies to the determination of the election as if the 2 remaining candidates had been the only candidates.

(6) If at any stage during a count under subsection (1) or (2), 2 or more candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes, the one excluded is to be chosen by lot.

Part 3 Preferential ballot

8 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by preferential ballot.

9 Ballot-papers and voting

(1) The ballot-papers are to contain the names of all the candidates. The Councillors are to mark their votes by placing the numbers "1", "2" and so on against the various names so as to indicate the order of their preference for all the candidates.

(2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part is to be determined in accordance with section 345 of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that section.

(3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

10 Count

(1) If a candidate has an absolute majority of first preference votes, that candidate is elected.

(2) If not, the candidate with the lowest number of first preference votes is excluded and the votes on the unexhausted ballot-papers counted to him or her are transferred to the candidates with second preferences on those ballot-papers.

(3) A candidate who then has an absolute majority of votes is elected, but, if no candidate then has an absolute majority of votes, the process of excluding the candidate who has the lowest number of votes and counting each of his or her unexhausted ballot-papers to the candidates remaining in the election next in order of the voter's preference is repeated until one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes. The latter is elected.

(4) In this section, **"absolute majority"**, in relation to votes, means a number that is more than one-half of the number of unexhausted formal ballot-papers.

11 Tied candidates

(1) If, on any count of votes, there are 2 candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for the 2 candidates are equal—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have received an absolute majority of votes and is therefore taken to be elected.

(2) If, on any count of votes, there are 3 or more candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for 2 or more candidates are equal and those candidates are the ones with the lowest number of votes on the count of the votes—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have the lowest number of votes and is therefore excluded.

Part 4 General

12 Choosing by lot

To choose a candidate by lot, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes are written on similar slips of paper by the returning officer, the slips are folded by the returning officer so as to prevent the names being seen, the slips are mixed and one is drawn at random by the returning officer and the candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen.

13 Result

The result of the election (including the name of the candidate elected as mayor or deputy mayor) is:

a) to be declared to the councillors at the council meeting at which the election is held by the returning officer, and
b) to be delivered or sent to the Secretary and to the Chief Executive of Local Government NSW.

Item 2

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 2**

Subject: **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITY HUB**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Michael Craven - Projects Delivery Manager

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council notes the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Democracy Group's endorsement at its meeting on 15 July 2025 of the building located adjacent to 24A Australia Street in Camperdown Park, as the preferred site for the proposed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub.**

2. **That Council endorse the building located adjacent to 24A Australia Street in Camperdown Park, as the site for the proposed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub.**

3. **That Council endorse proceeding with the commencement of concept designs and cost estimates for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub at Camperdown Park.**

4. **That Council endorse the demolition of the former Tempe Jets Club building in Tempe Reserve in line with the Tempe Reserve Plan of Management, and demolition of the adjacent remote control racetrack.**

5. **That Council provides funding of $500,000 to be allocated as part of the first quarterly 2025/26 budget review for the demolition of the former Tempe Jets Club building and adjacent remote control racetrack.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub project and seek Council's endorsement to proceed with an alternative site and demolish the former Tempe Jets Club building and Racetrack in Tempe Reserve.

Council's Reconciliation Action Plan contains a commitment to explore opportunities for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub.

Council initially explored the potential of a site in Tempe Reserve, but the condition of that building meant that demolition and a new building would be required. Costings for a new building were prepared, that turned out to be more costly than anticipated.

Subsequently, a desktop review of similar facilities in other areas was undertaken, leading to a stocktake of potential Council own buildings and a shortlist of nine potential sites that were considered in detail. Upon completion of this review, the following sites have been identified for further consideration:

- Camperdown Park (Australia Street, Camperdown)
- Jimmy Little Community Centre (Lilyfield)

Members of Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group inspected both sites. The unanimous view of the Elders and members is that the most suitable site is the Australia Street, Camperdown Park location due to its larger space, outdoor cultural potential, better connectivity, and proximity to local amenities and cultural facilities.

The Camperdown Park building is in good condition, vacant, and requires only minor remedial works and upgrades. The surrounding setting is culturally respectful and well connected by public transport. The adjacent Damun Inclusive Playground, nearby recreational facilities, Chrissie Cotter Gallery, and Camperdown Commons enhance opportunities for integrated cultural, community, and intergenerational programming.

It is estimated to cost $1,539,850 to create the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub at Camperdown Park, with funds available within current capital budgets.

It is recommended that Council endorse the building located adjacent to 24A Australia Street in Camperdown Park, as the site for the proposed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub.

Pending Council endorsement, officers will:

- Engage a specialist architect and quantity surveyor
- Prepare concept designs and cost estimates
- Update the Camperdown Park Plan of Management (PoM)
- Lodge a Development Application post PoM approval (mid-2026)
- Commence construction in 2027 for completion in early 2028.

It is also recommended to proceed with the demolition of the former Tempe Jets building in accordance with the Tempe Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan adopted by Council in 2020. The existing structure is in a state of disrepair due to termite infestation and structural deterioration, contains hazardous materials, and poses safety risks to both the public and unauthorised visitors.

Given that there is no significant community interest in the retention of the adjacent remote control racetrack, it is also recommended that this item be removed along with the building to allow for future community recreational facilities that provide greater benefit to the community, including tennis courts as detailed in the Plan of Management.

BACKGROUND

Inner West Council is committed to working in partnership with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to promote cultural heritage, address disadvantage, and support culturally appropriate services. A key commitment in Council's Reconciliation Action Plan is to explore opportunities for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub.

Detailed investigations were conducted at the former Tempe Jets Club, in Tempe Reserve, to assist with determining the feasibility of establishing the Community Hub at this location.

Officers collaborated with multiple building consultants and the project architect to develop a concept design (Option 1) centred on refurbishing the existing structure. The initial cost estimate provided by the quantity surveyor was $5,357,886. However, subsequent investigations revealed that extensive remedial works were necessary due to significant

termite damage effecting more that 50% of the structural members, the building's age, substantial water damage and the presence of hazardous materials. Accordingly, the revised cost estimate increased to $8,561,464, incorporating these additional requirements as well as allowances for professional services and contingencies.

In December 2024, this development was reported to Council, along with a recommendation to explore a complete knock-down and rebuild option at the Tempe site to deliver a new purpose-built Community Hub.

At the Council meeting held on 3 December 2024, Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council receive and note the report.*

2. *That Council officers report back to Council no later than March 2025 on options to rebuild a new purpose-built facility, potential funding sources, procurement strategies, and possible temporary alternative locations that might be accessed while work is underway or in the event the former Jets Club is not a viable location.*

Officers subsequently explored Option 2, which involved demolishing both the existing structure and the racetrack in order to construct a new facility closer to the Cooks River. While the overarching design intent was preserved, this approach enabled a more compact and cost-efficient layout unrestrained by the footprint of the current building. The estimated cost for this option was $8,314,909, inclusive of professional services and contingencies.

As such, officers began assessing alternative locations within the funding envelope.

This report outlines progress since the December Council Resolution and seeks Council's endorsement to proceed with an alternative site.

DISCUSSION

A desktop review was conducted to establish a baseline of recently opened Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community centres in Sydney to understand their offerings and floor area. Representative examples include:

Aboriginal knowledge and Culture Centre - 19 Redfern Street, Redfern – City of Sydney
Opened in May 2024, this centre provides a dedicated gathering place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Operated by the City of Sydney, the facility supports cultural events, services, shared knowledge and community programs. It includes:

- Multipurpose Space – For workshops, courses, and cultural events. Includes a kitchen and seating.
- Performance Space – Suitable for performances, presentations, exhibitions.
- Tea Room – Used for cultural and family events.
- Family Room – Supports meetings and family history research.
- There are no apparent external spaces however the spaces on offer are broadly comparable to potential sites under consideration

Kurranulla Aboriginal Corporation - 15 Jannali Ave, Jannali
Kurranulla is a not-for-profit organisation serving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the Sutherland and Georges River Local Government Areas. Their services focus on culturally safe practices and long-term community outcomes. Programs include:

- Education – Art, dance, storytelling, and cultural artefact engagement.
- Community & Youth Support – Yarning circles, bush foods, mentoring, workshops, men's and women's groups.
- This building's footprint appears broadly comparable to potential sites under consideration.

First Nations Cultural Hub and Resource Centre - 7 West Terrace, Bankstown – Canterbury Bankstown Council
Opened in June 2024, this cultural hub aims to connect First Nations and non-Indigenous communities. It hosts a broad range of services and events including:

- Cultural awareness and training sessions
- Educational and art programs
- Movie screenings and social activities
- Health and community service support
- This facility appears to be larger than the sites being assessed by Council.

A thorough assessment of properties under Council ownership was subsequently conducted to ascertain the most suitable alternative locations for conversion into a Community Hub. The following sites were identified and shortlisted for further evaluation:

- Camperdown Park, adjacent to 24A Australia Street
- Jimmy Little Community Centre – 19 Cecily Street, Lilyfield
- Seaview Street Hall – 12-14 Seaview Street, Dulwich Hill
- Enmore Resource Centre – Enmore Park, Marrickville
- Former ESP Gallery – 228 Illawarra Road, Marrickville
- Steel Park PCYC – Steel Park, Marrickville
- Stone Villa – 19 Railway Street, Sydenham
- SHARE Building – 135 Smith Street, Summer Hill
- Herb Greedy Hall – 79 Petersham Road, Marrickville

The venues were reviewed by internal stakeholders against the following criteria:

- Location and setting
- Suitability of the building/site for use as the Community Hub
- Accessibility and proximity to public transport and parking
- Building age, condition and estimated remaining life
- Floor space (internal and external)
- Internal configuration/layout
- Current use
- Lease/Licence status
- Risks
- Relevant Plan of Management if located within a park

After this assessment, Camperdown Park and Jimmy Little Community Centre were shortlisted for further evaluation.

Analysis of the proposed sites
1. Camperdown Park (Adjacent to 24A Australia Street, Camperdown)
The building is located adjacent to 24A Australia Street, within Camperdown Park, Camperdown. Within *Attachment 1*, *Figure 1* shows the site's location within the LGA, and *Figure 2* presents the building's position in Camperdown Park. *Photos 1* and *2* depict the building in its park context, and Figure 3 provides a 2013 floor plan.

Situated beneath mature fig trees, the site offers a quiet, culturally respectful setting with strong links to Country. It is immediately adjacent to the future Damun Inclusive Playground (*Photo 3*), which will incorporate Aboriginal cultural elements into its design. The location is also close to Camperdown Commons, local cafés, and the Chrissie Cotter Gallery, enhancing its potential for cultural programming and events. A variety of nearby recreational amenities, including multi-purpose courts, tennis and basketball courts, open space, fitness stations, and other sporting facilities, provide further opportunities for wellbeing programs and community events.

Camperdown Park is within walking distance of major bus routes along Parramatta Road and Salisbury Road, providing convenient access by public transport. On-street parking is available

around the park, including adjacent to the Chrissie Cotter Gallery. The site is also located close to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

The building has been vacant since mid-2022, following the completion of roof repairs and the installation of a new red metal roof. It is in good condition and presents an immediate opportunity for repurposing to the Hub, with no major building works or tenant relocations required to activate the space.

The building provides approximately 185 square metres of internal floor space with a layout that supports a range of uses. The northern end includes two studio spaces, a foyer, and an accessible toilet. The central hall features an exposed beam ceiling, timber floor, kitchenette, general-purpose toilets, and storage cupboards. The southern end comprises an open-plan area, one office, a toilet, and additional storage. All internal areas open onto a landscaped outdoor space of approximately 100 square metres, forming a small, rectangular courtyard within Camperdown Park. This courtyard offers potential as a dedicated outdoor gathering space suitable for yarning circles and informal cultural activities. Due to the presence of significant Morton Bay fig tree roots, any construction in this area may require sensitive design treatments such as timber decking or permeable surfaces, along with decorative screening to enhance privacy and amenity.

The building is well-integrated into the surrounding park, supported by accessible paths of travel. Step-free entry is provided via a concrete ramp from Australia Street, with additional level pathways from the east and southeast connecting the site to the broader Camperdown Park precinct. There is one fully accessible bathroom located in the northern wing. However, an internal step within the central hall would need to be reconstructed to ensure full accessibility throughout the facility.

The building requires minor remedial works to bring it to a functional base condition, including repainting, and upgrades to accessibility and services. The total works are estimated at $1.54 million. Existing capital budgets from two projects (Australia Street Hall and the Aboriginal Community Hub – Tempe) could be combined to fully fund this proposal.

Camperdown Park is zoned RE1 Public Recreation and is situated on Crown Land for which Council is appointed Crown Land Manager. Creating the Community Hub at this location will require:

- An amendment to the Camperdown Park Plan of Management
- A Development Application, as the building's use as a community facility is not currently exempt or complying development.

2. The Jimmy Little Centre

The Jimmy Little Community Centre is located at 19 Cecily Street, Lilyfield, in a quiet residential setting. *Attachment 1*, *Figure 4* illustrates the site's position within the local government area (LGA), while *Figure 5* details the centres specific location in Lilyfield. Photographs *4*, *5*, and *6* provide both exterior and interior views of the facility. *Figure 6* presents the survey floor plan.

The facility is a single-storey brick building with a metal roof and a combination of concrete and plasterboard internal walls. The flooring consists of vinyl, carpet, and timber finishes, supporting a range of community uses.

The Jimmy Little Community Centre is currently a hireable community venue featuring a hall, stage, storerooms, kitchen, quiet room, office, ceramic room, meeting room, a covered paved area and external playground/landscaped area with an accessible parking space. The Main Hall is suitable for exercise, dance classes, social gatherings, meetings, parties, music events and performances and the meeting room can be used for any number of purposes.

The building could be repurposed into a multi-functional space to provide the Hub. There is also an outdoor covered paved area and a playground/landscaped area, although it is situated in a residential area with limited privacy for the external spaces.

The building is situated approximately 300 metres from Balmain Road, with a notable incline that may present accessibility challenges between the Centre and Balmain Road. Additionally, parking availability in the vicinity is limited and bus stops are not nearby. To ensure the building meets required standards, remedial works would include a complete roof replacement, repairs to damaged ceilings, window replacements, structural timber restoration, internal painting, and enhancement of external landscaping.

While there is one accessible parking space and bathroom, the building has some accessibility challenges, including steep access from street level and within the building (for example the stage is not accessible, and a ramp has been retrofitted to access the bathroom).

Should the site be selected for the Hub, regular weekly hirers would need to be re-accommodated including Einsteinz Music Group, Playback Theatre, Inner West Council Recreation (Mums get Active), The Yoga Workshop, and AA Lilyfield 12 Steps.

There is future capital budget allocated to this site to the value of $370,000. The remaining budget from the Aboriginal Community Hub – Tempe project could be transferred to complete the repurposing works.

The site is classified as Operational Land, allowing Council flexibility to repurpose and lease or license as needed. There is no Plan of Management associated with the building as it is not located within a park. A Development Application for building works would likely be required.

Engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
Members of Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group inspected both Camperdown Park and the Jimmy Little Centre on 15 July 2025 and subsequently discussed their recommendation at their regular meeting. The minutes for this meeting can be found in the *Attachments*.

The Group's view on the Australia Street site included:

- There is more space for the building to be used by multiple community members and organisations simultaneously
- The building is more connected to the outside and space for community, kids and Elders to get together
- There is better parking, however, might need to apply for accessible parking spots in Australia Street.

The Group's view on Jimmy Little Centre included:

- Pity it is so small, as the name is good
- Public transport is an issue here
- No real outdoor space at this centre.

From the meeting and conversations, the unanimous view of the Elders and members is that the most suitable site is the Australia Street, Camperdown Park location. The group particularly noted that there are multiple spaces that might be used simultaneously by community, that it's located in an active participation and recreation precinct, that Chrissie Cotter Gallery is nearby, and that Council is about to redevelop the adjacent playground to inclusive standards, and with a new Aboriginal name and cultural identity.

Recommended Site – Australia Street, Camperdown
Following comprehensive investigation and analysis, it is recommended that the Australia Street site in Camperdown Park be endorsed as the site for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander Community Hub due to its accessibility by public transport, and proximity to community, cultural, and recreational facilities. The building is structurally sound, currently vacant, requires minimal works, and offers immediate repurposing opportunities. Its setting supports cultural activities and community engagement, and it is well linked with nearby amenities and playgrounds, encouraging collaboration and intergenerational participation.

Next Steps
Should Council proceed as recommended, Council officers will initiate the engagement of a project architect with substantial experience collaborating with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to lead the concept design process for the proposed Community Hub within the available budget detailed in the financial implications of this report. Officers will incorporate previous feedback gathered from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders regarding their needs, and coordinate with the appointed architects to develop concept designs that optimise both the building and its external spaces. The intention is to realise a contemporary Community Hub that meaningfully celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Additionally, a quantity surveyor will be engaged to provide cost estimates.

The concept designs will undergo initial consultation with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group, and then wider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholder consultation before being tabled to Council.

The Camperdown Park Plan of Management (PoM) will require updating to accommodate the Community Hub. This review presents an opportunity to revise land use categorisations, ensuring alignment with evolving community needs and enabling a broader range of activities, including the granting of leases and licences for community purposes such as the Community Hub. Once the revised PoM is prepared, it will be submitted to Council for endorsement and subsequently to Crown Lands for adoption.

A Development Application will be required to repurpose the building to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Hub which would be tabled at the Local Planning Panel.

The proposed project program is:

Task	Estimated Start Date	Estimated Completion Date
• August Council Meeting • Consideration to proceed with alternative site	-	August 2025
• Camperdown Park PoM Submission • Allow 6 months for Crown Approval • Plan for community engagement • 42 days public exhibition • Prepare Engagement Outcomes Report • PoM required to be adopted by Council • PoM to Crown for adoption	September 2025	July 2026
• Concept Design and QS Cost Estimate • Engage Architect • Prepare Concept Designs • Prepare Concept Cost Estimates • Quality Assurance and Design Reviews • Consultation	September 2025	February 2026
• Report Concept and QS Cost Estimate to March 2026 Council Meeting	March 2026	March 2026
• Prepare DA documentation	April 2026	July 2026

• Planning Approval • allow 6 months approval process through Local Planning Panel	August 2026	February 2027
Finalise Design and Cost Estimates	February 2027	March 2027
Construction Procurement	March 2027	May 2027
Award Contract	June 2027	June 2027
Obtain Construction Certificate	June 2027	June 2027
Construction Period including obtaining Occupation Certificate	July 2027	February 2028

Former Tempe Jets Building at Tempe Reserve

It is recommended to proceed with the demolition of the former Tempe Jets building in accordance with the Tempe Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan adopted by Council in 2020. In this regard, the existing structure is in a state of disrepair due to termite infestation and structural deterioration, contains hazardous materials, and poses safety risks to both the public and unauthorised visitors.

Under the Masterplan, it's worth noting that the area where the former Tempe Jets Building now occupies calls for:

- The existing remote control racetrack infrastructure being retained with the boundary fence removed to allow for open public use.
- Relocation of the temporary dog off leash areas and the future construction of new tennis courts.
- Dedicated public space.

Given that there is no significant community interest in the retention of the remote control racetrack, it is also recommended that this item be removed along with the building to allow for future community recreational facilities that provide greater benefit to the community, including tennis courts as detailed in the Plan of Management for the parkland.

Council officers are presently developing master planning options for the Sydney Gateway site, situated at the northern end of the Tempe Lands. This planning process includes provisions for the re-establishment of a fully enclosed off-leash area for dogs.

Once the building and remove control racetrack have been demolished, the area can be reinstated with turf for use as public open space before a future project in line with the Plan of Management.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated to cost $1,539,850 to undertake building remedial repairs and upgrades to create the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub at Camperdown Park:

The following funding allocations are available to create the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub at Camperdown Park

Project	**Financial Year**	**Total**
302657 - Aboriginal Community Hub - Tempe	FY24/25 $1,067,000	$1,067,000
302613 – Australia Street Hall	FY26/27 $400,000 FY27/28 $400,000	$800,000
	Total	**$1,867,000**

As such, there are adequate funds to proceed as recommended.

The associated budget consolidations as noted in the above table can be completed in the first quarterly budget review and will be included in the preparation of the 2026/27 4-year Operational Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

Tempe Jets Building in Tempe Reserve

The estimated cost to complete the demolition of the existing Tempe Jets Club Building and the adjacent racetrack is in the amount of $500,000 and is unfunded in the current 2025/26 budget. The required budget will be considered in the first quarterly 2025/26 budget review as part of the capital program of works.

ATTACHMENTS

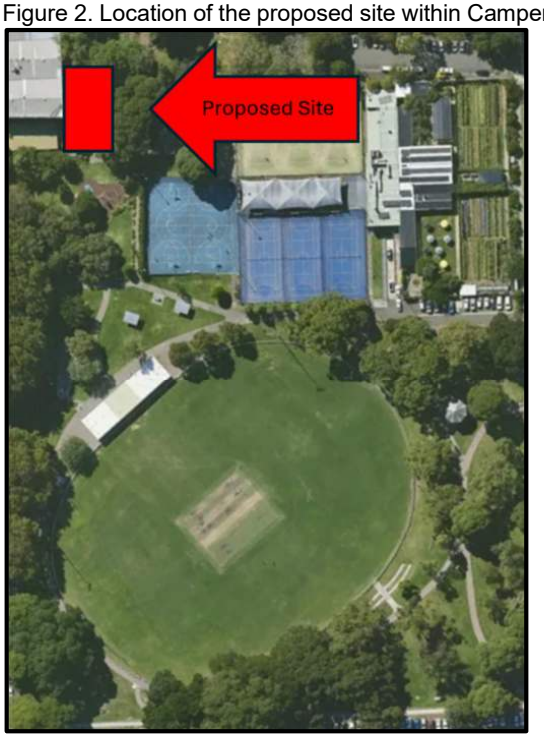
1.⇩ Location Maps, Site Photos and Plans
2.⇩ LDG Agenda and Meeting Minutes 15 July 2025

Attachment 1 – Location Maps, Site Photos and Plans

Figure 1. Location of Camperdown Park within the LGA



Figure 2. Location of the proposed site within Camperdown Park (Map courtesy of MetroMap)



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Photo 1. View of the exterior from within Camperdown Park



Photo 2. View of proposed external landscaping area



Photo 3. Proximity to the proposed Damun Inclusive Playground



Figure 3. 2013 Floor Plan of Proposed Site

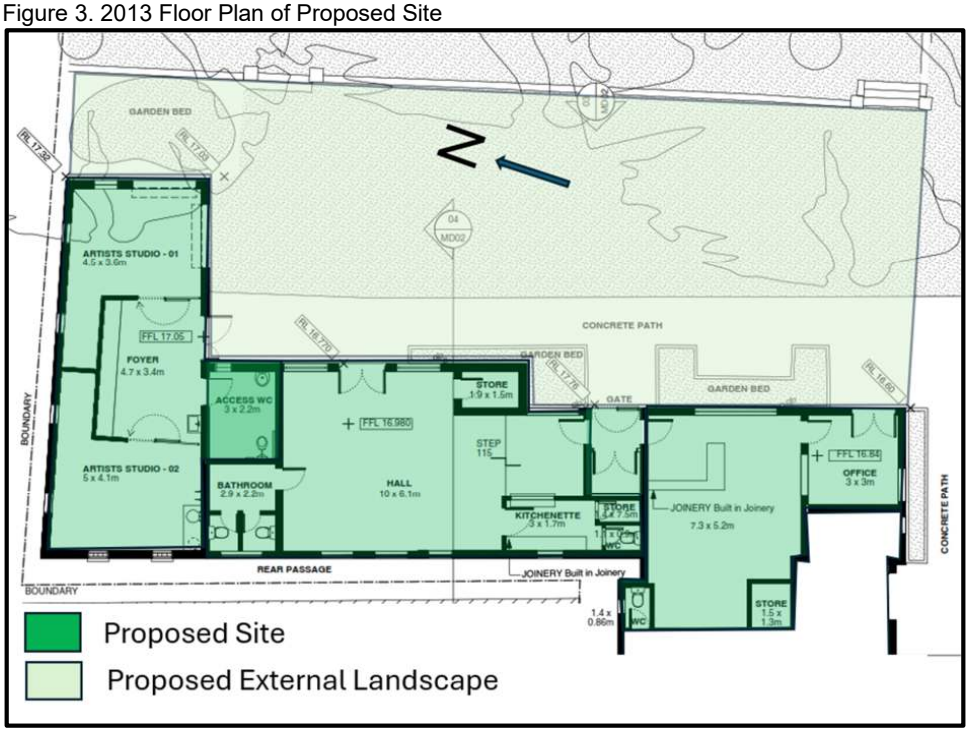


Figure 4. Location of Jimmy Little Community Centre within the LGA

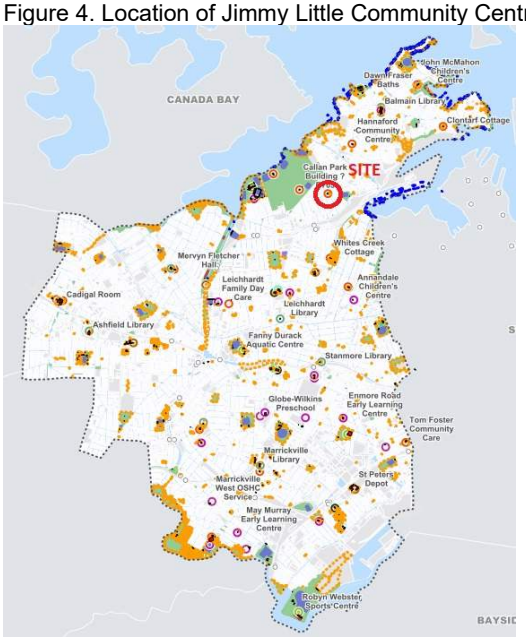


Figure 5. Location of the proposed site within Lilyfield



Photo 4. Street view of Jimmy Little from Cecily Street



Photo 5. Main Hall at Jimmy Little

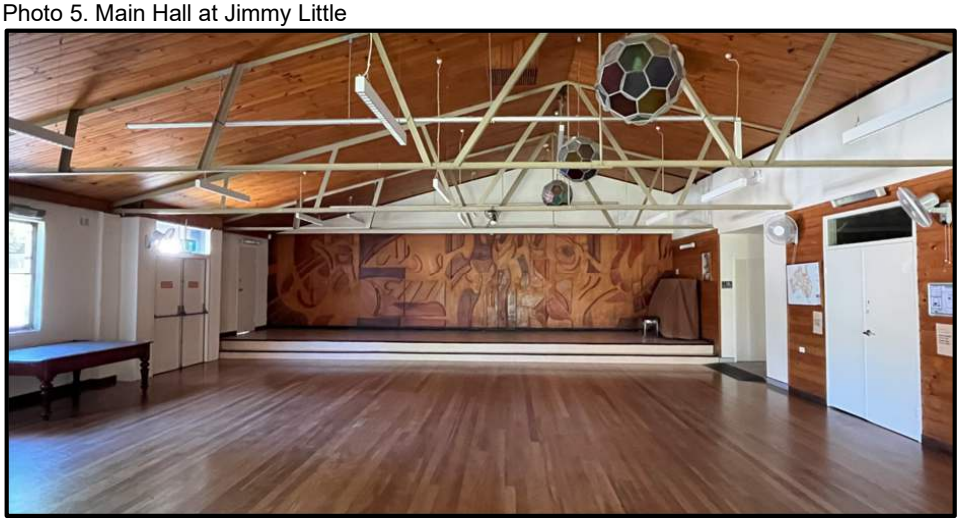


Photo 6. Interior Rooms



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Figure 6. Floor Plan of Jimmy Little



Meeting Agenda

Event: **Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander LDG meeting**

Date: 15th July 2025

Time: 4:30 (Bus Tour) 6:30-8:00pm (Meeting)

Location: Ashfield Service Centre 260 Liverpool Road ASHFIELD NSW 2131

Running Order:

Time	Items for Discussion
4:30	Bus leaves for Tour (Camperdown)
5:30	Jimmy Little Community Centre (Lilyfield)
6:30	Acknowledgement of Country
6:35	Introductions, apologies and membership changes
6:40	Confirmation of previous minutes and actions
6:45	Discussion on the Aboriginal community Hub options
7:15	Koori Knockout Screening
7:30	RAP DISCUSSION (NEW RAP 2025)
8:00	Meeting close

Next Meeting September 2025

Meeting Minutes

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander LDG

Tuesday 15th July 2025

Ashfield Service Centre Level 5 meeting Room 1 260 Liverpool Road Ashfield NSW 2131 Teams Meeting ID: 445 051 837 511 0 Passcode: U3d8WZ9H

Meeting commenced at 16:30 and concluded at 20:00.

Attendees

Community members	Council officers	Councillors
Wade Smith	Deborah Lennis	Olivia Barlow
Uncle Allan Barnes	Simon Watts (19:03 left)	
Bernadette Hardy (online only)	Scott Mullens (19:03 left)	
	Ryann Midei (18:25 left)	
	Sam Pagano (18:05 left)	

Chairperson: Wade Smith

Acknowledgement of Country: Deborah Lennis

Apologies: Tarunna Sebastian
Derek Wilson
Lachlan Barker-Kennedy

Membership changes: Nil

Disclosures of conflicts of interest: Nil

Endorse previous meeting minutes: Nil endorsed

Discussion Items

Agenda Item	Discussion summary	Agenda item outcome/action (as required)
Bus Tour	Camperdown Park (Australia Street)	• There is more space for the centre to be used by multiple community members and organisations at the same time. • Centre is more connected to the outside and space for community, kids and Elders to get together • Better parking, however, might need to apply for disabled spots in Australia Street
Bus Tour	Jimmy Little Centre (Cecily Street Lilyfield)	• Pity it is so small, as the NAME is good as a member of the Aboriginal and IW Community • Public Transport is an issue here • No real outdoor space at this centre
Koori Knockout (Councillor Motion)	Large Screen - ideally at Camdenville Park, however soccer games will still be played over the that weekend. Where do we screen instead? It is the NRL Grand Final same weekend in October What day/s do we screen?	• Possible large screen at Leichhardt Oval - the home of Rugby League in the IW Pratten Park – need to check the restrictions • Follow up with Koori Radio – about broadcasting & advertising IW big screen • Follow up with NITV - to see about broadcasting • Follow up about screen costs and leaving up over the weekend period • Community – Knockout Friday – Monday October Long weekend Sat= all men's games

		Sun = NRL Grand Final after the Knockout Mon = all Grand Finals
RAP Update	Traffic Light System – about 30 actions not started mostly People & Culture actions Need to write an updated RAP	• Work with P&C to get the RAP Actions started • Keep the current RAP status (Innovate) • Look at what Council is up to for writing new Actions & Deliverables for 2025-2027 RAP
Council & Community Update	One Council – Swim Site Callan Park DA Aboriginal Artwork for Henson Park Grandstand IWC Indigenous Historical & Cultural heritage Research Report	• Community will give feedback on One Council • Community can't see the artist statement vision in the artwork, however Henson Park has been given to WAFL and the community can see the Aboriginal design from their jersey within this design. • No community member has heard of this Aboriginal artist before. • Why is it at the end of the upgrade community is asked for their input? • Booklet for all LDG Members, Secondary Schools & Libraries

Please see attachments:

1: Pictures of Community rooms – Camperdown

2: Pictures of Community Rooms – Lilyfield

3: RAP Traffic Light Spreadsheet

4: DA for Callan Park Swim Site

5: Information of concept artwork for Henson Park

Next meeting: September 2025

Item 3

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 3**

Subject: **LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS - 16 JUNE 2025 AND 21 JULY 2025**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Manod Wickramasinghe - Traffic and Transport Planning Manager

Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and adopt the recommendations of the Local Traffic Committee meetings held on 16 June 2025 and 21 July 2025.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Traffic Committee meetings were held at the Ashfield Service Centre and have made recommendations for Council's consideration and adoption.

DISCUSSION

The June and July 2025 meetings of the Local Traffic Committee were held at the Ashfield Service Centre. The minutes of the meeting are shown in *Attachment 1* and *Attachment 2*.

ITEMS BY WARD – JUNE

Ward	Item
Baludarri (Balmain)	Beattie Street, Balmain – Proposed line marking changes between Elliott Street and Evans Street
	Darling Street, Balmain - Global TMP for Balmain Street
	Darling Street, Balmain - Proposed motor bike parking restriction
	Elliott Street, Balmain - Proposed Resident Parking Scheme
Gulgadya (Leichhardt)	Nil.
Midjuburi (Marrickville)	Richardson's Crescent, Marrickville - Traffic treatments at the intersection of Richardson's Crescent and Carrington Road
	Shepherd Street and Chapel Street, Marrickville – Proposed two raised pedestrian crossings and kerb extensions - Design Plan 10339
	Camdenville Park, St Peters - Proposed parking changes to the Camdenville Park carpark at Council Street, St Peters

	Holbeach Avenue, Tempe – Temporary Full Road Closure for MS Sydney to the Gong Bike Ride on Sunday 2 November 2025
Djarrawunang (Ashfield)	Holborow Street (at Liverpool Road), Croydon - Proposed new landscaped kerb blister and extension re-alignment of the intersection of Holborow Street and Liverpool Road
	Gower Street, Ashfield - Proposed Resident Parking Scheme at Gower Street between Liverpool Road and Ormond Street
Damun (Stanmore)	McGill Street, Lewisham - Proposed Shared Zone
All Wards	Inner West LGA - Proposal for Flexicar Car Share Parking Spaces

ITEMS BY WARD – JULY

Ward	**Item**
Baludarri (Balmain)	Railway Parade, Annandale - Proposed Road and Streetscape Upgrade
	Carrington Street, Lilyfield - Temporary full road closure and associated construction Traffic Management Plan
	College Street, Balmain - Proposed One Way Restriction
Gulgadya (Leichhardt)	Anthony Street, Croydon - Proposed installation of statutory 'No Stopping' restrictions at the junction of the unnamed laneway and Anthony Street between Robinson Street and Edwin Street, Croydon
	Allen Street, Leichhardt - Safety at Driveway of 141-143 Allen Street
Midjuburi (Marrickville)	Tempe Station - Proposed shared path
	Renwick Street at Illawarra Road, Marrickville - Proposed raised pedestrian crossing
	Woodland Street, Holmesdale Street and Centennial Street, Marrickville – Temporary Road Closures for up to eight (8) separate weekend days to hold AFLW matches at Henson Park
	Burrows Avenue, Sydenham - Proposed installation of 'No Parking' restrictions to provide one drop-off space on the southern side opposite Sydenham Station
	Permit Plug Play Project – Global TMPs - Temporary Full Time Road Closures for community events - up to six Sunday events per year at three locations
Djarrawunang (Ashfield)	Permit Plug Play Project – Global TMPs - Temporary Full Time Road Closures for community events - up to six Sunday events per year at three locations
	Victoria Street, Ashfield - Installation of a 'Keep Clear' zone at the front of Ashfield Fire Station
Damun (Stanmore)	Percival Road and Temple Street, Stanmore – Temporary full road closure for Stanmore Music Festival – Saturday 15 November 2025
	London Street and Simmons Street, Enmore - Updated Report for the Proposed Temporary Road Closure and Part Road Closure
	Salisbury Road, Stanmore - Request for a residential parking scheme
	Baltic and Bedford Streets, Newtown- Proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions
All Wards	Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report. Projects proposed for implementation are funded within existing budget allocations.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Local Traffic Committee minutes - 16 June 2025
2.⇩ Local Traffic Committee minutes - 21 July 2025

Minutes of Meeting held on 16 June 2025

Meeting commenced at 11:03 AM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY BY CHAIRPERSON

I acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora nation on whose country we are meeting today, and their elders past and present.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Victor Macri	Councillor –Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward (Chair)
Bill Holliday	Representative for Kobi Shetty MP, Member for Balmain
Graeme McKay	Representative for Jo Haylen MP, Member for Summer Hill
Miriama Tamata	Representative for Jenny Leong MP, Member for Newtown
Vinoth Srinivasan	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
Nina Fard	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)

NON VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Michael Takla	Representative for Transit Systems
Sunny Jo	IWC's Acting Traffic and Transport Planning Manager
George Tsaprounis	IWC's Coordinator Traffic Engineering Services (South)
Felicia Lau	IWC's Acting Coordinator Traffic Engineering Services (North)
Christy Li	IWC's Business Administration Officer

VISITORS

Nil.	Nil.

APOLOGIES:

Liz Atkins	Councillor – Damun - Stanmore Ward

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS:

Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee held on Monday, 19 May 2025 be confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee meeting held on 14 April 2025 were adopted at Council's meeting held on 20 May 2025 subject to the following amendments:

1. That Council review the footpath parking element of the Myrtle Street, Leichhardt shared zone 12 months post-implementation and survey residents of Myrtle Street, Ivory Street, Ivory Lane, National Street, Flood Street between Treadgold Street and Lords Road, and Elswick Street between Edith Street and Seale Street as part of the review.

LTC0625(1) Item 1 Richardson's Crescent, Marrickville - Traffic treatments at the intersection of Richardson's Crescent and Carrington Road (Midjuburi-Marrickville Ward / Summer Hill Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

At Council's Local Traffic Committee on the 17 March 2025, item 14 – Concerns regarding the vehicular access from Carrington Road, Marrickville was raised by the Chair as part of the General Business items for Local Traffic Committee. This item included correspondence from a resident noting concern regarding vehicular access at the intersection of Carrington Road onto Richardson's Crescent stating the difficulty of turning right from Carrington Road into Richardson's Crescent. As such, Council's Traffic Engineering team was tasked to investigate potential treatments to address the concern raised by the resident.

This report investigates two potential proposals to address the alleged turning delays associated with this intersection, including a roundabout treatment and a seagull treatment. The results of the analysis for a roundabout reveal that at this point in time efficiency of the intersection is satisfactory as well as a low accident history meaning that a proposed roundabout would not be the most cost-effective solution for an intersection which is essentially operating at an acceptable level of service. Whilst a Seagull Island treatment is more cost effective and would provide the same benefit in terms of intersection efficiency as a roundabout, the fact the intersection is currently operating acceptable means that at present, the benefit provided in relation to the cost is debatable. It is recommended that Council note both proposals and that a Seagull Island treatment would be a better proposed option for this intersection.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That Council note the design of a proposed roundabout at the intersection of Richardson's Crescent and Carrington Road.

2. That Council note the design of a proposed seagull treatment at the intersection of Richardson's Crescent and Carrington Road.

DISCUSSION:

Council Officers tabled in comments received from the representative of the Inner West Bicycle Coalition requesting that consideration of the same treatment given across Renwick Street be given to giving the pedestrian/ bike refuge island on Carrington Road south of Richardson Crescent. It was noted that the proposed seagull treatment and lowered holding time at this intersection will be a magnet for traffic coming from the south and west leading to higher traffic volumes and speeds. It was also noted that "greening" the intersection and giving cyclists priority as at Renwick Street would be ideal as it would provide a uniform treatment for cyclists along Carrington Road.

Council Officers noted the comments received by the representative of the Inner West Bicycle Coalition.

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That Council note the design of a proposed roundabout at the intersection of Richardson's Crescent and Carrington Road.**

2. **That Council note the design of a proposed seagull treatment at the intersection of Richardson's Crescent and Carrington Road.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 2 Shepherd Street and Chapel Street, Marrickville – Proposed two raised pedestrian crossings and kerb extensions - Design Plan 10339 (Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward / Summer Hill Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

Council is planning to improve safety for pedestrians in Shepherd Street and Chapel Street, Marrickville by converting the 2 existing 'at-grade' pedestrian crossings to raised pedestrian crossings together with landscaped kerb blister islands. The proposal aims to improve pedestrian and motorist safety by better defining safe pedestrian crossing points; improve sight distances, reduce traffic speeds and conflicts with traffic movements at this location.

Officers Recommendation:

That the detailed design plan for the proposed raised pedestrian crossings in Shepherd Street and Chapel Street, Marrickville and associated signs and line markings (as per Design Plan No.10339) be APPROVED.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the detailed design plan for the proposed raised pedestrian crossings in Shepherd Street and Chapel Street, Marrickville and associated signs and line markings (as per Design Plan No.10339) be APPROVED.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 3 McGill Street, Lewisham - Proposed Shared Zone (Damun-Stanmore Ward/Newtown Electorate/Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

The adopted Inner West Council Pedestrian Access Management Plan (PAMP) recommends the investigation of a Shared Zone on McGill Street, Petersham, and pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Old Canterbury Road and Hudson Street. This report outlines further investigations completed along McGill Street and the nearby intersections, to assess the feasibility of the recommended treatments identified within the PAMP and develop them further. A concept plan has been developed proposing treatments which addresses some of these issues identified (some recommendations from the PAMP plan were unfeasible due to site constraints.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That a Shared Zone on McGill Street between Old Canterbury Road and Hudson Street,

Lewisham, as per plan no.10347, be supported in-principle and included in Council's Capital Works program subject to detailed design, support from Transport for NSW and the community.

2. That the detailed design for the proposed Shared Zone in McGill Street, Lewisham be brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.

DISCUSSION:

Council Officers requested that the recommendation be amended to note that this was a 'Category 1 raised pavement shared zone.'

Council Officers noted that the kerb line has been repositioned to sit behind the 'Give Way' line marking as previously requested by Transport for NSW.

The Representative for Transport for NSW noted that a 'Road Safety Audit' needs to be undertaken during the design stage and requested that it be incorporated into the recommendation.

The Representative for Transport for NSW noted that were not supportive of the proposed parking on Old Canterbury Road however, they will work with Council in relation to the adjustments to on-street parking in the adjusted section of kerb during the detailed design phase.

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That a category 1 raised pavement Shared Zone on McGill Street between Old Canterbury Road and Hudson Street, Lewisham, as per plan no.10347, be supported in-principle**

2. **That the detailed design for the proposed Shared Zone in McGill Street, Lewisham be brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration subject to a Road Safety Audit being undertaken as part of the detailed design and submitted to TfNSW for their concurrence prior to Traffic Committee review and that community engagement be undertaken of the detailed design.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 4 Holborow Street (at Liverpool Road), Croydon. (Djarrawunang-Ashfield Ward/Summer Hill Electorate/Burwood PAC)

SUMMARY

Council has prepared a design plan to provide a new landscaped kerb blister and extension to re-align the intersection of Holborow Street and Liverpool Road, Croydon. The proposal aims to slow traffic and improve road safety for pedestrians and motorists at the intersection.

Officers Recommendation:

That the detailed design plan (10329) for a proposed new landscaped kerb blister and extension re-alignment of the intersection of Holborow Street and Liverpool Road, Croydon, with associated signs and line marking (as shown in *Attachment 1*) be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Representative for Transport for NSW raised concerns regarding pedestrian safety and potential impacts to the efficiency of the State Road networks. Council Officer presented additional turning movement diagrams to show the turn path of a passenger vehicle as well as an additional turn path of an 8.8m truck as requested by TfNSW representative prior to the meeting. The Council Officer also advised that the 8.8m truck was the design vehicle in this case.

It was noted that TfNSW representatives raised concerns with the conflict point between the 8.8 metre Medium Rigid Vehicle (MRV) and pedestrians. Council Officers advised that this design would improve safety for pedestrians and didn't agree that the turn paths of vehicles would pose a safety issue for pedestrians.

Council Officers noted that they have made changes to ensure there would be minimal impact to the State Road networks and that turning templates are usually more conservative so the likelihood of there being issues with vehicle movements is low.

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the detailed design plan (10329) for a proposed new landscaped kerb blister and extension re-alignment of the intersection of Holborow Street and Liverpool Road, Croydon, with associated signs and line marking (as shown in *Attachment 1*) be approved.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 5 Beattie Street, Balmain – Proposed linemarking changes between Elliott Street and Evans Street (Baldurri-Balmain/Balmain Electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

Council is planning to improve road safety along Beattie Street, Balmain between Elliott Street and Evans Street. The proposed realignment of the undivided centre lines is intended to encourage lower vehicle speeds and improve vehicle delineation.

Officers Recommendation:

That the proposed line marking changes for Beattie Street between Elliott Street and Evans Street, Balmain be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the proposed line marking changes for Beattie Street between Elliott Street and Evans Street, Balmain be approved.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 6 Darling Street, Balmain - Global TMP for Balmain Street - (Baludarri-Balmain Ward Balmain Electorate Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

Council has received a grant to develop a global Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for events on Darling Street in Balmain.

The purpose of the program is to help secure a brighter future for our communities by unlocking more walkable, safer, and activated neighbourhoods.

Preparation is underway for a multi-event on Darling Street between Booth Street and Montague Street, Balmain. The global TMP will be used for future events at this location, with the first expected to be held on a weekend during the month of November 2025.

The event components may include a variety of activities, such as market stalls, themed displays, food trucks, tables and chairs and entertainment. Local commercial cafes and restaurants may have the opportunity to expand outdoor seating numbers to increase trading and enhance the specific event.

The event will impact surrounding streets within the Balmain area. The TMP was prepared to outline the effects on the road network, parking, pedestrian and bicycle routes, emergency routes and access to local properties and businesses.

Officers Recommendation:

That the proposed global multi-event Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for Darling Street between Montague Street and Booth Street, Balmain, be approved-in principle for a period of five (5) years, with this year's event to be held on a weekend during the month of November 2025, subject to the following conditions:

a) The event organisers notify the community including residents and businesses of the proposed event, changes to traffic and parking in the area;
b) All barricades and necessary signposting shall be provided by the event organisers and maintained during the period of the event by TfNSW-accredited marshals, or Police engaged by the applicant;
c) All traffic control facilities are to be installed in accordance with Australian Standard 1742.3;
d) The event organiser shall indemnify Inner West Council against all claims for damage or injury that may result from the activity or occupation of part of the public way during the activity. The event organiser must provide documentary evidence of public risk insurance cover of at least $20,000,000 indemnifying Council; and
e) The event organiser shall be responsible for the reimbursement for the cost of repair of any damage caused to the public way, or as a result of the activities.

DISCUSSION:

The Representative for Transport for NSW noted that Darling Street is a bus route and in close proximity to traffic control signals and therefore a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) needs to be submitted to the Transport Management Centre (TMC) for approval and a Road Occupancy Licence (ROL) needs to be obtained.

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the proposed global multi-event Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for Darling Street between Montague Street and Booth Street, Balmain, be approved-in principle for a period of five (5) years, with this year's event to be held on a weekend during the month of November 2025, subject to the following conditions:

a) The event organisers notify the community including residents and businesses of the proposed event, changes to traffic and parking in the area;
b) All barricades and necessary signposting shall be provided by the event organisers and maintained during the period of the event by TfNSW-accredited marshals, or Police engaged by the applicant;
c) All traffic control facilities are to be installed in accordance with Australian Standard 1742.3;
d) The event organiser shall indemnify Inner West Council against all claims for damage or injury that may result from the activity or occupation of part of the public way during the activity. The event organiser must provide documentary evidence of public risk insurance cover of at least $20,000,000 indemnifying Council;
e) The event organiser shall be responsible for the reimbursement for the cost of repair of any damage caused to the public way, or as a result of the activities; and
f) The applicant submits the Bus route changes, Traffic Management Plan, and closures impacting traffic signals to the Transport Management Centre for approval and a Road Occupancy Licence be obtained.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 7 Darling Street, Balmain - Proposed motor bike parking restriction (Baludarri-Balmain/Balmain electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

To improve intersection safety at the Duke Street and Darling Street intersection, Balmain East, the following are proposed:

- Converting a 5m unrestricted parking space in Darling Street, west of Duke Street to 'Motor Bikes Only' parking zone;
- Formalising give-way treatment with sign and line marking at Duke Street; and
- Consideration of a variable speed radar to be installed along the frontage of St. Mary's Balmain Anglican Church facing eastbound traffic in Darling Street.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That the installation of a 5m length 'Motor Bikes Only' parking zone on the northern side of Darling Street 10m west of Duke Street, Balmain East be approved.

2. That a Give Way (R1-2A) sign be installed in Duke Street at its intersection with Darling Street, with Give Way (TB and TB1) lines across Duke Street.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That the installation of a 5m length 'Motor Bikes Only' parking zone on the northern side of Darling Street 10m west of Duke Street, Balmain East be approved.**

2. **That a Give Way (R1-2A) sign be installed in Duke Street at its intersection with Darling Street, with Give Way (TB and TB1) lines across Duke Street.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 8 Elliott Street, Balmain - Proposed Resident Parking Scheme (Baludarri-Balmain Ward/Balmain Electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

Several residents in Elliott Street, Balmain have expressed concerns regarding long-term non-resident parking and requested a Resident Parking Scheme (RPS) for their street.

In response, preliminary investigation and community engagement were undertaken by Council on a '2P 8am-10pm Permit Holders Excepted Area B1' proposal on the north side of Elliott Street between Rosieville Lane and Glassop Street, and south side of Elliott Street in between Claremont and Terry Street, Balmain.

The results of the community engagement indicated adequate support for the implementation of the proposed Resident Parking Scheme.

Officers Recommendation:

That the proposed resident parking scheme '2P 8am-10pm Permit Holders Excepted Area B1' on the north side of Elliott Street between Rosieville Lane and Glassop Street, and south side of Elliott Street in between Claremont and Terry Street, Balmain as per below plan be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the proposed resident parking scheme '2P 8am-10pm Permit Holders Excepted Area B1' on the north side of Elliott Street between Rosieville Lane and Glassop Street, and south side of Elliott Street in between Claremont and Terry Street, Balmain as per below plan be approved.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 9 Inner West LGA - Proposal for Flexicar Car Share Parking Spaces (All Wards/All Electorates/All PACs)

SUMMARY

A request has been received from Flexicar to install 12 on-street dedicated 'Car Share'

parking spaces for existing floating car share vehicles around the Inner West.

Officers Recommendation:

That the following 'No Parking Authorised Car Share Vehicle Expected, Area FLEXICAR' restrictions be approved:

a) A 2.5m wide space in the Edgeware Road Council car park, Enmore next to the existing car share space.

b) A 5.5m restriction on the southern side of Arthur Street, Marrickville east of Ann Street outside no.10 Arthur Street.

c) A 5.5m restriction on the northern side of Salisbury Road, Stanmore east of Percival Road.

d) A 5.5m restriction on the southern side of Railway Avenue, Newtown west of Liberty Street.

e) A 5.5m restriction on the eastern side of Regent Street, Petersham south of Trafalgar Street.

f) A 5.5m restriction on the western side of Barwon Park Road, St Peters south of Princes Highway.

g) A 2.5m wide space in the Seaview Street Council car park, Dulwich Hill to the existing car share space.

h) A 5.5m restriction on the southern side of Guihen Street, Camperdown west of Booth Street.

DISCUSSION:

The Chairperson noted there were 6 submissions against the proposed restrictions in Arthur Street, Marrickville East and suggested that the proposal for the Arthur Street, Marrickville East not be supported due to community opposition.

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the following 'No Parking Authorised Car Share Vehicle Expected, Area FLEXICAR' restrictions be approved:

a) A 2.5m wide space in the Edgeware Road Council car park, Enmore next to the existing car share space.

b) A 5.5m restriction on the northern side of Salisbury Road, Stanmore east of Percival Road.

c) A 5.5m restriction on the southern side of Railway Avenue, Newtown west of Liberty Street.

d) A 5.5m restriction on the eastern side of Regent Street, Petersham south of Trafalgar Street.

e) A 5.5m restriction on the western side of Barwon Park Road, St Peters south of Princes Highway.

f) A 2.5m wide space in the Seaview Street Council car park, Dulwich Hill to the existing car share space.

g) A 5.5m restriction on the southern side of Guihen Street, Camperdown west of Booth Street.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 10 Camdenville Park, St Peters - Proposed parking changes to the Camdenville Park carpark at Council Street, St Peters (Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward / Heffron Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

A concept plan which included upgrades to the existing amenities building and existing car parking area at Council Street, St Peters was proposed as part of the Camdenville Park Amenities Refurbishment project. This report is provided to formalize the car parking area including relevant line marking of parking bays and parking signage. It is recommended that Council approve the design of the car park at Camdenville Park fronting Council Street, St Peters.

Officers Recommendation:

That the carpark design and signage plan of the Camdenville Park Amenities Refurbishment be approved by Council.

DISCUSSION:

Council Officers noted that the plan proposes signposting changes as well as an addition of motorcycle parking spaces and mobility parking spaces.

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the carpark design and signage plan of the Camdenville Park Amenities Refurbishment be approved by Council.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 11 Gower Street, Ashfield - Proposed Resident Parking Scheme at Gower Street between Liverpool Road and Ormond Street (Djarrawunang-Ashfield Ward) / Summer Hill Electorate / Burwood PAC)

SUMMARY

Upon receiving a petition from residents of Gower Street, Ashfield, Council initiated an investigation for implementing residential parking restrictions in Gower Street, Ashfield. A parking occupancy survey was carried out and it was found that there are high parking

occupancies in Gower Street during the morning and evening periods.

Accordingly, Council officer's proposed timed permit parking restrictions on the western side of Gower Street, signposted as '2P 8am – 6pm Mon – Fri Permit Holders Excepted Area 10', and consulted on this proposal with surrounding households and businesses. This report provides the results of this survey and consultation with owners and occupiers in Gower Street indicated that there was sufficient support to implement the proposed restrictions.

Officers Recommendation:

That the proposal to implement Resident Parking Scheme restrictions '2P 8am – 6pm Mon – Fri Permit Holders Excepted Area 10' along the western side of Gower Street between Liverpool Road and Ormond Street, Ashfield be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Representative for Transport for NSW requested that the 'No Stopping' restrictions towards the intersections be made compliant to road rules.

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the proposal to implement Resident Parking Scheme restrictions '2P 8am – 6pm Mon – Fri Permit Holders Excepted Area 10' along the western side of Gower Street between Liverpool Road and Ormond Street, Ashfield be approved subject to 20m length 'No Stopping' zone be retained at its approach to Liverpool Road.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0625(1) Item 12 Holbeach Avenue, Tempe – Temporary Full Road Closure for MS Sydney to the Gong Bike Ride on Sunday 2 November 2025 – (Midjuburi-Marrickville Ward / Heffron Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

Council has received an application under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993 to use Holbeach Avenue and Tempe Recreation Reserve to hold the annual 'MS Sydney to the Gong Bike Ride' supported by Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Australia on Sunday 2 November 2025. This event will necessitate the temporary full road closure of Holbeach Avenue, Tempe and southbound lane closures on Princes Highway from the car park entrance of IKEA to Cooks River along with closures (Residents Excepted) of South Street, Hart Street, Bay Street and Old Street, Tempe between the hours 0400 to 1000 hours on Sunday 2 November 2025.

The comments of the Local Traffic Committee will be referred to Council's Development Assessment Section for consideration in determining the Development Application.

Officers Recommendation:

That the Local Traffic Committee receive and note the report.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Traffic Committee receive and note the report.

For Motion: Unanimous

General Business:

Item 13- Ramsay Street, Haberfield Road resurfacing works

The Representative for the Member of Summer Hill noted that Council had recently completed road works on Ramsay Street however, stopped a few metres before the intersection at Dalhousie Street and questioned if there are plans for the works to continue to the intersection. The Representative for the Member of Summer Hill notes that currently there is a minor dip in the road due to the uneven road surface.

Item 14- Trucks accessing Sloane Street, Marrickville

The Chairperson questioned if Council has reviewed the issue with trucks accessing Sloane Street, Marrickville. Council Officers advised that consultation letters have been sent out to nearby residents and businesses for feedback regarding the installation of 'No Stopping' signs to improve sightlines and manoeuvrability of larger vehicles.

Item 14- Charlotte Street, Marrickville proposed RPS scheme

The Chairperson advised that a petition had been submitted to Council by the residents of Charlotte Street, Marrickville to initiate an investigation for a Resident Parking Scheme (RPS) in Charlotte Street. The Chairperson noted that the residents have advised that the parking situation has deteriorated and that they would like Council to re investigate the possibility of implementing a RPS scheme for the street. Council Officers advised they will investigate the issue and noted that there are currently works being undertaken by Transport for NSW in the close proximity to Charlotte Street, which may also be exacerbating the parking issue.

Item 15- Notification of Road Works in the LGA

The Representative for Transit Systems requested that Council advise Transit Systems of any upcoming projects and road works in the LGA as there have been previous instances where Transit Systems haven't been notified and the works had caused delays in their services.

Item 16- Sydenham Station Bus Layover

The Representative for Transit Systems noted that the current layover area at Sydenham Station needs to be reviewed as there has been concerns of bus turning movement from Railway Parade to Marrickville Road, Sydenham. The Representative for Transport for NSW

advised they will follow up the concerns with the relevant departments.

Meeting closed at 11.49 am.

CHAIRPERSON

Councillor Victor Macri

Minutes of Meeting held on 21 July 2025

Meeting commenced at 11:02 AM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY BY CHAIRPERSON

I acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora nation on whose country we are meeting today, and their elders past and present.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Victor Macri	Councillor –Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward (Chair)
Liz Atkins	Councillor – Damun - Stanmore Ward
Sgt Charles Buttrose	NSW Police – Leichhardt Police Area Command
Todd Leach	NSW Police – Inner West Police Area Command
Ben Simpson	NSW Police – Inner West Police Area Command
Bill Holliday	Representative for Kobi Shetty MP, Member for Balmain
Graeme McKay	Representative for Jo Haylen MP, Member for Summer Hill
Miriama Tamata	Representative for Jenny Leong MP, Member for Newtown
Nina Fard	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)

NON VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Michael Takla	Representative for Transit Systems
Julius Villanueva	Representative for Transit Systems
George Tsaprounis	IWC's Acting Traffic and Transport Planning Manager
Felicia Lau	IWC's Acting Coordinator Traffic Engineering Services (North)
Jason Scoufis	IWC's Coordinator Traffic Investigations & Road Safety
Kurt Henkel	IWC's Team Leader Public Domain Planning
Christy Li	IWC's Business Administration Officer

VISITORS

Avryl Lattin	Public Speaker – Item 10
Bryony Weiss	Public Speaker – Item 12
Kathryn Welch	Public Speaker – Item 12
James Buckman	Public Speaker – Item 12
Norma Speechley	Public Speaker – Item 12
Doug Rosser	Public Speaker – Item 12
Nick Rippon	Public Speaker – Item 12

APOLOGIES:

Nil

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS:

Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee held on Monday, 16 June 2025 be

confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION OF MINUTES

Nil.

LTC0725(1) Item 1 Tempe Station - Proposed shared path (Midjuburi-Marrickville Ward/Inner West PAC/Summer Hill Electorate)

SUMMARY

This report outlines a proposal to install a shared path within the Tempe Station car park to provide separation for cyclists and pedestrians. There is no loss of parking, and a gain of one (1) additional parking space. The proposal will improve safety and connectivity within the car park, whilst also minimising impacts to the existing car parking spaces.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That a concept shared path within the Tempe Station car park as per plan no.10352, be supported in-principle and included in Council's Capital Works program subject to support from Transport for NSW and/or relevant rail authority body.

2. That the detailed design for the proposed shared path in Tempe Station car park be brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.

DISCUSSION:

The Representative for Transport for NSW advised that the land on which the shared path is proposed to be installed is owned by Transport for NSW and is currently being leased out to Council. The Representative for Transport for NSW advised Council will have to prepare a separate submission outside the Local Traffic Committee to obtain permission to undertake the works before the proposal can proceed.

The Representative for Transport for NSW suggested that the report be moved to part b of the agenda – for information only instead of voting, as relevant authority approvals need to be received before the recommendation can be considered.

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives and notes this report.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 2 Renwick Street at Illawarra Road, Marrickville - Proposed raised pedestrian crossing (Midjuburi-Marrickville Ward/Inner West PAC/Summer Hill Electorate)

SUMMARY

This report outlines the pedestrian crossing investigation completed at the intersections of Illawarra Road and Renwick Street, and Renwick Street and Excelsior Parade, Marrickville.

The pedestrian and vehicle volumes were assessed, and it was found that the volumes were met at the intersection of Illawarra Road and Renwick Street, and the volumes were not met at the intersection of Renwick Street and Excelsior Parade.

Accordingly, a pedestrian crossing is proposed at the intersection of Illawarra Road and Renwick Street. It is recommended that, if possible, the design development of the proposed pedestrian crossing across Renwick Street be integrated with the Marrickville Town Centre Master Plan.

Furthermore, it is also recommended that a pedestrian crossing be investigated across the northern leg of Illawarra Road and reported back to the Local Traffic Committee for consideration.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That a raised pedestrian crossing on Renwick Street, just east of Illawarra Road, Marrickville, as per plan no.10350, be supported in-principle, and included in Council's Capital Works program subject to community consultation.

2. That the detailed design for the proposed raised pedestrian crossing on Renwick Steet, just east of Illawarra Road, Marrickville be brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.

3. That a raised pedestrian crossing across Renwick Street at Excelsior Parade, Marrickville not be supported.

4. That a raised pedestrian crossing across Illawarra Road, north of Renwick Street be investigated and brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.

DISCUSSION:

The Representative for Transport for NSW (TfNSW) advised that the crossing needs to be at least a car length clear of the stop line or that amend the 'Stop' control to a 'Giveway' control to meet the Australian Standard requirements. The TfNSW representative also stated that if the 'Stop' control was to be changed to a 'Giveway' control, then a traffic safety assessment on the change would need to be undertaken and submitted to TfNSW as part of the proposal. Council Officer advised that this is the conceptual design stage and that a submission to change the current controls can be submitted with the detailed design.
The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That a raised pedestrian crossing on Renwick Street, just east of Illawarra Road, Marrickville, as per plan no.10350, be supported in-principle, subject to the 'Giveway' controls replacing the current 'Stop' controls and included in Council's Capital Works program subject to community consultation.**

2. **That the detailed design for the proposed raised pedestrian crossing on Renwick Street, just east of Illawarra Road, Marrickville be brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration including an assessment to change the current 'Stop' controls to 'Giveway'**

3. **That a raised pedestrian crossing across Renwick Street at Excelsior Parade, Marrickville not be supported.**

4. **That a raised pedestrian crossing across Illawarra Road, north of Renwick Street be investigated and brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 3 Woodland Street, Holmesdale Street and Centennial Street, Marrickville – Temporary Road Closures for up to eight (8) separate weekend days to hold AFLW matches at Henson Park - (Midjuburi-Marrickville Ward /Summer Hill Electorate /Inner West LAC)

SUMMARY

An application has been received from AFL NSW/ACT to hold up to eight (8) AFLW matches at Henson Park Oval. The events require the temporary full road closure of Woodland Street, between Illawarra Road and dead-end; Holmesdale Street, between Sydenham Road and Woodland Street, and Centennial Street, between Sydenham Road and the entrance to Henson Park and Marrickville & District Hardcourt Tennis Club car park, Marrickville to allow for pedestrian entry to Henson Park on the AFLW match days. It is recommended that Council agree to the temporary full road closures subject to the applicant complying with Council conditions and obtaining concurrence from Transport for NSW as the closure of Centennial Street is adjacent to a signalised intersection on Sydenham Road, Marrickville (a State Road).

Officers Recommendation:

1. That the proposed temporary full road closure (ENRC/2025/0043) of Woodland Street between Illawarra Road and dead-end; Holmesdale Street between Sydenham Road and Woodland Street, and Centennial Street between Sydenham Road and the entrance to Henson Park and Marrickville & District Hardcourt Tennis Club car park, Marrickville on the following dates and times:
   a) Saturday 30 August 2025, 10:45 – 15:45;
   b) Sunday 07 September 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;
   c) Sunday 21 September 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;
   d) Saturday 04 October 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;
   e) Sunday 12 October 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;
   f) Saturday 18 October 2025, 10:45 – 15:45;
   g) Saturday 25 October 2025, 08:45 – 13:45; and
   h) Saturday 01 or Sunday 02 November 2025,
   i) Date & Time TBC (contingency period of one month) for the purpose of holding up to eight (8) AFLW matches at Henson Park be approved, subject to the applicant complying with, but not limited to, the following conditions:

2. That a Road Occupancy License application be obtained by the applicant from the Transport Management Centre.
3. That all affected residents and businesses, including NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, Fire and Rescue NSW and NSW Ambulance Services, shall be notified in writing by the applicant of the proposed temporary road closure at least 7 days prior to the event, with the applicant making reasonable provision for residents and businesses.
4. That notification signs advising of the proposed road closures and new traffic arrangements to be strategically installed and maintained by the applicant at each end of each street at least 7 days prior to the closure.
5. That the occupation of the road carriageway must not occur until the road has been physically closed.
6. That subject to written concurrence from Transport for New South Wales.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That the proposed temporary full road closure (ENRC/2025/0043) of Woodland Street between Illawarra Road and dead-end; Holmesdale Street between Sydenham Road and Woodland Street, and Centennial Street between Sydenham Road and the entrance to Henson Park and Marrickville & District Hardcourt Tennis Club car park, Marrickville on the following dates and times:**
   a) **Saturday 30 August 2025, 10:45 – 15:45;**
   b) **Sunday 07 September 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;**
   c) **Sunday 21 September 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;**
   d) **Saturday 04 October 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;**
   e) **Sunday 12 October 2025, 08:45 – 13:45;**
   f) **Saturday 18 October 2025, 10:45 – 15:45;**
   g) **Saturday 25 October 2025, 08:45 – 13:45; and**
   h) **Saturday 01 or Sunday 02 November 2025,**
   i) **Date & Time TBC (contingency period of one month) for the purpose of holding up to eight (8) AFLW matches at Henson Park be approved, subject to the applicant complying with, but not limited to, the following conditions:**

2. **That a Road Occupancy License application be obtained by the applicant from the Transport Management Centre.**
3. **That all affected residents and businesses, including NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, Fire and Rescue NSW and NSW Ambulance Services, shall be notified in writing by the applicant of the proposed temporary road closure at least 7 days prior to the event, with the applicant making reasonable provision for residents and businesses.**
4. **That notification signs advising of the proposed road closures and new traffic arrangements to be strategically installed and maintained by the applicant at each end of each street at least 7 days prior to the closure.**
5. **That the occupation of the road carriageway must not occur until the road has been physically closed.**
6. **That subject to written concurrence from Transport for New South Wales.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 4 Burrows Avenue, Sydenham - Proposed installation of 'No Parking' restrictions to provide one drop-off space on the southern side opposite Sydenham Station (Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward / Heffron Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

Council is proposing to install a short 5 metre length drop-off zone (in the form of 'no Parking' restrictions) on the southern side of Burrows Avenue to compliment the main 'drop-off' zone on the northern side of Burrows Avenue adjacent to Sydenham Station, Sydenham

Officers Recommendation:

That the installation of a short 5 metre length of full-time 'No Parking drop off/pick up zone' restrictions on the southern side of Burrows Avenue, west (of existing No Stopping

restrictions in Burrows Ave) and of Hogan Avenue, Sydenham be approved, to provide a drop-off space opposite Sydenham Station.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the installation of a short 5 metre length of full-time 'No Parking drop off/pick up zone' restrictions on the southern side of Burrows Avenue, west (of existing No Stopping restrictions in Burrows Ave) and of Hogan Avenue, Sydenham be approved, to provide a drop-off space opposite Sydenham Station.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 5 Permit Plug Play Project – Global TMPs - Temporary Full Time Road Closures for community events - up to six Sunday events per year at three locations (Midjuburi-Marrickville Ward and Djarrawunang-Ashfield Ward /Summer Hill Electorate / Inner West LAC and Burwood PAC)

SUMMARY

The Permit/Plug/Play Pilot Program is a coordinated effort by Transport for NSW, state partners, and local councils to develop tailored, local solutions that address the complexity of approval processes, and the high costs associated with street-based events. It aims to help streamline approval processes for temporary road-closure enabled events and deliver enabling place infrastructure.

Inner West Council received $500,000 grant from Transport for NSW to simplify temporary road closures and promote local street events. The program seeks to activate public spaces by supporting community events, enhancing local business, and fostering social and cultural connections.

The primary goal of the project is to make it easier for councils and event organisers to host street events in urban areas by means of the creation of standard TMPs valid for 5 years across three locations that will be enacted during events, plus the provision of infrastructure improvements such as bollards, lighting, and signage to support these events.

Approval is requested from the Local Traffic Committee for the endorsement of the standard use of the three attached TMPs with a validity of 5 years to enable the program's objectives of creating active and engaging public spaces through regular community events by reducing the burden, responsibility and expense of individual event holders having to obtain individual TMP's for each event held at these specific locations.

Officers Recommendation:

THAT the Local Traffic Committee supports the approval of the Global Traffic Management Plans for up to six Sunday events for a period of five years at the following three locations: Illawarra Lane and the Calvert Street carpark in Marrickville; on Railway Parade (Lower), Marrickville and Hercules Street, Ashfield subject to (1) approval of the TMPs by TfNSW, (2) the applicant complying with the submitted TMPs and TGSs, (3) Council standard and specific (if required) conditions for a road closure and (4) the following conditions as listed

below:

a) A temporary full road closure application is lodged with Council in a timely manner for each proposed road closure.
b) A Road Occupancy License be obtained by the applicant from the Transport Management Centre;
c) All affected residents and businesses, including NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, Fire and Rescue NSW and NSW Ambulance Services, shall be notified in writing by the applicant of the proposed temporary road closure at least 14 days prior to the event, with the applicant making reasonable provision for residents and businesses;
d) Notification signs advising of the proposed road closures and new traffic arrangements to be strategically installed and maintained by the applicant at each end of each street at least 7 days prior to the closure;
e) A 4-metre-wide emergency vehicle access be maintained through the area during the course of the event; and
f) The occupation of the road carriageway must not occur until the road has been physically closed.

DISCUSSION:

Council Officers tabled in comments from the Public Domain team noting that the Pitagones barriers are no longer included in the TMP; however, Council will still have the Pitagones barriers stored in a Council depot so event organisers can hire if required.

The Representative for Transport for NSW noted that no road closures for the events are to occur at Railway Parade (lower) during the conversion of Railway Parade (lower) to a one-way west-to-eastbound movement and during rail shutdown periods as the environment will be different from the Traffic Management Plan submitted.

The Representative for Transport for NSW also suggested that the closure of Railway Parade be at Sydenham Road and Marrickville Road, as opposed to being set back from the intersections. The reason is that there would be insufficient turning area for vehicles

The Representative for Transit Systems requested that they be provided 28 days' notice prior to works commencing.

Council Officers suggested the recommendation be amended to include that no events are held during rail works are being undertaken at Railway Parade and that the closure of Railway Parade be done at Sydenham Road and Marrickville Road.

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Local Traffic Committee supports the approval of the Global Traffic Management Plans for up to six Sunday events for a period of five years at the following three locations: Illawarra Lane and the Calvert Street carpark in Marrickville; on Railway Parade (Lower), Marrickville and Hercules Street, Ashfield subject to (1) approval of the TMPs by TfNSW, (2) the applicant complying with the submitted TMPs and TGSs, (3) Council standard and specific (if required) conditions for a road closure and (4) the following conditions as listed below:

a) A temporary full road closure application is lodged with Council in a timely manner for each proposed road closure.
b) A Road Occupancy License be obtained by the applicant from the Transport Management Centre;
c) All affected residents and businesses, including NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, Fire and Rescue NSW and NSW Ambulance Services, shall be notified in writing by the applicant of the proposed temporary

road closure at least 14 days prior to the event, with the applicant making reasonable provision for residents and businesses;

d) Notification signs advising of the proposed road closures and new traffic arrangements to be strategically installed and maintained by the applicant at each end of each street at least 7 days prior to the closure;

e) A 4-metre-wide emergency vehicle access be maintained through the area during the course of the event; and

f) The occupation of the road carriageway must not occur until the road has been physically closed.

g) The road closure of Railway Parade (Lower) must not occur during TTP works on Railway Parade or rail shutdown periods

h) The Traffic Management Plan be updated so that the road closure of Railway Parade (Lower) be set to the intersection of Railway Parade at Sydenham Road and Marrickville Road.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 6 Victoria Street, Ashfield - Installation of a 'Keep Clear' zone at the front of Ashfield Fire Station (Djarrawunang-Ashfield Ward / Summer Hill Electorate / Burwood PAC)

SUMMARY

This report outlines current emergency vehicle accessibility issues at Victoria Street between Liverpool Road and Norton Street and proposes the appropriate road treatment to improve emergency response operations of Ashfield Fire Station

Officers Recommendation:

That the installation of a 'Keep Clear' zone on Victoria Street, Ashfield at the main driveway for Ashfield Fire Station be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the installation of a 'Keep Clear' zone on Victoria Street, Ashfield at the main driveway for Ashfield Fire Station be approved.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 7 Railway Parade, Annandale - Proposed Road and Streetscape Upgrade (Baludarri-Balmain Ward/Balmain Electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

Council is planning to undertake works to upgrade the existing road and streetscape along Railway Parade, Annandale between Brenan Street and Bayview Crescent. The project

intends to formalise the existing 90-degree angle parking and reduce localised flooding by improving stormwater drainage. Additionally, upgrades and renewals including a new footpath, existing road and footpath works, driveway and layback reconstruction, and landscaping works will improve the overall amenity of the street.

The proposed upgrades will result in no loss of existing on-street parking spaces.

Officers Recommendation:

That the attached detail design plan (No. 10283) for the proposed road and streetscape upgrade along Railway Parade, Annandale be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached detail design plan (No. 10283) for the proposed road and streetscape upgrade along Railway Parade, Annandale be approved.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 8 Anthony Street, Croydon - Proposed installation of statutory 'No Stopping' restrictions at the junction of the unnamed laneway and Anthony Street between Robinson Street and Edwin Street, Croydon (Gulgadya - Leichhardt Ward / Strathfield Electorate / Burwood PAC)

SUMMARY

Residents of Edwin Street, Croydon, have raised concerns with vehicles using the pickup / drop off zone associated with PLC School and obstructing residential access to the unnamed laneway. To address the large volumes associated with PLC School during the peak pickup / drop off times and preventing residential access to the laneway, Council proposes to signpost the departure and approaching corners with statutory 10m 'No Stopping' signs. Council also proposes to relocate the 'No Stopping' sign on Burwood Council's boundary to create an additional parking space.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That Anthony Street next to the unnamed laneway between Robinson Street and Edwin Street, Croydon be signposted with statutory 10m 'No Stopping' restrictions on both corners.

2. That the 'No Stopping' sign on the northern side of Anthony Street at Burwood Council's boundary be relocated 3m west to create an additional parking space.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. That Anthony Street next to the unnamed laneway between Robinson Street and

Edwin Street, Croydon be signposted with statutory 10m 'No Stopping' restrictions on both corners.

2. **That the 'No Stopping' sign on the northern side of Anthony Street at Burwood Council's boundary be relocated 3m west to create an additional parking space.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 9 Carrington Street, Lilyfield - Temporary full road closure and associated construction Traffic Management Plan (Baludarri-Balmain Ward/Balmain Electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

Inner West City Council has received a Temporary Road Closure and Traffic Management Plan (TMP) application from Modscape *(Attachment 1)* seeking an approval for delivering a modular building to No.12 Carrington Street, Lilyfield in the week commencing 11 August 2025. As part of this road closure, there will be full road closure on Carrington Street (between Joseph Street and Balmain Road), The Boulevarde (between Joseph Street and Balmain Road) and partial temporary on-street parking removal along Balmain Road (between Helena Street and Grove Street).

This TMP and road closure application was previously considered and approved by the Local Traffic Committee on 18 November 2024.

Officers Recommendation:

That the temporary full road closure of Carrington Street (between Joseph Street and Balmain Road), The Boulevarde (between Joseph Street and Balmain Road) and partial temporary on-street parking removal along Balmain Road (between Helena Street and Grove Street), be approved for the purpose of the installation of a modular building at No.12 Carrington Street, Lilyfield for a two-day period in the week commencing 11 August 2025, with a four week contingency period, subject to the following conditions and all standard Council conditions for temporary full road closures:

a) A Road Occupancy License application be obtained from the Transport Management Centre for road closure on Balmain Road.

b) Temporary parking arrangements must be provided for the existing disabled parking bays on Balmain Road, Carrington Street and The Boulevarde which will be affected during the work and should be located as close as possible to their original locations.

c) NHVR permit to be obtained prior to the work.

d) Notice of the proposed event be forwarded to the NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, the NSW Fire Brigades and the NSW Ambulance Services.

e) All residents and businesses in and around the affected area are to be notified of the temporary road closure in writing by the applicant in advance (at least 7 days prior to the event) with the applicant making reasonable provision for stakeholders.

f) On-street parking to be maintained for residents along the east side of The Boulevarde (between Joseph Street and the laneway south of Balmain Road).

g) Vehicular access to the laneway south of Balmain Road to be maintained within the road closure zone.

h) Authorised pilot vehicles to accompany and manage the trucks at major intersections including City West Link Road at Balmain Road, Balmain Road at Perry Street, Balmain Road at The Boulevarde and Balmain Road at Carrington Road.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the temporary full road closure of Carrington Street (between Joseph Street and Balmain Road), The Boulevarde (between Joseph Street and Balmain Road) and partial temporary on-street parking removal along Balmain Road (between Helena Street and Grove Street), be approved for the purpose of the installation of a modular building at No.12 Carrington Street, Lilyfield for a two-day period in the week commencing 11 August 2025, with a four week contingency period, subject to the following conditions and all standard Council conditions for temporary full road closures:

a) A Road Occupancy License application be obtained from the Transport Management Centre for road closure on Balmain Road.

b) Temporary parking arrangements must be provided for the existing disabled parking bays on Balmain Road, Carrington Street and The Boulevarde which will be affected during the work and should be located as close as possible to their original locations.

c) NHVR permit to be obtained prior to the work.

d) Notice of the proposed event be forwarded to the NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, the NSW Fire Brigades and the NSW Ambulance Services.

e) All residents and businesses in and around the affected area are to be notified of the temporary road closure in writing by the applicant in advance (at least 7 days prior to the event) with the applicant making reasonable provision for stakeholders.

f) On-street parking to be maintained for residents along the east side of The Boulevarde (between Joseph Street and the laneway south of Balmain Road).

g) Vehicular access to the laneway south of Balmain Road to be maintained within the road closure zone.

h) Authorised pilot vehicles to accompany and manage the trucks at major intersections including City West Link Road at Balmain Road, Balmain Road at Perry Street, Balmain Road at The Boulevarde and Balmain Road at Carrington Road.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 10 College Street, Balmain - Proposed One Way Restriction

(Baludarri-Balmain Ward/Balmain Electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

Council has received concerns from several residents about the narrow road width with frequent reports of near miss incidents in College Street between Cameron Street and Curtis Road. In response investigation and consultation was undertaken for a one-way westbound traffic flow, including associated signage and line marking in College Street, between Cameron Street and Curtis Road as illustrated in *Attachment 1*.

Officers Recommendation:

That the proposed one-way westbound traffic in College Street, Balmain between Cameron Street and Curtis Road, be supported in-principle, subject to Transport for NSW approval of the Traffic Management Plan.

DISCUSSION:

Public Speaker Avryl Lattin entered the meeting at 11.22am

Ms Lattin supported the proposal noting that the proposal will improve safety in the area. Ms Lattin noted that there was strong support from the community in favour of the proposal, and if the Committee were to disagree with the proposal, that the outdoor dining area at the Dry Dock Hotel be reviewed as it impedes sightlines for vehicles turning left onto Cameron Street.

Public Speaker Avryl Lattin left the meeting at 11.25am

The Representative for the Member for Balmain requested that the one-way restriction on College Street be made 'Bicycles excepted' and that Council investigate 'Bicycles excepted' when Council proposes to turn two-way streets into one-way.

Council Officers noted the Representative for the Member for Balmain's request to investigate 'Bicycles excepted' signs for one-way streets and advised that a safety review will need to be undertaken prior to the installation of the 'Bicycles excepted' signage being installed to ensure it is compliant with the safety regulations.

Council Officers suggested amending the recommendation to include that Council investigate the implementation of a 'Bicycles excepted' sign, subject to the safety review being undertaken.

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That the proposed one-way westbound traffic in College Street, Balmain between Cameron Street and Curtis Road, be supported in-principle, subject to Transport for NSW approval of the Traffic Management Plan.**
2. **That a 'Bicycles excepted' sign be included, subject to a safety review being undertaken.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 11 Percival Road and Temple Street, Stanmore – Temporary full road closure for Stanmore Music Festival – Saturday 15 November

2025 (Damun-Stanmore Ward / Newtown Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

Inner West Council is presenting Stanmore Music Festival on Saturday 15 November 2025 from 12:00noon until 7:00pm. To facilitate the event there will be a temporary full road closure of Percival Road, between Salisbury Road and Myrtle Street and Temple Street between Percival Lane West and Percival Road, Stanmore (ENRC/202/0041). This will require some road detours in surrounding streets. Road closure and event bump in will occur from 6:00am and bump out will conclude by 9:30pm.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That the proposed temporary full road closure of Percival Road, between Salisbury Road and Myrtle Street, and Temple Street between Percival Lane West and Percival Road, Stanmore be APPROVED for the purpose of holding the 'Stanmore Music Festival' Event on Saturday 15 November 2025 between 6.00am and 9.30pm as per the submitted TMP and TGSs and subject to the following conditions and all standard Council conditions for temporary full road closures:

2. That a Road Occupancy License application be obtained from the Transport Management Centre.

3. That notice of the proposed event be forwarded to the NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, the NSW Fire Brigades and the NSW Ambulance Services.

4. That all residents and businesses in and around the affected area are to be notified of the temporary road closure in writing by the applicant in advance (at least 7 days prior to the event) with the applicant making reasonable provision for stakeholders.
5. That a minimum four (4) metre unencumbered passage be available for emergency vehicles through the closed sections.
6. That the occupation of the road carriageway must not occur until the road has been physically closed.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That the proposed temporary full road closure of Percival Road, between Salisbury Road and Myrtle Street, and Temple Street between Percival Lane West and Percival Road, Stanmore be APPROVED for the purpose of holding the 'Stanmore Music Festival' Event on Saturday 15 November 2025 between 6.00am and 9.30pm as per the submitted TMP and TGSs and subject to the following conditions and all standard Council conditions for temporary full road closures:**

2. **That a Road Occupancy License application be obtained from the Transport Management Centre.**

3. **That notice of the proposed event be forwarded to the NSW Police Local Area Commander, Transit Systems, the NSW Fire Brigades and the NSW Ambulance Services.**

4. **That all residents and businesses in and around the affected area are to be notified of the temporary road closure in writing by the applicant in advance (at least 7 days prior to the event) with the applicant making reasonable provision for**

stakeholders.

5. **That a minimum four (4) metre unencumbered passage be available for emergency vehicles through the closed sections.**
6. **That the occupation of the road carriageway must not occur until the road has been physically closed.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 12 London Street and Simmons Street, Enmore - Updated Report for the Proposed Temporary Road Closure and Part Road Closure (Damun-Stanmore Ward / Newtown Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

On 18 March 2024, a Local Traffic Committee report was submitted to Council for the proposed temporary road closure and part road closure of London Street and Simmons Street, Enmore. Council's decision at the time included the deferral of approval of the closures subject to the approval of the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) was by Transport for NSW for full/part road closure London Street and Simmons Street, Enmore.

Since the adoption of the Traffic Committee recommendation in March 2024, Transport for NSW has provided their approval for Council's proposed temporary road closure and part road closure for London Street and Simmons Street, Enmore. Council has addressed the further requirements that were provided as a condition of the TfNSW approval. Therefore, Council officers are proposing to undertake the implementation of the road closure trial with a Council officer being nominated for any community enquiries during the notification and work period.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That Council note the approval of the Traffic Management Plan by Transport for NSW.

2. That Council approve the implementation of the proposed temporary road closure at London Street and the temporary part road closure at Simmons Street for a trial period of 6 months.

3. That the amended signs and linemarking plan for London Street (Parking changes plan) be approved.

4. That the amended signs and linemarking plan for Simmons Street (Parking changes plan) be approved.

DISCUSSION:

Public speakers, Bryony Weiss, Kathryn Welch, James Buckman, Norma Speechley, Doug Rosser, and Nick Rippon entered the meeting at 11.05 am

Ms Welch raised concerns regarding the impacts on the traffic in the neighbouring streets and the limited plans currently in place to mitigate current and proposed traffic issues in the area. Ms Welch noted that the concerns raised by various residents regarding rat running in the area tabled at the 18 March 2024 Local Traffic Committee meeting still persist. Ms Welch noted that Council's traffic study acknowledges that the street closures will redistribute much of the traffic that would utilise London Street into nearby local streets. It was also noted that the Council's traffic study concludes that 90% of the traffic passing through the

neighbourhood is through traffic, highlighting the residents' concerns regarding rat running. Ms Welch requested that Council review potential traffic calming measures and develop a comprehensive traffic management plan for the triangle bounded by Liberty Street, Enmore Road, and the railway line to address the rat-running issues in the neighbourhood.

Ms Weiss advised that she supported the vision of the London and Simmons Streets projects; however, she raised concerns regarding the traffic and safety impacts this project will have on Belmore Street. Ms Weiss noted that motorists regularly speed down Belmore Street, and with Council's studies and traffic data showing that 30% of the London Street traffic is predicted to flow through Belmore Street, she is concerned that the additional traffic will add to the existing issues currently experienced in the street. Ms Weiss noted her concerns that Belmore Street being excluded from the current rollout of the InnerWest@40 program will make Belmore Street more attractive to speeding motorists seeking to bypass the slower surrounding streets. Ms Weiss requested that the Council include Belmore Street in the InnerWest@40 speed reduction program, incorporate traffic calming measures to physically slow down vehicles and improve pedestrian safety, as well as commit to monitoring traffic impacts and implementing additional measures where needed.

Ms Welch also tabled in comments on behalf of resident Andrew Kennelly noting his concerns for the proposal. It was noted that the disadvantages to residents are considerable, including pollution from increased emissions and noise, which will impact the mental and physical health of residents. It was noted that there are existing traffic issues in Belmore Lane and the surrounding areas, which will be amplified with the road closures.

Mr Rosser raised concerns noting the traffic data provided from the studies were not detailed enough advised that further investigation and studies should be undertaken to address the issues raised at the 18 March 2024 Local Traffic Committee meeting. It was noted that there was no data provided on traffic during morning and afternoon peak hours, and that was when most of the traffic concerns arose.

Ms Speechley raised concerns regarding the parking and traffic issues that would arise from this proposal, given the existing traffic issues during events at Enmore Theatre.

Mr Rippon agreed with the concerns raised by Ms Welch, Ms Weiss, Mr Rosser and Ms Speechley and noted that the traffic is projected to increase by 63% in the AM peak hour and 106% during the PM peak hour, and that the traffic studies previously undertaken do not consider those predictions. Mr Rippon advised that he is not opposed to the objective of the proposal to create additional community spaces but does not want that to come at the cost of safety in the neighbourhood. Mr Rippon requested that Belmore Street and Phillip Street be included in the initial phase of the InnerWest@40 project that had recently commenced and noted there were very few traffic calming measures put forward in the proposal. Mr Rippon also noted the proposal should include additional signage in surrounding streets to advise motorists of the change in traffic conditions and to shift traffic movements around the proposed closure in London Street.

The Chairperson advised that the InnerWest@40 project will be implemented across the whole Inner West Council LGA, and that Belmore Street and Phillip Street will be included as part of that project.

Public speakers, Bryony Weiss, Kathryn Welch, James Buckman, Norma Speechley, Doug Rosser, and Nick Rippon left the meeting at 11.20 am

Council Officers advised that this report reflects some minor changes to the Transport Management Plan (TMP) and parking controls and responds to the points made by Transport for NSW. It was noted that there were objections from residents due to concerns about changes in traffic movements in the local area and in response to that Council did change the proposal for Simmons Street from a full road closure to a one-way exit. It was noted that the original report had gone through the Local Traffic Committee and has been endorsed by

Council and that this report addresses TfNSW matters raised through the TMP approval and brings in line the minor traffic and parking changes.

Council Officers advised that a study had been undertaken to investigate the redistribution of traffic in the local areas and the impacts on the wider road network with the proposed closure, which was tabled at the previous meeting. Council Officers advised they will be looking into additional measures to stop rat running and will undertake another study a couple of months into implementation, to gather data for review of the closures

Councillor Atkins noted that the residents weren't necessarily objecting to the road closures, but they would like Council to have a careful look into the potential implications that may arise from this project. Councillor Atkins suggested that additional wayfinding signage be implemented, and that Council note the concerns of residents and review the area for potential traffic calming treatments to reduce traffic issues in the area.

Council Officers noted that the next phase of the InnerWest@40 rollout will be implemented in the section of Newtown that the residents previously raised concerns about, and that Council is currently developing signage for the InnerWest@40 project in this area which will be submitted to Transport for NSW for review and approval. Council Officers could not provide an estimated date of implementation owing to the involvement of external agency in the approval process.

Council Officers tabled correspondence from a resident advising they supported the proposal.

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That Council note the approval of the Traffic Management Plan by Transport for NSW.**

2. **That Council approve the implementation of the proposed temporary road closure at London Street and the temporary part road closure at Simmons Street for a trial period of 6 months.**

3. **That the amended signs and linemarking plan for London Street (Parking changes plan) be approved.**

4. **That the amended signs and linemarking plan for Simmons Street (Parking changes plan) be approved.**

5. **That Council notes the concerns of residents and investigates potential traffic calming treatments in the surrounding streets of London and Simmons Streets.**

6. **That additional advisory signs be placed on Liberty Street advising that London Street is closed and to use Stanmore Road to Access Enmore Road.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 13 Salisbury Road, Stanmore - Request for a residential parking scheme (Damun-Stanmore Ward / Newtown Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

Upon receiving a petition from residents of Salisbury Road, Stanmore Council initiated an investigation for implementing residential parking restrictions on the southern side of Salisbury Road, between properties No.75 and No.101 Salisbury Road. Recent parking occupancy surveys conducted by Council Officers have indicated a high parking demand in the above-mentioned section of Salisbury Road during peak hours of the day.

This report provides the results of the recent resident parking scheme investigation in Salisbury Road, Stanmore.

Officers Recommendation:

That the proposal to implement Resident Parking Scheme restrictions '2P 8.30am to 6pm Monday – Friday Permit Holders Excepted Area M15' in Salisbury Road, Stanmore on the southern side between No.75 and No.101 Salisbury Road not be supported at this time due to insufficient resident support.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the proposal to implement Resident Parking Scheme restrictions '2P 8.30am to 6pm Monday – Friday Permit Holders Excepted Area M15' in Salisbury Road, Stanmore on the southern side between No.75 and No.101 Salisbury Road not be supported at this time due to insufficient resident support.

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 14 Baltic and Bedford Streets, Newtown- Proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions (Damun-Stanmore Ward/Inner West PAC/Newtown Electorate)

SUMMARY

This report outlines a 'No Stopping' restriction proposal to improve access to Baltic Street at the intersection of Bedford Street. The proposal will improve parking compliance and ensure vehicles park away from the intersection. Community consultation revealed strong objection to the proposal due to loss of parking. Accordingly, Council officers are proposing a reduced 6-metre 'No Stopping' restriction which will require the completion of a risk assessment, that will subsequently be referred to Transport for NSW for approval.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That the proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions on both sides of Baltic Street, 6 metres north from the intersection of Bedford Street be approved subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by TfNSW.

2. That the proposed 'No Stopping' restriction on the northern side of Bedford Street, 6 metres west of Bedford Street be approved, subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by TfNSW.

3. That the 'No Stopping' restriction on the northern side, east of Bedford Street be

approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee members agreed with the Officer's recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That the proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions on both sides of Baltic Street, 6 metres north from the intersection of Bedford Street be approved subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by TfNSW.**

2. **That the proposed 'No Stopping' restriction on the northern side of Bedford Street, 6 metres west of Bedford Street be approved, subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by TfNSW.**

3. **That the 'No Stopping' restriction on the northern side, east of Bedford Street be approved.**

For Motion: Unanimous

LTC0725(1) Item 15 Allen Street, Leichhardt - Safety at Driveway of 141-143 Allen Street (Gulgadya-Leichhardt Ward/Balmain Electorate/ Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

The strata management of 141-143 Allen Street, Leichhardt has reported that drivers exiting the site driveway located in Flood Street, Leichhardt are having difficulty exiting the driveway as sight lines are obstructed due to parked vehicles. They further requested 4-5m sections of 'No Parking' restrictions each side of the driveway which result in a loss of two (2) on-street parking spaces.

A review has been undertaken on the subject driveway at Flood Street. As on-street parking is highly utilised and valued by the community, the installation of parking restrictions is not supported. Alternate possible measures to improve safety would be to install a speed hump inside of the property boundary, and additional signs for vehicles exiting the ramp and driveway would be recommended, which is a standard measure undertaken at other similar driveways within the Inner West. It is also recommended to relocate the existing '2P 8am-6pm Permit Holders Excepted Area L1' (L) sign located approximately 4.5m north of the subject driveway closer to this driveway to prevent vehicles partially obstructing the driveway and attempting to park within the unrestricted section.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That Council write to the Strata Management at 141-143 Allen Street, Leichhardt advising of the outcome of this report and requesting the Strata Management to consider the installation of a speed hump inside the property boundary with 'Giveway to Pedestrians' and 'Stop' signage leading up to and at the exit of the driveway.
2. That the existing '2P 8am-6pm Permit Holders Excepted Area L1' (L) signage north of the driveway be relocated south by approximately 3.9m.

DISCUSSION:

Council Officers noted that there was an error in the recommendation that the second point on the recommendation should read "That the existing '2P 8am-6pm Permit Holders Excepted Area L1' (R) signage north of the driveway be relocated south by approximately 3.9m."

The Committee members agreed with the amended recommendation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That Council write to the Strata Management at 141-143 Allen Street, Leichhardt advising of the outcome of this report and requesting the Strata Management to consider the installation of a speed hump inside the property boundary with 'Giveway to Pedestrians' and 'Stop' signage leading up to and at the exit of the driveway.**
2. **That the existing '2P 8am-6pm Permit Holders Excepted Area L1' (R) signage north of the driveway be relocated south by approximately 3.9m.**

For Motion: Unanimous

Meeting closed at 11.59pm.

CHAIRPERSON

Councillor Victor Macri

Item 4

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 4**

Subject: **POST EXHIBITION - DRAFT MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Jonny Browne - Strategic and Corporate Communications Manager

Authorised By: Peter Gainsford - General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council adopt the Media and Social Media Policy.**

2. **The Council update the Policy Register and publish, as applicable, internally, and externally the adopted Media and Social Media Policy.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Media Policy is due for review. As reported to the 29 April 2025 Council meeting, officers have taken the opportunity to also review the Social Media Policy and consolidate these two policies into a single draft Media and Social Policy. The Draft Media and Social Media Policy was approved for public exhibition. Three submissions were received during the exhibition period.

It is recommended that Council adopt the policy that was placed on public exhibition, with no changes.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on the 29 April 2025, Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council publicly exhibit the draft Media and Social Media Policy for a period of 28 days and seek community feedback on the proposed Policy.*

2. *That following the conclusion of the exhibition period, the draft Media and Social Media Policy be brought back to Council for consideration for adoption.*

The purpose of the draft Policy is to set out a framework to assist Councillors with media relations and outline processes relating to media and social media engagement.

The draft Policy consolidates Council's Media Policy and Social Media Policy, given the closely related subject matter of those two policies. It incorporates certain sections of the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy that deal with the provision of communications support to Councillors. It also includes certain additional policy considerations and obligations from the Model Media Policy and Model Social Media Policy produced by the Office of Local Government (OLG).

The draft Policy does not depart from any of the established policy settings in any of the current Media, Social Media, or Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policies. In respect of the OLG's Model Media and Social Media Policies, the draft Policy does not replicate all of the content from the OLG's model policies. This is to avoid duplication with Council's current Media and Social Media Policies, which already contain a significant amount of content addressed by the OLG's polices.

The Draft Policy was placed on public exhibition on 12 May 2025 with comments invited until 10 June 2025.

DISCUSSION

There were 261 visits to the 'Have Your Say Inner West' project page and 56 downloads of the draft Policy during the public exhibition period.

Three submissions were received and these are outlined below along with an Officer comment:

Support (Yes or No)	Public Exhibition Comment/Explanation	IWC Comment
Unsure	*"I strongly believe that council should make a statement by boycotting X(Twitter)."*	It is important to note that Council does not post on X (formerly twitter) but maintains an account for the purposes of monitoring.
No	"*Too much use of Facebook, Insta etc. by councillors. need to use hard copy into letterboxes or on community noticeboards as many in community are not able to access the aforementioned so are ignorant of what council is doing"*	Council does not rely solely on digital and social media but makes extensive use of printed communications including the monthly Newsletter that goes to every residence in the Inner West as well as leaflets and information booklets in Libraries and service centres and community noticeboards.
Yes	*"I welcome the block and remove approach to disrespectful comments but recommend strengthening it with an explicit "zero-tolerance" stance on identity-based hate speech"*	The policy as exhibited contains a clause 6.2 that gives guidance on why and when Councillors can block comments and users on social media *6. 2 Councillors are responsible for the administration and moderation of their own social media accounts, and the preparation, posting and management of their own content on social media channels.* ***Councillors may block users and remove comments at their discretion, having regard to the importance of respectful democratic discussion and debate.***

Conclusion
As none of the three submissions called for any substantive changes to the policy, it is recommended that Council adopt the Media and Social Media Policy as exhibited (*Attachment 1*).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Draft Media and Social Media Policy

Draft Media and Social Media Policy

V(1)



INNER WEST

Item 4

Title	**Media and Social Media Policy**
Summary	This Policy outlines processes, guidelines and issues relating to media relations and the use of social media by Councillors.
Document Type	Policy
Relevant Strategic Plan Objective	• Strategic Direction 5: Progressive responsive and effective civic leadership.
Legislative Reference	• *Local Government Act 1993 NSW* • *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988 NSW;* • *The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 NSW;* • *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 NSW;* • *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 NSW;* • *Work Health and Safety Act 2011 NSW;* • *Australian Constitution;* • *Defamation Act 2005 NSW;* • *Copyright Act 1968 Cth; and* • *Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Act 2000 Cth.*
Related Council Documents	• Code of Conduct • Code of Meeting Practice • Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct
Version Control	See last page

Attachment 1

DRAFT

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DRAFT

Media Policy

1 Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework to assist Councillors with media relations and outlines processes, guidelines and issues relating to engagement with the media and use of social media by Councillors.

2 Scope

This Policy applies to Inner West Councillors.

3 Definitions

In the Councillor Media Policy, the following terms have the following meanings:

Act	*Local Government Act 1993.*
conflict of interest	Includes either a: • Pecuniary conflict of interest. • Significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest. • Non-significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest, as defined in the Model Code of Conduct and described in section 6 of the Conflict of Interest Policy.
Councillor	Inner West Council elected representative.
Council committee member	A person other than a Councillor or Council Officer who is a member of a Council committee other than a wholly advisory committee, and a person other than a Councillor who is a member of Council's audit, risk and improvement committee.
Council Officer	Inner West Council members of staff (including full-time, part-time, casual and contracted staff).

Council Official	Councillors, Council Officers, Council committee members and delegates of Council.
Media Coordinator	Means a person appointed under clause 6.6 of this Policy
media	Means print, broadcast and online media used for communicating information to the public, including, but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, internet publishers, radio, and television broadcasters
Minor	For the purposes of this Policy, a minor is a person under 18 years of age.
social media	Means online platforms and applications, such as but not limited to social networking sites, wikis, blogs, microblogs, video and audio sharing sites, and message boards, that allow people to easily publish, share and discuss content. A non-exhaustive list of social media platforms is below: • Facebook; • X (formerly Twitter); • Instagram; • Your Say Inner West; • YouTube; • LinkedIn; • Snapchat; • Council's Intranet; • Newsletters (e.g. Substack); • Reddit • TikTok • Blogs; and • Podcasts.
Strategic and Corporate Communications team	Means the Council unit responsible for managing Council's strategic and corporate communications.

personal information	Information or an opinion (including information or an opinion forming part of a database and whether or not recorded in a material form) about an individual whose identity is apparent or can reasonably be ascertained from the information or opinion.
Private use of social media	For the purposes of this Policy, a Councillor's social media engagement will be considered 'private use' when the content they upload is not: • associated with, or does not refer to, the Council, any other council officials, contractors, related entities or any other person or organisation providing services to or on behalf of the Council in their official or professional capacities, and • related to or does not contain information acquired by virtue of their role as a Councillor

4 Introduction

Media and Social Media – opportunities and challenges

Inner West Council is committed to effective media engagement to keep the community informed, explain decisions, and to promote community confidence in Council and its decisions. Inner West Council also acknowledges social media enables direct dialogue between Councillors and the community, while also allowing Councillors to gain insight into community needs via public feedback.

Inner West Council strives to maintain a positive image in the community. Our public image is influenced by the way we communicate, and media relations should support Council in achieving our strategic objectives. A mutually beneficial and trusting relationship between Council and the media is essential in maintaining and protecting Council's reputation. Inner West Council welcomes enquiries from the media, and works proactively with media outlets to inform the public about Council's activities and advocacy. Inner West Council also recognises that social media is an essential communication, engagement, and customer service channel which facilitates the creation and sharing of information and ideas via virtual communities and online networks. It involves communication, collaboration, discussion, and debate. It also

enables the development of social and professional networks, groups, followers, and contacts.

This Policy recognises that Councillors are elected representatives and as such are required to represent and communicate with their community as part of a robust local democracy, including through public debate, engaging with the media, and online media engagement. This Policy provides a framework to assist Councillors with engagement with the media and use of social media by Councillors. It acknowledges that clear and consistent guidelines are required to ensure the appropriate use of social media by Councillors, and enables Councillors to speak on social media while protecting the interests of Council and promoting compliance with the Code of Conduct.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that Council officials, including Councillors, must not conduct themselves in a manner that is likely to bring Council or holders of civic office into disrepute, and this obligation applies to the use of social media. Councillors should ensure they are aware of and comply with their obligations under the Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.

The Policy is consistent with existing policies, including the Code of Conduct, and policies on the acceptable use of information technology.

5 Authorised Spokespeople

5.1 Only authorised spokespeople are permitted to make comment to the media on behalf of Council.

The Mayor

5.2 The Mayor is the principal member and spokesperson of the governing body of the Council, including representing the views of the Council as to its local priorities (section 226(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*).

5.3 If the Mayor is unavailable, the Deputy Mayor may act as the Council's spokesperson in respect of matter, unless the Mayor has previously approved another person to act as spokesperson in respect of those matters.

5.4 The Mayor may:

a) issue media releases on Mayoral letterhead, from time to time.
b) issue social media material in line with official media releases issued on Mayoral letterhead on the Mayor's separate Mayoral social media platforms.
c) delegate their role as spokesperson or approve the attribution of media releases to other Councillors where appropriate, (for example, where another Councillor is best placed to comment, because the issue is of particular interest to them, or it is within their particular area of expertise).

5.5 Council may, from time to time, also delegate to the Mayor further spokeperson authorities, such as the ability to make public statements on matters of official Council attitude or interpretation of Council Policy or concerning Council's resolutions and proposals.

Councillors

5.6 As a member of the governing body and as a representative of the community, all Councillors are free to express their personal views to the media, but may not speak on behalf of Council unless authorised to do so.

5.7 From time to time, a Councillor who submits a notice a motion that forms the basis of a Council resolution may be offered the opportunity to lead on media opportunities and to feature in photo, video or communications published by Council. Any such opportunities may be offered after consultation with the Mayor, and the Councillor who leads on media opportunities may choose to involve other Councillors.

5.8 When engaging with the media and/or social media, Councillors must:

a) not purport or imply to be speaking for Council unless authorised to do so.
b) clarify that they are expressing their personal views as an individual councillor and that they are not speaking for Council (unless authorised to do so).
c) uphold and accurately represent the policies and decisions of the Council.
d) not disclose council information unless authorised to do so.
e) communicate accurate information when dealing with the media.
f) seek information and guidance from the Strategic and Corporate Communications team where appropriate before providing comment to the media to ensure they have the most up-to-date and relevant information and have considered reputational or other risks.
g) not commit Council to any action or pre-empt official Council announcements.
h) refer any operational media enquiries relating to Council to Council's Media Coordinator.
i) not comment on any confidential matters (such as staff information, personal information, legal advice, commercial-in-confidence information and Code of Conduct complaints) or breach the privacy of other Council Officials or those that deal with Council.
j) treat media representatives in the same manner as any other customer of Council, with promptness, transparency, and respect.
k) seek approval from the Mayor in respect of any social media posts on official Council social media channels using the Mayor's image and/or quotes.
l) abide by the Code of Meeting Practice and Code of Conduct, particularly but not solely the requirement to treat others with respect at all times and not to

damage Council's reputation, discriminate, disadvantage or treat anyone adversely, when making any media comment.

5.9 Where councillors (including the Mayor) become aware of potential issues that could result in media interest, or have a genuine concern about something at Council, they should raise this with the General Manager in the first instance.

General Manager

5.10 Council's General Manager is the official spokesperson for the Council on operational and administrative matters.

5.11 The General Manager may delegate to other council staff to speak on their behalf in respect of operational and administrative matters, where appropriate, (for example, where the delegated staff member has professional expertise regarding the subject matter, or the general manager is unavailable).

6 Roles and Responsibilities

Social Media Use by Councillors

6.1 Councillors shall conduct themselves in their use of social media in a way that upholds the values and reputation of Council, consistent with the Model Code of Conduct and other policies.

6.2 Councillors are responsible for the administration and moderation of their own social media accounts, and the preparation, posting and management of their own content on social media channels. Councillors may block users and remove comments at their discretion, having regard to the importance of respectful democratic discussion and debate.

6.3 Councillors must also be aware of posts by others to their social media pages and consider if such posts and any comments are offensive, or may incite hatred, violence, or criminal acts. Any posts or comments made to a Councillor's social media page or site should be monitored by the Councillor and removed if they do not meet the standard of socially acceptable behaviour or commentary.

6.4 Councillors should be aware that any social media activity or interaction, either official or personal, is public, permanently available, traceable, and able to be reproduced elsewhere. Councillors are reminded that 'shares', 'likes' or 'retweets' may be viewed as an endorsement of the original post. Additionally, whether intended or not, posts by Councillors online in a private capacity may reflect on Council and their role as a Councillors.

6.5 If a Councillor chooses to identify themselves as a Councillor, either directly or indirectly (such as in their user profile), then they will not be deemed to be acting in their private capacity for the purposes of this Policy. This includes instances where Councillors identifies themselves as a Councillor when posting to a non-Council social media channel.

Role of Media Coordinator

6.6 The General Manager will appoint a member of council staff to be the Council's Media Coordinator. The Media Coordinator should be a suitably qualified member of staff.

6.7 The General Manager may appoint more than one Media Coordinator.

6.8 The Media Coordinator's role is to:

a) obtain approval from the Mayor before using their quotes or images or releasing any communications material pertaining directly to the Mayor, including but not limited to media releases, 'Mayoral Messages', Council newsletters, forewords for reports and social media posts on official Council social media channels.
b) be responsible for preparing and issuing media releases about Council's activities, decisions and plans.
c) arrange any media releases that are required to give effect to a Council resolution.
d) be the lead point of contact for all media enquiries, requests for interviews, requests to film or photograph Councillors, Council staff, facilities or events for news and current affairs purposes.
e) providing all Councillors with copies of general media releases once published on Council's website, for their information.
f) liaise with relevant staff members within the organisation where appropriate.
g) ensure that media statements are approved by the Mayor and/or General Manager prior to their release.
h) develop and/or approve media training and/or induction to be provided to relevant staff and/or councillors.
i) maintain a record of all media enquiries and responses.
j) ensure that media organisations and their representatives are treated professionally, equally and without bias.
k) ensure that media enquiries are dealt with promptly.
l) provide guidance to councillors approached by the media for comment to avoid communication of misinformation.
m) ensure that all media releases are published on the Council's website.
n) coordinate responses to all Mayoral enquiries and informing and liaising with Council staff, as required.

Role of Council's Strategic and Corporate Communications Team

6.9 Council's Communications team is responsible for:

a) Administering Council's social media platforms to ensure consistency of content, tone and style.

b) Providing Councillors with communications support to promote initiatives that have been resolved by Council, including the drafting and distribution of media releases and through Council's social media channels noting that:

I. In addition to supporting and representing the community, a core function of Councillors is to promote the initiatives and good work of Council, its programs, events and staff. Council has a responsibility to assist Councillors to achieve this.

II. The primary purpose of Council's communications channels including the newsletter, email lists and social media channels is to promote the policies and priorities of the elected body, as established by adopted resolutions and in the community strategic plan, and to inform the community about programs and initiatives being undertaken by Council in support of the community.

III. Understanding the variety and volume of events and initiatives at council, it is not a requirement for publication that all Councillors or representatives from all political groupings be included in individual photographs, videos or communications on any Policy or initiative.

7 Administrative framework for engagement with the media

7.1 Media and the public are welcome to attend Council meetings to ensure transparency and access to information.

7.2 Allocated seating will be provided for media outlets at all Council meetings. Media representatives must comply with Council's Code of Meeting Practice for Council meetings.

7.3 Councillors must refer requests from media outlets to film or photograph Councillors, Council staff, facilities, meetings and events, to Council's Media Coordinator.

8 Uses of media during emergencies

8.1 During an emergency, crisis, natural disaster, or public health incident:

a) Only the Mayor and General Manager or their delegate/s are authorised to approve the publication of information or speak to the media on behalf of Council.

b) Council's Communications team will be responsible for liaising with Council's Incident Controller and coordinating media releases and statements on behalf of Council, and social media posts.

8.2 Councillors must not provide comment or information to the media, or post content to social media that is inconsistent with official advice issued by the Council and any other agency coordinating the emergency response.

8.3 Training on media engagement and social media use during emergencies will be provided to Councillors.

9 Media engagement in the leadup to elections

9.1 This Policy does not prevent the Mayor or Councillors who are candidates in any election from providing comment to the media in their capacity as a candidate at the election.

9.2 Any media comment provided by the Mayor or Councillors who are candidates at an election must not be provided in an advertisement, newspaper column, or a radio or television broadcast paid for by Council or produced by Council or with Council resources.

10 Guidelines for Councillors

Media

10.1 The following are examples of, but are not limited to, what Councillors should and should not do regarding media liaison.

Do ...

- Be mindful of your obligations under the Code of Conduct, General Conduct, including the requirement to treat others with respect at all times and not to damage Council's reputation, discriminate, disadvantage or treat anyone adversely.
- Be careful to communicate accurate information when dealing with the media.

Don't ...

- Imply that you are speaking on behalf of Inner West Council.
- Comment on any confidential matters (such as staff, personal information, legal advice, commercial-in-confidence and Code of Conduct complaints).

Social Media

10.2 The following are examples of, but are not limited to, what Councillors should and should not do on social media.

Do ...

a) Follow Council's social media channels to stay in touch with what's happening, and to like and share Council's posts.
b) Remember everything you say and do is public, and you can be identified as a Councillor.
c) Pause before you post – would you be comfortable with this information being shared with your family, friends, work colleagues, media and the broader community, and is the information likely to bring you or Council into disrepute?
d) Be mindful of your general conduct obligations under the Model Code of Conduct, including the requirement not to damage Council's reputation.
e) Be careful to communicate accurate information.
f) Be courteous and respectful of fellow Councillors, other Council staff and members of the community, including respecting people's privacy.
g) Report any violations of this Policy to the General Manager and/or the Internal Ombudsman.

Do not ...

a) Imply that you are speaking on behalf of Council.
b) Disclose official, personal, or confidential information that is not publicly available (such as staff, personal information, legal advice, commercial-in-confidence and Model Code of Conduct complaints).
c) Post material that is obscene, pornographic, defamatory, threatening, harassing or discriminatory to any individual, group or organisation or may lead to criminal penalty.

11 Standards of Conduct

11.1 Councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct when engaging with the media in an official capacity or in connection with their role as a council official.

11.2 Councillors must not share information or make comments to the media through either direct or indirect mechanisms that:

a) are defamatory, offensive, humiliating, threatening, or intimidating to other Council Officials or members of the public.
b) contains profane language or is sexual in nature.
c) constitutes harassment and/or bullying within the meaning of Code of Conduct, or is unlawfully discriminatory.
d) is contrary to their duties under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and their responsibilities under any policies or procedures adopted by Council to ensure workplace health and safety.
e) contains content about Council, Council Officials or members of the public that is misleading or deceptive.
f) divulges confidential Council information.

g) breaches the privacy of other Council Officials or members of the public.
h) contains allegations of suspected breaches of Council's Code of Conduct or information about the consideration of a matter under the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW.
i) could be perceived to be an official comment on behalf of the Council where they have not been authorised to make such comment.
j) commits the Council to any action.
k) violates an order made by a court.
l) breaches copyright.
m) advertises, endorses, or solicits commercial products or business., where any such advertisement, endorsement or solicitation could be construed as being conducted on behalf of Inner West Council.
n) constitutes spam.
o) is in breach of the rules of the social media platform.

11.3 Councillors must:
a) attribute work to the original author, creator or source when uploading or linking to content produced by a third party
b) obtain written permission from a minor's parent or legal guardian before uploading content in which the minor can be identified.

12 Records management requirements

12.1 Media and social media content created and received by Councillors acting in their official capacity is a council record and may be subject to information access applications made under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*. These records must also be managed in accordance with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998* and the Council's approved records management policies and practices.

13 Breaches of this Policy

13.1 Breaches of this Policy may result in an investigation of the alleged breach in line with relevant Council policies including the Model Code of Conduct.

13.2 Any alleged criminal offence or allegation of corrupt conduct will be referred to the relevant external agency.

13.3 Inappropriate behaviours may include, but are not limited to:

a) Using social media to ridicule, vilify, harass, cyberbully, discriminate against or bring into disrepute the Council, or other Council officials, including Councillors or community members;
b) Posting content that is deemed to be offensive, including obscene or sexually explicit language; and
c) Using social media channels to post/provide confidential, personal or sensitive information relating to Council.

14 Administrative Changes

From time-to-time circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this document, such a change may be made including branding, Council Officer titles or department changes and legislative name or title changes which are considered minor in nature and not required to be formally endorsed.

15 Version Control – Policy History

This Policy will be formally reviewed every three years from the date of adoption or as required.

Governance use only:

Document	**Media and Social Media Policy**	***Uncontrolled Copy When Printed***	
Custodian	Strategic and Corporate Communications Engagement Manager	Version #	Version 1
Adopted By	Council	ECM Document #	xxxxxxxx
Next Review Date	[Insert date no later than 3 years post adoption e.g. August 2025]		

The below history of the document must be updated and must be accurate, all owners of Policies are to ensure that all previously adopted versions of the Policy are included in the below table and that all previous versions have been appropriately removed from circulation to ensure staff are utilising the right document.

Amended by	**Changes made**	**Date Adopted**

Item No: C0925(1) Item 5

Subject: FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE SERVICE DELIVERY PROGRAM

Prepared By: Sharon Bowman - Director Corporate

Authorised By: Peter Gainsford - General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council endorse the Financially Sustainable Service Delivery Program. The program will entail a comprehensive review of all expenditure, revenue, and service levels.**

2. **That Council receive a report at the February 2026 Council meeting with the outcome of the Financially Sustainable Service Delivery Program.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Whilst Council has worked hard to improve its long-term financial sustainability, Council has recently reported small deficits, and the long-term financial plan projects only modest surpluses. Councillors have indicated a priority during the term of Council that there will be no rate rises above government indexation. Therefore, Council needs to plan against future budget shocks, increasing community expectations, growing population and changes in council priorities.

Inner West Council delivers 39 services and has an operating expenditure of approximately $310M. A 1.5% improvement in Council's financial performance could deliver $4.5M in recurrent savings for Council.

To ensure long-term sustainability, the Council will undertake a comprehensive internal review of all service areas, focusing on expenditure, revenue, and service delivery standards. This review will apply the Australian Business Excellence Framework to drive continuous improvement and identify efficiencies, savings, and revenue opportunities. The findings will inform budget planning for the 2026/27 financial year and beyond, with a final report to be presented at the February 2026 Council Meeting.

BACKGROUND

Financial sustainability is arguably the greatest challenge facing Local Government in Australia. The interim report from a 2025 Federal Parliamentary inquiry confirmed that the role of Councils has evolved and expanded over time, which has put significant pressure on local government budgets. And a 2024 NSW Parliamentary inquiry heard that cost pressures experienced in recent years have impacted councils' ability to reliably and affordably provide the services communities rely on.

Like other organisations, councils have experienced significant cost escalations across a range of vital inputs, including infrastructure construction and maintenance costs, insurance costs, and employee costs (due to award and superannuation increases).

Councils have also been left with large infrastructure backlogs, due to historical underinvestment in building and maintaining vital community infrastructure. This is compounded by the requirement on many Councils to increase housing supply, which significantly increases the requirement for local infrastructure, often beyond the funding provided by developer local infrastructure contributions.

Increasing community expectations have also increased the cost base of local governments, for example responding to climate adaptation challenges and pursuing climate resilience, increasing sustainability measures, and increasing community services.

Furthermore, Councils have faced significant cost-shifting from other tiers of government. Successive Federal and State governments have placed increasing expectations onto Local Government, without concurrent increases in funding.

LGNSW released a Cost Shifting Report in July 2025. Analysis by independent consultants Morrison Low found a total cost shift to NSW councils of $1.5 billion in 2023-24, and $11.31 billion over the past decade. This essentially means that in 2023/24, each NSW ratepayer had nearly $500 of their rates payments to council eaten by costs imposed on councils by other tiers of government (primarily State).

The Top Five cost shifts identified were:

1. Rate exemptions – Councils are required to exempt State owned corporations and other organisations from paying rates, even though they benefit from local services and infrastructure
2. Waste levy – this is an invisible NSW Government tax on ratepayers. This levy is paid by council waste facilities to the NSW Government and recovered via waste collection fees.
3. Development Assessment and regulatory functions – increased regulatory responsibilities not fully funded by fees and charges. Most significantly, the assessment of development applications have fees set by the NSW Government at a level below the cost of providing this function. Councils are also asked to provide written feedback on State Significant Development, without any cost recovery mechanism.
4. Emergency Service Contribution – Councils are required to fund 11.7 per cent of the cost of NSW Government's emergency services, in addition to other financial obligations. From 2024/25, the rate peg changed to allow for an emergency services levy factor which will partly address cost shifting concerns. However, this is still a 'hidden' cost being passed on to ratepayers.
5. Library funding - many programs announced by State or Federal Governments are required to be delivered by Councils but may be only partially funded or have funding removed over time. For example, originally the NSW government funded up to 50% of the cost of many libraries. This has now reduced to just 6% of the costs, leaving councils to fund a significant shortfall.

It should be noted that SGS Economics and Planning's research into local government sustainability found that Councils are good with money. The per capita growth in local government expenditure lags that of other tiers of government, and in fact has lagged inflation over the past decade. That is, Councils now spend less in real terms than they did in 2015.

Prior to 2023/24 financial year, the rate peg determined by IPART did not meet the CPI for the year and as a result, councils were unable to increase rates at the same pace as expenses were increasing. While the rate peg methodology has been amended, there were a number of years of Council absorbing the cost increases, which has ongoing budget impacts.

As a direct result of the Inner West merger, over the past nine years, Council has harmonised a range of services and functions, developed and refined business processes, and identified and implemented efficiency gains. This resulted in a range of financial or service improvements including:

- Revenue limitation
    - Rates revenue increases have been limited to annual rate pegs determined by IPART, which were lower than the rising cost base
    - Provided additional concession rebate to pensioners living in the same property for over 10 years, providing free domestic waste and stormwater levy charges.
- Improved resource utilisation
    - Reduction in employee numbers by 130 FTE from June 2016 to June 2025, primarily through consolidation of back-office functions and implementation of shared services
    - Increase in productivity through resource specialisation
- Improved governance
    - The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee improved focus on financial reporting, risk management, internal controls, governance and audit
    - Harmonised approach to risk management
- Increased services
    - New and expanded services to meet community demand, such as the Ashfield Aquatic Centre redevelopment and Marrickville Library
    - Online customer services, including parking permits, certificates and requests, with tracking capabilities
    - Online booking system for community venues, waste and parks
    - DA processing times reduced (by 29% compared to former Marrickville Council)
    - Installation of new technologies across the library network, including a floating collection
    - Service uplift to some parts of the LGA to harmonise service delivery, e.g., extension of verge mowing, provision of small bins, and companion animal services
- Reduced costs through economies of scale
    - Purchasing power and value for money
    - Tighter contract management
- Scale and capacity
    - Partnerships and representation with NSW Government, Commonwealth agencies and regional networks
    - Support for neighbours and the sector generally
    - Projects and initiatives that benefit the community

Over the same period, Council has been able to improve its financial position by:

- Purchase of commercial investment properties in Liverpool and Warrawong, which provide superior returns to other investments.
- Successfully applying for grants to reduce Council's contribution to significant capital projects, including Leichhardt Oval, Leichhardt Aquatic Centre, the GreenWay and Callan Park Swim Site.
- Partnering with NSW AFL with grant funding from Federal and State Government for the redevelopment of Henson Park Grandstand.
- Installation of LED's across Council's streetlights, providing a reduction in cost to operate and energy efficiency.
- Generating greater returns on Council's reserves while remaining fully invested in non-fossil fuel, socially responsible and green investments.

DISCUSSION

Inner West Council has been on a continuous improvement journey over the past four years. Initially, there was a strong focus on customer experience, leadership and people.

In May 2024 Council launched the Australian Business Excellence Framework (ABEF) for Inner West to guide the next stage of continuous improvement. The ABEF offers a structured approach to improving organisational performance across the following seven key categories.

1. Leadership
2. Strategy and Planning
3. Customers and Stakeholders
4. People
5. Information and knowledge
6. Process management
7. Results and sustainable performance

For Inner West Council, applying this framework can support continuous improvement, better service delivery, and stronger community outcomes. As part of this work, each service area owner prepares a business plan each year that identifies organisational improvements across a number of the business excellence categories.

Whilst Council has worked hard to improve its long-term financial sustainability, Council has recently reported small deficits, and the long-term financial plan (LTFP) includes only modest surpluses. Councillors have indicated a priority during the term of Council that there will be no rate rises above government indexation. Therefore, Council needs to plan against future budget shocks, increasing community expectations, growing population and a change in council priorities.

Inner West Council delivers 39 services and has an operating expenditure of approximately $310M. A 1.5% improvement in Council's financial performance could deliver $4.5M in recurrent savings for Council.

It is proposed to internally review each of the service areas with a detailed resourcing and expenditure review and revenue analysis over the past three financial years.

For each of the service areas the following will be undertaken:

1. Breakdown the service area into component services included within scope, and for each component service/activity:
    a) Identify whether it is required by legislation
    b) Undertake detailed financial analysis of the revenue and costs
    c) Review resourcing
    d) Identify key patterns over time
2. Review performance against service standards and targets, achievements, trends in community satisfaction and any customer sentiment analysis, and any available benchmarking
3. Identify opportunities to drive financial sustainability by improving the service delivery, saving costs, or generating revenue
4. Confirm priorities for the service area over the term of council

The review will identify improvements, savings and revenue opportunities for the 2026/27 financial year and beyond. Following endorsement of the program, an Outcomes report will be presented to the February 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The outcome of the review will form part of the budget consideration for the 2026/27 financial year.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 6

Subject: POST EXHIBITION - BLACKMORE PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

Prepared By: Aaron Callaghan - Parks and Public Domain Planning Manager

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council as Crown land manager of Blackmore Park adopt the Plan of Management for Blackmore Park (Lot 649 DP 729259) and as owner of Lot 2 DP797913, Lot 1 DP 184476, Lot 1 DP1045624, Lot 1 DP1239048

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West
2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport
3: Creative communities and a strong economy
5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the ten-year Draft Plan of Management and Master Plan for Blackmore Park, offering a clear framework to guide its vision, planning, and stewardship. Developed by Council through comprehensive community and stakeholder consultation, the plan outlines recommendations to ensure Blackmore Park remains an accessible, vibrant, and inclusive space.

Blackmore Oval is home to the Leichhardt Wanderers Rugby League and Cricket Club, one of Australia's oldest junior rugby league organisations. The sports ground experiences substantial usage throughout the year, supporting both training and competitive games for the clubs it serves. This is complemented by regular use from the public, commercial fitness trainers, and local schools.

The sports ground experiences ongoing deterioration due to the effects of dogs on the playing surface. Regular digging and disturbance of turf leave the field uneven and less suitable for sporting activities. Despite dedicated maintenance efforts, these ongoing issues persist, impacting both the quality and safety of the grounds and presenting a significant operational challenge for the park. Additionally, concerns have been raised by the community regarding issues with dog waste in the park.

Key proposals of the Masterplan include the creation of modern amenities, enhancing park entrances and restoring damaged facilities. In addition, given the substantial usage of the sports ground throughout the year and the operational challenges caused by off-leash dogs, it is recommended that the park be designated as an on-leash area for dogs. This change is further supported by the availability of a dedicated off-leash space at the nearby Hawthorne Canal Reserve.

The Leichhardt Wanderers Rugby League Club and the Leichhardt Wanders Cricket Club have written to Council supporting a change in the status of the park to that of an on-leash park.

BACKGROUND

A Park Plan of Management (POM) is a guiding framework which directs the future vision, planning, management and use of the park. It will be used to inform the development of the park over the next ten years. The associated Master Plan is a design report outlining the actions required for improvement, intended to guide the physical upgrade of the parkland over the next ten years. It does this by suggesting how the strategies set out in the Plan of Management can be translated into site specific improvement opportunities for use and enjoyment of the park. Council officers have undertaken an extensive review of the draft Plan of Management and are presenting the plan to Council for endorsement for further community engagement with an exhibition period of 42 days.

At the Council meeting held on 9 May 2023 meeting, Council resolved the following:

> *That Council as land manager of Blackmore Park endorse the Draft Plan of Management (Lot 649 DP 729259) and refer this to the Minister for Crown Land and Waters for owners' consent and putting the Plan on public exhibition for 42 days before reporting the outcome back to Council".*

Council has completed the development of a 10 year draft plan of management and master plan for Blackmore Park as detailed in A*ttachment 1.*

DISCUSSION

Blackmore Park in Leichhardt is accessible via Canal Road and spans 1.56 hectares. The park features a dedicated sports ground marked for rugby league and summer cricket, along with a former caretaker's cottage, public amenities building, a small storage shed, and both a retention basin and stormwater channel.

Blackmore Oval is home to the Leichhardt Wanderers Rugby League and Cricket Club, one of Australia's oldest junior rugby league organisations. The sports ground experiences substantial usage throughout the year, supporting both training and competitive games for the clubs it serves. This is complemented by regular use from the public, commercial fitness trainers, and local schools.

Blackmore Park currently has an off-leash dog exercise area which is set aside for companion exercise when the sports ground is not in active sport use. In addition, the park has travel paths around its permitter which are intertwined with fitness stations for outdoor exercise.

Location Map 1 Blackmore Park



Blackmore Park is made up of a number of land titles with the largest portion of the parkland owned by the Crown (State of NSW) and is set aside as Crown Land Reserve which is managed by Council as the land manager on behalf of the NSW Government. Crown Land Reserves managed by Council have been set aside for a particular public purpose. In the case of Blackmore Park, the primary purpose is that of the sporting ground. As defined by the Local Government Act 1993 the core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are:

a) To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games; and
b) To ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.

Community Engagement

Council undertook extensive community engagement as part of the development of the draft plan of management and master plan. The purpose of the community engagement has been to listen to community views and understand the key issues expressed in relation to management and use of the park, including those features of the parkland which are high valued. This included on site engagements on 20 and 27 August 2022. In addition, the community engagement outcomes have assisted with the preparation of a draft landscape master plan for the park as well as documenting key opportunities which can enhance community recreational use into the future. Throughout the engagement process contributors have been encouraged to include ideas, comments and suggestions to assist in prioritising the focus of key strategies and outcomes for the future.

Both community engagement sessions were well attended with excellent representation from a range of stakeholders. *Figure 1* illustrates the number of the responses received at the two drop in events.

Figure 1 Have Your Say Display Boards- Blackmore Park



Following the Council resolution, the community was invited to provide feedback from 17 April to 29 May 2024 on the draft Plan of Management (PoM) and Master Plan for Blackmore Park.

During the engagement period 1,073 people visited the Your Say Inner West project web page and downloaded the draft documents 168 times.

A total of 187 respondents provided feedback including 151 responses to the online survey, 35 emails and one letter.

The majority of respondents - 63%, did not support the draft PoM and Master Plan, 30% did support and 7% were unsure.

For those in support, key themes included support for the proposal for dogs to be kept on leash and upgrades to the lighting.

For those not in support, the key theme was disagreement with the proposal for dogs to be kept on leash. This item is discussed below.

The full community engagement report on the outcomes of community engagement and exhibition to date can be found in *Attachment 2*.

Plan of Management and Master Plan Proposals (Developed from Stage Engagement).
The ten-year park master plan for Blackmore Park can be viewed on Page 47 and 48 of *Attachment 1*. In summary, based on the community engagement outcomes and site analysis to date, the following opportunities in *Table 1* are recommended in relation to future community parkland upgrades:

Table 1 Blackmore Park Master Plan -Proposed Community Parkland Upgrades Priority Table (10 Year Plan)

Priority Item	Project	Parks Planning Comment
1	Development of New Amenities in the former men's shed to support sporting use –Safe and inclusive facilities. **Note the Leichhardt men's shed relocated to Callan Park (former Electrical store) in November 20024*	A significant priority which is required in relation to supporting enhanced girls and women's sporting activities within the Sporting Precinct of the parkland.
2	Relocation of Leichhardt Men's Shed to facilitate new female friendly amenities and a small-scale sporting club gym	Required to support priority action 1 and enable the redevelopment of the existing facilities.
3	Upgraded entrances from Canal Road (North and South)	Current entrance spaces appear privatised. Public domain improvements are required to ensure the park is welcoming and in inclusive for all.
4	Demolish and rebuild damaged area of the SES building	Significant damage due to subsidence as a result of WestConnex tunnelling works. Remedial repairs are currently being planned which will make the building operational.
5	Change in Companion Animal Regulations. Off leash status of park revoked. New Dogs on Leash at all times management regime introduced. Noting that there is a full time dedicated off leash park at Hawthorne Canal Reserve *(450m walking distance).*	Change in the off-leash status to on leash at all times is supported noting that there is a significant off leash space located within a 450m radius of the parkland at the Hawthorne Canal Reserve (location of Café Bones).

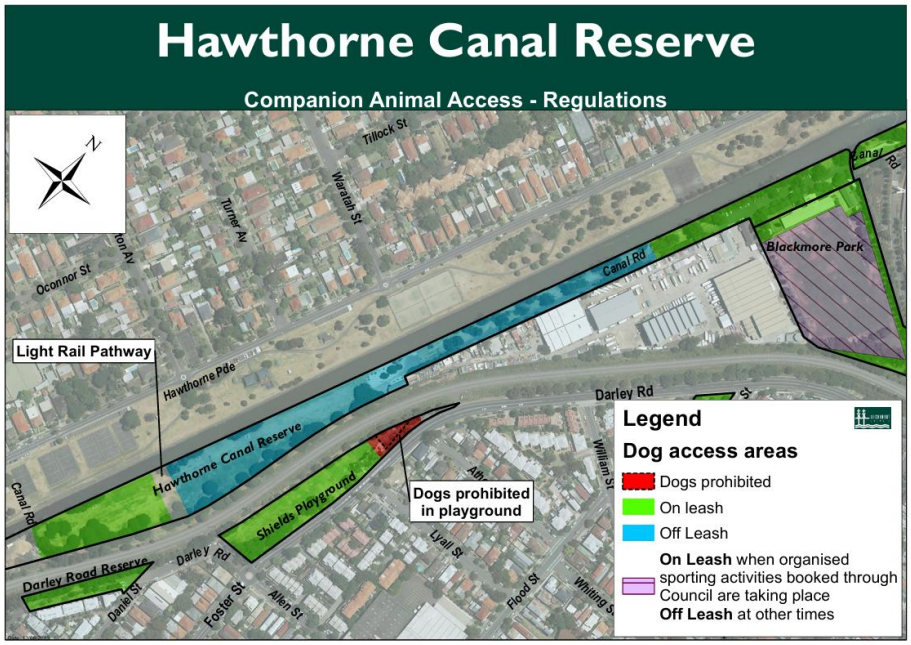
Future Companion Animal Access Arrangements

Council officers are recommending a change in operational management for Blackmore Park, proposing that the park's off-leash status (previously allowed when sports games and training were not occurring) be updated to a full-time on-leash policy. This recommendation is the result of community consultation with local sporting clubs that use the park, as well as discussions with Council staff responsible for sports ground maintenance.

In this regard, the sports ground experiences ongoing deterioration due to the effects of dogs on the playing surface. Regular digging and disturbance of turf leave the field uneven and less suitable for sporting activities. Despite dedicated maintenance efforts, these ongoing issues persist, impacting both the quality and safety of the grounds and presenting a significant operational challenge for the park. Additionally, concerns have been raised by the community regarding issues with dog waste in the park.

It is important to highlight that nearby Blackmore Park, the Hawthorne Canal Reserve offers a dedicated, full-time off-leash area for companion animals. This arrangement, as illustrated in Image 1, ensures that community needs for off-leash access are met nearby.

Image 1 Map of Current Companion Animal Access Arrangements- Hawthorne Canal Reserve and Blackmore Park.



The Leichhardt Wanderers Rugby League Club and the Leichhardt Wanders Cricket Club have written to Council supporting a change in the status of the park to that of an on-leash park. Their letter of support to the operational change can be found in *Attachment 3* and *4*.

Given the substantial usage of the sports ground throughout the year and the operational challenges caused by off-leash dogs, it is recommended that the park be designated as an on-leash area for dogs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The final plan of management for Blackmore Park includes a full analysis of all future costings associated with proposed park upgrades and capital work improvements valued at $5.5 Million over the lifespan of the Plan of Management. The proposed upgrades are unfunded and will be the consideration of future budget planning process.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Plan of Management Blackmore Park
2.⇩ Engagement Outcomes Report
3.⇩ Letter of Support - LW
4.⇩ Letter of Support - LW Cricket

Plan of Management and Master Plan

for Blackmore Oval

Revision J
April 2025



INNER WEST

WM

Further Information

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Front cover image photography by Welsh + Major.

1 Plan of Management + Master Plan

Council acknowledges the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora Nation, who are the traditional custodians of the lands in which the Inner West Local Government Area is situated. We celebrate the survival of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, heritage, beliefs and their relationship with the land and water.

We acknowledge the continuing importance of this relationship to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living today, despite the devastating impacts of European invasion. We express our sorrow for past injustices and support the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to self-determination.

Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt 2

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Appendices

A	Site Analysis
B	Community Engagement

Document Control

Date:	Revision No:	Revision details:	Approved:
02/12/2022	-	Draft issue for client review	XX
15/02/2023	A	Minor text corrections	DW
17/03/2023	B	Master Plan Strategies Included	DW
27/03/2023	C	Sections 2 and 4 combined; Leases and Licences included	DW
26/04/2023	D	Minor Amendments	DW
19/01/2024	E	Amendments to Precinct B to reflect current leasing arrangements	DW
11/07/2024	F	Updates to include additional engagement strategy/ reporting; minor text amendments	DW
11/11/2024	G	Further Text Amendments	DW
23/01/2025	H	Updates to Maps and Lot No.s; minor text amendments	DW
03/03/2025	i	Updates to Maps, areas and minor text amendments	DW
03/04/2025	J	Minor text and graphic amendments	DW

Introduction + Executive Summary

Inner West Council have produced a Plan of Management priority list identifying which open spaces within the Inner West LGA are in greatest need of review.

In 2022, Welsh + Major were engaged by Inner West Council to develop Plans of Management and accompanying Master Plans for the five top priority parks.

This document contains a Plan of Management and Master Plan for Blackmore Oval (sometimes known as Blackmore Park). Blackmore Oval is located in Leichhardt and is bounded by Charles St and Canal Rd to the north, and the light rail embankment and commercial arts precint to the south. It consists of 4.6 acres (1.86 hectares), inclusive of the wetland area to the north of the sportsground.

Plan of Management

The Plan of Management [POM] is a guiding framework which directs the future vision, planning, management and use of the park. It will be used to inform the development of the park over the next ten years.

Master Plan

The Master Plan is a design report outlining the actions required for improvement, intended to guide the physical upgrade of the site over the next ten years. It does this by suggesting how the strategies set out in the Plan of Management can be translated into site specific gestures for application to the park.

How to use this document

Development of the POM and Master Plan involved some overlap of research and analysis. As such the POM and Master Plan were undertaken simultaneously, and are presented together within the same document.

The site has been considered and designed as a whole, but for ease and clarity within this document it has been presented as four zones.

Developing the Plan of Management and Master Plan involved the following processes:

- Policy review identifying the opportunities and constraints presented by national and local government initiatives.
- Demographic review identifying the local community profile.
- Review of site ownership and legal categorisation.
- Identification of applicable statutory conditions and legislation.
- Undertaking a detailed site analysis.
- Undertaking Community Engagement though drop in sessions and an online survey.
- Analysis of the outcomes of the Context Review, Site Analysis and Community Engagement Outcomes to develop Key Objectives and Strategies for management and action.
- Application of the physical strategies within the Draft Master Plan

Masterplan Overview

Key features of the Master Plan

01 **New amenities**
with safe, inclusive facilities and increased connection to Blackmore Oval and greater area.

02 **Upgraded entry from Canal Road (North)**
including new bollards, reduced hardscaping, rationalised bin storage and increased understorey planting.

03 Park signage location

04 **Demolish + rebuild damaged wing of SES building**

05 **Location of new storage for sports clubs**
paid for by sports clubs in location of existing storage containers.

06 New ball protection screen
to replace existing along clubhouse + SES building facade.

07 **New paved entry from Canal Road (South)**
at south entry to create a welcoming 'meeting place' at park entry.

08 **New shaded seating structures**.

09 Condition of existing flood lighting to sports ground monitored, maintained and upgraded as required.

10 New bollard lighting strategy along existing path to provide safe access for users at night, with minimal impact on local wildlife.

11 Monitor and maintain existing fitness stations and synthetic surface of existing cricket nets.

12 New pedestrian bridge over stormwater channel to increase circulation to greater parklands + promote connection to nature.

13 New pedestrian zebra crossing and widened bike path at Canal Road for safety of pedestrians and cyclists entering the park.

14 Screen southern boundary and extend fauna linkages with new understorey planting amongst existing trees.

15 New uncovered park benches alongside sports ground.

16 Monitor and maintain existing sports ground + cricket pitch to ensure it meets the needs of the community.

17 New dogs 'on-leash at all times' rules enforced throughout full extents of the park. Updated signage provided.

Plan of Management Stakeholder Targets and Activities

The Plan of Management Process has a number of engagement targets both internally and externally. These Include:

Community and External Stakeholders:

- The Local Inner West community
- Neighbouring properties
- Sports clubs
- User groups

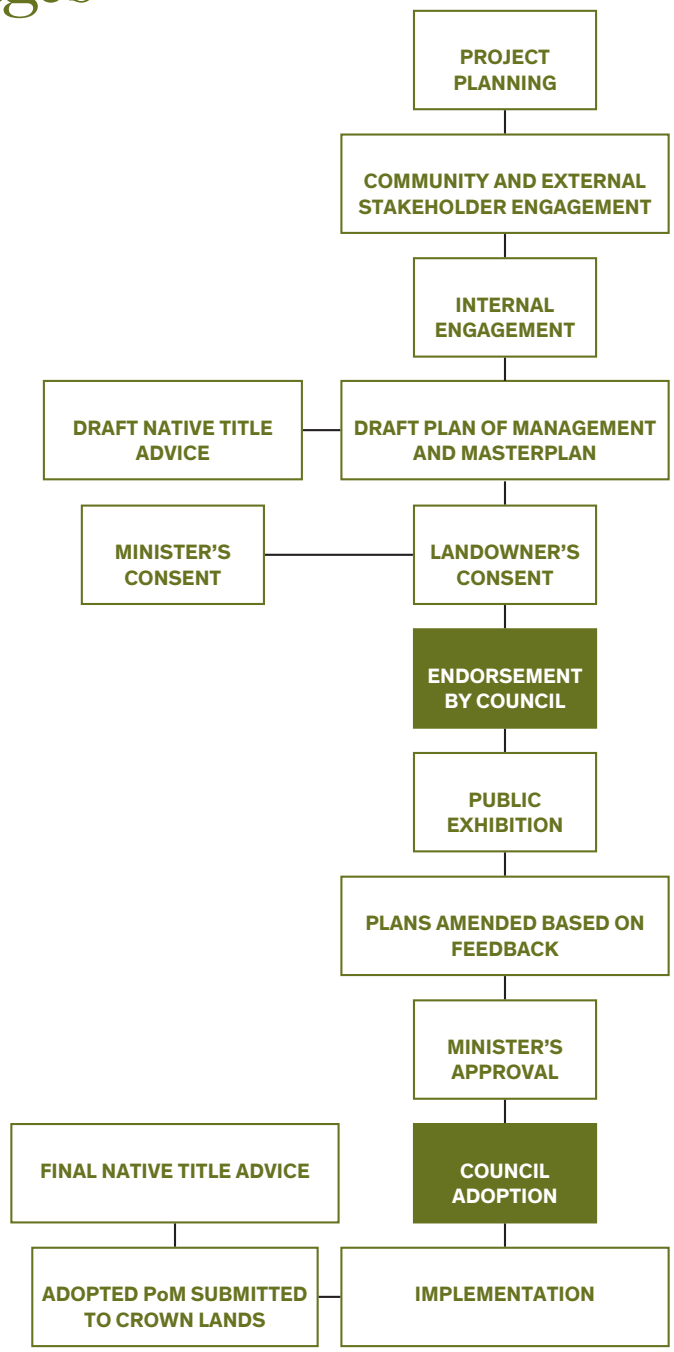
Activities Include:

- Onsite drop-in sessions
- Online survey, comment, and/ or discussion

Internal (Council) Activities Include:

- Internal workshops
- Online survey, comment, and/ or discussion
- Meetings, phone calls, and written submissions

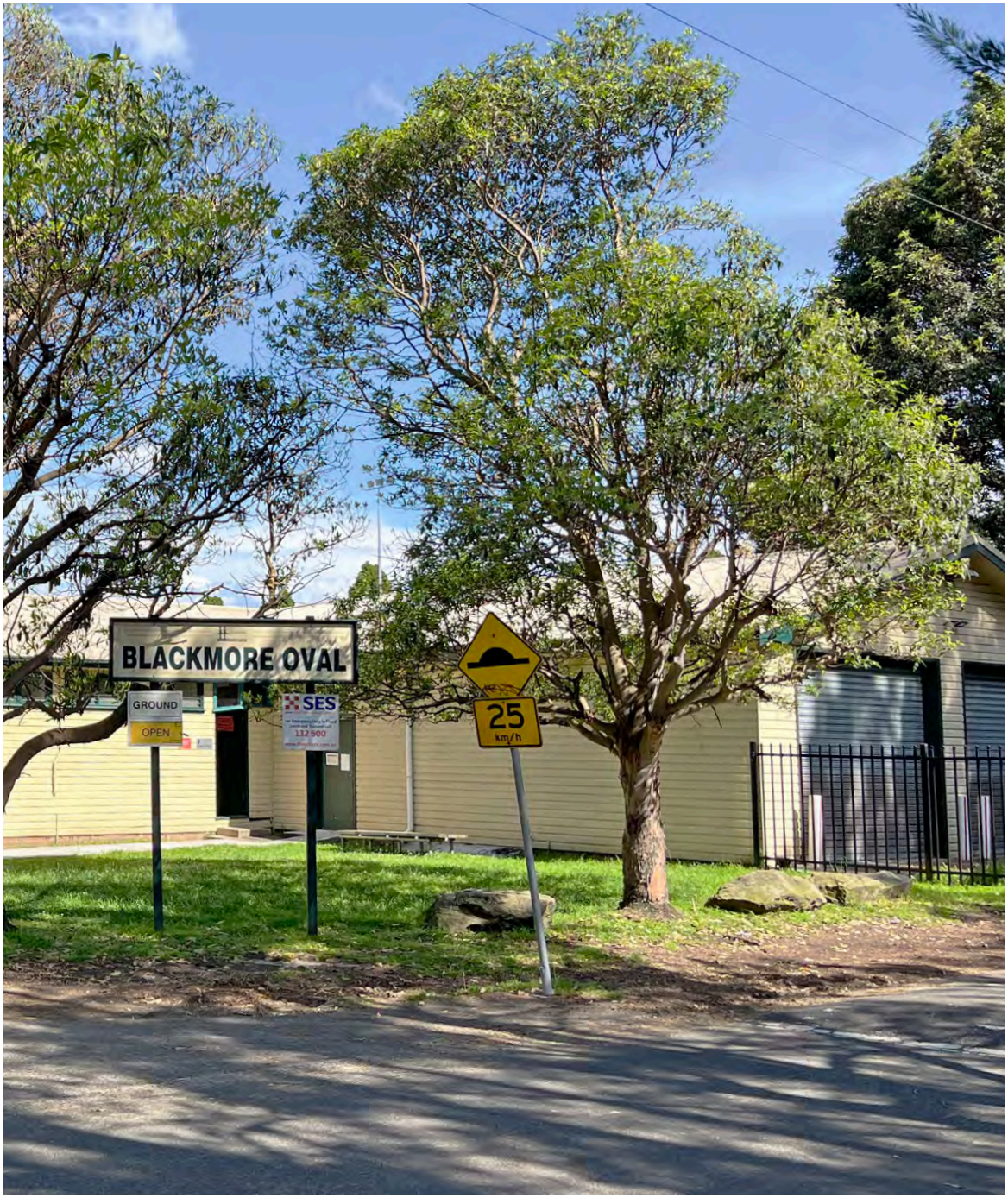
The Plan of Management Process: Stages



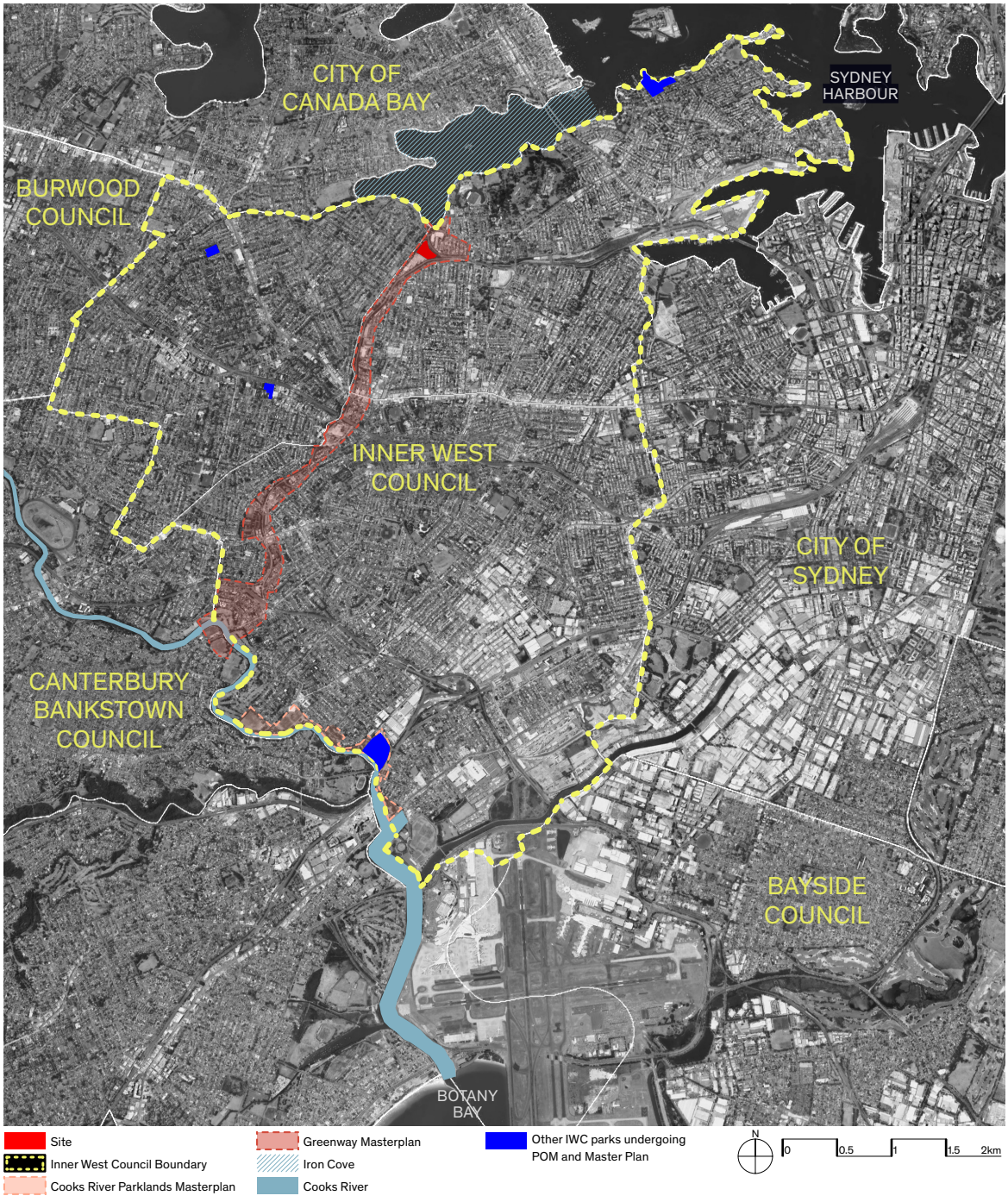
1.0 Context Overview



Blackmore Oval across the Hawthorne Canal. Photography by Welsh + Major.



Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt 10


CITY OF CANADA BAY
SYDNEY HARBOUR
BURWOOD COUNCIL
INNER WEST COUNCIL
CITY OF SYDNEY
CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN COUNCIL
BAYSIDE COUNCIL
BOTANY BAY
Site
Inner West Council Boundary
Cooks River Parklands Masterplan
Greenway Masterplan
Iron Cove
Cooks River
Other IWC parks undergoing POM and Master Plan
N
0
0.5
1
1.5
2km

Regional Context

Inner West Council

The Inner West Council area is located five kilometres west of the Sydney Central Business District (CBD). It was established when the former Councils of Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville merged in May 2016. Five wards make up the Council: Ashfield, Balmain, Leichhardt, Marrickville, and Stanmore.

The Inner West Council has a resident population of 192,000 people, and spans 36km^2 from the banks of Parramatta River at Birchgrove in the north east, to the Cooks River at Dulwich Hill in the south west.

In total (including non-Council owned land), there is 321.6 hectares of open space within the Inner West, making up 9.1% of the total land area. Based on the 2016 population, this equates to 16.4m2 of open space provision per person.

There are 278 Council-owned or controlled parks and sporting grounds, totalling 256 hectares. This makes up 7.3% of the total land area of the Inner West.

Existing Recreational Needs and Future Projections

Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West, published in 2018 and then updated in October 2021, is a study commissioned by Inner West Council in 2018 providing an analysis of the existing recreation facilities within the LGA, including their current and predicted usage. The document breaks down the Inner West into 4 catchment areas to provide accurate information regarding the future needs of each catchment.

Blackmore Oval lies within Catchment 3 - East, bordering Catchment 1 - North and Catchment 2 - West.

The Inner West community is expected to grow with an additional 34,815 residents projected by the year 2036. If new open space is not provided the amount of open space per person will decline from 16.4m^2 to 14.3m^2 per person within this timeframe.

Population growth will also result in additional pressure on current sporting and recreational facilities, and it is anticipated that additional facilities will be needed, and that current facilities will be required to intensify their usage to meet demand.

Based on industry benchmarks, by 2026 there will be a total gap of:

- 3 summer sporting grounds
- 5 winter sporting grounds
- 6 indoor (multipurpose) courts
- 9 outdoor (multipurpose) courts
- 0.9 indoor leisure centre (dry)
- 0.6 indoor leisure centre (aquatic)
- 0.5 skate park/facility.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Community engagement completed for this Study investigated recreation participation in the Inner West. Local participation in recreation broadly corresponds to national and state participation trends - walking is the most popular activity at a local, state and national level.

Across the spectrum of recreation activities, people participated most often in "active recreation" activities, with 80% of survey respondents participating at least weekly.

This was followed by personal fitness, with 66% of people participating at least weekly.

In total, 4.5% of people engaged did not participate regularly (at least weekly) in recreat (of any kind), and an additional 1.4% participat regularly in "passive recreation" but not any other kind of recreation.

Figure 18 shows the most popular ecreation activities across all community engagement types.

- **Walking** (Most popular activity in the survey with 34% participating at least weekly, 3rd most popular in the community map, 5th in the school workshops, popular in the multicultural focus groups)
- **Walking for transport** (2nd in the survey with 24% participating at least weekly)
- **Playing in a playground/playing in a park/taking children to play** (3rd in the survey (24%), 5th in the community map, 4th in the school workshops, high in multicultural focus groups)
- **Personal fitness/outdoor fitness** (4th in the survey with 23% participating at least weekly)
- **Walking the dog** (5th most popular in the survey (23%), 4th most popular in the community map, 6th in the school workshops)
- **Cycling** (6th in the survey (19%), 2nd in the community map, 3rd in the school workshops)
- **Swimming** (7th in the survey (19%), most popular activity in the community map and school workshops)
- **Running** (8th in the survey with 18% participating at least weekly)
- **Relaxing in a park** (9th in the survey with 16% participating at least weekly)
- **Hockey*** (10th in the survey with 13%). *It should be noted that the survey was completed by a high number of hockey players.)
- **Football** (11th in the survey (10%), 2nd in the school workshops)
- Tai Chi, table tennis, and badminton were also popular activities amongst the older population of people who speak a language other than English at home.

Figure 18 - Most popular recreation activities identified through community engagement completed for the Inner West Recreation Needs Study (Source: Cred Consulting, 2018)

POPULAR INNER WEST PLACES FOR RECREATION

The most popular recreation spaces in the Inner West identified through a range of consultation activities:

- Footpaths, streets and town centres
- Cycle paths
- Bay Run
- Cooks River foreshore path
- Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre
- Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre
- The GreenWay
- Steel Park
- Private gyms
- Hawthorne Canal/Richard Murden Reserve
- Enmore Park
- Ashfield Park

Key differences between different groups:

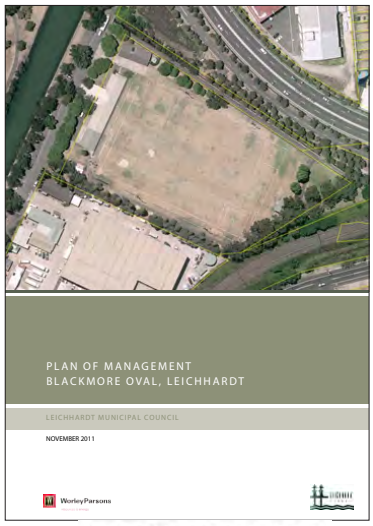
- Females used children's playgrounds, aquatic centres and footpaths more often, while males used cycle paths, sporting fields and courts, and the Greenway more often than females.
- People who speak a language other than English at home used all facilities less regularly than the general community.

The most common types of facility that people visited for recreation in the Inner West:

- Parks (80% of people using them at least weekly)
- Footpaths, streets and town centres (75% at least weekly)
- Sporting fields/courts (38% at least weekly)
- Aquatic centres/baths (37% at least weekly)
- Children's playgrounds (36% at least weekly)

Reviewed Documents







Our Inner West 2036; The Inner West Community Strategic Plan (endorsed by Council 06/2022)

This plan identifies the community's vision for the future, outlines long term goals, strategies to get there and how to measure progress towards that vision. It guides all of Council's plans, policies and budgets.

The strategic directions set out are:

1 - An ecologically Sustainable Inner West

2 - Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

3 - Creative communities and a strong economy

4 - Healthy, resilient and caring communities

5 - Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

Among the stated aims, those which apply directly to the regeneration of public parkland are to increase community satisfaction with: connected natural areas + increased biodiversity, improved health of waterways, public infrastructure which fulfils the needs of diverse communities, safe networks of transport.

Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West

Cred Consulting for Inner West Council, published 10/2018, (Updated Oct 2021)

Analysis of the current and projected recreation needs of the Inner West community, with a view to both maintaining and improving social and mental health as the population of the Inner West Council (IWC) area continues on its projected path of growth and change.

The study identified that the IWC area lacked sufficient public open space for the growing population. It outlines a strategic 'action' framework and explores how this framework could be applied.

The study undertook extensive engagement with the community to determine both recreational participation within the inner west as well as comments and suggestions about the quality of public open space within the LGA. These findings form a body of information about community needs and desires for public open space which have informed this Plan of Management and Master Plan.

Other Documents Reviewed:

- Blackmore Oval - Plan of Management - (former) Leichhardt Council adopted Nov 2011
- Going Places - An Integrated Transport Strategy for Inner West, adopted March 2020
- Leichhardt LEP 2013
- Comprehensive Inner West DCP 2016 for Ashbury, Ashfield, Croydon, Croydon Park, Haberfield, Hurlstone Park and Summer Hill
- Inner West Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan, August 2021
- Inner West Council Public Toilet Strategy, May 2020
- Inner West Council - Inclusion Action Plan
- Inner West Council Local Environment Plan 2022

Our Inner West 2036

SD1 - An ecologically sustainable Inner West

1. The Inner West community is recognised for its leadership in sustainability and tackling climate change

- Provide the community the information, knowledge, and tools for a sustainable Inner West
- Share successes and publicise community and Council achievements in sustainability

2. An increasing and resilient network of green corridors provide habitat for plants and animals

- Maintain and increase Inner West's urban tree canopy
- Manage and improve Inner West's mid and understorey vegetation
- Protect, connect and enhance natural areas, biodiversity corridors and sensitive habitat

3. Waterways are healthy and the community is water-sensitive, treating water as a precious resource

- Implement water-sensitive policies and projects to improve the health of our waterways
- Capture and use water from Inner West catchments
- Identify and plan for river swimming sites

4. Air quality is good and air pollution is managed effectively

- Improve air quality through effective regulation and education
- Facilitate alternatives to private motor vehicle use to reduce exhaust emissions
- Minimise air pollution through policy and regulation

5. Inner West is zero emissions, climate adapted and resilient to the changing climate

- Respond to the Climate Emergency and implement the Inner West Climate and Renewables Strategy to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions
- Develop and implement a whole of Council climate adaptation strategy to build resilience to the changing climate

6. Inner West is a zero waste community with an active share economy

- Move towards a circular economy to avoid waste, reuse, share and recycle through education, information, projects and initiatives
- Publicise and broaden access to local reuse and recycling infrastructure
- Increase recovery of organic material and provide a food organics recycling service to all households

SD2 - Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

1. Development is designed for sustainability, net zero and improves health and wellbeing of the community

- Pursue integrated planning and urban design across public and private spaces to benefit community and local environment needs
- Monitor local development and ensure it meets legislative requirements for safety and amenity

2. The unique character and heritage of neighbourhoods is retained and enhanced

- Provide clear and consistent planning and management that respects heritage, accessibility and the distinct characters of urban centres

3. Public spaces are welcoming, accessible, clean and safe

- Plan, deliver and maintain public spaces and infrastructure that fulfil and support diverse community needs and life
- Ensure private spaces and developments contribute positively to their surrounding public spaces
- Advocate for and develop planning controls that retain and protect existing public and open spaces and provision of additional public and open spaces

4. People have a roof over their head and a safe, secure place to call home

- Increase social, community and affordable, livable housing with good amenity, across the Inner West
- Encourage diversity of housing type, tenure and price in new developments
- Assist people who are homeless or sleeping rough

5. Public transport is reliable, accessible and interconnected

- Improve public transport services
- Provide transport infrastructure that aligns to population growth

6. People walk, cycle and move around the Inner West with ease

- Deliver safe, connected and well-maintained networks of transport infrastructure
- Manage the road network to increase safety and prioritise active and public transport over private motor vehicles
- Collaborate on innovative, accessible transport options

SD3 - Creative communities and a strong economy

1. Creativity and culture are valued and celebrated

- Create opportunities for all members of the community to participate in arts and culture and pursue creative lives
- Celebrate and promote awareness of the community's history and heritage

2. Inner West remains the engine room of creative industries and services

- Promote the Inner West as a leading destination for creativity including street art, live music and performance
- Enable creative and cultural industries to thrive through targeted investment and support
- Build new content, audiences and professional opportunities through local programs, including for young and emerging creatives

3. The local economy is thriving

- Assist businesses growth, innovation and improvement
- Encourage new enterprises in Inner West

4. Employment is diverse and accessible

- Manage the strategic future of industrial and employment lands
- Collaborate with business and industry on social and environmental initiatives

SD4 - Healthy, resilient and caring communities

1. The Inner West community is welcoming and connected

- Celebrate, value and respect the diversity of the Inner West community
- Foster inclusive communities where everyone can participate in community life
- Address social inequity, obstacles to participation and social exclusion

2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and culture flourish and enrich the Inner West

- Centre Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander needs and voices at the heart of initiatives, policies and strategies
- Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and history

3. People have opportunities to participate, and develop their health and wellbeing

- Provide facilities, spaces and programs that support community health and wellbeing
- Build connected communities and provide opportunities for social participation

4. People have access to the services and facilities they need at all stages of life and all abilities

- Plan and deliver infrastructure and services for the changing population and those with disabilities
- Provide quality children's education and care services to ensure a strong foundation for lifelong learning
- Provide facilities, resources and activities for lifelong learning
- Improve the quality and use of existing community assets

SD5 – Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

1. Council is responsive and service-focused

- Deliver responsive and innovative customer service
- Monitor performance and implement continuous improvement to meet the changing needs of the community

2. Council makes responsible decisions to manage finite resources in the best interest of current and future communities

- Undertake visionary, integrated, long term planning and decision making, reflective of community needs and aspirations
- Ensure probity and responsible, sustainable, ethical and open local government
- Manage public resources to achieve financial sustainability

3. People are well informed and actively engaged in local decision making and problem solving

- Inform communities through multi-channel communications
- Support local democracy through inclusive participatory community engagement
- Support evidence-based Council decision-making

4. Partnerships and collaboration are valued and enhance community leadership creating positive change

- Advocate for emerging community issues
- Build resilience and capacity of local leaders, groups and communities
- Work with suppliers to deliver positive outcomes for the community, economy and environment

Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt 16

Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West

Key Findings:

A number of findings about recreation within the Inner West are highlighted by the report. These include its benefits and its changing perception and role within society generally. These have assisted in providing a foundation for the strategies and objectives of this Plan of Management and Master Plan. A summary of the key findings includes;

- Participation in recreation brings significant health and social benefits to individuals, including mental health benefits and improved development outcomes for children and young people.
- Recreation provides benefits at the community level, supporting community cohesion and community development, and public health benefits.
- A majority of Australians participate in sport or other physical activities at least 3 times a week.
- Nationally, the most popular recreation activities include walking, fitness, swimming, cycling and running, and this is reflected by local participation trends in the Inner West.
- The major change in participation in recreation is a trend to more flexible and non-organised participation.
- Children have declining access to unsupervised participation in recreation activities, with Planet Ark estimating that only 35% of Australian children play outside every day, compared to 72% a generation ago.
- People with disability have lower levels of participation in recreation and are less likely to take part as a spectator.

Open Spaces:

The study divides the Inner West into four catchment areas, locating Leichhardt in Catchment 3 - East. Catchment 3 has a below average + declining provision of open space per person at 7.6m2 in 2016. By 2036 it is anticipated that this number will drop to 6.4m2 per person. The benchmark for the combined LGA in 2036 is stated in this study as 14.3m2 per person.

Sporting Capacity:

The study indicates the sporting ground of Blackmore Oval has an optimal capacity of 30 hours of use per week, which ensures a usable surface. The study suggests that the sports ground is being used for 36 hours each week, exceeding it's maximum capacity. The study indicates that it was last upgraded in 2015.

By 2036, Catchment 3 will have a gap of:

- 7.4 summer sporting grounds
- 10.6 winter sporting grounds
- 18.9 outdoor multi purpose courts
- 1 indoor leisure centres
- 3.7 indoor multi purpose courts
- 0.9 indoor aquatic centres
- 1.6 skate park facility

Objectives:

The report found a number of opportunities for improving recreational spaces within the LGA through a needs and gaps analysis. These opportunities were grouped into broad themes. Key opportunities which relate to the scope of this Plan of Management have been summarised below.

NEED	OPPORTUNITIES
Increased quality of open space to optimise use, address demand and meet higher and more diverse needs	• Multi-use, flexible open space that is designed to support sharing and reduce conflict between users
Well maintained public toilets, water bubblers and bins in parks.	• Extend the Inner West Council Public Toilet Strategy, May 2020 recommendation that all residents and visitors be within 400m of a public toilet that is open during daylight hours throughout the LGA.
Picnic and BBQ facilities, seating and shade for informal social gatherings, as well as informal grassed passive recreation areas.	• Provide space for social gatherings outside of the home.

New facilities in parks including: table tennis tables; outdoor gyms including for seniors, and hard surfaces with shelter for tai chi.	• Provide equipment and designated areas for a diverse range of outdoor activities.
Lighting and design of parks to increase (feelings of) safety. Lighting should be fauna-friendly and use sustainable technologies to support environmental outcomes. Improved lighting to support evening and night time recreation opportunities after work hours.	• Street lighting around perimeter to connect park with surrounding streets and public transport options. • Lighting in specific areas of park for informal night time use, e.g. dog walking, running paths and areas for informal sport.
Improved walkable connections to open space and recreation opportunities .	• Improved connections to Richard Murden Reserve
Improving sporting building infrastructure, amenities blocks to increase usability and support safety, and support the participation of women and people with disability in sport.	• Improved access paths to and from surrounding areas, specifically to provide safe accessible entry.
Signage and wayfinding on cycle routes. Safer shared paths, and/or separate bike/pedestrian paths.	• Review throughout the LGA.
Cycling infrastructure including end of trip facilities and bike parking.	• Cycling infrastructure at connections to public transport and recreation facilities.
Play spaces for older children / young people; Play opportunities for other age groups and abilities.	• Play for older children such as basket swings, trampolines, climbing walls, monkey bars, flying foxes • Innovative play spaces such as nature play, and adventure/ junk play. • Include inclusive play equipment in all playgrounds, rather than only in some dedicated inclusive playgrounds.
Increased access to recreation opportunities for older people.	• Footpath improvements, specifically to consider steepness of paths into the park. • More recreation opportunities for older people.
Informal, flexible and social recreation opportunities that cater to a time-poor population.	• Improved lighting on streets and in parks to enable night time use including for informal activities.
Inclusive recreation opportunities for people with a disability.	• Prioritise accessibility in the upgrades of recreation facilities in parks, for example in new amenities buildings. • Audit of Council's recreation facilities and parks and whether they are accessible.
Inclusive recreation opportunities for people from the LGBTQI+ community	• Welcoming bathroom amenities for gender diverse people.
Inclusive recreation opportunities for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.	• Recreation opportunities located close to public transport and promoted in community languages • Recreation programs targeting people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds • Recreation opportunities that reflect popular activities
New off leash dog parks, including dog swimming and water play; Ongoing provision and maintenance of existing dog off leash areas; Managing and preventing conflicts between users of parks, particularly children and dogs.	• Clarity in signage to enable regulation and enforcement. • Design of parks and playgrounds to minimise conflict e.g. planting borders 10m from playgrounds to identify dog free areas.

2.0 Categorisation / Ownership, Statutory Conditions and Legislation



View south towards neighbouring industrial precinct. Photography by Welsh + Major.



Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt 20

Lots and Zoning



Land Categorisation + Ownership

Community land - Local Government Act Requirements

Public land as defined under the Local Government Act 1993, must be classified as either community or operational land.

'Operational' land comprises land that serves a commercial or operational function (e.g. offices, works depot, car park, sewage pump station, etc.), or land that is being retained for commercial or strategic reasons. The range of controls that apply to Community land do not apply to the use and management of Operational land.

'Community' land is generally public park land set aside for community use. Development and use of this land is subject to strict controls set out in the Act such as Community land cannot be sold, or leased or licensed for more than 30 years. In addition to these controls, the Act requires Councils to have plans of management for all Community lands.

A plan of management places each piece of Community Land into one or more of five categories which impact on how they can be used. These are: Natural area; Sports ground; Park; Area of cultural significance; or General community use. Community Land is still subject to zoning controls and a plan of management operates as an additional control over that piece of land.

Crown Land Management Act 2016

Following a comprehensive review of legislative provisions and the management of Crown land the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act) commenced on 1 July 2018 and the Crown Lands Act 1989 was repealed. The objectives of the CLM Act are:

- To provide for the ownership, use and management of the Crown land of New South Wales, and
- To provide clarity concerning the law applicable to Crown land, and
- To require environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations to be taken into account in decision-making about Crown land, and
- To provide for the consistent, efficient, fair and transparent management of Crown land for the benefit of the people of New South Wales, and
- To facilitate the use of Crown land by the Aboriginal people of New South Wales because of the spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance of land to Aboriginal people and, where appropriate, to enable the co-management of dedicated or reserved Crown land, and
- To provide for the management of Crown land having regard to the principles of Crown land management.

The CLM act gives Council the authority to manage Crown Land in the same way that it manages Public land, as defined under the Local Government Act 1993. The legislation requires Council to firstly classify Crown land managed by Council as Community Land or Operational Land, and to then to nominate a single category for the land. The Plan of Management then provides the mechanism to place the Crown Land into multiple categories which are better suited to the current and future use of the land.

Lot/DP	Name & Location	Current Management & Agreement Recommendations	Ownership & Classification	Area	Notes
Lot 1 DP 1260321	Blackmore Oval, Canal Rd, Leichhardt	Inner West Council	Crown Reserve No. R41964	15,600m²	
Lot 1 DP 1260322	Blackmore Oval, Canal Rd, Leichhardt	Inner West Council	Inner West Council Community Land	542m²	
Lot 1 DP184476	Blackmore Oval, Canal Rd, Leichhardt	Inner West Council	Inner West Council Community Land	155m²	
Lot 1 DP1045624	Blackmore Oval, Canal Rd, Leichhardt	Inner West Council	Inner West Council Community Land	963m²	
Lot 2 DP1045624	Blackmore Oval, Canal Rd, Leichhardt	Inner West Council	Inner West Council Community Land	220m²	

Land Categorisation + Ownership (cont'd)

Crown Land Reserves

Crown Land Reserves are owned by the State of New South Wales (NSW) and managed by Councils or boards appointed as land managers on behalf of the NSW Government for the benefit of the general public.

Crown Land Reserves managed by Council have been set aside for a particular public purpose. Where local Councils are the land manager of Crown Reserves they are to be managed as if they are 'public land' under the Local Government Act 1993. Crown reserves which are classified public land require a Plan of Management.

The Crown Land within Blackmore Oval is divided into the categories listed within the table below. The land which each category specifically applies to is demonstrated by the map opposite.

Management Principles

The principles of Crown land management are:

(a) that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land, and
(b) that the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible, and
(c) that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged, and
(d) that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged, and
(e) that, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
(f) that Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.

Native Title on Crown Land

On Crown land native title rights and interests must be considered unless:

- native title has been extinguished; or
- native title has been surrendered; or
- determined by a court to no longer exist.

Some examples of acts which may affect native title on Crown land or Crown reserves managed by Council include:

- the construction of new buildings and other facilities such as toilet blocks, walking tracks, tennis courts, grandstands and barbecues,
- the construction of extensions to existing buildings,
- the construction of new roads or tracks,
- installation of infrastructure such as power lines, sewerage pipes, etc,
- the creation of an easement
- the issue of a lease or licence,
- the undertaking of major earthworks.

When proposing any act that may affect native title on Crown land or Crown reserves the act must be authorised through Part 2 Division 3 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth) Where it is proposed to construct or establish a public work on reserved or dedicated Crown land, where native title is not extinguished, prior to approval Council will notify and give an opportunity to comment any representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander bodies, registered native title bodies corporate and registered native title claimants in relation to the land or waters covered by the reservation or lease as required under the Native Title Act 1993.

Category	Core objectives (as defined by the Local Government Act 1993)
SPORTS GROUND	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are— (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and (b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.
PARK	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are— (a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and (b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and (c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.
GENERAL COMMUNITY USE	The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public— (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

Land Categorisation Map



Existing Park Conditions



	Use of land or structure (on adoption of the PoM)	Condition of the land or structure (on adoption of the PoM)	Future Condition (targeted following adoption of the PoM)
01	Northern path	Good	Good - maintain
02	Amenities + Men's Shed building	Very Poor	Very good - replace
03	Driveway + entry	Poor	Good - replace
04	SES quarters	Very Poor	Good - replace damaged building
05	Sports club house + facilities	Fair	Fair - maintain
06	Sports club storage	Poor	Good - upgrade
07	Southern entry + path	Very Poor	Good - upgrade
08	Outdoor Fitness Stations	Good	Good - maintain
09	Sports ground + cricket pitch	Fair	Good - maintain
10	Cricket nets	Fair	Fair - maintain
11	Park furniture	Fair	Good - upgrade
12	Flood lighting	Poor	Good - upgrade
13	Path lighting to northern boundary	Good	Good - maintain
14	Wetlands	Poor	Good - maintain
15	Pedestrian/cyclist access into main entry	Poor	Good - upgrade
16	Ball protection screen	Poor	Good - replace

Zoning + Classification

Inner West LEP 2022 : RE1 'Public Recreation'

Other Relevant Legislation

- Inner West LEP 2022 Foreshore Building Line
- Native title Act 1993 (C'wlth)
- Companion Animals Act 1998
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- National Construction Code 2019
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021
- Work, Health and Safety Act 2011
- Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017

3.0 Leases + Licences



Clubhouse courtyard + Canteen. Photography by Welsh + Major.



Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt 28

3.0 Leases + Licences

An Overview

The Local Government Act allows Council to grant leases, licences or undertake works over all or part of Community Land.

Where exclusive control of all or part of an area or facility is proposed or desirable, a lease is appropriate. There are also other factors which may influence the granting of a lease. These include the level or scale of investment, the necessity for security measures and the relationship between the activity on the land and the activity of the controller of the land.

The activities undertaken by a leaseholder should be compatible with any zoning or Council requirements and provide benefits and services or facilities for the users of the land. Terms and conditions of a lease should reflect the interest of the Council, protect the public and ensure proper management and maintenance.

Where short term, intermittent or non-exclusive occupation or control of all or part of an area or facility is proposed, a licence may be used. Providing there are no conflicts of interest, several licences may apply concurrently.

In considering whether to grant any lease or licence, Council should take into account the consistency of the proposal with the values and management strategies of this Plan of Management, particularly with regard to the following:

The Lessee/Licensee is responsible for ensuring the area is maintained to a standard which is acceptable to Council.

There is a need to define the times the land or facility will be available for use by the Lessee/Licensee, the impact of the lease/licence on the public/private space use of the Parks, the impact on maintaining the Parks as one cohesive open space.

The Plan of Management for Blackmore Oval allows for the provision of leases and licences in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Crown Lands Management Act 2016, Crown Lands Management Regulations 2018 and any subsequent legislation. Future leases and licences will be authorised consistent with this Plan of Management, the Inner West Council Local Environment Plan (2022) and any other applicable legislation. Any licences for biodiversity works are permitted.

Any leases, licences on crown land (a use agreement) on Crown land may impact native title rights and interests. Any use agreement issued on Crown land must be issued in accordance with the future act provisions of the Native Title Act 1993 and in accordance with Part 8 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 unless native title is extinguished. For Crown land which is not excluded land this will require written advice of one of Council's native title managers that it complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation.

What are Leases and Licences?

A lease is a contract between the land owner, and another entity granting to that entity an exclusive right to occupy, use or control an area for a specified time.

A licence allows multiple non – exclusive use of an area. Short term licences and bookings may be used to allow the best overall use of an area.

Council's leasing and licensing is governed by its Land and Property Policy.

Authorisation of Leases and Licences

The Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act) requires a lease or licence of community land be authorised by a Plan of management (PoM). The lease or licence must be for a purpose consistent with core objectives of its categorisation and zoning of the land.

The maximum period for a lease or licence is 21 years if granted by Council or 30 years if granted by Council with the consent of the Minister for Local Government.

This PoM expressly authorises Inner West Council as land manager of Blackmore Oval to grant leases and licences for the purposes and uses which are identified or consistent with those in Table 1.01 and Table 1.02. The leases and licences authorised on this land align with original gazetted purpose of "Public Recreation".

Leases and licences for the use of an area of land need to permissible under this PoM, the LG Act, the Local Government Regulations 2005, Crown Lands Management Act 2016 (CLMA), Crown Lands Management Regulations 2018 and Inner West Council LEP 2022, and pursuant to a development consent if required.

Any proposed lease or licence for more than 5 years must be by tender unless it is to a non-profit organisation.

Any proposed lease, licence other than short term or casual public notice must be given and be in accordance with section 47 of the Act.

Current Leases and Licences

Licence: Leichhardt Men's Shed Incorporated. Purpose: Woodworking, metalworking, and social and community projects.

Licence: Leichhardt Wanderers JRLFC. Purpose: Club house for storage and activities associated with the football club.

Future Leases and Licences

This Plan of Management expressly authorises Inner West Council to grant leases and licences of Blackmore Oval for the purposes and uses which are identified or consistent with those in the following tables.

Note: Long Term Use is for Up to 30 Years. The maximum period for a lease or licence is 21 years if granted by Council or 30 years if granted by Council with the consent of the Minister for Local Government.

This PoM expressly authorises Council to issue relevant short-term licences (for up to 12 months) (subject to approval from consent authority) under s2.20 of the Crown Land Management Act for the prescribed purposes listed in Clause 31 of the Crown Land Management Regulation 2018 and also Regulation 116 of the Local Government Act 1993 as outlined in the tables below.

TABLE 1.01	LEASES and LICENCES
Type of arrangement/ categorisation and facilities	Purpose for which licencing/ leasing will be granted
Licence: Sports Grounds	Organised sport including but not limited to soccer, rugby, cricket, oz tag.
Licence: Sports Grounds	School and community group recreation and education use.
Lease: General Community Use Building	Sporting club and associated uses including but not limited to filming, training, storage, fitness classes and the provision to sell alcohol.
Licence: General Community Use Building	Creative industry/Artist in residence; emergency services facility.
Licence: Park	School and community group recreation and education use.

TABLE 1.02	Short Term Leases and Licences
Type of arrangement/ categorisation and facilities	Purpose for which up to 12 month licence will be granted
Licence: Sports Ground	• Seasonal licences • Sporting fixtures and events • Uses reasonably associated with the promotion or enhancement of sporting groups, fixtures and events • Use as per the sporting ground allocations policy; Training from Tuesday - Friday; Games Saturday + Sunday
Licence: Sports Ground	• School and community group recreation and education use
Licence: Sports Ground	• Commercial fitness trainers
Licence: Park	• School and community group recreation and education use
Licence: Park	• Delivering a public address • Public performances • Picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings • Conducting a commercial photography session • Filming including film / television • Community events and festivals • Playing a musical instrument or singing for fee or reward • Advertising • Catering • Community, training or education • Environmental protection, conservation or restoration or environmental studies • Exhibitions • Functions • Hiring of equipment • Meetings • Outdoor cinema • Site investigations • Sporting and organised recreational activities • Storage • Emergency purposes including training • Electric Vehicle Charging • Recycling Bins

4.0 Objectives and Performance Targets



Blackmore Oval. Photography by Welsh + Major



Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt 32

Overview

The key objectives and performance targets outline a broad vision for the future of Blackmore Oval. They have been derived from the opportunities and constraints outlined in the Site Analysis and Community Engagement Outcomes. They have also been informed through a precedent study of successful local, national and international parkland projects.

Key strategies offer practical measures for how these objectives can be implemented within Blackmore Oval.

ACCESS+INCLUSIVENESS

Key Objectives:

1. *Ensure that the park and its assets are accessible for all visitors.*
2. *Provide facilities which cater for a range users.*
3. *Provide high quality amenities which are inclusive and accessible.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Upgrade existing pathways and entry points.
- Increase mixed-use park area by reducing the clubhouse courtyard.
- Ensure new and upgraded facilities are inclusive and accessible.

SENSE OF PLACE+COMMUNITY

Key Objectives:

1. *Highlight the significant historic and environmental aspects of the park and build upon them to establish a clear identity for the park and its assets.*
2. *Provide high quality furniture and facilities.*
3. *Continue maintenance of existing park assets.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Establish an integrated interpretation strategy to highlight assets within the park and the history of the park.
- Establish additional shady seating areas and upgrade existing amenities block.
- Maintain existing open green spaces for flexible recreation and improve the quality of under-utilised spaces.

SUSTAINABILITY

Key Objectives:

1. *Support local ecology and biodiversity + protect existing vegetation within the park.*
2. *Maximize opportunities to connect with nature in and around Blackmore Oval.*
3. *Integrate sustainable measures into new and existing facilities.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Maintain health and extent of existing canopy, densify and diversify flora within the park by introducing understory planting to southern boundary.
- Improve connections to wetlands and greater parklands around Blackmore Oval.
- Design and upgrade facilities with sustainable principles and measures.

SAFETY

Key Objectives:

1. *Increase the perceived sense of safety by the introduction of carefully designed built elements.*
2. *Ensure park users feel safe entering and leaving the park.*
3. *Implement strategies to reduce the risk of injury to park users by cricket balls.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Create opportunities for passive surveillance around the site.
- Provide consistent after dark lighting around primary routes.
- Consider pathway junctions at entryway on Canal Road.
- Implement safety upgrades to cricket nets and recreational areas.

SPORTS+RECREATION

Key Objectives:

1. *Continue a balance of sports and general community use of the park and maintain sports and recreation facilities.*
2. *Maximise the use of the sports ground after dark.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Maintain the sporting ground for both sports use and general community use and maintain shared community access to park assets.
- Improve flood lighting lux levels and allow the extension of hours of use.

Access + Inclusiveness

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Ensure that the park and its assets are accessible for all visitors.*
2. *Provide facilities which cater for a range users.*
3. *Provide high quality amenities which are inclusive and accessible.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Upgrade existing pathways and entry points.
- Increase mixed-use park area by reducing the clubhouse courtyard.
- Ensure new and upgraded facilities are inclusive and accessible.

Public Access

Whilst there are four existing entry points to the park, the main access are limited to two points on Canal Road. This contributes to the park's unique character by providing a sense of seclusion and respite from the surrounding urban areas. The Master Plan proposes to maintain this quality while improving the existing park entry by widening the two main access points at the western part of the site.

A new driveway with fold down bollards is proposed to ease the access to service vehicles. A new area of understorey planting on each side of the driveway will widen the entry point while reducing the hardscaping, improving the aesthetic appeal of the park entry.

Parts of the pathways are in poor condition and this limits access for visitors with prams, wheelchairs and mobility requirements. Upgrades are proposed to improve pedestrian amenity by patching the existing pathways and widening its narrow sections. This will also promote movement around the sports ground to encourage the passive use of the eastern part of the park, defined as underutilised during community consultation.

Activity Spaces

The Master Plan proposes to remove the fence to the sports club courtyard to accommodate for a new multi-purpose area. This area could serve both the club during sports events and casual park users the rest of the time. It would create a link between Canal Street entry, the club courtyard and the sports ground whilst being screened and protected from the car park through a new fringe of understorey planting. This shared area includes seating and picnic arrangements.

Amenities

The existing amenities block is not equipped to meet the needs of park users and is in poor condition. Both the Site Analysis and Community Consultation highlight poor the condition of the amenities generally, the poor location of the female toilets and shower. It is proposed to replace the existing amenities block with a new one, proposing fully accessible male, female and non binary toilets and changing rooms with improved signage strategy.



Example of shared use plaza
Erie Street Plaza by Stoss Landscape Urbanism, Milwaukee



Example of shared use plaza
SUPERKILEN by BIG (Bjarke Ingels Group), Topotek 1, and Superflex, Copenhagen, Denmark

Sense of Place + Community

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Highlight the significant historic and environmental aspects of the park and build upon them to establish a clear identity for the park and its assets.*
2. *Provide high quality furniture and facilities.*
3. *Continue maintenance of existing park assets.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Establish an integrated interpretation strategy to highlight assets within the park and the history of the park.
- Establish additional shady seating areas and upgrade existing amenities block
- Maintain existing open green spaces for flexible recreation and improve the quality of under-utilised spaces.

Historical Interpretation and Identity

Few visitors are aware of Blackmore Oval's history. There is currently no evidence of historical conservation or celebration of history within the park. There is an opportunity for historical interpretation strategy to be developed in collaboration with local historians and artists, and to be integrated into new park elements.

This strategy could reference the former creek or Hawthorne Canal, First Nations history, the wetlands and the local sports history.

This could be incorporated in new park elements such as maps, inscriptions or imprints in footpaths, informative plaques or artwork. The design of these should be contemporary and complementary to elements already present within Blackmore Oval to provide a cohesive identity. The interpretation strategy should be engaging for both children and adults.

New Park Furniture and Facilities

New furniture and facilities are recommended to support passive enjoyment of the park. These are indicated to a number of areas including:

• New shaded seating structures to provide sheltered seating areas within park. The structures will serve both organised sports players and spectators.

• New bins, bike racks and drink water stations provided near the park entry points. These should be designed for convenience, and to enhance visitors enjoyment of the park.

• New bridge to the wetlands over the existing storm water channel and near the new amenities block, to improve the connection to the greater parklands

• New amenities block to include male, female, non binary toilets and changing rooms, accessible to all users.

Maintaining the Open Green Space

The open grassed area of Blackmore Oval is highly valued by the community for both organised sports and unstructured recreation and relaxation. This area should be protected and maintained into the future. Development within the park, such as amenities and sports and recreation upgrades should be limited to existing built areas or areas which are currently under-utilised by the community.



Picnic shleter integrated into landscape, Parramatta Park. CHROFI, photography by Simon Whitbread.

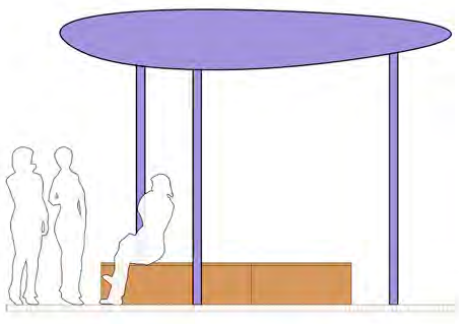


Cohen Park Amenities on Gadigal Land, Annandale Sydney
Welsh + Major Architects



Naturalised precinct with integrated footpaths, play spaces + amenities, Lizard Log Parkland, Sydney. McGregor Coxall, photo by Simon Wood.





Example concept drawings of shaded seating structures

Sustainability

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Support local ecology and biodiversity + protect existing vegetation within the park*
2. *Maximise opportunities to connect with nature in and around Blackmore Oval.*
3. *Integrate sustainable measures into new and existing facilities.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Maintain health and extent of existing canopy, densify and diversify flora within the park by introducing understory planting to southern boundary
- Improve connections to wetlands and greater parklands around Blackmore Oval
- Design and upgrade facilities with sustainable principles and measures.

Trees and Understorey Planting

Multiple large trees flank the edges of the park as well as the informal eastern area of the park. A great majority of these trees are in good condition and their location offers good shade.

It is proposed to undertake a condition assessment of the existing trees for maintenance and potential renewal. This will ensure consistent continuous canopy cover along the additional hard landscaping created by new paths within the park.

The Master Plan proposes to introduce new understory planting along the southern boundary to connect the broken flora and fauna link around the park perimeter. Understory planting is recommended for areas which are less utilised, to improve the range of habitats available for local fauna and to encourage greater biodiversity. The planting would also be a good opportunity to visually screen the neighbouring commercial precinct and create additional area for park users to connect with nature.

Connection to nature

Both the Site Analysis and the Community Consultation described the wetlands located at the north of the Park as being a great way of connecting with nature. Many users mentioned the lack of connections between the park and the wetlands and greater parkland around Blackmore Oval .

The Master Plan proposes to add a new bridge over the existing stormwater channel to increase this connection. It is proposed to align this new path with the passageway through the new amenities block to promote movement throughout the park and increase sight lines and safety within the amenities.

Sustainable Facilities

Upgrades should consider the environmental impact of design, construction and future maintenance of park facilities. The Plan of Management promotes progression towards sustainable practices in construction, building maintenance and overall life cycle. There is opportunity for the park to showcase sustainable approaches to visitors.

• New constructions within the park must be designed and built to meet sustainable principles. This would include considerations of a facilities life-cycle, embodied energy and on-going sustainability.

• Building upgrades should maximise adaptive reuse, water harvesting and reuse, and sustainable energy sources and materials.

• Sporting ground and park maintenance should consider watering requirements, replacement cycles, and eliminating the use if harmful products and practices.

• Lighting upgrades should consider sustainable energy sources and energy efficient fittings.



Boardwalk over naturalised wetland habitat. Swanport Wetlands,Monteith, South Australia

Safety

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Increase the perceived sense of safety by the introduction of carefully designed built elements*
2. *Ensure park users feel safe entering and leaving the park*
3. *Implement strategies to reduce the risk of injury to park users by cricket balls.*
4. *Resolve ongoing issues with dogs digging holes on the sporting surface and dog fouling.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Create opportunities for passive surveillance around the site
- Provide consistent after dark lighting around primary routes
- Consider pathway junctions at entryway on Canal Road.
- Implement safety upgrades to cricket nets and recreational areas.
- Blackmore Park as a whole is "classified as an on-leash area at all times".

Lighting

There was support for lighting upgrades to improve safety and to extend the hours that the park can be used. The Master Plan proposes an new low level consistent lighting along the new perimeter path for increased safety of visitors after dark.

Consideration should be given that this area has high biodiversity value, and lighting should be directed so as not to limit the effect of light pollution on sensitive nocturnal habitats.

Passive Surveillance

The Master Plan proposes to increase visibility around the park existing and new amenities to encourage respectful use of the facilities.

The female changing facilities and bathrooms are currently concealed and its position at the rear of the sports club makes it very isolated. The current male facilities forms a barrier that blocks the view from the entrance and from the wetlands to the sports ground.

It is proposed to build the new amenities as a consolidated block with wide see through common areas to increase visibility and provide security to visitors using the amenities as well as the ones using the existing path near the storm water channel.

Increase road safety around public parks

Traffic calming measures and user shared paths on Canal Rd could greatly improve the safety of park users as well as improving the connectivity between the park and its immediate neighbourhood.

The Master Plan suggests the addition of a new cycle path connecting the crossing over Hawthorne Canal to the north. Pedestrian crossing at Canal Road entry point to the bridge is also suggested to improve safety around Blackmore Oval.

Companion Animal Access

A full time dedicated off leash area is provided 350m to the south of the Parkland (some five minutes walking distance). Ongoing management and maintenance of sporting ground has been a key community issue expressed during the Plan of Management preparation process. This regulation also addresses a significant management concern which has been expressed by the resident sporting clubs in relation to dog fouling and dogs digging into the sports ground which has been a regular complaint and an important safety issue for sporting users.

Sports + Park Visitors

While Blackmore Oval is an important ground for cricket training, cricket balls can be dangerous for other park users and it is recommended that steps are taken to reduce the risk of injury to the community. Safety upgrades to the existing cricket nets should be completed as well as replacing the existing mesh screen next to the club with a new one to reduce the risk of cricket balls to break windows.

Multi-lingual signs could also assist in informing the community to be aware of the potential safety issues.



Examples of low level path lighting



Example of unobtrusive netting

Sports + Recreation

Key Objectives and Performance Targets:

1. *Continue a balance of sports and general community use of the park and maintain sports and recreation facilities*
2. *Maximise the use of the sports ground after dark*
3. *Introduce new on leash regulations at all times for companion animals.*

Key Strategies to achieve this in Master Plan:

- Maintain the sporting ground for both sports use and general community use and maintain shared community access to park assets.
- Improve flood lighting lux levels and allow the extension of hours of use

Casual Recreation Spaces

Providing spaces for both formal and informal sports and games helps to support the community in leading an active lifestyle outside of organised sports. The sporting ground is utilised by a variety of formal and casually organised sporting groups. Care should be taken in the management of the park to allow as many different groups as possible to utilise the open spaces of Blackmore Oval to encourage public health and wellbeing as well as community cohesion by providing opportunities for various cultural groups to come together and interact through exercise and sport.

New shaded seating structures are also proposed alongside the sports ground. The structures will serve for both organised sports players and spectators during games and general public.

Lighting Upgrades

The Master Plan proposes to upgrade the existing flood lights around the sports ground. The community consultation process identified some light spill over adjacent areas. Inconsistent operating hours were also mentioned as an issue of concern.

The lighting upgrades would also allow users to use the sports ground in early mornings and increase opportunities for organised sports to utilise the ground.

Rationale for introducing new on leash regulations at all times for companion animals

It is noted that a full time dedicated off leash area is provided 350m to the south of the Parkland (some five minutes walking distance) and that ongoing management and maintenance of sporting ground has been a key community issue expressed during the Plan of management preparation process. This regulation also addresses a significant management concern which has been expressed by the resident sporting clubs in relation to dog fouling and dogs digging into the sports ground which has been a regular complaint and an important safety issue for sporting users.



Kedron Wavell Hockey Fields, Queensland utilise mid level LED sports ground lighting and unobtrusive netting. Image: Australian Sports Lighting Solutions

5.0 Draft Master Plan



View through bushland looking north. Photography by Welsh + Major.



Draft Master Plan

Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt



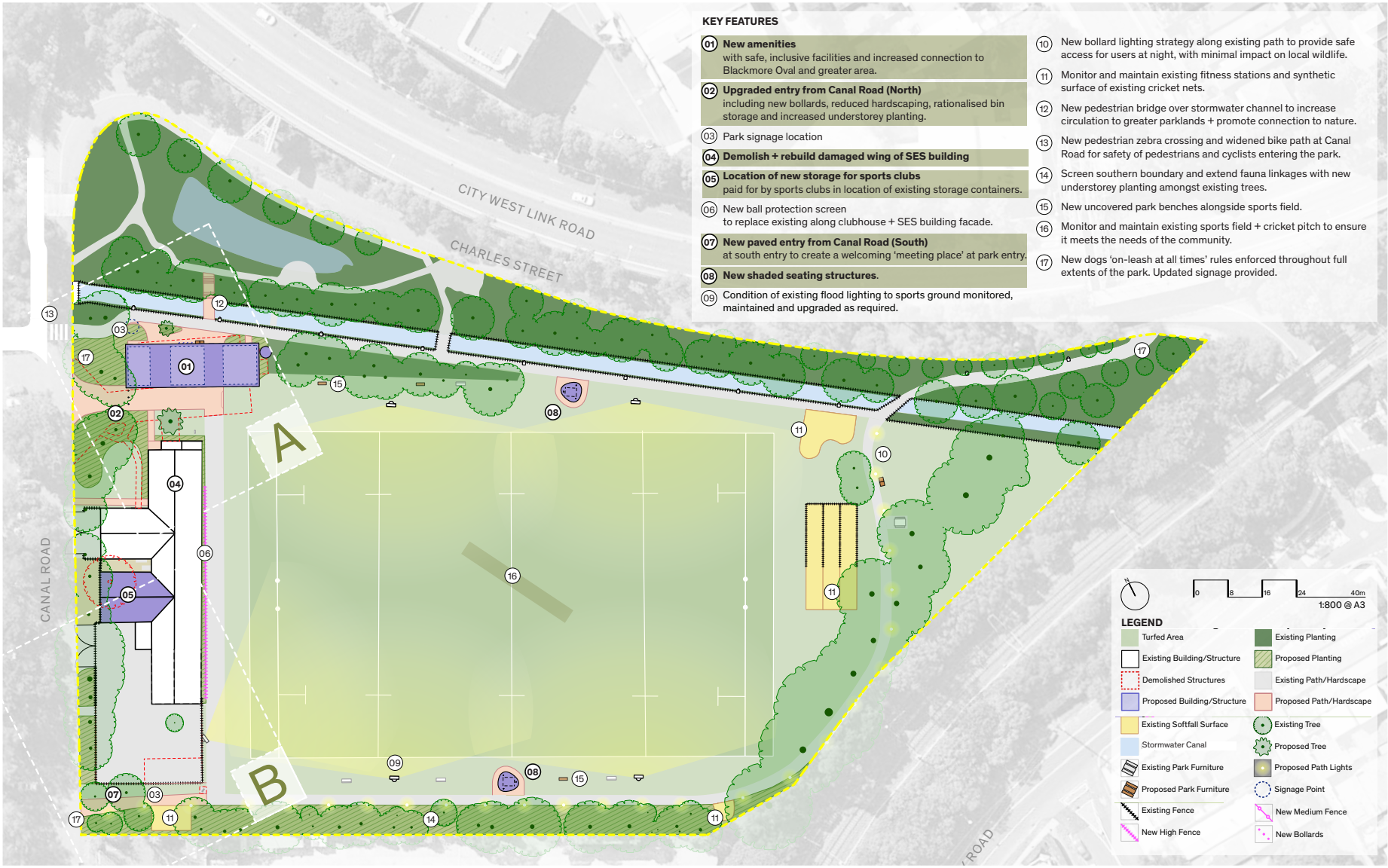
For Inner West Council
Date 02.12.22
Project Ref. 2301

L4 / 69 Reservoir Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010
02 9699 6066

ABN 67 612 977 303
C. Major ARB 9193
D. Welsh ARB 6968

Draft Master Plan

Blackmore Oval, Leichhardt



6.0 Draft Master Plan

Existing Blackmore Oval Plan



Existing Plan

01 Existing path and entry along northern boundary
02 Amenities block, including the Men's Shed
03 Concrete driveway entrance
04 Sports club building and SES headquarters
05 Enclosed courtyard for sports clubs
06 Southern entry from Canal Road
07 Fitness station
08 3 cricket nets
09 Sports field with cricket pitch
10 Park seating around sports field
11 Flood lighting for sports field
12 Wetland area to the north
13 Fenced stormwater channel



Main entry + existing amenities block (left)
Image: Welsh + Major



Photo showing impact of subsidance to northern part of SES HQ building
Image: Welsh + Major



Bike path along Canal Road to the northern entry of Blackmore Oval is in poor condition.
Image: Welsh + Major

6.0 Draft Master Plan

Proposed Blackmore Oval Plan



Proposed Plan

01 **New amenities**
with safe, inclusive facilities and increased connection to Blackmore Oval and greater area.

02 **Upgraded entry from Canal Road (North)**
including new bollards, reduced hardscaping and increased understorey planting.

03 Park signage location

04 **Demolish and rebuild section of SES headquarters**
building to restore damage to building as a result of Westconnex drilling. Current building is sinking.

05 **New storage**
for sports clubs in location of existing storage containers.

06 New ball protection screen
to replace existing along clubhouse + SES building facade.

07 **New paved entry from Canal Road (South)**
at south entry to create a welcoming 'meeting place' at park entry.

08 **New shaded seating structures.**

09 Condition of existing flood lighting to sports ground monitored, maintained and upgraded as required.

10 New bollard lighting strategy along existing path to provide safe access for users at night, with minimal impact on local wildlife.

11 Monitor and maintain existing fitness stations and synthetic surface on existing cricket nets.

12 New pedestrian bridge to wetlands over stormwater channel to increase circulation to greater parklands + promote connection to nature.

13 New pedestrian zebra crossing and widened bike path at Canal Road to increase safety of pedestrians and cyclists entering the park.

14 Screen southern boundary and extend fauna linkages with new understorey planting amongst existing trees.

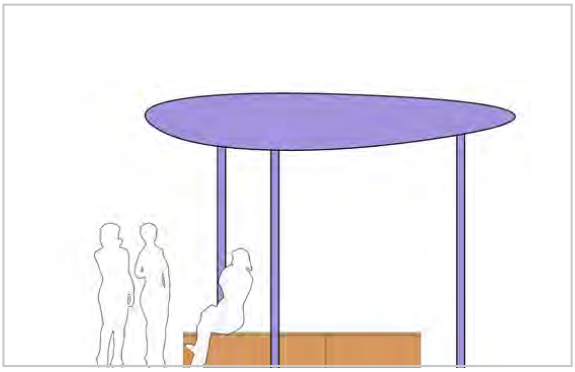
15 New uncovered park benches alongside sports field.

16 Monitor and maintain existing sports field + cricket pitch it ensure it meets the needs of the community.

17 New dogs 'on-leash at all times' rules enforced throughout full extents of the park. Updated signage provided.



Example of low bollard path lighting. Lighting to be directional to target paths without light pollution into wildlife habitat.



Concept for proposed shaded seating structures


CANAL ROAD
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03
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UNISEX TOILETS
STORE
ACC. WC
02
01
CHANGE ROOM + SHOWERS
09
06
TANK SERVICE
NEW SS TANK
CHANGE ROOM + SHOWERS
03
BIN STORE
04
08
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14
12
N
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6
12
18
30m
Turfed Area
Existing Building/Structure
Demolished Structures
Proposed Building/Structure
Existing Planting
Proposed Planting
Existing Path/Hardscape
Proposed Path/Hardscape
Existing Softfall Surface
Stormwater Canal
Existing Park Furniture
Proposed Park Furniture
Existing Tree
Proposed Tree
Proposed Path Lights
Signage Point
Existing Fence
New High Fence
New Medium Fence
New Bollards

Precinct A

01 New amenities
with safe, inclusive facilities and increased connection to Blackmore Oval and greater area.

- New amenities to provide thoroughfare between oval and existing path to the north. Wide passageways between three connected blocks improves circulation and increases visibility into shared spaces.

02 New accessible WC + inclusive unisex WCs. New toilets to share common basin in open passageway. Drinking water station to be integrated into communal basin unit.

03 New understorey planting to extend along Canal Street to promote biodiversity + improve aesthetic of park entry.

04 Rationalise bins in a new collection area to the south of park entryway.

05 New forecourt along existing pathway to improve connection to new amenities. Forecourt to include bike racks and bins for users entering the site.

06 New stainless steel water tank with tank services integrated into amenities building.

07 New bridge to wetlands over stormwater channel to increase connection to greater parklands + nature.

08 New tree to increase biodiversity, shade and improve aesthetic appeal of park

09 Upgraded entry from Canal Road (North)
including new bollards, reduced hardscaping and increased understorey planting.

10 New pathway from bin storage area to oval.

11 New pedestrian zebra crossing and widened bike path at Canal Road to increase safety of pedestrians and cyclists entering the park.

12 New ball screen to protect building. Area between screen and building facade to be planted for reduced maintenance of grass.

13 Park signage location

14 Demolish and rebuild section of SES headquarters
building to restore damage to building as a result of Westconnex drilling. Current building is sinking.

- Requirements of building to be reassessed. New extension could be smaller with the relocation of female toilets.



Wentworth Falls Lake Amenities. Example of open communal basin.
Image: Welsh + Major



Cohen Park Amenities. Example of open communal basin.
Image: Welsh + Major



Prince Alfred Pool fencing within understorey planting. Image: Neeson Murcutt + Neille


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Turfed Area
Existing Building/Structure
Demolished Structures
Proposed Building/Structure
Existing Planting
Proposed Planting
Existing Path/Hardscape
Proposed Path/Hardscape
Existing Softfall Surface
Stormwater Canal
Existing Park Furniture
Proposed Park Furniture
Existing Tree
Proposed Tree
Proposed Path Lights
Signage Point
Existing Fence
New High Fence
New Medium Fence
New Bollards

Precinct B

01 New understorey planting along Canal Street boundary to screen new pocket park from existing car park.

02 **New storage for existing club house building** in location of existing storage containers.

03 New paved entry from Canal Road (South) at south entry to create a welcoming 'meeting place' at park entry.

04 New bollard lighting strategy along new entry + existing asphalt path to provide safe passageway for users at night, with minimal impact on local wildlife.

05 New flood lighting to sports field to maximise use of facilities by local clubs.

06 Screen southern boundary and extend fauna linkages with new understorey planting amongst existing trees.

07 Maintain existing fitness stations throughout the park.

08 New ball screen to existing building. Area between screen and building facade to be planted for reduced maintenance of grass.

09 New tree to increase biodiversity, shade and improve aesthetic appeal of park.



The new gym and storage addition can be contemporary, yet comlimantary with the existing building. 'Huysmanhoeve', Eeklo, Belgium. Callebaut Architecten.



Upgraded bollard lighting will improve safety and acess along pathways.

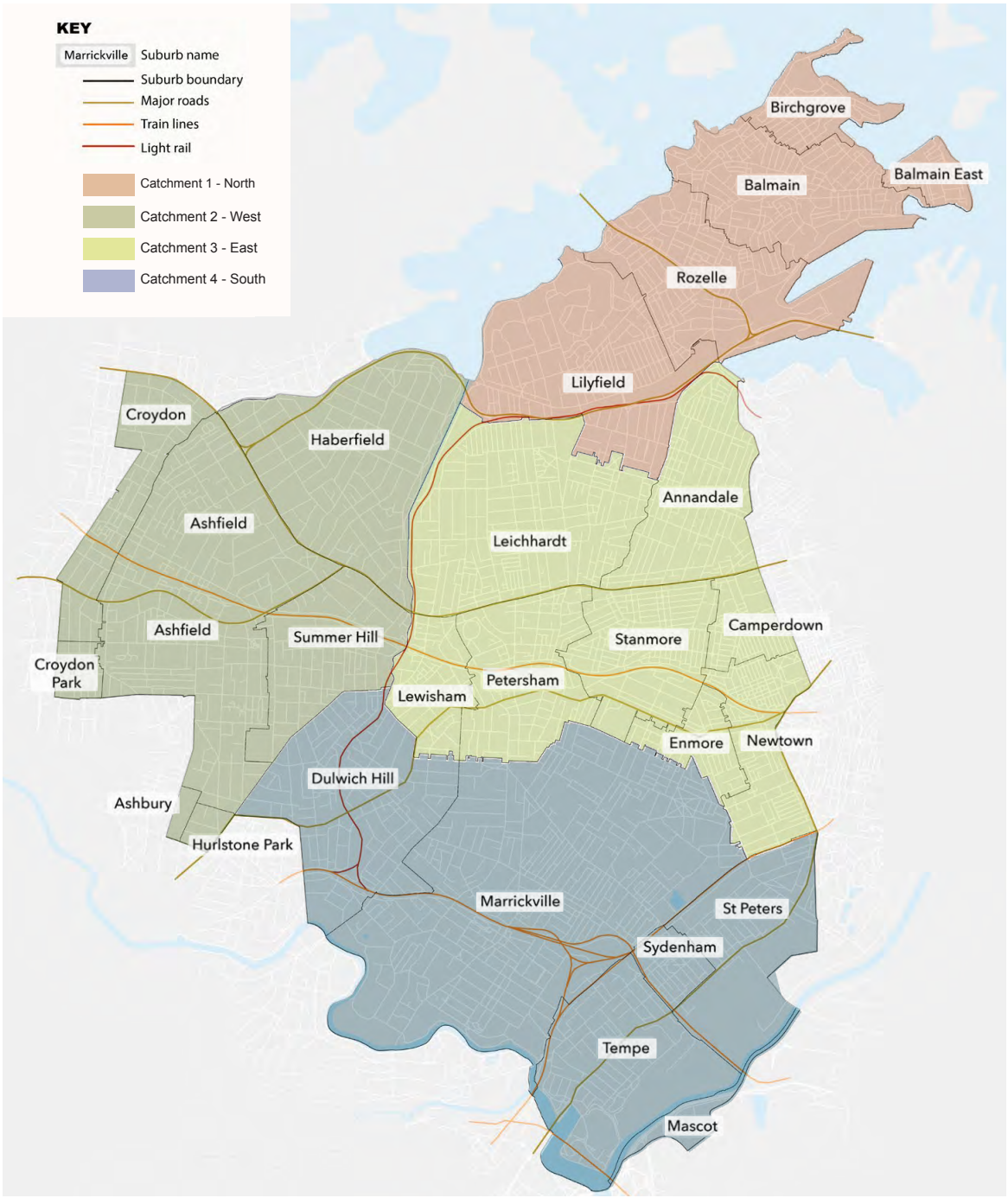


A path through the trees by And-Re: Joao Meireles Park Avenue, Vilamoura, Portugal

Appendix A Site Analysis



Blackmore Oval walking path. Photography by Welsh + Major.



Inner West Council area and suburbs. Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.

Demographics

Overview

This section outlines the current community profile of Leichhardt, Haberfield and Lilyfield, using data from the 2021 ABS Census from Profile i.d., as well as future projections outlined in Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West, Updated 2021 (Cred Consulting). To further analyse this data, the LGA was broken down into 4 catchment areas. Leichhardt falls into catchment 3.

Catchment 3's population is the most densely populated catchment in the LGA and has the highest forecast growth of all catchments. This catchment has a high proportion of students attending university or TAFE, a high proportion of group households, and fewer families and children. It also has a very high proportion of same-sex couples.

Population growth

In 2021, the estimated resident population of the Inner West was 183 772 people. The population decreased by 7422 people or 3.8% between 2016 and 2021. The growth rate of Greater Sydney during this period was 7.8%.

Leichhardt experienced a below average amount of growth, with its population increasing by 536 people (3.7%).

Haberfield + Lilyfield experienced a marginal population growth at a rate of less than 2%.

Despite this short term dip, Inner West Council estimates significant population growth by 2036.

Open space provision

The Inner West has an estimated 321.6 hectares a of open space which equates to 9.1% of the total land area.

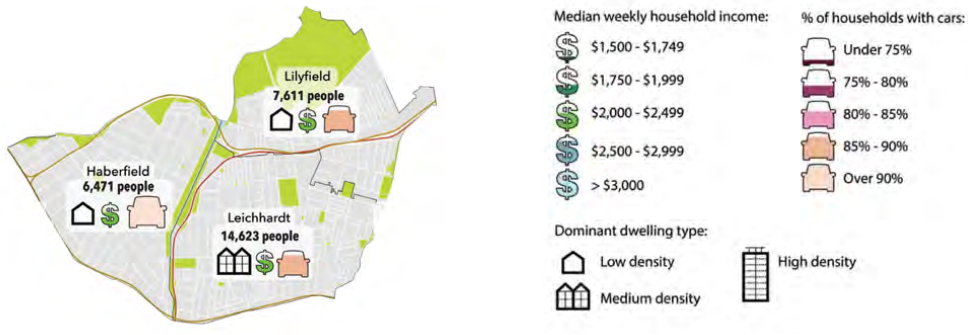
In 2016 the provision of open space per person was 16.4m2. In 2016, catchemnt 3 had a provision of open space per person of 7.6m2 and an estimated 6.4m2 by 2036.



01 Leichhardt - Age + disability profile.
Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West.



02 Leichhardt - Cultural profile.
Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West.



03 Leichhardt - Density, income + housing profile.
Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West.

Demographics

Age + Disability Profile

Spaces that are inclusive of all age groups, accessible and flexible should be prioritised to cater for current and future population needs.

Leichhardt has an above average proportion of babies and children (0-12yrs), young people (12-24yrs) older people (65+yrs), and people reporting a need for assistance.

Haberfield shares similar demographic statistics and has one of the highest median ages (43).

Cultural Profile

Italian language has a high representation in Leichhardt, correlating with it's history as an area with a high number of Italian immigrants. Although the proportion of people speaking a language other than English at home is low, the actual number of speakers is very high.

Likewise, a third of Haberfield residents identify their primary languages as Italian and Greek.

Lilyfield has 17% of people speaking a non-English language, which is below average for the LGA at 28.4%. No specific language group is identifies more than 2% of the population.

Density, Income + Housing Profile

Leichhardt is characterised by medium density housing which is typical for the LGA. The area is forecast to have some of the largest population growth in the LGA, with 90.3 persons per hectare by 2036. This represents an increase by one third of the population, and places significant demand on already limited open space.

Income levels are average and above, and car ownership is high. The majority of households have cars. Improved connectivity would encourage Leichhardt residents to use active or public transport.



01 Semi detached house, 102 William Street
(Item no I1166)

02 Semi detached house, 100 William Street
(Item no I1165)

03 Former General Store, incl. interiors, 2 Hubert Street
(Item no I1121)

04 Leichhardt Park incl. Leichhardt Ovals, Aquatic Centre + Interiors
(Item no I1197)

A Brief Historic Overview

Our First Nations

Prior to European colonisation, the Leichhardt area was inhabited by the Wangal clan of the Eora nation. The territory of the Wangal people extends along the southern shore of the Parramatta River to Parramatta. Suburbs close to the city such as Glebe are also the home of the Gadigal and Wangal ancestors. Hawthorne Canal (previously Long Cove Creek) formed a natural boundary dividing the country of the Wangal and Gadigal clans. The surrounding bushland was rich in plant, bird and animal life with fish and rock oysters available from Blackwattle Bay. Fish and shellfish were staples in the in the diet of the local Aboriginal people. Sixteen midden sites have been identified within Leichhardt with four accessible to the public. The middens are dated at approximately 500 years old, and are recognised as significant by the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council and archaeologists.

The Formation of Blackmore Oval

In 1890 the removal of mangroves along the former Long Cove Creek began the construction of Hawthorne Canal. This propmted residential estates to develop along the waterway, shaping the suburbs surroundung the site today. The residential estate in Haberfield, to the west of the site, is within a heritage conservation area.

Briefly between 1903-1904 the Canal had a ferry service operated by the Drummoyne - Leichhardt Ferry Company. The name Hawthorne Canal was officially gazetted in 1974, in honour of John Stuart Hawthorne MP, who first advocated for the construction of the canal in parliament in 1890.

The contemporary light rail route follows the tracks of the original tram line built in 1890. The original tramline was converted into a goods line around 1920, which followed the line into Darling Harbour.

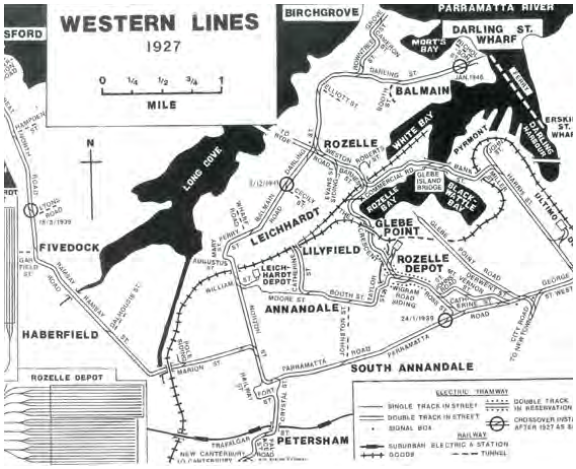
In 1912, the Lieutenant-Governor proclaimed the land as Public Parklands and gave to it the name 'Blackmore Park'.

The 1943 aerial image shows an unknown building located in the centre of the site.

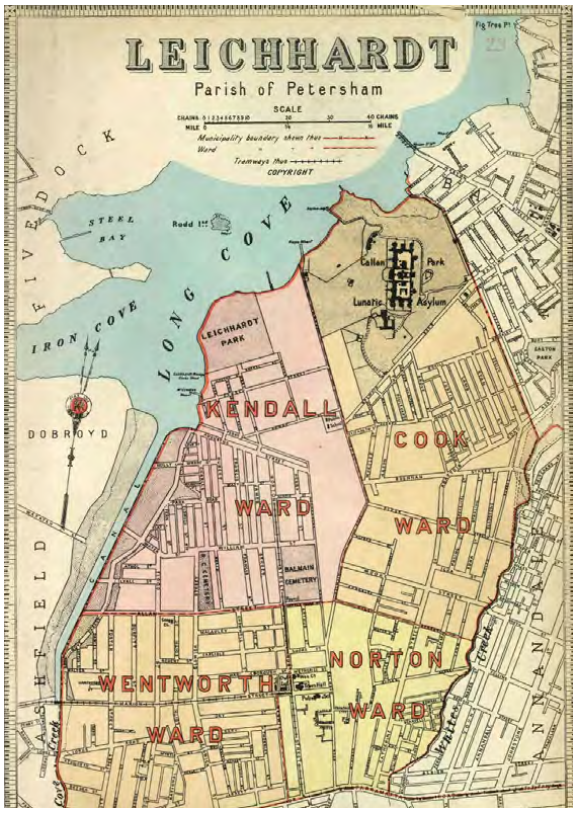
In 1942 the site was taken over by the Allied Works Council.

By 1955, the site was occupied by a number of new structures, in response to the war. The current clubhouse and amenities buildings were constructed during this time and can be clearly identified on the site. Three large tent structures were erected and remained on the site for some time, visible in the 1965 historical map.

A later (1970) aerial map shows the site cleared of war infastructure and restored as public recreational land.



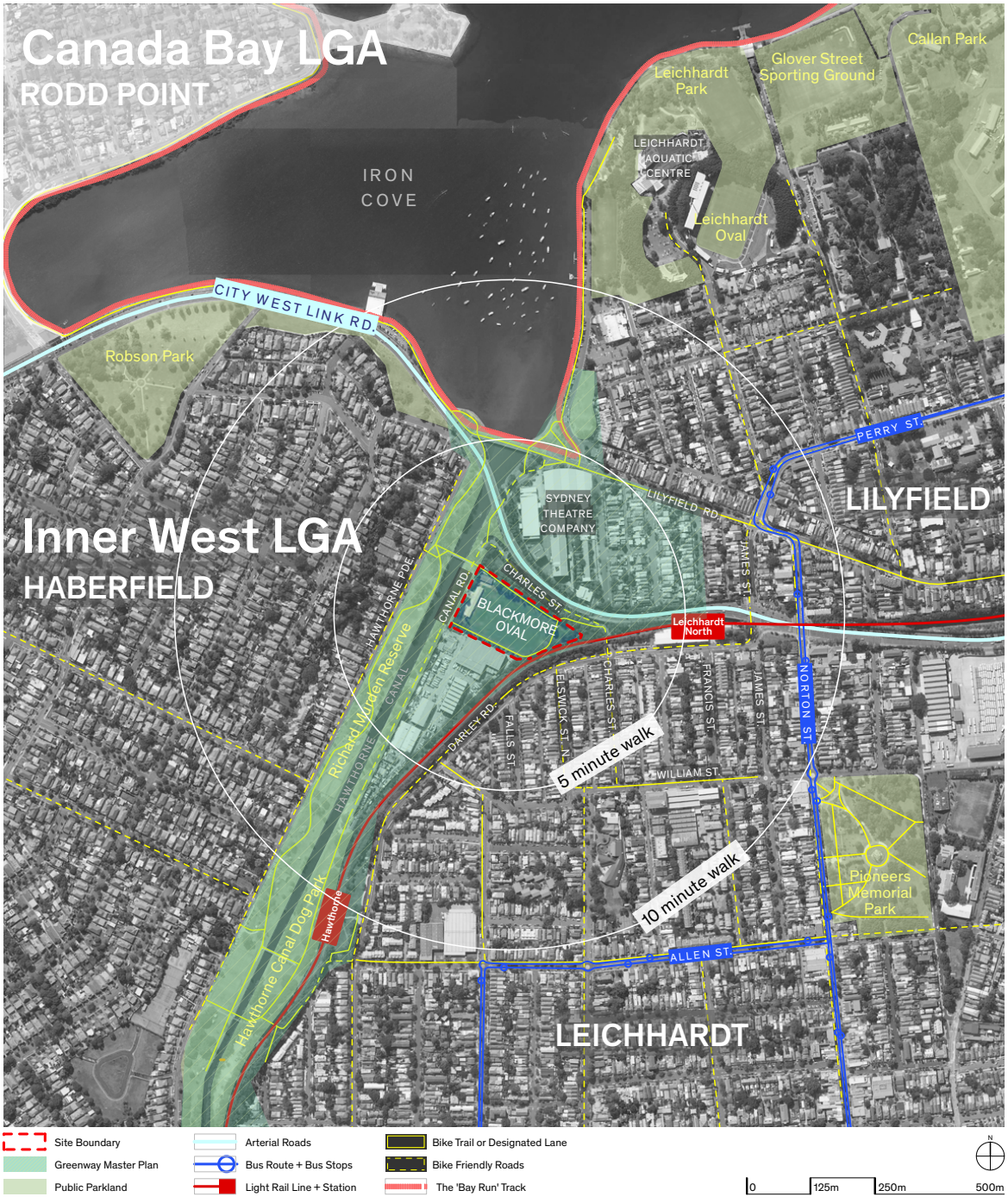
Railway lines in the area, 1927. Source: to be verified



Parish Map, Year and source TBC

Appendix A - Site Analysis

Neighbourhood Context Analysis



Neighbourhood Context

Local Character

Blackmore Oval is located on the northern most point of Leichhardt, neighbouring Lilyfield to the north and Haberfield to the west. Accessed by Canal Road, the park is not visible from anywhere in Leichhardt due to the intervening railway line embankment. This causes a significant disconnection between the park and Leichhardt CBD. Dispite it's visual disconnection from the greater area, the park services many locals, with a large number of dwellings in Leichhardt, Haberfield and Lilyfield within a 10 minute walk.

Traveling North along Hawthorne Canal, pedestrian and cyclist pathways connect to the Sydney Theatre Company and the Bay Run track, both within five minutes walk. Following the Bay Run track north, Leichhardt Park + Sporting Grounds is a 10 minute walk from Blackmore Oval. Directly north of Blackmore Oval is an area of wetlands which separates the park from Charles Street. This wetland includes a natural pathway linking to the park and a lookout area.

To the south along Hawthorne Canal, an off-leash dog park is accessible to pedestrians and cyclists from Blackmore Oval. Adjacent to this trail, large warehouses form an established arts precinct, including manufactures, trades and a film studio, which follow the southern boarder of the site.

The Richard Murden Reserve runs along the Canal opposite Blackmore Oval. A Cyclist and pedestrian bridge near the main entrance to Blackmore Oval connects both parks.

Major Roads

The City West Link Road runs along the north of Blackmore Oval, but is not directly linked to it's entry point. Vehicles entering the site travel below the lightrail overpass, from Darley Street.

Public Transport

Three buses with routes along Norton Street have stops within 10 minutes walk of Blackmore Oval. These routes are:

- Bus Route 437, with stops from QVB City to Five Dock
- Bus Route 445, with stops from Balmain to Campsie
- Bus Route 440, with stops from Rozelle to Bondi Junction

Approximately five minutes walk from the park is Leichhardt North light rail station. Leichhardt North falls on the L1 Route traveling between Central and Dulwich Hill.

Cycle Routes

The area around Blackmore Oval is well connected by cycle trails and bike friendly roads. Bike friendly roads link the park to the greater Leichhardt area. Specific bike paths + wide shared paths link Blackmore Oval to the canal and connecting parklands. These connections lead to the Harbour and extend along the foreshore.

Local Parklands

Blackmore Oval is well positioned to connect to neighbouring parks along Hawthorne Canal, the GreenWay, and the Iron Cove Bay Run area.

The park is towards the northern end of the Greenway Masterplan, which aims to create and maintain a web of connected green spaces following the canal from Cooks River in the south to the Harbour in the north. As such, the connection of Blackmore Oval to neighbouring parklands is important.


11
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CANAL RD.
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CHARLES ST.
CITY WEST LINK RD.
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09
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DARLEY RD.
ELSWICK ST. N
FALLS
01. Entryway + sign / 02. Amenities building (changing rooms, mens WC, accessible WC + Men's Shed workshop) / 03. SES occupied building / 04. Sports Club House / 05. Walking / cycling path / 06. Sporting ground / 07. Cricket nets / 08. Wetland area/ 09. Fitness equipment / 10. Parking / 11. Pedestrian/ Cycle bridge
Site Boundary
Zone Boundary
Area within site
Area outside of site

Existing Conditions

Character

The character of Blackmore Oval is sport + fitness oriented. The scale of existing facilities + number of parking spaces available limit opportunity for growth in capacity. As such, the park retains a local character, clear throughout the sports clubroom + facilities.

To the north of the site, a leafy walking trail and well maintained wetlands connect users to nature. Self directed fitness is entwined with nature along these travel paths, which link to the greater green spaces beyond.

Despite the beauty of the parks surroundings, dilapidated buildings + infrastructure have a negative impact on the character of the park upon arrival. The existing facilities within the park are unhygienic + uncomfortable for users.

Activity

The park is well utilised by the community for a number of activities. The sporting ground itself is used for both sporting events and informal sports, as well as joggers running around its perimeter. The grassy + shaded areas to the north boundary are also popular for unstructured recreation, with people relaxing, meeting for picnics and gatherings or dog walking.

The park also serves as a thoroughfare. With it's close proximity to the Bay Run trail, users travel through the park from Leichhardt to the Canal. The path is used as an extension of the fitness trails along the Hawthorne Canal.

Furniture

The placement of seating within the park is fairly utilitarian. Three park benches face the sporting ground along the southern boundary. These benches are in good physical condition, but offer limited seating capacity for spectators + general park goers. No variation in seating configuration is offered, rather all benches are identical and face the sporting ground. To the east (rear) of the park is one unshaded picnic table, also in good condition.

Within the park there are three workout stations. All three are in good condition and offer a wide range of fitness types for different levels of mobility.

Bin locations were all towards the entrance of the park along Canal Road. Presumably, bins are distributed throughout the park during sporting events. However, when the site is not in use for sport, bins are haphazardly clustered alongside the parks entrance. The creates an unwelcoming and unhygeinic arrival to the park.

Lighting

Five large flood lights provide adequate night lighting to the sports ground when in use after dark. These lights are in good condition to serve the needs of the future. To the north boundary, 8 new post lights follow the walking trail, while allowing areas beyond to remain dark to the benefit of local wildlife. These lights are in good condition and create an overall sense of comfort + safety for users at night.

The park is lacking night lighting along Canal Road and along the southern boundary. As such, the fitness circuit to the rear of the park is not utilised at night.

Signage & Wayfinding

Signage throughout the zone is haphazard, at times unclear, and generally in poor condition. The main entry sign is outdated and bares the Leichhardt Council branding. In its current position, view of the sign is often impaired by tree foliage and parked vehicles.

Dog on/off leash signage is clear and up-to-date with Inner West Council branding. It is consistent with other inner west parks. This sign is located at each entry to the park off Canal Road, alongside a doggy bag dispenser.

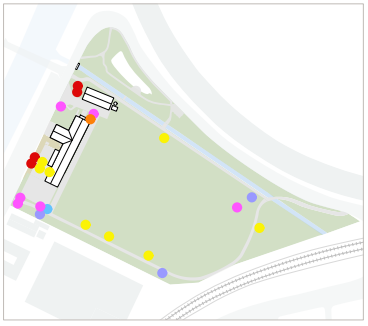
To the east (rear) of the park is a large metal sign promoting the local sports club who use the park. This sign is wired to included a megaphone and is in good condition. A number of other club related banners are fixed to the chainlink fence of the cricket nets.

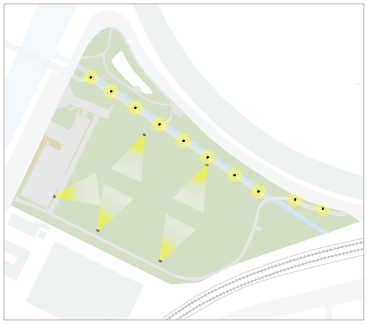
A pedestrian/bike share sign is located alongside the footpath at the rear of the site. It is in good condition but bares no likeness to other signs in the park, nor does it include council branding.

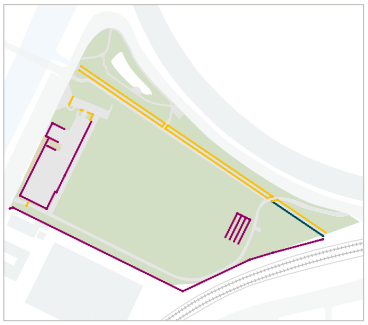
Tree Cover + Understorey Planting

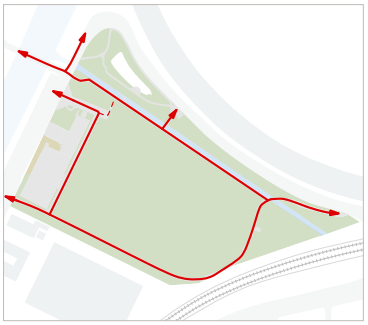
Surrounding the sports ground, the park is flanked with established trees on all four sides. Native trees, including Brush Box, Paper Bark and other Eucalyptus species, follow the boundary to the north along the existing storm water channel. These trees form a shaded ecosystem rich with flora and fauna. These trees link to many beyond the park along Charles Street, which follow through to connect to tree cover along the

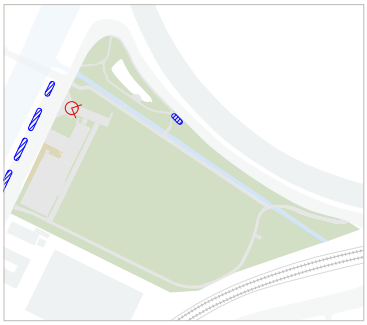

Tree cover & Understorey Planting


Existing Structures + Facilities


Lighting

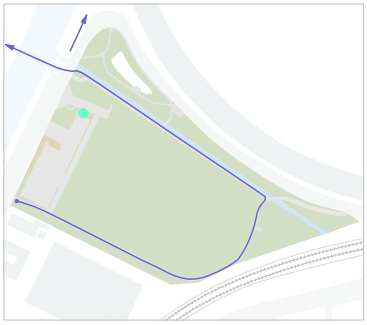

Fence + Enclosure

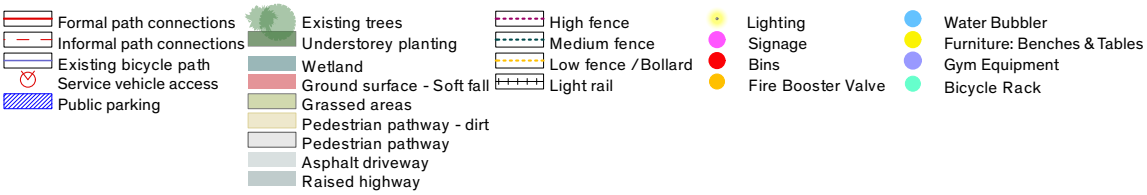

Pedestrian Access Points & Existing Pathways


Vehicular Access Points, Roads and Carparking


Sports + Recreation Grounds


Contours


Bicycle paths and parking



Hawthorne Canal. This dense tree coverage extends to the rear (east) of the site where dense vegetation covers the light rail embankment.

Along the southern boundary is a row of tall spaced pine trees, with a small number of self sown trees in between them. The sparseness of these trees offer little separation between the park and the large commercial warehouse beyond.

Where tree cover is dense to the north of the site, thick and rich understory planting is observed. Following the walking trail are native grass species + shrubs. The wetlands beyond offer even more diverse species of ground cover planting.

Where tree cover is broken to the southern boundary, no understory planting exists. Small pockets of understorey planting are found near the southern entrance from Canal Road and alongside the path along the northern boundary of the park.

Fauna Linkages

The trees flanking the northern boundary link to many trees beyond the park boundary along Charles Street, which follow through to the tree cover along the Hawthorne Canal. The density of this planting creates a link between the canal, the wetlands and the park. This is an important link which should be protected.

The lack of shade to the southern boundary creates a break in the network of planting which shelters animals. The sparseness of planting results in a breakdown of biodiversity along this boundary.

Ground Cover & Surfaces

The surface of the park is flat and no implications from drainage issues were observed. Pathways in the park are a combination of concrete and bitumen and are generally in good condition. Ground cover is typically grass, however under the canopies of the larger trees, shaded areas are mulched and/or planted. Grass appears to be in good condition and well maintained. Artifical turf is used within the cricket nets and around the three fitness sations throughout the park. This groundcover is in average condition.

Services & Drainage

A large above-ground rainwater tank is located to the north of the site, adjacent the existing amenities building. It should be assessed whether additional capacity is desirable or whether any modifications or upgrades to the system are required. Should new amenities be proposed, consideration of rainwater catchment should be a factor.

Telstra ducting runs around the perimeter of the site. A sewer pipeline runs across the sports ground, connecting to a line at the north of the stormwater channel.

Boundary Conditions

Built topographical features define the site boundaries. To the north, a low chainlink fence serves as a balustrade to a deep stormwater channel which defines the edge of the park. A tall chainlink fence extends along the south east boundary, protecting the park from the train rail embankment, and continuing along the southern boundary. Sections of this fence are in poor condition, while generally the condition is ok.

To the west, the existing sports club building, which is surrounded by a tall painted metal fence, defines the park boundary and separates the oval from the carkpark and canal beyond. The industrial estate to the south is separated by a tall chainlink fence, with little visual separation.

Pedestrian Access & Existing Pathways

There are five entry points into the park. Three lead from Canal Road to the west and connect to the greater stretch of parklands along the canal. Two additional entrty points lead north through the existing wetlands to Leichhardt via Charles Street.

A wide concrete path follows the northern boundary, connecting to a concrete bridge over the stormwater channel. The additional entry point along the northern boundary leads to a series of natural permiable paths traversing through the wetlands.

The bitumen path following the perimeter to the east and south is in average condition and not as wide as other shared cycle paths in the area.

Vehicular Access Points, Roads and Car Parking

There is no vehicle access into the park, however service vehicles can access the park via the north-west entry on Canal Road, which has a layback and removable bollards. Carparking associated with the park is located outside the park boundary along the canal. There is not a sufficient number of parking spaces to cater to the needs of the park during organised sports.

Existing Structures and Heritage Significance

There is no evidence of historical conservation or celebration of history within the park.

Overall, existing structures within the park are in very poor condition, in terms of both physical condition and function.

There are two existing buildings on site. Both are single storey painted weatherboard with metal roofs of the same style. The smaller building to the north of the site houses two changing facilities, the men's shower and toilet facilities, an accessible WC, as well as the local Men's Shed group. Shower and WC facilities are in poor condition and the arrangement of spaces is convoluted and impractical for users.

The larger of the two buildings houses the local SES, alongside the female toilets, sports clubhouse and canteen. The location and condition of the women's facilities is poor. These facilities are unsafe and unhygienic. The remainder of this building serves its users well.

A metal shed is located alongside the rainwater tanks. This is in good condition.

Three cricket nets are located at the rear of the park. These are in average condition.


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Constraints + Opportunities

Based on the analysis set out over the previous pages, the following opportunities present themselves within Blackmore Oval.

There are opportunities to:

- Upgrade + maintain the existing building used by the SES and sports club.
- Investigate options to demolish and relocate the men's shed to a larger purpose built facility to allow membership expansion and redevelopment of the Blackmore Oval facilities.
- Provide safe + sanitary facilities which support the needs of the local sporting community + casual park user.
- Improve signage consistency throughout the park.
- Establish a design for new signage that communicates the civic and historic character of the park.
- Install a park map at well selected locations. The park map should include a tactile section + section written in language of First Nations group. Clearly identify park assets and public toilet locations.
- Investigate additional park furniture to suit the needs of various park activities.
- Improve circulation by upgrading pathways.
- Establish new understorey planting to selected areas along the southern boundary to increase biodiversity.

01. Stormwater channel / 02. Wetlands / 03. Main entry, bin storage area + car parking / 04. SES + clubhouse / 05. Cricket nets / 06. Sports ground / 07. Fitness station / 08. Typical bench style / 09. Sports club sign / 10. Main builing + entrance to female WC / 11. Main sign / 12. Shaded walkway to the north

Appendix B Community Engagement



View of Community Consultation in Progress. Photography by Welsh + Major.

Appendix B - Community Engagement

Overview + Engagement Strategies

1.0 Summary

Inner West Council engaged the community on their enjoyment of Blackmore Oval, with a view to the preparation of a ten-year plan for the Reserve, which includes a Plan of Management and a Master Plan. Community engagement was carried out with two drop-in sessions at Blackmore Oval and via the online platform Your Say Inner West (YSIW).

1.1 Background

Plans of Management must be prepared for all types of parks on community land. Community engagement is a critical step in the preparation of a Plan of Management, forming one of the first stages of the process. Community feedback is then taken into consideration alongside stakeholders and expert advice to form a draft Plan of Management and Master Plan, which is presented for further community input prior to council endorsement of the final document.

Inner West Council has established a parks planning priority list, which nominates which open spaces it feels are in greatest need of new or updated Plans of Management. Blackmore Oval has been nominated as high priority within the Inner West Council area.

The purpose of engagement was to establish key issues that the community have in relation to Blackmore Oval, as well as highlighting aspects of the park which are highly valued. Contributors were encouraged to include ideas, comments and suggestions to assist in prioritising the focus of key strategies and outcomes for the future.

1.2 Engagement method

The methods of engagement were:
- Online on yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au through survey and user posts
- Drop-in sessions held in the park

1.2 Promotion

The engagement initiative was promoted by a number of means, including:
- Your Say Inner West project page
- On-site signage
- Media release
- Social media
- E-news
- Council website
- Email to identified groups

All promotion collateral directed people to the online submission form on YSIW and to the two park drop-in sessions.

2.0 Engagement Outcomes

Outcomes of community engagement have been separated into feedback received at the drop-sessions and feedback received through the online survey.

The online Blackmore Oval page received 585 visits, with 24 contributions made to online forms + discussion.

2.1 Drop-in sessions

Inner West Council's held two drop in engagement sessions at Blackmore Oval, one on Saturday morning 20.08.22, 11am-1pm, and the other on Saturday afternoon 27.08.22, 2-4pm.

The material consisted of two A1 panels, which displayed an overall map of the park and some images of existing or proposed park features in order to prompt discussion.

2.2 Online Survey

The online survey included multiple choice and essay style questions for more detailed feedback. Quantitative responses to the multiple-choice questions are displayed visually in graphs. Written responses have been themed to create word maps accompanied by summarised responses.

2.3 Online 'Share your visions'

The YSIW website also offered the opportunity for members of the community to post a public comment on the page, to which other users could like, dislike and comment in response. Posts to the page have been collated and summarised in this document.

2.4 Draft Plan of Management Feedback

From 17 April to 29 May 2024 the community was invited to provide feedback on the draft Plan of Management (PoM) and Master Plan for Blackmore Oval.

During the engagement period 1,073 people visited the Your Say Inner West project web page and downloaded the draft documents 168 times.

A total of 187 provided feedback including 151 responses to the online survey, 35 emails and one letter.

The majority of respondents - 63%, did not support the draft PoM and Master Plan, 30% did support and 7% were unsure.

On 25.05.2024, a total of 29 people attended a drop-in information session held at Blackmore Oval with 27 attendees that did not support the draft plans and 2 that understood the issues sporting clubs have regarding off leash dogs at Blackmore Oval.

2.1 Drop In Sessions

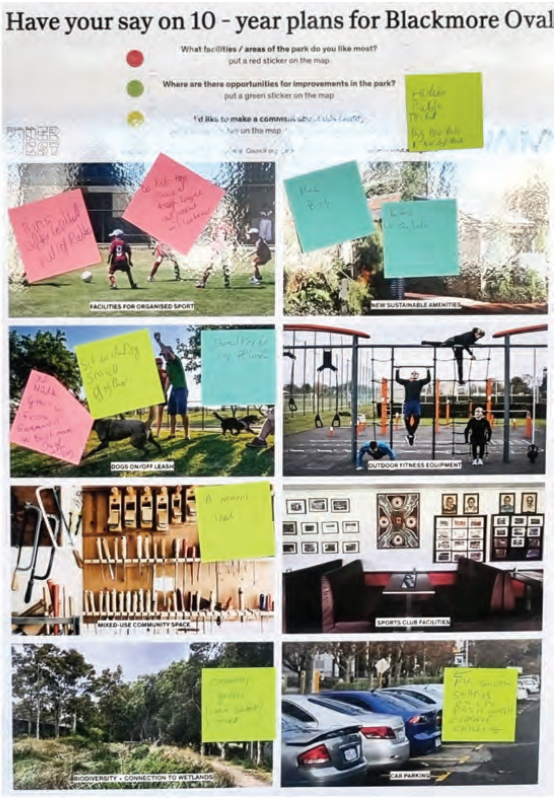
Overview

To engage park users during the first 2 drop-in sessions, two A1 sized printed boards were used. The first panel highlighted with labels the existing features of the park, shown on a map. The second panel presented eight image prompts of both existing and proposed features of the park. Park visitors were asked to identify the facilities and areas they liked the most, and which facilities and areas they felt had room for improvement, through coloured stickers on the panels. Further comments were welcomed through post-it-notes on the panels and A4 forms which participants could fill in.

There was one organised sport match by the Leichhardt Wanderers during the second session in the afternoon. Generally the consultation attendees lived locally and had walked to the reserve, many with their dogs.

The sessions were productive with a number of park visitors approaching the team and engaging with the material to have their say. The comments have been themed and are presented without hierarchy.





Drop-in session information boards & feedback

2.1 Drop In Sessions

Community feedback has been themed for ease of reference.

Movement and parking

- Users requested formal paths and access points to the wetlands area and Charles St.
- A number of users were concerned about poor and dangerous access for prams and small children.
- There was concern the parking area was used for dumping decreasing the amount of parking for the community.
- Good access to the park via public transportation and entry for pedestrians was a concern raised.
- Users addressed its proximity to the Bay Run circuit but felt the park was disconnected from the circuit/other parks and hence not runners' first choice for cross training.
- Some users requested more parking.

Recreational use

- Users requested lighting, safety and access improvements to enable early morning and evening use.
- Increased lighting of the crickets nets for longer use times was a common request.
- There was a lot of support for retaining off-leash dog areas in the park. Many users noted their preference to bring their dogs to Blackmore Oval. Some suggestions for improvement included to add more compostible dog deposit areas.
- A number of users favoured the community fitness areas and the cricket nets.
- Users expressed their enjoyment of places to sit and observe activities in the park – in particular for watching sports matches and dogs. The informal nature of these spaces was valued.
- Various users did suggest to increase the number of benches for players and spectators with shade for weather protection.
- Some users were keen to see the inclusion of a cafe
- A number of users would like to see a playground in the park to cater to younger family members.

Sports Ground and organised sport

- Most users felt the current condition of the sports ground was well suited to their needs. Some safety concerns were raised in regards to dog holes dug in the sports ground. Users felt that ongoing maintenance was a good solution to the issue.
- The poor condition of player facilities, and lack of facilities for female players were flagged as priority items to address.
- Participants who use the sports ground for exercise were keen to see their access maintained.

Lighting

- Spill over and inconsistent operating hours were noted as issues with the current sports ground lighting.
- Many users were keen for the park to be better lit for early morning and evening recreation.
- A number of users felt lighting improvements would increase their sense of safety at night, and also help to deter antisocial behaviour.

Facilities and furniture

- Users were supportive of new or upgraded amenities, noting the lack of accessible, female and baby change facilities, poor lighting and poor presentation.
- Many users commented on the unappealing position of wheelie bins by the park entrance, requesting they be neatly contained or relocated.
- Some participants wished to have a coffee shop in the park.
- A number of participants with children suggested some kids spaces integrated into the park would be beneficial.
- Users were keen to see sustainable technologies and strategies incorporated in the park upgrades, particularly photovoltaic solar shades with e-vehicle charger, LED lighting, rain + stormwater treatment and harvesting.
- There was a lot of support for more seating in ambient and shaded locations around the park, and for more water stations.
- Dog owners requested more bins and bag dispensers in more locations for dealing with dog waste. There was also support for a small dog park.
- Users requested improved provisions for waste disposal - specifically the inclusion of recycling bins, area for bins is messy and disorganised at the moment. They requested for them to get organised and to be in more locations.
- Many participants requested more bike racks throughout the park.

Biodiversity and green space

- There was huge support for more connection to nature, increased biodiversity and maintained embankments on the wetlands area.
- Some users suggested a community garden focused on edible native species.

Sense of place

- The majority of users were keen for the park to remain essentially as it is, with some minor upgrades.
- A number of users wanted to see more community use of the oval, feeling as though the park was dominated by organised sports.
- Some users suggested interpretative signage and a greater presence of the site's history.
- More public art was also encouraged.

Maintenance

- Respondents felt the sports ground required ongoing maintenance to address divots in the sports ground.

2.2 Online Survey

Overview

An online survey was conducted in August and September 2022 through the 'Your Say Inner West' (YSIW) website, seeking feedback on a range of questions regarding Blackmore Oval. The survey included multiple-choice and essay style questions and was open for public response for five weeks from 15.08.22 to 18.09.22.

Quantitative responses to the multiple-choice questions are displayed visually in graphs and word cloud diagrams below. Text based responses to the essay style questions have been grouped into themes, and issues which featured the most prominently have been summarised below.

Of all participants to the website, 23 submissions were made to the online survey. Participants could choose to skip questions if they preferred. The percentage of participants who answered the question is stated alongside the figure diagrams throughout this document.

Demographics of Participants

Q1: Age Group
See figure 1

Of 23 participants 1 person skipped this question. No users identified themselves as under 18 years of age or within the 18-24 age bracket. Only 2 surveyed users, 9%, were within the 25-34 age group. Equal number of people were placed in the next two age brackets, 27%. Three people identified their age between 65-74. No one older than 75 submitted a response.

Q2: Gender
See figure 2

Two people skipped this question. Of participants, 57% identified as female and 38% identified as male. No participants identified themselves as non-binary or using other pronouns. One user preferred not to comment on gender.

Q3: Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?
See figure 3

No participants identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Two participants, 9%, preferred not to say. One person opted to skip the question.

Q4: Do you identify as having a disability?
See figure 4

When asked about disability status one user, 4.5%, identified as having a disability. One person preferred not to say and the remaining 91% who took part answered no.

Q5: Suburb
See figure 5

Participants were asked to state their suburb/place of residence in the survey. Of the 21 answers to the question, 43% were from Leichhardt. Lilyfield held the second highest number of participants at 24%, followed by Ashfield. Users from neighbouring suburbs made contributions. All participants were from Sydney.

Q6: How do you get to Blackmore Oval?
See figure 6

Responses to this question were gathered in a multiple choice format, but allowed users to select multiple answers if applicable. All users surveyed answered this question.

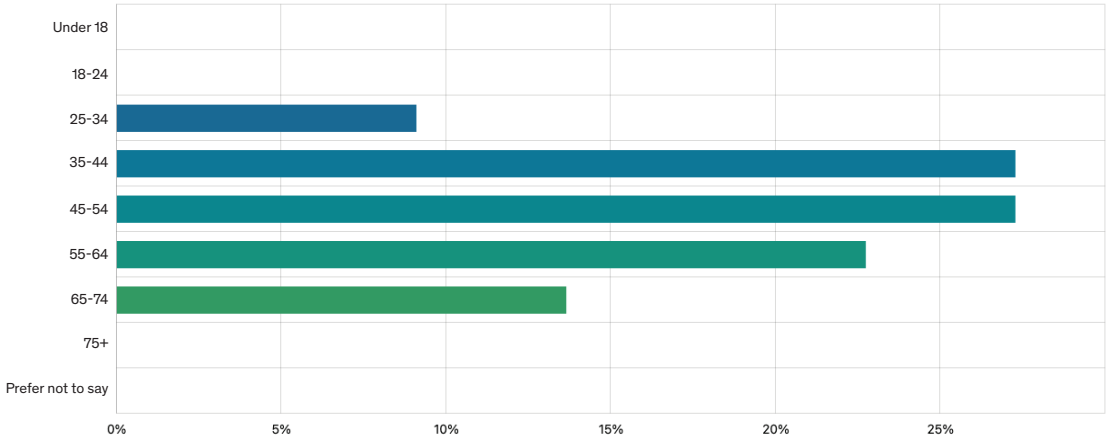
The vast majority of park users who were surveyed walk to Blackmore Oval as a mode of transport, 74%. Driving to the park was the second highest result with 26%. 22% of respondents cycle to the park and 13% run. Only 1 person surveyed, uses public transport to get to the park. No other means of transport to the park were identified.

Q7: How often do you visit Blackmore Oval?
See figure 7

Out of those surveyed, 74% of users frequently visit Blackmore Oval. This 74% stated that they visit daily or multiple times a week. 13% of users stated that they visit the park weekly. Two participants visit the park a few times a month and one person, rarely visits the park.

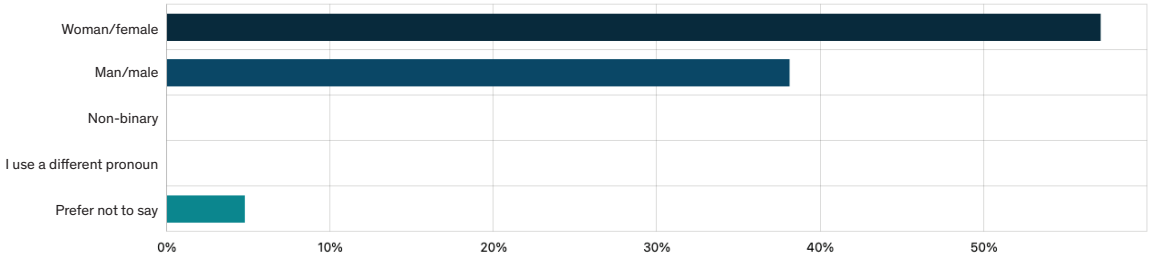
Q1: Age Group

Figure 1. Skipped: 1 | Answered: 22 (95.65%)



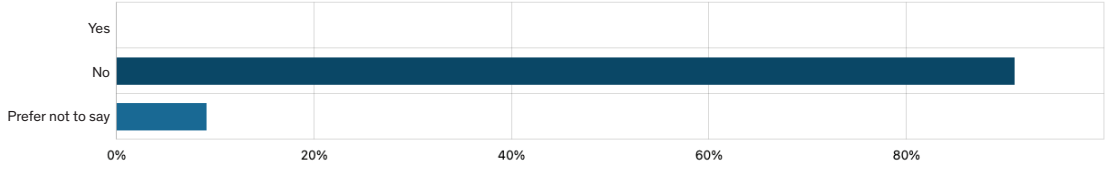
Q2: Gender

Figure 2. Skipped: 2 | Answered: 21 (91.3%)



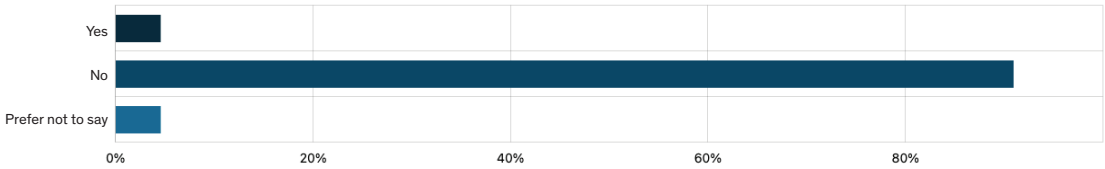
Q3: Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Figure 3. Skipped: 1 | Answered: 22 (95.65%)



2.2 Online Survey

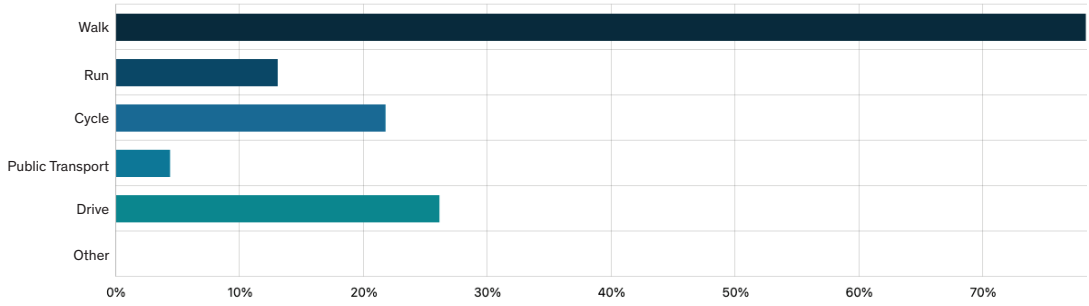
Q4: Do you identify as having a disability?
Figure 4. Skipped: 1 | Answered: 22 (95.65%)



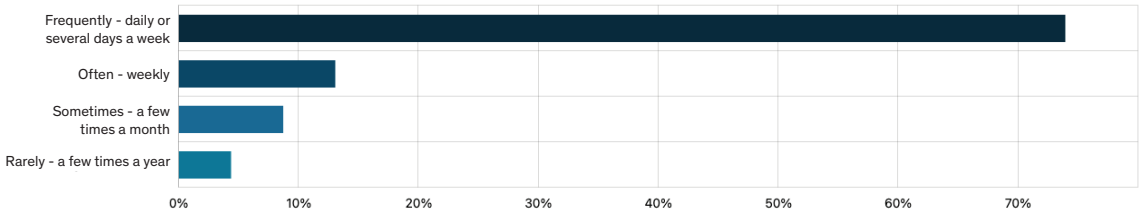
Q5: Suburb
Figure 5. Skipped: 2 | Answered: 21 (91.3%)



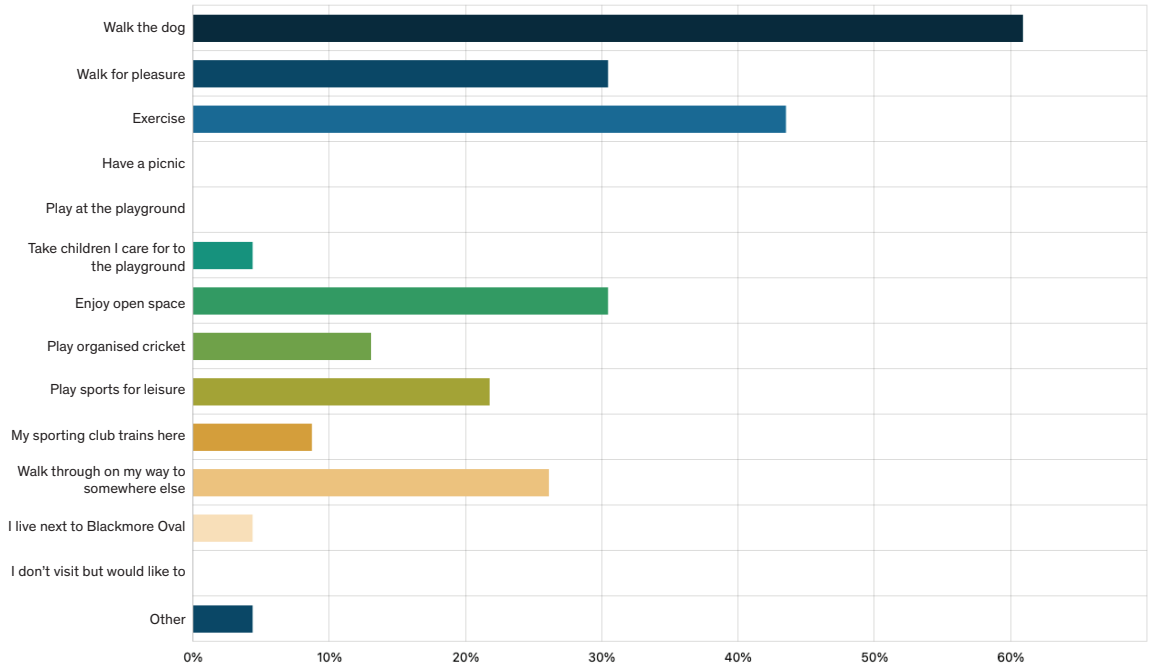
Q6: How do you get to Blackmore Oval?
Figure 6. Skipped: 0 | Answered: 23 (100%)



Q7: How often do you visit Blackmore Oval?
Figure 7. Skipped: 0 | Answered: 23 (100%)



Q8: What are the main reasons you visit Blackmore Oval?
Figure 8. Skipped: 0 | Answered: 23 (100%)



Q8: What are the main reasons you visit Blackmore Oval?
See figure 8

Responses to this question were gathered in a multiple choice format, but allowed users to select multiple answers if applicable. On average, users selected more than two responses to the question, highlighting the diversity of park use + activity.

The most frequently recorded answer was to 'Walk the dog' at 61% of surveyed users. To 'Exercise' was the second highest at 43.5%. To 'Enjoy open space' and 'Walk for pleasure' were also common answers at 30.5%. None of users surveyed identified picnics or playing at the playground as activities that draw them to the park.

Overall, common answers were based around passive, leisurely forms of exercise.

26% of users walk through the park on their way to somewhere else.

Q9: What stops you from visiting Blackmore Oval?

This essay style question received no input from participants. As such, no data or word cloud for this question is included in this document.

2.2 Online Survey

Q10: Please describe what you value about Blackmore Oval, e.g. what it looks like, how you use it or how it makes you feel.
See figure 9

Most participants engaged with this question, many of whom left thorough responses and highlighted a number of positive attributes of the park within their responses. As highlighted in the word map, the 'Dog Friendly' character was identified as the parks biggest asset.

The root of what users valued most about Blackmore Oval was repeatedly attributed to:

- The sense of community promoted by the sports club room and club presence at the park;
- The cricket nets for both formal practice and informal use;
- The off-leash dog rules and social interactions between dogs and dog owners;
- The open space and established cricket nets promotes the safety of users, particularly junior;
- The ongoing maintenance of the park and grounds;
- A sense of enclosure created by the surrounding embankment and tree cover;
- Availability of open space for use by casual and organised recreation/exercise;
- The variety of informal activities catered for by the park;
- Paths around the perimeter of the park and connections to the greater area;
- Outdoor fitness stations;
- The connection to the wetlands area beyond;
- The peace and quiet;
- Welcoming shared space which is not overwhelmed by the sports club;
- The benefits of the Men's Shed on the well-being and mental health of the community;
- The affiliation with the Leichhardt Wanderers Rugby League and Cricket clubs.

Q11: To what extent do you agree with the following statements?
See figure 10

Successful aspects of Blackmore Oval were highlighted by responses to this question:

- 95% of users feel safe when they visit Blackmore Oval during the day;
- All users think Blackmore Oval is easy to walk around;
- The majority of users, 95%, feel apart of the community when they visit.
- 82% of users agreed that the park has a nice character;
- 82% of uses also agreed that Blackmore Oval meets the needs of the community.

Less successful aspects of Blackmore Oval were also highlighted by responses to this question:

- Users feel substantially less safe in the park after dark than during the day;
- Although more than 50% of users agreed that it's easy to find information about Blackmore Oval, many users still felt unsure about the question or disagreed.

Q12: What don't you like about Blackmore Oval?
See figure 11

- Over booking of the cricket nets limits different age groups having the opportunity to train;
- Lack of lighting at cricket nets also limits use;
- Safety implications of the cricket nets on casual park users along the nearby walking path to the east of the park;
- Drainage issues at the western end of the park;
- Poor quality of the amenities and clubhouse;
- Lack of maintenance and consideration of parking area along Canal Road;
- The lack of a proper entrance to the park;
- The haphazard congregation of overflowing bins around the entrance to the park;
- Lack of play equipment for younger kids;
- Lack of facilities at the eastern end of the park, specifically a bubbler and dog poo bin;
- Separation of the female toilet from other park facilities is impractical and a safety concern.
- Lack of gender equality in the park;
- Dangerous vehicles driving along Canal Road on paths shared with dogs, pedestrians and cyclists.
- Low quality of lighting at night.
- Implications of sports and sport related parking on the natural features and biodiversity of the area.
- Area dominated by organised sports after 5pm;
- Loss of baseball.

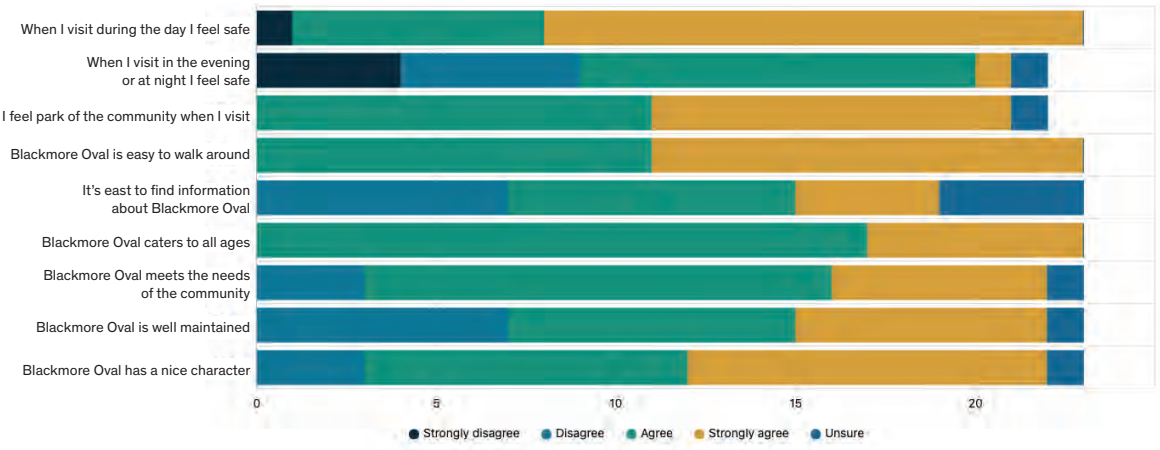
Q10: Please describe what you value about Blackmore Oval, e.g. what it looks like, how you use it or how it makes you feel.

Figure 9. Skipped: 3 | Answered: 20 (86.96%)



Q11: To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

Figure 10. Skipped: 0 | Answered: 23 (100%)



Q12: What don't you like about Blackmore Oval?

Figure 11. Skipped: 1 | Answered: 22 (95.65%)



2.2 Online Survey

Q13: What should be the main priority for the park?
See figure 12

- Improvements to lighting within the park, particularly alongside the cricket nets for use in the evening;
- Balancing the needs of local sporting groups and dog walkers to ensure the space is shared by all;
- Council working alongside the local sports clubs to generate funds and a cooperative relationship for future developments in the park;
- Maintaining the mixed uses within the park;
- Maintaining open of space;
- Retain the historical value of the Wanderers use of the park;
- Protect trees and planted areas to further promote biodiversity;
- Safety;
- Upgrading existing bathrooms.

Q14: Do you have any other comments about Blackmore Oval?
See figure 13

- Increased park access for the cricket club, in particular at night;
- Keep all the trees;
- Maintain the mixed use activities in the park;
- Could do with more/better seating;
- Could we have done events which target different parts of the community (other than young male sports) Maybe an oldies day? Or an LGBTQI fair? And people with a disability? We all need to feel a sense of ownership of the oval.
- Maintenance of the buildings is important for the various groups which use them;
- Keep the oval for locals;
- Park feels disconnected from the Greenway/Bay Run;
- Maintain off-leash dog rules

Q13: What should be the main priority for the park planning?
Figure 12. Skipped: 1 | Answered: 22 (95.65%)



Q14: Do you have any other comments about Blackmore Oval?
Figure 13. Skipped: 12 | Answered: 11 (47.83%)



2.3 Share Your Visions

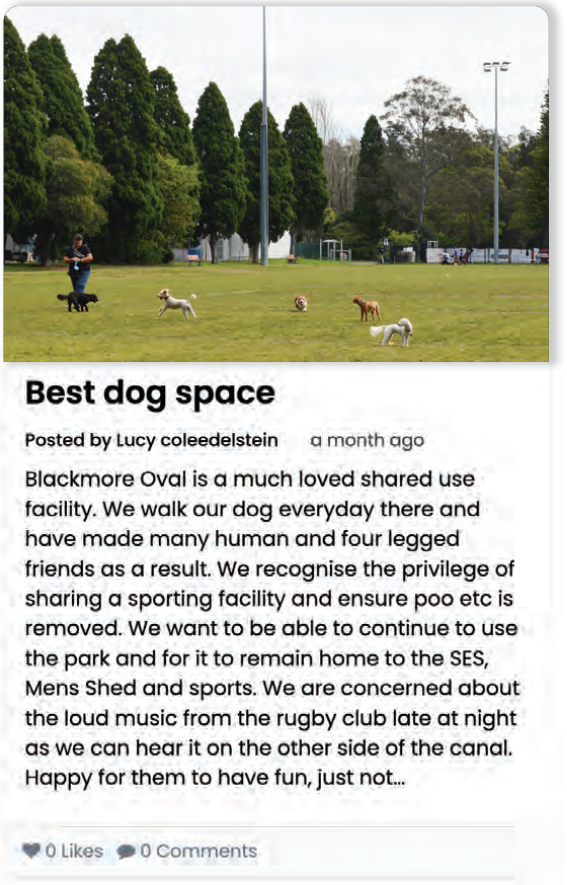
Overview

The Community were also encouraged to make a post on the YSIW website. These posts, in the structure of a social media platform, could be liked and commented on to encourage community members to engage with each others views on the park.

The page received only one post which had no other engagement from visitors to the website. The outcome of the 'Shared Visions' for Blackmore Oval are summarised below:

"Best dog space"

This post highlighted the successful existing collaboration of sports users and dog walkers within Blackmore Oval. The user stated that the diverse use of the park, alongside other groups who use the park, is a valuable asset which should be maintained. They also made comments on the implication of late night use of the sports club on neighbouring houses. The post raised concern that information regarding community engagement for the planning of the park was not clear enough throughout the area.



Above: example of 'post' format from YSIW website.
Supporting image not supplied by participant. Image by Welsh + Major

2.4 Draft Plan of Management Feedback

Who did we hear from?

Council gathers basic demographic information as part of the participant registration process online at Your Say Inner West. We use this information to understand who has responded and whether we need to engage further on the proposal.

The online survey also asked participants to best describe their connection to Blackmore Oval:

56% were female, 38% were male and 6% preferred not to say.

32% of respondents were aged 50-59,

26% of respondents were aged 40-49 and 13% aged 60-64.

No one provided feedback under the age of 19 or over the age of 80.

54% of respondents lived in Leichhardt,

20% lived in Haberfield

3% lived in Petersham.

Other suburbs included Annandale, Rozelle, Birchgrove, Dulwich Hill, Chiswick, Summer Hill and Forest Lodge.

7% of respondents identified as having a culturally and linguistically diverse background.

3% of respondents identified as living with a disability.

1% of respondents identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

93% respondents lived in the Inner West, 11% were business owners and 4% were rate payers but lived somewhere else.

42% of respondents walked their dog, 33% were residents near by and 7% were visitors to Blackmore Oval.

Summary of Feedback

187 people provided feedback through the online survey, emails and a letter. 30% supported the PoM/ Masterplan; 63% did not support the the PoM/ Masterplan and 7% diidn't know or were unsure.

Drop In Session

A total of 29 people attended a drop-in information session held at Blackmore Oval with 27 attendees that did not support the draft plans and 2 that understood the issues sporting clubs have regarding off leash dogs at Blackmore Oval.

For those not in support, the key theme was disagreement with the proposal for dogs to be always on leash.

For those in support of the PoM and Master Plan, key themes included support for the proposal for dogs to be always on leash and upgrades to the lighting.

Draft Blackmore Oval Plan of Management and Master Plan public exhibition

Engagement Outcomes Report

17 April to 29 May 2024

Contents

Summary 3
Promotion and engagement methods 4
Who did we hear from? 5
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Next steps 9

Summary

From 17 April to 29 May 2024 the community was invited to provide feedback on the draft Plan of Management (PoM) and Master Plan for Blackmore Oval.

During the engagement period 1,073 people visited the Your Say Inner West project web page and downloaded the draft documents 168 times.

A total of 187 respondents provided feedback including 151 responses to the online survey, 35 emails and one letter.

The majority of respondents - 63%, did not support the draft PoM and Master Plan, 30% did support and 7% were unsure.

A total of 29 people attended a drop-in information session held at Blackmore Oval - 27 attendees did not support the draft plans and two understood the issues sporting clubs have regarding off leash dogs at Blackmore Oval.

For those not in support, the key theme was disagreement with the proposal for dogs to be kept on leash.

For those in support of the PoM and Master Plan, key themes included support for the proposal for dogs to be kept on leash and upgrades to the lighting.

Project Background

In August 2022, Council undertook community engagement for the preparation of a new Plan of Management (PoM) and Master Plan for Blackmore Oval.

Based on the feedback, input from other stakeholders, research and expert advice, the draft PoM and Master Plan for Blackmore Oval were prepared and presented to Council.

At its meeting on 9 May 2023, Council endorsed the draft PoM and Master Plan for public exhibition for 42 days as required under the Local Government Act 1993.

The public exhibition period allows the community to view the draft documents and to provide feedback.

Promotion and engagement methods

Promotion method	Stakeholders engaged
Project page on Your Say Inner West	**1,073** people viewed the project page **168** downloads of the draft documents
Emails to key stakeholders	**26** people who provided feedback during the first stage of engagement **904** registered members of Your Say Inner West
Council's social media	**4** posts (2 Instagram and 2 Facebook) 8,693 people reached - 74 likes - 10 shares
Posters	**4** at Blackmore Oval **1** at the Balmain-Baludarri Local Matters Forums held on 24 April at Orange Grove Public School **1** at the Leichhardt-Gulgadya Local Matters Forum held on 28 May at Haberfield Library
Letters	**250** to surrounding properties
April Your Say Inner West e-news	**3067** emails to subscribers

Engagement method	Stakeholders engaged
Online survey	**151** surveys completed
Direct contact from residents	**35** emails from individuals **1** letter
On-site engagement session on 25 May 2024	**29** attendees

Who did we hear from?

Council gathers basic demographic information as part of the participant registration process online at Your Say Inner West. We use this information to understand who has responded and whether we need to engage further on the proposal.

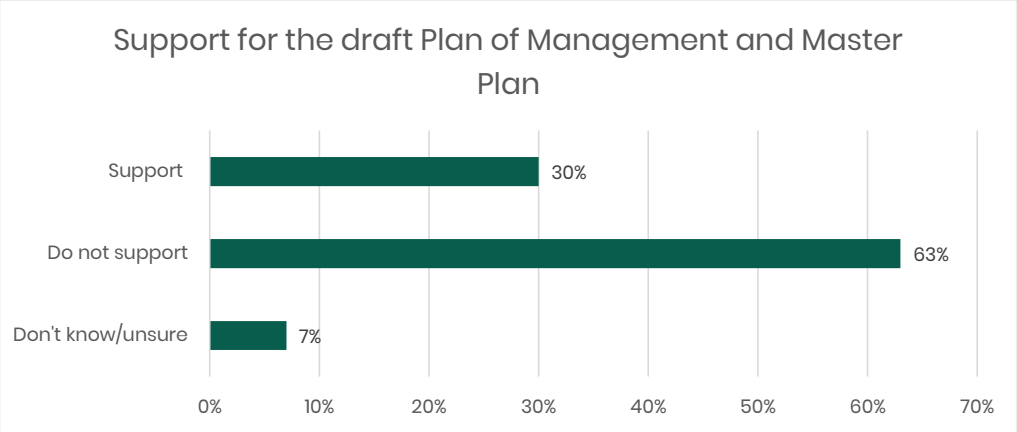
The online survey also asked participants to best describe their connection to Blackmore Oval.

Demographics	Percentage of respondents
Gender	56% were female, 38% were male and 6% preferred not to say.
Age	32% of respondents were aged 50-59, 26% of respondents were aged 40-49 and 13% aged 60-64. No one provided feedback under the age of 19 or over the age of 80.
Location	54% of respondents lived in Leichhardt, 20% in Haberfield and 3% in Petersham. Other suburbs included Annandale, Rozelle, Birchgrove, Dulwich Hill, Chiswick, Summer Hill and Forest Lodge.
Culturally and linguistically diverse background	7% of respondents identified as having a culturally and linguistically diverse background.
Disability	3% of respondents identified as living with a disability.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	1% of respondents identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
Connections to Inner West	93% respondents lived in the Inner West, 11% were business owners and 4% were rate payers but lived somewhere else.
Connection to Blackmore Oval	42% of respondents walked their dog, 33% were residents nearby and 7% were visitors to Blackmore Oval.

Summary of feedback

Online survey and direct contact from residents

A total of 187 people provided feedback through the online survey, emails and a letter.



Staff reviewed and themed direct emails, a letter and comments submitted in the open-ended response sections of the online survey. The key themes have been separated into those who did support, did not support and those who responded don't know/unsure.

Responses to the comments have been provided where appropriate.

Support

A total of 56 (30%) participants supported the draft PoM and Master Plan.

You said	Council response
Support proposal to have dogs on leash *41 comments*	Noted.
Support the upgrades to the lighting *3 comments*	Noted.

Do not support

A total of 118 (63%) of respondents did not support the draft PoM and Master Plan

You said	Council response
Do not support proposal to have dogs on leash *116 comments*	Council spends a significant amount of time and funding maintaining a safe playable turf surface for seasonal hiring sporting clubs. The proposal to remove the off- leash status was included in response to sporting club concerns in relation to the management of the turf surface and to assist in mitigating the ongoing issues and risk concerns. A full time dedicated off leash dog park is provided only 350m walking distance at Hawthorn Canal Reserve (includes Cafe Bones).
There are issues with the nearby Hawthorne Canal Reserve including safety concerns and that the space is too small, muddy and busy. *27 comments*	Regular mowing, general turf maintenance and the filling of holes is undertaken on an ongoing basis by Councils parks team to best manage the demands on the turf surface of this popular off leash companion animal exercise area.
There are issues with the sporting clubs including damage to the grounds, noise and leaving rubbish. *16 comments*	Generally, the sporting clubs are very respectful of the use of the grounds given that this is their home ground and the clubs have an active 12 month of the year presence at the sporting ground. Damage to the sporting ground from sport is managed carefully between Council and the sporting clubs. This includes rotating training use and not training in identified high wear areas. Council continues to work with the seasonal hiring sporting clubs to ensure damage to the sporting ground surface is limited and rubbish is removed from the park at the conclusion of each game.
To reduce the impact of dogs, further bins and bag dispensers could be installed. *11 comments*	There are existing bins at the entrance of the sporting ground where Council waste staff can safely access for regular waste collection services. Council will address the need for improved bag dispensers bag provision and

	additional bins for the park as the park is redeveloped.
To reduce the impact of dogs, further education should be provided including signs. *9 comments*	Council Companion Animal Officers have been engaged to provide education to dog owners and walkers at Blackmore Oval in the past. Council will undertake additional visits to the park as required and subject to any new access conditions which may be introduced.
To reduce the impact of dogs, Council could conduct further ranger patrols *4 comments*	Council rangers can be requested to attend the park for specific and recurring incidents as part of their patrols.

Don't know/unsure

A total of 13 people responded don't know/unsure.

You said	Council response
Do not support proposal to have dogs on leash *7 comments*	Council is committed to ensuring that the community is provided with multi-use, flexible open space areas that are designed to support the sharing of facilities and include careful management considerations which are respectful of different park user needs and are focussed on reducing the potential for conflict between users.
Support proposal to have dogs on leash *3 comments*	Noted.

On-site engagement

On Saturday 25 May, an on-site engagement session was held at Blackmore Oval and a total of 29 people attended.

27 attendees did not support the draft plans and two understood the issues sporting clubs have regarding off leash dogs at Blackmore Oval.

Other suggestions included more dog dispenser bags and additional bins to be installed at the oval.

Next steps

Council will consider the final draft for adoption at a Council meeting.

LEICHHARDT WANDERERS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE & CRICKET CLUB

1 September 2025

Aaron Callaghan
Parks and Public Domain Planning Manager
Inner West Council
7-15 Wetherill Street
Leichhardt NSW 2040

Dear Aaron

Re: Blackmore Park Plan of Management

I write with regards to Blackmore Park Plan of Management and wish to reaffirm our support for Blackmore to become an on-leash park for dogs.

Blackmore Oval is used for training purposes by the Leichhardt Wanderers Junior Rugby League club over the winter months, and by the Leichhardt Wanderers Cricket Club over the summer months. Blackmore Oval is also used to host winter fixtures in the Balmain District Junior League, and summer fixtures by the Inner West Harbour Cricket Association. Both clubs are incorporated and affiliated under the one banner, and between them have over 1000 members aged between 4 and 60.

As part of the community consultation submission, we reported that we regularly required to fill in holes dug by dogs across the field, which if left unrepaired, can potentially cause a significant injury to our members. Ground inspections are undertaken prior to each training session and game, and it is a regular occurrence to find dog poo on the field, which could also cause an issue for our members coming into contact with the playing surface in the course of a game or training session. Our volunteers also regularly come across sticks, balls and other dog toys strewn across the field, which require removal prior to use by the club.

We are hopeful that by rezoning Blackmore as an on-leash precinct, it will reduce the incidence of this behaviour by dogs across the field, by ensuring that they are being sufficiently controlled and contained by responsible dog-owners. We note that there is a purpose-built off-leash park approximately 200 meters along Hawthorne Canal.

Yours sincerely

Noella Merrick
Assistant Secretary

Leichhardt Wanderers Junior Rugby League & Cricket Club, Incorporated
PO Box 301 Leichhardt NSW 2040
ABN 82 039 106 34
Leichhardtwanderers.com.au

LW CRICKET

Leichhardt Wanderers Junior Rugby League & Cricket Club
1 Canal Road
Leichhardt
NSW, 2040
leichhardtcricket@gmail.com

20th August 2025

To: Aaron Callaghan
Inner West Council, Parks and Public Domain Planning Manager

LETTER OF REQUEST

Dear Aaron,

On behalf of the Leichhardt Wanderers Cricket Club and in accordance with the current Plan of Management for Blackmore Park, we are writing this letter to re-affirm our support for Blackmore Park to become an "on-leash" park.

We also highly welcome any future opportunities for further re-development of Blackmore Park, specifically with regards to much needed upgrades for the cricket net facilities, in accordance with the club's recent growth, and current and future needs.

Regards,

Christopher Hudson
Leichhardt Wanderers Cricket Delegate
(Ph: 0423 969 844)

WWW.LEICHHARDTCRICKET.COM

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 7**

Subject: **PUBLIC EXHIBITION - CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

Prepared By: Julian Sakarai - Senior Manager Governance and Risk

Authorised By: Sharon Bowman - Director Corporate

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council publicly exhibit the draft Code of Meeting Practice for a period of 28 days and seek community feedback on the proposed Policy for 42 days.**

2. **That following the conclusion of the exhibition period, the draft Code of Meeting Practice be brought back to Council for consideration for adoption.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Office of Local Government (OLG) released the new Model Code of Meeting Practice (Model Code) on 29 August 2025, and advised that councils must adopt a Code of Meeting Practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions in the Model Code by no later than 31 December 2025.

The Model Code contains both mandatory and non-mandatory provisions, and when adopting their own individual codes, councils are not able to change any of the mandatory provisions. Officer comments have been made in this report in relation to the non-mandatory provisions of the Model Code.

Officers recommend that the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report be placed on public exhibition with a further report to be submitted to the 2 December 2025 Council Meeting to consider submissions and adopt a new Code of Meeting Practice.

Officers also note that there has been significant sectoral feedback opposing many of the provisions proposed in the OLG's discussion paper *Councillor conduct and meeting practices – A new framework* released in September 2024 (Discussion Paper), and the Consultation Draft of the Model Code released in December 2024 (Consultation Draft). Despite this feedback, including the submissions lodged by Inner West Council following Ordinary Council Meetings in November 2024 and February 2025, there has been little change between the Consultation Draft and the new Model Code, and little explanation for how the over 180 submissions in respect of the Consultation Draft were considered prior to issuing the new Model Code.

In particular, as noted in Council's previous submissions, Officers remain concerned with the ban on pre-meeting briefings contained in the new Model Code, as pre-meeting briefings provide elected representatives an opportunity to ask questions of staff and make more informed decisions.

Despite the ban, Officers will continue to provide information to Councillors through established channels, including through workshops to assist Councillors understand the

functions, service delivery standards, strengths and opportunities of Council operations, and general information to assist Councillors' understanding of sector wide issues.

BACKGROUND

In September 2024, the OLG issued a discussion paper *Councillor conduct and meeting practices – A new framework.* In response, Council in November 2024 resolved to lodge a submission in relation to a number of matters in the discussion paper, including the proposal to ban councillor briefings. The submission is attached to this report.

In December 2024, the OLG released a Consultation Draft of a revised Model Code of meeting practice. In response, Council resolved to lodge a further submission, in respect of the Consultation Draft at the Council Meeting in February 2025, highlighting six issues, including the same proposal to ban councillor briefings. This submission is also attached to this report.

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires councils to adopt a code of meeting practice that is consistent with the Model Code of Meeting Practice prescribed by the Office of Local Government, within 12 months of an ordinary election of councillors. Prior to adopting the code of meeting practice, councils must place the document on public exhibition for 28 days and invite submissions for 42 days.

To comply with this requirement, Council resolved to place its current Code of Meeting Practice on public exhibition in June 2025. After the exhibition period, Council resolved to adopt its current Code of Meeting Practice with no changes at the 19 August 2025 Council Meeting, and to receive a further report after the OLG released the new Model Code of Meeting Practice.

The OLG released the new Code of Meeting Practice on 29 August 2025, with councils required to adopt a new Code of Meeting Practice by 31 December 2025. To meet this timeline, we recommend the Code by placed on public exhibition with a further report to be submitted to consider any submissions and adopt a new Code of Meeting Practice at the 2 December 2025 Council meeting.

DISCUSSION

Timeline

Council has included in previous submissions commentary on the timeline employed by the OLG in these reforms. The original discussion paper was released nine days before Local Government elections in September 2024, with submissions due before Councillors had the opportunity to be fully inducted and briefed on the Code. Subsequently, the Consultation Draft was issued in December, with submissions due by 28 February, leaving minimal time due to the holiday period.

Councils were required to adopt a code of meeting practice within 12 months of the election, that is, by September 2025. The new Model Code was not issued in time for councils to meet this timeline, and the OLG is now requiring the provisions of the new Model Code to be adopted (following consultation) by 31 December.

OLG Response to Previous Submissions

There has been little change between the Consultation Draft and the new Model Code. Officers note that, in addition to Council's two previous submissions, there has been significant feedback from across the sector opposing many of the provisions proposed in the Consultation Draft. The materials accompanying the new Model Code provide little explanation for how the over 180 submissions in respect of the Consultation Draft were considered prior to issuing the new Model Code.

In respect of the ban on pre-meeting briefings contained in the new Model Code, Officers remain of the view that the ban is inconsistent with the policy intention stated in the Consultation Draft of "uplift[ing] the standards at council meetings so that they … resemble the forthright and effective debate that occurs at the State and Federal levels". As noted by Local Government NSW in its submission, the private briefings provided to Ministers, the NSW Government, Opposition, and Crossbench lead to better informed MPs and more informed decision making once a matter comes to the public forum in Parliament. Officers consider pre-meeting briefings also lead to more informed decision making and promote effective debate.

While Council agrees transparency of decision making is critical, the ban on pre-meeting briefing sessions creates the risk that debate in the council chamber will be less informed, and therefore, less effective. A number of submissions, including Council's submission of November 2024, outlined alternatives to banning pre-meeting briefings that can address both the policy imperatives of decision-making transparency and informed decision making. It is therefore disappointing that the OLG have retained this provision.

Despite ban on pre-meeting briefings, Officers note that the explanatory memorandum issued by the OLG alongside the Consultation Draft clarifies that while councils will be prevented from holding briefing sessions, information can be "provided to councillors through clear and established channels" including:

- In response to a request for information or action made through the councillor request system;
- General information to assist councillors' understanding of sector wide issues (e.g. legislative changes);
- Information to enable councillors to understand the function, service delivery standards, strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities of council operations should be provided in workshop format.

Accordingly, Officers will continue to provide information to Councillors and hold workshops, within the parameters set by the new Model Code and any amendments to the *Local Government (General) Regulations) 2021,* to enable informed decision making, and also to enable Council's General Manager to discharge his statutory function of providing the Mayor and Councillors with timely information and advice necessary to discharge their functions, in accordance with section 335(f) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Officers recommend that Council continue to seek opportunities to advocate for changes to the Model Code of Meeting Practice in line with the issues raised by Council in its previous submissions. The six issues raised in Council's submission of February 2025, along with the outcome in the Model Code, are listed in the table below.

Issue raised in Council's submission	***Outcome in Model Code***
Opposition to banning confidential Councillor Briefing Sessions	The Model Code provides that briefing sessions must not be held to brief councillors on business listed on the agenda for meetings of the council or committees of the council. As noted above, Officers will continue to provide information to Councillors and hold workshops, within the parameters set by the new Model Code and any updated regulatory requirements.
Opposition to restricting virtual attendance at Council meetings	The Model Code restricts Councillors' attending Council meetings remotely to instances of ill health or unforeseen caring responsibilities.
Opposition to the attendance of council staff at council meetings being determined by council from time to time, and not by the general	The Model Code provides that staff attendance at Council meetings shall be with the approval of the General Manager, who must consult with the Mayor as to the staff attending the meeting.

manager	
Opposition to the removal of a council's ability to resolve to shorten the duration of Councillors' speeches at a council meeting	The Model Code provides that Councillors may speak for up to five minutes on a motion or amendment (unless granted an extension by Council). This is a mandatory provision that does not allow Council to reduce the time limit. Officers note that Council remains able to set the time limit for speakers at a public forum at 3 minutes, which is reflected at clause 4.13 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.
Opposition to the removal of points of order being able to be made with respect to the adherence to the general "Meeting Principles"	The Model Code enables points of order to be made in relation to the general "Meeting Principles" in the Model Code.
Opposition to the requirement of Councillors and staff standing when the mayor enters the chambers and when addressing the meeting	The Model Code provides that councillors and staff should stand, where physically able, when addressing the meeting and when the Mayor enters the Chamber.

Key Changes – Mandatory Provisions
The following mandatory provisions have been introduced, and Council has no option but to include these in its code of meeting practice:

Change – Mandatory provisions	***Clause reference***
Prohibition of pre-meeting briefing sessions Briefing sessions must not be held to brief councillors on business listed on the agenda for meetings of the council or committees of the council.	Clause 3.31
Questions on agenda items The Model Code provides that if a Councillor requests information from the General Manager about an agenda item, the information in response must also be made available to the public in a "way that does not involve any discussion of the information". This means that questions from Councillors on agenda items received before a meeting will need to be publicly disclosed, along with the responses.	Clause 3.32
Urgent business The Model Code permits urgent business to be dealt with at any meeting where all Councillors are present, if Council resolves to deal with the business on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision before the next scheduled ordinary meeting. If not all Councillors are present, Council will need to adopt this resolution, and the Chair will also need to rule that the business is urgent and requires a decision by Council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.	Clauses 3.25-3.30

Change – Mandatory provisions	*Clause reference*
Public Forums The Model Code makes public forums mandatory but enables each council to determine the rules for public forums. The OLG has advised that it will be issuing model best practice public forum rules. In the meantime, Officers suggest retaining Council's current policy settings in respect of public forums.	Clauses 4.1- 4.26
Remote attendance The Model Code provides that Councillors are only able to attend Council meetings remotely with Council's approval, for reasons of ill-health or other medical reasons or because of unforeseen caring responsibilities. The Model Code also provides that Mayoral elections cannot be attended remotely.	Clauses 5.18-5.30
Duration of speeches The Model Code provides that Councillors will be permitted to speak for up to five minutes at any one time, unless granted an extension by Council. Again, this mandatory provision cannot be amended.	Clause 10.17
Debate rules The Model Code does not contain any rules relating to the foreshadowing of motions. The removal of all rules relating to foreshadowed motions and amendments was not included in the Consultation Draft.	N/A
Staff attendance The Model Code provides that staff attendance at Council Meetings shall be with the approval of the General Manager, who must consult with the Mayor as to the staff attending the meeting.	Clause 5.44
Apologies/Leave of Absence The Model Code requires a Councillor who is unable to attend one or more meetings of Council to submit an apology, provide reasons for the absence, and request that Council grants them a leave of absence. The Model Code then requires Council to determine whether to grant the leave of absence and provide reasons if it does not.	Clause 5.4-5.7
Livestreaming of meetings The Model Code requires that all Council meetings and public forums are livestreamed, and that the recording is made available for at least 12 months or the rest of the Council term.	Clauses 5.35-5.40
Etiquette rules The Model Code enables Council to determine standards of dress for Councillors attending meetings. It also requires Councillors and staff should stand, where physically able, when the Mayor enters the Chamber and when addressing the meeting.	Clause 5.2; Clause 7.1

Change – Mandatory provisions	*Clause reference*
Planning decisions The Model Code prevents Council from making a planning decision without first receiving a staff report containing an assessment and recommendation. It also requires a council making a decision that is inconsistent with an officer recommendation to provide reasons for why it did not adopt the officer recommendation in the resolution, along with reasons for its decision.	Clauses 11.7-11.8
Confidential Matters The Model Code requires business papers considered in the confidential section of a meeting to be published to Council's website as soon as practicable after the information ceases to be confidential.	Clause 14.19

Key Changes – Non-Mandatory Provisions

The Model Code also contains a number of non-mandatory provisions, which will require a Council decision. As outlined below, officers suggest adopting the proposed (non-mandatory) wording, as this is consistent with Council's current practice and Code.

A summary of the non-mandatory provisions are listed below with Council officers' recommendation included for each of the provisions:

Non-Mandatory Provision	*Officer Suggestion*
How votes should be recorded All voting at council meetings, (including meetings that are closed to the public), must be recorded in the minutes of meetings with the names of councillors who voted for and against each motion or amendment (including the use of the casting vote) being recorded. (Clause 11.6)	Officers suggest adopting this provision, noting it is consistent with Council's current practice of recording all votes for and against on motions and amendments. Council's current process has been included at Clause 11.6 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.
Dealing with items by exception (en globo resolutions) The council or a committee of council may, at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda together by way of a single resolution where it considers it necessary to expedite the consideration of business of a meeting. (Clause 13.1)	Officers suggest adopting this provision, noting it is consistent with Council's current practice. Council's current process has been included at Clauses 13.1 – 13.7 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.
Timeframes for Development Applications (DAs) alteration/rescission motions to be lodged A notice of motion to alter or rescind a resolution relating to a development application must be submitted to the general	As DAs are not reported to Council for determination, this clause is not applicable and as such, has not been included in the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.

Non-Mandatory Provision	*Officer Suggestion*
manager no later than 1 day after the meeting at which the resolution was adopted.	
Timeframes for urgent alteration/rescission motions, and specifically whether to retain the current practice of requiring three signatures and Council resolution to consider the motion Clause 17.11 – 17.13 of the OLG new model code states: 17.11: Subject to clause 17.7, in cases of urgency, a motion to alter or rescind a resolution of the council may be moved at the same meeting at which the resolution was adopted, where: (a) a notice of motion signed by three councillors is submitted to the chairperson at the meeting, and (b) the council resolves to deal with the motion at the meeting on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council. 17.12: A motion moved under clause 17.11(b) can be moved without notice. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 17.11(b) and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put. 17.13: A resolution adopted under clause 17.11(b) must state the reasons for the urgency.	Council's current code allows for a rescission motion to be moved at the same meeting in cases of urgency if signed by three Councillors. Officers suggest adopting this provision, noting it is consistent with Council's current practice. Included in Clauses 17.11 – 17.13 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.
Rules governing public forums Clause 4.2 of the OLG Model Code states that: The council may determine the rules under which public forums are to be conducted and when they are to be held.	The OLG has advised that it will be issuing model best practice public forum rules. In the meantime, Officers suggest retaining Council's current processes and requirements in respect of public forums. These have been included at clauses 4.1-4.26 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.
Whether to provide a standing authorisation on the Chairperson to be able to expel members of the public including any Councillor from a meeting Councils are to use one of the following two clauses:	Officers suggest adopting the second option, noting it is consistent with Council's current practice. Council's current process has been included at Clause 15.15 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.

Non-Mandatory Provision	*Officer Suggestion*
All chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of council are authorised under this code to expel any person, including any councillor, from a council or committee meeting, for the purposes of section 10(2)(b) of the Act; OR All chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council are authorised under this code to expel any person other than a councillor, from a council or committee meeting, for the purposes of section 10(2)(b) of the Act. A Councillor may only be expelled by resolution of the council or the committee of the council.	
Whether to retain the provision permitting resolutions to be recommitted to correct errors This is consistent with Council's current Code.	Officers suggest adopting this provision, noting it is consistent with Council's current practice. Council's current process has been included at Clauses 17.14 – 17.19 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.
Whether to impose time limits on meetings, and if so, the specific time limit for a meeting This is consistent with Council's current Code.	Officers suggest retaining the current policy settings in respect of time limits on meetings. These have been included at Clauses 18.1 – 18.5 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Draft Code of Meeting Practice
2.⇩ Submission - Councillor Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice - November 2024
3.⇩ Submission - Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW - February 2025

INNER WEST

Code of Meeting Practice

v (9)



Title	**Code of Meeting Practice**
Summary	The Code outlines the procedures for the conduct of Council and Committee Meetings.
Document Type	Code
Relevant Strategic Plan Objective	Strategic Direction 5: Progressive responsive and effective civic leadership.
Legislative Reference	• *Local Government Act 1993* • *Local Government General Regulation 2021*
Related Council Documents	• Code of Conduct
Version Control	See last page

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1 Introduction

This Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (the Model Meeting Code) is prescribed under section 360 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation).

The Model Meeting Code applies to all meetings of councils and committees of councils of which all the members are councillors (committees of council). Council committees whose members include persons other than councillors may adopt their own rules for meetings unless the council determines otherwise.

Councils must adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code.

A council's adopted code of meeting practice may also incorporate the non-mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code and other supplementary provisions. However, a code of meeting practice adopted by a council must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of this Model Meeting Code.

A council and a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors must conduct its meetings in accordance with the code of meeting practice adopted by the council.

2 Meeting Principles

Council and committee meetings should be:

Transparent:	Decisions are made in a way that is open and accountable.
Informed:	Decisions are made based on relevant, quality information.
Inclusive:	Decisions respect the diverse needs and interests of the local community.
Principled:	Decisions are informed by the principles prescribed under Chapter 3 of the Act
Trusted:	The community has confidence that Councillors and staff act ethically and make decisions in the interests of the whole community.

Effective:	Meetings are well organised, effectively run and skillfully chaired.
Orderly:	Councillors, staff and meeting attendees behave in a way that contributes to the orderly conduct of the meeting.

3 Before the Meeting

Timing of ordinary Council meetings

3.1 The council shall, by resolution, set the frequency, time, date and place of its ordinary meetings.
Note: Under section 365 of the Act, councils are required to meet at least ten (10) times each year, each time in a different month unless the Minister for Local Government has approved a reduction in the number of times that a council is required to meet each year under section 365A.

Extraordinary meetings

3.2 If the mayor receives a request in writing, signed by at least two (2) councillors, the mayor must call an extraordinary meeting of the council to be held as soon as practicable, but in any event, no more than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the request. The mayor can be one of the two councillors requesting the meeting.
Note: Clause 3.2 reflects section 366 of the Act.

3.3 The mayor may call an extraordinary meeting without the need to obtain the signature of two (2) Councillors.

Notice to the public of council meetings

3.4 The council must give notice to the public of the time, date and place of each of its meetings, including extraordinary meetings, and of each meeting of committees of the council.
Note: Clause 3.4 reflects section 9(1) of the Act.

3.5 For the purposes of clause 3.4, notice of a meeting of the council and of a committee of council must be published before the meeting takes place. The notice must be published on the council's website, and in many people as possible.

3.6 For the purposes of clause 3.4, notice of more than one (1) meeting may be given in the same notice.

Notice to councillors of ordinary council meetings

3.7 The general manager must send to each councillor, at least three (3) days before each meeting of the council, a notice specifying the time, date and place at which the meeting is to be held, and the business proposed to be considered at the meeting.
Note: Clause **3.7 reflects section 367(1) of the Act**.

3.8 The notice and the agenda for, and the business papers relating to, the meeting may be given to councillors in electronic form, unless the council determines otherwise, but only if all councillors have facilities to access the notice, agenda and business papers in that form.
Note: Clause 3.8 reflects section 367(3) of the Act.

Notice to councillors of extraordinary meetings

3.9 Notice of less than three (3) days may be given to councillors of an extraordinary meeting of the council in cases of emergency.
Note: Clause 3.9 reflects section 367(2) of the Act.

Giving notice of business to be considered at council meetings

3.10 A councillor may give notice of any business they wish to be considered by the council at its next ordinary meeting by way of a notice of motion. To be included on the agenda of the meeting, the notice of motion must be in writing and must be submitted by 10am on the Monday, the week prior to the ordinary meeting. If a public holiday falls on the Monday, then the deadline is extended to 10am on the Tuesday in the week prior to the next Ordinary Meeting.

3.11 A councillor may, in writing to the general manager, request the withdrawal of a notice of motion submitted by them prior to its inclusion in the agenda and business paper for the meeting at which it is to be considered.

Questions with notice

3.12 A councillor may, by way of a notice submitted under clause 3.10, ask a question for response by the general manager about the performance or operations of the council.

3.13 A councillor is not permitted to ask a question with notice under clause 3.12 that would constitute an act of disorder.

3.14 The general manager or their nominee may respond to a question with notice submitted under clause 3.12 by way of a report included in the business papers for the relevant meeting of the council.

Agenda and business papers for ordinary meetings

3.15 The general manager must cause the agenda for a meeting of the council or a committee of the council to be prepared as soon as practicable before the meeting.

3.16 The general manager must ensure that the agenda for an ordinary meeting of the council states:

(a) all matters to be dealt with arising out of the proceedings of previous meetings of the council, and

(b) if the mayor is the chairperson – any matter or topic that the chairperson proposes, at the time when the agenda is prepared, to put to the meeting, and

(c) all matters, including matters that are the subject of staff reports and reports of committees, to be considered at the meeting, and

(d) any business of which due notice has been given under clause 3.10.

3.17 Nothing in clause 3.16 limits the powers of the mayor to put a mayoral minute to a meeting without notice under clause 9.7.

3.18 The general manager must not include in the agenda for a meeting of the council any business of which due notice has been given if, in the opinion of the general manager, the business is, or the implementation of the business would be, unlawful. The general manager must report, without giving details of the item of business, any such exclusion to the next meeting of the council.

3.19 Where the agenda includes the receipt of information or discussion of other matters that, in the opinion of the general manager, is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public, the general manager must ensure that the agenda of the meeting:

(a) of the information to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public), and

(b) states the grounds under section 10A (2) of the Act relevant to the item of business.

Note: Clause 3.19 reflects section 9(2A) of the Act.

3.20 The general manager must ensure that the details of any item of business which, in the opinion of the general manager, is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public, are included in a business paper provided to councillors for the meeting concerned. Such details must not be included in the business papers made available to the public and must not be disclosed by a councillor or by any other person to another person who is not authorised to have that information.

Availability of the agenda and business papers to the public

3.21 Copies of the agenda and the associated business papers, such as correspondence and reports for meetings of the council and committees of council, are to be published on the council's website, and must of the council, at the relevant meeting and at such other venues determined by the council.

Note: Clause 3.21 reflects section 9 (2) and (4) of the Act.

3.22 Clause 3.21 does not apply to the business papers for items of business identified under clause 3.19 as being likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public.

Note: Clause 3.22 reflects section 9(2A) (b) of the Act.

3.23 For the purposes of clause 3.21, copies of agendas and business papers must be published on the council's website and made available to the public at a time that is as close as possible to the time they are available to councillors.

Note: Clause 3.23 reflects section 9(3) of the Act.

3.24 A copy of an agenda, or of an associated business paper made available under clause 3.21, may in addition be given or made available in electronic form unless the council determines otherwise.

Note: Clause 3.24 reflects section 9(5) of the Act

Agenda and business papers for extraordinary meetings

3.25 The council must ensure that the agenda for an extraordinary meeting of the council deals only with the matters stated in the notice of the meeting.

3.26 Nothing in clause 3.25 limits the powers of the mayor to put a mayoral minute to an extraordinary meeting without notice under clause 9.7.

3.27 Despite clause 3.25, business may be considered at an extraordinary meeting of the council at which all councillors are present, even though due notice has not been given of the business, if the council resolves to deal with the business on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council. A resolution adopted under this clause must state the reasons for the urgency.

3.28 A motion moved under clause 3.27 can be moved without notice but only after the business notified in the agenda for the extraordinary meeting has been dealt with. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion moved under clause 3.27, and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

3.29 If all councillors are not present at the extraordinary meeting, the council may only deal with business at the meeting that councillors have not been given due notice of, where a resolution is adopted in accordance with clause 3.27 and the chairperson also rules that the business is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

3.30 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling of the chairperson under clause 3.29 on whether a matter is urgent.

Prohibition of pre-meeting briefing sessions

3.31 Briefing sessions must not be held to brief councillors on business listed on the agenda for meetings of the council or committees of the council.

Note: The prohibition on the holding of briefing sessions under clause 3.31 reflects the intent of Chapter 4, Part 1 of the Act which requires business of the council to be conducted openly and transparently at a formal meeting of which due notice has been given and to which the public has access. Pre-meeting briefing sessions are inconsistent with the principles of transparency, accountability and public participation and have the potential to undermine confidence in the proper and lawful decision-making processes of the council.

3.32 Nothing in clause 3.31 prevents a councillor from requesting information from the general manager about a matter to be considered at a meeting, provided the information is also available to the public. Information requested under this clause must be provided in a way that does not involve any discussion of the information.

4 Public Forums

4.1 The Council may hold a public forum prior to the consideration of Condolence Motions and Mayoral Minutes for the purpose of hearing oral submissions from members of the public on items of business to be considered at the meeting.

4.2 Public forums may be held by audio-visual link.

4.3 Public forums are to be chaired in accordance with clauses 6.1 and 6.2.

4.4 To speak at a public forum, a person must first make an application to the Council in the approved form. Applications to speak at the public forum must be received by 2.00pm on the day of the Council meeting and must identify the item of business on the agenda of the Council meeting the person wishes to speak on, and whether they wish to speak 'for' or 'against' the item.

4.5 A person may apply to speak on no more than 3 items of business on the agenda of the Council meeting.

4.6 Legal representatives acting on behalf of others are not to be permitted to speak at a public forum unless they identify their status as a legal representative when

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applying to speak at the public forum.

4.7 The General Manager or their delegate may refuse an application to speak at a public forum. The General Manager or their delegate must give reasons in writing for a decision to refuse an application.

4.8 No more than 3 speakers are to be permitted to speak 'for' or 'against' each item of business on the agenda for the Council meeting.

4.9 If more than the permitted number of speakers apply to speak 'for' or 'against' any item of business, the General Manager or their delegate may request the speakers to nominate from among themselves the persons who are to address the Council on the item of business. If the speakers are not able to agree on whom to nominate to address the Council, the General Manager or their delegate is to determine who will address the Council at the public forum.

4.10 If more than the permitted number of speakers apply to speak 'for' or 'against' any item of business, the General Manager or their delegate may, in consultation with the Mayor or the Mayor's nominated chairperson, increase the number of speakers permitted to speak on an item of business, where they are satisfied that it is necessary to do so to allow the Council to hear a fuller range of views on the relevant item of business.

4.11 Approved speakers at the public forum are to register with the Council any written, visual or audio material to be presented in support of their address to the Council at the public forum, and to identify any equipment needs no later than 2.00pm on the day of the public forum. The General Manager or their delegate may refuse to allow such material to be presented.

4.12 The General Manager or their delegate is to determine the order of speakers at the public forum.

4.13 Each speaker will be allowed 3 minutes to address the Council. This time is to be strictly enforced by the chairperson.

4.14 Speakers at public forums must not digress from the item on the agenda of the Council meeting they have applied to address the Council on. If a speaker digresses to irrelevant matters, the chairperson is to direct the speaker not to do so. If a speaker fails to observe a direction from the chairperson, the speaker will not be further heard.

4.15 A Councillor (including the chairperson) may, through the chairperson, ask questions of a speaker following their address at a public forum. Questions put to a speaker must be direct, succinct and without argument.

4.16 Speakers are under no obligation to answer a question put under clause 4.15. Answers by the speaker, to each question are to be limited to 2 minutes.

4.17 Speakers at public forums cannot ask questions of the Council, Councillors, or Council staff.

4.18 The General Manager or their nominee may, with the concurrence of the chairperson, address the Council for up to 2 minutes in response to an address to the Council at a public forum after the address and any subsequent questions and answers have been finalised.

4.19 Where an address made at a public forum raises matters that require further consideration by Council staff, the General Manager may recommend that the Council defer consideration of the matter pending the preparation of a further report on the matters.

4.20 When addressing the Council, speakers at public forums must comply with this code and all other relevant Council codes, policies, and procedures. Speakers must refrain from engaging in disorderly conduct, publicly alleging breaches of the Council's code of conduct or making other potentially defamatory statements.

4.21 If the chairperson considers that a speaker at a public forum has engaged in conduct of the type referred to in clause 4.20, the chairperson may request the person to refrain from the inappropriate behaviour and to withdraw and unreservedly apologise for any inappropriate comments. Where the speaker fails to comply with the chairperson's request, the chairperson may immediately require the person to stop speaking.

4.22 Clause 4.2 does not limit the ability of the chairperson to deal with disorderly conduct by speakers at public forums in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of this code.

4.23 Where a speaker engages in conduct of the type referred to in clause 4.20, the General Manager or their delegate may refuse further applications from that person to speak at public forums for such a period as the General Manager or their delegate considers appropriate.

4.24 Councillors (including the Mayor) must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to any item of business that is the subject of an address at a public forum, in the same way that they are required to do so at a Council or committee meeting. The Council is to maintain a written record of all conflict of interest declarations made at public forums and how the conflict of interest was managed by the Councillor who made the declaration.

4.25 Where an item has been listed on a Council Meeting agenda, including Extraordinary Meetings and formed part of the public forum for that meeting, should those items be held over to a future meeting of Council, those items will not form part of another public forum at a future meeting.

4.26 The provisions of this code requiring the livestreaming of meetings also apply to public forums.

5 Coming Together

Attendance by councillors at meetings

5.1 All councillors must make reasonable efforts to attend meetings of the council and of committees of the council of which they are members.

Note: A councillor may not attend a meeting as a councillor (other than the first meeting of the council after the council is elected or a meeting at which the councillor takes an oath or makes an affirmation of office) until they have taken an oath or made an affirmation of office in the form prescribed under section 233A of the Act.

5.2 The council may determine standards of dress for councillors when attending meetings.

5.3 A councillor cannot participate in a meeting of the council or of a committee of the council unless personally present at the meeting, unless permitted to attend the meeting by audio-visual link under this code.

5.4 Where a councillor is unable to attend one or more meetings of the council or committees of the council, the councillor should submit an apology for the meetings they are unable to attend, state the reasons for their absence from the meetings and request that the council grant them a leave of absence from the relevant meetings.

5.5 The council must not act unreasonably when considering whether to grant a councillor's request for a leave of absence.

5.6 Where a councillor makes an apology under clause 5.4, the council must determine by resolution whether to grant the councillor a leave of absence for the meeting for the purposes of section 234(1)(d) of the Act. If the council resolves not to grant a leave of absence for the meeting, it must state the reasons for its decision in its resolution.

5.7 A councillors civic office will become vacant if the councillor is absent from three (3) consecutive ordinary meetings of the council without prior leave of the council, or leave granted by the council at any of the meetings concerned, unless the holder is absent because they have been suspended from office under the Act, or because the council has been suspended under the Act, or as a consequence of a compliance order under section 438HA.

Note: Clause 5.7 reflects section 234(1) of the Act.

5.8 The quorum for a meeting of the council is a majority of the councillors of the council who hold office at that time and are not suspended from office.

Note: Clause 5.8 reflects section 368(1) of the Act.

5.9 Clause 5.8 does not apply if the quorum is required to be determined in accordance with directions of the Minister in a performance improvement order issued in respect of the council.

Note: Clause 5.9 reflects section 368(2) of the Act.

5.10 A meeting of the council must be adjourned if a quorum is not present:

(a) at the commencement of the meeting where the number of apologies received for the meeting indicates that there will not be a quorum for the meeting, or

(b) within half an hour after the time designated for the holding of the meeting, or

(c) at any time during the meeting.

5.11 In either case, the meeting must be adjourned to a time, date, and place fixed:

(a) by the chairperson, or

(b) in the chairperson's absence, by the majority of the councillors present, or

(c) failing that, by the general manager.

5.12 The general manager must record in the council's minutes the circumstances relating to the absence of a quorum (including the reasons for the absence of a quorum) at or arising during a meeting of the council, together with the names of the councillors present.

5.13 Where, prior to the commencement of a meeting, it becomes apparent that a quorum may not be present at the meeting, or that the health, safety or welfare of councillors, council staff and members of the public may be put at risk by attending the meeting because of a natural disaster or a public health emergency, the mayor may, in consultation with the general manager and, as far as is practicable, with each councillor, cancel the meeting. Where a meeting is cancelled, notice of the cancellation must be published on the cancellation to the attention of as many people as possible.

5.14 Where a meeting is cancelled under clause 5.13, the business to be considered at the meeting may instead be considered, where practicable, at the next ordinary meeting of the council or at an extraordinary meeting called by the mayor under clause 3.3.

Meetings held by audio-visual link

5.15 A meeting of the council or a committee of the council may be held by audio-visual link where the mayor determines that the meeting should be held by audio-visual link because of a natural disaster or a public health emergency. The mayor may only make a determination under this clause where they are satisfied that attendance at the meeting may put the health and safety of councillors and staff at risk. The mayor must make a determination under this clause in consultation with the general manager and, as far as is practicable, with each councillor.

5.16 Where the mayor determines under clause 5.15 that a meeting is to be held by audio-visual link, the general manager must:

(a) give written notice to all councillors that the meeting is to be held by audio-visual link, and
(b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that all councillors can participate in the meeting by audio-visual link,
(c) and
(d) cause a notice to be published on the council's website and in such other manner the general manager is satisfied will bring it to the attention of as many people as possible, advising that the meeting is to be held by audio-visual link and providing information about where members of the public may view the meeting.

5.17 This code applies to a meeting held by audio-visual link under clause 5.15 in the same way it would if the meeting was held in person.

Note: Where a council holds a meeting by audio-visual link under clause 5.15, it is still required under section 10 of the Act to provide a physical venue for members of the public to attend in person and observe the meeting.

Attendance by councillors at meetings by audio-visual link

5.18 Councillors may attend and participate in meetings of the council and committees of the council by audio- visual link with the approval of the council or the relevant committee where they are prevented from attending the meeting in person because of ill-health or other medical reasons or because of unforeseen caring responsibilities.

5.19 Clause 5.18 does not apply to meetings at which a mayoral election is to be held.

5.20 A request by a councillor for approval to attend a meeting by audio-visual link must be made in writing to the general manager prior to the meeting in question and must provide reasons why the councillor will be prevented from attending the meeting in person.

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5.21 Councillors may request approval to attend more than one meeting by audio-visual link. Where a councillor requests approval to attend more than one meeting by audio-visual link, the request must specify the meetings the request relates to in addition to the information required under clause 5.20.

5.22 The council must comply with the Health Privacy Principles prescribed under the Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 when collecting, holding, using and disclosing health information in connection with a request by a councillor to attend a meeting by audio-visual link.

5.23 A councillor who has requested approval to attend a meeting of the council or a committee of the council by audio-visual link may participate in the meeting by audio-visual link until the council or committee determines whether to approve their request and is to be taken as present at the meeting. The councillor may participate in a decision in relation to their request to attend the meeting by audio-visual link.

5.24 A decision whether to approve a request by a councillor to attend a meeting of the council or a committee of the council by audio-visual link must be made by a resolution of the council or the committee concerned. The resolution must state the meetings the resolution applies to.

5.25 If the council or committee refuses a councillor's request to attend a meeting by audio-visual link, their link to the meeting is to be terminated.

5.26 A decision whether to approve a councillor's request to attend a meeting by audio-visual link is at the council's or the relevant committee's discretion. The council and committees of the council must act reasonably when considering requests by councillors to attend meetings by audio-visual link.

5.27 The council and committees of the council may refuse a councillor's request to attend a meeting by audio-visual link where the council or committee is satisfied that the councillor has failed to appropriately declare and manage conflicts of interest, observe confidentiality or to comply with this code on one or more previous occasions they have attended a meeting of the council or a committee of the council by audio- visual link.

5.28 This code applies to a councillor attending a meeting by audio-visual link in the same way it would if the councillor was attending the meeting in person. Where a councillor is permitted to attend a meeting by audio-visual link under this code, they are to be taken as attending the meeting in person for the purposes of the code and will have the same voting rights as if they were attending the meeting in person.

5.29 A councillor must give their full attention to the business and proceedings of the meeting when attending a meeting by audio-visual link. The councillor's camera must be on at all times during the meeting except as may be otherwise provided for under this code.

5.30 A councillor must be appropriately dressed when attending a meeting by audio-visual link and must ensure that no items are within sight of the meeting that are inconsistent with the maintenance of order at the meeting or that are likely to bring the council or the committee into disrepute.

Entitlement of the public to attend council meetings

5.31 Everyone is entitled to attend a meeting of the council and committees of the council. The council must ensure that all meetings of the council and committees of the council are open to the public.

Note: Clause 5.31 reflects section 10(1) of the Act.

5.32 Clause 5.31 does not apply to parts of meetings that have been closed to the public under section 10A of the Act.

5.33 A person (whether a councillor or another person) is not entitled to be present at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council if expelled from the meeting:

(a) by a resolution of the meeting, or

(b) by the person presiding at the meeting if the council has, by resolution, authorised the person presiding to exercise the power of expulsion.

Note: Clause 5.33 reflects section 10(2) of the Act.

5.34 On the adoption of this code and at the commencement of each council term, the council must determine whether to authorise the person presiding at a meeting to exercise a power of expulsion.

Note: Clause 15.15 confer a standing authorisation on all chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council to expel any person, other than councillors from a council or committee meeting.

Livestreaming of meetings

5.35 Each meeting of the council or a committee of the council is to be recorded by means of an audio-visual device.

5.36 At the start of each meeting of the council or a committee of the council, the chairperson must inform the persons attending the meeting that:

(a) the meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on the council's website, and
(b) persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

5.37 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website at the same time as the meeting is taking place.

5.38 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website for at least 12 months after the meeting or for the balance of the council's term, whichever is the longer period.

5.39 Clauses 5.35 - 5.39 do not apply to any part of a meeting that has been closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act.

Note: Clauses 5.35 - 5.39 reflect section 236 of the Regulation.

5.40 Recordings of meetings may be disposed of in accordance with the *State Records Act 1998*.

Attendance of the general manager and other staff at meetings

5.41 The general manager is entitled to attend, but not to vote at, a meeting of the council or a meeting of a committee of council of which all of the members are councillors.

Note: Clause 5.41 reflects section 376(1) of the Act.

5.42 The general manager is entitled to attend a meeting of any other committee of the council and may, if a member of the committee, exercise a vote.

Note: Clause 5.42 reflects section 376(2) of the Act.

5.43 The general manager may be excluded from a meeting of the council or a committee while the council or committee deals with a matter relating to the standard of performance of the general manager or the terms of employment of the general manager.

Note: Clause 5.43 reflects section 376(3) of the Act.

5.44 The attendance of other council staff at a meeting, (other than as members of the public) shall be determined by the general manager in consultation with the mayor.

6 The Chairperson

6.1 The mayor, or at the request of or in the absence of the mayor, the deputy mayor (if any) presides at meetings of the council.

Note: Clause 6.1 reflects section 369(1) of the Act.

6.2 If the mayor and the deputy mayor (if any) are absent, a councillor elected to chair the meeting by the councillors present presides at a meeting of the council.

Note: Clause 6.2 reflects section 369(2) of the Act.

Election of the chairperson in the absence of the mayor and deputy mayor

6.3 If no chairperson is present at a meeting of the council at the time designated for the holding of the meeting, the first business of the meeting must be the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting.

6.4 The election of a chairperson must be conducted:

(a) by the general manager or, in their absence, an employee of the council designated by the general manager to conduct the election, or

(b) by the person who called the meeting or a person acting on their behalf if neither the general manager nor a designated employee is present at the meeting, or if there is no general manager or designated employee.

6.5 If, at an election of a chairperson, two (2) or more candidates receive the same number of votes and no other candidate receives a greater number of votes, the chairperson is to be the candidate whose name is chosen by lot.

6.6 For the purposes of clause 6.5, the person conducting the election must:

(a) arrange for the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes to be written on similar slips, and

(b) then fold the slips so as to prevent the names from being seen, mix the slips and draw one of the slips at random.

6.7 The candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is the candidate who is to be the chairperson.

6.8 Any election conducted under clause 6.3, and the outcome of the vote, are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Chairperson to have precedence

6.9 When the chairperson rises or speaks during a meeting of the council:

(a) any councillor then speaking or seeking to speak must cease speaking and, if standing, immediately resume their seat, and

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(b) every councillor present must be silent to enable the chairperson to be heard without interruption.

7 Modes of Address

7.1 Where physically able to, councillors and staff should stand when the mayor enters the chamber and when addressing the meeting.

7.2 If the chairperson is the mayor, they are to be addressed as 'Mr Mayor', 'Madam Mayor' or 'Mayor'.

7.3 If the chairperson is the deputy mayor, they are to be addressed as 'Mr Deputy Mayor', or 'Madam Deputy Mayor' or 'Deputy Mayor'.

7.4 Where the chairperson is not the mayor or deputy mayor, they are to be addressed as either 'Mr Chairperson' or 'Madam Chairperson' or 'Chair'.

7.5 A councillor is to be addressed as 'Councillor [surname]'.

7.6 A council officer is to be addressed by their official designation or as Mr/Ms/Mx [surname].

8 Order of Business for Ordinary Council Meetings

8.1 The general order of business for an ordinary meeting of the Council shall be:

1. Opening Meeting
2. Acknowledgment of Country
3. Apologies and requests for leave of absence or attendance by audio-visuallink by Councillors
4. Statement of Ethical Obligations (see Clause 8.4 below)
5. Disclosures of Interests
6. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings
7. Moment of Quiet Contemplation
8. Public Forum (hearing from registered speakers only)
9. Condolence Motions
10. Mayoral Minute(s)
11. Reports to Council
12. Notice of Motions/Questions with Notice
13. Confidential Matters
14. Urgency Motions (If required)
15. Conclusion of the meeting

8.2 The order of business as fixed under clause 8.1 may be altered for a particular meeting of the council if a motion to that effect is passed at that meeting. Such a motion can be moved without notice.

Note: Part 13 allows council to deal with items of business by exception.

8.3 Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 8.2 and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

8.4 The Statement of Ethical Obligations to be read by the Mayor (or Chair of the Ordinary Council Meetings) is:

The Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath/Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the Inner West Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act or any other Act, to the best of their skill and judgement.

It is also a requirement that the Mayor and Councillors disclose conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda or which are considered at this meeting in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.

9 Consideration of Business at Council Meetings

Business that can be dealt with at a council meeting

9.1 The council must not consider business at a meeting of the council:

a) unless a councillor has given notice of the business, as required by clause 3.10, and
b) unless notice of the business has been sent to the councillors in accordance with clause 3.7 in the case of an ordinary meeting or clause 3.9 in the case of an extraordinary meeting called in an emergency.

9.2 Clause 9.1 does not apply to the consideration of business at a meeting, if the business:

a) is already before, or directly relates to, a matter that is already before the council, or
b) is the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting, or
c) is a matter or topic put to the meeting by way of a mayoral minute, or
d) is a motion for the adoption of recommendations of a committee of the council.

9.3 Despite clause 9.1, business may be considered at a meeting of the council at which all councillors are present even though due notice has not been given of the business to councillors, if the council resolves to deal with the business on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next

scheduled ordinary meeting. A resolution adopted under this clause must state the reasons for the urgency.

9.4 A motion moved under clause 9.3 can be moved without notice. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 9.3 and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

9.5 If all councillors are not present at a meeting, the council may only deal with business at the meeting that councillors have not been given due notice of, where a resolution is adopted in accordance with clause 9.3, and the chairperson also rules that the business is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

9.6 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling by the chairperson under clause 9.5.

Mayoral Minutes

9.7 The mayor may, by minute signed by the mayor, put to the meeting without notice any matter or topic that the mayor determines should be considered at the meeting.

9.8 A mayoral minute, when put to a meeting, takes precedence over all business on the council's agenda for the meeting. The mayor may move the adoption of a mayoral minute without the motion being seconded.

9.9 A recommendation made in a mayoral minute put by the mayor is, so far as it is adopted by the council, a resolution of the council.

Staff reports

9.10 A recommendation made in a staff report is, so far as it is adopted by the council, a resolution of the council.

Reports of committees of council

9.11 The recommendations of a committee of the council are, so far as they are adopted by the council, resolutions of the council.

9.12 If in a report of a committee of the council distinct recommendations are made, the council may make separate decisions on each recommendation.

Questions

9.13 A question must not be asked at a meeting of the council unless it concerns a matter on the agenda of the meeting or notice has been given of the question in accordance with clauses 3.10 and 3.12, unless the council determines otherwise in accordance with this code.

9.14 A councillor may, through the chairperson, ask another councillor about a matter on the agenda.

9.15 A councillor may, through the mayor, ask the general manager about a matter on the agenda. The general manager may request another council employee to answer the question.

9.16 A councillor or council employee to whom a question is put is entitled to be given reasonable notice of the question and, in particular, sufficient notice to enable reference to be made to other persons or to information. Where a councillor or council employee to whom a question is put is unable to respond to the question at the meeting at which it is put, they may take it on notice and report the response to the next meeting of the council.

9.17 Councillors must ask questions directly, succinctly, and without argument.

9.18 The chairperson must not permit discussion on any reply to, or refusal to reply to, a question put to a councillor or council employee.

10 Rules of Debate

Motions to be seconded

10.1 Unless otherwise specified in this code, a motion or an amendment cannot be debated unless or until it has been seconded.

Notices of motion

10.2 A councillor who has submitted a notice of motion under clause 3.10 is to move the motion the subject of the notice of motion at the meeting at which it is to be considered.

10.3 If a councillor who has submitted a notice of motion under clause 3.10 wishes to withdraw it, they may request its withdrawal at any time. If the notice of motion is withdrawn after the agenda and business paper for the meeting at which it is to be considered have been sent to councillors, the chairperson is to note the

withdrawal of the notice of motion at the meeting unless the council determines to consider the notice of motion at the meeting.

10.4 In the absence of a councillor who has placed a notice of motion on the agenda for a meeting of the council:

(a) any other councillor may, with the leave of the chairperson, move the motion at the meeting, or

(b) the chairperson may defer consideration of the motion until the next meeting of the council.

Chairperson's duties with respect to motions

10.5 It is the duty of the chairperson at a meeting of the council to receive and put to the meeting any lawful motion that is brought before the meeting.

10.6 The chairperson must rule out of order any motion or amendment to a motion that is unlawful or the implementation of which would be unlawful.

10.7 Before ruling out of order a motion or an amendment to a motion under clause 10.6, the chairperson is to give the mover an opportunity to clarify or amend the motion or amendment.

Amendments to motions

10.8 An amendment to a motion must be moved and seconded before it can be debated.

10.9 An amendment to a motion must relate to the matter being dealt with in the original motion before the council and must not be a direct negative of the original motion. An amendment to a motion which does not relate to the matter being dealt with in the original motion, or which is a direct negative of the original motion, must be ruled out of order by the chairperson.

10.10 The mover of an amendment is to be given the opportunity to explain any uncertainties in the proposed amendment before a seconder is called for.

10.11 If an amendment has been lost, a further amendment can be moved to the motion to which the lost amendment was moved, and so on, but no more than one (1) motion and one (1) proposed amendment can be before council at any one time.

10.12 While an amendment is being considered, debate must only occur in relation to the amendment and not the original motion. Debate on the original motion is to be suspended while the amendment to the original motion is being debated.

10.13 If the amendment is carried, it becomes the motion and is to be debated. If the amendment is lost, debate is to resume on the original motion.

10.14 An amendment may become the motion without debate or a vote where it is accepted by the councillor who moved the original motion.

Limitations on the number and duration of speeches

10.15 A councillor who, during a debate at a meeting of the council, moves an original motion, has the right to speak on each amendment to the motion and a right of general reply to all observations that are made during the debate in relation to the motion, and any amendment to it at the conclusion of the debate before the motion (whether amended or not) is finally put.

10.16 A councillor, other than the mover of an original motion, has the right to speak once on the motion and once on each amendment to it.

10.17 A councillor must not, without the consent of the council, speak more than once on a motion or an amendment, or for longer than five (5) minutes at any one time.

10.18 Despite clause 10.17, the chairperson may permit a councillor who claims to have been misrepresented or misunderstood to speak more than once on a motion or an amendment, and for longer than five (5) minutes on that motion or amendment to enable the councillor to make a statement limited to explaining the misrepresentation or misunderstanding.

10.19 Despite clauses 10.15 and 10.16, a councillor may move that a motion or an amendment be now put:

(a) if the mover of the motion or amendment has spoken in favour of it and no councillor expresses an intention to speak against it, or

(b) if at least two (2) councillors have spoken in favour of the motion or amendment and at least two (2) councillors have spoken against it.

10.20 The chairperson must immediately put to the vote, without debate, a motion moved under clause 10.19. A seconder is not required for such a motion.

10.21 If a motion that the original motion or an amendment be now put is passed, the chairperson must, without further debate, put the original motion or amendment to the vote immediately after the mover of the original motion has exercised their right of reply under clause 10.15.

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10.22 If a motion that the original motion or an amendment be now put is lost, the chairperson must allow the debate on the original motion or the amendment to be resumed.

10.23 All councillors must be heard without interruption and all other councillors must, unless otherwise permitted under this code, remain silent while another councillor is speaking.

10.24 Once the debate on a matter has concluded and a matter has been dealt with, the chairperson must not allow further debate on the matter.

10.25 Clause 10.24 does not prevent a further motion from being moved on the same item of business where the original motion is lost provided the motion is not substantially the same as the one that is lost.

Examples of procedural motions are shown in the following table:

Motion	Moved without Notice	Requires Seconder	Speakers/ Debate Permitted	Rightof Reply
Change the order of Business	Yes	Yes	Mover of motion only	No
Business without Notice (matter of urgency)	Yes	Yes	Mover of motion only	No
Dissent from Chairpersons' ruling (on point of order)	Yes	Yes	Mover and Chairperson only may speak	No
Adjournment of meeting	Yes	Yes	No debate permitted	No
Limitation to number of speakers (questions be now put)	Yes *but only after at least 2 have spoken in favour and 2 have spoken against the motion or there are no Councillors who wish to speak against*	No	No debate permitted. Question must be put immediately.	No

Deferment of a matter	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Vote on points of a resolution separately	Yes	Yes	Mover of motion only	No

11 Voting

11.1 Each councillor is entitled to one (1) vote.

Note: Clause 11.1 reflects section 370(1) of the Act.

11.2 The person presiding at a meeting of the council has, in the event of an equality of votes, a second or casting vote.

Note: Clause 11.2 reflects section 370(2) of the Act.

11.3 Where the chairperson declines to exercise, or fails to exercise, their second or casting vote, in the event of an equality of votes, the motion being voted upon is lost.

Voting at council meetings

11.4 A councillor who is present at a meeting of the council but who fails to vote on a motion put to the meeting is taken to have voted against the motion.

11.5 Voting at a meeting, including voting in an election at a meeting, is to be by open means (such as on the voices, by show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system). However, the Council may resolve that the voting in any election by Councillors for Mayor or Deputy Mayor is to be by secret ballot.

11.6 All voting at council meetings, (including meetings that are closed to the public), must be recorded in the minutes of meetings with the names of councillors who voted for and against each motion or amendment (including the use of the casting vote) being recorded.

Voting on planning decisions

11.7 The council or a council committee must not make a final planning decision without receiving a staff report containing an assessment and recommendation in relation to the matter put before the council for a decision.

11.8 Where the council or a council committee makes a planning decision that is inconsistent with the recommendation made in a staff report, it must provide reasons for its decision and why it did not adopt the staff recommendation.

11.9 The general manager must keep a register containing, for each planning decision made at a meeting of the council or a council committee (including but not limited to a committee of the council), the names of the councillors who supported the decision and the names of any councillors who opposed (or are taken to have opposed) the decision.

11.10 For the purpose of maintaining the register, a division is taken to have been called whenever a motion for a planning decision is put at a meeting of the council or a council committee.

11.11 Each decision recorded in the register is to be described in the register or identified in a manner that enables the description to be obtained from another publicly available document.

11.12 Clauses 11.9–11.11 apply also to meetings that are closed to the public.

Note: Clauses 11.9–11.12 reflect section 375A of the Act.

Note: The requirements of clause 11.9 may be satisfied by maintaining a register of the minutes of each planning decision.

12 Committee of the Whole

12.1 The council may resolve itself into a committee to consider any matter before the council.

Note: Clause 12.1 reflects section 373 of the Act.

12.2 All the provisions of this code relating to meetings of the council, so far as they are applicable, extend to and govern the proceedings of the council when in committee of the whole, except the provisions limiting the number and duration of speeches and encouraging councillors and staff to stand when addressing the meeting.

Note: Clauses 10.15 – 10.25 limit the number and duration of speeches.

Note: Clause 7.1 encourages councillors and staff to stand when addressing the meeting where they can.

12.3 The general manager or, in the absence of the general manager, an employee of the council designated by the general manager, is responsible for reporting to the council the proceedings of the committee of the whole. It is not necessary to report the proceedings in full, but any recommendations of the committee must be reported.

12.4 The council must ensure that a report of the proceedings (including any recommendations of the committee) is recorded in the council's minutes. However, the council is not taken to have adopted the report until a motion for adoption has been made and passed.

13 Dealing with Items by Exception

13.1 The council or a committee of council may, at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda together by way of a single resolution where it considers it necessary to expedite the consideration of business at a meeting.

13.2 Before the council or committee resolves to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda together under clause 13.1, the chairperson must list the items of business to be adopted and ask councillors to identify any individual items of business listed by the chairperson that they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the business paper or that they wish to speak on.

13.3 The council or committee must not resolve to adopt any item of business under clause 13.1 that a councillor has identified as being one they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the business paper or to speak on.

13.4 Where the consideration of multiple items of business together under clause 13.1 involves a variation to the order of business for the meeting, the council or committee must resolve to alter the order of business in accordance with clause 8.2.

13.5 A motion to adopt multiple items of business together under clause 13.1 must identify each of the items of business to be adopted and state that they are to be adopted as recommended in the business paper.

13.6 Items of business adopted under clause 13.1 are to be taken to have been adopted unanimously.

13.7 Councillors must ensure that they declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to items of business considered together under clause 13.1 in accordance with the requirements of Council's Code of Conduct.

14 Closure of Council Meetings to the Public

Grounds on which meetings can be closed to the public

14.1 The council or a committee of the council may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises the discussion or the receipt of any of the following types of matters:

(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),

(b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,
(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:

(i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or

(ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or

(iii) reveal a trade secret,

(e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law,
(f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property,
(g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege,
(h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land,
(i) alleged contraventions of the council's code of conduct

Note: Clause 14.1 reflects section 10A (1) and (2) of the Act.

14.2 The council or a committee of the council may also close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public.

Note: Clause 14.2 reflects section 10A (3) of the Act.

Matters to be considered when closing meetings to the public

14.3 A meeting is not to remain closed during the discussion of anything referred to in clause 14.1:

(a) except for so much of the discussion as is necessary to preserve the relevant confidentiality, privilege or security, and

(b) if the matter concerned is a matter other than a personnel matter concerning particular individuals, the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer or a trade secret – unless the council or committee concerned is satisfied that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Note: Clause 14.3 reflects section 10B (1) of the Act.

14.4 A meeting is not to be closed during the receipt and consideration of information or advice referred to in clause 14.1(g) unless the advice concerns legal matters that:

(a) are substantial issues relating to a matter in which the council or committee is involved, and

(b) are clearly identified in the advice,

(c) are fully discussed in that advice, and

(d) are subject to legal professional privilege.

Note: Clause 14.4 reflects section 10B (2) of the Act.

14.5 If a meeting is closed during the discussion of a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public (as referred to in clause 14.2), the consideration of the motion must not include any consideration of the matter or information to be discussed in that other part of the meeting other than consideration of whether the matter concerned is a matter referred to in clause 14.1.

Note: Clause 14.5 reflects section 10B (3) of the Act.

14.6 For the purpose of determining whether the discussion of a matter in an open meeting would be contrary to the public interest, it is irrelevant that:

(a) a person may misinterpret or misunderstand the discussion, or

(b) the discussion of the matter may:

(i) cause embarrassment to the council or committee concerned, or to councillors or to employees of the council, or

(ii) cause a loss of confidence in the council or committee.

Note: Clause 14.6 reflects section 10B (4) of the Act.

14.7 In deciding whether part of a meeting is to be closed to the public, the council or committee concerned must consider any relevant guidelines issued by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government.

Note: Clause 14.7 reflects section 10B (5) of the Act.

Notice of likelihood of closure not required in urgent cases

14.8 Part of a meeting of the council, or of a committee of the council, may be closed to the public while the council or committee considers a matter that has not been

identified in the agenda for the meeting under clause 3.19 as a matter that is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed, but only if:

(a) it becomes apparent during the discussion of a particular matter that the matter is a matter referred to in clause 14.1, and

(b) the council or committee, after considering any representations made under clause 14.9, resolves that further discussion of the matter:

(i) should not be deferred (because of the urgency of the matter), and

(ii) should take place in a part of the meeting that is closed to the public.

Note: Clause 14.8 reflects section 10C of the Act.

Representations by members of the public

14.9 The council, or a committee of the council, may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

Note: Clause 14.9 reflects section 10A(4) of the Act.

14.10 A representation under clause 14.9 is to be made after the motion to close the part of the meeting is moved and seconded.

14.11 Despite clauses 14.9 and 14.10, the council may resolve to close the meeting to the public in accordance with this Part to hear a representation from a member of the public as to whether the meeting should be closed to consider an item of business where the representation involves the disclosure of information relating to a matter referred to in clause 14.1.

14.12 Where the matter has been identified in the agenda of the meeting under clause 3.19 as a matter that is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public, in order to make representations under clause 14.9, members of the public must first make an application to the council in a manner determined by the council.

Expulsion of non-councillors from meetings closed to the public

14.13 If a meeting or part of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council is closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act and this code, any person who is not a councillor and who fails to leave the meeting when requested, may be expelled from the meeting as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act.

14.14 If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using such force as is reasonably necessary, remove the first-mentioned

person from that place and, if necessary restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Note: Failure to comply with a direction to leave a meeting is an offence under section 660 of the Act carrying a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units.

Obligations of councillors attending meetings by audio-visual link

14.15 Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link must ensure that no other person is within sight or hearing of the meeting at any time that the meeting is closed to the public under section 10A of the Act.

Information to be disclosed in resolutions closing meetings to the public

14.16 The grounds on which part of a meeting is closed must be stated in the decision to close that part of the meeting and must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. The grounds must specify the following:

(a) the relevant provision of section 10A (2) of the Act,

(b) the matter that is to be discussed during the closed part of the meeting,

(c) the reasons why the part of the meeting is being closed, including (if the matter concerned is a matter other than a personnel matter concerning particular individuals, the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer or a trade secret) an explanation of the way in which discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Note: Clause 14.16 reflects section 10D of the Act.

Resolutions passed at closed meetings to be made public

14.17 If the council passes a resolution during a meeting, or a part of a meeting, that is closed to the public, the chairperson must make the resolution public as soon as practicable after the meeting, or the relevant part of the meeting, has ended, and the resolution must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

14.18 Resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting, that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson under clause 14.17 during a part of the meeting that is livestreamed where practicable.

14.19 The general manager must cause business papers for items of business considered during a meeting, or part of a meeting, that is closed to the public, to be published on the council's website as soon as practicable after the information contained in the business papers ceases to be confidential.

14.20 The general manager must consult with the council and any other affected persons before publishing information on the council's website under clause 14.19 and provide reasons for why the information has ceased to be confidential.

15 Keeping Order at Meetings

Points of order

15.1 A councillor may draw the attention of the chairperson to an alleged breach of this code by raising a point of order. A point of order does not require a seconder.

15.2 A point of order must be taken immediately it is raised. The chairperson must suspend the business before the meeting and permit the councillor raising the point of order to state the provision of this code they believe has been breached. The chairperson must then rule on the point of order – either by upholding it or by overruling it.

Questions of order

15.3 The chairperson, without the intervention of any other councillor, may call any councillor to order whenever, in the opinion of the chairperson, it is necessary to do so.

15.4 A councillor who claims that another councillor has committed an act of disorder, or is out of order, may call the attention of the chairperson to the matter.

15.5 The chairperson must rule on a question of order immediately after it is raised but, before doing so, may invite the opinion of the council.

15.6 The chairperson's ruling must be obeyed unless a motion dissenting from the ruling is passed.

Motions of dissent

15.7 A councillor can, without notice, move to dissent from a ruling of the chairperson on a point of order or a question of order. If that happens, the chairperson must suspend the business before the meeting until a decision is made on the motion of dissent.

15.8 If a motion of dissent is passed, the chairperson must proceed with the suspended business as though the ruling dissented from had not been given. If, as a result of the ruling, any motion or business has been rejected as out of order, the chairperson must restore the motion or business to the agenda and proceed with it in due course.

15.9 Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion of dissent and the chairperson can speak to the motion before it is put. The mover of the motion does not have a right of general reply.

Acts of disorder

15.10 A councillor commits an act of disorder if the councillor, at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council:

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(a) contravenes the Act, the Regulation or this code, or

(b) assaults or threatens to assault another councillor or person present at the meeting, or

(c) moves or attempts to move a motion or an amendment that has an unlawful purpose or that deals with a matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the council or the committee, or addresses or attempts to address the council or the committee on such a motion, amendment or matter, or

(d) uses offensive or disorderly words, or

(e) makes gestures or otherwise behaves in a way that is sexist, racist, homophobic or otherwise discriminatory, or, if the behaviour occurred in the Legislative Assembly, would be considered disorderly, or

(f) imputes improper motives to or unfavourably personally reflects upon any other council official, or a person present at the meeting, except by a motion, or

(g) says or does anything that would promote disorder at the meeting or is otherwise inconsistent with maintaining order at the meeting.

Note: Clause 15.10 reflects section 182 of the Regulation.

Note: The Legislative Assembly's Speaker's Guidelines state that "Members are not to use language, make gestures, or behave in any way in the Chamber that is sexist, racist, homophobic or otherwise exclusionary or discriminatory. Such conduct may be considered offensive and disorderly, in accordance with Standing Order 74".

15.11 The chairperson may require a councillor:

(a) to apologise without reservation for an act of disorder referred to in clauses 15.10(a), (b), (d), (e), or (g), or

(b) to withdraw a motion or an amendment referred to in clause 15.10(c) and, where appropriate, to apologise without reservation, or

(c) to retract and apologise without reservation for any statement that constitutes an act of disorder referred to in clauses 15.10(d), (e), (f) or (g).

Note: Clause 15.11 reflects section 233 of the Regulation.

15.12 A failure to comply with a requirement under clause 15.11 constitutes a fresh act of disorder for the purposes of clause 15.10.

15.13 Where a councillor fails to take action in response to a requirement by the chairperson to remedy an act of disorder under clause 15.11 at the meeting at which the act of disorder occurred, the chairperson may require the councillor to take that action at each subsequent meeting until such time as the councillor complies

with the requirement. If the councillor fails to remedy the act of disorder at a subsequent meeting, they may be expelled from the meeting under clause 15.18.

How disorder at a meeting may be dealt with

15.14 If disorder occurs at a meeting of the council, the chairperson may adjourn the meeting for a period of not more than fifteen (15) minutes and leave the chair. The council, on reassembling, must, on a question put from the chairperson, decide without debate whether the business is to be proceeded with or not. This clause applies to disorder arising from the conduct of members of the public as well as disorder arising from the conduct of councillors.

Expulsion from meetings

15.15 All chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council are authorised under this code to expel any person other than a councillor, from a council or committee meeting, for the purposes of section 10(2)(b) of the Act. Councillors may only be expelled by resolution of the council or the committee of the council.

15.16 Clause 15.15 does not limit the ability of the council or a committee of the council to resolve to expel a person, including a councillor, from a council or committee meeting, under section 10(2)(a) of the Act.

15.17 A councillor may, as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting of the council for having failed to comply with a requirement under clause 15.11 or clause 15.13. The expulsion of a councillor from the meeting for that reason does not prevent any other action from being taken against the councillor for the act of disorder concerned.

Note: Clause 15.17 reflects section 233(2) of the Regulation.

15.18 A member of the public may, as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting of the council for engaging in or having engaged in disorderly conduct at the meeting.

15.19 Members of the public attending a meeting of the council:

(a) must remain silent during the meeting unless invited by the chairperson to speak,

(b) must not bring flags, signs or protest symbols to the meeting, and

(c) must not disrupt the meeting.

15.20 Without limiting clause 15.19, a contravention of clause 15.20 or an attempt to contravene that clause, constitutes disorderly conduct for the purposes of clause 15.19. Members of the public may, as provided by section 10(2) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting for a breach of clause 15.20.

15.21 Where a councillor or a member of the public is expelled from a meeting, the expulsion and the name of the person expelled, if known, are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

15.22 If a councillor or a member of the public fails to leave the place where a meeting of the council is being held immediately after they have been expelled, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using such force as is reasonably necessary, remove the councillor or member of the public from that place and, if necessary, restrain the councillor or member of the public from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Note: Failure to comply with a direction to leave a meeting is an offence under section 660 of the Act carrying a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units.

How disorder by councillors attending meetings by audio-visual link may be dealt with

15.23 Where a councillor is attending a meeting by audio-visual link, the chairperson or a person authorised by the chairperson may mute the councillor's audio link to the meeting for the purposes of enforcing compliance with this code.

15.24 If a councillor attending a meeting by audio-visual link is expelled from a meeting for an act of disorder, the chairperson, of the meeting or a person authorised by the chairperson, may terminate the councillor's audio-visual link to the meeting.

Use of mobile phones and the unauthorised recording of meetings

15.25 Councillors, council staff and members of the public must ensure that mobile phones are turned to silent during meetings of the council and committees of the council.

15.26 A person must not live stream or use an audio recorder, video camera, mobile phone or any other device to make a recording of the proceedings of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council without the prior authorisation of the council or the committee.

15.27 Without limiting clause 15.18, a contravention of clause 15.26 or an attempt to contravene that clause, constitutes disorderly conduct for the purposes of clause 15.19. Any person who contravenes or attempts to contravene clause 15.26, may, as provided for under section 10(2) of the Act, be expelled from the meeting.

15.28 If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using such force as is reasonably necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary, restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Note: Failure to comply with a direction to leave a meeting is an offence under section 660 of the Act carrying a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units.

16 Conflicts of Interest

16.1 All councillors and, where applicable, all other persons, must declare and manage conflicts of interest they have in matters being considered at meetings of the council and committees of the council in accordance with the council's code of conduct. All declarations of conflicts of interest must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the declaration was made.

16.2 Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they have in matters being considered at the meeting in accordance with the council's code of conduct. Where a councillor has declared a conflict of interest in a matter being discussed at the meeting, the councillor's audio-visual link to the meeting must be suspended or terminated and the councillor must not be in sight or hearing of the meeting at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or at any time during which the council or committee is voting on the matter.

Disclosures made at the meeting should be stated as follows:

Disclosure	What to say	Action to take
Pecuniary Interest	I declare a pecuniary interest in item XX, due to *(detail reason ofthe conflict)*	*Councillor must leave the meeting, be out of sight of themeeting and not participate in discussions or voting on the matter.*
Significant, non-pecuniary interest	I declare a significant, non-pecuniary interest in item XX, dueto *(detail reason of the conflict)*	*Councillor must leave the meeting, be out of sight of themeeting and not participate in discussions or voting on the matter.*

Less than significant, non-pecuniary interest	I declare a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in item XX due to *(detail reason of the conflict and explanation of why the conflict requires no further action)*	*No action needed, Councillor can remain at the meeting, partake in the discussions and vote on the matter.*

17 Decisions of Council

Council decisions

17.1 A decision supported by a majority of the votes at a meeting of the council at which a quorum is present is a decision of the council.

Note: Clause 17.1 reflects section 371 of the Act in the case of councils and section 400T (8) in the case of joint organisations.

17.2 Decisions made by the council must be accurately recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the decision is made.

Rescinding or altering council decisions

17.3 A resolution passed by the council may not be altered or rescinded except by a motion to that effect of which notice has been given under clause 3.10.

Note: Clause 17.3 reflects section 372(1) of the Act.

17.4 If a notice of motion to rescind a resolution is given at the meeting at which the resolution is carried, the resolution must not be carried into effect until the motion of rescission has been dealt with.

Note: Clause 17.4 reflects section 372(2) of the Act.

17.5 If a motion has been lost, a motion having the same effect must not be considered unless notice of it has been duly given in accordance with this code.

Note: Clause 17.5 reflects section 372(3) of the Act.

17.6 A notice of motion to alter or rescind a resolution, and a notice of motion which has the same effect as a motion which has been lost, must be signed by three (3) councillors if less than three (3) months has elapsed since the resolution was passed, or the motion was lost.

Note: Clause 17.6 reflects section 372(4) of the Act.

17.7 If a motion to alter or rescind a resolution has been lost, or if a motion which has the same effect as a previously lost motion is lost, no similar motion may be brought forward within three (3) months of the meeting at which it was lost. This

clause may not be evaded by substituting a motion differently worded, but in principle the same.

Note: Clause 17.7 reflects section 372(5) of the Act.

17.8 The provisions of clauses 17.5–17.7 concerning lost motions do not apply to motions of adjournment.

Note: Clause 17.8 reflects section 372(7) of the Act.

17.9 A notice of motion submitted in accordance with clause 17.6 may only be withdrawn under clause 3.11 with the consent of all signatories to the notice of motion.

17.10 A motion to alter or rescind a resolution of the council may be moved on the report of a committee of the council and any such report must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the council.

Note: Clause 17.10 reflects section 372(6) of the Act.

17.11 Subject to clause 17.7, in cases of urgency, a motion to alter or rescind a resolution of the council may be moved at the same meeting at which the resolution was adopted, where:

(a) a notice of motion signed by three councillors is submitted to the chairperson at the meeting, and

(b) the council resolves to deal with the motion at the meeting on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.

17.12 A motion moved under clause 17.11(b) can be moved without notice. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 17.11(b) and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

17.13 A resolution adopted under clause 17.11(b) must state the reasons for the urgency.

Recommitting resolutions to correct an error

17.14 Despite the provisions of this Part, a councillor may, with the leave of the chairperson, move to recommit a resolution adopted at the same meeting:

(a) to correct any error, ambiguity or imprecision in the council's resolution, or

(b) to confirm the voting on the resolution.

17.15 In seeking the leave of the chairperson to move to recommit a resolution for the purposes of clause 17.14(a), the councillor is to propose alternative wording for the resolution.

17.16 The chairperson must not grant leave to recommit a resolution for the purposes of clause 17.14(a), unless they are satisfied that the proposed alternative wording of

the resolution would not alter the substance of the resolution previously adopted at the meeting.

17.17 A motion moved under clause 17.14 can be moved without notice. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 17.14 and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

17.18 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling by the chairperson under clause 17.14.

17.19 A motion moved under clause 17.14 with the leave of the chairperson cannot be voted on unless or until it has been seconded.

18 Time Limits on Council Meetings

18.1 Meetings of the Council and Committees of the Council are to conclude no later than 11.00pm.

18.2 If the business of the meeting is unfinished at 11.00pm, the Council or the Committee may, by resolution, extend the time of the meeting.

18.3 If the business of the meeting is unfinished at 11.00pm, and the Council does not resolve to extend the meeting, the chairperson must either:

(a) defer consideration of the remaining items of business on the agenda to the next ordinary meeting of the council, or

(b) adjourn the meeting to a time, date and place fixed by the chairperson.

18.4 Clause 18.3 does not limit the ability of the Council or a Committee of the Council to resolve to adjourn a meeting at any time. The resolution adjourning the meeting must fix the time, date and place that the meeting is to be adjourned to.

18.5 Where a meeting is adjourned under clause 18.3 or 18.4, the General Manager must:

(a) individually notify each councillor of the time, date and place at which the meeting will reconvene, and

(b) publish the time, date and place at which the meeting will reconvene on the council's website and in such other manner that the general manager is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the time, date and place of the reconvened meeting to the attention of as many people as possible.

19 After the Meeting

Minutes of meetings

19.1 The council is to keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of meetings of the council.

Note: Clause 19.1 reflects section 375(1) of the Act.

19.2 At a minimum, the general manager must ensure that the following matters are recorded in the council's minutes:

(a) the names of councillors attending a council meeting and whether they attended the meeting in person or by audio-visual link,
(b) details of each motion moved at a council meeting and of any amendments moved to it,
(c) the names of the mover and seconder of the motion or amendment,
(d) whether the motion or amendment was passed or lost, and
(e) such other matters specifically required under this code.

19.3 The minutes of a council meeting must be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the council.

Note: Clause 19.3 reflects section 375(2) of the Act.

19.4 Any debate on the confirmation of the minutes is to be confined to whether the minutes are a full and accurate record of the meeting they relate to.

19.5 When the minutes have been confirmed, they are to be signed by the person presiding at the subsequent meeting.

Note: Clause 19.5 reflects section 375(2) of the Act.

19.6 The confirmed minutes of a meeting may be amended to correct typographical or administrative errors after they have been confirmed. Any amendment made under this clause must not alter the substance of any decision made at the meeting.

19.7 The confirmed minutes of a council meeting must be published on the council's website. This clause does not prevent the council from also publishing unconfirmed minutes of its meetings on it the council from also publishing unconfirmed minutes of its meetings on its website prior to their confirmation.

Access to correspondence and reports laid on the table at, or submitted to, a meeting

19.8 The council and committees of the council must, during or at the close of a meeting, or during the business day following the meeting, give reasonable access to any person to inspect correspondence and reports laid on the table at, or submitted to, the meeting.

Note: Clause 19.8 reflects section 11(1) of the Act.

19.9 Clause 19.8 does not apply if the correspondence or reports relate to a matter that was received or discussed or laid on the table at, or submitted to, the meeting when the meeting was closed to the public.

Note: Clause 19.9 reflects section 11(2) of the Act.

19.10 Clause 19.8 does not apply if the council or the committee resolves at the meeting, when open to the public, that the correspondence or rep orts are to be treated as confidential because they relate to a matter specified in section 10A (2) of the Act.

Note: Clause 19.10 reflects section 11(3) of the Act.

19.11 Correspondence or reports to which clauses 19.9 and 19.10 apply are to be marked with the relevant provision of section 10A (2) of the Act that applies to the correspondence or report.

Implementation of decisions of the council

19.12 The general manager is to implement, without undue delay, lawful decisions of the council.

Note: Clause 19.12 reflects section 335(b) of the Act.

20 Council Committees

Application of this Part

20.1 This Part only applies to committees of the council whose members are all councillors.

Council committees whose members are all councillors

20.2 The council may, by resolution, establish such committees as it considers necessary.

20.3 A committee of the council is to consist of the mayor and such other councillors as are elected by the councillors or appointed by the council.

20.4 The quorum for a meeting of a committee of the council is to be:
(a) such number of members as the council decides, or
(b) if the council has not decided a number – a majority of the members of the committee.

Functions of committees

20.5 The council must specify the functions of each of its committees when the committee is established but may from time to time amend those functions.

Notice of committee meetings

20.6 The general manager must send to each councillor, regardless of whether they are a committee member, at least three (3) days before each meeting of the committee, a notice specifying:
(a) the time, date and place of the meeting, and
(b) the business proposed to be considered at the meeting.

20.7 Notice of less than three (3) days may be given of a committee meeting called in an emergency.

Non-members entitled to attend committee meetings

20.8 A councillor who is not a member of a committee of the council is entitled to attend, and to speak at a meeting of the committee. However, the councillor is not entitled:
(a) to give notice of business for inclusion in the agenda for the meeting, or
(b) to move or second a motion at the meeting, or
(c) to vote at the meeting.

Chairperson and deputy chairperson of council committees

20.9 The chairperson of each committee of the council must be:
(a) the mayor, or
(b) if the mayor does not wish to be the chairperson of a committee, a member of the committee elected by the council, or
(c) if the council does not elect such a member, a member of the committee elected by the committee.

20.10 The council may elect a member of a committee of the council as deputy chairperson of the committee. If the council does not elect a deputy chairperson of such a committee, the committee may elect a deputy chairperson.

20.11 If neither the chairperson nor the deputy chairperson of a committee of the council is able or willing to preside at a meeting of the committee, the committee must elect a member of the council.

20.12 The chairperson is to preside at a meeting of a committee of the council. If the chairperson is unable or unwilling to preside, the deputy chairperson (if any) is to preside at the meeting. If neither the chairperson nor the deputy chairperson is able or willing to preside, the acting chairperson is to preside at the meeting.

Procedure in committee meetings

20.13 Subject to any specific requirements of this code, each committee of the council may regulate its own procedure. The provisions of this code are to be taken to apply to all committees of the council.

20.14 Whenever the voting on a motion put to a meeting of the committee is equal, the chairperson of the committee is to have a casting vote as well as an original vote unless the council or the committee determines otherwise in accordance with clause 20.13.

20.15 Voting at a council committee meeting is to be by open means (such as on the voices, by show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system).

Mayoral minutes

20.16 The provisions of this code relating to mayoral minutes also apply to meetings of committees of the council in the same way they apply to meetings of the council.

Closure of committee meetings to the public

20.17 The provisions of the Act and Part 14 of this code apply to the closure of meetings of committees of the council to the public in the same way they apply to the closure of meetings of the council to the public.

20.18 If a committee of the council passes a resolution, or makes a recommendation, during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public, the chairperson must make the resolution or recommendation public as soon as practicable after the meeting or part of the meeting has ended and report the resolution or recommendation to the next meeting of the council. The resolution or recommendation must also be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

20.19 Resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson under clause 20.19 during a part of the meeting that is livestreamed where practicable.

20.20 The general manager must cause business papers for items of business considered during a meeting, or part of a meeting, that is closed to public, to be published on the council's website as soon as practicable after the information contained in the business papers ceases to be confidential.

20.21 The general manager must consult with the committee and any other affected persons before publishing information on the council's website under clause 20.20 and provide reasons for why the information has ceased to be confidential.

Disorder in committee meetings

20.22 The provisions of the Act, the Regulation, and this code relating to the maintenance of order in council meetings apply to meetings of committees of the council in the same way they apply to meetings of the council.

Minutes of council committee meetings

20.23 Each committee of the council is to keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of its meetings. At a minimum, a committee must ensure that the following matters are recorded in the committee's minutes:

(a) the names of councillors attending a meeting and whether they attended the meeting in person or by audio-visual link,

INNER WEST

(b) details of each motion moved at a meeting and of any amendments moved to it,
(c) the names of the mover and seconder of the motion or amendment, whether the motion or amendment was passed or lost, and such other matters specifically required under this code.

20.24 All voting at meetings of committees of the council (including meetings that are closed to the public), must be recorded in the minutes of meetings with the names of councillors who voted for and against each motion or amendment, (including the use of the casting vote), being recorded.

20.25 The minutes of meetings of each committee of the council must be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the committee.

20.26 Any debate on the confirmation of the minutes is to be confined to whether the minutes are a full and accurate record of the meeting they relate to.

20.27 When the minutes have been confirmed, they are to be signed by the person presiding at the subsequent meeting.

20.28 The confirmed minutes of a meeting may be amended to correct typographical or administrative errors after they have been confirmed. Any amendment made under this clause must not alter the substance of any decision made at the meeting.

20.29 The confirmed minutes of a meeting of a committee of the council must be published on the council's website. This clause does not prevent the council from also publishing unconfirmed minutes of meetings of committees of the council on its website prior to their confirmation.

21 Irregularities

21.1 Proceedings at a meeting of a council or a council committee are not invalidated because of:
(a) a vacancy in a civic office, or
(b) a failure to give notice of the meeting to any councillor or committee member, or
(c) any defect in the election or appointment of a councillor or committee member, or
(d) a failure of a councillor or a committee member to declare a conflict of interest, or to refrain from the consideration or discussion of, or vote on, the relevant matter, at a council or committee meeting in accordance with the council's code of conduct, or

(e) a failure to comply with this code.

Note: Clause 21.1 reflects section 374 of the Act

22 Definitions

The Act means the Local	means the Local Government Act 1993
amendment	in relation to an original motion, means a motion moving an amendment to that motion
audio recorder	any device capable of recording speech
audio-visual link	means a facility that enables audio and visual communication between persons at different places
business day	means any day except Saturday or Sunday or any other day the whole or part of which is observed as a public holiday throughout New South Wales
chairperson	in relation to a meeting of the council – means the person presiding at the meeting as provided by section 369 of the Act and clauses 6.1 and 6.2 of this code, and in relation to a meeting of a committee – means the person presiding at the meeting as provided by clause 20.9 of this cod
this code	means the council's adopted code of meeting practice
committee of the council	means a committee established by the council in accordance with clause 20.2 of this code (being a committee consisting only of councillors) or the council when it has resolved itself into committee of the whole under clause 12.1
council official	includes councillors, members of staff of a council, administrators, council committee members,

	delegates of council and any other person exercising functions on behalf of the council
day	means calendar day
division	means a request by two councillors under clause 11.7 of this code requiring the recording of the names of the councillors who voted both for and against a motion
livestream	a video broadcast of a meeting transmitted across the internet concurrently with the meeting
open voting	means voting on the voices or by a show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system or similar means
planning decision	means a decision made in the exercise of a function of a council under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 including any decision relating to a development application, an environmental planning instrument, a development control plan, a planning agreement or a development contribution plan under that Act, but not including the making of an order under Division 9.3 of Part 9 of that Act
performance improvement order	means an order issued under section 438A of the Act
quorum	means the minimum number of councillors or committee members necessary to conduct a meeting
the Regulation	means the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021
year	means the period beginning 1 July and ending the following 30 June

23 Breaches of this Policy

Breaches of this policy may result in an investigation of the alleged breach in line with relevant Council policies including the Model Code of Conduct.

Any alleged criminal offence or allegation of corrupt conduct will be referred to the relevant external agency.

24 Administrative Changes

From time-to-time circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this document, such a change may be made including branding, Council Officer titles or department changes and legislative name or title changes which are considered minor in nature and not required to be formally endorsed.

25 Version Control – Policy History

This policy will be formally reviewed every three years from the date of adoption or as required.

Governance use only:

Document	**Code of Meeting Practice**	***Uncontrolled Copy When Printed***	
Custodian	Senior Manager Governance & Risk	Version #	Version 9
Adopted By	Council	ECM Document #	xxxxxxx
Next Review Date	[Insert date no later than 3 years post adoption e.g. August 2025]		

Amended by	**Changes made**	**Date Adopted**
Governance and Risk	New policy	21 November 2017
Governance and Risk	Updated policy	26 March 2019
Governance and Risk	Updated policy	25 August 2020
Governance and Risk	Amended Clause 4.24	9 February 2021
Governance and Risk	Updated policy	10 May 2022
Council	Amended public forum section	14 February 2023
Council	Amended Order of Business to include a Statement of Ethical Obligations	13 February 2024
Council	Updated policy as required by the Local Government Act 1993 (within 12 months of an ordinary election of Councillors)	19 August 2025

Office of Local Government
Email: councillorconduct@olg.nsw.gov.au

Re: **Submission on the Councillor Conduct Framework Review**

Inner West Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Office of Local Government Discussion Paper: *Councillor conduct and meeting practices* released in September 2024 (Discussion Paper).

This submission will focus on Council's concerns with the proposed reforms to meeting practices. The focus of Council's submission should not be interpreted as unqualified support for the other reforms in the Discussion Paper. Given the timing of the local government elections and councillor induction, Councillors have not had the opportunity to consider in full all aspects of the proposed reforms ahead of submissions closing on 15 November 2024.

Proposed reforms to the Model Code of Meeting Practice

Councillor briefings/workshops

Council supports the Model Code of Meeting Practice as the mechanism for enabling effective decision-making, and for ensuring meetings are conducted with dignity. Council is, however, concerned with the proposal to ban pre-meeting briefing sessions/workshops in the absence of the public, as these are an important tool for councillors and council officers to enable informed decision-making.

Council agrees that decisions of Council can only occur in a formal council meeting, and acknowledges concerns about briefings/workshops that are not managed well becoming quasi-decision making forums. However, Council considers that pre-meeting briefing sessions/workshops that are closed to the public are a critical tool to assist Councillors discharge their role, as prescribed under section 232(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, to make considered and well informed decisions. The OLG Councillor Handbook 2024 notes that workshops or briefing sessions are supported by some to develop councillor knowledge and expertise, and to assist them to discharge their role as public officials. Indeed, an earlier version of this document, the OLG Councillor Handbook 2021, "recognises the value of workshops or briefing sessions in developing councillor knowledge and expertise, and assisting them to discharge their role as public officials." The same document notes that briefing sessions/workshops which enable both councillors and staff to contribute freely are important for ensuring open debate. Council considers that opening briefing sessions/workshops to the public will have the effect of impeding the development of councillor knowledge and expertise and reducing the robustness of debate, as councillors may be more reluctant to ask questions about council matters with members of the

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public in attendance. Our general comments and suggestions for addressing transparency concerns are listed below.

Pre-meeting briefing sessions/workshops are a practice widely adopted by all levels of Government in Australia, to ensure that those representing the community in the decision-making process are informed on matters before them. These sessions across the various levels of Government provide an opportunity for elected representatives to test the information presented to them by officers and members of the public and to seek additional information to assist with their decision-making.

Briefing sessions/workshops are a critical tool for supporting councillors to make informed decisions at council meetings. These sessions ensure that councillors are well informed and in the best possible position to debate issues effectively once those issues are at a council meeting. Briefings/workshops assist councillors to determine whether they have enough information and advice to help them form an informed opinion about the matters in question. It is appropriate for these to occur without members of the public in attendance, so that councillors feel comfortable to question council officers about the information they have been given and seek further information. Prohibiting councils from holding pre-meeting briefing sessions/workshops in the absence of the public may prevent councillors from seeking information about decisions they are expected to make. Alternatively, it may lead to more information being provided to councillors via briefing notes, which will add to the already significant workload of councillors, and potentially disadvantage councillors who do not speak English as a first language and/ or who may have learning disorders. Given the "steep learning curve" for new councillors identified by the OLG in "Stand for your community: Candidate Guide", Council opposes the imposition of any measures that may prevent councillors from asking for further information about decisions they are expected to make. Council also opposes the imposition of any measures that may have the consequence of disadvantaging certain sections of the community or preventing members from those communities standing for Council, given the importance of diverse representation on councils, as identified by the OLG in "Stand for your community: Candidate Guide". In addition, councillor briefing sessions/workshops often include information being provided about matters of a sensitive or confidential nature. Opening briefings/workshops to members of the public may limit the ability to provide this information, and may increase the council meeting deliberations held in camera to fully discuss these matters or matters on the council agenda being deferred to allow councillors to receive more information or guidance prior to resolving the matter in the Chamber.

The proposal to ban pre-meeting briefing sessions/workshops in the absence of the public may also increase resourcing costs. In line with current council meeting practices, the community may reasonably expect that these briefings/workshops will be accessible both in-person and online. This will create additional staffing and administrative demands on councils, and also impose costs associated with streaming and website capacity. Given the budget constraints across the local government sector, Inner West Council is opposed to the banning of pre-meeting briefing

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sessions/workshops held in the absence of the public, and believes that other options for increased transparency should be considered.

In the Victorian Local Government sector, the transparency of councillor briefing sessions/workshops is achieved by reporting attendance, agenda items, and conflicts of interest at briefings attended by councillors. This information is reported on a regular basis in council meeting papers, generally presented each month or more frequently depending on the council meeting cycle. In addition to briefings, these transparency measures apply to planning meetings, pre-meeting briefings, councillor workshops, and advisory committee meetings. This provides the community with general information about the matters being discussed in the various forums attended by councillors between council meetings.

In Queensland, the *Local Government Act* 2009 (Qld) contains a principle of transparent and effective processes and decision-making in the public interest. This is addressed by Queensland councils through the adoption of either a policy or terms of reference for councillor briefing sessions and workshops. The policy or terms of reference generally articulates the purpose of these forums as assisting councillors to make informed decisions and consider current and future interests of the community, and to provide a forum for councillors to ask questions and seek advice from staff. These documents also outline that briefings/workshops will not be used to remove the need for debate and decisions at council meetings, direct employee recommendations to council, or influence employee actions without formal decisions of council. Some councils commit to publishing records from the briefing sessions and workshops that capture attendees, matters discussed, and conflicts of interest raised during the meeting.

Council suggests that preparing a report tabled at the next council meeting on matters discussed at council organised forums between council meetings, including councillor briefing sessions/workshops, should be considered as an alternative to banning councillor briefing sessions/workshops in the absence of the public.

Council supports retaining recordings of council and committee meetings on council websites, however, the volume of recordings accessible may be limited by the available space on website platforms. Given, that recordings retired from the website were once publicly available, it should be relatively easy to provide access on request for older material.

However, if the proposal to ban pre-meeting briefing sessions/workshops in the absence of the public is realised, this may increase the volume of recordings that need to be available on a council's website at any given time. This may limit the length of time recordings can be retained on a Council's website.

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Emergency powers to proactively address behaviour

Council supports reforms to manage public disorder in the chamber as the safety of the community, councillors and council officers is paramount to enable effective and efficient decision making.

The current Model Code of Conduct contains provisions permitting a meeting to be adjourned due to disorder in the chamber. However, they are limited in scope and require decision making processes that may not necessarily be practical if events occur at a meeting that pose an immediate health and safety risk to members of the public, councillors, or council officers. Council suggests that the proposed reforms should be extended to enable the General Manager to decide to close a council meeting to the public, or to hold a council meeting online to manage community and workplace safety, where there is a workplace health and safety risk that necessitates the closure.

In Victoria, the *Local Government Act 2020* provides that meetings are to be open to the public unless specific circumstances apply (s66). These circumstances include security reasons or to enable the meeting to proceed in an orderly manner. The council meeting can proceed provided there are arrangements for the community to view it by other means such as livestreaming or on a screen outside the council chamber. In many instances, councils in Victoria provide for both options if a meeting is closed to the public.

In recent years, councils across Australia have been experiencing unprecedented levels of targeted disruption with increased aggression toward the level of government closest to the community. Many jurisdictions have seen a rise in groups that are organised and mobilised quickly in response to issues and often driven by disinformation and misinformation.

Neither the Model Code of Conduct nor the *Local Government Act* 1993 empowers the General Manager to proactively close a Council meeting to public attendance or hold a meeting online to ensure public and workplace safety. In light of the growing disruption of meetings across the local government sector, Inner West Council suggests that consideration be given to providing the General Manager with the ability to manage public and workplace safety by proactively closing Council meetings and not allowing public attendance in the gallery or holding a council meeting online when there are concerns for public and workplace safety. The need to make council meetings more accessible and transparent could be met by providing alternative accessibility to the meeting (for example, livestreaming online or viewing on screen outside the council chambers).

As an additional accountability and transparency safeguard in respect of this suggestion, a requirement could be imposed on the General Manager of each council who uses these powers to provide a report to the next council meeting outlining the health and safety grounds for closing the meeting to public attendance.

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NSW Local Government Privileges Committee

The Discussion Paper proposes the establishment of NSW Local Government Privileges Committee (Committee) that would be empowered to examine all allegations of misbehaviour in public office.

The Committee would be composed of experienced mayors and ex-mayors from across NSW, and supported by a secretariat within OLG, which would have the power to consider and dismiss certain categories of matters.

Council acknowledges the importance of reforms to improve the Code of Conduct review framework and sector-led regulation of councillor behaviour as a design concept. In addition, Council supports the establishment of an entity that can consider Code of Conduct complaints about Councillors, to remove General Managers from the complaints process.

However, Council is concerned with the proposal for the Committee to be composed of current and former mayors, the composition of the Committee could, without appropriate checks and balances, lend itself to structural conflicts and biases if the Committee is not representative of the full spectrum of registered political parties. The Discussion Paper does not outline how the Committee's members would be appointed, and what possible checks and balances could be established to regulate the Committee. In addition, it does not clarify how procedural fairness for councillors appearing before the Committee can be ensured, particularly in the absence of eligibility requirements for Committee members. Council acknowledges that the proposed powers of the Committee are limited and that only an appropriate Tribunal or body would have the power to determine any serious sanctions. However, Council considers the proposal to establish the Committee, its proposed composition, and the lack of appropriate guardrails around the Committee's operations and management of conflicts, create a risk of weaponisation of the Committee's processes. Accordingly, Council considers that further details about the proposed Committee are needed before expressing its support, or otherwise, for the establishment of the proposed Committee.

In 2022, South Australia established the Behavioural Standards Panel for dealing with specific complaints about Councillor behaviour. As indicated in the 2022-23 Annual Report of the Panel, the panel members were nominated by both the Minister and Local Government Association, including a joint appointment. This process could minimise the ability to weaponise the Committee's process.

Additionally, reforms have been proposed in local government in Western Australia to overhaul the membership of the Local Government Standards Panel, which currently includes staff of the local government department, a council member and a person with relevant knowledge. The proposal is to replace the membership with a new Conduct Panel of suitably qualified and experienced professionals and will exclude sitting councillors. The 2024 Local Government Amendment Bill 2024 outlines that the adjudicators to the Standards Panel will be legal practitioners with at least 5 years' experience who are not Council members and will be appointed by the Minister.

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If the establishment of the Committee proceeds, Council encourages the examination of the South Australian Behavioural Standards Panel and the Western Australian Standards Panel approaches to the appointment of members to Committee.

Conclusion

Council supports measures to ensure transparency and accountability in decision-making, however, reforms need to be balanced with the need to enable councillors to be effectively informed when making decisions, including through briefing sessions/workshops in the absence of the public. Councillors need a safe environment to gather information required for decision-making. Council encourages the consideration of alternative measures for providing transparency and accountability following councillor briefing sessions/workshops in the absence of the public.

Council supports improved management of public disorder in the chamber to ensure the safety of all in attendance. Council suggests that the revised Model Code of Meeting Practice includes provisions to enable the General Manager to proactively address public and workplace safety by providing alternative means to viewing council meetings other than attendance in the chamber. Council suggests the measures provided in the Victorian legislation that enable councils to hold meetings while providing public access via alternative arrangements are considered for councils in NSW, as a proactive approach to managing safety and public disorder.

While Council supports the establishment of an entity to consider Councillor complaints, Council is concerned with the lack of details regarding the establishment of Committee. In particular, further details are needed about the appointment of Committee members, and Council has concerns about the potential implications for procedural fairness for councillors.

Finally, Council notes that the Discussion Paper was released on 5 September 2024, being nine days before the NSW local government elections held on 14 September 2024, with comments due on 15 November 2024. Many councils, including Inner West Council, did not receive declarations of results of incoming Councillors until the start of October 2024. Following the declaration of results, most councils, including Inner West Council, implemented induction programs in line with the OLG's Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines, which recognise that proper induction into their roles are vital if mayors and councillors are to be effective from the start of their terms. At a time when councillors are being inducted, and briefed on, inter alia, the Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice, it does not seem reasonable to expect them to rapidly develop the comprehensive understanding of these documents necessary for them to provide informed comments on the proposals outlined in the Discussion Paper. If Council were to follow such a consultation process in respect of one of its policies, strategies, or plans, it would be the subject of legitimate criticism from its community in respect of the consultation not being meaningful. Council considers that further, and more meaningful, consultation needs to occur with the NSW local government sector in respect of the proposals in the Discussion Paper before these are implemented.

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For further information on this submission please contact Beau-Jane De Costa, Acting Director Corporate on 02 9392 5589 or beau-jane.de.costa@innerwest.nsw.gov.au.

Council approved this submission on 12 November 2024.

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Re: **Submission on the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW**

Inner West Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Office of Local Government Consultation Draft of the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (Consultation Draft).

Council notes and supports:

- The proposed ability of each council's mayor to call an extraordinary meeting without the need to obtain the signature of two councillors, and the removal of restrictions on mayoral minutes. Council considers this is consistent with the policy rationale of enhancing the authority of the mayor.
- The requirement on each council's general manager to consult with the mayor in respect of identifying in a council meeting agenda those items that are likely to be considered in confidential sessions. Council considers this is consistent with the policy rationale of ensuring mayors are empowered to run council meetings effectively.
- The removal of the mandatory requirements in respect of public forums from the Model Code. Council considers the provision of discretion to councils in respect of how public forums are to be conducted is consistent with the recognition of local government as the legitimate third tier of government in New South Wales.
- The requirement for the general manager to make a business paper considered in confidential session of council available on a council's website as soon as practicable after the information in the business paper ceases to be confidential. Council notes the requirement for the general manager in this scenario to consult with the council prior to publishing the business paper, and considers that in most instances this can be achieved by identifying in the business paper when it will be made publicly available.
- The clarification that a councillor who has lodged a notice of motion may withdraw it at any time, and the requirement for the mayor to note the withdrawal of the notice of motion at the meeting if the notice of motion was withdrawn after the agenda for the meeting has been circulated. Council considers this is a useful clarification, but considers that it would benefit from more operational detail as to whether a councillor in this scenario should direct their withdrawal notice to the general manager or the mayor.
- The removal of provisions allowing motions to be foreshadowed. Council considers this is consistent with the policy rationale of simplifying the rules of debate, and notes that a councillor can at any time during debate note that they may move an alternate motion if the motion being debated is lost.

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Banning confidential Councillor Briefing Sessions

Council opposes the restriction on councils holding briefing sessions, noting that this will be given effect through an amendment to the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation)*.

Council previously made a submission opposing the proposal to ban briefing sessions contained in the "Councillor Conduct and meeting practice: a new framework" Discussion Paper (Discussion Paper). Given submissions in respect of the Discussion Paper closed on 29 November 2024, and the Consultation Draft was issued in December 2024, it is unclear what, if any, consideration was given to the submissions made by Council and other councils and other local government stakeholders.

Council reiterates its concern with the proposal to ban confidential councillor conduct briefings. Council considers that the ban is inconsistent with the policy intention stated in the Consultation Draft of "uplift[ing] the standards at council meetings so that they … resemble the forthright and effective debate that occurs at the State and Federal levels". As noted by Local Government NSW in its submission, the private briefings provided to Ministers, the NSW Government, Opposition, and Crossbench lead to better informed MPs and more informed decision making once a matter comes to the public forum in Parliament. Council considers the same principle should apply to local government, to recognise its status as the legitimate third tier of government in New South Wales. While Council agrees transparency of decision making is extremely critical, the proposal to ban confidential briefing sessions creates the risk that debate in the council chamber will be less informed, and therefore, less effective.

Council urges the New South Wales State Government to reconsider the proposal to ban confidential briefing sessions, and instead consider alternative transparency mechanisms that could be imposed, including some of the suggestions made in Council's submission of November 2024, to ensure briefing sessions do not become forums for debate.

Virtual Attendance at Council Meetings

The Consultation Draft proposes that councillors will only be able to attend and participate in council meetings by audio-visual link where they are unable to attend because of ill-health or other medical reasons, or because of unforeseen caring responsibilities.

Council opposes this proposal, on the basis that this will reduce the diversity of councils. As noted by the Minister for Local Government in "Stand for your community: Candidate guide", one of the "real strengths of NSW is the diversity of its communities and our councils should reflect that diversity, so more voices are heard". Preventing councillors from being able to attend meetings virtually, except in very narrow circumstances, will make it less attractive and feasible for people in certain demographic groups to become councillors, and will have a detrimental effect on diversity. Implementing this proposal will specifically have a detrimental effect on the number of people with caring responsibilities who might stand for election. As the basis for this, a 2022 ANU study conducted by Tanya Jakimow and published in the Commonwealth Journal of Local Governance (Issue 26: May 2022) analysed diversity in local government in NSW, and explicitly

noted "the ability to remotely attend council meetings (thanks in large part to COVID-19)" as a key enabler of being able to stand as a councillor.

It is unclear why this restriction would be imposed in pursuit of the objective of promoting the "dignity of the council chamber" when it will have a detrimental effect on promoting local government diversity, which has been identified as one of the strengths in NSW local government. Council urges the New South Wales State Government to reconsider this proposal.

Staff Attendance at Council Meetings

The Consultation Draft proposes that the attendance of council staff at council meetings will be determined by council from time to time, and not by the general manager, as is the current convention.

While Council agrees with the policy rationale that councillors are best placed to determine what support they require from staff at meetings, implementing the proposal could pose logistical difficulties. For example, the staff who need to attend one particular council meeting may not necessarily be the same as the staff who need to attend the next council meeting, as the items due for consideration by council may be significantly different. In order for council to resolve the staff who might need to attend a particular council meeting, councillors would need to know which items might be considered at the meeting well in advance of the agenda and business paper being distributed. The alternative would be for a council to determine in advance the staff who need to attend meetings. Operationally this would require these staff to attend all meetings regardless of whether they are actually required to provide advice at the meeting.

Alternatively, if the council's determination is drafted permissively, staff attendance for a particular meeting would likely be at the general manager's direction, given the general manager's ability to direct staff pursuant to section 335(g) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act).

The latter option is the status quo, which was presumably originally justified on the basis that it is the general manager who has the statutory responsibility pursuant to section 335 of the Act of providing advice to council. There seems to be no reason to depart from the status quo, and it is unclear how this proposal will achieve the stated policy intention of depoliticising the role of the general manager.

Council opposes this proposal and suggests an alternative could be for the attendance of staff at a council meeting to be with the approval of the general manager, who would be required to consult with the mayor as to the staff who will attend a meeting. Council notes this is likely the manner in which staff attendance at meetings is agreed to in any event, and this alternative would also achieve the policy intention of supporting mayors in ensuring meetings are managed effectively.

Shortening the duration of speeches

The Consultation Draft proposes the removal of a council's ability to resolve to shorten the duration of speeches to expedite the consideration of business at a meeting. Shortening the duration of speeches is an effective mechanism by which a council may choose to manage its time, and ensure it is able to consider all items in a meeting agenda. It is unclear how this achieves the policy intention of promoting the dignity of the council chamber, and seems like an excessively granular regulation of the conduct of council meetings. Noting the proposal, discussed above, that councillors will determine which staff should attend council meetings, it is also unclear why councillors are considered "best placed to determine what support they require from staff at meetings", yet cannot be trusted to determine how long councillors should be granted to speak on items.

Council opposes this proposal and considers that it should be open to each council to determine how best to manage the conduct of council meetings.

Points of Order to be able to be made with respect to meeting principles

The Consultation Draft proposes the removal of the restriction on a point of order being able to be made with respect to adherence to the general "Meeting Principles".

Council acknowledges the need to emphasise the importance of these principles. However, these meeting principles are drafted very generally, and not in a way that is amenable to being the subject of a point of order. For example, if a councillor were to raise a point of order on the basis that something that occurs at a meeting is not inclusive and does not represent the diverse needs and interests of the local community, it would be difficult for the chairperson to make a ruling on this in a manner that does not rely on a highly subjective interpretation of the principle of inclusivity.

Council opposes this proposal, and consider the policy intention for this proposal is unclear.

Councillors and staff must stand when the mayor enters the chambers and when addressing the meetings

The Consultation Draft proposals that councillors and staff must stand, if able to do so, when the mayor enters the chambers and when the councillor or staff member is addressing the meeting. Council acknowledges the policy intention of enhancing the authority of the mayor, and also acknowledges that the proposed requirement to stand is only if a person is able to do so. However, council opposes this requirement on the basis that it seems like an excessively granular regulation of the conduct of council meetings. Council also notes that this proposal is not inclusive, as it explicitly equates the display of respect for the mayor with an ability to stand.

Council opposes this proposal and considers it should be open to each council to determine whether they wish to have their councillors and staff stand when the mayor enters the chamber and when addressing the meeting.

For further information on this submission please contact Chris Sleiman, Acting Director Corporate, on 02 9392 5906 or chris.sleiman@innerwest.nsw.gov.au.

References:

Jakimow, T (2022) "Roadblocks to diversity in local government in New South Wales, Australia: changing narratives and confronting absences in diversity strategies", *Commonwealth Journal of Local Governance*, 26, 74–93. https://doi.org/10.5130/cjlg.vi26.8054.

Council approved this submission on 18 February 2025.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 8

Subject: FLOOD MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 27 AUGUST 2025

Prepared By: David Paton - Engineering Services Manager

Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the minutes and adopt the recommendations of the Flood Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 27 August 2025.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport
5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A meeting of the Flood Management Advisory Committee was held on 27 August 2025. The Committee were informed of reports to Council regarding flooding at Northcote Street, Marrickville and Evan Jones Park, Leichhardt in the period since the last meeting of the Committee. The minutes are provided to Council for endorsement.

BACKGROUND

The August meeting of the Flood Management Advisory Committee was held on 27 August 2025. The minutes of the meeting are provided in *Attachment 1*.

The meeting included a report on flooding that has affected Evan Jones Park in response to Council's resolution from the Council meeting held on 20 May 2025 where Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council receive and note the report.*

2. *That Council write to Sydney Water requesting updated costings associated with upgrading of the Whites Creek stormwater channel.*

3. *That Council identify grant funding options available, and preparatory work that would be needed to apply for such grants, to fund these upgrades.*

4. *That Council report the outcomes of these engagements to Council in August 2025.*

DISCUSSION

Following the above resolution, Council wrote to Sydney Water on 10 July 2025. A reply was received on 25 July 2025, in which Sydney Water recommended that an initial feasibility study be undertaken by Council, after which Sydney Water would work with Council to develop the project and seek internal funding as part of its Capital Expenditure review for the years beyond its current determination period which ends in 2030.

Council has submitted a grant application to the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water through its Floodplain Management Program to support such a feasibility study.

The Floodplain Management Program is the primary method in which the NSW Government supports local councils and public land managers to support flood modelling, risk assessment, and construction of flood mitigation projects. This program provides financial support to help manage flood risk in communities, generally based on $2 for every $1 contributed by Council. The successful applicants for each yearly funding round are typically notified in late October.

Other time-limited grant programs have been established to support new and upgraded infrastructure in recent years, including:

- Australian Government Disaster Ready Fund (running until July 2028)
- NSW Flood Recovery and Resilience Grant (ended July 2024)
- Australian Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (ended June 2025)

These programs have typically required shovel-ready designs which have limited Council's ability to successfully obtain external funding for these large projects.

In 2024, the NSW Government established the Urban Development Program (UDP) within the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) to monitor and coordinate housing supply and infrastructure delivery. The UDP's role includes providing advice to the NSW Government on infrastructure investment priorities to support housing supply. Inner West Council is a member of the Eastern Sydney (South) UDP Committee, which provides advice to the UDP on local and regional infrastructure priorities. A key objective of the UDP is to develop regional Infrastructure Opportunities Plans (IOP) which will inform how funds being collected through the Housing and Productivity Contribution (HPC) will be spent.

The UDP is in the process of preparing its first IOP for the Eastern Sydney region. Council has recommended the inclusion of Whites Creek culvert / duplication project from Parramatta Road to the open channel downstream of Moore Street, to support housing delivery in the Inner West. It is noted that this project is also included in the *Inner West Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan 2023* as Work Item 191, however Council would only be able to collect up to $9.4m of the total $28.5m cost of the project through development contributions. Council is advocating for the State government to co-fund this project to enable Council to deliver this local infrastructure. At the time of preparing this report, the Department have not yet confirmed whether this project will be included in its first IOP for the Eastern Sydney region.

Council will continue to support and advocate for the expansion of the Whites Creek Channel, however as it is a Sydney Water asset, any timing would ultimately need to be developed in accordance with their business funding timelines.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report. Initial feasibility studies can be funded within existing Stormwater budget allocations.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Minutes of Flood Management Advisory Committee - 27 August 2025

27 August 2025

Minutes of the Flood Risk Management Advisory Committee Meeting 27 August 2025

Date / Time	27 August 2025 - 2:00 PM		
Venue	Microsoft Teams		
Chairperson	Councillor Mat Howard		
Voting Attendees	Clr Mat Howard	Michael Carney (SES)	Pilar Lorenzo
	David Chick	Matthew Murphy	Tim Harnett
	Emily McGrath		
Technical Advisory Attendees (Non-Voting)	Peter Shields (IWC)	David Paton (IWC)	James Ogg (IWC)
	Rafaah Georges (IWC)	Andrew Jones (Sydney Water)	
Observers	Tiffanie Ong (IWC)	Robert Baker (Marrickville SES)	Jason L'Ecuyer (Cooks River Alliance)
	Hiti Gandhi (Cooks River Alliance)		
Apologies			

2. Acknowledgement Of Country – Clr Howard

I acknowledge that we are meeting on the land of the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora Nation and pay my respects to the elders past and present and I extend that respect and acknowledgement to any Aboriginal people who are here with us today.

3. Disclosures of Interest

Nil.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

Michael Carney moved that the Minutes of the Flood Management Advisory Committee held on 26 February 2025 be confirmed. Seconded by Councillor Mat Howard.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 - FMACC0225 (1) Item 1 Outstanding Actions Register

SUMMARY

The following table provides the status of outstanding actions from previous Flood Management Advisory Committee meetings.

Meeting	Item	Actions	Comments	Status
FMAC 29/2/24	5.2	That Council develop communications regarding flooding and relevant services in the local area including the SES that can be made available through customer service centres, libraries and be made available to local real estate or rental agencies for new residents to the local community	Council's existing web page for emergency information has been updated to include information links to support services like SES and Red Cross. Emergencies - Be prepared - Inner West Council	In Progress
FMAC 29/2/24	5.4	That in the development of the Flood Information Hub, Council work to make emergency information for accessible and visible, that Council investigates the reporting of local road closure information.	Planned road closures are currently reported to state agencies and digital mapping services via the NSW Government OneRoad portal. Council will review capacity to provide similar updates for Emergency operations.	In Progress
FMAC 29/2/24	5.6	That Council investigate the publication of evacuation routes among consideration of public signage	The Inner West Local Emergency Management Committee is currently reviewing the Flooding Emergency Sub-plan. Given the short warning time of a flood event and the short duration, site specific signage is not considered an effective and replicable management measure.	Completed
FMAC 29/2/24	5.7	That Council engage directly with community groups on the foreshore impacted by flooding.		In Progress
Ordinary Council 12/11/24 C1124(1)	17.2	That Council investigate placing stoppers (at Despointes Street, Marrickville) to maintain the ability for the rainwater to enter the drain without being diverted onto the footpath and ponding creating a safety issue.	Existing road width does not allow for parking spaces to be provided with wheel stops while remaining compliant with Australian Standards. An alternative design to extend the stormwater drainage and increase inlet capacity has been prepared for future detailed design, subject to grant funding.	Completed
Ordinary Council 12/11/24 C1124(1)	26.6	That Council provide for members of the public to present to the Flood Risk and Management Committee on flood related matters by establishing a public forum, as is the case with the Inner West Council Traffic Committee.	Report provided to the Committee at this meeting for initial discussion.	In Progress
Ordinary Council 18/02/25 C0225(1)	39.3	That Council officers list flooding at Northcote Street and area flooding at the next Flood Management Advisory Committee, including the extent of flooding, mitigations currently in place and future options to mitigate and manage flooding	Report provided to the Committee at this meeting.	Completed

Ordinary Council 18/02/25 C0225(1)	39.4	That Council request officers report to the April Council meeting with information and future options to mitigate and manage flooding at Northcote Street, Marrickville		Completed
Ordinary Council 11/03/25 C0325(1)	40.1	That Council develop a plan for safe and effective flood management across Evan Jones Playground and Whites Creek Lane, Leichhardt and upgrades to the infrastructure in this playground and street, including: a) reviewing and reporting on the timeline	Report provided to 20 May Council meeting.	Completed
Ordinary Council 11/03/25 C0325(1)	40.2	That Council report the plan for flood improvement for Evan Jones Playground and Whites Creek Lane, Leichhardt to the May 2025 Council meeting.	Report provided to 20 May Council meeting.	Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	7.1	That Council receive the minutes and adopt the recommendations of the Flood Management Advisory Committee held on 26 February 2025		Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	7.2	That Council approve appointment of the Community Representatives to the Flood Management Advisory Committee.		Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	30.1	That Council receive and note the report for flooding in the area of Northcote Street, Marrickville		Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	30.2	That Council write to residents of Northcote Street to provide an update on actions being undertaken to address flooding in the area of Northcote Street, Marrickville	Letter issued to residents 11 July 2025	Completed
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.1	That Council receive and note the report - Flood Management Plan for Evan Jones Playground		Completed
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.2	That Council write to Sydney Water requesting updated costing associated with upgrading of the Whites Creek stormwater channel.	Letter sent to Sydney Water 10 July 2025	Completed
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.3	That Council identify grant funding options available, and preparatory work that would be needed to apply for such grants, to fund these upgrades.		In Progress
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.4	That Council report the outcomes of these engagements to Council in August 2025.	Report being prepared for the September meeting of Council. (Deferred from August)	In Progress
Ordinary Council 17/06/25 C0625(1)	55	That Council amend the Terms of Reference for the Inner West Flood Management Advisory Committee to: a) Remove reference to a quorum, consistent with the Inner West Traffic Committee; and	Terms of Reference have been updated accordingly. A summary provided to the Committee at this meeting.	Complete

		b) Include a member of the Inner West Access Local Democracy Group to attend and hold voting rights as a member of the Committee.		

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

DISCUSSION

Clr Howard enquired on Resolution C1124(1) 17.2 regarding the drainage of Despointes Street. James Ogg advised that the proposed stormwater improvement works are a result of the Marrickville Valley Flood Risk Management Study and form part of the 2025/26 design program. The scope is to upgrade the existing inlets into the Sydney Water canal between Silver Street, Despointes Street and Illawarra Road. Construction budgets are currently included within the draft delivery program for progressive roll out between 2027 and 2029.

Clr Howard also enquired on Resolution C0425(1) 30.2 regarding letters which were sent out to residents of Northcote Street and if any responses had been received from residents. James advised that no responses have been received directly related to Northcote Street residents, however a response was received from Malakoff Street residents regarding works being carried out in Carew Lane and the interactions with driveways and garage openings. A meeting has been organised with the affected resident.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Tim Harnett moves the item, seconded by Pillar Lorenzo.

For Motion: Unanimous

FMACC0825(1) Item 2; UPDATE TO THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

SUMMARY

At its meeting on 17 June 2025 (C0625(1) Item 55), Council resolved: That Council amend the Terms of Reference for the Inner West Flood Management Advisory Committee to: a) and b) Remove reference to a quorum, consistent with the Inner West Traffic Committee; Include a member of the Inner West Access Local Democracy Group to attend and hold voting rights as a member of the Committee. These changes have been made to the Terms of Reference, included as Attachment 1. The Terms of Reference have also been amended to refer to the Director Engineering instead of the Director Infrastructure, following the change of Council's organisational structure in February.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

DISCUSSION

Council resolution to amend the terms of reference to remove reference to the quorum and added within the voting members a change to allow for a member of the Inner West Local Democracy Group as a voting member. James advised Council is working with the convener of that group to determine who is to be invited. Robert Baker raised a query regarding the Action Register presented at each meeting and how historical records of past items can be accessed. James Ogg explained that once actions have been completed and closed out, they are removed from the current meeting agenda. However, historical agenda items and resolutions can be located in the minutes and meeting reports of previous meetings.

Matthew Murphy notes attachments to the Flood Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference uses a previous version of the Local Traffic Committee Terms of Reference, noting that this discrepancy should be corrected.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That the report and amended terms of Reference be accepted, subject to the removal of references to the Local Traffic Committee.

Matthew Murphy moves item, seconded by David Chick.

For Motion: Unanimous

FMACC0525(1) Item 3 ; FLOODING IN THE AREA OF EVAN JONES PARK

SUMMARY

Following heavy storms on 10 February 2025, community members reported significant overland flow from Evan Jones Playground into the adjacent laneway. Additionally, the lid of the nearby gross pollutant trap (GPT) was dislodged, creating a serious safety hazard. Recurrent issues were also noted with debris accumulation, particularly soft-fall wood chips from the playground surface, which regularly obstruct the drainage system and exacerbate localised flooding.

An investigation was undertaken to explore options for minimising the impact of flooding at Evan Jones Playground and Whites Creek Lane. The primary mitigation options involve significant upgrades of the trunk drainage systems which are cost prohibitive to upgrade.

To mitigate the impact of future events directly to the park, maintenance activities are routinely undertaken on the playground and gross pollutant trap (GPT). The playground is scheduled for upgrade as part of the 2026/27 Capital Works program, with the scope including replacement of the wood chips with rubber softfall to reduce debris-related blockages in the drainage system.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Pilar Lorenzo moves the item, seconded by Michael Carney.

For Motion: Unanimous

27 August 2025

FMACC0825(1) Item 4 ; FLOODING NEAR NORTHCOTE STREET MARRICKVILLE

SUMMARY

Residents have experienced flooding in Northcote Street and Malakoff Street on several occasions since February 2022, affecting several properties and flooding vehicles parked in the street. Following initial consultation with residents in 2022, stormwater upgrade works were planned and completed in November 2024 at a cost of approximately $180,000.00 to increase drainage capacity in Northcote Street, which has improved the capture of stormwater within the street and reduced the length of time that flood waters remain in the street. Further works within Carew Lane and Malakoff Street are included in the draft FY26 budget in the amount of $240,000. Despite the completed works having improved the drainage system in Northcote Street, the capacity of the stormwater channel running between Northcote Street and Malakoff Street remains a constraint on the system and impacts on the effectiveness of the above works. The Marrickville Valley Flood Risk Management Plan includes a proposal to divert and upgrade the existing stormwater pipelines within Jarvie Park and Petersham Road to further mitigate flood risk in Northcote Street at an estimated cost of $800,000.00 Funding has been included in the draft FY26 budget for feasibility assessment of a more targeted pipeline diversion within Jarvie Park, which could potentially be delivered at a lower cost. The results of this investigation would be presented to Council ahead of budget considerations for FY27 and beyond.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

DISCUSSION

Tim Harnett raised concern that focus is on the existing infrastructure of the larger pipes to secure more capacity in a patchwork scenario rather than considering larger infrastructure struggle to support the flow of water. David Paton comments that Sydney Water has a large culvert which runs down Malakoff Street, which is what Council is looking to tap into that has extra capacity to relieve the flow of water through the main channel along Northcote Street there is potential to make a significant difference.

This is the typical process for flood mitigation within an urbanised catchment where opportunities for wholescale upgrade are limited. There are a number of trunk drainage systems that run across the LGA which are at capacity, and council works to utilises them as best possible to allow to get water into them and operating as best possible, as such there is a chance of spare capacity Council can channel into to achieve an outcome. A report was provided to the committee in February regarding Council's overall flood management process, which will be recirculated to committee members.

Clr Howard raised resident concerns regarding Councils lack of maintaining and removing of the vegetation thought to be causing the flooding, however notes it would be the overall capacity of the part of the network and the lack of capacity as once the channel is full there is no where for the water to go, which is the purpose of trying to create an additional connection to the Malakoff Street culvert.

Clr Howard enquired how the smaller $240,000 proposal in Jarvie Park compares to the larger $800,000 option within the Marrickville Valley Flood Risk Management Plan and which provides a greater benefit. James Ogg noted that the Flood Risk Management Report effectively combined two improvements into one option with the total estimate of $800,000. If able to do both option, there will be greater benefits, however based on current calculations, approximately 60% of the benefit can be achieved just by doing the diversion. The smaller cost diversion also has less site constraints impacting delivery.

27 August 2025

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

Mat Howard moves the item, seconded by Tim Harnett.

For Motion: Unanimous

FMACC0825(1) Item 5 ; PUBLIC FORUM TO THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUMMARY

The Inner West Flood Management Advisory Committee was first established in 2017 in accordance with the Floodplain Development Manual (2005). The committee is advisory in nature and does not have or exercise any formal powers of Council. The committee is established by Council and reports its recommendations to Council via a report and publication of its minutes. Any resulting actions ultimately require the approval of Council. This report reviews the purpose of the Flood Management Advisory Committee, compares the operation and procedures of the Local Traffic Committee and makes suggestions for implementation of a public forum for the Flood Management Advisory Committee, ahead of formal recommendations at a later meeting.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

1. That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

2. That a revised Terms of Reference including details of the Public Forum is provided to the Flood Management Advisory Committee in November following a review by Council's Governance team.

DISCUSSION

Tim Harnett queried whether this proposal allowed people to canvas the committee from a purely individual perspective on an issue. The discussion clarified that the proposed public forum is to be limited to items within the published agenda only. The agenda will include reports on specific locations requested by the Flood Management Advisory Committee as well as the outcomes of any significant public engagement during a Flood Study, Flood Risk Management Plan or flood mitigation design. As well as regular engagement with Council officers in this process, the intention is to provide further opportunity for the community to speak directly to the Committee if concerns remain unresolved. Noting that the committee is advisory in function only, with any formal decision requiring the approval of Council, members of the public are also able to register to speak to the Council.

Clr Howard notes this proposal ensures that people are only able to speak to items that are on the agenda to reduce the risk of deviating Council's attention from the requirements and objectives are under the Flood Risk Management Frameworks. Like the Local Traffic Committee Public Forum and the Ordinary Meeting of Council, the Public Forum operates as an opportunity for the members of the public make comment to specific items of the agenda for an allotted period within the meeting, after which the remainder of the meeting happens without further submissions. This provides the public opportunity to make an oral submission such the public can be assured that the advisory committee is aware of the views of the wider community.

Matthew Murphy would like to confirm whether the proposal allows for members of the public to observe the rest of the meeting in a muted scenario or are only permitted to join the meeting for the purpose of their presentation and drop off once the meeting item has been dealt with. Matthew Murphy notes he has no objection for members of the public be permitted access observe the meetings.

Council Officers will determine if any formal changes need to be made to the Terms of Reference and advise the committee at its next meeting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

1. That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

2. That a revised Terms of Reference including details of the Public Forum is provided to the Flood Management Advisory Committee in November following a review by Council's Governance team.

Matthew Murphy moves item, seconded by Tim Harnett.

For Motion: Unanimous

7. General Business

Matthew Murphy requested that the meetings be limited to an hour, recognising the time commitment requested of community members within regular business hours. Council Officers noted that efforts would be made to preserve brevity of a meeting where possible, however at some times during the year a longer meeting may be required in order to fully participate in the review or guidance of a Flood Study, Flood Risk Management Plan or Flood Mitigation Process. At such meetings, the meeting convenor and the Chair will review the number of report items to ensure that Committee members time is respected.

Matthew Murphy sought clarification on Agenda Item 2, asking whether the Access Local Democracy Group members, is required to be approved by the full Council. Clr Howard clarified that the resolution and the amended Terms of Reference are such that the member representing the Access Local Democracy Group is selected by Democracy Group, similar to how the voting member representing NSW SES is nominated by NSW SES.

Local Flooding Concerns

Michael Carney raises concerns about increased flooding in Illawarra Road between Hill Street, Thornley Street and Cahill Place. Water levels are encroaching further up Hill Street, and issues may be due to an old rain guard which may possibly be blocked and the new pedestrian crossing which is causing water to dam. A report will be provided to the next Committee meeting.

Clr Howard advises residents from community have raised concerns about flooding incidents at the corner of Ewart Street and Osgood Avenue and requesting for more information at the next council meeting about these issues at this location. James Ogg noted that Council's Engineers are aware of the issues noted at this location and a report will be provided to the next Committee meeting.

Meeting Closed 2:51 pm

Item No: C0925(1) Item 9

Subject: LOCAL TRANSPORT FORUM MEETINGS - 18 AUGUST 2025 AND 1 SEPTEMBER 2025

Prepared By: Manod Wickramasinghe - Traffic and Transport Planning Manager

Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and adopt the recommendations of the Local Transport Forum meeting held on 18 August 2025 and the Extraordinary Local Transport Forum meeting held on 1 September 2025.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State Government has issued a new authorisation and delegation to councils with regard to the management of roads through the Local Traffic Committee process. As part of these changes, the Local Traffic Committee has been renamed Local Transport Forum.

The four formal members of Local Traffic Committee remain the same for the Local Transport Forum, however, there is no longer a voting process. Local Transport Forum members can make comment on proposals and Transport for NSW retain powers to reverse Council decisions in the event of significant concern.

The first Local Transport Forum meeting was held at the Ashfield Service Centre and has provided comments and recommendations for Council's consideration and adoption.

The September Extraordinary Local Transport Forum was held online via Microsoft Teams to facilitate timely consideration of the Old Canterbury Road, Edward Street and Weston Street signalised intersection design which provides an on-road crossing point for the Greenway. Comments and recommendations have been made for Council's consideration and adoption.

DISCUSSION

From 1 August 2025, the State Government has issued a new authorisation and delegation to councils with regard to the management of unclassified roads through the Local Traffic Committee process. As part of these changes, the Local Traffic Committee (LTC) has been renamed Local Transport Forum (LTF).

The four formal members of the Local Transport Forum remain consistent with the Local Traffic Committee and are representatives from each of Council, Transport, NSW Police, and the relevant State Member(s) of Parliament.

There will be no voting at the Local Transport Forum but Forum members will be able to comment on proposals.

As part of the changes, Council's may sub-delegate approval functions related to the management of traffic and parking.

A Statement of Concern (SoC) would be utilised by TfNSW if there is a disagreement in the management of local streets. This replaces the Regional Traffic Committee escalation process. TfNSW retain powers to reverse Council decisions in the event of significant concern.

The August 2025 meeting of the Local Transport Forum was held at the Ashfield Service Centre.

The September Extraordinary Local Transport Forum was held online via Microsoft Teams. This meeting was held to facilitate timely consideration of the Old Canterbury Road, Edward Street and Weston Street signalised intersection design which provides an on-road crossing point for the Greenway.

The minutes of the meetings are shown in *Attachment 1 and Attachment 2.*

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report. Projects proposed for implementation are funded within existing budget allocations.

ITEMS BY WARD – AUGUST

Ward	Item
Baludarri (Balmain)	Intersection of Montague Street and Theodore Street, Balmain - Proposed Kerb Extensions
Gulgadya (Leichhardt)	Norton Street, Leichhardt - Temporary Road Closure - Italian Festa
Midjuburi (Marrickville)	Hill Street at Beauchamp Street, Marrickville - Proposed raised pedestrian crossing
	Fernbank Lane, Marrickville - Proposed installation of 'No Parking' restrictions
Djarrawunang (Ashfield)	Junction Road (at Moonbie Street), Summer Hill - Proposed upgrade to a new raised pedestrian crossing
	Prospect Road (between Norton Street and Smith Street), Summer Hill- Proposed new raised pedestrian crossing
Damun (Stanmore)	Shaw Street, Petersham - Pedestrian crossing investigation
	Wemyss and Harrington Streets, Enmore - Proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions
	Edgeware Lane, Enmore - Proposed installation of 'No Parking' zone in Edgeware Lane between Enmore Lane and Cross Lane
All Wards	Nil.

ITEMS BY WARD – SEPTEMBER (EXTRAORDINARY)

Ward	Item
Baludarri (Balmain)	Nil.
Gulgadya (Leichhardt)	Nil.
Midjuburi (Marrickville)	Nil.
Djarrawunang (Ashfield)	Traffic Signals at Old Canterbury Road (MR652) and Edward Street, Summer Hill – Detailed Design Plans TCS4799
Damun (Stanmore)	Nil.
All Wards	Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Local Transport Forum minutes - 18 August 2025
2.⇩ Extraordinary Local Transport Forum minutes - 01 September 2025

Local Transport Forum Meeting

18 August 2025

Minutes of Meeting held on 18 August 2025

Meeting commenced at 11:00 AM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY BY CHAIRPERSON

I acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora nation on whose country we are meeting today, and their elders past and present.

FORUM REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Liz Atkins	Councillor – Damun - Stanmore Ward (Chair)
Bill Holliday	Representative for Kobi Shetty MP, Member for Balmain
Graeme McKay	Representative for Jo Haylen MP, Member for Summer Hill
Miriama Tamata	Representative for Jenny Leong MP, Member for Newtown
Vinoth Srinivasan	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
Anthony Mifsud	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
Van Le	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
Colin Jones	Representative for Inner West Bicycle Coalition (IWBC)
Julius Villanueva	Representative for Transit Systems
Manod Wickramasinghe	IWC's Traffic and Transport Planning Manager
Sunny Jo	IWC's Coordinator Traffic Engineering Services (North)
George Tsaprounis	IWC's Coordinator Traffic Engineering Services (South)
Christy Li	IWC's Business Administration Officer

VISITORS

Vesna Kerr	Public Speaker – Item 9
Murray Kerr	Public Speaker – Item 9

APOLOGIES:

Victor Macri	Councillor –Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward (Chair)
Todd Leach	NSW Police – Inner West Police Area Command
Ben Simpson	NSW Police – Inner West Police Area Command

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS:

Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Local Transport Forum held on Monday, 21 July 2025 be confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION OF MINUTES

Nil.

LTF0825(1) Item 1 Intersection of Montague Street and Theodore Street, Balmain - Proposed Kerb Extensions (Baludarri-Balmain Ward/Balmain Electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

In October 2023, Council adopted the Balmain Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) Study for the Balmain precinct. One of the recommendations from the study was to further investigate the provision of kerb extensions at the intersection of Montague Street and Theodore Street, Balmain. The proposed kerb extensions have safety benefits including improved sight distances for pedestrians crossing Theodore Street, improved sight distances for drivers existing Theodore Street and opportunities for landscaping.

Officers Recommendation:

That the proposed kerb extensions on Montague Street at Theodore Street, Balmain be supported in principle and listed for consideration in Council's Capital Works Program.

DISCUSSION:

No advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the proposed kerb extensions on Montague Street at Theodore Street, Balmain be supported in principle and listed for consideration in Council's Capital Works Program.

LTF0825(1) Item 2 Norton Street, Leichhardt - Temporary Road Closure - Italian Festa (Gulgadya - Leichhardt Electorate/Leichhardt PAC)

SUMMARY

Annual Italian Festa is recurring a family and community event that will be held on 26 October 2025 on Norton Street between Marion Street and William Street and surrounding streets.

The attached Traffic Management Plan (TMP) has been prepared to provide the location of road closures and proposed traffic management strategies, stallholder access plan, the event clearway zone, emergency vehicle access plan, bus stop closures/available public transport, available public car parks and resident/local business access.

Officers Recommendation:

That that the road closure application for the 'Norton Street Italian Festa 2025' on Sunday, 26 October 2025 be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. The road closures be restricted to occur on Sunday, 26 October 2025 at the following locations in Leichhardt between 3:00am and 9:00pm:
    a) Norton Street between William Street and Marion Street
    b) Allen Street between Derbyshire Road and Norton Street
    c) Arthur Street between Short Street and Allen Street

d) Short Street between Derbyshire Road and Norton Street
e) Wetherill Street between Derbyshire Road and Norton Street

2. The road closures be restricted to occur on Sunday, 26 October 2025 at the following locations in Leichhardt between 6:00am and 9:00pm:
   a) Allen Street between James Street and Norton Street
   b) Macauley Street between Cromwell Street and Norton Street
   c) Carlisle Street between Cromwell Street and Norton Street
   d) Marlborough Street between Cromwell Street and Norton Street
   e) Lou Street between Marion Street and Allen Street
   f) Derbyshire Road at William Street

3. Approval from Transport for NSW for the TMP and TGS and to install a 'Special Event Clearway' restriction in Norton Street be obtained prior to the event;

4. Wetherill Street (Norton Street to Balmain Road) and Macauley Street (Cromwell Street to Norton Street) function as two-way roads when Norton Street is closed to provide access for residents etc;

5. In case of an emergency, vehicle access entry/exit point will be available at Allen Street, Macauley Street, Carlisle Street and Marlborough Street;

6. Approval to conduct a public assembly be obtained from the NSW Police prior to the event. A copy of the NSW Police approval must be forwarded to Council's Traffic Section prior to the event;

7. All affected residents and businesses, including the NSW Police Local Area Commander, Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Ambulance Services and Transit Systems (Leichhardt Bus Depot) be notified in writing, by the organiser, of the proposed temporary road closure at least 2 weeks in advance of the closure with the applicant making reasonable provision for stakeholders; and

8. Temporary 'Bus Zones' be installed to accommodate two buses on both sides of William Street between Norton Street and James Street.

DISCUSSION:

No advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That that the road closure application for the 'Norton Street Italian Festa 2025' on Sunday, 26 October 2025 be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. **The road closures be restricted to occur on Sunday, 26 October 2025 at the following locations in Leichhardt between 3:00am and 9:00pm:**
   a) **Norton Street between William Street and Marion Street**
   b) **Allen Street between Derbyshire Road and Norton Street**
   c) **Arthur Street between Short Street and Allen Street**
   d) **Short Street between Derbyshire Road and Norton Street**
   e) **Wetherill Street between Derbyshire Road and Norton Street**

2. **The road closures be restricted to occur on Sunday, 26 October 2025 at the following locations in Leichhardt between 6:00am and 9:00pm:**
   a) **Allen Street between James Street and Norton Street**
   b) **Macauley Street between Cromwell Street and Norton Street**

c) **Carlisle Street between Cromwell Street and Norton Street**
d) **Marlborough Street between Cromwell Street and Norton Street**
e) **Lou Street between Marion Street and Allen Street**
f) **Derbyshire Road at William Street**

3. **Approval from Transport for NSW for the TMP and TGS and to install a 'Special Event Clearway' restriction in Norton Street be obtained prior to the event;**

4. **Wetherill Street (Norton Street to Balmain Road) and Macauley Street (Cromwell Street to Norton Street) function as two-way roads when Norton Street is closed to provide access for residents etc;**

5. **In case of an emergency, vehicle access entry/exit point will be available at Allen Street, Macauley Street, Carlisle Street and Marlborough Street;**

6. **Approval to conduct a public assembly be obtained from the NSW Police prior to the event. A copy of the NSW Police approval must be forwarded to Council's Traffic Section prior to the event;**

7. **All affected residents and businesses, including the NSW Police Local Area Commander, Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Ambulance Services and Transit Systems (Leichhardt Bus Depot) be notified in writing, by the organiser, of the proposed temporary road closure at least 2 weeks in advance of the closure with the applicant making reasonable provision for stakeholders; and**

8. **Temporary 'Bus Zones' be installed to accommodate two buses on both sides of William Street between Norton Street and James Street.**

LTF0825(1) Item 3 Junction Road (at Moonbie Street), Summer Hill - Proposed upgrade to new raised pedestrian crossing (Djarrawunang-Ashfield Ward/Summer Hill Electorate/Burwood PAC)

SUMMARY

Council is planning to improve safety for pedestrians in Junction Road at Moonbie Street, Summer Hill by converting the existing road level pedestrian crossing to a raised pedestrian crossing together with landscaped kerb blister islands and associated drainage works. The proposal aims to improve pedestrian and motorist safety by better defining safe pedestrian crossing points, improving sight distances, reducing traffic speeds and conflicts with traffic movements at this location.

Officers Recommendation:

That the detailed design plan (10343) to up-grade an existing road level crossing to a proposed new raised pedestrian crossing, with associated kerb blister islands, drainage works, signs and line marking in Junction Road at Moonbie Street, Summer Hill (as shown in *Attachment 1*) be approved.

DISCUSSION:

No advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the detailed design plan (10343) to up-grade an existing road level crossing to a proposed new raised pedestrian crossing, with associated kerb blister islands, drainage works, signs and line marking in Junction Road at Moonbie Street, Summer Hill (as shown in *Attachment 1*) be approved.

LTF0825(1) Item 4 Prospect Road (between Norton Street and Smith Street), Summer Hill- Proposed new raised pedestrian crossing. (Djarrawunang-Ashfield Ward/Summer Hill Electorate/Burwood PAC)

SUMMARY

Council is planning to improve safety for pedestrians in Prospect Road between Norton and Smith Streets, Summer Hill by converting the existing mid-block median island (refuge) to a raised pedestrian crossing together with landscaped kerb blister islands and minor drainage works. The proposal aims to improve pedestrian and motorist safety by better defining safe pedestrian crossing points, improving sight distances, reducing traffic speeds and conflicts with traffic movements at this location.

Officers Recommendation:

That the detailed design plan (10348) to construct a new raised pedestrian crossing in place of an existing pedestrian refuge, with associated kerb blister islands, drainage works, signs and line marking in Prospect Road (between Norton Street and Smith Street, Summer Hill (as shown in Attachment 1) be approved.

DISCUSSION:

The Representative for the Member for Summer Hill questioned if the proposed location for the pedestrian crossing was suitable and if other locations were considered.

Council Officers advised that the proposed location of the pedestrian crossing is on the pedestrian desire line and that if the crossing were to be relocated, it is less likely people would use the facility. Council Officers noted that the location also minimises the loss of parking as there are already 'No Stopping' zones in existence. Council Officers also noted that turning movements for relevant larger vehicles were reviewed and can make the turns safely. Council Officers stated that there was a fatality at this intersection a few years ago so the proposed upgrade gives priority and improves visibility to pedestrians using that crossing point.

No further advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the detailed design plan (10348) to construct a new raised pedestrian crossing in place of an existing pedestrian refuge, with associated kerb blister islands, drainage works, signs and line marking in Prospect Road (between Norton Street and Smith Street, Summer Hill (as shown in Attachment 1) be approved.

LTF0825(1) Item 5 Hill Street at Beauchamp Street, Marrickville - Proposed raised pedestrian crossing (Midjuburi-Marrickville Ward/Inner West PAC/Summer Hill Electorate)

SUMMARY

This report outlines the pedestrian crossing investigation completed at the intersection of Hill Street and Beauchamp Street, Marrickville. The pedestrian and vehicle volumes assessed met the volume warrants of the Inner West Council's Pedestrian Crossing Warrant Policy. The pedestrian counts also revealed high levels of children crossing Hill Street.

Accordingly, a pedestrian crossing is proposed across Hill Street, just east of Beauchamp Street, Marrickville. A concept design has been prepared, and it is recommended that a detailed design be prepared and brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That a raised pedestrian crossing on Hill Street, just east of Beauchamp Street, Marrickville, as per plan no. 10359, be supported in-principle, and included for consideration in Council's Capital Works program subject to community consultation.

2. That the detailed design for the proposed raised pedestrian crossing on Hill Street, just east of Beauchamp Street, Marrickville be brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.

DISCUSSION:

No advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That a raised pedestrian crossing on Hill Street, just east of Beauchamp Street, Marrickville, as per plan no. 10359, be supported in-principle, and included for consideration in Council's Capital Works program subject to community consultation.**

2. **That the detailed design for the proposed raised pedestrian crossing on Hill Street, just east of Beauchamp Street, Marrickville be brought back to the Traffic Committee for consideration.**

LTF0825(1) Item 6 Shaw Street, Petersham - Pedestrian crossing investigation (Damun-Stanmore Ward/Newtown Electorate/Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

This report outlines an investigation completed to assess consideration of a pedestrian crossing treatment on Shaw Street, Petersham. It includes traffic and pedestrian counts, an assessment of crashes, and design options. A potential pedestrian crossing in across Shaw Street is expected to consolidate pedestrian movements and improve safety in the street. A pedestrian crossing is estimated to cost approximately $150,000 to construct.

Officers Recommendation:

That a raised pedestrian crossing on Shaw Street, just north of Oxford Street, Petersham, as per plan no.10344, be supported in-principle, and included in Council's Capital Works program subject to community consultation and support.

DISCUSSION:

No advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That a raised pedestrian crossing on Shaw Street, just north of Oxford Street, Petersham, as per plan no.10344, be supported in-principle, and included in Council's Capital Works program subject to community consultation and support.

LTF0825(1) Item 7 Fernbank Lane, Marrickville - Proposed installation of 'No Parking' restrictions (Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward / Summer Hill Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

Council has received concerns that vehicles are parking in a manner that limits the ability of residents accessing their driveways. In order to alleviate this issue, it is proposed to signpost an additional section of 'No Parking' restrictions along the western side of Fernbank Lane, Marrickville.

Officers Recommendation:

That installation of full-time 'No Parking' restrictions on the western side of Fernbank Lane, Marrickville be approved, in order to improve vehicular access to off-street parking spaces.

DISCUSSION:

No advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That installation of full-time 'No Parking' restrictions on the western side of Fernbank Lane, Marrickville be approved, in order to improve vehicular access to off-street parking spaces.

LTF0825(1) Item 8 Wemyss and Harrington Streets, Enmore - Proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions (Damun - Stanmore Ward/Inner West PAC/Newtown Electorate)

SUMMARY

This report outlines a 'No Stopping' restriction proposal to improve parking compliance at the intersection of Wemyss and Harrington Streets, Enmore. The intersection has ongoing issues with parking compliance. The proposal will improve parking compliance and ensure vehicles park away from the intersection. Accordingly, it is recommended to install 'No Stopping' restrictions 10m from each intersecting road.

Officers Recommendation:

1. That proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions on both sides of Harrington Street, extending 6 metres from the intersection of Wemyss Street (both east and west) be approved subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by

TfNSW.

2. That proposed 'No Stopping' restriction on the eastern side of Wemyss Street, 6 metres, north of Harrington Street be approved, subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by TfNSW.

3. That 'No Stopping' restriction on the western side Wemyss Street, 10 metres north of Harrington Street be approved.

4. That 'No Stopping' restriction on the western side Wemyss Street, 10 metres south of Harrington Street be approved.

5. That 'No Stopping' restriction on the eastern side of Wemyss Street, 10 metres south of Harrington Street be approved.

DISCUSSION:

No advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **That proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions on both sides of Harrington Street, extending 6 metres from the intersection of Wemyss Street (both east and west) be approved subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by TfNSW.**

2. **That proposed 'No Stopping' restriction on the eastern side of Wemyss Street, 6 metres, north of Harrington Street be approved, subject to the completion risk assessment by Council and approval of a risk assessment by TfNSW.**

3. **That 'No Stopping' restriction on the western side Wemyss Street, 10 metres north of Harrington Street be approved.**

4. **That 'No Stopping' restriction on the western side Wemyss Street, 10 metres south of Harrington Street be approved.**

5. **That 'No Stopping' restriction on the eastern side of Wemyss Street, 10 metres south of Harrington Street be approved.**

LTF0825(1) Item 9 Edgeware Lane, Enmore - Proposed installation of 'No Parking' zone in Edgeware Lane between Enmore Lane and Cross Lane (Damun - Stanmore Ward / Newtown Electorate / Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

This report outlines a 'No Parking' restriction proposal to improve residential access to Edgeware Lane between Enmore Lane and Cross Lane, Enmore. This proposal will improve parking compliance and vehicle manoeuvrability within the laneway. Community consultation revealed strong support for the proposal with one response being opposed due to a lack of on-street parking in adjacent streets. Accordingly, it is recommended that the proposed 'No Parking' signs on the eastern side of Edgeware Lane between Cross Lane and Enmore Lane be approved.

Officers Recommendation:

That the 'No Parking' zone on the eastern side of Edgeware Lane between 31-33 Metropolitan Road, Enmore be approved.

DISCUSSION:

Public speakers Vesna Kerr and Murray Kerr entered the meeting at 11.02am.

Mr and Mrs Kerr supported the recommendation to install a 'No Parking' zone on the eastern side of Edgeware Lane. Mr Kerr responded to the objection submitted to the proposal Council received. It was noted that their driveway is located directly opposite to Mr and Mrs Kerrs property, resulting in frequent obstruction and restricted access to their property. Mr Kerr requested that Council take his circumstances into account when considering the objection received.

The Representative for the Inner West Bicycle Coalition questioned if there was a reason for proposing a 'No Parking' zone instead of a 'No Stopping' zone. Council Officers advised that 'No Parking' can be used for drop off/picks up, which is more appropriate for people using the laneway and would have minimal impact to accessibility, whereas 'No Stopping' zones are reserved to address matters related to safety such as at an intersection or a pedestrian crossing and are more restrictive as compared to 'No Parking'.

No further advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the 'No Parking' zone on the eastern side of Edgeware Lane between 31-33 Metropolitan Road, Enmore be approved.

General Business

Item 10 – Changes to the Local Traffic Committee to the Local Transport Forum

A Representative for Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Anthony Mifsud came to provide the forum members with a presentation of the changes to the Local Transport Forum.

It was noted that

- The 2025 Instrument replaces the 2011 Delegation to Councils and the 2023 Temporary Delegation
- Councils have more options when regulating traffic and using prescribed traffic control devices
- Councils can simplify their practices if (and when) they choose
- 'Local Traffic Committee' is replaced by 'Local Transport Forum'

Key changes from the 2011 Delegation to Councils

- Local Traffic Committee is renamed Local Transport Forum (LTF) to better reflect its purpose/function
- In many cases, councils can manage their network (unclassified roads and all regional roads), including for events, without prior LTF review
- Councils can sub-delegate functions to staff
- Traffic Management Plans are no longer required at LTF
- Regional Traffic Committee has been discontinued
- Restrictions relating to 'nominated' train stations have been discontinued

- Simplified rules for use of portable traffic control lights and roadwork speed limit signs
- Pre-approvals or advance expressions of support are not required from Council in order to refer to LTF

Consultation and referral of proposals

- Generally, Council may decide which proposals to send to the LTF for advice or coordination
- Prior referral to the LTF is only required where:
  - regulation of traffic exceeds 6 months in duration
  - public transport is negatively affected for more than 24 hours
- For proposals affecting buses, consultation with bus operators is required
- Transport and NSW Police must be given 7 days' notice of on-road public events

Local Transport Forum (LTF)

- Core membership is unchanged: Council, Transport, Police, local Member(s) of NSW Parliament
- Bus operators may be given a standing invite or invited where relevant proposals are on agenda
- Council has discretion to invite any others as observers or participants
- There is no voting and no requirement for unanimity

Resolving disagreement

- Councils are responsible for decisions on their network
- Transport may issue a 'Statement of Concern' following discussion at the LTF; this will document risks and make time (up to 14 days) for further discussion
- In rare cases, serious disagreements can be managed under existing legislation

Item 11 – Update on the safety review on College Street, Balmain to determine whether a 'Bicycles excepted' sign could be implemented into the One-way proposal.

The Representative for the Member for Balmain requested an update on the safety review on College Street, Balmain to determine whether a 'Bicycles excepted' sign could be implemented into the One-way proposal. Council Officers advised that the minutes are waiting for Council decision at the upcoming Council meeting, and that should Council adopt the recommendations, Council Officers will be able to undertake the safety review.

Item 12 – Lighting at pedestrian crossings

The Representative for the Inner West Bicycle Coalition questioned if there were any mandates for minimum lighting at pedestrian crossings as he noticed that at night, the visibility of pedestrians using the crossings are diminished especially when pedestrians wear darker coloured clothing. Council Officers advised that there are requirements for pedestrian crossing to be floodlit on each approach and that Council usually review this when upgrading the pedestrian crossing. Council Officers requested that the Representative for the Inner West Bicycle Coalition forward the locations of the pedestrian crossings of concern for Council to investigate.

Item 13 – Review of 'Bicycles Excepted' signs on 'One Way' streets in the LGA.

The Representative for the Member of Balmain requested that a review of 'Bicycle Excepted' signs on 'One Way' streets in the LGA be undertaken. Council Officers requested the

Representative for the Member of Balmain to send through a list of streets he would like Council to review for potential 'Bicycles Excepted' signs.

Meeting closed at 12.19pm.

CHAIRPERSON

Councillor Liz Atkins

Item 9

Extraordinary Local Transport Forum Meeting

1 September 2025

Minutes of Meeting held on 1 September 2025

Meeting commenced at 11:02 AM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY BY CHAIRPERSON

I acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora nation on whose country we are meeting today, and their elders past and present.

FORUM REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Victor Macri	Councillor –Midjuburi - Marrickville Ward (Chair)
Vinoth Srinivasan	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
Van Le	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)
Bushara Gildies	Representative for Transdev John Holland
Colin Jones	Representative for Inner West Bicycle Coalition (IWBC)
Manod Wickramasinghe	IWC's Traffic and Transport Planning Manager
George Tsaprounis	IWC's Coordinator Traffic Engineering Services (South)
Jason Scoufis	IWC's Coordinator Traffic Investigations & Road Safety
Christy Li	IWC's Business Administration Officer

VISITORS

Nil.	Nil.

APOLOGIES:

Liz Atkins	Councillor – Damun - Stanmore Ward
Todd Leach	NSW Police – Inner West Police Area Command
Miriama Tamata	Representative for Jenny Leong MP, Member for Newtown

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS:

Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Local Transport Forum held on Monday, 18 August 2025 be confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION OF MINUTES

Nil.

Attachment 2

LTF0925(1) Item 1 Traffic Signals at Old Canterbury Road (MR652) and Edward Street, Summer Hill – Detailed Design Plans TCS4799 (Djarrawunang – Ashfield Ward / Summer Hill Electorate / Ashfield & Inner West PAC)

SUMMARY

Detailed design plans have been prepared for the signalisation of Old Canterbury Road, Weston Street and Edward Street, Dulwich Hill. Consultation was undertaken with owners and occupiers of properties regarding the options during the concept design stage in 2018 when it was recommended that detail design of the traffic signals and intersection of Old Canterbury Road, Weston Street and Edward Street proceed based on a road closure to traffic at Weston Street. Since that time Council has developed a signal design and engaged key stakeholders. It is recommended that the detail design plans are approved for construction.

Officers Recommendation:

That the detailed design plans of the proposed traffic control signal installation and associated signs and line markings at the intersection of Old Canterbury Road and Edward Street, Dulwich Hill (as per plan No.DS2016/001713-TCS4799 and Traffic Control Devices - Plan 211583-TTW-11-DR-CI-07019-7) be endorsed, subject to Transport for NSW approval of the TCS design and changes to Old Canterbury Road (State Road).

DISCUSSION:

The Representative for Inner West Bicycle Coalition (IWBC) noted that the report did not have information regarding pedestrian and cyclist traffic coming from the Greenway to the intersection of Old Canterbury Road and Edward Street, Dulwich Hill. The Representative for Inner West Bicycle Coalition requested details on the phasing of the traffic lights, as well as the width of the crossing, and the details on the bicycle lanterns and bicycle loops.

The Representative for Transport for NSW noted that there are currently no traffic signals at the intersection of Old Canterbury Road and Edward Street, so there is no data available on how many pedestrians are crossing at this intersection. It was noted that the Council are proposing the closure of Weston Street to reduce the number of vehicles turning at the intersection to improve the pedestrian and cyclist safety along the on-road section of the Greenway. The Representative for Transport for NSW noted that these are temporary arrangements to allow for the connection of the Greenway and that there are plans for the Greenway to continue through future construction of a tunnel under Old Canterbury Road. Council Officers noted that Council has received grant funding to proceed with the tunnel, and it will be delivered as a separate component of the Greenway. The Representative for Transport for NSW noted that there will be bicycle lanterns on the eastern leg of the new signalised intersection, which will allow cyclists to access the Greenway. It was also noted that the light phases will give priority to pedestrians and bicycles at the beginning of the phase, then traffic from Edward Street will be allowed to turn onto Old Canterbury Road. The Representative for Transport for NSW advised that the intersection will be monitored once the traffic signals are installed to ensure the timing of the signals is suitable.

No further advice provided by LTF members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the detailed design plans of the proposed traffic control signal installation and associated signs and line markings at the intersection of Old Canterbury Road and

Edward Street, Dulwich Hill (as per plan No.DS2016/001713-TCS4799 and Traffic Control Devices - Plan 211583-TTW-11-DR-CI-07019-7) be endorsed, subject to Transport for NSW approval of the TCS design and changes to Old Canterbury Road (State Road).

General Business:

Item 2: Request for angled parking in Dickson Street, Newtown.

The Chairperson raised concerns from residents regarding the lack of parking in Dickson Street, Newtown, and the surrounding streets and requested a review of angled parking on Dickson Street. Council Officers advised that a report regarding the Newtown, Enmore Parking Study is being submitted to the September LTF for advice and that in the report, one of the recommendations is to implement 90-degree angled parking in Dickson Street, Newtown subject to consultation.

Item 3: Request for 'No Parking' in Homewood Lane, Newtown.

The Chairperson raised concerns from a resident regarding difficulty accessing their property due to cars parked across their driveway in Homewood Lane, Newtown. Council Officers advised that they will investigate the matter and consult the neighbouring properties regarding a proposed 'No Parking' zone near the affected property.

Item 4: Parking Studies for Summer Hill

The Representative for the Inner West Bicycle Coalition questioned if there were plans to review parking in Summer Hill and noted there was a lack of high-turnover parking for residents and customers wishing to stop by the post office or run errands. Council Officers advised that as the shopping centre in Summer Hill is moderately sized, the current one-hour parking restrictions would be more suitable compared to half-hour parking, as people often make multiple stops within the shopping centre.

Meeting closed at 11.23 am.

CHAIRPERSON

Councillor Victor Macri

Item No: C0925(1) Item 10

Subject: UPDATE ON INNER WEST E-BIKE STRATEGY AND POLICY AND SHARED E-BIKE PARKING BAYS

Prepared By: Manod Wickramasinghe - Traffic and Transport Planning Manager

Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council write to the Federal Government encouraging support for the *Road Vehicle Standards Amendment (Safer EBikes) Bill 2025*, tabled in Federal Parliament on 1 September, which aims to address the import of and access to high powered electric bikes in Australia.**

2. **That Council continue to work with Shared bike operations on creation of e-micro-mobility hubs for the parking of e-bikes and other e-micro-mobility device**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2025 Council resolved to prepare an Inner West e-Bike Strategy and Policy and conduct a shared e-bike provider roundtable. This report provides an update on this work.

The Inner West e-Bike Strategy needs to capture the wide range of issues around shared e-bikes and privately owned or rented e-bikes including those used by workers making food and grocery deliveries. Currently work is underway by both the State and Federal Governments, as well as work by Council staff on a draft Inner West E-bike Strategy & Policy. The State Government is working with councils throughout NSW to develop new regulations for shared e-bikes, while the Federal Government will soon consider a Bill that aims to address the range of non-compliant e-bikes currently imported into Australia. Such work is considered essential. Consequently, it is recommended that Council write to the Federal Government encouraging support for the Bill.

Several shared e-bike operators attended the Shifting Gears (mode shift) forum hosted by Council in May 2025 and staff continue to meet fortnightly with operators functioning in the Inner West. Once the State Government regulations for shared bikes are publicly released, a roundtable will be convened to discuss relevant management issues as outlined in the March resolution. This will include discussion on opportunities to provide e-micro-mobility hubs for the storage of e-bikes and other e-micro-mobility devices more broadly noting that work is progressing to identify initial locations to trial.

While the Inner West Cycling Strategy, endorsed by Council in 2023, includes priorities and actions that capture a range of cycling devices used in the Inner West, it is proposed that a future review and update of the Strategy could also respond to the Council resolution for a shared e-bike Strategy, by specifically including shared e-bikes in the Cycling Strategy.

BACKGROUND

Electric bikes, including shared electric bikes, provide a healthy affordable transport option and have become an increasingly popular transport choice for people throughout the Sydney metropolitan area. Electric bikes also form the backbone of the bicycle delivery service offered by businesses throughout the Inner West. Simultaneously, there is recognition at all levels of government about the need to manage the impacts of shared e-bikes and the increased use of non-compliant high-powered e-bikes.

In February 2025, the NSW Legislative Council released a report, *Use of e-scooters, e-bikes and related mobility options*, considering a wide range of factors related to e-mobility devices. The report acknowledges that the popularity of e-bikes and other electric mobility devices is moving fast, and makes 34 recommendations to address the wide range of issues identified.

NSW Government agencies have commenced work on many of the report's recommendations and Inner West Council is working with Transport for NSW to support initiatives around shared bikes. The Federal Government is responsible for the importation of electric bikes and, in July 2025 peak bodies for cycling and bicycle industries wrote to the Federal Government asking for better control of e-bike imports to address safety for riders and pedestrians, as well as fires resulting from sub-standard bikes and batteries.

At the Council meeting held on 19 August 2025, Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council conduct an audit of existing 'No Stopping' zones across the Inner West Local Government Area to identify and compile a list of locations that could be trialled as shared e-bike parking bays.*

2. *That Council prioritise locations that:*
   a) *Are in high traffic areas;*
   b) *Are situated on popular cycling and pedestrian routes; and*
   c) *Are near sites where shared bikes are frequently parked and/or problematic.*

3. *That Council provide a report to Council at the September 2025 meeting, outlining:*
   a) *A list of 'No Stopping' zones deemed suitable for conversion; and*
   b) *Estimated costs and potential funding options for implementing the conversions.*

4. *That Council provide an additional report to Council at the September 2025 meeting outlining progress on Motion C0325(1) Item 29 from the March 2025 meeting, including proposed delivery dates for the following:*
   a) *The shared bike roundtable with key local providers; and*
   b) *The development of the e-Bike Strategy and e-Bike Policy.*

DISCUSSION

Use of 'No Stopping' zones for parking of shared e-bikes

Council Staff have held discussions with the City of Sydney and Transport for NSW regarding opportunities to convert 'No Stopping' zones to parking for shared e-bikes.

These discussions indicate that while 'No Stopping' zones are primarily instituted where it is critical to maintain safety or traffic flow and opportunities may existing to reduce the length of some zones to permit the provision of other kerbside uses.

Choice of specific locations that could successfully be converted to shared e-bike parking is dependent on several factors, including:

- The ability to maintain suitable sight distance between all road users including pedestrians
- The ability to maintain sufficient manoeuvring space for vehicles including emergency service and waste collection vehicles.
- The ability to safely park and access the e-bikes;
- Demand for e-bikes;
- Willingness of operators to provide and service the specific location;
- Safety of servicing and maintenance for operators;
- The ability to geo-fence the location.

It is also considered essential that consideration of locations not be limited to shared e-bikes, rather it should look at overall e-micro-mobility, including devices such as e-scooters (should they be legalised by upcoming legislation).

The most appropriate locations for share e-micro-mobility parking (hubs) will be dependent on the State Government's legislation which will prescribe where and how, these vehicles can be used.

In order to ensure efficient placement and integration of e-micro-mobility hubs, it will be essential to consult with providers and to work within the constraints contained in the impending legislative changes.

Council will be engaging with share bike operators on identifying initial locations to trial for e-micro-mobility hubs. Identified locations will be considered and approved through the Local Transport Forum.

Opportunities to provide e-micro-mobility hubs more broadly, will be included in the proposed roundtable, once the new legislation is released. It is also suggested that consideration of e-micro-mobility hubs should be included in Council's future *e-Bike Strategy and Policy.*

E-bike Strategy and Policy

An e-Bike Strategy and Policy will need to capture the wide range of issues around and some of the points discussed below.

Shared e-bikes

Councils have no direct power over the provision, regulation or management of shared bikes and there is acknowledgement, by the NSW Government, of the need to better manage their impacts on the community and public spaces.

The Parliamentary Committee report released in February this year, recommends the NSW Government manage shared schemes in consultation with local councils to prioritise safety measures, device maintenance and service reliability. Council staff support the provision of a State-led scheme to eliminate duplication across councils and provide a better service for people using the bikes.

Transport for NSW has been working with councils and shared bike providers to address the issues raised by shared bikes and, in the coming months new regulations are expected to reform how these schemes operate in NSW. It is understood the new regulations will allow councils to respond more effectively to local conditions instead of the state-led approach as recommended by the Parliamentary Committee report. Staff in Council's Strategic Transport Planning Team are working with Transport for NSW to provide input about the needs of the Inner West. Inner West Council is participating in a software trial procured by Transport for NSW which gives statistical insights about trips made by people using shared bikes.

In addition, staff meet fortnightly with bike companies operating in the Inner West to identify and address problems proactively and also participate in a working group with other councils to share lessons and opportunities.

Once the proposed regulations for shared bikes are released, a roundtable with operators will be convened to consider the differing hardware and software used as well as coverage of operations, establishing designated parking zones and improvements in maintenance, cleanliness and helmet provision.

Non-compliant high-powered e-bikes

State Governments are responsible for regulating the use of e-bikes while the importation is controlled by the Federal Government. In 2021 changes made to the regulations for importing electric bikes caused an increased in the range of e-bikes available in Australia, resulting in confusion and complexity for regulation and enforcement by State Governments.

The *Road Vehicle Standards Amendment (Safer EBikes) Bill 2025* tabled in the Federal Parliament on 1 September 2025 aims to reverse these changes. The Bill is about making sure bikes imported into Australia are safe for use and reducing access to poor-quality equipment causing an increase in battery fires. It is recommended Council write to the Federal Government encouraging support for the Bill.

Additionally, the NSW Parliamentary Committee report released in February 2025 recognises that inconsistencies in legislation across different levels of government are creating challenges for both users and enforcement authorities. In its response to the inquiry, the NSW Government has acknowledged that effective regulation and policy settings are essential and, work is underway to review the NSW Road Rules and consider all safety, rider and community implications of the reforms underway.

Legalisation of e-scooters

Currently e-scooters are not permitted to be used in public places and Transport for NSW is progressing proposed regulatory reforms to legalise their use, for both shared schemes and privately owners. E-scooter trails are currently underway in locations around NSW to inform this work.

Following engagement with stakeholders commencing in 2019, including Inner West Council staff, in 2024 the NSW Government published draft settings for e-scooter use. These settings included proposals for helmets, speed restrictions and specified locations. Feedback received through this engagement, as well as submissions made to the Parliamentary Inquiry, will be considered as when making future decisions related to e-scooter regulations.

Battery fires

Lithium-ion batteries are a safety risk due to fires. Such batteries are used in a variety of consumer items and are regulated by the State and Federal governments. Work is currently underway to minimise the risk of fires associated with batteries used for micro-mobility devices.

Work has commenced to implement recommendations made by the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) in 2023 about the sale, testing and disposal of lithium-ion batteries. In NSW the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) is working on reforms to improve the design, packaging, import, storage and disposal of all batteries, while Fair Trading NSW recently introduced a requirement for compliance with prescribed mandatory safety standards before for lithium-ion e-micromobility devices can be sold in NSW.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item 11

Item No: C0925(1) Item 11

Subject: PRINCES HIGHWAY BETWEEN COOKS RIVER AND RAILWAY ROAD, SYDENHAM

Prepared By: Aaron Callaghan - Parks and Public Domain Planning Manager

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the strategy outlined in the report regarding streetscape enhancements along the South Princes Highway corridor, between Smith Street/Union Street and Holbeach Avenue.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport
4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the Council resolution adopted in December 2024, this report presents an overview of the findings from a community engagement initiative undertaken with residents of Tempe and Sydenham. The objective was to seek ideas and recommendations for enhancements to the public domain and other improvements along the Princes Highway, spanning the area between the Cooks River and Railway Road in Sydenham.

Community engagement showed strong support for improvements to pedestrian and active transport infrastructure and additional tree plantings along the South Princes Highway corridor.

In this regard, it is proposed to deliver the following improvements in the area between Smith Street/Union Street and Holbeach Avenue:

In 2025/26 financial year:

- Investigate opportunities for kerbside tree planting and confirm in detail the extent of selective footpath renewals
- Renew existing aged parking and street name signage between Smith/Union and Holbeach Ave
- Undertake design work to inform 2026/27 construction activities.

In 2026/27 financial year:

- Renew older concrete footpaths on the east side between Wentworth and Holbeach Streets near Good Days Café, Harry's Café de Wheels and the Riverview Hotel
- Replace stamped and older concrete pavements with plain concrete on the west side shopping strip between Gannon and Union Streets
- Install new wayfinding signage between Smith/Union and Holbeach Ave
- Plant additional street trees where possible.

It is estimated that the construction works can be delivered for approximately $400,000, with up to $300,000 of funding identified in the draft FY2026-27 budget from the Footpath Renewal

Program to cover footpath replacement, and the balance of funding drawn from other existing programs such as street signage.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 3 December 2024, Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council provide a report to the May 2025 Council meeting detailing opportunities for public domain and other improvements on the section of the Princes Highway between the Cooks River and Railway Road, Sydenham, including:*
    a) *support for local businesses on the Highway;*
    b) *additional tree plantings;*
    c) *incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design elements and principles;*
    d) *improvements to pedestrian and active transport infrastructure;*
    e) *street furniture updates; and*
    f) *signage.*

2. *That Council before May 2025, host a Roundtable with businesses on the Princes Highway between the Cooks River and Railway Road to seek feedback on opportunities for public domain and other improvements.*

3. *That Council before May 2025, write to and survey residents in the surrounding streets about ways public domain and other improvements can be made to improve the Princes Highway between the Cooks River and Railway Road, Sydenham.*

Council engaged with the community in early 2025. The findings of the engagements are identified at *Attachment 1.*

DISCUSSION

Council sought input from community members from 26 February to 31 March 2024 on opportunities for public domain and other improvements on the section of the Princes Highway between the Cooks River and Railway Road, Sydenham. Residents within approximately 400m of the subject section of the Princes Highway were notified via a letter that directed people to a Your Say Inner West page with additional information and an opportunity for residents to complete a survey. 1870 letters were delivered to residents living near the site.

During the engagement period:

- 688 people viewed the project page
- 71 community members contributed to the online survey
- Council held a business roundtable on 31 March with two (2) business people attending
- Emails and phone calls were also received.

The following is a summary of the main findings through the engagement:

- Investigate further greening the Highway corridor
- Investigate paving, furniture and public arts improvements
- Explore improvements to active transport connections between key destinations including links between Tempe Reserve and Cooks River, Bunnings and IKEA. This will include investigating implementation of wayfinding signage
- Investigate changes to side streets adjacent to the Princes Highway to improve pedestrian safety
- Improve maintenance of existing paving, furniture and street planting
- Look at opportunities to introduce incentives for businesses to improve the appearance of their shopfronts
- Advocate to Transport for NSW to consider reducing the speed limit, introduce red light cameras, removal of the clearway on the Princes Highway.

The online survey found respondents selected the following as the top three priorities:

- 87% voted for “Improvements to pedestrian and active transport infrastructure”
- 80% voted for “Additional tree plantings”
- 52% voted for “Support for local businesses on the Highway”

Overall, the engagement generally found support for all of the improvements identified in the December 2024 Council resolution, though it’s worth noting that the northern end of Princes Highway (Railway Parade end) is dominated by bulky good/ warehouse uses which is not conducive to address the intended outcomes. However, there is an opportunity to make it attractive for customers of Bunnings in the southern end of Princes Highway to visit the local adjacent shopping strip to support local businesses and also promote connection with the Cooks River including its cycleway and Tempe Reserve.

In this regard, it is proposed to deliver the following improvements in the area between Smith Street/Union Street and Holbeach Avenue:

In 2025/26 financial year:

- Investigate opportunities for kerbside tree planting and confirm in detail the extent of selective footpath renewals
- Renew existing aged parking and street name signage between Smith/Union and Holbeach Ave
- Undertake design work to inform 2026/27 construction activities.

In 2026/27 financial year:

- Renew older concrete footpaths on the east side between Wentworth and Holbeach Streets near Good Days Café, Harry’s Café de Wheels and the Riverview Hotel
- Replace stamped and older concrete pavements with plain concrete on the west side shopping strip between Gannon and Union Streets
- Install new wayfinding signage between Smith/Union and Holbeach Ave
- Plant additional street trees where possible.

The financial considerations associated with this scope are outlined in the subsequent section of this report. It is important to note that this program allows for sufficient planning and design time and ensures there is no impact on projects currently included in the delivery program.

Given the nature of the roadway being a busy State Road managed by Transport for NSW (TfNSW), there are a number of project considerations which need further investigation and may impact the overall cost and timing of the project. This includes but not limited to:

- The location of utility services
- TfNSW approval for works
- Traffic management and the need for night works.

In this regard, the next step is to undertake detailed design investigations of the built environment and develop appropriate detail design plans and costings for the works. It is expected that replacement of old street and parking signs and design investigations can occur in 2025/26, with construction activities in 2026/27.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated that the construction works can be delivered for approximately $400,000, with up to $300,000 of funding identified in the draft FY2026-27 budget from the Footpath Renewal Program to cover footpath replacement, and the balance of funding drawn from other existing programs such as street signage.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Engagement Outcomes Report

Improving Princes Highway in Tempe and Sydenham

Engagement Outcomes Report

26 Feb – 31 Mar 2025

Contents

Summary 3
Project background 4
Promotion and engagement methods 5
Who did we hear from? 6
Summary of feedback 7
Next steps 13

Summary

From 26 February to 31 March 2025, the community was invited to provide feedback on proposed improvements to the Princes Highway streetscape in Tempe and Sydenham.

During the engagement period:

- 71 community members contributed via an online survey hosted on Your Say Inner West.
- The survey asked participants to vote for top three potential improvements they wish council to prioritise.

  The top three responses are:

  - 87% support for pedestrian and active transport infrastructure improvements.
  - 80% support for additional tree plantings and
  - 52% support for initiatives to bolster local businesses along the highway.

Project background

At its meeting on 3 December 2024, Council resolved to seek feedback on proposed improvements from businesses and the community in Tempe and Sydenham on proposed improvements along the Princes Highway from Cooks River to Railway Road, as illustrated in the image below.

The aim is to improve street features, safety, and liveability for local residents and businesses. This engagement sought to understand community priorities and capture suggestions for specific interventions or design features.



Promotion and engagement methods

The engagement is promoted by Your Say Inner West, business doorknock and letterbox drops to residents.

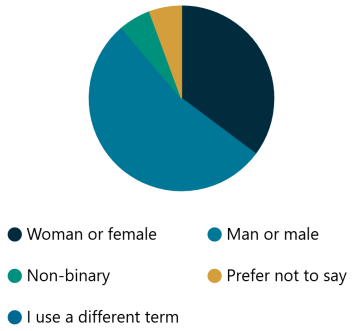
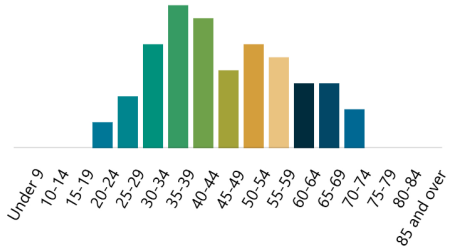
Promotion method	Stakeholders engaged
Project page on Your Say Inner West	688 people viewed the project page
Business Doorknock	On the afternoon of Wednesday 5 March 2025, 45 businesses south of Union Street were doorknocked to inform them of this engagement and an upcoming business roundtable. A letter was handed directly to the shop owner or staff at operating businesses, while letters were left under the door or in the letterbox of closed or vacant premises.
Letters to residents	1,870 Letters were delivered to residents living in vicinity of the site.
Your Say Inner West member emails	An email campaign went to 1010 members of Your Say Inner West

Following means of engagement were undertaken:

Engagement method	Stakeholders engaged
Online survey	71 surveys completed
Feedback received other ways	10 emails from individuals 5 phone calls from individuals
In person event	1 business roundtable held on 31st Mar 2025, 2 individuals from 1 business attended

Who did we hear from?

Council gathers basic demographic information as part of the participant registration process online at Your Say Inner West. We use this information to understand who has responded and whether we need to engage further on the proposal.

Location	Most respondents are from Tempe (60%), followed by Enmore (7%) and Marrickville (6%)
Gender	Most of the respondents are identified as Man or Male, followed by woman or female. Distribution of the gender group is  captured in the below pie chart.
Age	Most of the respondents are within 30-39 range, followed by 25-29 and 50-54 Distribution of each aging group is outlined in the column chart. 

Summary of feedback

Online survey

Question 1 – From the list below choose up to three improvements for Council to deliver – 71 responses

We asked	You said
Improvement options to choose from are: • *Support for local businesses on the Highway;* • *Additional tree plantings* • *Incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design elements and principles* • *Improvements to pedestrian and active transport infrastructure* • *Street furniture updates* • *Signage*	In the order of most supported improvements: • 87% voted for "Improvements to pedestrian and active transport infrastructure" • 80% voted for "Additional tree plantings" • 52% voted for "Support for local businesses on the Highway"; • 25% voted for "Incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design elements and principles" • 19% voted for "Street furniture updates" • 12% voted for "Signage"

Question 2 – Are there any other streetscape improvements you would like to see on the Princes Highway? – 54 responses

Council staff have reviewed and themed all comments received. Comments mentioned twice or more have been included below.

You said	Council response
8 Responses Enforce/Incentivise empty shops to lease out to retail, community uses or food truck type uses on underutilised lots	Council has no authority to force property owners to lease out their retail spaces unless it possesses a risk to public safety.
5 Responses Investigate options to increase parking (such as off-peak parking) to	Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW are required.

encourage people to arrive and stop	
5 Responses Encourage more diverse retail format such as key services, grocery, stores and butchers	Council has no authority to order owners to force the businesses owners to certain retail types.
12 Responses Improve active transport connection linking key destinations such as Sydenham, Ikea, Shops and Cooks River	Noted
4 Responses Improve signage, especially for cyclists to navigate through the cycle paths	Noted
4 Response Remove clearways to widen footpath	Note the desire to have wider footpaths. Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW is required
3 Responses Improve access over Cooks River for active transport	Noted
3 Responses Consider accessibility needs of disabled, elderly, prams and kids	Noted
2 Responses Improve footpath quality. Use proper species and maintenance of planting to ensure footpaths are not damaged	Noted
9 Responses More trees	Noted. However, plantings should consider safety and clearway requirements.

9 Responses Improve shop facades. Eg.: cleanup, decorate with murals, interesting colours and arts.	Council has no authority to force property to paint their buildings unless it possesses a risk to public safety.
5 Responses Prefer low level planting between the road and footpath	Noted
4 Responses Improve the streetscape and make it more appealing	Noted
4 Responses More shades	Noted
4 Responses Improved lighting	Noted
3 Responses More outdoor dining	Noted
4 Responses More street furniture	Noted
3 Responses Noise reduction and pollution mitigation	Noted
2 Responses Shelter or seats near bus stops	Noted
6 Responses Need barrier between road and pedestrian/cyclists to separate road users	Spatial constraints limit the opportunity to implement. This cannot be achieved where there is on-street parking associated with clearways.
4 Reponses Need more/easier pedestrian crossings on Princes Hwy.	Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW is required
3 Responses Lower speed limit	Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW is required
3 Responses	Requires referral to NSW Police to increase patrols.

Monitor more patrol over speeding.	
2 Responses **Install red light cameras.**	Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW is required

Emails

10 Emails were received during the engagement period.

You said	Council response
Need barrier between road and pedestrian/cyclists to separate road users	Spatial constraints limit the opportunity to implement. This cannot be achieved where there is on-street parking associated with clearways.
More greenery	Noted. However, plantings should consider safety and clearway requirements.
More street furniture	Noted
Improve pedestrian crossing across Princes Hwy	Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW is required
Utilise vacant shops for community uses and improve facades	Council has no authority to force property owners to lease out their retail spaces or to order owners to paint or maintain their builds unless it possesses a risk to public safety.
Fix up the footpath, cleanup the dead vegetations and make sure the footpath is free from disruptions	Will forward to relevant council teams where necessary.
Calm vehicular traffics along Princes Hwy.	Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW are required for actions such as reducing speed limit.

Phone Calls

5 Phone Calls were received during the engagement period.

You said	Council response

More Greenery that is appropriate for the area	Noted
Overall maintenance such as footpath conditions, litter, and bird droppings.	Will forward to relevant council teams where relevant.
Improved crossing across Princes Hwy. Also make streets safer with crossings, and red light cameras.	Princes Hwy is TfNSW property. Consultation and approval from TfNSW is required for actions such as reducing speed limit.
Create places for art, graffiti, and music	Noted
Involve the community and Gadigal people in planning.	Noted
Investigate short-term leases with some of the properties.	Council has no authority to force property owners to lease out their retail spaces.

Business Roundtable

A business roundtable was held at St. Peters Library on 31st Mar 2025. Two (2) community members from one business attended the session.

A large, printed map of Princes Hwy corridor was available on the day. Community members were given sticky notes and encouraged to add comments to the map.

Category	You said
Traffic on Princes Highway	Cars running red light at Gannons St and Holebeach St make the environment look dangerous. Also there are pedestrians jay-walking
	M8 has noticably reduced the volume of on-road traffic
Shop front improvement	Get landowners to rent out
	Ask building owners to comply with lawful uses of their properties
	Grants to owners to fix up and improve their building facades
Streetscape upgrades	Trees and planting would be most helpful
	Need wayfinding signs near major destination points to lead people to nearby shops. Suggested Holebeach St intersection (Cooks River cycleway) and Smith St intersection (adjacent to Bunnings)
	A gateway sign near Cooks River could enhance the sense of place
	Nice pavement to encourage foot traffic
	Seating near pub and bus stop
	Want to see more amenity and vibrancy
Opportunities near the parklands	Wants night-time lighting within the parklands
	Happy to do business near the parklands
	Play equipment and more shades within the parkland, particuarly adjacent to South Street
	Support businesses by issuing licensing for food trucks in the park
	Saturday 8-9am is typically the busiest time and Tempe Reserve contributes to lots of the foot traffic
Business development opportunities	Want to establish a small business network

Next steps

Council Officers will prepare a report which will include this Engagement Outcomes Report as an attachment, to the May 2025 Council meeting detailing opportunities identified in this engagement. All community members who provided feedback will be advised when this project is progressed further.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 12

Subject: SUPPLY OF WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES

Prepared By: Erin White - Manager Resource Recovery and Fleet Services

Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council delegate authority to the General Manager to award the tender for the Supply of Waste Collection Vehicles.**

2. **That Council delegate authority to the General Manager to execute any contract for the Supply of Waste Collection Vehicles and to authorise variations to these contracts for a contingency amount valued at 10% of the contract value.**

3. **That Council are advised of the tender outcome for the Supply of Waste Collection Vehicles including awarded amount, supplier, environmental benefits and timing for commencement of operations.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Inner West Council operates a fleet of 26 rear loading waste collection vehicles. In accordance with Council's Fleet Replacement Program, these trucks are replaced after every 6 years of service. The replacement program ensures the fleet remains safe, efficient, and fit-for-purpose, supporting high-quality service delivery across the Inner West.

18 new waste collection vehicles are approaching the end of their service life and need prompt replacement to minimise operating costs and maximise reliability. A tender process is proceeding to purchase new vehicles that meet Council's policies and service requirements. These vehicles are anticipated to progressively commence service over the next 2 years.

The procurement is being undertaken through an existing Local Government Procurement Contract which ensures Council will receive best value for money from a range of prequalified suppliers.

Given the procurement is through a highly regulated panel contract, and an efficient procurement is arranged to promptly replace the vehicles, this report seeks approval for the General Manager to be delegated authority to award the tender to with a preferred supplier following the tender evaluation process.

BACKGROUND

Council's operates a fleet of 26 rear loading waste collection vehicles of varying sizes. These vehicles service collect various waste streams including Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO), general garbage and bulky clean-up collections.

Council's Fleet Replacement Program optimises vehicle operating costs whilst ensuring the fleet remains reliable and fit for purpose, in keeping with Council's policies. Under this program waste collection vehicles are optimised for replacement every six years.

The existing fleet of rear loading compaction vehicles operate on a double-shift basis five days per week. There are 8 waste collection vehicles that commenced operating in 2025 and a further 18 waste collection vehicles that are reaching the end of their service life. As waste collection vehicles approach the end of their service life, they become increasingly prone to breakdowns and require more frequent maintenance.

To ensure service continuity and to support the expansion of the waste collection services to incorporate the FOGO program, some vehicles that were originally due for disposal were also retained longer than intended whilst staff determined the optimum fleet size required to meet ongoing service needs. It is now certain that the current number of waste collection vehicles are required to meet Council's ongoing service requirements.

DISCUSSION

In procuring new fleet assets, Council has considered workplace health and safety requirements for operational staff, as well as the frequency of motor vehicle claims. Specifically, the risk of collisions with parked vehicles during waste collection in narrow streets and laneways has informed recent vehicle specification and selection decisions. Council officers are proposing for the replacement waste collection vehicles to be a mixture of 8, 12, 15 cubic metre compactors to suit the varying streets of Inner West Council.

In line with Council's commitment to workplace health and safety, operational efficiency, and sustainable service delivery, several considerations have informed the vehicle specifications in the upcoming tender:

Fleet Optimisation
Staff have reviewed the vehicle sizes and service requirements to determine whether the overall fleet size can be reduced without compromising service levels.

Smaller Vehicles for Narrow Streets
Due to the nature of Inner West's narrow roads and laneways, smaller vehicles may help reduce the number of accidents involving parked cars during waste collection operations.

Enhanced Safety Features:
The new fleet would have the option of including the incorporating improved safety features, including:

- Step-through cab chassis designs to reduce physical strain and risk of injury when entering and exiting vehicles.
- Narrower but potentially longer vehicles to improve navigation through restricted-access areas.
- Advanced camera systems with cloud-based storage for incident review and driver accountability.

Environmental Features
Council continues to monitor the availability of suitable waste collection vehicles that may be electric powered. The tender will require all vehicles to meet the Euro 6 standard which is global best practice for minimising vehicle emissions. Tenderers will also be encouraged to propose electric powered waste collection vehicles where they meet service requirements.

The tender is planned for release in **September 2025**, with procurement occurring through **Local Government Procurement (LGP) Contract NPN 115-2**, in accordance with Council's procurement policies. LGP is a prescribed entity under Section 55 of the *Local Government Act*.

It is anticipated that vehicle delivery lead times will be approximately 18-24 months from order. Accordingly, appropriate contract provisions will be included to address potential delays, including penalty clauses for late delivery.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's waste collection vehicles are funded from the income related to the Domestic Waste Management Charges as reflected in the Operational Budget.

It is estimated that the cost of the 18 vehicles will be approximately $10 million. This is budgeted for in year 2025-26 and the following financial year of 2026-27, taking into consideration the long delivery time.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 13
Subject: AUTOMATED WASTE SYSTEMS
Prepared By: Helen Bradley - Manager Resource Recovery Planning
Authorised By: Simone Plummer - Director Planning

RECOMMENDATION

That Council advocate to the state government that well-designed and managed technologies, including Automated Waste Management Systems, be mandated as part of the redevelopment scheme for the Bays Precinct, given the scale of development likely to occur there and the site's proximity to sensitive environmental areas.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West
5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Automated Waste Management Systems can be an effective way of collecting waste and recycling from across a precinct to a central point for collection by a specialist vehicle. They can also reduce visual clutter and the need to manage multiple bins in a large development.

However, Automated Waste Management Systems are costly to install and maintain and are inhibited by the need to accommodate other underground utilities, as well as requiring larger collection vehicles than standard Council garbage services.

In the Inner West, there are limited redevelopment areas of appropriate scale to support the installation of such a complex and costly system, potentially apart from the major redevelopment areas within the state government land around the Bays Precinct at Rozelle.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 3 December 2024, Council resolved the following:

> *That Council's waste management unit investigates the adoption of an automated waste management system for high density residential development, consistent with the guidelines adopted by neighbouring government areas such as Randwick Council...*

This report responds to the above resolution.

DISCUSSION

Some local government authorities – mostly overseas – have adopted Automated Waste Management Systems to centralise and manage waste collection in higher density development areas and new land release ("greenfields") precincts.

In the closest example to the Inner West, Randwick Council engaged consultants SLR to undertake a feasibility study in for Kingsford and Kensington in 2020. This now informs a waste guideline applicable to certain development within the Kensington and Kingsford town centres.





Containers

Diagram 1: Envac community waste network (interactive image on website)
www.envacgroup.com

Automated waste includes:

- in-building waste disposal points
- outdoor Waste inlets and bins (garbage, recycling, or FOGO in above ground pods)
- storage chutes (vertical holding pipes for bags before emptying through the network)
- underground pipes (transporting waste at 70km per hour)
- supporting infrastructure such as air inlet and outlet valves, diverters, cyclone, fans
- waste collection station or terminal close to the road
- containers that are collected from the terminal and replaced with empty ones
- hook-and-lift collection vehicles (larger vehicles with higher clearances and wider turns)

The infrastructure is only effective when designed as part of a new development as it requires inlets, chutes, a pipe network, and storage tanks to be integrated into buildings.

Risks

If this were to be implemented at IWC there are considerable up-front costs to both developers, strata bodies, and the collector:

- the developer would be responsible for supply and installation
- strata would be responsible for ongoing management, power, and pipe repair
- Council would need to buy new specialist collection vehicles for servicing.

A contingency plan would need to be in place for breakdown (the hook and lift trucks are different to standard collection vehicles) as all waste streams must still be serviced.

IWC has three waste streams (garbage, recycling, and FOGO) requiring additional inlets and storage points (and separate trucks/ collections) in addition to weekly booked clean up collections which would still necessitate buildings to be designed for truck access.

Benefits

The public benefits of Automated Waste Management Systems are improved visual amenity, where bins presented on the street could be reduced, and increased efficiency of moving (less) bins in and around new developments. Currently these issues are generally managed by planning controls which require onsite collection.

Potential design benefits to developers include:

- lower basement heights
- reduced floor space dedicated to waste management and servicing
- less noise, odour and vermin
- better marketability and environmental performance of building

All of these could theoretically improve building design and yield, leading to potential environmental improvements on a site or increased space within a building to provide, as an example, Affordable Housing, if the size of the development were large enough.

Constraints
Automated Waste Management Systems take up large areas of land to install, as well as service, with road access and turning circles for large collection vehicles. They are expensive to install and maintain, and require specialist collection vehicles which are large and difficult to navigate through narrow streets which are prevalent in the Inner West.

The most significant constraint for Automated Waste Management Systems in the Inner West is that they cannot be retrofitted or used in areas with existing underground infrastructure (services and pipes). This includes water sewer and gas but also NBN and infrastructure such as undergrounded power lines. To be cost effective, only large new redevelopment precincts which are unencumbered by significant underground utilities would make Automated Waste Management Systems viable within the Inner West.

Scale required, and Opportunities within the Inner West
Based on research by Penrith City Council, the optimal scale is over 1,000 units and a mix of residential and commercial land uses, with larger than this making it more financially viable for Automated Waste Management Systems. Individual buildings, even of significant scale, need to be part of an integrated network or precinct for efficiency, as waste can only be transported around 250m through this system. *Refer to Attachment 2.*

A good example is Maroochydore City Centre. This is a 53-hectare site (about the size of Lewisham) which is currently being redeveloped and will include Australia's first Automated Waste Collection System. This project is a whole urban renewal area where new residential, commercial and street bins are being integrated together into an automated waste network.

Most of the Inner West's significant redevelopment areas such as the Victoria Road precinct have already been partially developed, are in fragmented ownership, and may not be developed to a scale which makes Automated Waste Management Systems feasible. In addition, many Inner West redevelopment sites have challenges such as flood zones and existing underground services like water, sewage, gas, electricity, and telecommunications to navigate, as well as narrow lanes which the hook and lift trucks may not be able to access.

An initial review of the Inner West identified that the Bays Precinct could be a suitably size development opportunity for this technology and servicing where residential, commercial, and street litter bins are integrated into an automated waste *network*.

Impact on Council's Waste Controls
If adopted, council's approach to waste management would require significant adjustment and this would need to be reflected in the relevant DCP controls. Currently Council's adopted Waste and Recycling Guidelines (although not a statutory document) do not support Automated Waste Management Systems due to concerns around reliability and concern about blockages, and what role Council may be expected to play in the event of disruption to the waste service.

The impact on monitoring and the quality (contamination rates) of FOGO waste is unclear if managed through an Automated Waste System.

Recommendation
Having reviewed the risks, benefits and constraints of Automated Waste Systems, it is apparent that there are limited redevelopment sites of appropriate scale to support the installation of such a complex and costly technology in the Inner West.

Due to the scale and opportunity, development costs and shared servicing, as well as the proximity of Sydney Harbour and the need to manage waste carefully, it is recommended that Council advocate for Automated Waste Systems to be used in the redevelopment of the Bays Precinct.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. ⇩ Randwick City Council - Localised Automated Waste Collection Systems Using Mobile Vacuum Vehicles - November 2022
2. ⇩ Penrith City Council - Automated Waste Collection Systems Waste Management Guidelines
3. ⇩ Inner West Council - Designing and Building Guidelines - 15 May 2025

Randwick City Council
a sense of community



Localised Automated Waste Collection Systems Using Mobile Vacuum Vehicles

Design and Implementation Guidelines

November 2022

Randwick City Council
a sense of community

This document is prepared by

Lehr Consultants International (Australia) Pty Ltd trading as LCI Consultants

for

Randwick City Council

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Discharge Pipework	The pipework from the storage tank to the outlet point
Docking Station	Point of connection between Mobile Vacuum Collection Vehicle and Localised Automatic Waste Collection System
Inlets	Garbage Disposal Point
LAWCS	Localised Automatic Waste Collection System
MVCV	Mobile Vacuum Collection Vehicle
Outlet Point	The point in the pipework system where the Mobile Vacuum Collection Vehicle connects to for waste collection
PLC Control Panel	A programmable logic controller designed to perform the logic functions executed by electrical hardware including relays, switches and mechanical timers/counters
RCC	Randwick City Council
Waste Storage Tank / Storage Screw Tank	Waste storage vessel with integrated screw feed to push waste to the end of the tank to maximise the space for waste storage

1 Executive Summary

A Localised Automated Waste Collection System (LAWCS) is an alternative method from conventional waste collection methods.

LAWCS comprises of a vacuum system and a network of pipes that transport waste at high speeds from above-ground disposal locations (known as “inlets”) to vehicle docking points and then into a collection vehicle. Waste disposed of into the inlets is stored in an underground storage tank until a specialised truck connects to a vehicle docking point and generates vacuum conditions in the pipe system which empties the tanks.

Waste is placed into the system by the user at the inlet point and is transported through a gravity chute to storage screw tanks located within building plant areas or underground, directly at the base of the gravity chute. The waste is held in the storage screw tank until the mobile vacuum vehicle connects to the system via a dedicated outlet point at a docking station. When the mobile vacuum vehicle is connected, the waste stream being collected is transported through a pipe network to the vehicle. Within the vehicle the waste is collected, compressed and transported offsite. The transport air is filtered within the vehicle and discharged to atmosphere.

Inlets can be located internally within buildings at the lobby or on each floor, or externally in private courtyards and public areas. The overall convenience for users, cost, spatial impact and aesthetics should be considered when determining the inlet locations. The outlet and docking points are strategically located considering the vehicle travel and swept paths, overall vehicle travel distances, pipework length from inlets to the docking point, odour emitted from the collection vehicle at the docking point and noise transmission.

There are significant logistic, environmental, health, safety, flexibility and cost benefits of implementing a LAWCS when compared to traditional waste collection methods. Most waste including general waste, organic waste and recyclable waste can all be disposed of in a LAWCS. Food waste can also be disposed through this system if a separate dedicated waste stream is provided, however some waste types such as highly hazardous, flammable or viscous materials, and waste which exceeds 300mm in any direction in size cannot be and alternative methods for collection of this waste, including spatial provision for storage within the development, must be provided.

These guidelines are intended to assist developers with spatial requirements and system design to allow adequate provisions to be incorporated into a development to accommodate a Localised Automated Waste Collection System.

2 Overview of Localised Automated Waste Collection System

Solid waste collection has modernised significantly overtime, but it was not until the 1960s that it took a momentous leap in technology and automated waste collection systems were developed. Automated waste collection systems were developed to transport waste from waste disposal areas through pneumatic vacuum pipework to a centralised waste separation and collection location.

In the late 1980s, the mobile vacuum system was developed to collect waste from storage containers located in buildings. Since then, over one thousand area-wide and localised automated waste collection systems (LAWCS) have been installed worldwide. As sustainability, wellness and efficiency continue to remain priorities in design for new developments and cities, it is anticipated automated waste collection systems will replace traditional waste collection methods in the future.

A Localised Automated Waste Collection System (LAWCS) is an alternative method from conventional waste collection methods. A LAWCS collects waste and transports it through pneumatic pipework at high speed (approximately 60-70km/hr) to a mobile vacuum vehicle via a vacuum built in to the vehicle. Localised collection systems focus on serving one building or a small number of nearby buildings.

The main components of a LAWCS system using a mobile vacuum vehicle include and supplied by the developer:

1. Inlet points: outdoor or indoor disposal station, comprised of inlets, where waste is placed into the system by the users. Typically in a multi storey building, the inlet point is the gravity chute (s).
    - Separate, dedicated inlet points and chutes are provided for different types of waste including food/organic waste, recyclable waste and general waste.
    - Food/organic waste streams must be provided with only one inlet (rather than one inlet per floor typical for recycling and general waste streams in high rise buildings). The food/organic waste inlet point must be located one level above the level which the food/organic storage tank is located. E.g. if the storage tank is located on Basement 1, the inlet point must be located on Ground Floor.
2. Gravity chute: ventilated vertical pipe which transports waste from the inlet point to a lower floor.
3. Storage tank (waste storage tank): The tank is located directly at the base of the gravity chute where the waste is held until it is collected by the mobile vacuum vehicle. The gravity chute is typical the gravity waste chute and access by residents on a floor by floor basis. Separate tanks are required for each waste stream.
4. Piping network: interlinked, connected pipes from all waste inlets and storage tanks to the outlet point.
5. Outlet point: The point in the pipework system where the mobile vacuum vehicle connects to for waste collection.
6. Docking station: Location where the mobile vacuum collection vehicle (MVCV) parks for connection to the outlet point and waste collection.
7. Air compressor and dryer for operating isolation valves. The dryer is required to keep the compressor free of moisture and prevent condensate and rust problems from occurring.
8. Power supply , controllers and all associated works

Each waste stream is provided with a separate storage tank to ensure no mixing of waste streams. There are no fans or air filters installed within the system, rather these components are located within the mobile vehicle which

connects into the system at the docking point via a dedicated outlet. The waste is vacuumed out of the storage tanks, through the pipework distribution system and into the mobile vehicle where it is compressed.

The storage tank rooms and chutes are mechanically exhaust via a roof mounted exhaust fan as per conventional waste room and chute exhaust systems.

The air which is transported into the vehicle is filtered within the mobile vehicle, before it is discharged to atmosphere. The exhaust air shall ideally discharge vertically to open air at high velocity via an angled cone fitted to the exhaust point.

RCC will purchase and operate the Mobile Vacuum Collection Vehicles. A control interface is required between the Collection vehicle and the LAWCS controller. Details of the required control interface will be provided once RCC has determined their supplier of the MVCV.

An overview of the LAWCS main components and integration (in principle) is provided in the figure below.

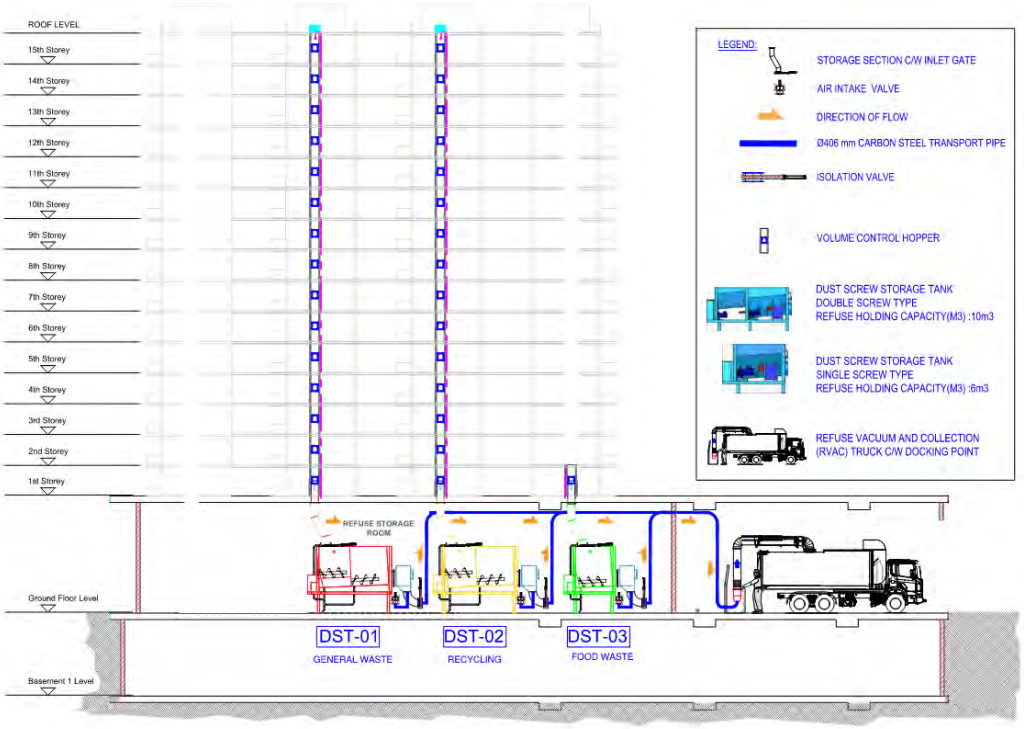


Figure 2.1 LAWCS System Overview

3 Randwick City Council Requirements

The K2K Development Control Plan requires a LAWCS is implemented in all new developments (other than in developments where proposed works are alterations and additions, or development that are minor or ancillary in nature) in accordance with Council's Automated Collection System Guidelines.

This document is a guideline only and has been prepared to assist developers in preliminary spatial planning to incorporate a LAWCS and provide a description of how the system works and main system components. The final LAWCS design including all spatial requirements, power and controls should be confirmed and endorsed by the developer's LAWCS supplier.

The below table summarises what needs to be completed by the developer at each stage of the project.

Table 3: LAWCS Requirements at each Design Stage

Stage	Requirement
Pre-Lodgement	• Consider general requirements from this guideline • Prepare waste management plan • Engage LAWCS experts to prepare LAWCS spatials • Ensure the LAWCS spatials have been incorporated into the architectural layouts
Lodge Plans	• Lodge plans including waste management plan and LAWCS spatials demonstrating how it is incorporated into the development • Waste management plan should be endorsed by a LAWCS system supplier • Clarify which LAWCS expert is liaising with the developer and system provider
DA Approval	• The waste management plan should meet Council's requirements as per Development Control Plan for Kensington and Kingsford Town Centres 2020 and this guideline
System Operation and Maintenance	• Developer to specify which supplier will undertake maintenance in the waste management plan

4 Preferred System Suppliers

There a number of suppliers for the LAWCS:

- Aerbin
  - Website: https://aerbinaustralia.com/
  - Contact 1: natalie@aerbinaustralia.com
  - Contact 2: info@aerbinaustralia.com
- RVAC – based in Singapore and India
  - Website: https://www.rvac.com.sg/singmatic-mobile/
  - Contact 1: rvac.info@ramky.com.sg
  - Contact 2: amos.ho@resustainability.com.sg

The developers nominated LAWCS supplier must be involved in the detailed design process to ensure the system design is compatible with their products at the time of design. The system supplier should be engaged for maintenance for the systems during the ongoing operation period for the life of the building.

System suppliers with LAWCS experience and credentials not listed above can be used with Council's consent.

5 System Components

The Developer is responsible for the supply and installation of the following system components. All components are provided and maintained by the LAWCS specialist Suppliers excluding the gravity chute which may be provided by conventional gravity waste chute suppliers and the mobile vacuum collection vehicle which will be supplied and operated by RCC. All costs associated with the LAWCS (excluding the MVCV) and maintenance in the development will be covered by the developer.

The table below summarises the main LAWCS system components and who is responsible for the supply, installation and maintenance.

Table 5: LAWCS Components

LAWCS Component	Provided By	Install By	Maintenance
Inlet points	Developer (as per conventional waste chute inlets)	Developer (as per conventional waste chute inlets)	Developer*
Gravity chutes	Developer (as per conventional waste chutes)	Developer (as per conventional waste chutes)	Developer*
Gravity chute connection to storage screw tanks	Developer	Developer	Developer*
Storage screw tanks	Developer	Developer	Developer*
Transport pipe from storage screw tank to outlet point	Developer	Developer	Developer*
Outlet point	Developer. Location to be approved by Council.	Developer	Developer*
Docking station	Developer. Location to be approved by Council.	Developer if docking station is within property boundary	N/A
Mobile vacuum vehicle	Council	N/A	Council

Power and controls	Developer	Developer	Developer*

*Note: maintenance to be undertaken by the Developers preferred LAWCS supplier specialists.

5.1 Storage Tank Room

The Storage Tank Room houses the waste storage tank and is located directly under the garbage chutes. The tank room shall be constructed to withstand negative pressure up to 2,000kPa(2KN/m^2). An Air Intake Louvre (typically 1.2m^2) is located in the room wall with access to make up air from the basement or from outside. A fire damper is provided in the wall behind the damper to maintain the fire rating integrity of the room. The tank rooms shall be provide with a hosecock for wash and floor waste. A 32 amp power supply is required to power the screw drive motors on the storage tanks.

The storage tank room shall be ventilation to the requirement of AS1668.2. Lighting shall be provided with sealed fixtures suitable for a moist environment.

The floor area of the Storage Tank Room is dependent upon the chute locations, the amount of waste storage required and what the pipework route from the tank to the outlet is i.e. whether the pipe goes directly through the outer wall, rises to high level of the floor the tank is located on, or drops to high level of the floor below. Note each LAWCS supplier has different acceptable configurations for the pipework connection, for example Aerbin permit the suction pipe travels horizontally out of the tank whereas RVAC does not. The height of the Storage Tank Room is dependent upon the overall storage tank heights, the minimum clearance required above the storage tanks as per the manufacturers requirements, chute location relative to the pipework connection point on the tank and which level the pipework reticulates from the tank to the outlet point (on the floor below the level storage tanks are located or on the same level).

To minimise the room height required, the storage tanks should be located directly below the associated waste chute.

The LAWCS pipework may reticulate at high level of the floor below where the storage tanks are located, or may bend upwards and reticulate at high level of the same floor where the storage tanks are located. Each of these configurations may require different clearances around the tank depending on which manufacturer is pursued. For RVAC tanks, the tank needs to be raised by minimum 800mm for pipework to reticulate at high level of the floor the storage tanks are located. The final room dimensions and heights need to be coordinated based on the nominated LAWCS supplier's requirements.

LAWCS Project Example

Below is an example of how the storage tank room sizes and heights are calculated for an RVAC system. Note this varies for each development as the chute locations, tank sizes and pipework routes differ. The below example is based on a development which has three storage tanks (one per waste stream) located in the same storage tank room.

Step 1: Determine quantity and size of storage tanks

Based on the Waste Management Plan for this development, the storage tank sizes for each waste stream are as follows:

- *General waste: 7.89m^3*
- *Recycling: 3.15m^3*
- *Food waste: 1.47m^3*

One storage tank per waste stream can accommodate the above waste generation rates based on the RVAC system.

Step 2: Select tank types required

The following RVAC tank sizes are required to accommodate these waste volumes:

- *General waste: 1 x Type A tank*
- *Recycling: 1 x Type D tank*
- *Food waste: 1 x Type F tank*

Step 3: Select storage tank room location/s

For this development the storage tank plant room is located on Ground Floor directly below the chutes, in place of the residential garbage room.

Step 4: Lay out the storage tanks including all clearances required and considering the maximum pipework angle from the chute to tanks

Based on the architectural layouts and structure, the total height clearance available in the storage tank room is 4.2m. To ensure a 35 degree pipework angle from the chute to the storage tank is not exceeded, the maximum horizontal distance from the chute to the storage tank pipework connection point must be maximum 900mm as shown in the detail below. Note this assessment was done for the highest storage tank in the room which is 2.6m high. The distance could increase for tanks which are lower in height but this tank was assessed as a "worst case".

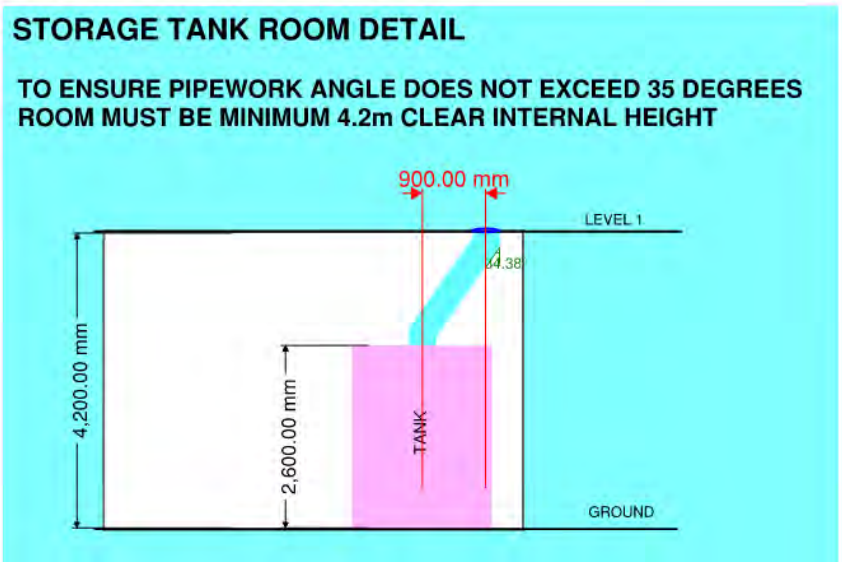


Figure 5.1.1 Storage tank plant room section

The location of chutes for each waste stream is shown below. Laying out the storage tanks including all clearances (shown green) and ensuring the pipework angle from the chute to the storage tank does not exceed 35 degrees resulted in the following layout. ***Note below the length of the room has been driven by the general waste tank which is the longest, however this could be reduced around the recycling and food waste tanks, provided 2.5m clearances from the tank is provided.***

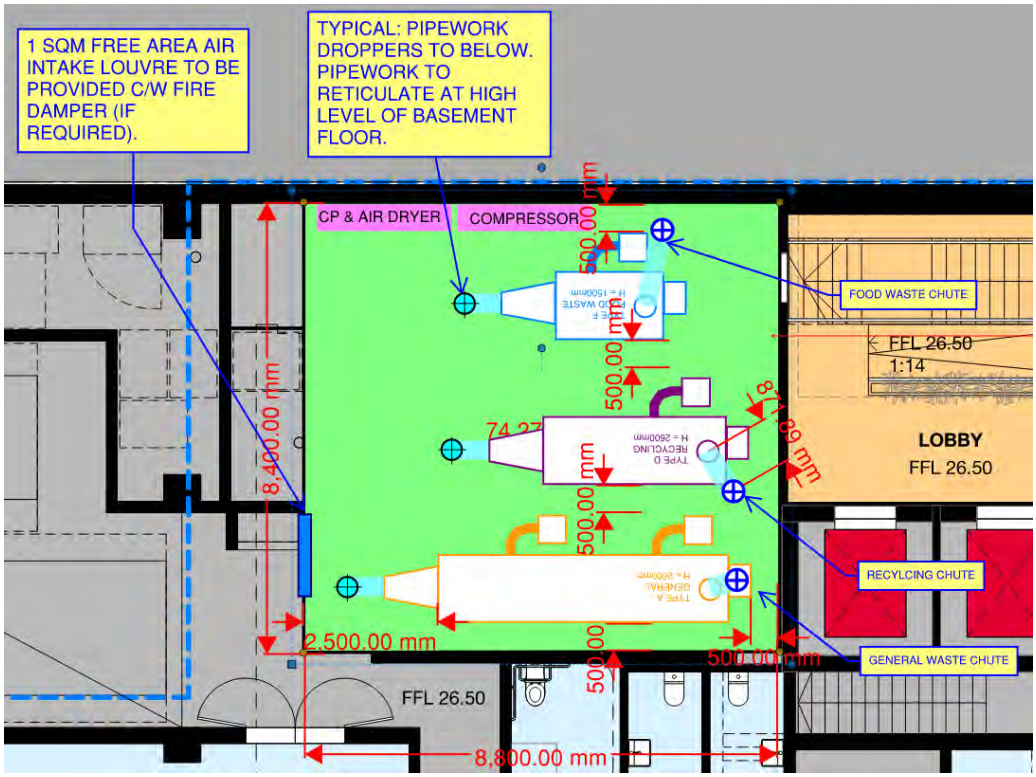


Figure 5.1.2 Storage tank plant room plan view

Step 5: Locate the outlet point based on the docking station

The location of outlet point and docking station is to be agreed with RCC considering traffic matter, system supplier requirements (the maximum length of pipework from the tanks to the outlet point, etc.) and collection truck accessibility issues. For this development the location of the outlet point is on the street adjacent to the building property boundary. Below is the location of the outlet point for the development.

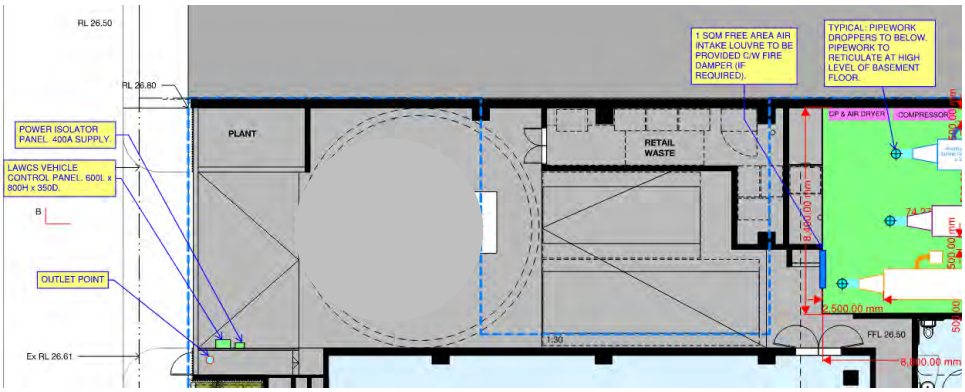


Figure 5.1.3 Location of outlet point

Step 6: Determine based on spatial availability and height clearance what the pipework route from the storage tanks to the outlet point will be:

To minimise the footprint and height of the storage tank room, the pipework from the storage tank to the outlet point reticulates at high level of Basement 1 (the floor below). Where pipework reticulates from the storage tank to high level of the floor below, 2.5m clearances is required for the discharge pipework and clearances (refer to Section 5.5 for details).

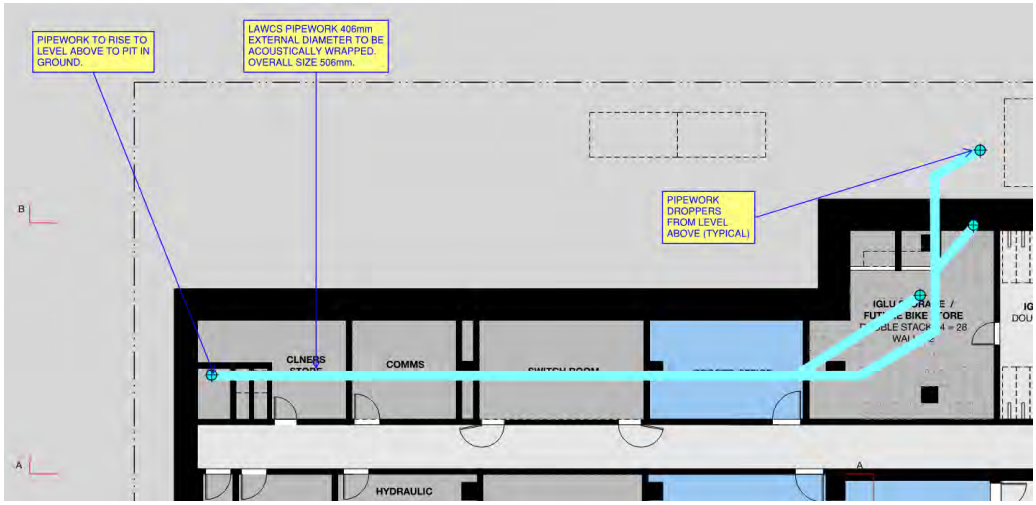


Figure 5.1.4 Pipework reticulation on Basement 1

Step 7: Endorsement by the supplier

The developers nominated LAWCS supplier must undertake a final review and endorse the design and spatial provisions.

Step 8: Modify the LAWCS provisions based on supplier feedback (if required)

If the suppliers requirements have not been met, the developer must make all modifications required to accommodate the LAWCS. The developer shall work with the supplier to coordinate the requirements to suit the spatial constraints of the development.

5.2 Waste Storage Tank(s)

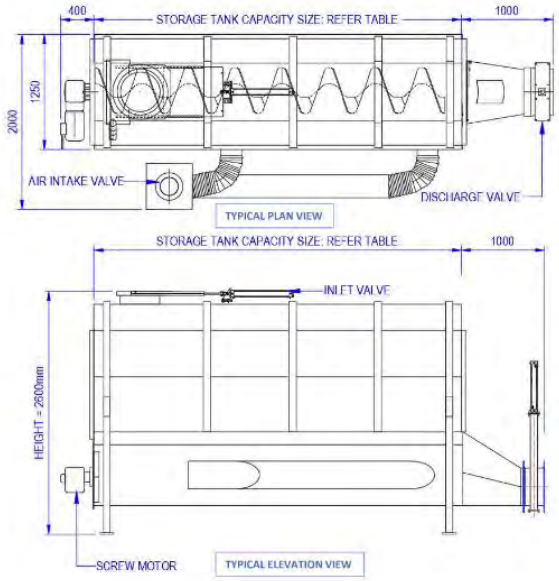
The storage tanks come either as screw tanks or non-screw tanks. For RVAC, all tanks over 0.6m^3 are screw tanks, only the smallest tank (Type G) is not a screw tank. Aerbin also have screw tanks and non-screw tanks, the screw tanks can accommodate 4.5m^3 – 7.5m^3 waste.

Inside screw tanks is a motorised rotation screw feed to push the waste into the tank so that the maximum volume of the tank can be employed for waste storage. Refer to diagrammatic provided by RVAC in the below. Power is required for the motor of the screw.

Separate waste storage tank are required for each separate waste stream.; i.e. 3 waste streams of 1. general waste; 2. Recyclables and 3. Organic Food waste, will require 3 separate storage tanks. The storage tanks are available on

multiple sizes depending on the manufacturer. Some manufacturers will provide customised tank sizes. Waste storage tank sizes shall be selected based on weekly collection for waste and food organics, and fortnightly collection for recycling.

Standard tank sizes for the RVAC System are provided below:



STORAGE TANK CAPACITY SIZING

SCREW TANK CAPACITY	TYPE	DIMENSION SIZE
8m3	A	5400 X 2000 X 2600 (mm)
6m3	B	4400 X 2000 X 2600 (mm)
5m3	C	3900 X 2000 X 2600 (mm)
4m3	D	3400 X 2000 X 2600 (mm)
2m3	E	2600 X 2000 X 1800 (mm)
1.5m3	F	2000 X 2000 X 1500 (mm)
0.6m3 NO SCREW	G	1350 X 2000 X 1500 (mm)

Figure 5.2.2 – RVAC Tank Details (Source RVAC)

Typical Clearances around the Tanks is nominated as follows as provided by RVAC in Figure 5.2.3 below

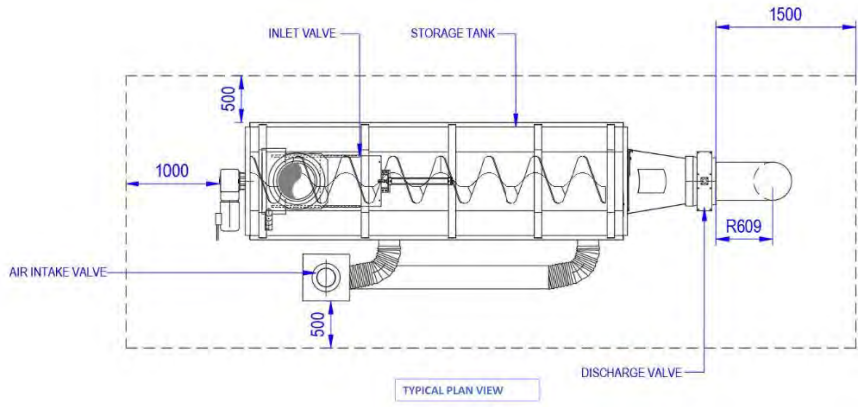


Figure 5.2.3 – RVAC Tank Details (Source RVAC)

Aerbin have various types of tanks including horizontal round/cylindrical tanks, vertical cylinder tanks and screw tanks. The tanks are available in the following capacities:

- Horizontal round/cylindrical tank: 1.7m^3 – 5m^3
- Vertical tank: 1m^3 – 3.5m^3
- Screw tank: 4.5m^3 – 7.5m^3

Tank sizes for the Aerbin System are provided in the tables below. For screw tank dimensions and installation dimensions contact Aerbin.

Table 5.2.2 Aerbin Horizontal Round/Cylinder Tank Sizes (Source Aerbin)

Tank type	Volume m³	TB	TH	TL
12x15	1.7	1350	1295	2395
12x15M	2.2	1350	1495	2395
13x15	2.1	1450	1395	2395
13x15M	2.5	1450	1595	2395
14x15	2.4	1550	1495	2395
14x15M	2.9	1550	1695	2395
14x19	2.8	1550	1495	2795
14x19M	3.0	1550	1695	2795
16x23	4.0	1750	1695	3195
16x23M200	5.0	1750	1895	3195

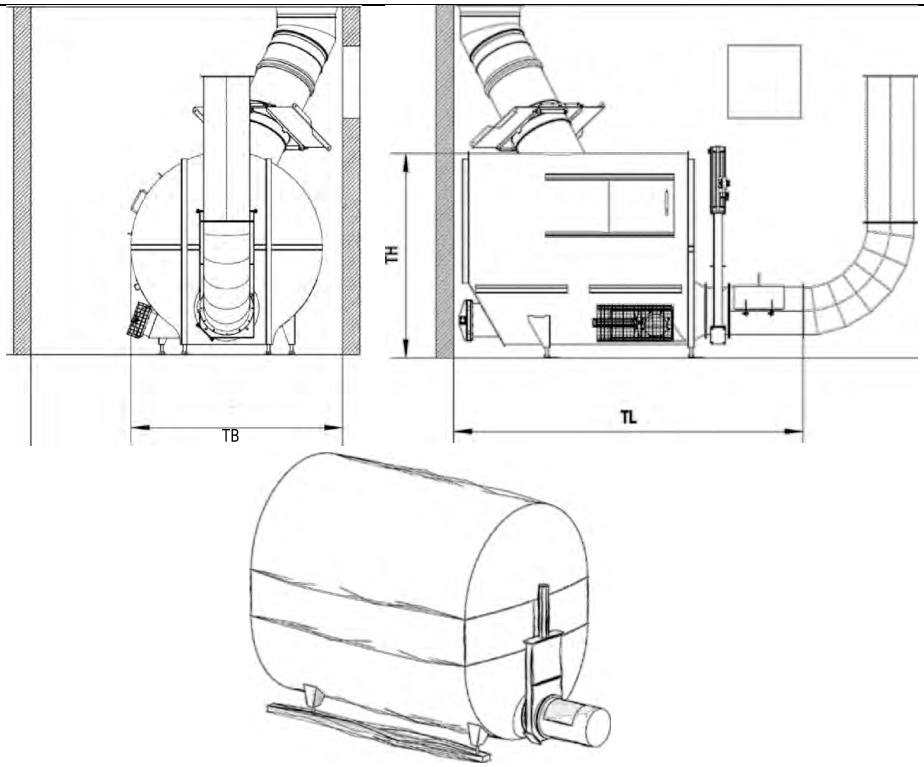


Figure 5.2.4 – Aerbin Horizontal Tank Details

Table 5.2.2 Aerbin Vertical Tank Sizes (Source Aerbin)

Volume m ³	TB	TH	TL
1.0	1190	1570	2732
1.5	1290	1860	2832
2.0	1590	1860	3132
2.5	1690	1975	2232
3.0	1890	2040	2432
3.5	1890	2190	2432

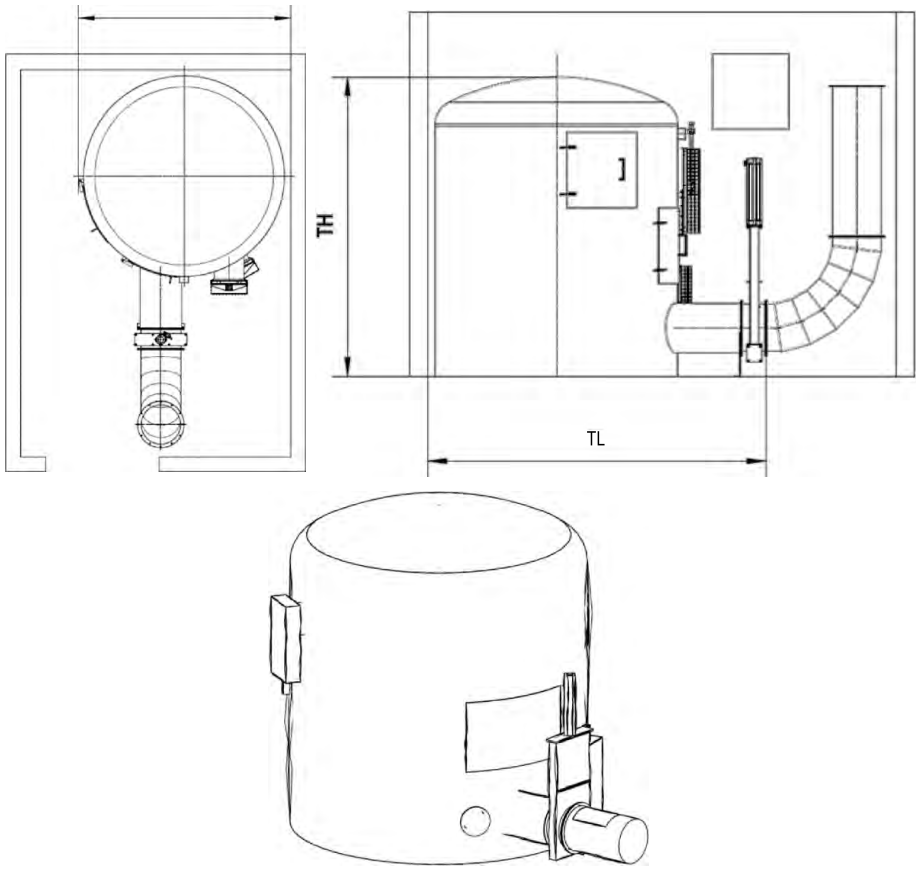


Figure 5.2.5 – Aerbin Vertical Tank Details

Tanks sizes shall be reconfirmed with the Suppliers as these may change due to Suppliers' updates and manufacturing requirements.

5.3 Tank Air Intake

The tank is provided with an air intake with an open and close valve to enable make up air for the vacuum operation. The air inlet valve shall be pneumatically operated (open/close actuation). The valve housing/frame and valve plate shall be of mild steel construction. The valve plate shall be provided with suitable sealing gasket to ensure that the valve remains airtight when closed. The air inlet throttle disc shall be sized to provide the required air flow in the refuse pipe net.

5.4 Tank Discharge and Inlet Valves

A discharge and isolation valve is located on the discharge of the tank to open and close in accordance with vacuum operation. In a system with multiple tanks, only one (1) tank is connected to the mobile collection vacuum operation at a time. The tank, which is being emptied, shall have its discharge valve open and the other tanks will have their discharge valve closed to isolate the tanks from the vacuum operation.

An inlet valve is provided on the top of the tank at gravity chute connection to the tank. The inlet valve is normally open but is closed when the tank is being emptied under vacuum operation.

5.5 Waste Chute Connection to Storage Tank

A separate gravity chute is required for each waste stream (general waste, recycling and food waste). A separate connection from each gravity chute to the associated storage tank is required. The gravity chutes for the LAWCS will be as required by the system.

A pipe from the top of Storage Tank connects to the waste chute to allow waste to drop into the Storage tanks. It is recommended that a maximum angle of 30 degrees from vertical is used to ensure smooth flow of rubbish from chute to the storage tank. The pipe is installed from the lower edge of the slab in the waste room to the waste tank. The pipe is attached with a transition that is bolted to the slab. The pipe diameter all through the system including transition points and angles is 400mm.

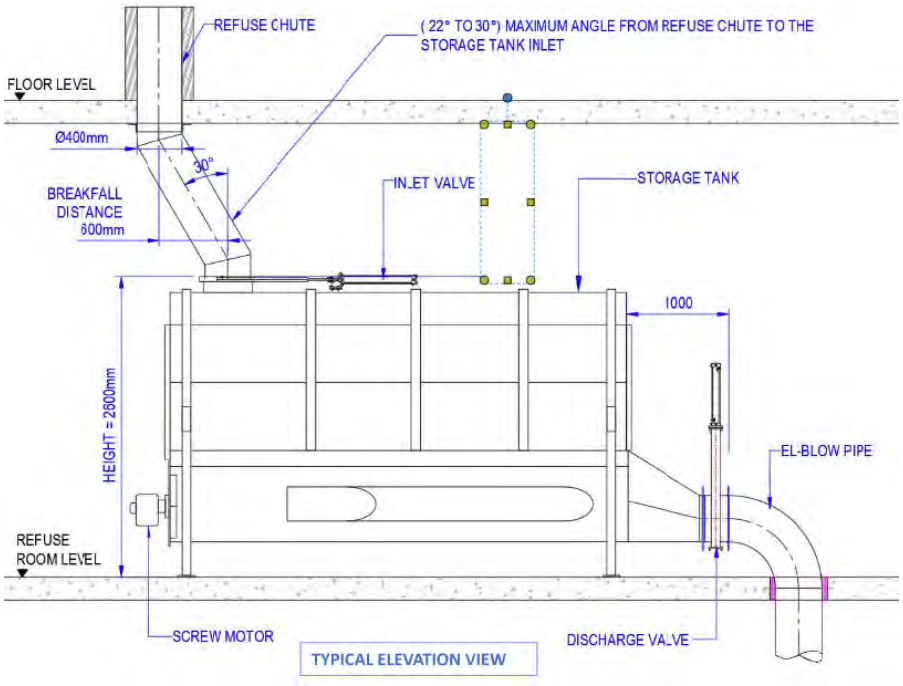


Figure 5.5.1 Waste Chute Connection to Storage Tank and Inlet and Discharge Valves with pipework reticulating at high level of floor below storage tanks (Source RVAC)

The pipework out of the storage tank (discharge pipework) shown on the right hand side of the figure above may bend downwards and reticulate at high level of the floor below (as per Figure 5.5.1), or may bend upwards and reticulate at high level of the same floor where the storage tanks are located (as per Figure 5.5.2).

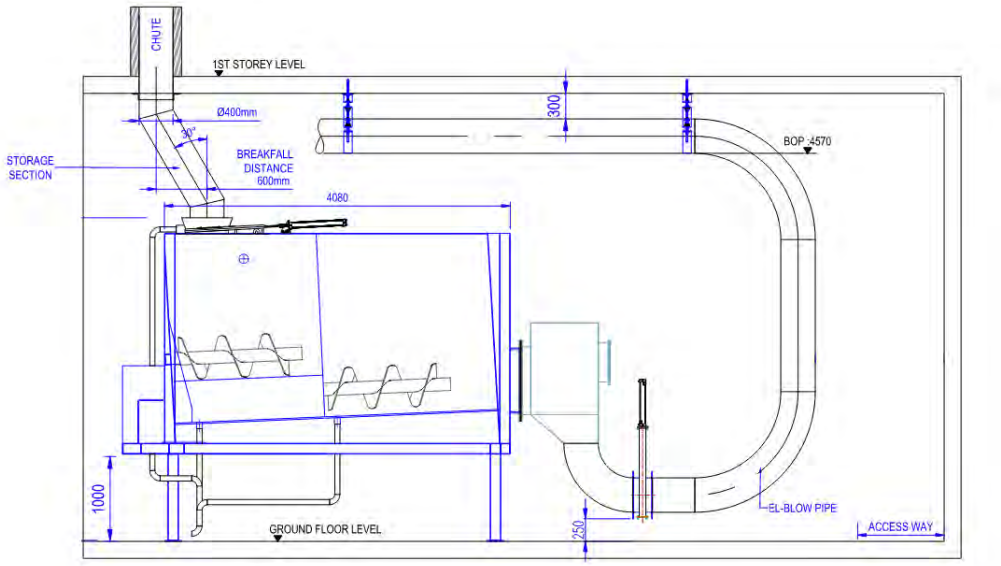


Figure 5.5.2 Waste Chute Connection to Storage Tank and Inlet and Discharge Valves with pipework reticulating at high level of same floor storage tanks are located (Source RVAC)

Where pipework reticulates from the storage tank to high level of the same floor the storage tank is located on, 4.2m clearances is required for the discharge pipework and the storage tank needs to be raised by 800mm – 1000mm. This is an RVAC specific requirement and for other systems this may not be required.

5.6 Air compressor

An air compressor and dryer is provided to pneumatically open and close the isolation valves and air intake valve. A space allowance of 2m x 0.5m is required in one of the Storage Tank Rooms to accommodate the compressor. Only one air compressor and dryer are required for the development, even if there are multiple chute locations/storage tank rooms.

5.7 Power Distribution Board

A power distribution board is provided to provide power to the air compressor, screw drive and the Controller are located in the Storage tank Room.

5.8 Power Requirements

The overall power required to be provided by the Developer is outlined in Table 5.8

Table 5.8 LAWCS Power Requirements

No.	Area Served	Equipment	Power Requirement	Quantity
1	Mobile Refuse Collection Vehicle	Collection Point Contactor Panel E-Rose Docking Station	400A TPN Isolator	1
2	Tank Storage Room	Air Compressor & Dryer	60A TPN Isolator	1

3	Tank Storage Room	Screw Feed Motor	32A TPN Isolator Per Tank	1

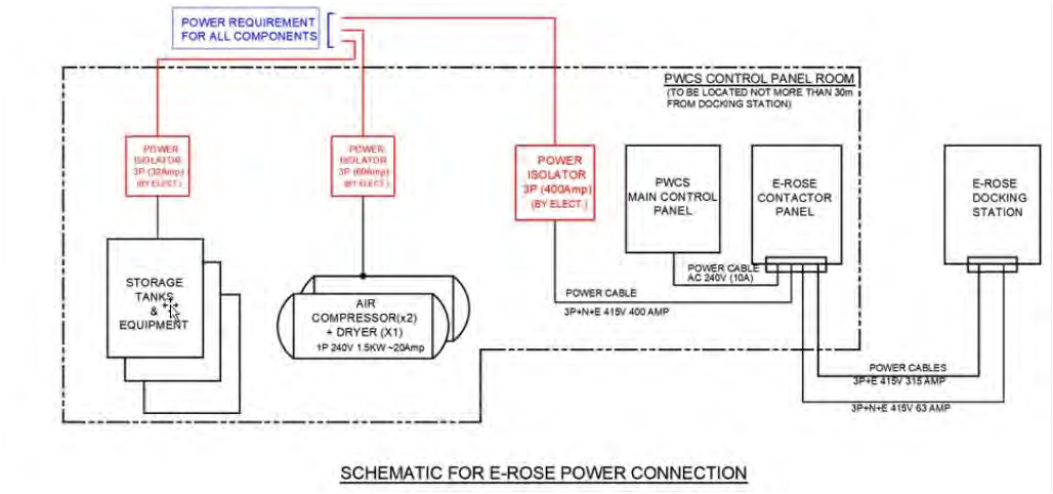


Figure 5.8 Power Schematic (Source RVAC)

5.9 PLC Control Panel

A PLC Controller is provided to operate the screw drive and open and close the isolation valves and air intake valve. The nominal dimensions of the Control Panel are 1000mm (W) x 300mm (D) x 1200mm (H)

5.10 Screw Feed Control Panel

The screw feed control panel is located typically on the side of the storage tank. The nominal dimensions of the Screw Feed Control Panel are 800mm (W) x 300mm (D) x 800mm (H).

5.11 Vacuum Pipework

The pipework will be installed in the basement adjacent to the Storage Tank Room. The pipes are typically 406mm external diameter. Pipe thickness shall be minimum 6.35mm (minimum) on straight sections and 9mm on bends, final thicknesses shall be selected to ensure reliable operation of the system under the expected loads and ambient temperatures for the full design life of the LAWCS. The pipework is constructed of carbon steel and the tube bends are typically constructed of boron steel due to their sensitivity. The pipework system must connect to all inlets via linking pipework.

Horizontal waste pipes shall be either:

1. buried underground at a depth of 50cm or more,
2. fixed at the basement ceiling level or
3. installed in a suitable alternative location which allows for correct system operation and protection from physical damage.

Pipe supports shall be provided as a minimum at every three to four metres and at changes of direction, or as considered necessary by a structural engineer. All seismic restraints in accordance with AS1170.4 requirements shall be provided to the pipework.

The pipework bend radius should be 1200mm for 400mm diameter pipes to reduce risk of obstructions and blockages. The number of pipework bends in the system shall be minimised to reduce pipework pressure drop thus affecting vacuum suction . For corrosion prevention the pipework must be treated with suitable corrosion prevention paint. Underground pipes must be coated with three layers of PE pipe coating in accordance with the following:

- For a straight pipe: KSD 3562 (KSD 3607) or equivalent,
- For a bend pipe: KSD 3607 or equivalent.

The material tensile strength for pipes shall be greater than 330MPa for a straight pipe and greater than 370MPa for a bend pipe. Inspection openings must be provided for all horizontal pipework to allow maintenance access. Openings shall be located away from sharp bends and discharge valves, and must be water tight to prevent water ingress and damage to the pipework. Inspection openings must include an inspection panel on the top side of the enclosed pipe for maintenance, and internal ladder for access in accordance with Australian Standards, and a 2 metre high internal chamber for adequate maintenance access. The inspection manhole shall be constructed of waterproof, steel reinforced concrete, with epoxy sealed penetrations. Pipework section details are provided in Figure 5.11 below.

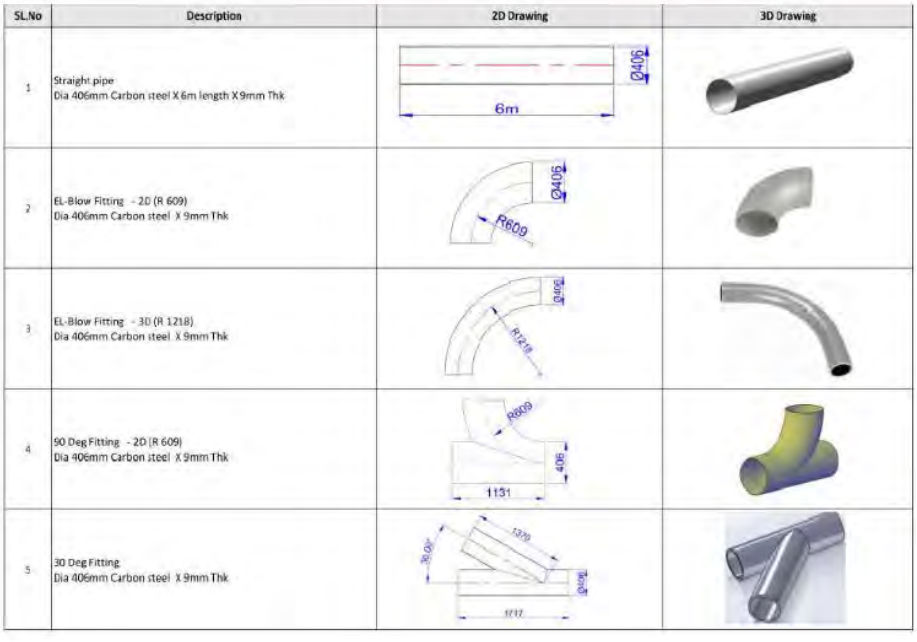


Figure 5.11 Vacuum Pipework Details(Source RVAC)

5.12 Waste Collection Vehicle Collection Point – Docking Station

The duration of waste collection depends on the amount of waste being collected but is typically around 20 minutes.

Spatial provision for the mobile vacuum vehicle must be made. This includes a docking station where the vehicle can connect to the outlet point of the system and a clear travel path to and from all docking stations in the precinct. The truck spatial dimensions and outlet point locations are described further in Section 5.2.

The truck weight is 40 tonnes, this must be coordinated with the design team when coordinated the final docking point and locating the outlet.

The maximum suction distance for waste streams is 300 metres, excluding organic waste streams which are limited to 250m. These parameters determine the furthest distance storage tanks may be located relative to the outlet point. The system can cope with waste bags up to 60 litres in volume.

The maximum lift (height difference between the lowest pipe and the outlet point) is 7 metres. Should a greater height be required this shall be coordinated with the preferred supplier to determine what impacts this has on the system (if any) and coordinated with RCC to ensure compatibility with the mobile vacuum collection vehicle.

The outlet point can be located up to 5 metres away from the docking station from the RVAC systems. For the Aerbin system the outlet must be located no more than 3 metres away from the docking point. The diagram below shows the maximum clearances required (green) at the docking station based on an outlet point 5 metres away from the mobile vacuum vehicle (RVAC systems).

Clearances on the front, left hand side and rear of the vehicle are to provide a safe path for the vehicle operators to travel around the vehicle for manual/PLC connection of the vehicle arm to the outlet point and to allow for a clear distance from other traffic and pedestrians. The overall footprint required for the docking station is 12.12m (W) x 4.55m – 8.55m (D), depending on the outlet point location.

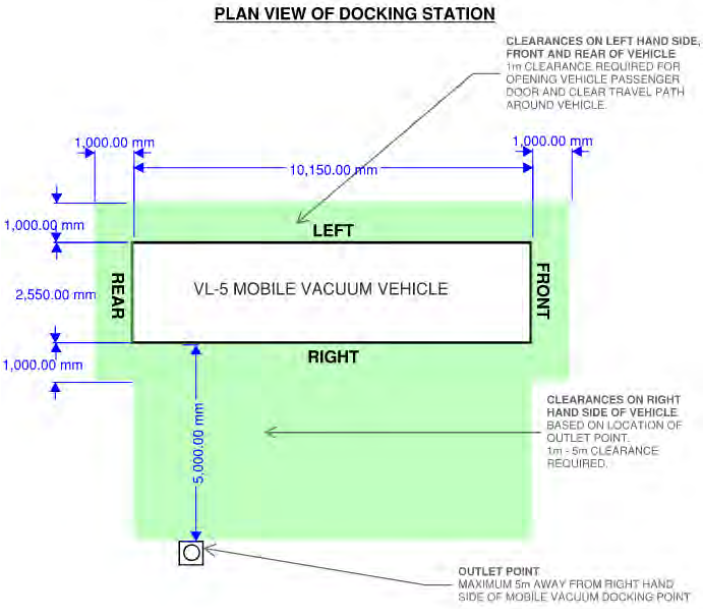


Figure 5.12.1 Dimensional Setout of RVAC Docking Station

Purpose built outlet points are provided for the mobile vehicle to connect in to the LAWCS. The outlet points can be raised, located at ground level as shown in the figure below or below ground level based on the location of the site.

If the outlet point cannot be placed within the site boundary it may be located on public land if approved by RCC. All outlets shall have a lockable cover.

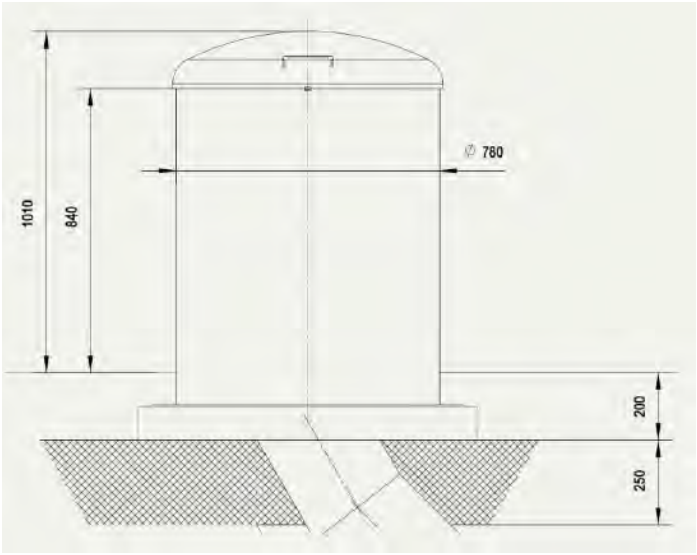


Figure 5.12.2 Typical Outlet Point Dimensions (Source Aerbin)

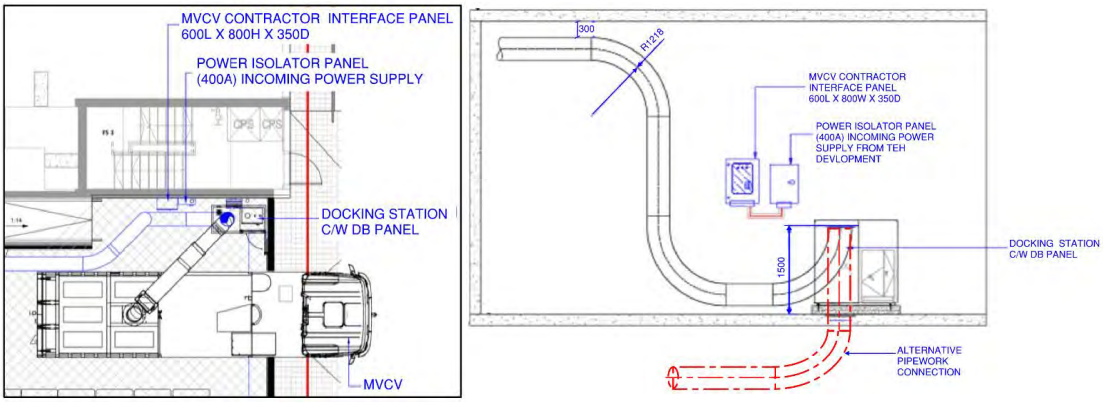


Figure 5.12.3 Connection for MVCV to Docking Station (Source RVAC)

The dockings points are strategically located considering the following:

1. Adequate spatial provision for vehicle and associated clearances.
2. Mobile vacuum vehicle travel and swept paths. The vehicle must be able to drive through and turn around at the docking point locations. Narrow alley ways or courtyards are not suitable docking point locations.
3. Reducing vehicle travel path leading to reduced carbon emissions and reduced traffic. Location of multiple docking points served by the same vehicle should be assessed to ensure efficient travel paths.

4. Maximum pipework length from storage locations to outlet point. The maximum suction distance of the vehicle is 200m.
5. Safety. Location of docking points should be away from high traffic and busy pedestrian areas. Locating docking points away from main roads allows for reducing risk of accidents with other motor vehicles and pedestrians.
6. Odour and noise from the mobile vehicle. Proximity to residents and other building occupants should be assessed.
7. Vehicle weight at full capacity. The travel path must be able to accommodate the vehicle weight at full capacity at all locations.
8. The number of developments which can be served by one docking point, which depends on the property type, number of waste streams, number of households per tank and other site specific constraints.

The location of the docking point must be agreed with RCC.

5.13 Mobile Vacuum Collection Vehicle and Clearance Requirements

The Mobile Vacuum Vehicle dimensions are provide as follows:

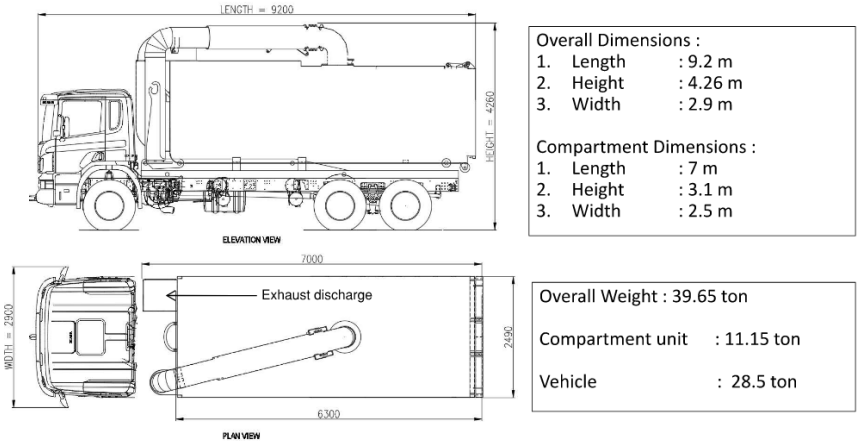


Figure 5.13 Mobile Vacuum Collection Vehicle Dimensions (Source RVAC)

During operation a height clearance of 5 metres shall be provided to allow movement of the connection from the vehicle to the outlet point.

5.14 Collection Frequency

Waste storage tank sizes shall be selected based on weekly collection for waste and food organics, and fortnightly collection for recycling.

6 System Operation

The operational sequence for a LAWCS is as follows:

1. Waste disposal at inlet points

2. Waste falls into storage tanks
3. MVCV controlled collection
4. Airflow is generated by opening the air intake valve at the upstream of the pipeline
5. Discharge valve for each tank of the waste stream being collected opens (1 tank at a time)
6. Waste sucked into MVCV
7. Odour from transport air treated by filtration system built into the MVCV
8. Exhaust air discharge from MVCV to surroundings

The control signals for a LAWCS is as follows:

1. All inlet points on all floors for each waste stream are able to be openable for disposal of waste by users. A green light signal is displayed indicating the inlet is available for disposal of waste.
2. An ON signal is sent to the system prior to the emptying of the waste stream. This signal locks all loading doors associated to the waste stream being transported, shuts off the exhaust fan and displays a red light signal on each inlets of the associated waste stream. If any inlets are open, the system will wait until they are closed to begin the emptying process.
3. The waste stream is emptied from the system.
4. Once the emptying process is completed, the valves of the waste stream open, and a signal is sent back to all the inlet points of that waste stream.
5. 5 seconds after the signal is sent, the exhaust fan operation resumes and a green light at the inlet is displayed, indicating the inlet is available for use.

The LAWCS supplier and the Developer's electrical contractor shall provide the required relay signals to achieve system operation described about. The electrical contractor shall complete all the system interfacing.

7 LAWCS vs Business As Usual

Table 7 Comparison of conventional waste collection and LAWCS

	Conventional Truck Collection Method	LAWCS With Mobile Vacuum Vehicle
Main system components	- Inlets, waste chutes, garbage rooms within building or externally.	- Inlets, waste chutes, storage tanks within building or below ground externally, underground pipe network.
Building requirements for garbage collection	- Bin collection areas in basement ,ground level or kerbside and in reasonable proximity to the vehicle entrance. - Truck access to basement level required otherwise bin lifter to ground floor to be provided. - Bins must have a clear path from garbage rooms to kerbside for collection. - Waste room layout to be designed to encourage easy recycling and separation of waste types by users. - A minimum height clearance of approximately 4 metres, width of 3.6m and turning circle for waste collection vehicle. - Minimum garbage room area requirements specified by Council (based on development type and size).	- Storage tank rooms required at lowest floor in building if internal inlets are provided. Access for maintenance to room required but no requirement to remove waste or tanks from the room. - No internal building spatial requirements if inlets are all located externally. - No access by waste collection vehicles required within the property boundary. External docking point serving one or multiple buildings can be provided instead.
Impact on urban image	- Aesthetic impact when bins are located externally on street before/after collection. - Waste collection vehicles will drive through high traffic and public areas as the location of collection points for waste must be located wholly within the boundary of the development. - Bins need to be presented for collection and taken back to storage room after collection	- Aesthetic benefit from having no bins located on street or externally. - Flexibility with docking station location means urban image is improved by strategically locating docking points away from public areas.
Hygiene and odour	- Potential for waste overflow on streets or in garbage areas leading to odour and vermin. - Opening and closing of bins, and transportation of bins to street and truck requires physical contact with bins which is unhygienic and can lead to the spread of bacteria.	- No odour contamination as waste streams are completely sealed and ventilated. - No overflow provided users dispose of waste correctly, as storage tanks and collection frequency are based on actual disposal rates. - Use of a swipe card or hand-wave signal to open up inlets means waste disposal can be contact free. - No contact with bins required during waste collection, only connection from mobile vacuum vehicle arm to system

				outlet is required, therefore improving hygiene and reducing spread of bacteria.
Security	-	Risk of vandalism. - Bins can be a terrorist target.	-	Reduced security threats having a completely contained system. For additional security inlets can be fitting with automatic locking mechanisms which can be initiated remotely from a control system or by a swipe card.
Relies on users taking bins out	-	Relies of users to take out different waste stream bins on certain days and certain times for waste collection. Forgetting to do so may lead to bin overflow until the next collection frequency.	-	No reliance on users taking bins out on a certain day at a certain time as the system operates 24/7 with schedule collection frequencies.

AUTOMATED WASTE COLLECTION SYSTEMS WASTE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Automated Waste Collection Systems (AWCS) is a network of underground pipes that transport municipal and/or industrial/commercial waste at high speeds (60-70 km/hour) to a designated waste collection point.

The system can be broken down into three components:

1. The user interface (inlets)
2. The transportation method (pipe network)
3. The waste disposal interface (the collection station)

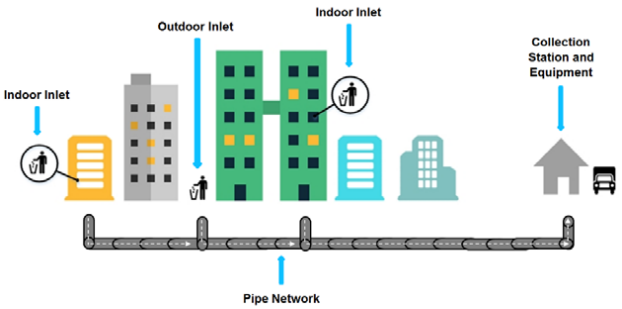


Figure 1: Automated Waste Collection System schematic identifying key infrastructure

1.1 INLETS

Inlets can be located indoors (most commonly wall mounted) and/or outdoors (most commonly free-standing). This flexibility allows maximum user accessibility.



Figure 2: Wall mounted and free standing inlets

The location and quantity of inlets implemented in each development will be determined following consultation with individual suppliers. This will take into consideration the estimated waste generation rates, frequency of collection and the safe/convenient access for users.

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The systems are regulated by a control system housed in the collection station. This allows the automated opening of pipes once a pre-determined volume of waste is placed in the inlet. This is designed to reduce the cross contamination of waste streams.

1.2 PIPE NETWORK

The underground pipe network transports waste from the inlet to the collection station, where waste is separated, compacted and stored in sealed containers. When full the containers are collected by hook lift trucks and transported to Council's processing/recycling facilities.

The pipe network is commonly constructed of steel (carbon and aluminum stainless steel) with a pipe diameter generally between 200-500mm and buried 1-2m deep. The thickness and curve radius of the underground pipe system is directly dependent on the type and quantity of waste proposed.



Figure 3: Composite piping used for the underground pipe network

1.3 COLLECTION STATIONS

The location of the collection station can be incorporated into the development or located outside the proposed site. However it must be no more than 4km from the original disposal point (inlet).





Figure 4: Collection stations located within buildings on ground floor

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Figure 5: Stand-alone collection stations

2. DEVELOPER INCENTIVES

2.1 BENEFITS TO DEVELOPERS

An AWCS offers numerous environmental, social and technical advantages. It allows a developer to showcase innovation in design, construction and operational practices, and is a sustainable choice which reduces the development's impact on the environment.

It also has the potential to:

- lower basement heights
- save floor space
- lower operational costs
- increase asset value and return on investment
- enhance marketability
- offer a competitive advantage
- achieve higher sale and rental values and tenant retention.

Further benefits can be seen on the following page:

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Environmental Advantages	Social Advantages	Technical Advantages
Increased recycling and landfill diversion rates	Elimination of spillage during traditional collection	24/7 service availability with flexible collection hours and reduced service time
Noise reduction related to waste collection in local areas	Reduced traffic congestion and increased safety on local roads through removal of heavy rigid vehicles	Ability to adjust to fluctuations in waste generation
Removal of odour and vermin through the removal of standard bins	Reduced risks associated with collection vehicles	Minimal collection vehicle access specifications and requirements
Greenhouse gas emissions reduction	Improved driver safety and OH&S	Joint residential and commercial collection opportunities
Improved localised air quality	Improved hygiene through minimal handling of waste and exposure to pathogens by users and collection contractors	Minimal requirements for caretaker intervention in system operations
Increased visual amenity through the removal of traditional kerbside presentation/ collection		

3. TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 THINGS TO CONSIDER

The key areas to consider when looking to install an AWCS into future developments are:

- The number of waste fractions to be serviced.
- The management of waste streams that cannot be accommodated or serviced by an AWCS:
  - bulky household waste
  - combustible and flammable substances
  - hard wastes (stones or metal scraps)
  - viscous waste (binders and adhesives)
  - spongy waste (cushions, pillows, blankets etc)
  - large volumes of liquids and
  - dangerous chemicals.
- Frequent system cleaning/ventilation to manage odour and noise.
- Location of the collection station (onsite or offsite) and size
- Correct and safe use of the system by all users accompanied by education to minimise system misuse and blockages.
- Service and maintenance agreements.

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3.2 INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS

Safe and efficient operation of the AWCS requires a development to have:

- a waste service room
- interim storage areas for larger recyclable goods on each residential level
- separate indoor and outdoor inlets for the collection of waste
- separate waste chutes for the specific streams ('fractions') being serviced
- underground pipe network
- separate waste containers for residual and recyclable waste
- road/hardstand space for container changeover and service vehicle loading, and
- storage space for surplus waste items.

It also requires a collection station and associated equipment/areas such as:

- collection containers for each waste fraction (stream)
- waste separator (if required for fractions such as organics)
- compactor
- exhauster room
- pump, filter and carbon units
- dust filter
- air exhaust pipe, and
- control/electrical room.

3.3 JOINT USAGE

To facilitate the joint usage of the AWCS in mixed use developments, a Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) card reader system can be used to control and restrict system access. RFID cards can measure the waste disposal data of users in mixed use developments. The system can regulate areas by waste type and potentially invoice residential and/or commercial streams based on the volumes of waste disposed.



Figure 6: Waste inlet's with the RFID System

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3.4 MAINTENANCE & CARETAKER RESPONSIBILITY

An AWCS requires ongoing operation and system maintenance by a caretaker and/or AWCS staff member to ensure the system's longevity.

The primary role of the caretaker for an AWCS involves:

- Monitoring: The caretaker is responsible for determining collection terminal frequencies in conjunction with Council based upon the waste generation data available. Depending on the system's scale, the caretaker should be part time (2hrs a day) with the ability to contract out responsibilities.
- Maintenance: The system's maintenance involves programmed and emergency maintenance as outlined by the system's supplier

3.5 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

In order to improve inlet safety, there are four main strategies:

1. Where inlets have unlimited access in residential areas (indoor and outdoor inlets), the inlet opening should not be larger than 30cm
2. The inlet door should be positioned a minimum 110-120cm above the ground.
3. Where larger inlet doors are required (for some retail and commercial users) restricted access is needed through the implementation of a RFID system's or alternative technologies.
4. Electrical locking of inlets during emptying

4. SYSTEM SUITABILITY

4.1 SUITABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

AWCS are primarily suitable for greenfield developments where there is no need to work within the constraints of existing buildings or infrastructure. This allows the pipe network to be installed with other essential services (water, electricity, sewerage). However an AWCS can be retrofitted into existing developments and buildings if required.

The system can be installed in areas with a few hundred dwellings. However it is typically financially feasible over 1,000 dwellings with medium-high density and a mixture of retail and residential uses.

In developments where the number and density of units is a concern, an AWCS has the ability to service multiple developments through the staging of the underground pipe network. The AWCS can operate on a relatively small base load initially with the understanding that additional loads over time will be managed as future developments are connected.

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The technical and financial suitability of an AWCS for a specific development needs to be assessed individually based upon:

- the scale of the development
- type of retail and residential premises and
- site specific constraints.

5. FURTHER INFORMATION

5.1 COUNCILS WASTE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Contact Waste Services on **4732 7615** for more information.

Developers considering implementing AWCS within a proposed development are encouraged to arrange a pre-lodgment meeting. This will allow Council and respective Waste Services staff to help assess whether it is a viable option.

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Designing and building guidelines

Purpose

The Guidelines provide the minimum waste and recycling management requirements for all development and are integral in ensuring that developments in the Inner West maximise resource recovery opportunities through smart, innovative, and sustainable design. Waste needs to be considered in all applications and all uses will generate demolition, construction, and/or ongoing operational waste.

How to use the Guidelines

The guidelines are categorised into specific sections based on the development type proposed and are to be read in conjunction with relevant waste section of the applicable Development Control Plan. Each relevant part must be considered and applied to the proposal, i.e., for a mixed used application the guidelines for Demolition and Construction, Residential, and Commercial will need to be met.

Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires council to *make and levy an annual charge for the provision of **domestic waste management services** for each parcel of rateable land for which the service is available.* In Inner West, this means that all residential and mixed-use development must be designed to enable waste to be collected by Council or Council's contractors.

Waste and recycling services differ between local councils as they depend on contract arrangements, councils' waste management strategies and policies, the population size, and access to service provision.

Council's Planning and Resource Recovery staff are available to assist with questions related to the requirements in these Guidelines. Councils waste team can be contacted via council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au



Demolition and/or construction waste



Residential – individually owned bins



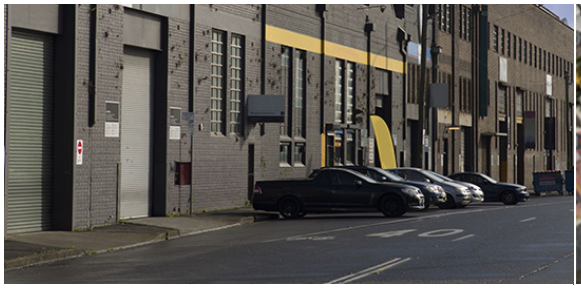
Residential - shared bins



Commercial development







Industrial development



New subdivisions and planned precincts

Glossary

Page last updated: 15 May 2025

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 14**

Subject: **EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENTS AT THE INNER WEST SUSTAINABILITY HUB**

Prepared By: Luke Murtas - Senior Manager Environment and Sustainability

Authorised By: Simone Plummer - Director Planning

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council endorse and adopt the increased program of engagements for the Inner West Sustainability Hub.**

2. **That Council encourage further activation of the site by inviting local environmental organisations, especially those with a focus on the circular economy, to put forward an Expression of Interest for use of underutilised spaces at the Inner West Sustainability Hub.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West
5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Inner West Sustainability Hub was opened on 1 July 2023. Tenants include The Bower, Re:Place and Dress for Success in addition to Council's Green Living Centre.

Council approved a promotional plan for the Sustainability Hub in March 2025 and directed staff to investigate opportunities for Council to support an increase in and diversity of events at the Hub. A strong base of engagement has been developed which includes work by Council's community partners and Council's environmental teams.

This report summarises progress in respect of the ongoing activation of the Sustainability Hub and makes recommendations for an increased program of community engagements and events.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 11 March 2025, Council resolved the following in part:

5. That Council engage with local stakeholders on how Council can support an increase in and diversity of events at the Hub, with a report back to Council at the May 2025 Council meeting, including but not limited to:
   a) Environmental and sustainability groups
   b) Schools, TAFEs, and early learning centres
   c) Community clubs
   d) Not-for-profit organisations
   e) Business chambers
   f) Sporting groups; and
   g) The Inner West Creative Network.

Through engagement with a range of stakeholders, a program of increased engagements and events at the Sustainability Hub has been developed in response to this resolution.

DISCUSSION

Council staff continue to engage with external stakeholders about opportunities for improved activation of the Hub, including contacts from:

- Council's environmental volunteer network
- The Inner West Sustainable Schools Network
- Community clubs and local not-for-profit organisations
- Inner West business chambers and
- The Inner West Creative Network.

Engagement to date has focused on new ways to activate the Hub, use and availability of the of the workshop space and ways to connect the Hub with new audiences and partners. These questions have also been considered by Council's Environment Local Democracy Group. Feedback to date has included suggestions such as:

- *Investigate the potential to provide a shuttle bus for pickups from local transport hubs*
- *Performances by local entertainers (drama or music) to "bring the creatives in"*
- *Council native nursery plant sales*
- *Reverse Garbage would be a great fit for the Sustainability Hub*
- *Pop up dance session*
- *Set up a coffee shop*
- *World environment day – have a celebration at the Hub or host Footprints Festival*

In the 2024-25 financial year, engagements by Council's community partners generated 20,246 visits to the Sustainability Hub:

- Dress for Success: Clothes reuse and career support services for vulnerable women (1,815 clients + 200 corporate visitors and approximately 700 volunteer visits)
- Re:Place: Clothing, textiles and problem waste recycling as well as retailing in the preloved clothes warehouse (7,313 patrons)
- The Bower: Repair and reuse workshops, building "tiny houses," and the house to home program for whitegoods, retailing of vintage goods and repaired bikes (8,218 patrons)

This is in addition to the regular program of engagements offered by Council's Environment teams, principally the Green Living Centre, which has engaged over 600 Inner West residents and visitors in sustainability workshops and activities at the Hub since the start of 2025, receiving a 4.88 (out of 5) star satisfaction rating.

Over the next 12 months and beyond, it is recommended that this base is developed further, as outlined below.

<u>Public Art, access and wayfinding</u>

In line with Council's adopted communications plan, a "Perfect match"-style mural at the entry point of the Hub has been commissioned and was launched by the Mayor and Councillors in August 2025. The mural has been facilitated through Council's Perfect Match program and painted by local artist Kelly Wallwork. This mural will make use of paints sourced from Circle paints, a reuse business based in St Peters which is supported by Council's environmental grants program.

In concert with The Bower, a "living" wayfinding mural within the site has also been commissioned and commenced in July 2025.

Improvements have been made to accessibility through the Hub with a kerb ramp recently being installed at the Ashfield end of the site. This has significantly improved accessibility for older and mobility impaired patrons, parents with prams, and wheelchair users and has the benefit of making the site more accessible for community drop-offs using trolleys.

A further enhancement to through-site safe access and wayfinding remains to be realised, where the blue pedestrian pathway does not fully connect to the Ashfield-end entry to the site. The entry mural will enhance and highlight this pathway as a principal entry and through-site link. The Pathway will be connected right through to the Ashfield gate. A connection to Liverpool Road is also being explored to highlight the pedestrian entry to the Hub from the Ashfield side.

Circular Economy

On the 27 May 2025, Council hosted a Circular Economy Roundtable with industry and government partners to generate ideas to grow the local circular economy and cement the Inner West's place as the centre of the circular economy in Sydney. Council sought feedback from attendees at the Roundtable in relation to events and engagements at the Hub. Ideas and opportunities which were discussed include:

- Cross-promotion of and with the Hub brand with Inner West reuse businesses and personalities to amplify and diversify our collective audiences
- Connecting with business networks including Chambers of Commerce to identify opportunities for activation

Two concrete actions arise from the roundtable:

- Making the Hub part of a "Reuse Trail" which would allow self-guided tours of reuse and repair businesses in the same way people visit the Inner West "Ale Trail"
- A planned networking event hosted by Council at the Hub in November 2025

Seasonal Themed Days and Events

At the moment, Council schedules some of its projects to coincide with events such as National Tree Day and World Rivers Day. Increased engagements at the Hub present an opportunity to continue this theme. "World Days" are a recognisable concept to a broad audience which is easily communicated over social media, making them an ideal platform to promote the Hub.

In line with the suggestion from Council's Environment Local Democracy Group, it is recommended that scheduling of significant engagements take into account themed days on the "world environment calendar" such as:

- Global Recycling Day on 18 March
- Clean Up Australia Day on the first Sunday in March
- World Environment Day on 5 June
- World Rivers Day on 4 September

Council's resolution to relocate the Footprints Ecofestival to the Hub provides an opportunity to form a key point of engagement for our citizen science or bushcare groups on one of these key dates; and there is an opportunity to hold a circular economy, recycling or litter-focused event in the early part of the year around March.

Regional Activities

The diversity of events at the Hub can be further increased by encouraging regional groups and regional-scale activities to make use of the space. For example:

- Regen Sydney is hosting a series of events to collectively explore the regenerative potential of Inner West neighbourhoods, including local food and energy systems

- The Parramatta River Catchment Group will host meetings at the Hub including media and events training for Councillors, public engagements and planning days

The Hub's central location and the fit out of the presentation space make it a well-suited location for capacity building workshops and engagements. Council can promote the use of the Hub for this purpose among its regional partners to further increase activation of the site.

Schools
Council's Environment and Sustainability team has a fledgling "incursion" program that includes staff visits to primary schools to complement the current NSW science curriculum. This generally involves a half-day visit to local schools and a short presentation by staff from the sustainability, ecology and resource recovery team (Waste Busters) to young students about the various projects they do in the environmental field.

Contacts to arrange these incursions generally arise through Council's Sustainable Schools network and there is the potential to convert the program into an "excursion" to the Sustainability Hub. This could also include tours of the community partner tenancies at the Hub for school students and (where appropriate) interactivity with their operations.

Local Enterprise and Not-for Profit Opportunities
The Sustainability Hub offers a unique potential for local small businesses with an environmental focus or based around the circular economy. This is largely through use of the renovated workshop space and by collaborating with the Council's community partners.

For example, during the recent school holiday period and during Youth Week, a locally-based fashion business *Slogue* ran a series of "Thrift Flipping" workshops for people aged 12-24 which teaches design and technology skills but also "the art of upcycling, reworking or renovating op-shop finds", and partners with Hub tenant Re:Place to divert textiles from landfill and teach local young people about reuse and recycling as opposed to "fast fashion".

In September, the Sustainability Hub workshop space will be used for two events by the Sydney Bird Club, a not-for profit organisation. Less formal and more community-driven sessions such as these will be critical to boosting the ongoing appeal of the Hub, especially outside of its existing audience. Council will continue to promote the availability of the presentation and workshop space at the Hub to local small businesses and not-for-profit organisations.

Evening Events
In addition to the above, it is proposed to host more events and engagements at the Hub outside of ordinary business hours to ensure the program is more accessible. This would include promoting a quarterly evening series of events featuring speakers, book launches, photography, movie screenings and arts and other engagements with a sustainability focus.

Currently these occur on an occasional basis – for example a recent author talk presented by the Green Living Centre addressed collective local responses to Climate Change and links well with Council's CSP targets. Staff are currently investigating the potential to show an environmental documentary or themed film to coincide with an "environmental calendar" day such as World Environment Day.

Zero Waste Food Offering
Council staff are investigating the potential to secure a zero-waste coffee cart or similar offering, which would broaden the appeal and "dwell time" for patrons of the Hub. There is increased foot traffic at the Hub generated by the through-link between Prospect Road and Liverpool Road which allows pedestrians to avoid the busy intersection, in addition to many

casual visitors each day that use the free electric vehicle chargers. Discussions with local business chambers indicate that it may be possible to secure a cooperative agreement with a local café operator or social enterprise who could supply café equipment and staff with Council support. A pilot project is recommended to be adopted over the coming 12-month period.

Activation of underutilised spaces

There are currently spaces within the Sustainability Hub which could be put to more active use to complement the other community partners and Council's use of the site. This includes:

- A high-clearance storage space used by Council's Infrastructure team to store civil works inventory such as pallets of pavers and bricks as well as bins, FOGO caddies and bags
- A space adjacent to the EV charging stations previously earmarked as an Ecology engagement space but used as a storage space for civil works inventory
- The former mechanic's office adjacent to Council's demonstration garden in the south-west corner of the site used to store equipment for the programs in the gardens

There is significant interest in making better use of these spaces, having been noted at the recent Circular Economy Roundtable and by Council's Local Democracy Groups. It is recommended that Council invite local environmental organisations, especially those making headway in the circular economy, to register an Expression of Interest for uses of underutilised space at the Hub, which will further activate the site.

Staff will need to ensure that appropriate preparations have been made to relocate the civil and other inventory before new uses could move into the ancillary spaces at the Hub.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Council endorse and adopt the above program of engagements for the Inner West Sustainability Hub, and in particular:

- Connect the "Blue Path" into the site from Liverpool Road to highlight access into the site
- Promote the Inner West Reuse Trail and establish the Hub as one of its key nodes
- Host a follow-up networking event to Council's Circular Economy Roundtable
- Consider coordinating Council's environment festival to coincide with a key calendar date
- Work with regional partners to facilitate capacity building activities
- Further develop the potential for school excursions to the Hub
- Provide opportunities at the Hub for small, local businesses and not-for-profit groups that have a primary focus on the environment or the circular economy
- Partner with a local business or social enterprise operator to pilot a food offering
- Pilot a program of quarterly evening events at the Hub, with an environmental theme

Further, it is recommended that Council invite local environmental organisations, especially those making headway in the circular economy, to put forward an Expression of Interest for the underutilised spaces at the Hub and direct Council staff to make suitable arrangements for a new community partnership which will further activate the site.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications associated with the implementation of the pilot program of activities outlined in the report. The majority of events and engagements detailed are facilitated by Council, community partnerships or are able to be accommodated within current (2025/26) Environment and Sustainability team budgets (Resource Recovery Planning, Urban Ecology and Urban Sustainability teams).

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 15

Subject: 2025 INNER WEST COUNCIL ANNUAL GRANT PROGRAM

Prepared By: Simon Watts - Social and Cultural Planning Manager

Authorised By: Ruth Callaghan - Director Community

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council approve the funding recommendations for the Inner West Council 2025 Annual Grant Program in Attachments 2-11.**

2. **That Council notes the second year of funding for the two-year 2024-2026 Active Inner West Grants, Community Wellbeing Grants and Environment Grants in Attachments 12-14, which were approved by Council in September 2024.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has a range of grants to enable the community to develop projects and programs to address local needs. The total grant funding recommended for approval is $649,493.

In 2025, it is proposed to award the following amounts in these grant streams:

- Arts: Professional Development - $49,820
- Arts: Arts Projects - $98,223
- Business Chambers - $180,000
- Circular Economy - $15,000
- Community History - $25,000
- Community Wellbeing - $31,452
- Community Wellbeing - $112,000 (total – year one of two years)
- Disability Support - $59,800 (total – year one of one or two years)
- Environment - $44,898 (total – year one of two years)
- Multicultural - $33,300

In addition to the grants listed above, the sum of $140,620 is allocated for 2025-2026 as the second year of funding for the pre-approved two-year 2024-2026 Active Inner West Grants, Community Wellbeing Grants and Environment Grants. Council approved these allocations for in September 2024.

BACKGROUND

Inner West Council offers annual grants to help achieve the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan including: an ecologically sustainable Inner West; liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport; creative communities and a strong economy; healthy, resilient, and caring communities; and progressive, responsive, and effective civic leadership.

At the Council meeting held on 17 June 2025, Council resolved the following:

That Council supports modifying the draft economic development budget to establish an annual grants program to support Inner West Business Chambers / Networks / Associations as outlined in the officers' report, subject to the following changes:

a) *Funding for the grant funded program be increased to $350,000 from 2026-2027 by reducing the staff establishment and that the additional $130,000 in 2025-26 be allocated towards to the purchase of new Christmas decorations for main streets;*

b) *Add any staff savings accrued during the recruitment of the vacant economic development position to the program budget for the 2025/2026 financial year, and that this funding also be allocated to the purchase of new Christmas decorations;*

c) *That as a requirement of applying, Chambers, business associations or networks be asked to demonstrate commitment to diversity and inclusion;*

d) *That capital works on main streets and in the public domain be included in the list of eligible projects, subject to approvals and collaboration with Inner West Council;*

e) *The grant program for 2025-2026 commence as early as possible in the new financial year, with future grant rounds aligned with the Inner West Council's Annual Grant Program;*

f) *Amend the eligibility criteria for chambers and business associations from "have 30 members" to "have no fewer than 30 financial members"; and*

g) *That a report be provided to Council one year following the endorsement of successful applicants providing an evaluation of the first year of the program.*

At the Council meeting held on 18 February 2025, Council resolved the following:

That Council approve the creation of two new grant streams, using existing budgets and as outlined in this report.

At the Council meeting held on 3 September 2024, Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council approves the funding recommendations for the Inner West Council 2024 Annual Grant Program in Attachments 1-8 of the Council report.*

2. *That Council notes the second year of funding for the two-year 2023-2025 Community Wellbeing Grants in Attachment 9 of the Council report, which were approved by Council in September 2023.*

3. *That Council conduct a workshop with potential applicants for grants in the multicultural program to build interest, understanding and capability in the application process, following the process undertaken to support potential applicants to the artistic program.*

4. *That Council investigate establishing a program of funding for organisations and individuals to specifically support local people with disability as part of the 2025-2026 grant program, providing a report to the November 2024 Council meeting.*

At the Council meeting held on 22 October 2024, Council resolved the following in part:

5. *That Council create a grant stream for local organisations working in the circular economy, to be implemented as part of the 2025 community grants program, and report back to the February 2025 Council meeting on options to do so.*

DISCUSSION

Council approved offering the Annual Grant round in February 2025, consistent with the Grant Program Guidelines.

Assessment criteria

All applicants for grants address the following criteria in their proposals:

- Consideration of the impact and quality of their project and contribution to Council's Community Strategic Plan and grant objectives
- Demonstrated capacity to deliver a well-planned project including relevant applicant experience and supporting material, skills, and time as well as a realistic budget
- Benefit to the Inner West community.

Specific Arts grant criteria include:

- Excellence and innovation in arts and creative practice and/or delivery of arts projects.

The grants round process for 2025

The Annual Grant round was open between 5 May and 6 June 2025. The Business Chamber grant round was open between 1 August and 8 September 2025. Prospective applicants were offered one-on-one support to develop their applications in the stream in which they were applying. This support from Council officers provided the opportunity for grant applicants to clarify their ideas and develop their proposals.

The Annual Grant round was publicised via Council's email networks, website, newsletters, social media channels and on FBI radio.

In 2025, $880,620 was available for the annual grants across the following categories:

- Arts grants: Professional development grants up to $5,000
- Arts grants: Arts project grants up to $10,000
- Business Chamber grants up to $45,000
- Circular Economy grants up to $5,000
- Community History grants up to $5,000
- Community Wellbeing grants up to $5,000
- Community Wellbeing grants up to $20,000 (over two years)
- Disability Support grants up to $20,000 (over one or two years)
- Environment grants up to $10,000 (over two years)
- Multicultural grants up to $5,000.

This year, five applications that support local people with disability are recommended for funding through the Disability Support stream and, if approved, at a value of $59,800. In addition, four applications that support local people with disability are recommended for funding through the Community Wellbeing streams and, if approved, at a value of $34,692.

In 2025, there was a notable increase in the total amount of funding requested. A total of 229 applications were received seeking $2 million, compared to 225 applications submitted seeking $1.7 million in 2024. Following detailed assessment against the grant guidelines, 63 projects are recommended for funding. A detailed summary of the 2025 Annual Grants round is at *Attachment 2*.

Evaluation and recommendation process
All applications underwent a three-stage evaluation to arrive at the funding recommendations being presented to Council. Each assessment panel included at least one external representative independent of Council.

Firstly, applications were evaluated against the published criteria by Council staff with subject matter expertise. A score against each of the evaluation criteria provides a total score for each application. Based on this total score, staff assessors rank each application from high to low priority. Staff assessments for each grant round were then reviewed by the appropriate senior staff of each unit to confirm the initial evaluations and ensure accuracy and completeness.

Secondly, an assessment panel comprised of different Council officers from the Community Directorate, and an external representative reviewed all applications and the initial evaluations. The panel confirmed final rankings and developed funding recommendations. In this step, the panel reviewed project proposals, evaluations, amount requested, target audience and previous funding including from Council grants.

Thirdly, recommended applications were screened through an eligibility check to confirm legal requirements were met including administrative compliance details and acquittal of any previous applications.

Funding recommendations
Recommended applications for funding in each of the ten grant streams are provided in detail at *Attachments 2-11.*

Highlights of the recommended projects include:

- Box of Birds will engage with a team of Inner West digital artists and physical performers and will trial aerial and dance possibilities and audience interactions using 3D motion capture technologies for their new work, Small Blue Thing, over two weeks in Petersham Town Hall (Arts).
- A project that will offer six free one-day workshops to Inner West residents, teaching upcycling skills using post-consumer denim waste to create homeware products. Discarded denim will be transformed through design and sewing techniques. A community event will follow, showcasing workshop creations and featuring guest speakers on upcycling and repair as solutions to textile waste (Circular Economy).
- A project that will explore the history of queer families in the Inner West, with a particular focus on lesbian-headed families, but also including the experiences of doners and children (Community History).
- Summer Hill Playgroup is a weekly, free program for little ones, parents, grandparents, and carers. The program promotes early childhood development, strengthens care giver-child bonds, and reduces social isolation. Through singing, rhythm games, instrumental play and movement, families connect in a fun, free, culturally inclusive environment (Community Wellbeing).
- The Lifestart SpeakUP program supports students with disability (aged between 9 and 16 years) to build the confidence, skills, and strategies they need to participate more fully in school life. SpeakUP is ideal for students who would benefit from strengths-based support to work towards a personal goal (Disability Support).
- Friends of Whites Creek Valley Park aims to renew and promote the food forest to support the current volunteer base, recruit more volunteers, and encourage visitors. With plans for community workshops, and installation of a native beehive, the group will launch their new website, produce a new flyer and a map with plants identified for public view (Environment).

Successful recipients from the 2024 Grants Program who are now entering their second year of funding include:

- Sydney Women's Baseball League's project upskills their volunteers to become proficient coaches and umpires. Through a series of workshops and clinics, experienced members will upskill while new members learn, receive professional coaching and umpiring training. This fosters a supportive environment to excel in baseball, breaking down barriers and advancing diversity within the sport
- Flight Path Theatre has developed and delivered workshops created by and for people living with disability. The workshops are based on creative play and aim to bring joy and friendship, stage craft, and a sense of independence to the Inner West community.
- Midjuburi Youth Resource Centre and an indigenous creative artist have facilitated a Weekly Girls' Yarning Circle for young Aboriginal women (aged between 12 and 17 years) with cultural activities, weaving and traditional dance to foster cultural connection.
- Joy of Giving Network has introduced Preloved Toy Workshops to schools and community organisations in the Inner West. These workshops educate participants about sustainability, resource sharing through toys, and waste reduction. Where both children and parents will gain practical knowledge on sustainable practices and hands-on practice identifying reusable toys.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adopted budget for 2025/26 includes the $790,113 for the recommended projects outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Annual Grants Summary
2.⇩ Arts - Professional Development
3.⇩ Arts - Art Projects
4.⇩ Business Chambers
5.⇩ Circular Economy Grants
6.⇩ Community History Grants
7.⇩ Community Wellbeing One-Year Grants
8.⇩ Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants
9.⇩ Disability Support Grants
10.⇩ Environment Two-Year Grants
11.⇩ Multicultural Grants
12.⇩ Active Inner West Two-Year Grants-Y2
13.⇩ Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants-Y2
14.⇩ Environment Two-Year Grants-Y2

Attachment 1

2025 Inner West Council Annual Grants

Summary Data

2025 Inner West Council Annual Grants			2025 Applications Received		2025 Funding Recommendations	
Stream	Business Unit	Budget	Received	Recommended	$ Amount Requested	$ Amount Recommended
Professional Development	Community	$150,000	45	10	$216,621	$49,820
Arts Projects			77	10	$710,867	$98,223
Business Chambers	Economic Development	$255,000	4	4	$180,000	$180,000
Circular Economy	Resource Recovery	$25,000	8	3	$40,000	$15,000
Community History	Community	$25,000	11	5	$54,971	$25,000
Community Wellbeing One-Year	Community	$150,000	25	7	$114,082	$31,452
Community Wellbeing Two-Year			25	6	$468,562	$112,000 (over two years)
Disability Support	Community	$60,000	8	5	$92,978	$59,800 (over one or two years)
Environment Two-Year	Environment and Sustainability	$45,000	12	5	$106,879	$44,898 (over two years)
Multicultural	Community	$30,000	14	8	$61,700	$33,300
Sub total		**$740,000**	**229**	**63**	**$2,046,660**	**$649,493**
Second year of funding for 2024-2026 Active Inner West Two-Year Grants, Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants and Environment Two-Year Grants approved by Council in September 2024*						**$35,000 $64,997 $40,623**
Total funding allocation from 2025 Annual Grants budget						**$790,113**

*The 2024-2026 Active Inner West Two-Year grant projects, Community Wellbeing Two-Year grant projects, and the Environment Two-Year grant projects are in Attachments 11-13 of this report. When included the funding allocation for the Annual Grants amount totals $790,113.

Attachment 2

Arts Grants Category 1: Professional Development 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Emma Harrison	**Two-week creative development dance residency with mentor Adriane Daff and sound designer Amy Flannery** Support from Inner West Council will enable a two-week creative residency to develop "GRIT", a new solo work with Wiradjuri sound designer Amy Flannery and mentor Adriane Daff. "GRIT" expands on an exploration of gender, power, classism, and feminine archetypes through voice, movement, and contemporary performance. This will deepen physical and vocal experimentation, refining embodied voice techniques and integrating sound with choreography. With Adriane's mentorship, the dramaturgy and cinematic influences will be developed. The residency allows focused research, feedback integration, and documentation. The project will offer daily open classes for local artists, fostering community connection and creative exchange in the Inner West.	$5,000
Emma Rayward	**Writing science fiction novel "Partially Ordered"** "Partially Ordered" reflects on historical and contemporary land organisation of Australia, extrapolating this research into a model for its narrative. The novel is an examination of the cartographical processes of colonialism and state development. A Create NSW grant for the development of "Partially Ordered" has been received, however its entirety will be used to fund professional development activities, First Nations consultations and archival research. The Inner West Arts Grant will supplement this as artist pay while the novel is written. Using this grant as income will allow for dedicated and structured writing periods. Writing will be completed in Marrickville: at home and the Marrickville Library. With research in Council archives to assist the novel's development.	$5,000
Erin Gough	**Writing a novel for young adult readers set in Marrickville** This support would allow the time to write "Attention Angela Ampersand", a novel for young adults that pairs an exciting mystery with an exploration of contemporary issues familiar to Inner West teens (environmental consciousness, cultural and sexual diversity, addiction and the ethics of consumerism). Uniquely, given the increasing globalisation of the book industry, the novel is set in Marrickville and draws upon the suburb's rich landscape - its diversity of inhabitants, cultural institutions, retail establishments and geography - to create a truly Inner West story that local young people will see themselves reflected in.	$5,000

Attachment 2

Arts Grants Category 1: Professional Development 2025

Jasper Lee-Lindsay	**"REX" - Development** "REX" is a new solo performance that incorporates multimedia, meta-theatre and stand-up comedy to explore the collective anxiety in response to climate, economic and humanitarian crises. This arts grant support is for a director, lighting designer and sound designer to take part in a five day, 30 hour development week for this project. During this week, the aims is to meet in person to generate and workshop ideas building on the current draft of "REX", focusing on the refining of the story structure and expanding the technical elements.	$5,000
Jennifer Ellis	**A Pocketful of Shadows - a Creative Development for a New Shadow Puppetry Performance** This creative development support is for new puppetry work: A Pocketful of Shadows. The inspirations for the piece are the early origins of Shadow Puppetry and Cabaret in France, the physical comedy of silent cinema and the incredible work of Richard Bradshaw AOM who has been a pioneer of shadow theatre in Australia. This support provides the time to develop the shadow pieces, without words, under the mentorship of Richard Bradshaw, design the set, commission the music from Peter Dasent, and for the design of the costumes by Melanie Gilbank.	$5,000
Madeleine Mallis	**Good Pash's Untitled Debut Album** Good Pash is an indie rock band from Sydney. Since 2017, the group has written, produced and recorded three EPs and a number of stand-alone singles as well as produced four of their own Inner West based community driven mini music festivals. Their music is a platform for critical reflection and storytelling, balancing societal issues with human issues. This support would pay for producer/engineer Antonia Gauci to work for the 10 days of recording the debut album at Golden Retriever Studios in Marrickville.	$5,000

Attachment 2

Attachment 2

Arts Grants Category 1: Professional Development 2025

Mechelle Bounpraseuth	**Creating and Exhibiting a New Series of Ceramic Sculptures for a Solo Show at Gallery** This support is to cover studio rent and kiln firing costs to develop new ceramic work for a solo show at Chalkhorse Gallery. The art practice is based in the Inner West, where all of the work will be created. Although the exhibition will be held outside the area, the grant would directly support the development of ambitious new work made locally. This opportunity marks an important step in career development, and the support would allow for the growing demands of their arts practice while continuing to work from and contribute to the Inner West's creative community.	$5,000
Natasha Sturgis	**"Bruce // The Land Of Her"** This project is to develop the double bill "The Land Of Her // Bruce" through mentorship and dedicated rehearsal time. This includes artistic consultation with Legs On The Wall's Artistic Director Joshua Thomson and access to rehearsal space at DUTI Studios in Enmore. The support will allow exploration of innovative choreographic methods, deepen themes of gender and ritual, and refine performance dynamics. This investment will strengthen their arts practice and result in a compelling, original work that engages audiences in bold and immersive ways.	$5,000
Simone Jordan	**Develop writing skills to adapt debut memoir, "Tell Her She's Dreamin'", into a screenplay** This project seeks to undertake professional development in screenwriting to adapt an award-winning memoir, "Tell Her She's Dreamin'", for the screen. This includes enrolling in specialised short courses at Australian Film, Television and Radio School and engaging in tailored one-on-one mentorship sessions with a screenwriting advisor to equip them with industry-standard skills and guidance to translate a deeply personal, culturally rich story into a compelling screenplay. This development represents an innovative extension of their arts practice and a significant step toward bringing diverse, authentic Australian stories to the screen.	$5,000

Attachment 2

Attachment 2

Arts Grants Category 1: Professional Development 2025

Emma-Kate Hart	**Illuminated Vessels: Skills Development and Mentorship in Borosilicate Glass Flameworking for Plasma Applications** This project aims to develop borosilicate flameworking skills through mentorships with leading Australian glass artists, including Mark Eliot, Peter Minson, and Steven Cole. Each mentor offers unique techniques that will help create abstract vessels for innovative sculptural plasma works, expanding on traditional neon with greater complexity and creativity. By combining flameworking with neon expertise, the aim is to produce distinctive illuminated glass art. This project will not only support growth as an artist, but also help protect and promote neon and glass craft in the Inner West through collaboration, visibility, and education.	$4,820
Total		**$49,820**

Attachment 3

Arts Grants Category 2: Art Projects 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Box of Birds Collective incorporating Stalker Theatre Incorporated	**Box of Birds Capacity Building Petersham Town Hall** Over two weeks in 2026 in Petersham Town Hall, Box of Birds will engage in a local creative development blending cutting-edge, interactive digital technology with dynamic physical theatre towards a participatory immersive performance experience. With a team of Inner West digital artists and physical performers the Petersham based performance company will trial aerial and dance possibilities and audience interactions using 3D motion capture technologies for their new work, "Small Blue Thing".	$10,000
Branch Nebula Incorporated	**"How Not To Climb A Mountain" - a new performance work by Branch Nebula** Marrickville-based artist led company Branch Nebula will work with Marrickville resident Skye Gellmann to develop a new full-length performance called "How Not to Climb a Mountain", followed by a short work-in-progress season for audiences. This will enable the artists to get the work to a tour-ready stage, with the aim of inviting potential presenters from across the country to generate presentation opportunities. "How Not to Climb a Mountain", has had a short development in 2023, receiving an overwhelmingly positive audience response. The existing material will be built on to finesse the performance and get documentation that will benefit marketing efforts and additional funding applications.	$10,000
Geetha Balakrishnan	**Full-length video clip for the "agentX" show and album by Inner West artist, Ms. G** "agentX" is an immersive performance experience that takes place over four nights, created by multi-disciplinary artist, Magickal Ms. G, supported by CreateNSW. Using cutting edge video and lighting projections, designed by Nema Adel, audiences will be integrated into the alien love story of protagonist/performer "agentX" written and performed by Magickal Ms. G and her nine-piece band (a current/urban "War of the Worlds" experience). To be released in the lead-up to the show, one full length music video will created from a key track in collaboration with South Asian dance troupe, "BINDI BOSSES", aimed to reach an international audience.	$10,000

Attachment 3

Attachment 3

Arts Grants Category 2: Art Projects 2025

		Total $
Kaz Therese Corbett	**"TRIBUNALS : HOME"** "TRIBUNALS: HOME" is a new theatre project exploring the theme of "home" in the 21st-century. Led by artist Kaz Therese and company WEREWOLF, and working in collaboration with the Community Refugee Welcome Centre, this development brings together First Nations Elders, local artists and the refugee community to create a critical new theatre work. "TRIBUNALS: HOME" reimagines justice as a regenerative, communal performance. Through collaborative storytelling, the project investigates land rights, displacement, and belonging. Together we will fuse multi-lingual texts, music and dance, creating a theatre and community arts project that is inclusive, joyful and transformative.	$10,000
Pauline Chan	**"Born Naked" (Working Title)** "Born Naked" is a proposed feature documentary by acclaimed filmmaker Pauline Chan, exploring the intersection of queerness, culture, and family in Asian-Australian communities. Planned to be filmed primarily at The Red Rattler Theatre, the project will feature interviewees with strong ties to the Inner West Council area. Through the interwoven stories of the director, her queer daughter, and other LGBTQIA+ individuals from diverse Asian backgrounds, the film will highlight personal struggle, resilience, and empowerment. With a cinematic and participatory approach, "Born Naked" aims to challenge cultural stigma, foster intergenerational dialogue, and contribute meaningfully to Australia's multicultural creative landscape.	$10,000
Shaun Parker & Company Limited	**"RITE OF POM" - Creative development with integrated mentorship and secondment program for local dancers** Shaun Parker & Company's "RITE OF POM" is a captivating new dance work in creative development. This project empowers three local established dancers through one-on-one mentorships with Shaun Parker, secondment for two local emerging dancers, a First Nations paid internship and free professional training, ensuring inclusive access to world-class skills development for Inner West artists. A studio showing for local community will offer a rare glimpse into this dynamic creation. With future national and international touring, "RITE OF POM" will elevate the Inner West's profile as an artistic powerhouse and champion of sustainable arts careers, diversity, and creative excellence.	$10,000

Attachment 3

Arts Grants Category 2: Art Projects 2025

		Total $
Susan Huang	**Lights Up Kids Festival** Lights Up Kids Festival is a joyful, inclusive performing arts festival for children and families in the Inner West. Presented by Shiny Heart Productions and supported by Flight Path Theatre, this two-week event at Flight Path Theatre in Marrickville features live children's theatre, interactive workshops, and the return of "Glow"- a community celebration where young people from local schools and arts groups take the stage. Building on the success of 2024, the 2026 festival expands access to high quality cultural programming, including award-winning show "Especially on Birthdays". This creative partnership empowers kids through performing arts- fostering joy, creativity and connection.	$10,000
Vitagraph Publishing Pty Ltd	**Vitagraph Publishing's "Written Off" Literary Journal #5** Vitagraph Publishing's literary journal "Written Off" will feature a selection of work by a local visual artist and 10 local writers from a diverse and intergenerational background who will contribute original works of fiction, poetry, performance writing and essays. This edition will be launched at a public literary event in April 2026 at the Marrickville Pavilion fostering participation, and professional paid opportunities for local literary talent to read their work in front of peers and the Inner West community**.**	$10,000
Kim Siew	**"The View From Here" - A Living Installation at Seaview Hall (Working Title)** Kim Siew, Eleni Christou and Rosell Flatley, long-time collaborators, are developing a participatory art project harnessing their personal creative and cultural practices that will transform Seaview Hall into a living installation over a period of three months. Part open studio, part kitchen table, part cultural space, this is a gentle invitation for community to witness the often invisible labour of the creative process. The project, site specific in nature, will be informed through a series of fortnightly open studios that allow the artists to respond to the neighbourhood that surrounds Seaview Hall, culminating in an evening of performance and culture.	$9,810

Attachment 3

Attachment 3

Arts Grants Category 2: Art Projects 2025

Marna Eringa	**Makersville Summer Markets 2025** Makersville is an artists and makers' market that takes place every year in the Inner West to economically support small businesses and individual artists and provide a platform for exposure to the Sydney community with what can be made right here in our home city. Will be looking at inviting more small businesses from around Marrickville and the Inner West for the summer markets on Saturday 20 December and will be applying for a street closure.	$8,413
Total		**$98,223**

Attachment 4

Inner West Council Business Chamber Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Ashfield, Summer Hill and Haberfield Chamber	Deliver business workshops and networking, develop a cohesive brand strategy to boost local businesses and attract visitors, update website and improve social media through a strong brand identity. Coordinate small-scale pop-up events in the precincts to encourage people to visit. Funding will also be used to employ parttime admin officer to deliver projects.	$45,000
Balmain Rozelle Chamber of Commerce	Showcase the Balmain Rozelle precinct, with the goal of "putting Balmain Rozelle back on the map." Enhance our digital channels to support local business. Promote expenditure and visitation at key retail periods through a multi-channel approach. Develop a sustainable chamber and grow membership with the delivery of workshops and networking. Funding will also be used for administration assistance to deliver all projects.	$45,000
Newtown Enmore Business Community	Host regular business workshops and networking opportunities for businesses to connect with fellow professionals. Production and marketing of the precinct in our TOWNMAG to enhance the publication's distribution reach and further promote the local businesses and their offerings to a wider customer base. Engage a project manager to help deliver all the projects under the grant.	$45,000
Viva Leichhardt	Engage a project manager to help deliver all the projects. Conduct a range of networking and business educational workshops throughout a 12-month period to improve business knowledge and strengthen connections. Work with local enterprises and property owners on a businesses beautification project to uplift neglected and rundown areas on main streets.	$45,000
Total		**$180,000**

Attachment 4

Attachment 5

Inner West Council Circular Economy Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Joanne Morton auspiced by The Village Project Summer Hill Co-operative Limited	**Jeanius Ways to Denimise your Home** This project will offer six free one-day workshops to Inner West residents, teaching upcycling skills using post-consumer denim waste to create homeware products. Discarded denim, supplied by RePlace, will be transformed through design and sewing techniques. A public community event will follow, showcasing workshop creations and featuring guest speakers on upcycling and repair as solutions to textile waste. With Australians averaging 56 fashion purchases annually, contributing to 300,000 tonnes of landfill waste, the project aims to divert clothing from landfill, build practical skills, and raise awareness. It promotes a circular economy by demonstrating the value and viability of garment reuse and repair.	$5,000
Reverse Garbage Co-operative Ltd	**Measuring and Strenghthening Circular Economy Engagment in the Inner West** Funding from Inner West Council's Circular Economy Grant will support Reverse Garbage's mission to divert materials from landfill and promote reuse. The project will enhance impact reporting by purchasing a pallet jack with weighing capabilities to track donated materials. This data will strengthen community education by highlighting the environmental and social benefits of reuse. Two free workshops for Inner West residents will further engage the community in circular economy practices. Reverse Garbage, a leader in creative reuse, will clarify confusing language around sustainability and demonstrate its social impact through inclusive initiatives like mending workshops and past Personal Protective Equipment efforts featured in the Resilient Sydney Strategy.	$5,000

Inner West Council Circular Economy Grants 2025

The Village Project Summer Hill Co-operative Limited	**Circular Textiles Brand Tapestry** In collaboration with the Centre of Excellence (University of Technology, Sydney and TAFE NSW) and RePlace, this project transforms damaged clothing into a large-scale tapestry to visualize data from a six-month circular textiles pilot. Each patch represents one of the top 100 brands contributing to textile waste. The tapestry's polished front contrasts with its messy reverse—symbolizing the fashion industry's glossy image versus its hidden environmental toll. Exhibited across public spaces in Sydney's Inner West, including the University of Technology, Sydney, libraries, and community centres, the artwork aims to raise awareness, provoke dialogue, and promote transparency in fashion. Accompanying data and practical tips will educate viewers on sustainable consumption, garment care, and responsible disposal.	$5,000
Total		**$15,000**

Attachment 6

Inner West Council Community History Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Sue Castrique	**Gumbramorra: a history of water in Marrickville** Gumbramorra Swamp was an ephemeral wetland in Marrickville Valley. Despite its subdivision, sale, degradation and drainage Gumbramorra Swamp continues to shape Marrickville in profound and unexpected ways. This project will publish the history of Gumbramorra Swamp as a hard copy and digital book. It is a deeply researched and engaging history about the entangled relationship between swamp, climate, developers and newcomers. It answers the pressing question from people who suddenly find water flowing through their gate and out through their back door—why does Marrickville flood?	$5,000
Alex Lofts	**History, Development and Progress: Liverpool Road within the Ashfield District** This publication will be part of the Ashfield District Historical Society Journal series titled 'Ashfield History' and will be No. 25 in that series. It will provide a history of a section of Liverpool Road beginning at its intersection at Parramatta Road Ashfield and extending to Milton Street. It will illustrate the change and development of the road over time and will include articles pertaining to places of historical interest along the road that are representative of a period of the road's history as well as stories about the people who were contributors to Liverpool Road's bustling development.	$5,000
Bronwyn Campbell	**Documenting the history of community restoration of natural areas in Callan Park** The project will result in a booklet that documents a 30-year chronology, oral history interviews, and a photo library that will be lasting records donated to the Community History Collection. The booklet will be lodged with the Inner West Council library system where it will be available for all. The natural landscape of Callan Point and the land immediately adjacent (having escaped the direct impacts of urbanisation) is a unique resource, retaining over 40 of its original indigenous plant species. The project is unique in drawing attention to this area and enriching people's understanding of the comparatively recent history of Callan Park.	$5,000

Attachment 6

Inner West Council Community History Grants 2025

Teresa Savage	**History of queer families in the Inner West**	$5,000
	This project will explore the history of queer families in the Inner West, with a particular focus on lesbian-headed families, but also including the experiences of doners and children. Through interrogating Pride History Group oral history collection and other archival materials, conducting oral history interviews and taking contemporary photographic portraits, we will create text and images to be published as a booklet, similar to other recent Pride History publications.	
Pilar Lorenzo	**History of the Ashfield-Leichhardt State Emergency Service** The Ashfield-Leichhardt State Emergency Service has played a vital role in the Inner West for almost seven decades. Yet, its contribution is largely absent from the existing Community History Collection. This project addresses that gap by documenting the history, particularly in the first 15 years when it was run through the councils. The resulting materials, including oral histories, photographs, historical records, and a publication, will significantly enrich the Council's archive by preserving an underrepresented aspect of local life: community-based emergency response. It ensures that this important chapter of local history is preserved for future generations.	$5,000
Total		**$25,000**

Attachment 7

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing One-Year Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
headspace Ashfield	**Project Upskill** Headspace Ashfield is looking to run a series of upskilling training sessions for young people aged 16 to 25 with mental health challenges to strengthen their capacity to find meaningful employment opportunities. The program will consist of up to five one-day courses to be held at Headspace Ashfield with 10 young people per session. The training sessions will be open to young people who live, work or study in the Inner West. Participants in the training sessions will be invited to join Headspace Ashfield's Work and Study Program to receive ongoing vocational and educational support to further enhance their wellbeing.	$5,000
Minus18 Foundation	**Night at the Museum: A Queer Youth Celebration in the Inner West** Night At The Museum is a free, inclusive event for 400 LGBTQIA+ young people aged 12–19 in the Inner West and surrounds. Building on the success of Queer Dance Party 2024, it offers a night of pride, connection and creativity at the Sydney Bus Museum. With high, medium, and low sensory spaces, the event is designed to meet diverse accessibility needs. Attendees will engage with exhibitions, enjoy performances by LGBTQIA+ artists, and participate in friendship-building activities with youth workers. This event fosters community, celebrates identity, and strengthens ties between queer youth and the arts and cultural sectors.	$5,000
SDH & Friends Community Collective	**SDH & Friends Laneway Market (for Trans Awareness Week 2025 and Mardi Gras 2026)** These free community markets celebrate Trans Awareness Week (Saturday 15 November 2025) and Mardi Gras (Saturday 21 February 2026) at Petersham Plaza and Quinn Playground Park. Showcasing the talent of Sydney's trans and gender diverse community, the event features market stalls, art spaces and activities by local trans and gender diverse individuals, groups, and organisations. The event provides an affirming family-friendly space to uplift trans and gender diverse/LGBTIQ+ experiences, bringing LGBTIQ+ culture back to Petersham/Leichhardt which has a rich queer history dating back to the 1970s. The group seeks support for the expansion of the events from Petersham Plaza into Quinn Playground Park.	$5,000

Attachment 7

Attachment 7

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing One-Year Grants 2025

Sydney Multicultural Community Services	**Art for Wellbeing**	$5,000
	Art for Wellbeing aims to create a safe space for migrant and refugee women living or working in the Inner West. In a series of sessions led by trained art therapist, participants are guided to connect with themselves and each other without the need to know much English, using art as a means for expression. The therapeutic art process aims to alleviate mental health issues, giving participants the chance to self-reflect, rebuild strength, and improve self-esteem. The focus of the project is to use art as a medium to enhance personal wellbeing, foster community connections, and celebrate cultural diversity.	
TIME WARP STUDIOS aspiced by RADIO SKID ROW LTD	**Voices of the Inner West: A Seniors Digital Radio and Podcast Initiative** Voices of the Inner West is a digital radio and podcasting initiative designed by and for seniors. It empowers older residents to create and share audio content—building skills, confidence, and community connection. Participants contribute as hosts, producers, writers, and guests. Topics reflect local interests, from arts and music to health and local history. The project is scalable, inclusive, and aligned with Council goals of healthy ageing and social inclusion. It includes podcast creation, possible community radio collaboration, and public engagement through workshops and media platforms.	$5,000
Summer Hill Playgroup	**Summer Hill Playgroup: Little Voices Big Community** Summer Hill Playgroup is a weekly, free program for little ones, parents, grandparents and carers. This group will engage Wendy Kane, an early childhood education music teacher, to come each week to support creativity, fun and connection for children aged 0-5 and their adult loved ones. The program promotes early childhood development, strengthens care giver-child bonds and reduces social isolation. Through singing, rhythm games, instrumental play and movement, families connect in a fun, free, culturally inclusive environment. Expected outcomes include improved language and motor skills in children, increased carer confidence and support network, and stronger community connections among local families.	$1,760

Attachment 7

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing One-Year Grants 2025

DadLAN Ltd	**DadLAN Social Community Event**	$4,692
	DadLAN's mission is to fight loneliness, improve mental health outcomes, create connections in communities, and provide dependable social spaces tailored to meet the unique needs of men and dads from all walks of life. The group has found that many men are working long hours and are isolated at home lacking in face to face community connections. DadLAN will offer regular, local events and an online community where men and dads can connect, socialise, and engage in activities that improve their social connections and mental health.	
Total		**$31,452**

Attachment 7

Attachment 8

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended Year 1 + 2 2025 - 2027
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
ADDISON ROAD CENTRE FOR ARTS, CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT LTD	**Wednesday Night Lights** Wednesday Night Lights is a community outreach program held weekly; offering free hot meals, medical services, legal aid, social support, and access to low-cost rescued food through the Addi Road Food Pantry. Monthly services such as free haircuts, Centrelink support, and heart health screenings further promote dignity, access, and wellbeing. Due to growing demand, the program seeks to expand its capacity. The recent addition of a kids program enables caregivers to access services while their children are engaged in safe educational activities. Wednesday Night Lights plays a vital role in strengthening the sustainability and inclusivity of the Inner West community.	$20,000
Bobby Goldsmith Foundation	**HOPE - Holistic Ongoing Participation Project for Enduring HIV+ve Community Members** The HOPE project targets people living with HIV within Inner West Local Government Area. There is an emerging group of enduring 50-64 year olds within the Inner West, with a history of social stigma, discrimination and prejudice who experience higher levels of social isolation, anxiety, depression, poor community connection, and limited support systems. HOPE has been designed to improve individual quality of life, enhance social capital, support diversity locally and increase community connections. HOPE provides a suite of wellbeing strategies running cyclically throughout the calendar year(s), focusing on social inclusion, community connection, health, exercise and healing through creativity.	$20,000

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants 2025

		Total $
GOOD NEIGHBOURS AUSTRALIA INC	**Connection Through Creativity - Intergenerational Art Project** "Connection Through Creativity" is an intergenerational art project designed specifically for seniors from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to interact with young adults. Up to 24 participants meet for 5 sessions over 5 weeks to paint, chat, share morning tea and get to know one another. As art is a universal activity, all ages/ethnicities can participate. With the goal of fostering social inclusion and a sense of belonging among seniors, the program also promotes meaningful connections with young adults, who, in turn, benefit from intergenerational engagement by learning about their generation and experiences.	$20,000
Midjuburi Youth Resource Centre	**Safe Ground: Strength through Culture and Connection** Safe Ground: Strength through Culture and Connection is a program for Aboriginal youth aged 12–17 in the Inner West, designed to build resilience and strengthen protective factors for vulnerable young people who may be at risk of family and domestic violence. Through yarning circles, expressive arts workshops, and mentoring, the program offers a safe, consistent, and welcoming space for young people to develop confidence, deepen cultural identity, and build supportive relationships. By fostering connection, belonging, and emotional wellbeing, the program helps create a strong foundation for safety, self-worth, positive decision-making for participants now and into the future.	$20,000

Attachment 8

Attachment 8

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants 2025

		Total $
Worship Queer Collective	**Worship Connect: Connecting the LGBTQI+/Asian community, friends and allies through social events, arts and culture** Worship Connect is an initiative that encompasses projects held quarterly to connect the LGBTQI+/Asian, Black, Indigenous and	$20,000
	People of Colour community with friends and allies: 1.Big Gaysian Potluck - all-ages, family-friendly daytime social event with performances by LGBTQI+/Asian artists 2.Gaysian Stories - Innovative storytelling event with LGBTQI+/Asian speakers sharing coming out stories, experiences navigating intersectionality, overcoming adversity with a focus on lived experience/knowledge exchange 3.Multicultural celebrations - celebrating culturally significant events for the Asian-Australian community through arts and performance. Held at Red Rattler Theatre, the project is safe, inclusive and accessible to encourage participation by the LGBTQI+, Asian, Black, Indigenous and People of Colour community, friends and allies.	
Older Women's Network NSW (OWN NSW)	**Stronger Together - New Moves for Older Women to Reduce Social Isolation and Increase Wellbeing** Stronger Together: New Moves for Older Women is a two-year series of 80 free movement workshops to improve the mental and physical wellbeing of older women in the Inner West. Tailored for mature bodies, the sessions build strength, stamina, and flexibility—key to preventing falls, which are a leading cause of injury, hospitalisation, and social withdrawal among older women. By removing financial barriers, New Moves supports economically vulnerable participants to access regular, high-quality wellness activities that reduce isolation, boost confidence, and promote resilience, belonging, and better health—both physical and mental—through movement and community connection.	$12,000
Total		**$112,000**

Attachment 9

Inner West Council Disability Support Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended Year 1 + 2 2025 - 2027
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Assisted Community Living Limited	**Gig Buddies Inner West** The Gig Buddies project pairs adults with disability and volunteers so they can regularly attend events and activities together and become "gig buddies". The Inner West is Sydney's inclusive home of live music, arts, culture and fun. With help from the Inner West Council, the project looks to increase the number of paired gig buddies regularly catching up, attending local cultural events and fun activities together. This will involve increased engagement and collaboration with local venues, artists and businesses, group social events in local venues, and a project awareness campaign to increase volunteer and participant engagement.	$20,000
Inner West Theatre Company Incorporated	**Auslan Interpretation for Live Music Theatre** This project will fund Auslan interpretation for a series of live theatre performances, making them accessible to Deaf and hard-of-hearing audience members. By engaging qualified Auslan interpreters to work alongside our performers, we aim to create an inclusive theatre experience that ensures everyone in our community can access and enjoy the arts. This initiative supports cultural participation, equity, and visibility for the Deaf community within our local creative landscape.	$20,000
Lifestart Disability Services Ltd	**Lifestart SpeakUp group program in Inner West Schools** The Lifestart SpeakUP program supports students with disability (aged between 9 and 16 years) to build the confidence, skills, and strategies they need to participate more fully in school life. SpeakUP is ideal for students who would benefit from strengths-based support to work towards a personal goal. During this grant period Lifestart will deliver a modified SpeakUP program to a group of up to 6 children at two schools in the Inner West (supporting 12 students in total). This program has been delivered to individuals for several years and has resulted in increased skills and confidence for over 200 students.	$9,800

Attachment 9

Inner West Council Disability Support Grants 2025

		Total $
Jillian Goodwin	**Canvas of Cultures** Applicant support: "Canvas of Cultures" is a new series of in-person visual arts workshops for people with disability (NDIS participants) in the Inner West. Led by Shining Arts educators Jillian Goodwin and Lawrence McDonell (both former Studio ARTES facilitators), the program will offer painting, drawing, collage and tactile sculpture sessions that celebrate personal and cultural expression. Workshops will be held at accessible Inner West venues (town halls and libraries) and include optional digital/AI-assisted creative tools. The project aligns with Inner West Council's commitment to inclusive cultural programming ensuring workshops are safe, high-quality and welcoming to all participants.	$5,000
KinHub	**Unseen, Unheard, Unstoppable – Youth-Led Multi-Disciplinary Arts Exhibition** "Unseen, Unheard, Unstoppable" is a youth-led, multi-disciplinary arts project empowering young people with disability, neurodivergence or school-related trauma from the Inner West. Through expert-led workshops in visual art, sculpture, photography, poetry and storytelling, participants will develop creative skills and express their identities. The project prioritises trauma-informed, inclusive facilitation and peer mentoring to support youth leadership and agency. It culminates in a public exhibition during Youth Week 2026, showcasing the diverse voices and talents of young artists. This event aims to challenge stigma, promote inclusion and foster community connection through the power of youth creativity.	$5,000
Total		**$59,800**

Attachment 10

Inner West Council Environment Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended Year 1 + 2 2025 - 2027
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Balmain Public School P&C Association	**Rainwater Collection and Use** Balmain Public School P&C will connect two unused 5000-litre rainwater tanks to the student toilets and gardens. This will make good use of collected rainwater, reduce water bills, ease pressure on Sydney's water supply, and help the Garden Club care for plants in a cost-effective way.	$10,000
Petersham Bowling Club Ltd	**Relocating and Revitalizing Petersham Bowling Club's Community Garden** The Petersham Bowling Club's community garden will be moved and improved to make way for 2026 accessibility upgrades. The new garden will be wheelchair-friendly, support growing food, and promote sustainability and learning. Stage 1: Move the garden before renovations. Stage 2: Rebuild using reused materials and add a new fence. Stage 3: Boost sustainability with better water use, fruit trees, and smart planting. The updated garden will be a welcoming, eco-friendly space for all.	$10,000

Attachment 10

Attachment 10

Inner West Council Environment Grants 2025

		Total $
Friends of Whites Creek Valley Park Inc	**Review and Renew: Whites Creek Food Forest** This project will refresh and promote the food forest to support current volunteers, attract new ones, and welcome more visitors. The group also plans to reduce plant theft, replace missing or unhealthy plants, and run community workshops. They'll add a native bee hive, more shelves in the tool shed, and a bench for people to relax. A new website, flyer, plant map, and volunteer hats will help raise awareness and boost community involvement.	$9,960
Petersham Park Community Garden Inc	**Petersham Park Community Garden** This project will create a community garden in Petersham Park. Locals will grow fresh food, share skills, support nature, and spend time together. The garden will benefit both its members and the wider community by improving the park and creating a welcoming space for everyone.	$9,938
Climate Change Balmain Rozelle	**Building Community Capacity to take Climate Action** The project will hold a public forum to talk with the community about climate change, focusing on Greening the Environment, Green Energy in the Inner West, and Sustainable Transport. A cartoonist will turn the discussions into drawings, which will become banners. These banners will be launched at CCBR's 20th anniversary event and used in future climate activities. People can also join CCBR working groups to take further action.	$5,000
Total		**$44,898**

Attachment 11

Inner West Council Multicultural Grants 2025

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Australian Chinese Wushu (Kungfu) Culture Association Incorporated	**Australian Chinese Kungfu and Tai Chi Festival** Australian Chinese Wushu (Kungfu) Culture Association Incorporaed is a sophisticated cultural organisation specialised in Kungfu and Tai Chi. In October 2024, the Association successfully delivered a Kungfu and Tai Chi Festival at a charitable Haberfield Church in the Inner West. This year the group wish to continue to deliver the 2nd Kungfu and Tai Chi Festival in the Inner West in October 2025.	$5,000
Greek Orthodox Community of NSW	**The last of Little Greece** The Last of Little Greece preserves and celebrates the stories of Marrickville's post-World War Two Greek migrants and their families, creating intercultural understanding and connection. Through video interviews, photography, and digitising family archives, the project documents their contributions to Marrickville's history and culture. A photographic exhibition, online video clips, and community presentation brings diverse groups together to share and reflect on stories that helped shape society. Highlighting the common experiences of migration, the project builds community connections, enriches cultural understanding, and strengthens partnerships between multicultural communities in Marrickville.	$5,000
HAMERKAZ LTD	**Chanukah in the West 2025** Chanukah in the West 2025 is a multicultural community celebration bringing the light and joy of Jewish tradition to Sydney's Inner West, where local Jewish infrastructure is limited. The event will feature live music, traditional food, cultural activities, and an inclusive public menorah lighting. Targeting families and individuals from diverse backgrounds, the festival fosters cultural exchange, builds community connection, and encourages collaboration across faiths and cultures. By celebrating Chanukah in a welcoming, accessible setting, the project promotes understanding, participation, and shared celebration within the wider community.	$5,000

Attachment 11

Attachment 11

Inner West Council Multicultural Grants 2025

NSW Federation of Community Language Schools Inc	**Multicultural Immersion Playgroups Pilot Program for culturally and linguistically diverse and non-culturally and linguistically diverse Grandparents, Mums, and New Mums** This 12-month pilot will deliver four 10-week language-immersion playgroups (Greek, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Chinese) for children aged 3-5 and their carers, grandparents, mums in the Inner West. The playgroup is free of charge, so families experiencing economic hardship can participate without hesitation. This directly responds to cost-of-living pressures and aligns with Inner West Council's vision for equitable access to community services. The pilot aims to enhance learning continuity at home. Participating families will receive a free take-home kit including bilingual flashcards, stories, and visual resources in English and the relevant heritage language to reinforce learning between sessions and build care capability.	$5,000
Sydney Chinese Youth Association	**Chinese Australian Youth Employability Enhancement Project** "Bridging Futures: Career Readiness for Chinese-Australian Youth" is a community-led program designed to support young people of Chinese descent aged 18–25 in the Inner West. The project focuses on enhancing employability, career confidence, and social integration among school leavers and recent university graduates. Participants will take part in tailored workshops covering career planning, interview skills, workplace communication, and cross-cultural confidence. The program aims to close the gap between formal education and real-world employment readiness for youth from culturally diverse backgrounds, who may face unique barriers in navigating the Australian job market.	$5,000
Women's Lantern	**Cut Loose: Free Hands, Free Voices – Collage Storytelling for Connection and Safety** This project delivers a creative, trauma-informed collage storytelling workshop for women and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse and migrant communities in the Inner West. Participants explore identity, safety, and boundaries through hands-on art—no need to speak or be fluent in English. Culturally and linguistically diverse communities often face cultural stigma, language barriers, and fear when seeking support for domestic, family and sexual violence. Visual storytelling offers a safe, accessible way to express, connect, and raise awareness about healthy relationships, coercive control, and available support services.	$5,000

Attachment 11

Inner West Council Multicultural Grants 2025

Amplify Black Women	**Amplify Connect** Amplify Connect is a multicultural networking event supporting Black African and migrant women in the Inner West. Through panel discussions, cultural performances, and storytelling, the event creates a platform for connection, empowerment, and visibility. Participants will engage in curated conversations, share experiences, and strengthen their leadership and community ties. The event aims to reduce social isolation and promote active participation in community life.	$2,000
St David's Uniting Church Haberfield auspiced by The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW)	**Community event to celebrate NAIDOC week 2026** St David's Uniting Church seeks support to host a community-focused National Aborigines and Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week 2026 event that invites reflection, connection, and celebration of our shared journey with First Nations peoples. Building on the hopeful success of our self-funded 2025 NAIDOC week "Hand Garden" initiative, we are seeking to grow a space for ongoing community collaboration and cross-cultural understanding.	$1,300
Total		**$33,300**

Attachment 11

Inner West Council Active Inner West Grants 2024

Attachment 12

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended Year 1 + 2 2024 - 2026
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Canterbury & Western Suburbs Cricket Association	**Project ShadeStrike: Empowering Cricket Teams with Sun-Safe Marquees and Equipment** Project ShadeStrike aims to enhance the wellbeing of cricket teams by providing sun-safe marquees for sun protection and comfortable seating during matches. Recognising the importance of sun safety, this initiative seeks to equip our teams with high-quality and durable sun-safe marquees. Additionally, the aim is to provide benches under these marquees, providing a comfortable seating area for the players to rest between innings. Furthermore, the plan is to supply sunscreen to ensure comprehensive sun protection for all participants. This initiative will support approximately 100 junior players and 20 support staff.	$10,000
Summer Hill Lakers Netball Club	**Coaching and Umpiring Development Program** This program will target adolescents, young adults and parents at our club to encourage and support them to gain skills in netball coaching and umpiring and use these skills to benefit the entire club community. Through developing more umpires and coaches and remunerating them for their time once they have achieved the required skill set, we will create an environment where more people can thrive and improve in all aspects of the game. This grant will help keep registration costs lower, ensuring netball is accessible for all who want to play.	$10,000
Sydney Women's Baseball League	**"Diamond Inclusion": Women and LGBTQIA+ Sydney Women's Baseball League Coaching and Umpiring Clinics** The "Diamond Inclusion" Coaching and Umpiring Clinics aim to promote inclusivity, skill development and volunteer retention of women and the LGBTQI+ community. Through a series of workshops and clinics, experienced members will upskill while new members learn, receiving professional coaching and umpiring training. This fosters a supportive environment for women and LGBTQI+ individuals to excel in baseball, breaking down barriers and advancing diversity within the sport. Ultimately, it strives to create a more inclusive and equitable baseball community where everyone can thrive both on and off the field and increase their baseball knowledge and skills.	$10,000

Inner West Council Active Inner West Grants 2024

Attachment 12

		Total $
Newtown Junior Australian Football Club Inc	**Safer club, safer community** Our project aims to provide all club coaches, committee members, appropriately aged players and other interested parties such as volunteers or parents to learn lifesaving skills. We will split the funding on Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation and First Aid training, the purchase of first aid kits, an automatic external defibrillator and ongoing wellbeing initiatives that provide value to our volunteers and members.	$8,120
AFL (NSW/ACT) Commission Limited	**Youth and Women AFL 9s** Increasing engagement and participation in a brand new social (non-contact) AFL 9's competition for women and girls (youth aged 12-16) at Mahoney Park in the Spring window. The project would commence with a come and try session during the school holidays for the girls to learn new skills, and lead into the inaugural AFL 9's Youth Girls and Women's competition in the Inner West.	$8,100
Ashfield Amateur Swimming Club	**Growing access to swimming** Promote and grow female participation and leadership opportunities. Continue to grow training opportunities for female swimmers. Develop opportunities for older people both female and male. Continue to encourage people who are from culturally and linguistically diverse, disadvantaged and/or LGBTIQA+ backgrounds to join the club. Develop member improvements in swimming and understanding of the safety around water environments.	$7,420

Attachment 12

Inner West Council Active Inner West Grants 2024

Attachment 12

		Total $
Sydney Inner West Pickleball Club	**Develop the Inner West Rainbow Pickleball Group** Sydney Inner West Pickleball Club hosts players of all skill levels and supports equal rights for all, regardless of race, sexual orientation, gender, or religion. In 2023, the club launched Australia's first dedicated pickleball session for the LGBTIQ+ community. The club seeks funds to further develop Rainbow Pickleball by: - providing a safe venue where players can be their true self - improving players physical and mental health by reducing social isolation - encouraging participation in physical activity and promote a healthy lifestyle - creating opportunities for players to make social connections - providing information on various health issues - host twice yearly Rainbow Pickleball Tournaments.	$6,520
Balmain Tigers Australian Football Club	**Women's Masters AFL - Balmain AFC** The grant will help support the coaching, development and running Women's AFL for Masters players (over 35 years). This is for women either new to the game or who have played some AFL before. With the fast uptake of Women's AFL, there is a community need for women 35 years+ to still play and engage with the game. Specifically grant funding would support: - coaching and skills clinic funding - costs to cover ground and game expenses for the social games - 8 per year - promotion of clinics and games to the community - banners, social media, flyers.	$5,420

Inner West Council Active Inner West Grants 2024

Attachment 12

		Total $
Australian Dancing Society Ltd - NSW Branch	**Future Stars Cup Development Competition** The Australian Dancing Society's Future Stars Cup is a new DanceSport development competition. This new and fun initiative has events for all ages and abilities, featuring our Future Stars events which aim to develop our up-and-coming competitors and a specialised Social Events Division as an introduction for those who have never competed. This division has events across all 3 styles and for all ages from the very young to the mature. We aim to bring forth and create an inclusive and welcoming environment that encourages creativity, growth, and personal development and plan for this project to be an ongoing event.	$4,420
Total		**$70,000**

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants 2024

Attachment 13

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended Year 1 + 2 2024 - 2026
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Flight Path Theatre Ltd	**Worthy - Creative Living Workshops** Worthy will provide creative living workshops to empower, connect, validate, bring joy and employment possibilities to adults living with disability. Participants will enjoy a space where everyone is welcome and belongs, where they learn real-life skills, find connections and a sense of community. Working with professionals from the disability sector and those living with disability we will develop and deliver workshops created by and for people living with disability. The workshops will be based on creative play and aim to bring joy, friendship, stage craft and a sense of independence to the Inner West community.	$20,000
Metro Assist Limited	**Recycled Rhythms** The project will provide three-days school holiday program each term over a period of two years, targeting primary-aged children residing in the Inner West Council areas. These programs will deliver engaging and educational workshops to foster environmental sustainability by creatively reusing recyclable materials into musical instruments, finishing off the holiday program with an interactive jam session. Simultaneously, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to participate in informative parenting sessions held over three days in collaboration with KidsXpress, Sydney Local Health District Early Childhood Dietitian, and Kidsafe. These sessions will provide parents with knowledge and practical skills aimed at strengthening and promoting positive parent-child relationships.	$20,000

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants 2024

Attachment 13

		Total $
Midjuburi Youth Resource Centre Incorporated	**Weaving Wisdom: Koori Girls' Yarning Circle** The Weaving Wisdom project targets Aboriginal young women aged 12-17. It will offer a weekly Girls' Yarning Circle during school terms, featuring activities like weaving and traditional dance. Facilitated by Midjuburi Youth Resource Centre staff and an indigenous creative artist / domestic violence specialist, these sessions aim to foster cultural connection, identity, and community support. By engaging in these culturally enriching activities, participants will build trust and rapport, allowing for the exploration of crucial topics such as personal safety, trauma, and healthy relationships. Expected outcomes for the participants include enhanced social and emotional wellbeing, stronger cultural ties, improved relationships, and safer community.	$20,000
Stepping Out Housing Programme Inc	**Social Inclusion Program for Female Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence** Stepping Out will run a holistic social inclusion program to empower adult female survivors of childhood sexual abuse and/or domestic violence with a connection to Inner West Council local government area who experience marginalisation and disadvantage as a result of trauma.	$20,000
The Survivor Hub Ltd	**The Survivor Hub Balmain MeetUps Expansion Project** The Survivor Hub Balmain MeetUps are survivor-led peer support groups which harness the strength, knowledge and lived experiences of sexual assault survivors in a safe, open and inclusive space. MeetUps are non-gender specific (16+ years) and are held on a monthly basis. They currently comprise of a survivor-facilitator and a social worker who monitor the group. Funding restraints require MeetUps to be capped at 12 participants, however in response to increasing community demand, there is a need to rapidly expand and alternate between non-gender specific and 'family-support' MeetUps, which can accommodate up to 20 survivors to enhance our inclusive community.	$20,000

Inner West Council Community Wellbeing Two-Year Grants 2024

Attachment 13

		Total $
Inner City Legal Centre	**Trans Legal Service Drop-in at the Inner West Pride Centre** In 2025 Twenty10 has invited Inner City Legal Centre to run monthly drop-in clinics to assist with legal gender affirmation	$19,607
	at the Inner West Pride Centre. The Inner City Legal Centre has identified increasing demand from Inner West residents for assistance with identification documents. Legal identification is central to personal affirmation and practical matters including access to housing, employment, and healthcare. The complex name change processes will be simplified by providing access to legal experts at the Pride Centre. This project will support LGBTQIA+ community members in the Inner West to participate more fully in all aspects of public and civic life.	
Good Neighbours Australia Inc	**Connection Through Creativity - Intergenerational Art Project** "Connection Through Creativity" is an intergenerational art project developed specifically for seniors from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to interact with young adults. Up to 26 participants meet for 4 sessions over 4 weeks to paint, chat, share morning tea and get to know one another. As art is a universal activity, all ages/ethnicities can participate. With a view of connecting, seniors and young adults to foster social inclusion and a sense of belonging amongst seniors, the program also encourages and strengthens collaborations with young people who benefit greatly from the interactions between the generations.	$10,000
Total		**$129,607**

Inner West Council Environment Grants 2024

Attachment 14

Applicant	Project Title Description	Total $ Recommended Year 1 + 2 2024 - 2026
Projects Recommended for Funding *The following projects are recommended for funding. They address the grant objectives and selection criteria more comprehensively than competing projects*		
Ashfield Public School Parents & Citizens Association	**Sustainable water tanks and garden at Ashfield Public School** The project aims to regenerate the school's two disused rainwater tanks and install irrigation to allow them to water an adjacent native garden and vegetable patch that will be revitalised. The school plans to increase biodiversity with plantings of endangered native plant species and Australian native bushfoods, including those that will encourage pollinators such as butterflies and native bees.	$10,000
The Bower Re-use and Repair Centre Co-Operative	**Community repair workshop** The Bower at Summer Hill is fully equipped with an interactive workshop where people can either attend a repair workshops or bring their own items to be repaired. This provides a unique service to repair valued items that may not be repaired elsewhere, saving them from becoming part of the waste stream. Bower technicians and skilled craftspeople can undertake or train people in a range of repairs including: furniture and wooden items, electrical items, bicycles, musical instruments, and clothing. The project aims to expand to mobile phones, ipads and other electronic devices.	$10,000
Circle Paints Limited	**Paint reuse promotion and community paint vouchers** Circle Paints seeks to increase awareness about how to purchase paint saved from landfill, and promote uptake of reused paint through a "Paint Voucher" offering. The group will visit Inner West schools and community groups to explain our products and leave information about paint vouchers funded by our Council grant. Unique voucher codes would allow local schools, mural artists, and community groups to each claim up to $300 worth of free paint from Circle Paints to encourage organisations/artists to choose to buy reused paint because of the price and environmental benefits.	$10,000

Inner West Council Environment Grants 2024

		Total $
Joy of Giving Network	**Joy of Giving educational preloved toy workshops** Joy of Giving aims to introduce pre-loved toy workshops to schools and community organisations in the Inner West to educate participants about sustainability, resource sharing through toys, and waste reduction. Children and parents will gain practical knowledge on sustainable practices and identifying reusable toys. Workshops include educational sessions, storytelling, hands-on toy preparation, and toy swapping. Any remaining toys will be distributed to people in need, fostering community engagement and environmental responsibility.	$10,000
Solar Citizens Australia	**Electrify Inner West Events** The Electrify Inner West series of community information session events will empower local residents with information and advice on rooftop solar, home batteries, affordable electric vehicles and vehicle-to-grid and the benefits of cheaper, cleaner energy.	$10,000
Whites Creek Community Garden Inc	**Whites Creek Community Garden improvement project** The garden area infrastructure will be upgraded by replacing the aged tool shed with a purpose-built garden equipment shed, installing a seed raising bench, and replacing most of the north garden bed borders and reconfiguring layout to: - provide both team and community member individual/household garden beds - improve stormwater drainage, improve safe access to garden beds by straightening borders - constructing and installing a Food Pantry for our gardeners to share excess produce with the local community.	$10,000

Inner West Council Environment Grants 2024

		Total $
NSW Wildlife Information Rescue and Education Service Incorporated (Inner West Branch)	**Building community capacity to protect and increase biodiversity in the Inner West** This project will enable Inner West WIRES volunteers to carry out the successful rescue and rehabilitation of different species of native wildlife in different environments, including waterways, by funding specific types of equipment that are vital to achieve greater numbers of surviving native wildlife within the Inner West. This will correlate to the Council's commitment to biodiversity and, taking account of the wildlife's contribution to ecosystem services, will enhance the wellbeing of residents.	$9,928
Plastics Maker Space (auspiced by The Village Project Summer Hill Co-Operative)	**Turning plastic waste into community designs** Plastics Maker Space's mission is to remake household plastic waste into new, functional and long-life designs. The project will set up a workshop with machines such as a plastic shredder and an extrusion machine at the Inner West Sustainability Hub. Working with targeted community groups such as schools, small businesses like cafes, and households, Plastics Maker Space will facilitate sustainability education awareness of the circular economy by providing tangible outcomes of plastic recycling remade as circular designs.	$8,471
Birchgrove Public School Parents & Citizens Association	**Birchgrove Public School Parents & Citizens gardens project** The Birchgrove Public School Parents & Citizens Association's gardens project will benefit the school commmunity through development of a kitchen garden, native garden and Indigenous garden trail through the school grounds. A second composter will be installed to compost green waste from working bees for use across the school gardens.	$5,100

Inner West Council Environment Grants 2024

Attachment 14

		Total $
Rozelle Public School Parents & Citizens Association	**Rozelle Public School sustainable learning area** The Rozelle Public School Parents & Citizens Association propose to create a sustainable and visually appealing outdoor learning space with an Indigenous garden, water management areas including rain water tanks, taps and the use of recycled materials. The proposed upgrade will include: Indigenous gardens with native trees and bush tucker planting, a yarning circle with sandstone block seats, a pollination station to help flora and contribute to the ecosystem and encourage biodiversity, and a rainwater tank to conserve water and reduce wastage.	$5,000
The Village Project Summer Hill Co-Operative Limited	**Re Fashioned - textiles, circular economy and recycling** Re Fashioned is aimed at the Inner West community, though is available to those living beyond it. The project provides a reliable, transparent and efficient process to responsibly divert textiles from landfill as well as innovative ways for community members to partake in the circular economy. Activities include dropping off and sorting unwanted or damaged textiles/clothing, purchasing reused clothing and products made from circular materials, and education. The project expects to help decrease textiles being thrown into the red bin and increase community engagement in collectively tackling the textile waste problem.	$5,000
Summer Hill Community Garden	**Summer Hill Community Garden bush tucker area** Summer Hill Community Gardeners have been growing vegetables, fruits and herbs in Summer Hill since 2010. This project is to include a Bush Tucker garden. It will include co-design with bush tucker experts, installing raised beds, identifying and planting the most appropriate native bush tucker plants for the area, and providing education on local bush tucker through signage, working bees and workshops.	$2,450
Total		**$95,949**

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 16**

Subject: **COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES**

Prepared By: Julian Sakarai - Senior Manager Governance and Risk

Authorised By: Sharon Bowman - Director Corporate

RECOMMENDATION

That Council determine Councillor representation on Council and External Committees until September 2026, as detailed in this report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has established committees to provide advice and assist with decision-making functions in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act). Councillors can attend these committees as observers, or be appointed by Council as members of these committees and exercise voting rights. Councillors may also be appointed to represent Council on external committees. This report lists Council's internal committees and those external committees to which Council may appoint members, to enable Council to determine its representatives for the coming year, until September 2026.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 22 October 2024, Council resolved the Councillor representation on Council and External Committees until September 2025. At the Council meeting held on 11 March 2025, Council resolved to accept the resignation of Councillor Darcy Byrne as representative to Callan Park Community Trust Board and endorse Councillor Kerrie Fergusson as his replacement.

For the duration of this Council term, a report on Councillor representation on internal and external committees will be provided to Council annually in September each year, to enable Council to review the appointments.

DISCUSSION

The following table sets out details of the Council committees.

The charters or resolutions establishing these committees require formal appointment of Councillors as members of these committees. In some instances, the Terms of Reference or document establishing the committee permit or require an alternate Councillor to be appointed. An alternate Councillor can attend meetings when the substantively appointed Councillor is unable to attend. Where the committee's procedures involve voting as part of decision making, an alternate can also vote on behalf of the substantively appointed Councillor, where permitted to do so by the committee's constituting document. In some instances, an alternate Councillor will need to be appointed to ensure that the Committee or Panel is able to meet quorum requirements in the absence of the substantively appointed Councillor.

Council Committees				
Name of Committee	**Purpose**	**Meeting Time and Frequency**	**Reporting Framework**	**Councillor Representation and current representative/s**
Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC)	ARIC is a committee required by the Act. It provides independent specialist assurance, audit, oversight and advice to Council. The Committee's work supports Council to effectively discharge its responsibilities for financial reporting, risk management, internal controls, governance, improvement and internal and external audit. The Committee's membership includes an independent Chairperson and three independent members in accordance with the ARIC Terms of Reference.	Quarterly plus option for additional Annual Financial Statements meeting	Minutes of the Committee are reported to Council for noting.	1 Councillor representative (non-voting member). **Current representative:** *Clr Scott.*
General Manager's Performance Assessment Panel	The Panel and an appointed facilitator review the performance of the General Manager. Councillors determine, by way of Council resolution, the Panel members for the Panel. The Panel does not have a Terms of Reference, but is guided by the OLG's Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers. The Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers 2022 provide that Panels should be comprised of the mayor, the deputy mayor, another councillor nominated by council and a councillor nominated by the general manager. The General Manager has identified that the Councillor elected as Mayor is the most appropriate Councillor to be	Annually	As required	Mayor and Deputy Mayor + 1 additional Councillor. **Current representatives:** *The Mayor (Clr Byrne), Deputy Mayor (Clr Howard) and Clr Antoniou.*

Council Committees				
Name of Committee	**Purpose**	**Meeting Time and Frequency**	**Reporting Framework**	**Councillor Representation and current representative/s**
	nominated to the Panel by the General Manager, in recognition of the relationship between the two roles, as recognised in the Act.			
Flood Management Advisory Committee	The Committee assists Council to prepare floodplain management studies and plans for the Inner West local government area. It acts as both a focus and forum for the discussion of technical, social, economic and environmental matters, and for the distillation of viewpoints on these matters into a management plan.	Minimum of twice a year	Minutes of the Committee are reported to Council for adoption.	No minimum number needs to be appointed. Up to 2 Councillors may be appointed. **Current representatives:** *Clr Howard and Clr Barlow.*
Local Transport Forum	The Forum advises Council on traffic and parking control matters. It is primarily a technical review and advisory committee that considers the technical merits of proposals and ensures current technical guidelines are considered. It provides recommendations to Council on traffic and parking control matters and on the provision of traffic control facilities and prescribed traffic control devices for which Council has delegated authority. The Forum also advises on traffic matters arising from development applications.	Third Monday of each month	Minutes of the Forum are reported to Council for adoption.	1 Councillor; 1 Alternate Councillor. **Current representatives:** *Clr Macri and (Alternate) Clr Atkins.*
Major Capital Projects Committee	The Committee reviews, discusses and makes recommendations to Council on all major capital projects with a value over $1million.	Monthly	Minutes of the Committee are reported to Council for adoption.	The number of committee members is at Council's discretion. The current Terms of Reference include provision for 5 representatives.

Council Committees				
Name of Committee	**Purpose**	**Meeting Time and Frequency**	**Reporting Framework**	**Councillor Representation and current representative/s**
				Current representatives: *Clr Scott, Clr Fergusson, Clr Atkins, Clr Blake and Clr Howard.*

Councillors can be appointed to represent Council on external committees in line with the constituting document of each committee. The responsibility for and operation of these committees are set by the host organisation.

External Committees			
Name of Committee	**Charter / Purpose**	**Meeting and Frequency**	**Councillor Representation and current representative/s**
Callan Park Community Trustee Board	The Board provides key advice to Greater Sydney Parklands in respect of Callan Park. The role of the board is to provide advice, input and recommendations to planning, processes and policies that may impact future amenity and public access to the parklands as well as the ongoing management of the parklands. In performing this role, the community trustee board will: • Provide informed strategic advice to the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Board on matters relating to Callan Park • Advise, share information and facilitate partnerships that assist Greater Sydney Parklands to develop its plans and increase community connections • Advocate on behalf of and promote understanding of the needs of and issues affecting the local community, ensuring inclusion and equity of access for community members	As required.	1 Councillor. **Current representative:** *Clr Fergusson.*

External Committees			
Name of Committee	**Charter / Purpose**	**Meeting and Frequency**	**Councillor Representation and current representative/s**
	• Contribute local knowledge on relevant issues, emerging trends, opportunities and community needs.		
Cooks River Alliance Management Committee	The Cooks River Alliance is a partnership between councils in the Cooks River Catchment – Bayside, Canterbury-Bankstown, Inner West, and Strathfield. The Alliance uses the combined resources, experience, knowledge and skills within the councils and the community to address the complex environmental problems of the Cooks River and its catchment. The Management Committee provides strategic direction, makes decisions and provides approvals for all key Alliance activities. The Management Committee is comprised of Councillor delegates from participating Councils, Sydney Water representatives, and observers.	Meetings are quarterly and hosted by rotating member councils.	1 Councillor; 1 Alternate Councillor. **Current representatives:** *Clr Howard and (Alternative) Clr Barlow.*
NSW Public Libraries Association	The Association is the peak body for public libraries in NSW and advocates on behalf of the library sector to strengthen the public library network.	As required.	1 Councillor. **Current representatives:** *Clr Carlisle and (Alternative) Clr Antoniou.*
Parramatta River Catchment Group	The Group is a regional organisation of local councils, State agencies and community representatives whose aim is to work together to improve the health of the Parramatta River and its catchment.	Meetings are held quarterly on the first Thursday of March, June, September and December from 5.30pm. The venue rotates between member councils.	1 Councillor; 1 Alternate Councillor. **Current representatives:** *Clr Fergusson and (Alternative) Clr Blake.*
Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF)	SACF is the main consultation body for the Sydney Airport Long Term Operating Plan. The Forum includes	As required	Council membership on SAFC is limited

External Committees			
Name of Committee	**Charter / Purpose**	**Meeting and Frequency**	**Councillor Representation and current representative/s**
	representatives from the community, councils, industry and State and Federal Parliaments.		to each Council's Mayor (or their representative). **Current representative:** *The Mayor (Clr Byrne).*
Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC)	SSROC has 12 member councils that interact, exchange ideas and work collaboratively to solve regional issues and to contribute to the future sustainability of the region. The group advocates on behalf of the region to ensure that the major issues are addressed by all levels of government.	Meetings held quarterly on first or third Thursday evening.	2 delegates – 1 of whom is to be the Mayor and any number of alternates, noting that only 2 representatives can attend each meeting. **Current representatives:** *The Mayor (Clr Byrne), Clr Scott and (Alternate) Clr Atkins.*
Sydney Coastal Council Group (SCCG)	The SCCG promotes coordination between member councils on environmental issues relating to the sustainable management of the urban coastal and estuarine environment. The SCCG consists of 9 Councils adjacent to Sydney's marine and estuarine environments and associated waterways.	Meetings are held quarterly on Saturday and hosted by rotating member council facilities.	1 delegate from each member council. **Current representative:** *Clr Barlow.*
Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel (Panel)	The Panel is responsible for: • determining 'regionally significant' development applications (DAs) and other Major DAs and modification applications • acting as the Planning Proposal authority when directed • reviewing Planning Proposals	As required.	2 community representatives, who may be Councillors. **Current representatives:** Clr Scott and John Engeler

External Committees			
Name of Committee	**Charter / Purpose**	**Meeting and Frequency**	**Councillor Representation and current representative/s**
	providing advice on other planning and development matters when requested Please refer to the further information below about the Panel's decision-making processes.		(community representative).

Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel
When exercising their functions as Panel members, councillor members must comply with the provisions of the Sydney District and Regional Planning Panels Code of Conduct (Code). The Code provides that Panel members must ensure that any employment, business or other roles or activities they engage in, including acting as a Councillor, will not conflict with, impair or otherwise prevent the full exercise of their functions as Panel members.

The Code further provides that the following situations are considered to represent a conflict of duties for Panel members (on a non-exhaustive basis):

- Members who have current or previous involvement in a specific project, or site, that is subject of a DA for regional development, or a planning proposal that is subsequently reviewed by a planning panel, for example as a consultant.
- Councillor members where they have deliberated or voted on, or otherwise considered, a matter, and/or been present when such consideration is undertaken, in their role at council and that matter, or a related matter, subsequently comes before the panel. Matters which are considered to be related to a panel matter include, but are not limited to:
  - a planning proposal for the site
  - a voluntary planning agreement for the development or planning proposal
  - a Masterplan for the development or planning proposal
  - a Plan of Management for the development property matters related to the site, including leases, licences, purchase of land, disposal of land and management of lands
  - legal matters related to the site, development or proposal

The Code also makes specific provision for instances where a councillor member who is a Panel member has previously deliberated or voted on a matter in their role at Council. Specifically, the Code states that where that matter, or a related matter, subsequently comes before the Panel, the Panel member is to stand aside from their place on the Panel. The other councillor member nominated by Council is to take their place, to avoid any perceptions of bias or pre-judgement.

Gender Equal Representation Policy
The Gender Equal Representation Policy (Policy) was adopted by Council on 3 August 2021. The aim of the Policy is to provide Council with a framework to improve and achieve equal opportunity outcomes.

It applies to Councillor representation on Council committees, external committees, boards and panels. It states that, to ensure fair and equitable participation, Council will encourage

nominations to achieve holistic gender representation that includes transgender and gender-diverse/non-binary people, with a 50% male-female gender balance if transgender and gender-diverse/non- binary groups are not represented.

The Policy requires that Council review the nominations to the positions available with a view to achieving gender equal representation appointments. The Policy does however note that where there is an odd number of positions, diversity and equality may not be achieved. For example, if an existing committee of five members, already had three men, and there are two vacancies, women/transgender/gender diverse/non-binary councillors should be actively prioritised.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications associated with the identified Committees is captured within the adopted budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 17**

Subject: **RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN UPDATE AND ENGAGEMENT**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Simon Watts - Social and Cultural Planning Manager

Authorised By: Ruth Callaghan - Director Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership
4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Inner West Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan was adopted in 2022/23 for a two-year period. A review of this current RAP is underway, with the intent of refreshing it and including new initiatives for a further two-year period. This will be done in collaboration with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group and other key stakeholders, including Reconciliation Australia, which is the national body responsible for endorsing and overseeing RAP's.

This report to Council provides an update on implementation of the current RAP for the first half of 2025.

Key results include:

- Identifying a site in Camperdown Park for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub, which has been endorsed by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group and is the subject of a separate report to Council for endorsement at its August meeting.
- The Aboriginal Survival Memorial in Yeo Park was a finalist in the 2025 NSW Local Government Excellence Awards, and artist Nicole Monks was shortlisted for the 2025 First Nations Arts and Culture Business Innovation Award which included a $10,000 prize, in the broader First Nations Arts and Culture awards presented by Creative Australia.
- A significant program of events marked both Reconciliation week (27 May to 3 June) and NAIDOC week (6 to13 July) in the Inner West.
- Heritage and construction approvals have been secured for the second Aboriginal Survival Memorial in Illoura Reserve, East Balmain and this is on track for completion in 2025.

On 5 March 2024, Council adopted the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Strategy. As a result of the Strategy, there has been an increase in contracts awarded to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses from 0.25% in financial year 2022/23 to 0.50% in the 2024/25 financial year. This is a doubling of the contract share from the beginning of the period but does not yet meet the target of 1%.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 13 September 2022, Council resolved the following in part:

1. *That Council adopts the Reconciliation Action Plan.*

4. *That Council receives quarterly progress reports of progress toward establishing the community hub; and*

At the Council meeting held on 5 March 2024, Council resolved the following in part:

1. *That Council adopt the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Strategy, with the addition of a note stating that Council will review the Strategy after one year with the view of assessing council's progress in meeting the proposed target for procurement from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Suppliers or products and seeking to at least double the target each year in the next five years.*

In close collaboration with Reconciliation Australia, Council prepared and adopted an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan in September 2022. Reconciliation Australia (RA) advise that an Innovate RAP is appropriate for organisations with a strong relationship with their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders; that are continuing to implement strategies, initiatives and policies that support reconciliation; and deliver additional actions tailored to their organisation.

The expectations of Reconciliation Australia on Council include developing mutually beneficial relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, develop and pilot strategies for reconciliation initiatives, engage staff in reconciliation, identify the best approach for the organisation through aspirational deliverables, and explore how the organisation can drive reconciliation through its business, activities, services, programs, stakeholders and spheres of influence.

Since the adoption of the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan, significant actions have commenced and been completed. Following discussion with RA and the advice of Council's Aboriginal Cultural Advisor, the existing plan will be redeveloped for a further two-year period in collaboration with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group. A plan for community engagement and collaboration with the Democracy Group to refresh the RAP for another 2 years will be developed for Council's consideration in the coming months.

This report also provides an update on implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Strategy, which was adopted by Council on 5 March 2024.

DISCUSSION

The Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan contains four key themes, prescribed by Reconciliation Australia: relationships; respect; opportunities; and governance, reporting and assessing. The information below sets out major achievements for the first half of 2025.

Aboriginal Stakeholder Engagement

Council has expanded its relationship with Gadigal Information Service and Koori Radio. Council provided increased financial assistance for the Yabun Festival in January 2025 of $30,000. This amount will increase to $40,000 for 2026. In addition, a further library author talk was recorded and broadcast.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Hub

An appropriate site has been identified in collaboration with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group, who support the choice, and the Community Hub is subject of a separate report to Council in August 2025.

Aboriginal Survival Memorials

The Aboriginal Survival Memorial in Yeo Park was a finalist in the 2025 NSW Local Government Excellence Awards, and artist Nicole Monks was shortlisted for the 2025 First Nations Arts and Culture Business Innovation Award which included a $10,000 prize, in the broader First Nations Arts and Culture awards presented by Creative Australia. The Memorial is being used extensively by local school groups and residents. A large group of students from Christian Brothers Lewisham and Trinity Grammar marked Reconciliation week in May 2025 with an event at the Memorial. In addition, more than five schools from across Sydney also used the Memorial as a focus for their NAIDOC celebrations in July 2025.

One of Australia's leading Aboriginal film makers, Ashley Gibb, has delivered two short films on the creation of this Memorial and the work is available on Council's website: https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/live/community-wellbeing/aboriginal-community/aboriginal-survival-memorial. New interpretative signage will be installed on site providing interpretative narrative and QR codes to the films.

Heritage and construction approvals have been secured for the second Aboriginal Survival Memorial in Illoura Reserve, East Balmain. Landowners consent from the NSW Government has been achieved, along with approval to create the work in a state significant heritage precinct from the delegate of the NSW Minister for Heritage.

Closing the Gap health outcomes

Engagement with Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) continues in Aboriginal health, health education and wellbeing. In this period engagement with the district on extreme heat preparedness for Elders through the coming summer has occurred.

Anti-Racism Bystander Training

As a major initiative of the 2024 Anti-Racism Strategy, Council is preparing for a pilot of Anti-Racism Bystander Training which will commence later in 2025 and continue through early 2026. 400 pilot participants will be offered training and support in three phases:

- Access to 5 module cultural competence training package developed at University of Sydney by the National Centre for Cultural Competence
- Training in Anti-Racism Bystander Training in groups of 20 by the University of Western Sydney, a global leader in the field, beginning with two trial groups in 2025
- Post training support and skill development in small social learning groups, supported by Council and the National Centre for Cultural Competence.

Council will call for expressions of interest for participants later in 2025. This will include the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Democracy Group, and local Aboriginal residents.

Reconciliation week (27 May to 3 June)

The 5th annual staff golf day was held in collaboration with Marrickville Golf, Sporting and Community Club. This saw 75 council staff members enjoy a competitive round-robin golf tournament. The morning started with a Welcome to Country, followed by traditional dancing from the Budja Budja Butterfly Dancers and breakfast.

Under the cultural leadership and support of Council's cultural advisor, many schools within the Inner West visited the Yeo Park Survival Memorial *Breathe* to reflect on the connection to Country and the road to Reconciliation that this artwork invites.

NAIDOC week (6 to 13 July 2025)
NAIDOC 2025 saw Council supporting several NGO's and schools with their activities, including SLHD and AbSec.

- Sydney Local Health District and Council hosted an event in Gladstone Park Balmain, which also had the hospital run tours for residents to understand where and how Balmain Hospital fits into the SLHD services.
- AbSec, Council, and local NGO's collaborated on the Family Fun Day NAIDOC event at Marrickville PCYC. Council's outdoor staff cooked the BBQ for all the participants of this event which was close to 2,000 people. Council staff from early learning and community wellbeing led a number of activities and stalls at the event.

Many schools in the Inner West held NAIDOC activities either before or just after the July school vacation, which Aboriginal community members attended.

Celebrating Aboriginal culture
Collaboration with Marrickville Golf and Community Club over the three Council funded illuminated Wurridjal's (Mullets) on the greens of Marrickville Golf Course has seen these retained on site. Council has funded an upgrade for weather treatment and solar lighting to enable permanent display and these were installed in tie for the 2025 Wurridjal festival.

Demonstrating respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
Cultural protocols are being reviewed and updated for Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country, along with a flag protocol for all Council flag poles. The Naming Policy has been utilised in naming the five new Inclusive Playgrounds.

Employment outcomes
Council's newly launched traineeship program for 2025 includes four Aboriginal trainees in early learning, civil concreting, and parks and street maintenance.

Council support for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children in Early Learning Services
Council is providing bespoke support for Aboriginal families in its family services aimed at supporting family care of Aboriginal children and providing the best possible start for early years learning and transition to school.

Research on Aboriginal cultural heritage
Major new research on Aboriginal cultural heritage has been published to the Council website and libraries. A GIS mapping layer of current sites of significance has been produced and for use internally by Council's planners and heritage teams to ensure archaeology is identified and protected, enabling awareness of cultural heritage sites and management of issues arising within the planning process. This research informed development of Council's heritage application for the Illoura Reserve Survival Memorial.

Memorialisation of the birth of the Koori Knockout
A Blue Heritage Plaque was unveiled by the NSW Minister for Heritage in Camdenville Park on 17 May 2025. Five founders of the Koori Knockout travelled to Sydney as guests of Council and were present for the launch. Council's landscape architect designed additional cultural elements into the park including the colours of the foundation teams, and inscription of the team names into the footpath leading to the plaque. Council is installing additional interpretative signage on site to acknowledge its Aboriginal history.

Finally, Council funded redevelopment of UNSW Professor Heidi Norman's history of the Koori Knockout to tell the story of women's participation in parallel with the existing story of male players. This work will be published shortly.

Perfect Match projects by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists
New works have been completed by Kyra Kum-Sing at 229 Denison St, Newtown and Chris Edwards (in collaboration with local artist Elbows) at Balmain East Village Hotel, Darling Street Balmain East.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Strategy
The Strategy has produced an increase in contracts awarded to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses from 0.25% in financial year 2022/23 to 0.50% in the 2024/25 financial year. This is a doubling of the contract share from the beginning of the period but does not yet meet the target of 1%. This upward trajectory underscores a growing commitment to engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suppliers and fostering economic opportunities.

Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suppliers
This has been bolstered by platforms like VendorPanel, which facilitate the identification and inclusion of Indigenous businesses in procurement activities. The procurement team engaged with over 20 Supply Nation businesses to onboard, meet and discuss opportunities to work closer with Council.

Identifying Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suppliers in Reporting Systems
The procurement compliance officer has been categorising Council's entire supplier data base to identify, Indigenous, local and sustainable businesses. Procurement have also opted in to use *givvable* which is a due diligence platform focused on environmental, ethical sourcing, social impact, diversity, equity and inclusion. The system provides a badge in platforms such as VendorPanel that easily identify Indigenous businesses.

Redevelopment of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan
Council has made significant progress with implementation of the two year RAP since adoption in late 2023, and that implementation will continue during the redevelopment period.

Discussion with Reconciliation Australia supports continuing for a further two year period with an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan, to both conclude what has been commenced, and to address any new needs that have emerged in the period of the first RAP. Reconciliation Australia advise that Council might continue with existing commitments allowing development of a deeper understanding of Council's sphere of influence and establishing more leading practice approaches to advancing reconciliation, including particularly the Anti-Racism Strategy. This will allow continued focussing on strengthening relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through piloting new methods and strategies for reconciliation.

A plan for community engagement and collaboration with the Democracy Group to refresh the RAP for another 2 years will be developed for Council's consideration in the coming months.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 18**

Subject: **BIRCHGROVE OVAL FLOODLIGHTING UPGRADE**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Michael Craven - Projects Delivery Manager

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the planning and proposed delivery of an upgraded floodlighting system at Birchgrove Oval in line with a Council resolution on the matter.

Design and construction timelines will be coordinated with the winter sports season to minimise disruption to the community and sport clubs given the works will involve trenching and excavation of the playing surface. In this regard, it is proposed to undertake construction between September 2026 and March 2027.

The adopted Delivery Program currently allocates $20,000 in 2027/28 for design and $1,200,000 in 2028/29 for construction of the Birchgrove Oval Floodlighting upgrade. It is proposed to advance this funding, in line with the Council's resolution, to allocate $20,000 for design in 2025/26 and $1,200,000 for construction in 2026/27. This adjustment will be recommended as part of the 2025/26 first quarter budget review.

BACKGROUND

Birchgrove Oval is located on the waterfront of Sydney Harbour in Birchgrove. It was one of the first publicly developed parks in Sydney and is one of our premier sports and recreation venues. It is regarded as the spiritual home of rugby league in Australia because it hosted the first professional match in 1908.

Birchgrove Oval currently accommodates two senior natural turf soccer/rugby league fields and currently has 6 floodlight poles which were installed in 2007, with a minor upgrade in 2014.

In May 2022, Council engaged a lighting consultant to conduct a lighting level audit on the Birchgrove Oval floodlighting. The audit identified that the existing floodlighting lux levels did not meet the minimum Australian Standards AS2560.2 – 2021 lighting for Lighting for Football (all codes). To address this, the Oval was added to Council's floodlighting upgrade program with funds allocated in the Delivery Program to undertake works by 2028/29.

At the Council Meeting held on 17 June 2025, Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council initiates the design and Development Application (DA) process for a floodlighting upgrade at Birchgrove Oval, in accordance with the AS/NZS 2560 series standard for Club Level Match Lighting at 200 lux.*

2. *That Council provides a progress report on the design and DA process to Council at the August 2025 Council Meeting.*

3. *That Council includes funding for the design and DA in the next quarterly Budget Review.*

DISCUSSION

Following the June 2025 Council resolution, officers have initiated the planning, investigation, and design phase for new oval floodlighting, with completion of these elements anticipated by May 2026. It is expected that the upgrade will utilise LED technology to replace the existing metal halide fixtures.

The project benefits include enhanced visibility for players and spectators, reduced injury risk, and improved energy efficiency. The new lighting will also allow for better light control, minimising light pollution and promoting sustainability.

Approval under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021, Division 12, will be required for the floodlighting installation. This process involves the preparation of a Review of Environmental Factors report.

Demolition of the existing lights can be considered under a Heritage Exemption Certificate given it is deemed as minor and not adversely affecting the site's heritage significance, consistent with Clause 5.10(3)(a) of the Local Environmental Plan. The replacement lighting will be designed to respect the heritage value and setting of the park.

Design and construction timelines will be coordinated with the winter sports season to minimise disruption to the community and sport clubs given the works will involve trenching and excavation of the playing surface.

In this regard, the proposed project timeline is as follows:

	Milestone
July – September 2026	Planning and Investigations – Delivery program, stakeholder identification and project risk identification
October – May 2026	Design development - Concept design, detailed design development, technical specifications and obtrusive lighting compliance report.
January – May 2026	Part 5 Planning Pathway and Heritage Exemption Certificate – Preparation of Review of Environmental Factors and Part 5 approval. Preparation of Heritage documents and Heritage Exemption Certificate. (Design development and Part 5 approval to run concurrently).
June – August 2026	Construction Procurement - Preparation of construction tender documentation, public tender for construction contractor and construction contract award.
September 2026 – February 2027	Construction contract period – 6 months including material lead times.
March 2027	Project completion and handover to clubs for the 2027 winter sports season.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adopted Delivery Program currently allocates $20,000 in 2027/28 for design and $1,200,000 in 2028/29 for construction of the Birchgrove Oval Floodlighting upgrade.

It is proposed to advance this funding, in line with the Council's resolution, to allocate $20,000 for design in 2025/26 and $1,200,000 for construction in 2026/27. This adjustment will be recommended as part of the 2025/26 first quarter budget review.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 19

Subject: INTERNAL OMBUDSMAN SHARED SERVICE REVIEW OF CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

Council at its meeting on 17 June 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred.

Prepared By: Elizabeth Renneberg - Internal Ombudsman

Authorised By: Peter Gainsford - General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The IOSS has reviewed Council's implementation of the Customer Experience Strategy 2024-2027 to date.
Council has implemented an impressive array of improvements to date.

This review has identified early indications of a positive effect on complaints made to the IOSS, with a reduction in the year on year increase in complaints and a decrease in the volume of tier one complaints received. The IOSS has identified a number of strategies that may further assist and has recommended some strategies be reviewed for effectiveness.

BACKGROUND

On 8 August 2023, Council adopted a series of customer experience strategies to enhance Council's customer service interactions and outreach services to the community.

On 21 November 2023, Council adopted the Customer Experience Strategy 2024-2027.

On 8 August 2023 Council resolved that the Internal Ombudsman Shared Service (IOSS) conduct a 12-month review of customer service to determine what improvements have been made and where there are further opportunities.

This review has been conducted after an appropriate period to seek to evaluate the success of the strategies implemented to date.

DISCUSSION

Inner West Council has been on a customer service transformation journey to seek to improve and strengthen customer service across the organisation since April 2022, with an array of improvements and strategies.

Complaint data

The Internal Ombudsman Shared Service (IOSS) receives escalated complaints regarding Council services and complaints regarding the conduct of Councillors and Council staff, from

stakeholders across the member Councils of Inner West, Cumberland City and City of Parramatta.

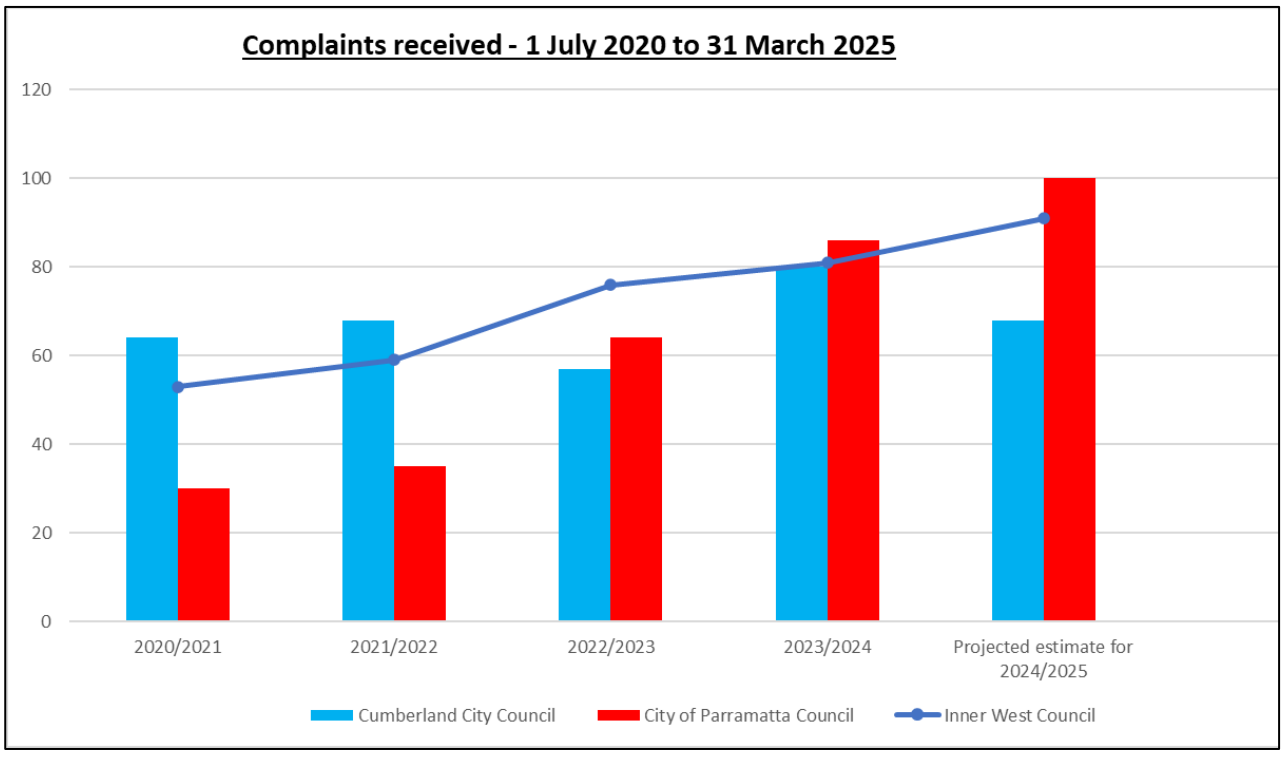
The IOSS operates under a Governance Charter, and accordingly, will only consider a matter after Council has had the opportunity to formally respond to the complaint.

In terms of complaints received by the IOSS from the community relating to Council services (excluding internal complaints and complaints from the community alleging Councillor or staff misconduct) from 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2025, across the three IOSS member Councils, the highest volume received was regarding Inner West Council:

Council	Complaints received from the community: 1 July 2020 – 31/03/2025*
Inner West	337
Cumberland City	320
City of Parramatta	290
Total	**947**

**excludes internal complaints and complaints from the community regarding Councillor and staff conduct*

Please note this is only a portion of the total caseload managed by the IOSS.



The volume of complaints received from the community relating to Inner West Council from 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2025 has increased year on year:

- 2020/21 to 2021/22 - 11% increase (Cumberland 6%, Parramatta 17%)
- 2021/22 to 2022/23 - 29% increase (Cumberland -16%, Parramatta 83%)
- 2022/23 to 2023/24 - 7% increase (Cumberland 40%, Parramatta 34%)
- 2023/24 to 2024/25 - expected 12% increase (pro-rata) (Cumberland -15%, Parramatta 16%)

This year on year increase in the receipt of complaints can be attributable to a number of factors, outside a simple increase in complaints. Contributing to this increase is the increased

awareness and utilisation of the service by the community and the increased awareness of the service by staff.

Of note, the NSW and Commonwealth Ombudsman services have not seen a similar year on year growth, with more fluctuating numbers, which may be attributed to the impacts of COVID and its effect on government services.

However, of note, in relation to complaints regarding Inner West Council the rate of the increase in complaints has seen a reduction since the start of the 2022/23 financial year.

Indicators of community satisfaction

Reason for complaint

Of the complaints received by the IOSS from the community relating to Council services from 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2025, 38% related to the customer's dissatisfaction with the overall customer experience when dealing with Council.

Of these:

- 50% related to a lack of action to address an issue;
- 30% related to a lack of timeliness and responsiveness to respond to an issue;
- 16% related to the quality of response received; and,
- 4% related to customers either expressing dissatisfaction with Council's service or requesting appeal avenues.

Generally, these concerns were raised in conjunction with a substantive issue regarding a Council service.

By comparison, since 1 December 2023, the month following Council's adoption of the Customer Experience Strategy, until 31 March 2025, 40% of complaints received related to the customer's dissatisfaction with the overall customer experience when dealing with Council. This figure has remained relatively steady, however it is acknowledged that the majority of customer experience strategies had a lead time to implementation and therefore there may not have been the opportunity for an impact from this date. It is also acknowledged that the response to Council's implementation to FOGO has also had an impact on complaints received by the IOSS.

Tier one

In order to assess the effectiveness of Council's strategy, a review of tier one complaints has been conducted. A tier one complaint is where a complainant contacted the IOSS prior to Council finalising their complaint. In accordance with the IOSS Governance Charter, these complaints are classified as 'tier one' as they are yet to be resolved by Council and are referred back to Council for initial resolution. The complainant is advised that in the event they are dissatisfied with Council's resolution of the matter, they are open to contact the IOSS at the conclusion of the matter with Council.

Analysis has been undertaken on tier one complaints to identify the reasons why complainants contact the IOSS prior to resolution.

The IOSS assesses complainants lodged tier one complaints with the IOSS as:

- The IOSS was approached prior to the complainant approaching Council – this may be as a result of a lack of faith in Council's complaints management process;
- Complainants are dissatisfied with the timeframe to resolve their issue;
- There has been a significant delay in resolution;
- There has been perceived inaction by Council in resolving their complaint.

The below is a snapshot of tier one complaints as a percentage of the total complaints received from the community (minus complaints about staff and Councillor misconduct) per financial year.

Value	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
% of complaints as Tier 1	53%	50%	52%	62%	30%*

**pro-rata estimate*

The 2024/25 financial year is on track to receive the lowest volume of tier one complaints, which may indicate a higher level of trust in Council with complainants approaching Council first rather than the IOSS. This also indicates reduced levels of complaints about lengthy resolution times or perceived inaction.

This is a very positive sign for Council – indicating improved response times to service requests and complaints; improvements in the 'aged' caseload and increased engagement with Council.

Effectiveness of implemented Customer Experience strategies to date
Council has implemented a significant volume of strategies since the adoption of the Customer Experience Strategy in November 2024, encompassing improved data capture and reporting, improved communication with both customers and with staff, increased engagement and awareness, improved complaints handling processes, both new and enhanced staff training, and enhanced technological improvements.

The IOSS assesses the most impactful strategies to date are:

- Implementation of structural foundation documents: These documents have set the structure and established expected behaviours for staff.
- Training: There has been significant additional training delivered to staff to increase capacity and staff buy-in.
- Improved metrics and reporting: This has allowed a more strategic focus on complaints management and has significantly decreased the volume of 'aged complaints' (complaints on hand for more than 30 days). These measures will continue to improve the timeliness of responses.
- Quality Correspondence dashboard: The quality dashboard, operating initially as a quality assurance checklist, has identified areas of improvement in responses to customers. This has included grammar and spelling, but also most importantly, whether the question has been answered or the relevant aspect considered. A known concern to the IOSS is complaints involving multiple questions being part-answered. In conjunction with improving the quality of the response, this dashboard also ensures the substantive issues are addressed.

The Customer Experience team have engaged with the IOSS team throughout the implementation of these strategies.

Opportunities

Channeling contact received
There has been a significant focus and improvement on capturing and reporting on metrics to better track and manage caseloads. The IOSS assesses Council is in a position to report on caseloads with a high degree of accuracy.

On occasion, the IOSS receives complaints from the community regarding the timeliness of responses when a complainant has contacted a member of staff directly, rather than channeled through customer service. In these circumstances, the complaint is not tracked and the quality/timeliness is not measured.

The IOSS recommends that Council undertake a project to encourage all staff to forward all contacts to customer service to ensure they are appropriately registered, recorded and tracked. As part of this process, it is recommended that Council communication channels be reviewed, to ensure compliance with the recently adopted *Complaints Operational Management Standard.* This will assist in better identifying the actual volume of enquiries received, the caseloads being managed by teams and provide historical data of concerns.

Quality correspondence dashboard

The IOSS acknowledges that there is work underway to integrate the quality correspondence check system into day to day operations. The IOSS recommends this work is expedited to deliver better quality responses to customers.

Delegate responsibilities

At the commencement of the implementation of the Customer Experience Strategy, to ensure appropriate attention, action and responsiveness to community issues, all community interactions were responded to by the relevant Senior Manager. This response included contact details, including email and phone numbers. As expected, this resulted in a significant increase in community contacts to senior staff within the organisation, often on routine and everyday enquiries. This practice continues. The first strategic goal of Council's *Customer Experience Strategy* is "Supporting our staff to excel". This goal includes, "Delegate to our staff". In order to ensure that all Council staff are invested in delivering quality customer service and there is effective ownership and responsibility, now that extensive training has been undertaken to equip staff with the necessary skills, it is recommended that this strategy is implemented to delegate day to day enquiries to appropriate levels. This will assist in driving further customer service improvements and allow for strategic oversight.

Customer service stalls

Council has implemented Customer service stalls, operating around 30 hours across five days a week from Tuesday-Saturday. Council operates these stalls from transport sites, commercial venues and Council libraries, aquatic centres and parks. These stalls provide customers the opportunity to engage with Council officers on an array of issues.

Based on the volume of customers visiting Council's mobile customer service stalls to date this financial year, it is anticipated that Council will record just under 10,000 visitors to these stalls. While this volume is significant, it is noted for the 800+ visitors per month, this resulted in an average of 24 service requests being raised per month, or just over one service request per day.

This is an excellent customer service initiative to increase the visibility of Council and its services. However, to ensure appropriate return on investment on costs associated with this service, it is recommended that an assessment is conducted to identify appropriate measures of success and desired outcomes are considered.

Social media engagement

There are two strategies relating to engagement on social media – establish a social media presence to respond to resident requests; and join local resident groups on social media and actively participate in discussions. In order to meet Council's goal, of "Council anywhere, anytime", these social media sites are monitored during workdays and on weekends. This engagement assists in raising awareness of Council services and processes.

This is in addition to Council's extensive social media presence and engagement via the dedicated Communications team.

While there is the potential for the customer service officers to raise service requests as a result of interactions identified, for privacy reasons, complaints cannot be responded to via this medium and only general information provided.

Based on the volume of service requests raised as a result of this social media engagement to date across this financial year, it is anticipated just over 90 service requests will be raised over 12 months. This equates to raising one service request every four days.

Given potential duplication of Council services, there may be scope to review the ongoing effectiveness of this customer service engagement, particularly as to whether it is more appropriate to seek to streamline Council's engagement points. If this service is to continue, it is recommended that Council identify appropriate measures of success and desired outcomes of this engagement.

Offboarding

It is acknowledged that the Service Transformation Team is undertaking work to refine offboarding processes. It is anticipated that this work will ensure all on hand complaints are reallocated on staff separation and email addresses are deactivated to prevent further customer contact, which would be unanswered. The IOSS will liaise with the relevant team over this process.

Monitoring of emerging issues

The IOSS proactively raises concerns identified from other Councils with Governance and Audit teams as part of our shared service prevention measures to ensure similar issues are not encountered with Inner West. Given the role of customer service and the service improvement team in identifying and seeking to address/improve known and emerging issues, the IOSS undertakes, where relevant, to also involve the customer service and service improvement teams in this proactive advice.

The IOSS has recently re-initiated the Shared Service Forum for Customer Service / Customer Experience and Transformation teams, bring together practitioners across the three Councils to share ideas, challenges, success stories and solutions. The first Forum for 2025, held on 10 April 2025, was well received across the three Councils, with a valuable exchange of ideas and information. A further meeting is scheduled for September 2025. The Customer Service Shared Service Forum was initially formed in 2023.

The IOSS also notes the Customer Experience Team is working to create a Customer Experience Community of Practice within Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 20

Subject: INTERNAL OMBUDSMAN SHARED SERVICE REVIEW OF CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS - SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Prepared By: Elizabeth Renneberg - Internal Ombudsman

Authorised By: Peter Gainsford - General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the Council meeting held on 17 June 2025, Council resolved the following:

> *That Council defer this item to a councillor briefing for further consideration including information on complaints per directorate.*

BACKGROUND

Further information, including complaints per Directorate and updated figures, has been provided.

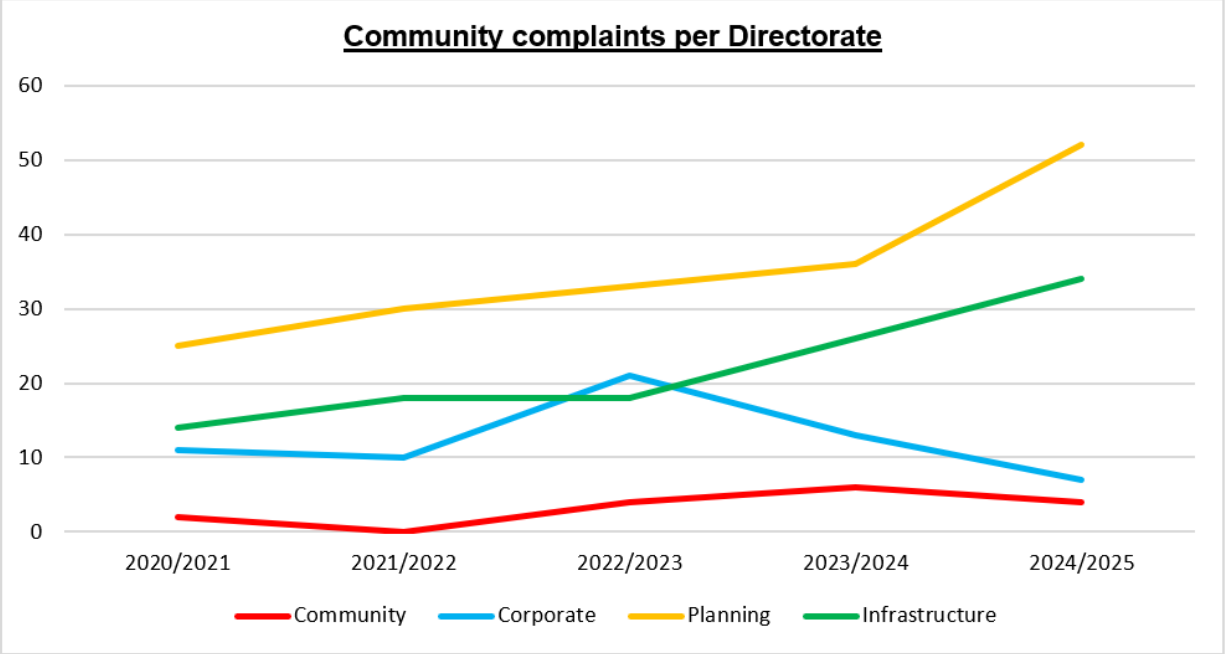
DISCUSSION

Data has been provided on **Community complaints** per Directorate for each financial year from 2020/21 to 2024/25.

Community complaints excludes internal complaints and complaints from the community regarding specific staff and Councillor conduct; therefore, this is not representative of all complaint activity undertaken by the IOSS.

In early 2025, Inner West Council restructured a number of business areas. This complaint data reflects the Directorate structure as at the beginning of the 2024 financial year.

Council's People and Culture and Legal functions have been incorporated into the Corporate Directorate for the purposes of reporting.



Financial Year	Community	Corporate	Planning	Infrastructure	Total
2020/2021	2	11	25	14	52
2021/2022	0	10	30	18	58
2022/2023	4	21	33	18	76
2023/2024	6	13	36	26	81
2024/2025	4	7	52	34	97

Given the significant interface with the Planning and Regulatory sections with the day to day lives of residents, it is not unexpected we would receive the most volume of complaints from these areas. This is a trend experienced across the IOSS member Councils.

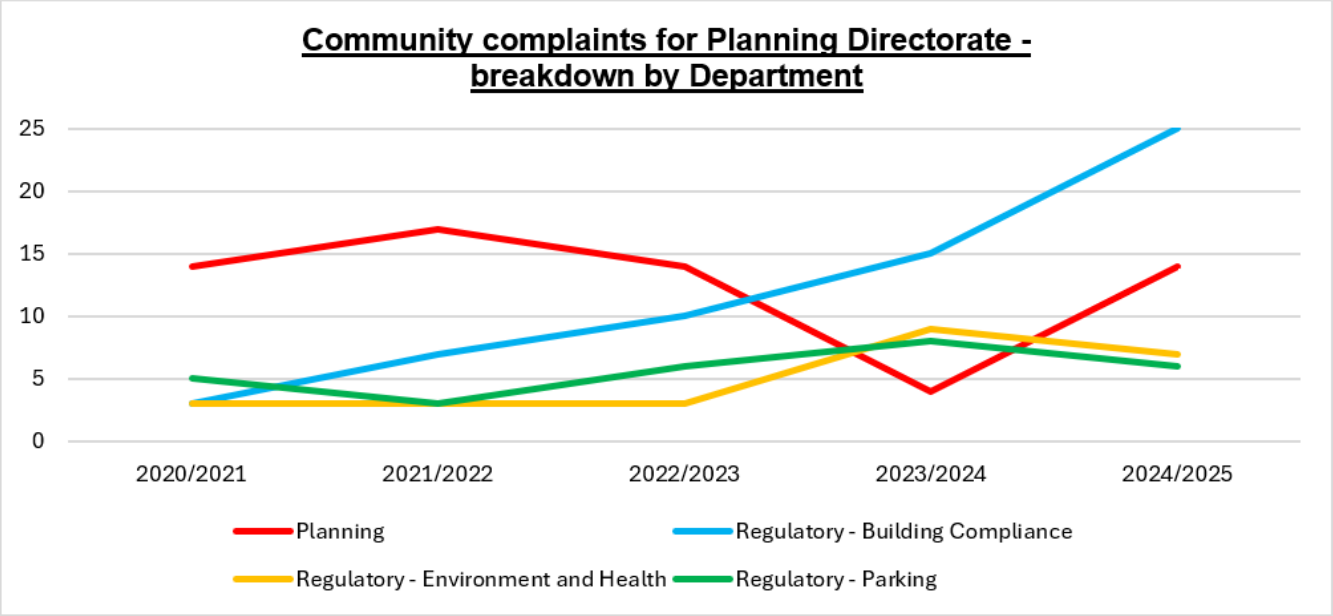
Community complaints per department

Department	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Grand Total
Planning	**14**	**17**	**14**	**4**	**14**	**63**
Regulatory – Compliance (Building and Development)	**3**	7	10	15	25	**60**
Waste Services	**5**	3	4	11	12	**35**
Regulatory - Parking	**5**	3	6	8	6	**28**
Regulatory - Environment and Health and Animals	**3**	3	3	9	7	**25**
Public Spaces - Trees	**1**	6	8	4	3	**22**
Insurance and Risk	**3**	5	9	1	1	**19**
Traffic Issues	**1**	5	2	4	4	**16**
Governance	**4**	2	3	3	0	**12**

Financial Services	**4**	2	3	2	1	**12**
Public Spaces - Parks and Recreation	**2**	1	1	2	6	**12**
Works - Roads	**0**	0	1	1	7	**9**
Works - Infrastructure	**2**	1	2	2	1	**8**
Community Facilities - Aquatic Centres	**0**	0	2	3	2	**7**
Executive	**0**	0	2	2	1	**5**
Legal	**0**	0	2	2	0	**4**
Community Facilities - Libraries	**2**	0	0	1	1	**4**
Communications, Events & Marketing	**0**	0	1	3	0	**4**
Works - Engineering	**2**	1	0	0	1	**4**
Customer Service	**0**	0	1	0	3	**4**
Community Facilities - Community Centres	**0**	0	0	1	1	**2**
Property, Facilities and Fleet	**1**	1	0	0	0	**2**
Works - Capital Works	**0**	0	0	2	0	**2**
Other	**1**	1	0	0	0	**2**
IT	**0**	1	0	0	0	**1**
Children, Family and Youth Services	**0**	0	1	0	0	**1**
Community Services	**0**	0	0	1	0	**1**
Community Facilities - Sporting Clubs	**0**	0	1	0	0	**1**
Procurement	**0**	0	0	0	1	**1**
Totals	**53**	**59**	**76**	**81**	**97**	**366**

Spotlight on complaints for Planning Directorate

The IOSS has provided a further breakdown of the complaints per department within the Planning Directorate.



Further analysis has been included to outline the nature of complaints, how complaints were resolved and the improvements in the volume of receipt of tier one complaints.

Nature of complaints

	Administrative Conduct	**Decision Making**	**Lack of Action to address an issue**	**Quality of response**	**Lack of timeliness and responsiveness to respond to an issue**	**2024/25 total**
Planning	3	10	0	0	1	**14**
Regulatory – Building Compliance	0	8	12	1	4	**25**
Regulatory – Environment and Health	0	3	4	0	0	**7**
Regulatory – Parking	0	6	0	0	0	**6**
Category total	**3**	**27**	**16**	**1**	**5**	**52**

Resolution of complaints

	Referred to Council for action (Tier one)	Closed – Limited action undertaken	Informal management - Enquiries made with Council and advice provided to complainant	Advice provided to complainant – did not progress to formal complaint	Investigated or under investigation	2024/25 total
Planning	2	3	3	5	1	**14**
Regulatory – Building Compliance	11	2	5	7		**25**
Regulatory – Environment and Health	5			2		**7**
Regulatory – Parking	2	2	2			**6**
Resolution total	**20**	**7**	**10**	**14**	**1**	**52**

Tier one complaints

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Totals
Planning	9	7	10	2	2	**30**
Regulatory – Building Compliance	2	4	3	9	11	**29**
Regulatory – Environment and Health	2	2	1	4	5	**14**
Regulatory – Parking	3	2	5	7	2	**19**
Tier 1 total	**16**	**15**	**19**	**22**	**20**	**92**
Tier 1 total – as a percentage of total complaints received	**64%**	**50%**	**58%**	**61%**	**38%**	

The volume of tier one complaints received by the IOSS relating to the Planning Directorate has seen a significant reduction in 2024-25 to 38% of all complaints received. This is a reduction from 61% in the financial year prior.

A tier one complaint is where the IOSS was approached prior to the complainant approaching Council to resolve their concern. The IOSS assesses that complainants' lodged tier one complaints with the IOSS rather than Council in the first instance as:

- There may have been as a result of a lack of faith in Council's complaints management process;
- Complainants are dissatisfied with the timeframe to resolve their issue;
- There has been a significant delay in resolution;
- There has been perceived inaction by Council in resolving their complaint.

These figures show that there has been a significant reduction in the volume of Tier one complaints received by the IOSS. This means that the IOSS is resolving a smaller percentage of complaints by referring back to Council in the first instance. This is a very positive sign for Council – indicating improved response times to service requests and complaints; improvements in the 'aged' caseload and increased engagement with Council. This indicates a higher level of trust in Council with complainants approaching Council first rather than the IOSS. This also indicates reduced levels of complaints about lengthy resolution times or perceived inaction.

The IOSS will continue to work with Council in relation to ongoing improvements as set out in the June Council report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 21**

Subject: **INVESTMENT REPORT AT 31 AUGUST 2025**

Prepared By: Chris Sleiman - Chief Financial Officer

Authorised By: Sharon Bowman- Director Corporate

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive, and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A monthly investment report is provided to Council detailing the investment portfolio in terms of performance, percentage exposure of the total portfolio, maturity date and changes in market value.

During the month of August 2025:

- Council made the following new investments:
  - $5.0M 5 year Term Deposit with Bank of Queensland at fixed rate of 4.15%pa
  - $5.0M 5 year Term Deposit with Bank of Queensland at fixed rate of 4.14%pa
  - $5.0M 5 year Green Term Deposit with Westpac at fixed rate of 4.14%pa.
- No investments matured
- Council sold the following investment:
  - $10.0M Green Floating Rate Note with CBA (Maturity Dec 2026) at a current rate of 4.0739%pa.
- Council's market value investment portfolio size is $189.4M, $5.1M higher compared with the prior month
- Council's portfolio during the month had an annualised return of 5.45% pa on a marked-to-market basis, performing well against the 'AusBond Bank Bill Index' Benchmark of 3.84% pa. For the past 12 months, the portfolio has returned 4.59% pa on a marked-to-market basis (outperforming the benchmark by 0.33%).
- Council's entire investment portfolio remains invested, with 52% of the portfolio in Non-Fossil Fuel Lending authorised deposit-taking institutions (ADIs), 11% in Socially Responsible Investments, and 37% in Green investments.
- Council is preparing for the maturity of investments in September 2025, with interest rates expected to decline towards the end of 2025 and early 2026.

Council's investments are reported monthly to Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993,* the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and Council's Investment Policy.

BACKGROUND

A monthly investment report is provided to Council detailing the investment portfolio in terms of performance, percentage exposure of total portfolio, maturity date and changes in market value.

The intention of investing Council's funds is to seek the most favourable return available, whilst:

- Investing in a non-fossil fuel investment portfolio, as determined by Council
- Having due consideration of risk and security for that investment type
- Ensuring that its liquidity requirements are being maintained
- Considering the preservation of capital – investments are placed in a manner that seeks to ensure security and safeguard the investment portfolio.

This includes managing credit and interest rate risk within identified thresholds and parameters.

Council's Socially Responsible Investments consist of Green Term Deposits/Floating Rate Notes from otherwise fossil fuel lending banks, such as CBA and Westpac and also long dated bond issues from a range of institutions and government agencies. These investments provide targeted funding to a wide range of green and socially responsible projects and initiatives. Council also utilises these investments to remain within the credit rating policy guidelines imposed by the NSW TCorp loan covenant requirements.

Legislative Requirements
All investments are to comply with the following:

- *Local Government Act 1993;*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021;*
- *Ministerial Investment Order dated 17 February 2011;*
- *Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting;*
- *Australian Accounting Standards; and*
- *Division of Local Government Investment Policy Guidelines May 2010.*

Certification
The Chief Financial Officer, Chris Sleiman, as the Responsible Accounting Officer has certified that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of *the Local Government Act 1993*, Section 212 of *the Local Government General Regulation 2021,* and Council's Investment Policy.

DISCUSSION

Changes in our portfolio
New investments:

- $5.0M 5 year Term Deposit with Bank of Queensland at fixed rate of 4.15%pa
- $5.0M 5 year Term Deposit with Bank of Queensland at fixed rate of 4.14%pa
- $5.0M 5 year Green Term Deposit with Westpac at fixed rate of 4.14%pa.

Matured investments:

- There were no investment maturities during the month.

Sold investments:

- $10.0M Green Floating Rate Note with CBA (Maturity Dec 2026) at a current rate of 4.0739%pa.

The sale of the $10M parcel in the CBA Floating Rate Note realised capital gains of $150,760, after originally purchasing the security at a discount. This boosted overall returns of the investment portfolio this month.

Investment advice provided to Council suggested that with additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over the next 6-12 months, we should consider allocating some longer-term surplus funds to undertake an "insurance policy" by investing across 1-5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. This will provide some income protection if the RBA decides to continue cutting rates over 2025 and into 2026.

Council followed this advice in making the new investments during the month, by locking in rates above 4.1% p.a. for 5 years.

The value of our Portfolio
The *attachments* to this report detail all investments held by Council and interest returns for the period ending 31 August 2025.

Council's market value investment portfolio size is $189.4M (as set out in the table below), $5.1M higher compared with the prior month market value of $184.3M.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available ($)
✓	Commonwealth Govt	AAA	$2,520,005	1.33%	50%	$92,189,418
✓	National Housing FIC	AAA	$3,975,957	2.10%	50%	$90,733,466
✓	NSW TCorp	AA+	$4,908,560	2.59%	50%	$89,800,863
✓	South Australian Govt	AA+	$8,708,111	4.60%	50%	$86,001,312
✓	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	$11,497,700	6.07%	50%	$83,211,723
✓	Westpac	AA-	$58,500,000	30.88%	50%	$36,209,423
✓	Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	$25,008,097	13.20%	35%	$41,288,499
✓	BOQ	A-	$40,092,946	21.17%	35%	$26,203,650
✓	Bank Australia	BBB+	$4,553,146	2.40%	20%	$33,330,623
✓	Beyond Bank	BBB+	$1,201,874	0.63%	20%	$36,681,895
✓	Bank of Us	BBB+	$8,000,000	4.22%	20%	$29,883,769
✓	Great South. Bank	BBB+	$1,454,918	0.77%	20%	$36,428,851
✓	Newcastle Permanent	BBB+	$15,680,299	8.28%	20%	$22,203,470
✓	RACQ Bank	BBB+	$2,219,611	1.17%	20%	$35,664,158
X	EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Unrated	$292,971	0.15%	0%	-$292,971
X	EmeraldMBS2006-1B	Unrated	$804,649	0.42%	0%	-$804,649
			$189,418,845	**100.00%**		

^Note valuations of Council's securities on the Imperium Markets platform are marked-to-market and priced on a daily basis from an independent third party provider.

Council has two non-compliant (unrated) investments that were purchased in July 2006 with maturity dates of August 2051 and August 2056, representing a market value $1.1M, less than 1% of Council's invested funds.

Council's entire investment portfolio remains invested in Green, Socially Responsible or Non-Fossil Fuel lending, as set out in the table below. All Socially Responsible Investments (SRI's) comply with the Non-Fossil Fuel standards.

Category	Amount	%
Green	$71,199,574	37.59%
Socially Responsible	$20,112,633	10.62%
Non Fossil Fuel Lending	$98,106,638	51.79%
Fossil Fuel Lending	$0	0.00%
Total	**$189,418,845**	**100.00%**

Investment Returns
Council's portfolio during the month had an annualised return of 5.45% pa on a marked-to-market basis, performing well against the 'AusBond Bank Bill Index' Benchmark of 3.84% pa. This was assisted by the sale of the floating rate note (discussed above), which realised a capital gain. For the past 12 months, the portfolio has returned 4.59% pa on a marked-to-market basis.

The marked-to-market or current market value, which Council is required to account for, represents the price at which the asset could be sold in the current market. This represents the outcome if Council were to sell the investment now (ie prior to its due date).

As interest rates rise and fall the dollar valuations of existing bonds rise and fall in the market. While the market value of a Fixed Rate Bond (or Floating Rates Note) may drop below the face value (or par value) during the life of a security, provided Council does not sell the security and the issuer is sound (which all of Council's holdings are) then the bond's market value will come back to the face value by the time it matures.

External / Internal Restrictions & Working Funds
Council's External Restriction reserves are funds that are restricted for use for specific purposes according to agreements with external parties. Examples of such reserves include:

- Developer Contributions
- Grants
- Domestic Waste Reserve
- Stormwater Levy

Internal Restriction reserves are reserves created internally by Council to set aside funds for a specific purpose. Examples include:

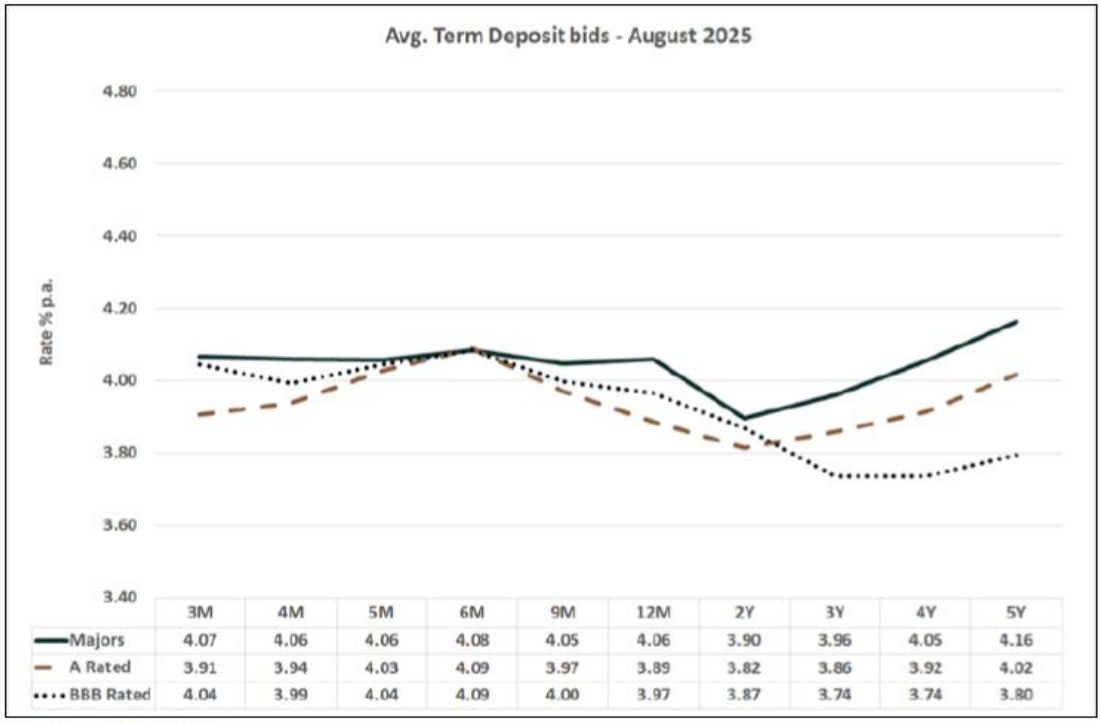
- Employment Leave Entitlements
- Investment Property Reserve
- Infrastructure Renewal Reserve
- Depreciation Contra Reserve

Due to the 2024/25 Financial Year End process currently in progress, the split between the External and Internal Restrictions are not available at this time. This information will be provided in future reports.

Other Investment Information
Global equity markets continued to reach new highs over August, despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to global tariffs and geopolitics. Markets appear to be buoyed by further central bank rate cuts, or expectations of additional cuts in the short-term. Although the risks to growth remain material, the prospect of further policy support (both monetary and fiscal) is likely to provide support to the medium-term growth outlook and valuations.

The chart below shows the average Term Deposit rates available for Council over various terms across banks from different credit ratings.

Term Deposit Rates – Currently (August 2025)



	3M	4M	5M	6M	9M	12M	2Y	3Y	4Y	5Y
Majors	4.07	4.06	4.06	4.08	4.05	4.06	3.90	3.96	4.05	4.16
A Rated	3.91	3.94	4.03	4.09	3.97	3.89	3.82	3.86	3.92	4.02
BBB Rated	4.04	3.99	4.04	4.09	4.00	3.97	3.87	3.74	3.74	3.80

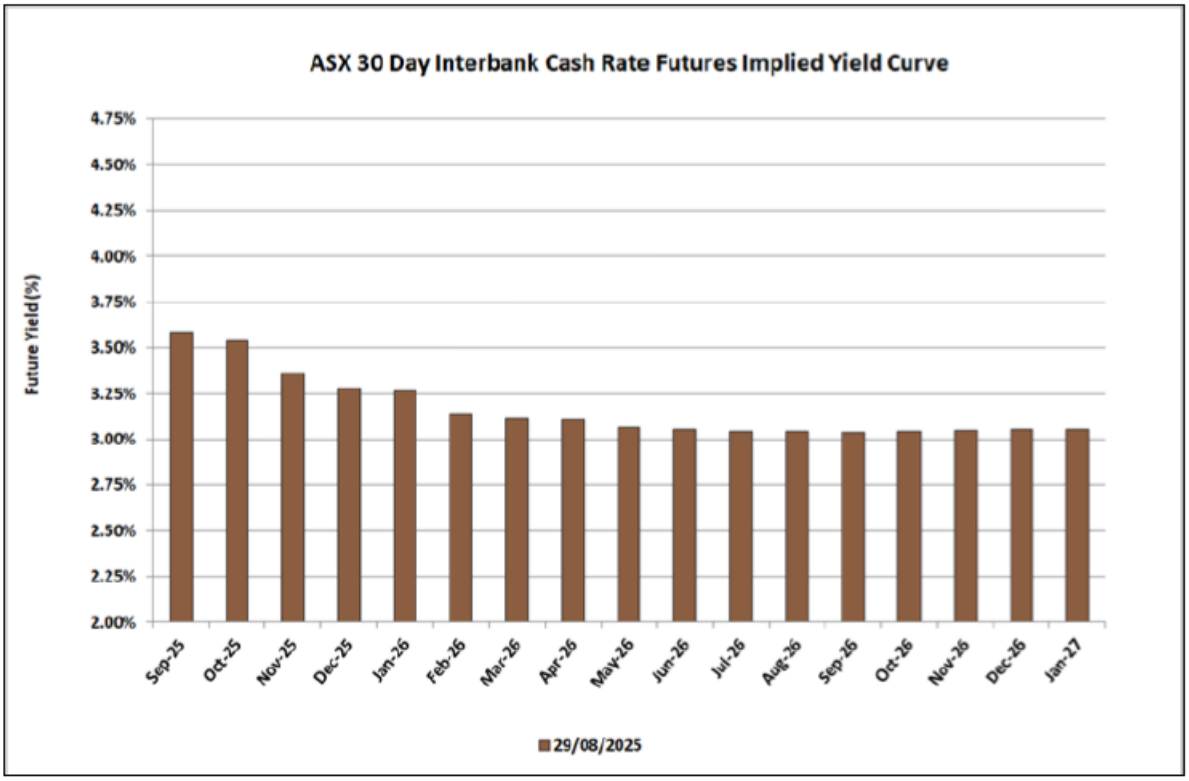
Source: Imperium Markets

In the deposit market, over August, at the short-end of the curve (under 9 months), the average deposit rates offered by the domestic major banks fell ~5 basis points (bp) compared to the previous month (July) after the RBA cut official interest rates. At the longer-end of the curve (1-5 years), the average deposit rates remained relatively flat with the market already largely pricing in additional two rate cuts over the next 6-12 months.

Domestic issues

The following issues are being considered in Council's investment strategy:

- At its August meeting, the RBA cut the official cash rate by 25bp to 3.60%, as expected, encouraged by a further decline in core inflation and a slight easing in labour market conditions. There were no changes to the unemployment rate or inflation forecasts in the August Statement on Monetary Policy. The RBA has downgraded its longer-term productivity assumptions and now sees Australian trend GDP growth at around 2%.
- Monthly CPI indicator jumped to +2.8% in July from +1.9% in June, above expectations. The annual trimmed mean also jumped to +2.7% from +2.1%. The outcome of the July indicator was always going to come down to measurement of electricity subsidies and travel prices. Those components drove the surprise.
- Employment rose +24.5k in July, with the unemployment rate ticking down 0.1% to 4.2%.
- Financial markets are now factoring up to two (2) additional rate cuts by early 2026, taking the official cash rate down to 3.10%, as shown in the below graph.



Source: ASX

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Investment Commentary - August 2025
2.⇩ Investment Report - August 2025

Monthly Investment Review

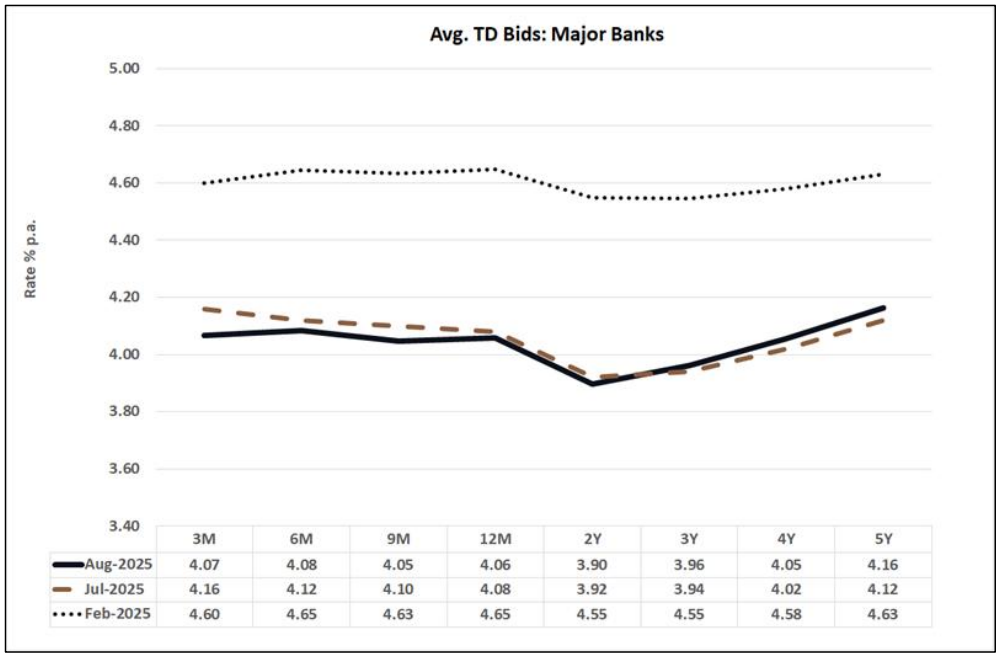
August 2025

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Market Update Summary

Global equity markets continued to reach new highs over August, despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to global tariffs and geopolitics. Markets appear to be buoyed by further central bank rate cuts, or expectations of additional cuts in the short-term. Although the risks to growth remain material, the prospect of further policy support (both monetary and fiscal) is likely to provide support to the medium-term growth outlook and valuations.

In the deposit market, over August, at the short-end of the curve (under 9 months), the average deposit rates offered by the domestic major banks fell ~5bp compared to the previous month (July) after the RBA cut official interest rates. At the longer-end of the curve (1-5 years), the average deposit rates remained relatively flat with the market already largely pricing in additional two rate cuts over the next 6-12 months.



	3M	6M	9M	12M	2Y	3Y	4Y	5Y
Aug-2025	4.07	4.08	4.05	4.06	3.90	3.96	4.05	4.16
Jul-2025	4.16	4.12	4.10	4.08	3.92	3.94	4.02	4.12
Feb-2025	4.60	4.65	4.63	4.65	4.55	4.55	4.58	4.63

Source: Imperium Markets

With additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over the next 6-12 months, investors should consider diversifying and taking an 'insurance policy' against a potentially lower rate environment by investing across 1-5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. (small allocation only).

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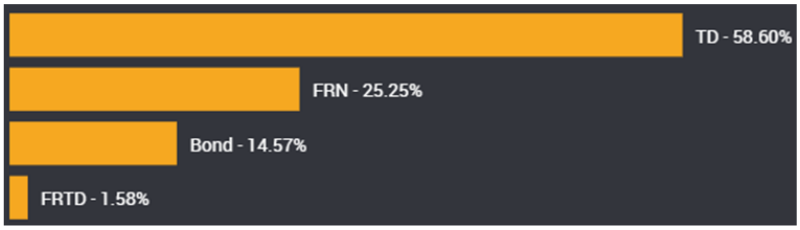
Inner West Council's Portfolio & Compliance

Asset Allocation

A large proportion of the portfolio is directed to fixed and floating rate term deposits (~60%). The remainder of the portfolio is held in FRNs (~25%), which includes a residual exposure to the grandfathered mortgage backed securities, and fixed bonds (~15%).

Senior FRNs are currently considered 'expensive' on a historical basis but new issuances should continue to be considered on a case by case scenario. In the interim, staggering a mix of fixed assets between 12 months to 5 years remains a more optimal strategy to maximise returns over a longer-term cycle.

With additional interest rate cuts and a global economic downturn being priced in over the next 6-12 months, investors can choose to allocate a small proportion of longer-term funds and undertake an insurance policy against additional rate cuts by investing across 1-5 year fixed assets, locking in and targeting yields above 4% p.a. Should inflation be within the RBA's target band of 2-3% over the longer-term, returns around 4% p.a. or higher should outperform benchmark.



Term to Maturity

The portfolio remains highly liquid with around 36% of assets maturing within 12 months.

There is significant capacity to invest in short-medium (1-3 years), which is where we see the current value to optimise returns in the longer-run once the immediate capital projects are delivered. Where there is (counterparty) capacity to invest in attractive medium-longer term investments, we recommend this be allocated to medium-term fixed assets or newly issued FRNs (refer to respective sections below).

The non-compliance in the +10 year category reflects the grandfathered Mortgage Backed Securities which have a final maturity date of +2050.

Compliant	Horizon	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available ($)
✓	0 - 12 months	$67,597,342	35.69%	30%	100%	$121,821,503
✓	1 – 3 years	$61,327,607	32.38%	0%	60%	$52,323,700
✓	3 – 5 years	$45,537,834	24.04%	0%	40%	$30,229,704
✓	5 – 10 years	$13,858,441	7.32%	0%	20%	$24,025,328
x	+10 years	$1,097,620	0.58%	0%	0%	-$1,097,620
		$189,418,845	**100.00%**			

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Counterparty

Capacity limits are often dependent on the overall movement in the portfolio's balances (inflows or capital expenditures). With the adoption of the new policy, there is now higher capacity to invest with the BBB rated entities.

Overall, the portfolio is lightly diversified across the investment grade spectrum, with no exposure to unrated ADIs. The exposure to "Unrated" assets reflects the grandfathered Mortgage Backed Securities.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available ($)
✓	Commonwealth Govt	AAA	$2,520,005	1.33%	50%	$92,189,418
✓	National Housing FIC	AAA	$3,975,957	2.10%	50%	$90,733,466
✓	NSW TCorp	AA+	$4,908,560	2.59%	50%	$89,800,863
✓	South Australian Govt	AA+	$8,708,111	4.60%	50%	$86,001,312
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✓	Westpac	AA-	$58,500,000	30.88%	50%	$36,209,423
✓	Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	$25,008,097	13.20%	35%	$41,288,499
✓	BOQ	A-	$40,092,946	21.17%	35%	$26,203,650
✓	Bank Australia	BBB+	$4,553,146	2.40%	20%	$33,330,623
✓	Beyond Bank	BBB+	$1,201,874	0.63%	20%	$36,681,895
✓	Bank of Us	BBB+	$8,000,000	4.22%	20%	$29,883,769
✓	Great South. Bank	BBB+	$1,454,918	0.77%	20%	$36,428,851
✓	Newcastle Permanent	BBB+	$15,680,299	8.28%	20%	$22,203,470
✓	RACQ Bank	BBB+	$2,219,611	1.17%	20%	$35,664,158
X	EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Unrated	$292,971	0.15%	0%	-$292,971
X	EmeraldMBS2006-1B	Unrated	$804,649	0.42%	0%	-$804,649
			$189,418,845	**100.00%**		

^Note valuations of Council's securities on the Imperium Markets platform are marked-to-market and priced on a daily basis from an independent third party provider.

Ethical (Environmentally, Socially Responsible or Fossil Fuel Free) Investments

Council has made the active decision to divest any investment which has an exposure to fossil fuels. Council will continue to favour newly issued fossil fuel-free investment products and/or ethical investments, providing it does not significantly compromise the risk and return profile of the overall investment portfolio.

The overall summary of Council's investments can be categorised as follows:

Category	Amount	%
Green	$71,199,574	37.59%
Socially Responsible	$20,112,633	10.62%
Non Fossil Fuel Lending	$98,106,638	51.79%
Fossil Fuel Lending	$0	0.00%
Total	**$189,418,845**	**100.00%**

Credit Quality

The portfolio remains diversified from a credit ratings perspective. The portfolio is mainly directed amongst the investment grade spectrum. All aggregate ratings categories are within the adopted Policy limits. The exposures to "Unrated" investments comprise of the grandfathered MBS investments.

There is now some capacity to invest with the "BBB" rated ADIs following the ratings upgrade for BoQ and Bendigo-Adelaide (moved up from BBB to A category range), although this is also dependent on movements in the overall portfolio's balances.

Compliant	Credit Rating	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available ($)
✓	AAA Category	$6,495,962	3.43%	100%	$182,922,883
✓	AA Category	$83,614,371	44.14%	100%	$105,804,474
✓	A Category	$65,101,043	34.37%	70%	$67,492,148
✓	BBB Category	$33,109,849	17.48%	30%	$23,715,805
✓	Unrated Category	$1,097,620	0.58%	10%	$17,844,264
		$189,418,845	**100.00%**		

^Note valuations of Council's securities on the Imperium Markets platform are marked-to-market and priced on a daily basis from an independent third party provider.

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Performance

Council's performance (excluding cash holdings) for the month ending August 2025 is summarised as follows:

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.30%	0.94%	1.94%	0.62%	4.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.32%	0.94%	2.00%	0.62%	4.25%
Council's T/D Portfolio	0.38%	1.13%	2.33%	0.76%	4.79%
Council's FRT/D Portfolio	0.34%	1.01%	2.01%	0.68%	4.00%
Council's FRN Portfolio	0.65%	1.38%	2.49%	1.02%	4.86%
Council's Bond Portfolio	0.33%	0.96%	1.91%	0.65%	2.97%
Council's Total Portfolio^	**0.45%**	**1.18%**	**2.31%**	**0.82%**	**4.59%**
Outperformance	**0.13%**	**0.23%**	**0.31%**	**0.20%**	**0.33%**

^Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	3.60%	3.77%	3.89%	3.73%	4.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	3.84%	3.79%	4.00%	3.72%	4.25%
Council TDs	4.61%	4.57%	4.67%	4.57%	4.79%
Council's FRT/D Portfolio	4.14%	4.05%	4.03%	4.07%	4.00%
Council FRNs	7.90%	5.57%	5.00%	6.14%	4.86%
Council's Bond Portfolio	3.93%	3.85%	3.82%	3.87%	2.97%
Council's Portfolio^	**5.45%**	**4.75%**	**4.64%**	**4.91%**	**4.59%**
Outperformance	**1.61%**	**0.95%**	**0.63%**	**1.19%**	**0.33%**

^Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

For the month of August, the portfolio (excluding cash) provided a solid return of +0.45% (actual) or +5.45% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.32% (actual) or +3.84% p.a. (annualised). Returns were boosted this month with the $10m (face value) of an FRN sale with CBA, with Council realising capital gains of around $150k.

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Recommendations for Council

Term Deposits

Going forward, over the long-run, Council's interest income can be increased by undertaking a slightly longer duration position (spread across 1-3 years), with rates on offer along this part of the curve likely to be offered up to ¼-½% p.a. higher compared to shorter tenors in a normal market environment. There is growing belief that additional interest rate cuts and a global economic downturn is forthcoming and so locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. across 1-5 year tenors may provide some income protection against a lower rate environment in coming years.

As at the end of August, Council's **deposit** portfolio was yielding 4.44% p.a. (down 5bp from the previous month) with a weighted average duration of around 654 days (~1.8 years). ***We recommend Council maintains this average duration in the long-run to optimise returns.***

Please refer to the section below for further details on the Term Deposit market.

Securities

Primary (new) **FRNs** (with maturities between 3-5 years) are expensive on a historical basis but remains an option (particularly for those investors with portfolios skewed towards fixed assets) and should be considered on a case by case scenario. **Fixed Bonds** may also provide some attractive opportunities from new (primary) issuances and potentially secondary market offers (or 'tap').

Please refer to the sections below for further details on each market.

Council FRNs – Recommendations for Sale/Switches

We now recommend Council sells/switches out of the following FRN(s):

Issuer	Rating	Maturity Date	Trade Reference	ISIN	Face Value	Trading Margin	Capital Price ($)	Unrealised Gain ($)
CBA	AA-	23/12/2026	542014	AU3FN0063103	$1,500,000	+40.0bp	$99.980	$7,770^
CBA	AA-	23/12/2026	542019	AU3FN0063103	$5,000,000	+40.0bp	$99.980	$32,930^
Bendigo	A-	14/05/2027	176855902	AU3FN0087797	$2,000,000	+61.5bp	$100.599	$11,972

^These assets were purchased in the secondary market at a discount to par.

The above sale would result in a capital gain of ~$53k and could easily be switched into higher yielding complying assets. We will inform Council when the opportunity arises.

During the month, Council sold its $10m parcel in the CBA FRN maturing 23/12/2026, realising capital gains of $150,760 after originally purchasing the security at a discount to par. This boosted overall returns of the investment portfolio this month.

Council's Fixed Bonds

A handful of Councils' fixed bonds are now at a discount to par given the rise in bond yields over the past few years. Unless there is an emergency to access funds at short notice, Council is likely to hold these assets to maturity and will receive its original face value back. If there is an opportunity to sell prior to maturity (if official rates fall to an attractive level), we will inform Council accordingly.

Grandfathered Investments

Council holds the following 'grandfathered' Mortgage Backed Securities (MBS). The valuation as at the end of August 2025 is shown as follows:

Asset	Maturity Date	ISIN	Capital Value	Current Value	Coupon Margin	~Current Trading Margin	Monthly Actual Return (%)
2006-1A*	21/08/2051	AU300EMER013	$292,971	$93.221	+45bp	+145bp	+0.07%
2006-1B	21/08/2056	AU300EMER021	$804,649	$80.465	+75bp	+305bp	+0.14%

** Emerald MBS 2006-1A paid out a distribution of $1,638.57 in May 2025 which resulted in the decline in the face value to $314,548 from $316,186*

The MBS2006-1A security should pay its capital well before the final maturity date.

We note the liquidity of assets such as the above in the secondary market is considered very poor with large bid-ask spreads (we would indicatively suggest a bid-ask spread of around $5-$10 either side of the current 'fair' value). In most circumstances, bids are well below the indicated "mid" or "fair" values. As such, Council is expected to hold this asset for the long-term, potentially until it makes its final payment.

Third Party Valuer ("Arms-Length")

Imperium Markets uses an external third party provider (IBS Capital[1]) who has started valuing (effective 31st March 2022) Council's holding of this asset on a daily basis (end-of-business day valuations).

IBS Capital prices all investor's securities (FRNs, bonds, mortgage backed securities) on a daily basis. We believe this is important for auditing purposes, especially when investors revaluate their assets at the end of every financial year. The revaluations of all securities on the Imperium Markets platform is NOT biased i.e. they are not provided by the bank or financial intermediary that sold the security to the client.

IBS Capital's methodology is based on extensive experience in financial markets, and it has been developed by an AFMA accredited principal. In designing the valuation methodology the following AASB directives were used - market approach valuation technique as per paragraphs 61-66 of the AASB13 Standard as well as Appendix B, Application guidance, Valuation techniques paragraph of the same document.

Where applicable, end-of-day closing prices (trading margins and yields) are crossed checked and compared with other external data providers including YieldBroker, Refinitiv and/or Bloomberg's. To make sure that adverse liquidity conditions do not influence closing prices, changes to each day's closing prices

[1] http://ibscapital.com.au/

from the previous trading date are analysed. If the changes are considerably different to changes in benchmark rates, the use of interpolation, based on securities with similar characteristics such as credit rating, maturity and capital structure (level of seniority), are applied.

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Term Deposit Market Review

Current Term Deposits Rates

As at the end of August, we see value in the following:

ADI	LT Credit Rating	Term	Rate % p.a.
ING Bank	A	5 years	4.25%
NAB	AA-	5 years	4.20%
Westpac	AA-	5 years	4.15%
BoQ	A-	5 years	4.14%
NAB	AA-	4 years	4.10%
ING Bank	A	4 years	4.10%
BoQ	A-	4 years	4.04%
Westpac	AA-	4 years	4.03%
Australian Military	BBB+	3 years	4.07%
NAB	AA-	3 years	4.00%
ING Bank	A	3 years	3.96%
Police CU	Unrated	3 years	3.96%
Australian Military	BBB+	2 years	4.05%
Police CU	Unrated	2 years	3.96%
NAB	AA-	2 years	3.95%
Arab Bank Australia	Unrated	2 years	3.95%

The above deposits are suitable for investors looking to maintain diversification and lock-in a slight premium compared to purely investing short-term.

For terms under 12 months, we believe the strongest value is currently being offered by the following ADIs (*we stress that rates are indicative, dependent on daily funding requirements and different for industry segments*):

ADI	LT Credit Rating	Term	Rate % p.a.
Police CU	Unrated	12 months	4.15%
Westpac	AA-	12 months	4.12%
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	12 months	4.12%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	12 months	4.12%
NAB	AA-	12 months	4.10%
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	9 months	4.14%
Westpac	AA-	9 months	4.11%
NAB	AA-	9 months	4.10%
Police CU	Unrated	9 months	4.10%
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	6 months	4.20%
Police CU	Unrated	6 months	4.20%
Bank of China Sydney	A	6 months	4.17%
Westpac	AA-	6 months	4.14%
NAB	AA-	6 months	4.10%
Police CU	Unrated	3 months	4.16%
ANZ	AA-	3 months	4.14%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	3 months	4.14%
NAB	AA-	3 months	4.11%

For those investors that do not require high levels of liquidity and can stagger their investments longer term, they will be rewarded over a longer-term cycle if they roll for an average min. term of 12 months, with a spread of investments out to 5 years (this is where we see current value). In a normal market environment (upward sloping yield curve), investors could earn over a cycle, on average, up to ¼-½% p.a. higher compared to those investors that entirely invest in short-dated deposits.

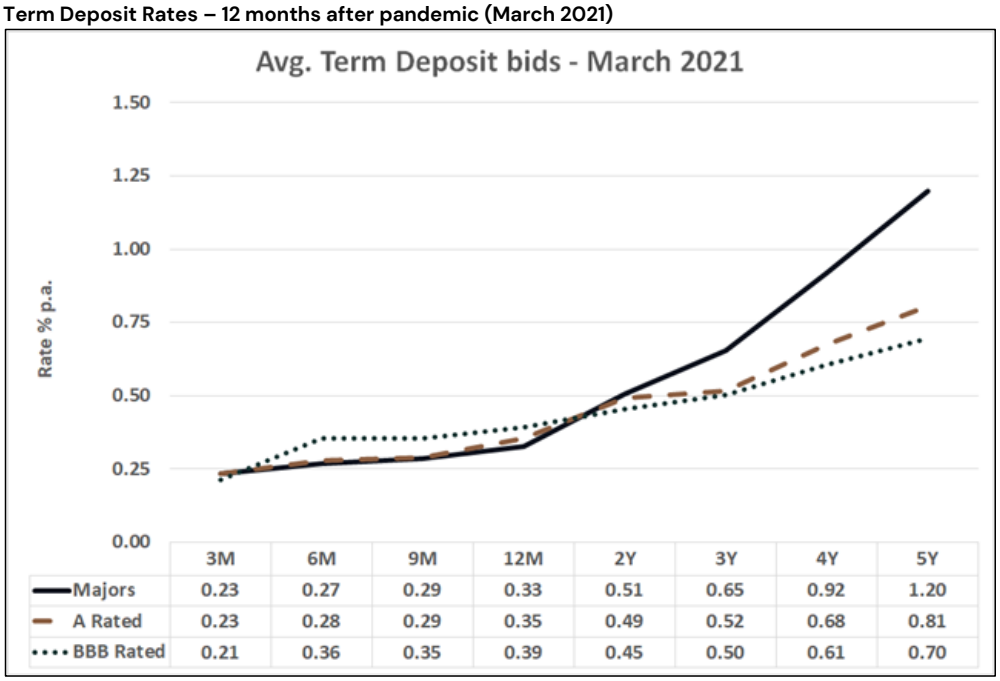
With additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over the next 6-12 months, investors should consider allocating some longer-term surplus funds and undertake an insurance policy by investing across 1-5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. This will provide some income protection if the RBA decides to continue cutting rates over 2025 and into 2026.

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Term Deposits Analysis

Pre-pandemic (March 2020), a 'normal' marketplace meant the lower rated ADIs (i.e. BBB category) were offering higher rates on term deposits compared to the higher rated ADIs (i.e. A or AA rated). But due to the cheap funding available provided by the RBA via their Term Funding Facility (TFF) during mid-2020, allowing the ADIs to borrow as low as 0.10% p.a. fixed for 3 years, those lower rated ADIs (BBB rated) did not require deposit funding from the wholesale deposit. Given the higher rated banks had more capacity to lend (as they have a greater pool of mortgage borrowers), they subsequently were offering higher deposit rates. In fact, some of the lower rated banks were not even offering deposit rates at all. As a result, most investors placed a higher proportion of their deposit investments with the higher rated (A or AA) ADIs over the past three years.

Term Deposit Rates – 12 months after pandemic (March 2021)



	3M	6M	9M	12M	2Y	3Y	4Y	5Y
Majors	0.23	0.27	0.29	0.33	0.51	0.65	0.92	1.20
A Rated	0.23	0.28	0.29	0.35	0.49	0.52	0.68	0.81
BBB Rated	0.21	0.36	0.35	0.39	0.45	0.50	0.61	0.70

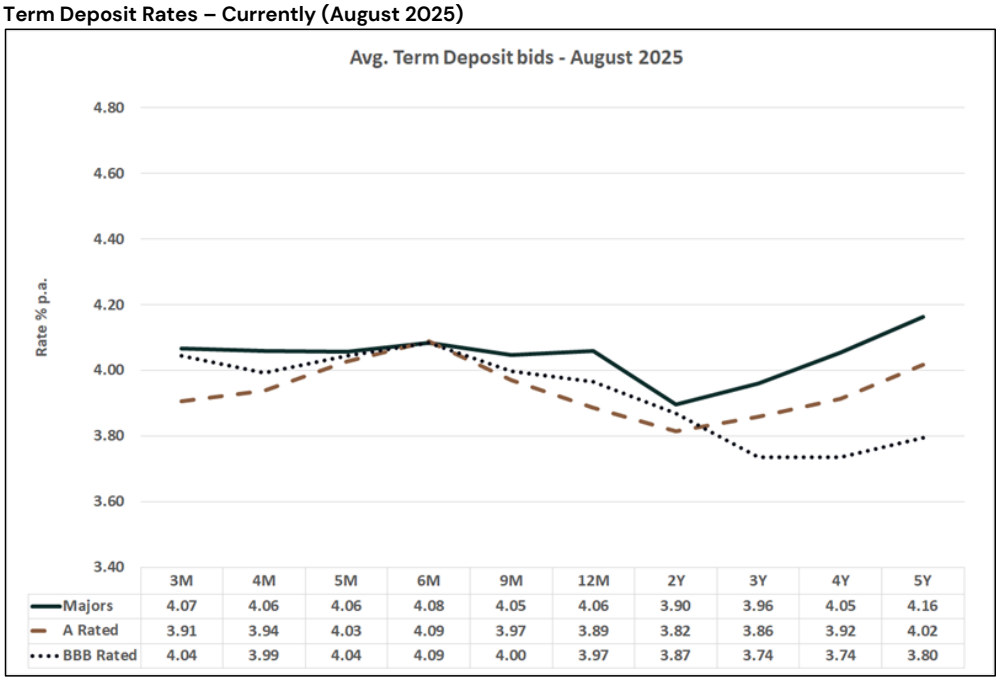
Source: Imperium Markets

The abnormal marketplace experienced during the pandemic is starting to reverse as the competition for deposits slowly increases, partially driven by the RBA's term funding facility coming to an end. In recent months, we have started to periodically see some of the lower rated ADIs ("A" and "BBB" rated) offering slightly higher rates compared to the domestic major banks ("AA" rated) on different parts of the curve (i.e. pre-pandemic environment). Some of this has been attributed to lags in adjusting their deposit rates as some banks (mainly the lower rated ADIs) simply set their rates for the week.

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Going forward, investors should have a larger opportunity to invest a higher proportion of its funds with the lower rated institutions (up to Policy limits), from which the majority are not lending to the Fossil Fuel industry or considered 'ethical'. We are slowly seeing this trend emerge, although the major banks always seem to react more quickly than the rest of the market during periods of volatility:

Term Deposit Rates – Currently (August 2025)



	3M	4M	5M	6M	9M	12M	2Y	3Y	4Y	5Y
Majors	4.07	4.06	4.06	4.08	4.05	4.06	3.90	3.96	4.05	4.16
A Rated	3.91	3.94	4.03	4.09	3.97	3.89	3.82	3.86	3.92	4.02
BBB Rated	4.04	3.99	4.04	4.09	4.00	3.97	3.87	3.74	3.74	3.80

Source: Imperium Markets

Financial Stability of the Banking (ADI) Sector

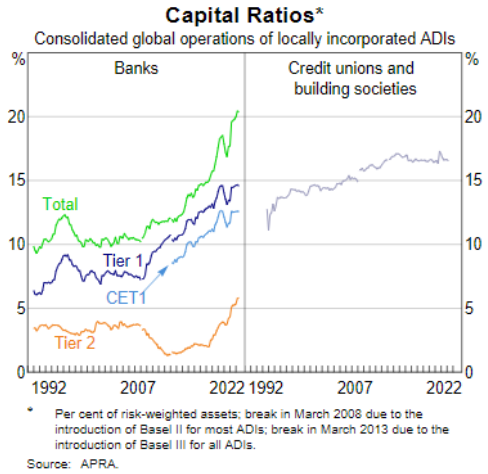
The RBA's latest Financial Stability report of 2024 reaffirms the strong balance sheet across the ADI sector. They noted that the risk of widespread financial stress remains limited due to the generally strong financial positions of most (individual) borrowers. Very few mortgage borrowers are in negative equity, limiting the impact on lenders (ADIs) in the event of default and supporting their ability to continue providing credit to the economy. Most businesses that have entered insolvency are small and have little debt, limiting the broader impact on the labour market and thus household incomes, and on the capital position of lenders (ADIs).

Australian banks (collectively the APRA regulated ADIs) have maintained prudent lending standards and are well positioned to continue supplying credit to the economy. A deterioration in economic conditions or temporary disruption to funding markets is unlikely to halt lending activity. Banks have anticipated an

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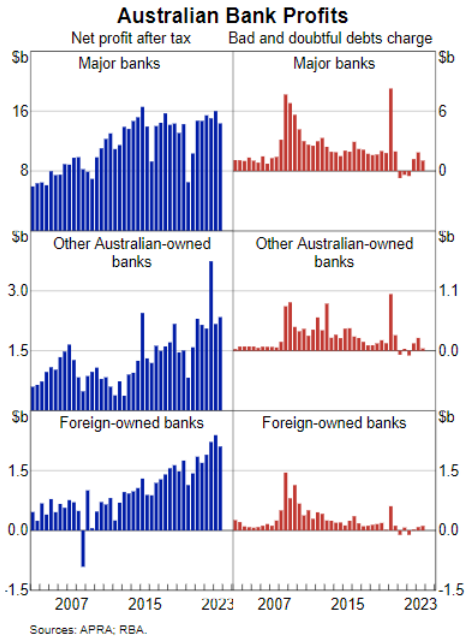
increase in loan arrears and have capital and liquidity buffers well above regulatory requirements (*see Capita Ratios chart below*). APRA's mandate is to "*protect depositors*" and provide "*financial stability*".

Over the past two decades, both domestic and international banks continue to operate and demonstrate high levels of profitability (*see Australian Bank Profits chart below*), which also includes two stress-test environments being the GFC (September 2008) and the COVID pandemic (March 2020):



* Per cent of risk-weighted assets; break in March 2008 due to the introduction of Basel II for most ADIs; break in March 2013 due to the introduction of Basel III for all ADIs.

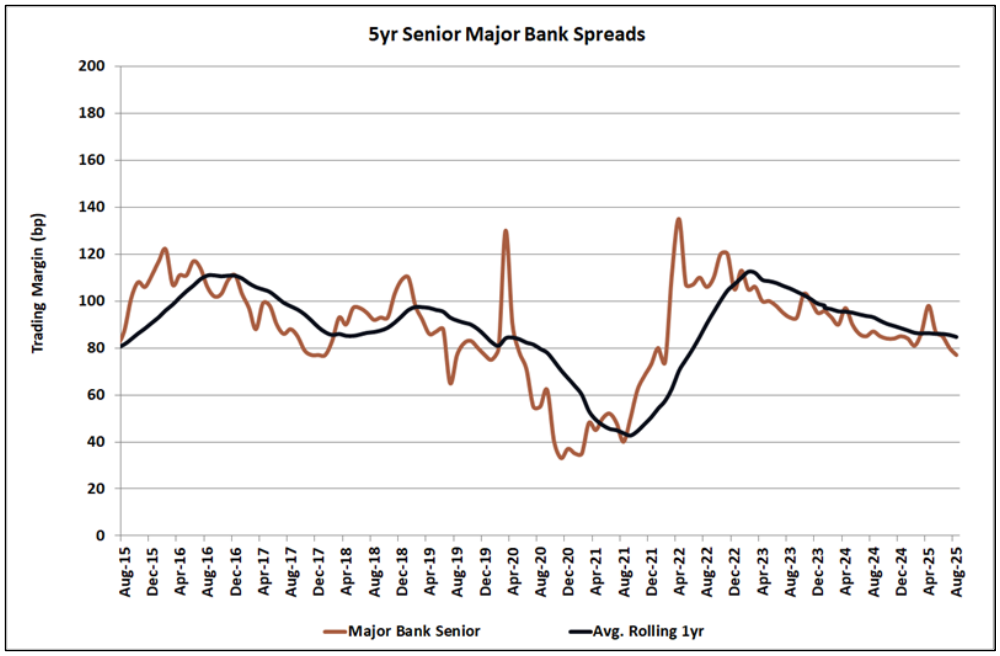
Source: APRA



Sources: APRA; RBA

Senior FRNs Market Review

Over August, amongst the senior major bank FRNs, physical credit securities tightened up to 3bp at the long-end of the curve. During the month, CBA (AA-) issued a dual 3¼ and 5 year senior security at +67bp and +77bp respectively. Long-term major bank senior securities are looking slightly expensive on a historical basis, noting the 5yr margin has averaged around the +87-90bp level over a cycle (currently around +77bp).



Source: IBS Capital

During the month, outside of CBA, only ING Bank Australia issued a new covered 5yr security (AAA) at +78bp. Amongst the "A" and "BBB" rated sectors, the securities tightened between 3-5bp at the longer-end of the curve.

Overall, credit securities are slightly expensive on a historical basis but remain a good option for diversification purposes. FRNs will continue to play a role in investors' portfolios mainly based on their liquidity and the ability to roll down the curve and gross up returns over ensuing years (in a relatively stable credit environment), whilst also providing some diversification to those investors skewed towards fixed assets.

Senior FRNs (ADIs)	31/08/2025	31/07/2025
"AA" rated – 5yrs	+77bp	+80bp
"AA" rated – 3yrs	+62bp	+65bp
"A" rated – 5yrs	+85bp	+90bp
"A" rated – 3yrs	+72bp	+75bp
"BBB" rated – 3yrs	+120bp	+125bp

Source: IBS Capital

We now generally recommend switches ('benchmark' issues only) into new primary issues, out of the following senior FRNs that are maturing:

- On or before mid-2028 for the "AA" rated ADIs (domestic major banks);
- On or before 2026 for the "A" rated ADIs; and
- Within 6-9 months for the "BBB" rated ADIs (consider case by case).

Investors holding onto the above senior FRNs ('benchmark' issues only) in their last few years are now generally holding sub optimal investments and are not maximising returns by foregoing realised capital gains. In the current challenging economic environment, any boost in overall returns should be locked in when it is advantageous to do so, particularly as switch opportunities become available.

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Senior Fixed Bonds – ADIs (Secondary Market)

With global inflation softening and official interest rates starting to drop progressively, investors may look at some opportunities in the secondary market. We currently see value in the following fixed bond lines (please note supply in the secondary market may be limited on any day):

ISIN	Issuer	Rating	Capital Structure	Maturity Date	~Remain. Term (yrs)	Fixed Coupon	Indicative Yield
AU3CB0314763	Bendigo	A-	Senior	24/10/2028	3.16	4.79%	4.23%
AU3CB0308955	BoQ	A-	Senior	30/04/2029	3.68	5.30%	4.36%
AU3CB0319879	Nova Sco.	A-	Senior	21/03/2030	4.57	5.23%	4.80%

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Economic Commentary

International Market

Global equity markets continued to reach new highs over August, despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to global tariffs and geopolitics. Markets appear to be buoyed by further central bank rate cuts, or expectations of additional cuts in the short-term. Although the risks to growth remain material, the prospect of further policy support (both monetary and fiscal) is likely to provide support to the medium-term growth outlook and valuations.

Across equity markets, the US S&P 500 Index rose +1.91%, whilst the NASDAQ gained +1.58%. Europe's main indices were mixed, with gains in UK's FTSE (+0.60%), whilst France's CAC (-0.88%) and Germany's DAX (-0.68%) both fell.

The July US FOMC minutes showed most officials still prioritising inflation risks over labour market softness. US core CPI came in at consensus at +0.32% m/m in July, to be +3.1% y/y annually. US unemployment rate rose to 4.2% from 4.1% in line with consensus, whilst there was a 0.1% drop in the participation rate from 62.3% to 62.2%.

Canada's July labour market data showed an unexpectedly sharp fall in employment (-40.8k), but there was no change to the unemployment rate at 6.9%, thanks in large part to a 0.2% drop in the participation rate to 65.2%.

As expected, the Bank of England (BoE) cut rates by 25bp at its early August meeting, taking Bank Rate down to 4.00%, the fifth cut in the easing cycle that started a year ago. UK wages growth came in as expected with the key private excluding bonuses at +4.8% y/y vs. +4.8% consensus and +4.9% previously.

The RBNZ cut rates by 25bp to 3.00% as expected, but the dovish tone surprised, with two members voted for a 50bp cut, with the market forecasting a terminal rate of 2.50%.

China published its July inflation data, showing CPI avoiding a return to outright deflation, printing at 0.0% down from 0.1% against an expected -0.1%. In contrast PPI deflation held at its -3.6% June rates - the weakest in two years. Retail sales slowed to +3.7% y/y, industrial production decelerated to +5.7%, whilst new home prices fell -0.31% m/m — the sharpest drop since October.

The MSCI World ex-Aus Index rose +2.60% for the month of August:

Index	1m	3m	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr
S&P 500 Index	+1.91%	+9.28%	+14.37%	+17.77%	+13.04%	+12.60%
MSCI World ex-AUS	+2.60%	+8.60%	+16.30%	+19.20%	+13.50%	+12.30%
S&P ASX 200 Accum. Index	+3.10%	+7.03%	+14.74%	+13.04%	+12.32%	+9.87%

Source: S&P, MSCI

Domestic Market

The RBA cut the official cash rate by 25bp as expected to 3.60% in its meeting in August, encouraged by a further decline in core inflation and a slight easing in labour market conditions. There were no changes to the unemployment rate or inflation forecasts in the August Statement on Monetary Policy. The RBA has downgraded their longer-term productivity assumptions and now see Australian trend GDP growth at around 2%.

The Q2 wage price index (WPI) printed broadly as expected at +0.8% q/q vs. +0.8% consensus. The annual rate though was slightly stronger at +3.4% y/y vs. +3.3% consensus.

Monthly CPI indicator jumped to +2.8% in July from +1.9% in June, above expectations. The annual trimmed mean also jumped to +2.7% from +2.1%. The outcome of the July indicator was always going to come down to measurement of electricity subsidies and travel prices. Those components drove the surprise.

Employment rose +24.5k in July, with the unemployment rate ticking down 0.1% to 4.2%.

APRA formalised a three-tiered approach for prudential regulation for 'large', 'medium' and 'small' banks. This could allow a more nuanced regulatory approach and see reduced regulatory costs for medium banks.

The Australian dollar gained around +1.07%, finishing the month at US65.38 cents (from US64.69 cents the previous month).

Credit Market

The global credit indices remained relatively flat this month. They remain near the levels seen in early-mid 2022 (prior to the rate hike cycle from most central banks):

Index	August 2025	July 2025
CDX North American 5yr CDS	50bp	51bp
iTraxx Europe 5yr CDS	54bp	53bp
iTraxx Australia 5yr CDS	67bp	69bp

Source: Markit

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Fixed Interest Review

Benchmark Index Returns

Index	August 2025	July 2025
Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (0+YR)	+0.32%	+0.30%
Bloomberg AusBond Composite Bond Index (0+YR)	+0.28%	-0.04%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit FRN Index (0+YR)	+0.46%	+0.43%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit Index (0+YR)	+0.60%	+0.26%
Bloomberg AusBond Treasury Index (0+YR)	+0.24%	-0.23%
Bloomberg AusBond Inflation Gov't Index (0+YR)	+0.83%	+0.03%

Source: Bloomberg

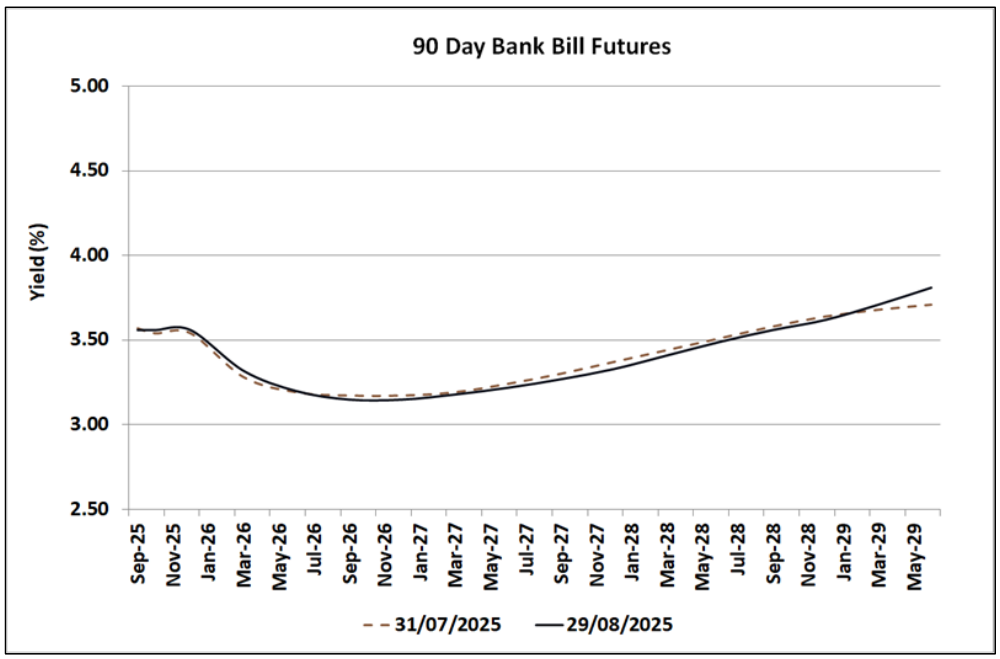
Other Key Rates

Index	August 2025	July 20255
RBA Official Cash Rate	3.60%	3.85%
90 Day (3 month) BBSW Rate	3.57%	3.68%
3yr Australian Government Bonds	3.37%	3.39%
10yr Australian Government Bonds	4.26%	4.26%
US Fed Funds Rate	4.25%-4.50%	4.25%-4.50%
2yr US Treasury Bonds	3.59%	3.94%
10yr US Treasury Bonds	4.23%	4.37%

Source: RBA, ASX, US Department of Treasury

90 Day Bill Futures

Bill futures remained relatively flat this month, consistent with the movement in the bond market:



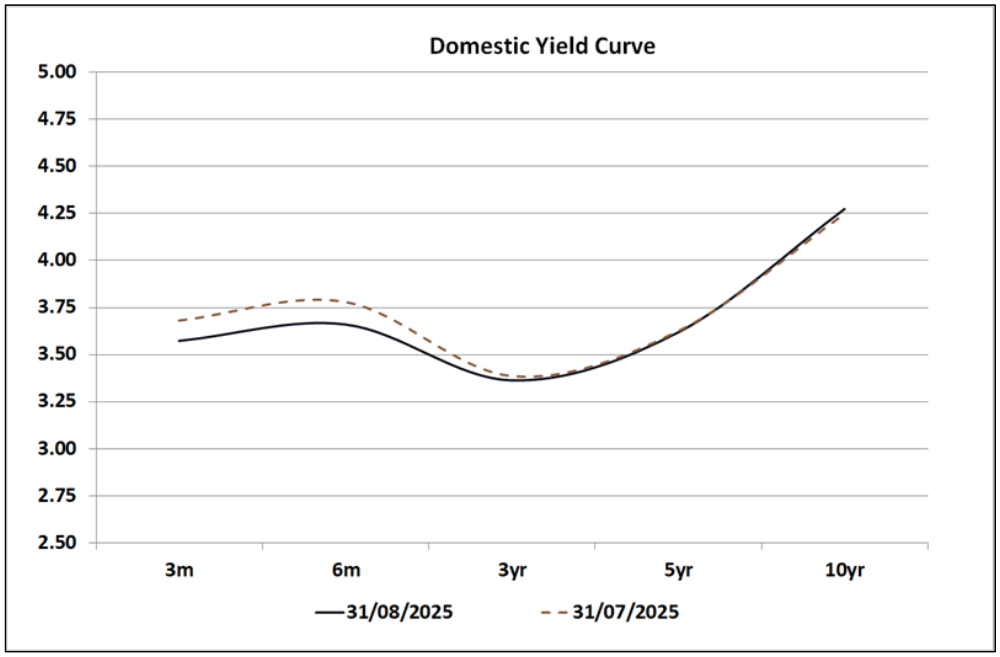
Source: ASX

Fixed Interest Outlook

US Fed chair Powell recently commented "*the balance of risks may be shifting*" (in relation to the Fed's dual mandate) and "*with policy in restrictive territory, the baseline outlook and the shifting balance of risks may warrant adjusting our policy stance*". The market continues to factor at least two rate cuts by the US Fed for the remainder of 2025.

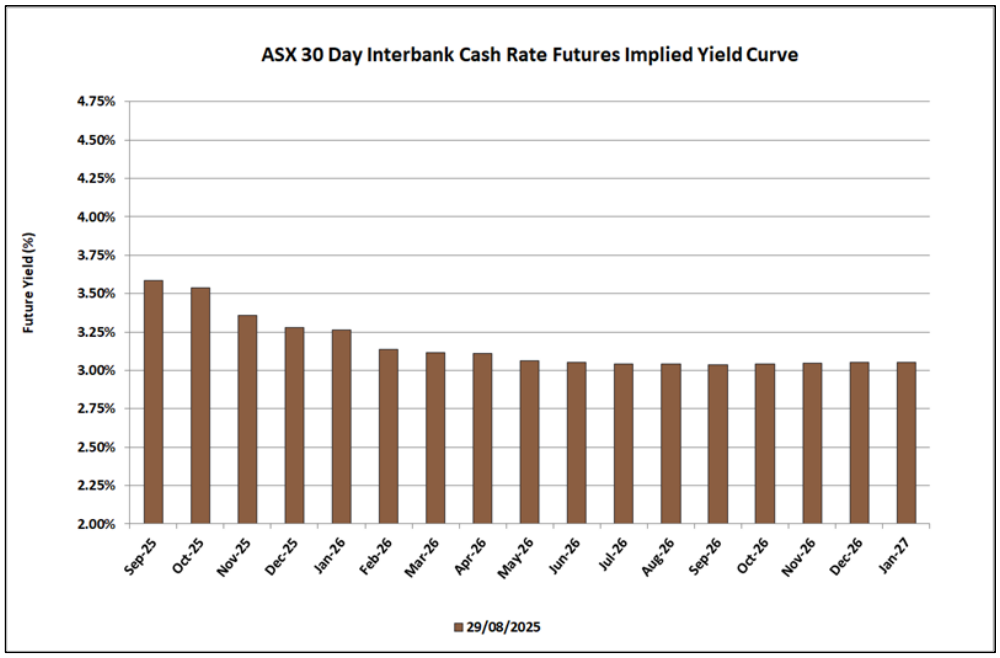
The latest RBA Minutes concluded "*some further reduction in the cash rate over the coming year*" was likely, with the pace of that easing being contingent on the data flow. Inflation is expected to settle close to the mid-point of the target band of 2-3%, and growth remaining subdued with little gains in productivity. This outlook assumes that the cash rate reaches 3%; the RBA notes in their Statement of Monetary Policy (SoMP) that this path for the cash rate "*…is consistent with sustaining balance in the economy, although this assessment is uncertain*".

Yields remained flat at the longer-end of the curve this month:



Source: ASX, RBA

Financial markets are factoring up to two (2) additional rate cuts by early-mid 2026, taking the official cash rate down to 3.10%:



Source: ASX

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Investment Report

01/08/2025 to 31/08/2025

INNER WEST

Portfolio Valuation as at 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	17/03/2025	17/09/2025	4.6400	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00	74,748.49	13,792.88
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	18/09/2024	18/09/2025	4.8200	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	137,865.21	12,281.10
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	18/09/2024	18/09/2025	4.7400	6,500,000.00	6,500,000.00	293,750.14	26,167.40
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	26/09/2024	26/09/2025	4.7800	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	222,630.14	20,298.63
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	26/09/2024	26/09/2025	4.7600	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00	443,397.26	40,427.40
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	30/10/2024	30/10/2025	5.0200	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	210,427.40	21,317.81
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	02/12/2020	02/12/2025	4.2250	5,599,972.00	5,600,000.00	58,987.95	20,094.79
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	30/04/2025	30/01/2026	4.1900	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	71,172.60	17,793.15
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	30/04/2025	30/01/2026	4.1900	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00	99,641.64	24,910.41
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	04/03/2021	04/03/2026	4.3414	9,997,370.00	10,000,000.00	105,858.79	36,872.16
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	17/03/2025	17/03/2026	4.5200	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	83,217.53	15,355.62
Westpac	AA-	FRTD	GREEN	Quarterly	30/06/2021	30/06/2026	4.0037	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	20,731.49	10,201.21
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	30/10/2023	30/10/2026	5.2018	1,661,142.45	1,650,000.00	7,759.95	7,289.65
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	GREEN	Quarterly	03/11/2021	23/12/2026	4.0739	4,999,000.00	5,000,000.00	39,064.79	17,300.12
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	GREEN	Quarterly	29/10/2021	23/12/2026	4.0739	1,499,700.00	1,500,000.00	11,719.44	5,190.04

INNER WEST

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	GREEN	Quarterly	23/09/2021	23/12/2026	4.0739	4,999,000.00	5,000,000.00	39,064.79	17,300.12
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	10/02/2022	10/02/2027	4.6577	4,761,048.50	4,750,000.00	12,728.92	12,728.92
RACQ Bank	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	05/03/2024	05/03/2027	5.3048	2,219,610.80	2,200,000.00	28,137.24	9,911.98
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	17/03/2025	17/03/2027	4.3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	40,320.00	7,440.00
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Quarterly	21/03/2024	22/03/2027	4.7000	18,000,000.00	18,000,000.00	162,246.58	71,852.05
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2027	3.9900	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	67,775.34	16,943.84
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	5.1000	1,627,337.60	1,600,000.00	24,591.78	6,930.41
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	4.6120	2,011,972.00	2,000,000.00	4,548.82	4,548.82
Great Southern Bank	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	01/11/2024	01/11/2027	4.7199	1,454,918.40	1,450,000.00	5,812.59	5,812.59
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	27/09/2024	21/02/2028	5.2716	1,522,107.00	1,500,000.00	2,383.05	2,383.05
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	21/02/2024	21/02/2028	5.2716	1,369,896.30	1,350,000.00	2,144.75	2,144.75
Beyond Bank	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	21/03/2025	21/03/2028	4.8139	1,201,874.40	1,200,000.00	11,078.56	4,906.22
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	28/04/2028	4.0400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	68,624.66	17,156.16
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	30/04/2025	28/04/2028	3.9600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	26,906.30	6,726.58
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	24/10/2024	24/10/2028	4.7900	711,133.50	700,000.00	11,942.19	2,847.75

INNER WEST

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
NSW Treasury Corp	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	15/11/2018	15/11/2028	3.0000	4,908,560.00	5,000,000.00	44,794.52	12,739.73
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	14/02/2024	14/02/2029	5.4620	921,880.80	900,000.00	2,424.23	2,424.23
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	26/03/2024	26/03/2029	4.9900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	43,474.52	8,476.16
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2029	4.1400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	70,323.29	17,580.82
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2029	4.0400	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	41,174.79	10,293.70
BOQ	A-	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	30/04/2024	30/04/2029	5.3000	3,092,946.00	3,000,000.00	54,016.44	13,504.11
Bendigo and Adelaide	AAA	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	4.9580	2,052,652.00	2,000,000.00	26,080.44	8,421.81
Bendigo and Adelaide	AAA	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	4.3922	2,505,030.00	2,500,000.00	1,203.34	1,203.34
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2030	4.2900	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	72,871.23	18,217.81
NHFIC	AAA	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	10/02/2021	27/05/2030	1.5200	1,345,632.00	1,500,000.00	6,059.18	1,936.44
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	05/08/2025	06/08/2030	4.1500	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	15,349.32	15,349.32
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	13/08/2025	13/08/2030	4.1400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	10,775.34	10,775.34
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	13/08/2025	13/08/2030	4.1400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	10,775.34	10,775.34
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	24/01/2025	23/05/2031	4.5000	2,036,766.00	2,000,000.00	24,904.11	7,643.84
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	27/06/2024	23/05/2031	4.5000	5,091,915.00	5,000,000.00	62,260.27	19,109.59

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
NHFIC	AAA	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	01/07/2021	01/07/2031	1.7400	2,630,325.00	3,000,000.00	8,866.85	4,433.42
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	11/10/2024	24/05/2034	1.7500	1,579,430.00	2,000,000.00	9,397.26	2,972.60
Commonwealth Government	AAA	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	14/06/2024	21/06/2034	4.2500	2,520,005.00	2,500,000.00	20,376.71	9,023.97
EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Unrated	FRN	MBS	Quarterly	17/07/2006	21/08/2051	4.0216	292,971.39	314,274.82	380.90	380.90
EmeraldMBS2006-1B	Unrated	FRN	MBS	Quarterly	17/07/2006	21/08/2056	4.3216	804,649.00	1,000,000.00	1,302.40	1,302.40
TOTALS								**189,418,845.14**	**190,214,274.82**	**2,916,088.88**	**655,490.48**

Portfolio by Asset as at 31/08/2025

Asset Type: TD

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	17/03/2025	17/09/2025	4.6400	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00	74,748.49	13,792.88
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	18/09/2024	18/09/2025	4.8200	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	137,865.21	12,281.10
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	18/09/2024	18/09/2025	4.7400	6,500,000.00	6,500,000.00	293,750.14	26,167.40
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	26/09/2024	26/09/2025	4.7800	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	222,630.14	20,298.63
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	26/09/2024	26/09/2025	4.7600	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00	443,397.26	40,427.40
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	30/10/2024	30/10/2025	5.0200	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	210,427.40	21,317.81
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	30/04/2025	30/01/2026	4.1900	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	71,172.60	17,793.15
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	At Maturity	30/04/2025	30/01/2026	4.1900	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00	99,641.64	24,910.41
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	At Maturity	17/03/2025	17/03/2026	4.5200	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	83,217.53	15,355.62
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	17/03/2025	17/03/2027	4.3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	40,320.00	7,440.00
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Quarterly	21/03/2024	22/03/2027	4.7000	18,000,000.00	18,000,000.00	162,246.58	71,852.05
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2027	3.9900	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	67,775.34	16,943.84
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	28/04/2028	4.0400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	68,624.66	17,156.16
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	30/04/2025	28/04/2028	3.9600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	26,906.30	6,726.58

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	26/03/2024	26/03/2029	4.9900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	43,474.52	8,476.16
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2029	4.1400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	70,323.29	17,580.82
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2029	4.0400	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	41,174.79	10,293.70
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	30/04/2025	30/04/2030	4.2900	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	72,871.23	18,217.81
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	05/08/2025	06/08/2030	4.1500	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	15,349.32	15,349.32
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	13/08/2025	13/08/2030	4.1400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	10,775.34	10,775.34
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	13/08/2025	13/08/2030	4.1400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	10,775.34	10,775.34
TD SUBTOTALS								**111,000,000.00**	**111,000,000.00**	**2,267,467.12**	**403,931.51**

Asset Type: FRTD

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
Westpac	AA-	FRTD	GREEN	Quarterly	30/06/2021	30/06/2026	4.0037	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	20,731.49	10,201.21
FRTD SUBTOTALS								**3,000,000.00**	**3,000,000.00**	**20,731.49**	**10,201.21**

Asset Type: FRN

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	02/12/2020	02/12/2025	4.2250	5,599,972.00	5,600,000.00	58,987.95	20,094.79
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	04/03/2021	04/03/2026	4.3414	9,997,370.00	10,000,000.00	105,858.79	36,872.16
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	30/10/2023	30/10/2026	5.2018	1,661,142.45	1,650,000.00	7,759.95	7,289.65
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	GREEN	Quarterly	03/11/2021	23/12/2026	4.0739	4,999,000.00	5,000,000.00	39,064.79	17,300.12
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	GREEN	Quarterly	29/10/2021	23/12/2026	4.0739	1,499,700.00	1,500,000.00	11,719.44	5,190.04
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	GREEN	Quarterly	23/09/2021	23/12/2026	4.0739	4,999,000.00	5,000,000.00	39,064.79	17,300.12
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	10/02/2022	10/02/2027	4.6577	4,761,048.50	4,750,000.00	12,728.92	12,728.92
RACQ Bank	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	05/03/2024	05/03/2027	5.3048	2,219,610.80	2,200,000.00	28,137.24	9,911.98
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	4.6120	2,011,972.00	2,000,000.00	4,548.82	4,548.82
Great Southern Bank	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	01/11/2024	01/11/2027	4.7199	1,454,918.40	1,450,000.00	5,812.59	5,812.59
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	27/09/2024	21/02/2028	5.2716	1,522,107.00	1,500,000.00	2,383.05	2,383.05
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	21/02/2024	21/02/2028	5.2716	1,369,896.30	1,350,000.00	2,144.75	2,144.75
Beyond Bank	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	21/03/2025	21/03/2028	4.8139	1,201,874.40	1,200,000.00	11,078.56	4,906.22
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	14/02/2024	14/02/2029	5.4620	921,880.80	900,000.00	2,424.23	2,424.23
Bendigo and	AAA	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL	Quarterly	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	4.3922	2,505,030.00	2,500,000.00	1,203.34	1,203.34

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
Adelaide			LENDING								
EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Unrated	FRN	MBS	Quarterly	17/07/2006	21/08/2051	4.0216	292,971.39	314,274.82	380.90	380.90
EmeraldMBS2006-1B	Unrated	FRN	MBS	Quarterly	17/07/2006	21/08/2056	4.3216	804,649.00	1,000,000.00	1,302.40	1,302.40
FRN SUBTOTALS								**47,822,143.04**	**47,914,274.82**	**334,600.52**	**151,794.09**

Asset Type: BOND

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	5.1000	1,627,337.60	1,600,000.00	24,591.78	6,930.41
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	24/10/2024	24/10/2028	4.7900	711,133.50	700,000.00	11,942.19	2,847.75
NSW Treasury Corp	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	15/11/2018	15/11/2028	3.0000	4,908,560.00	5,000,000.00	44,794.52	12,739.73
BOQ	A-	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	30/04/2024	30/04/2029	5.3000	3,092,946.00	3,000,000.00	54,016.44	13,504.11
Bendigo and Adelaide	AAA	BOND	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Semi-Annual	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	4.9580	2,052,652.00	2,000,000.00	26,080.44	8,421.81
NHFIC	AAA	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	10/02/2021	27/05/2030	1.5200	1,345,632.00	1,500,000.00	6,059.18	1,936.44
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	24/01/2025	23/05/2031	4.5000	2,036,766.00	2,000,000.00	24,904.11	7,643.84
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	27/06/2024	23/05/2031	4.5000	5,091,915.00	5,000,000.00	62,260.27	19,109.59

INNER WEST

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
NHFIC	AAA	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	01/07/2021	01/07/2031	1.7400	2,630,325.00	3,000,000.00	8,866.85	4,433.42
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	11/10/2024	24/05/2034	1.7500	1,579,430.00	2,000,000.00	9,397.26	2,972.60
Commonwealth Government	AAA	BOND	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	Semi-Annual	14/06/2024	21/06/2034	4.2500	2,520,005.00	2,500,000.00	20,376.71	9,023.97
BOND SUBTOTALS								**27,596,702.10**	**28,300,000.00**	**293,289.75**	**89,563.67**

Portfolio by Asset Totals as at 31/08/2025

Type	Capital Value ($)	Face Value ($)	Accrued ($)	Accrued MTD ($)
TD	111,000,000.00	111,000,000.00	2,267,467.12	403,931.51
FRTD	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	20,731.49	10,201.21
FRN	47,822,143.04	47,914,274.82	334,600.52	151,794.09
BOND	27,596,702.10	28,300,000.00	293,289.75	89,563.67
TOTALS	**189,418,845.14**	**190,214,274.82**	**2,916,088.88**	**655,490.48**

INNER WEST

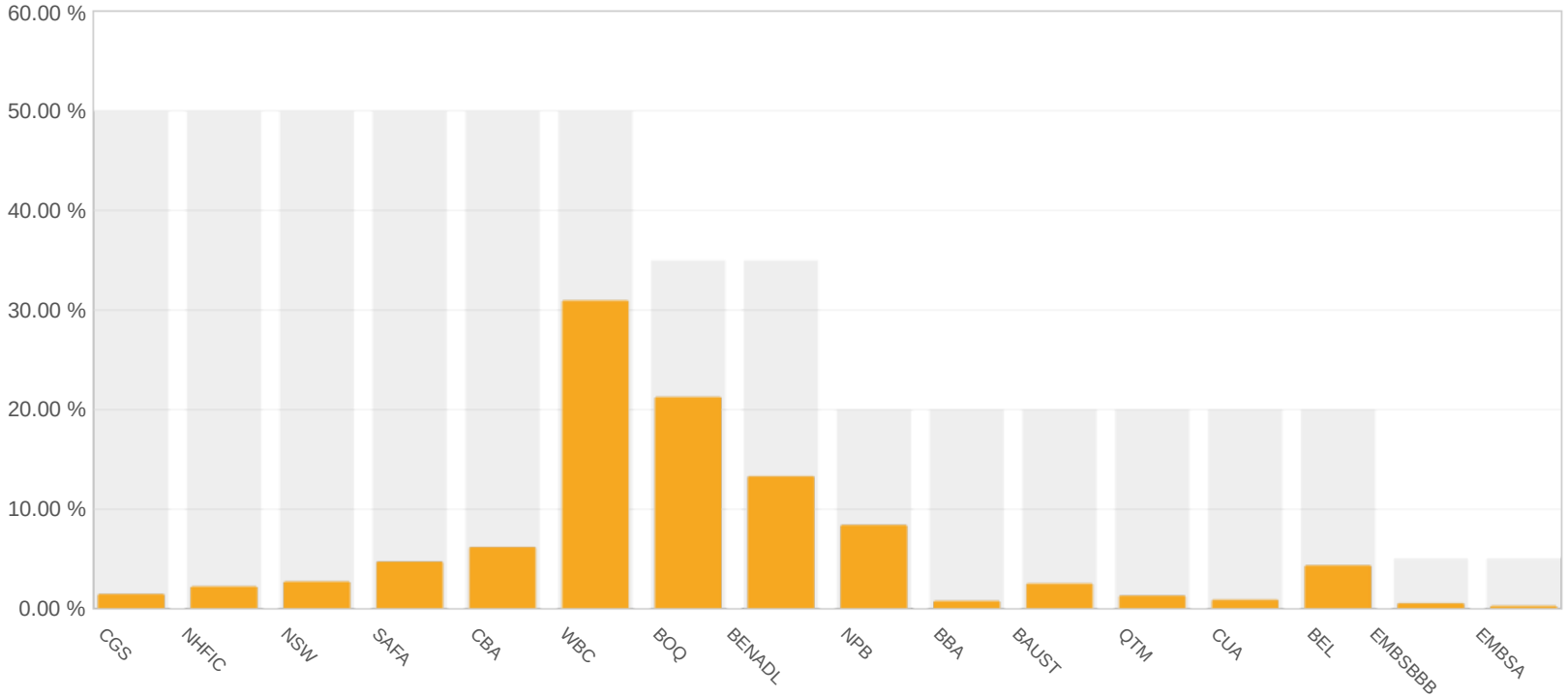
Counterparty Compliance as at 31/08/2025

Long Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit ($)	Available ($)
✔	Commonwealth Government	Long	AAA	2,520,005.00	1.33	50.00	-	92,189,417.57
✔	NHFIC	Long	AAA	3,975,957.00	2.10	50.00	-	90,733,465.57
✔	NSW Treasury Corp	Long	AA+	4,908,560.00	2.59	50.00	-	89,800,862.57
✔	South Australian Government	Long	AA+	8,708,111.00	4.60	50.00	-	86,001,311.57
✔	Commonwealth Bank	Long	AA-	11,497,700.00	6.07	50.00	-	83,211,722.57
✔	Westpac	Long	AA-	58,500,000.00	30.88	50.00	-	36,209,422.57
✔	BOQ	Long	A-	40,092,946.00	21.17	35.00	-	26,203,649.80
✔	Bendigo and Adelaide	Long	A-	25,008,097.10	13.20	35.00	-	41,288,498.70
✔	Newcastle Permanent	Long	BBB+	15,680,299.30	8.28	20.00	-	22,203,469.73
✔	Beyond Bank	Long	BBB+	1,201,874.40	0.64	20.00	-	36,681,894.63
✔	Bank Australia	Long	BBB+	4,553,145.75	2.40	20.00	-	33,330,623.28
✔	RACQ Bank	Long	BBB+	2,219,610.80	1.17	20.00	-	35,664,158.23
✔	Great Southern Bank	Long	BBB+	1,454,918.40	0.77	20.00	-	36,428,850.63
✔	Bank of Us	Long	BBB+	8,000,000.00	4.22	20.00	-	29,883,769.03

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit ($)	Available ($)
✔	EmeraldMBS2006-1B	Long	Unrated	804,649.00	0.42	5.00	-	8,666,293.26
✔	EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Long	Unrated	292,971.39	0.15	5.00	-	9,177,970.87
TOTALS				**189,418,845.14**	**100.00**			

Counterparty Compliance - Long Term Investments

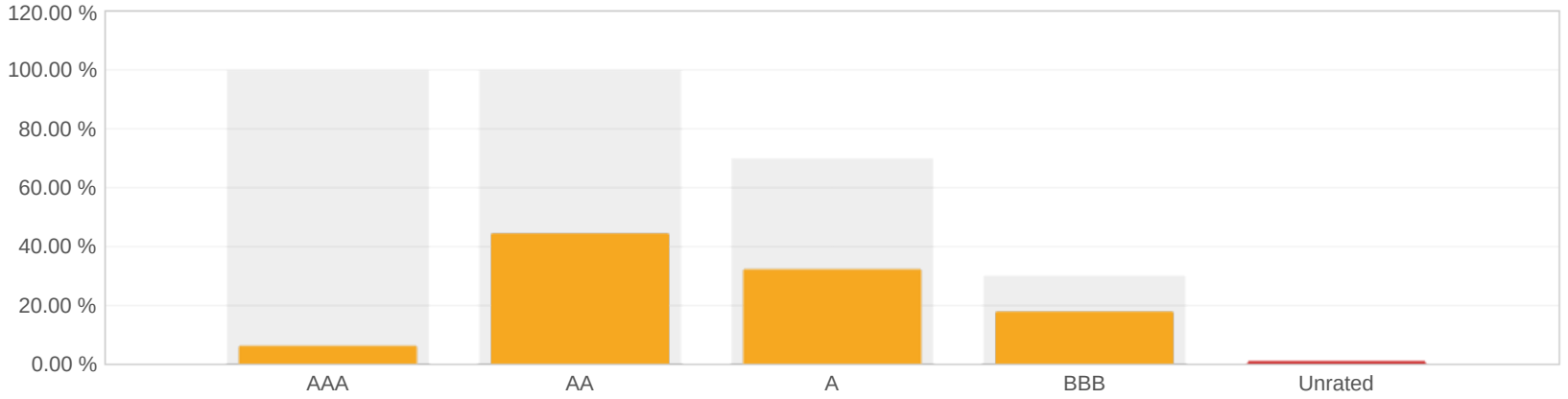


Credit Quality Compliance as at 31/08/2025

Long Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available ($)
✔	AAA	11,053,644.00	5.84	100.00	178,365,201.14
✔	AA	83,614,371.00	44.14	100.00	105,804,474.14
✔	A	60,543,361.10	31.96	70.00	72,049,830.50
✔	BBB	33,109,848.65	17.48	30.00	23,715,804.89
✖	Unrated	1,097,620.39	0.58	0.00	-1,097,620.39
TOTALS		**189,418,845.14**	**100.00**		

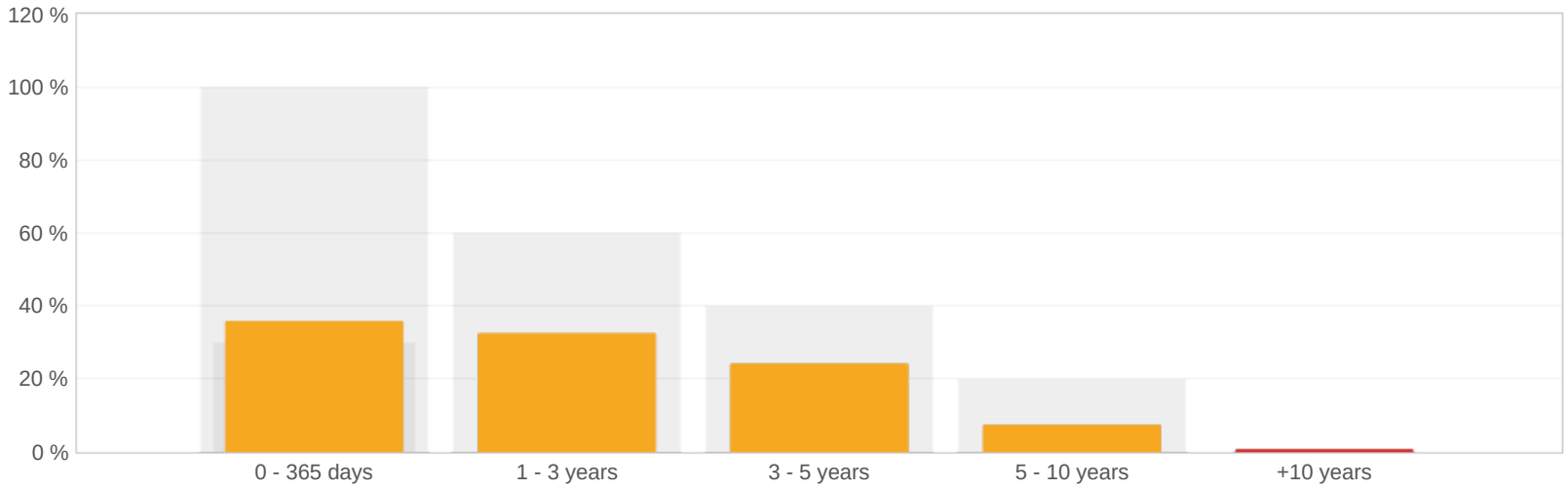
Credit Quality Compliance - Long Term Investments



Maturity Compliance as at 31/08/2025

Compliant	Term	Invested ($)	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available ($)
✔	0 - 365 days	67,597,342.00	35.69	30.00	100.00	121,821,503.14
✔	1 - 3 years	61,327,607.45	32.38	0.00	60.00	52,323,699.63
✔	3 - 5 years	45,537,834.30	24.04	0.00	40.00	30,229,703.76
✔	5 - 10 years	13,858,441.00	7.32	0.00	20.00	24,025,328.03
✖	+10 years	1,097,620.39	0.58	0.00	0.00	-1,097,620.39
TOTALS		**189,418,845.14**	**100.00**			

Maturity Compliance



Trades in Period

From: 01/08/2025 To: 31/08/2025

New Trades - From: 01/08/2025 To: 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Value ($)	Reference
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	05/08/2025	06/08/2030	4.1500	5,000,000.00	1192860
Westpac	AA-	TD	GREEN	Annual	13/08/2025	13/08/2030	4.1400	5,000,000.00	12668689
BOQ	A-	TD	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Annual	13/08/2025	13/08/2030	4.1400	5,000,000.00	1195648
TOTALS								**15,000,000.00**	

Sell Trades - From: 01/08/2025 To: 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Selling Date	Yield/Margin (%)	Face Value ($)	Gross Value ($)	Capital Value ($)	Reference
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	GREEN	Quarterly	10/03/2022	23/12/2026	15/08/2025	4.0739 bp	10,000,000.00	10,058,500.00	9,999,300.00	542413
EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Unrated	FRN	MBS	Quarterly	17/07/2006	21/08/2051	21/08/2025	4.0216 bp	272.92	272.92	272.92	310321
TOTALS									**10,000,272.92**			

Matured Trades - From: 01/08/2025 To: 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Value ($)	Reference
No entries for this item									
TOTALS								**0**	

Unrealised Gains / Losses as at 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Allocation	Cost ($)	Value ($)	Purchase Price	Current Price	Gain/Loss ($)
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	02/12/2020	02/12/2025	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	5,600,000.00	5,599,972.00	100.0000	99.9995	-28.00
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	04/03/2021	04/03/2026	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	10,000,000.00	9,997,370.00	100.0000	99.9737	-2,630.00
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	30/10/2023	30/10/2026	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	1,650,000.00	1,661,142.45	100.0000	100.6753	11,142.45
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	03/11/2021	23/12/2026	GREEN	4,966,070.00	4,999,000.00	99.3214	99.9800	32,930.00
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	29/10/2021	23/12/2026	GREEN	1,491,930.00	1,499,700.00	99.4620	99.9800	7,770.00
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	23/09/2021	23/12/2026	GREEN	5,000,000.00	4,999,000.00	100.0000	99.9800	-1,000.00
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	10/02/2022	10/02/2027	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	4,750,000.00	4,761,048.50	100.0000	100.2326	11,048.50
RACQ Bank	BBB+	FRN	05/03/2024	05/03/2027	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	2,200,000.00	2,219,610.80	100.0000	100.8914	19,610.80
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	BOND	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	1,597,888.00	1,627,337.60	99.8680	101.7086	29,449.60
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	2,000,000.00	2,011,972.00	100.0000	100.5986	11,972.00
Great Southern Bank	BBB+	FRN	01/11/2024	01/11/2027	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	1,450,000.00	1,454,918.40	100.0000	100.3392	4,918.40
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	27/09/2024	21/02/2028	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	1,521,030.00	1,522,107.00	101.4020	101.4738	1,077.00
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	21/02/2024	21/02/2028	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	1,350,000.00	1,369,896.30	100.0000	101.4738	19,896.30
Beyond Bank	BBB+	FRN	21/03/2025	21/03/2028	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	1,200,000.00	1,201,874.40	100.0000	100.1562	1,874.40
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	BOND	24/10/2024	24/10/2028	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	700,000.00	711,133.50	100.0000	101.5905	11,133.50
NSW Treasury Corp	AA+	BOND	15/11/2018	15/11/2028	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	5,000,000.00	4,908,560.00	100.0000	98.1712	-91,440.00

Issuer	Rating	Type	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Allocation	Cost ($)	Value ($)	Purchase Price	Current Price	Gain/Loss ($)
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	14/02/2024	14/02/2029	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	900,000.00	921,880.80	100.0000	102.4312	21,880.80
BOQ	A-	BOND	30/04/2024	30/04/2029	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	2,992,470.00	3,092,946.00	99.7490	103.0982	100,476.00
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	BOND	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	2,000,000.00	2,052,652.00	100.0000	102.6326	52,652.00
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	2,500,000.00	2,505,030.00	100.0000	100.2012	5,030.00
NHFIC	AAA	BOND	10/02/2021	27/05/2030	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	1,535,415.00	1,345,632.00	102.3610	89.7088	-189,783.00
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	24/01/2025	23/05/2031	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	1,983,600.00	2,036,766.00	99.1800	101.8383	53,166.00
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	27/06/2024	23/05/2031	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	5,000,000.00	5,091,915.00	100.0000	101.8383	91,915.00
NHFIC	AAA	BOND	01/07/2021	01/07/2031	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	3,000,000.00	2,630,325.00	100.0000	87.6775	-369,675.00
South Australian Government	AA+	BOND	11/10/2024	24/05/2034	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	1,536,340.00	1,579,430.00	76.8170	78.9715	43,090.00
Commonwealth Government	AAA	BOND	14/06/2024	21/06/2034	SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	2,492,450.00	2,520,005.00	99.6980	100.8002	27,555.00
EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Z	FRN	17/07/2006	21/08/2051	MBS	314,274.82	292,971.39	100.0000	93.2214	-21,303.43
EmeraldMBS2006-1B	Z	FRN	17/07/2006	21/08/2056	MBS	1,000,000.00	804,649.00	100.0000	80.4649	-195,351.00
TOTALS						**75,731,467.82**	**75,418,845.14**			**-312,622.68**

Realised Gains / Losses

From: 01/08/2025 To: 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Selling Date	Cost Price	Current Price	Purchase Price	Selling Price	Realised	Type
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	FRN	10/03/2022	23/12/2026	15/08/2025	9,848,540.00	9,999,300.00		99.9930	150,760.00	Sale
EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Z	FRN	17/07/2006	21/08/2051	21/08/2025	272.92	272.92		100.0000	-	Sale
TOTALS						**9,848,812.92**	**9,999,572.92**			**150,760.00**	

Interest Received in Period

From: 01/08/2025 To: 31/08/2025

Periodic Interest

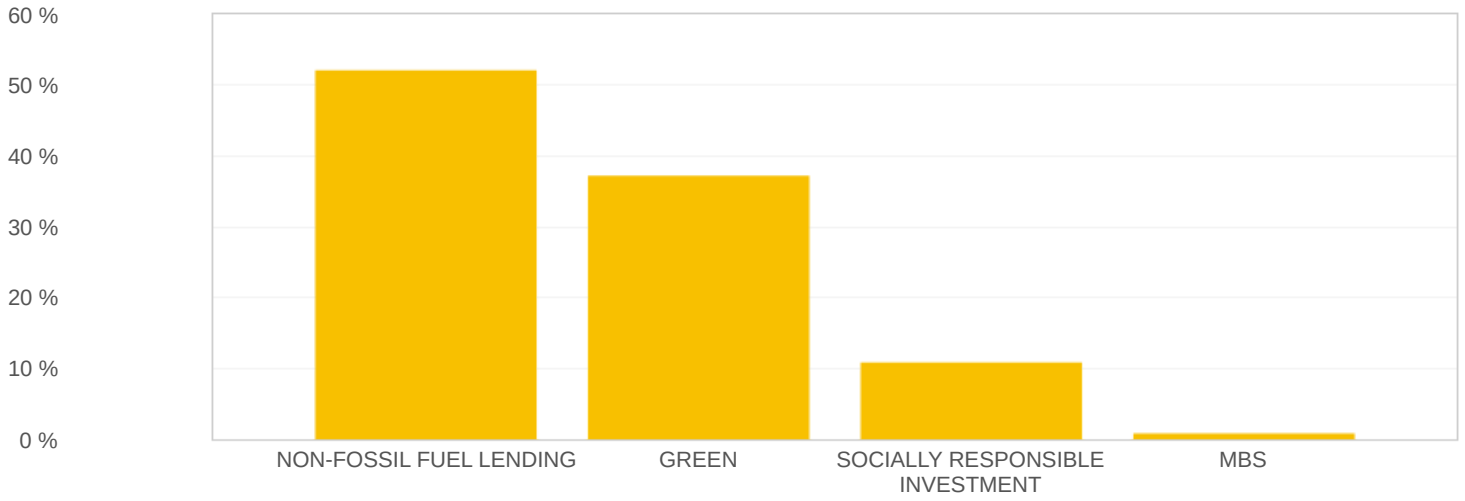
Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Frequency	Value ($)	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Coupon Date	Type	Rate (%)	Received ($)
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	4,750,000.00	10/02/2022	10/02/2027	11/08/2025	Periodic	4.8003	56,847.39
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	2,000,000.00	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	14/08/2025	Periodic	4.7938	24,166.01
Great Southern Bank	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	1,450,000.00	01/11/2024	01/11/2027	01/08/2025	Periodic	4.9097	17,943.94
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	1,350,000.00	21/02/2024	21/02/2028	21/08/2025	Periodic	5.4325	18,485.38
Bank Australia	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	1,500,000.00	27/09/2024	21/02/2028	21/08/2025	Periodic	5.4325	20,539.32
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	BBB+	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	900,000.00	14/02/2024	14/02/2029	14/08/2025	Periodic	5.6438	12,802.92
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	FRN	NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	Quarterly	2,500,000.00	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	28/08/2025	Periodic	4.5200	28,482.19
EmeraldMBS2006-1A	Unrated	FRN	MBS	Quarterly	314,547.74	17/07/2006	21/08/2051	21/08/2025	Periodic	4.1825	3,316.02
EmeraldMBS2006-1B	Unrated	FRN	MBS	Quarterly	1,000,000.00	17/07/2006	21/08/2056	21/08/2025	Periodic	4.4825	11,298.36
TOTALS					**15,764,547.74**						**193,881.53**

INNER WEST

Allocation as at 31/08/2025

Code	Number of trades	Invested ($)	Invested (%)
NON-FOSSIL FUEL LENDING	28	98,210,891.75	51.85
GREEN	13	69,997,700.00	36.95
SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT	7	20,112,633.00	10.62
MBS	2	1,097,620.39	0.58
TOTALS	**50**	**189,418,845.14**	**100.0**

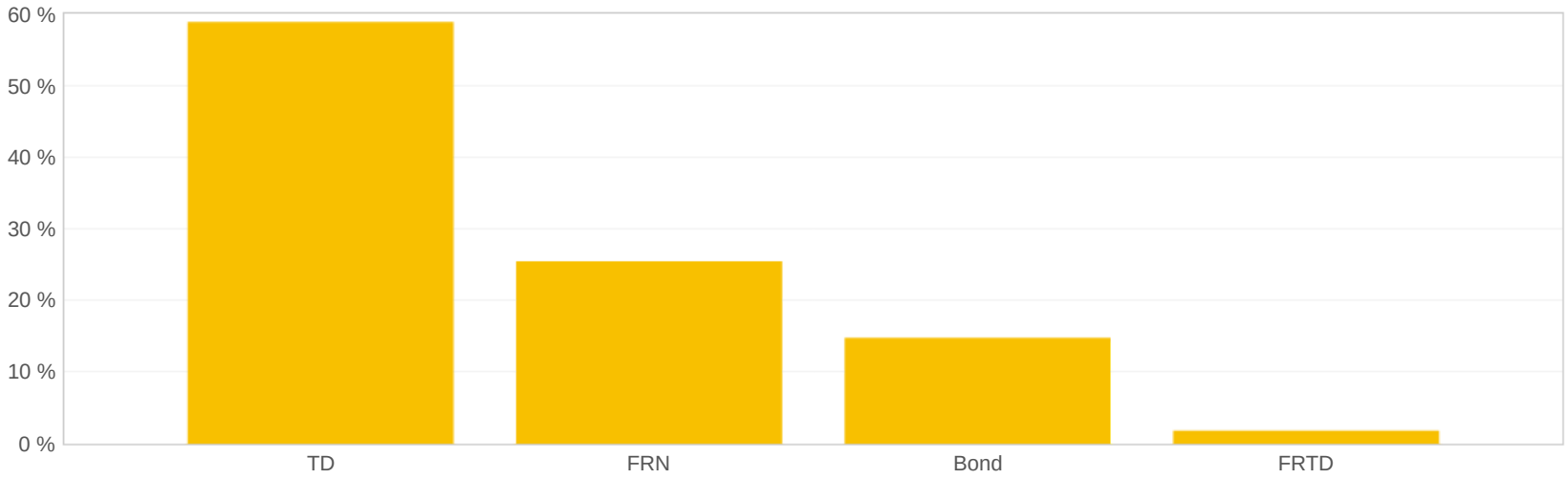
Allocation Distribution as at 31/08/2025



Asset Class as at 31/08/2025

Code	Number of Trades	Invested ($)	Invested (%)
TD	21	111,000,000.00	58.60
FRN	17	47,822,143.04	25.25
Bond	11	27,596,702.10	14.57
FRTD	1	3,000,000.00	1.58
TOTALS	**50**	**189,418,845.14**	**100.0**

Asset Class Distribution



Item No: C0925(1) Item 22

Subject: UPDATE ON MAJOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PANEL AND PROGRESS OF HOUSING DELIVERY

Prepared By: Rachel Josey - Senior Manager Development Assessment

Authorised By: Simone Plummer - Director Planning

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Major Residential Development Panel was created in response to the Council resolutions of 18 February and 20 May 2025 to contribute to the delivery of new housing in the Inner West.

This report provides an update on the panel reviews and progress of housing delivery in response to the Council resolution.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 20 May 2025, Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council endorse the criteria describing significant residential development for items to be considered by the new Inner West Residential Panel as development applications or modifications that have:*
   a) *5 or more residential dwellings;*
   b) *boarding houses;*
   c) *co living; or*
   d) *subdivision for residential development that would result in new housing*

2. *That the new Panel report to Council on the outcomes of panel reviews and progress of housing delivery on a quarterly basis.*

3. *That Council creates a dashboard reporting tool to track new housing supply in the Inner West and progress against our housing targets. That data is collected from the commencement of the new 'Fairer Future in the Inner West' plan and progress is reported in the quarterly reports to Council.*

4. *That Council undertake a review of the Terms of Reference in 12 months' time to evaluate its effectiveness, with a report back to Council.*

This report addresses points 1 & 2 of the above resolution.

DISCUSSION

In accordance with the resolution from the Council meeting on 20 May 2025 the Major Residential Development Panel (the panel) commenced meeting on 2 July 2025. The Terms of Reference stipulate that the panel consists of the General Manager, Director Planning, Legal Counsel and the City Architect. As Council is currently recruiting for the City Architect position, the panel is operating in absence of this position and currently consists of three panel members.

The agenda for the panel meetings consists of:

Item 1 – Update on development where Council is not the consent authority
Item 2 – Major Residential Development Applications for review.
Item 3 – Performance against Ministers Expectations
Item 4 - Update on performance against KPI's
Item 5 - Operations & Special Projects - Initiatives & Projects
Item 6 - Land & Environment Court – List of Determined & lodged each month.

Outcome of Panel Reviews

Meetings of the panel have occurred as follows:

Date	Number of applications reviewed
2 July 2025	8
31 July 2025	12
28 August 2025	11

*In accordance with the Terms of Reference some applications have been re-reviewed at subsequent meetings.

In reviewing applications, the panel has made various recommendations for further action, including additional engagement with Applicants, writing to the Department Planning Housing and Infrastructure, noting the current stage of the application and in some instances support for the application to be determined. To date the panel has not identified any matters where the assessment has been delayed. The panel are exploring opportunities to streamline the process where applicants are request for information and impacts of timeliness of internal referrals. As well as the timeliness of the design review panel.

Progress on Housing Delivery

The following matters are reported to the Major Residential Development Panel on a monthly basis and have been adapted for reporting to Council.

Item 1 – Update on development where Council is not the consent authority.

State Significant Developments Applications (SSDA)

These are the current and determined State Significant Development Applications (SSDAs), within Inner West Council LGA since June 2025. All applications can be found on the Department's Major Project Website - Major Projects search | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment.

Address & Link to project page on NSW Planning Portal	Summary of Proposal	Number of Dwellings	Years for BTR / Affordable Housing	Number of Affordable Housing	Status
194-Wardell Road and 46 Pine Street, Marrickville Maronite Sisters	Demolish and redevelop Village 1 to provide a four-storey, 99-bedroom facility with basement car parking (currently 54 beds)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Dept has requested the applicant to respond to submissions
Lots bound by Victoria Road, Sydenham Road, Farr Street and Mitchell Street, Marrickville The Timberyards by RTL Co	Redevelopment of the site for a rental housing precinct	1181	25	115	Under assessment by Dept, amended documents received
Newington College, 200 Stanmore Road, Stanmore Newington College	Redevelopment of Newington college	N/A	N/A	N/A	Prepare EIS
Leichhardt Oval (IWC Application) Leichhardt Oval	Refurbishment and upgrade works	N/A	N/A	N/A	SEARS Issued – Prepare EIS
Parramatta Road, Pyrmont Bridge Road, Camperdown WestConnex-Dive-Site	WestConnex Dive Site Build-to-Rent Subdivision, construction of mixed build to rent. Stage 1A (Stage 1B – Build to Sell, Stage 02 – Build to Sell) SSDA & Concurrent re-zoning	220 (Total 500)	15 (BTR)	Nil	SARP & SSDA lodged and on exhibition from 12 Aug to 8 Sept
67,73-83 Mary Street, 50-52 Edith Street & 43 Robert Street, St Peters Precinct 75	Amending DA to DA/2021/0800 increasing the floor area by 4842m2 & additional 265 dwellings (16 affordable)	265	15	Nil additional affordable housing 16 units included in existing approval	SARP & SSDA lodged and on exhibition from 14 Aug to 10 Sept
Total	**-**	**1666**		**115**	

*SSDA = State Significant Development Application
SARP = State Assessed Rezoning Proposal
BTR = Build to Rent

Housing Delivery Authority (HDA)
The HDA was a State Government announcement in 2025, to boost housing supply and improve affordability in order to address the housing crisis and meet Housing Accord targets. The State of NSW has an ambitious target to deliver 377,000 new homes over five years by July 2029 under the National Housing Accord.

To accelerate the delivery of housing the HDA leads a streamlined State Significant Development Application (SSDA) pathway and if relevant with a concurrent rezoning process. In summary the process is as follows:

- Applicants lodge an Expression of Interest
- Housing Delivery Authority reviews and makes a recommendation to either declare or not declare the project
- If the project is declared, the Applicant will need to request SEARS (Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements)
- A formal State Significant Development Application (and concurrent rezoning if applicable) must be lodged within 9 months of SEARS being issued
- Once the formal application is received by the Department, it will undergo an assessment against the relevant planning instruments and be notified to the surrounding properties and local authorities where submissions can be made.

The following projects have been declared within the Inner West Local Government Area at the time of reporting.

Date	Address	Suburb	Summary of Proposal	Concurrent rezoning	Number of Dwellings (indicative)	Status
19-Feb-25	40-76 William Street	Leichhardt	The adaptive reuse to residential of the existing industrial warehouses	Not mentioned	200	Prepare EIS
7-Mar-25	67 Mary Street (Precinct 75)	St Peters	Shop top housing	Yes	200	SSDA & SARP lodged
24-Mar-25	307-315 Parramatta Road	Leichhardt	Shop top housing	Yes	110	Prepare EIS
24-Mar-25	245 Marion Street	Leichhardt	Shop top housing	Yes	125	Not yet requested SEARs
4-Apr-25	122-130 Pyrmont Bridge Road, 206 Parramatta Road	Annandale	Shop top housing	Yes	162	Prepare EIS
2-May-25	99-101 Pyrmont Bridge Road, 190-196 Parramatta	Annandale	Shop top housing	Yes	191	Not yet requested SEARs
16-May-25	63-77 Pyrmont Bridge Road	Annandale	Shop top housing	Yes	180	Not yet requested SEARs
15-July-25	104 – 108 Victoria Road	Rozelle	Shop top housing	Yes	130	Not yet requested SEARs
TOTAL					**1298**	

*Note: Where an application is identified as having a SSDA lodged the number of dwellings is included in the table under the State Significant Development Applications section above and therefore should not be counted as dwellings to be delivered in the above table.

Regional Planning Panel Applications
The following matters are applications that are reported to the Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel which is identified as a Regional Planning Panel. The panel made up of five (5) independent experts including a chair and two (2) regular members appointed by the Minister for Planning and two (2) members directly appointed by Inner West Council.

Address	Suburb	Summary of Proposal	Number of Dwellings	Status
67 Mary Street	St Peters	Section 4.56 application to DA/2021/0800 to carry out various modifications	No additional dwellings proposed	Approved
2b West Street	Lewisham	Section 4.55(2) to DA201800505 to carry out various internal and external changes	No additional dwellings proposed	Under assessment
67 Mary Street	St Peters	Section 4.56 application to DA/2021/0800 to increase construction hours	No additional dwellings proposed	Under assessment
452 Parramatta Road	Petersham	Partial demolition of existing structures and construction of a seven storey mixed use building, including ground floor commercial space, co-living housing above, and at-grade car parking.	85 double rooms (up to 170 occupants)	Appeal Lodged with Court

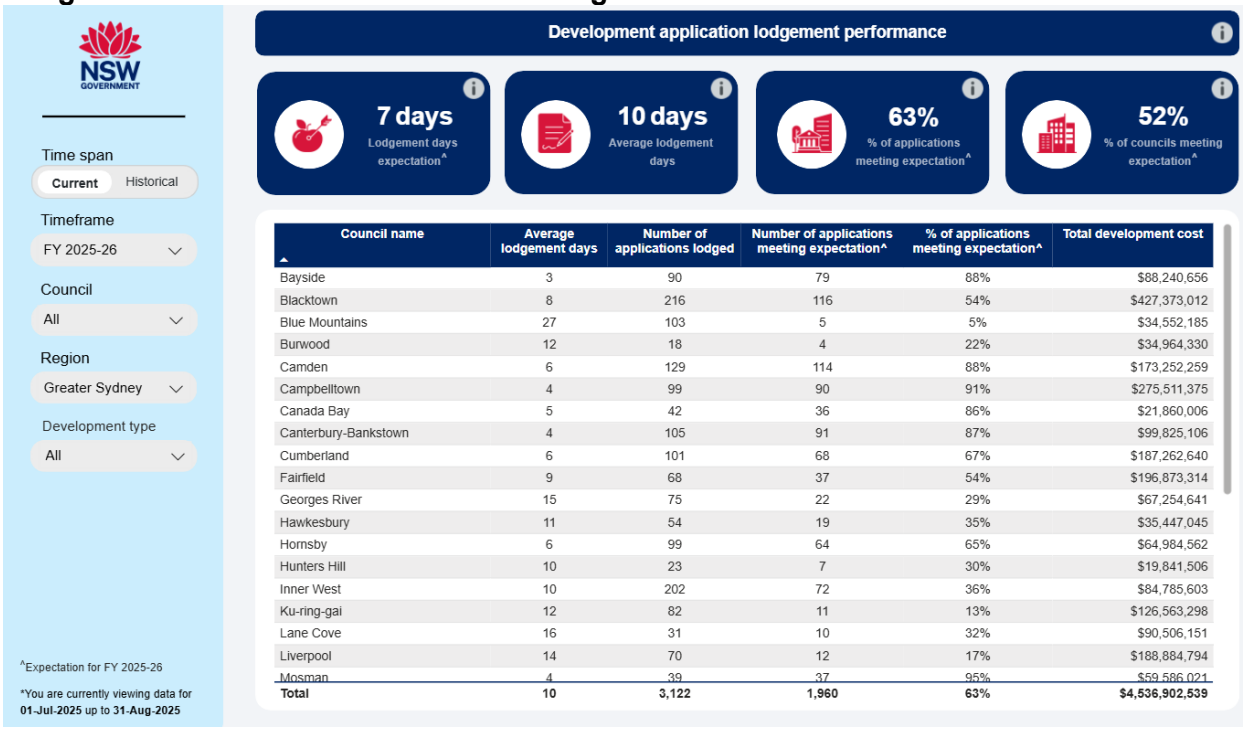
All information on the Regional Planning Applications is contained on their website - https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/planning-panel

Item 3 – Performance against Ministers Expectations
The Environmental Planning & Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2024 set the expectations for Council's for both lodgement and assessment timeframes for development applications.

The league tables can be viewed online via the following link Council League Tables

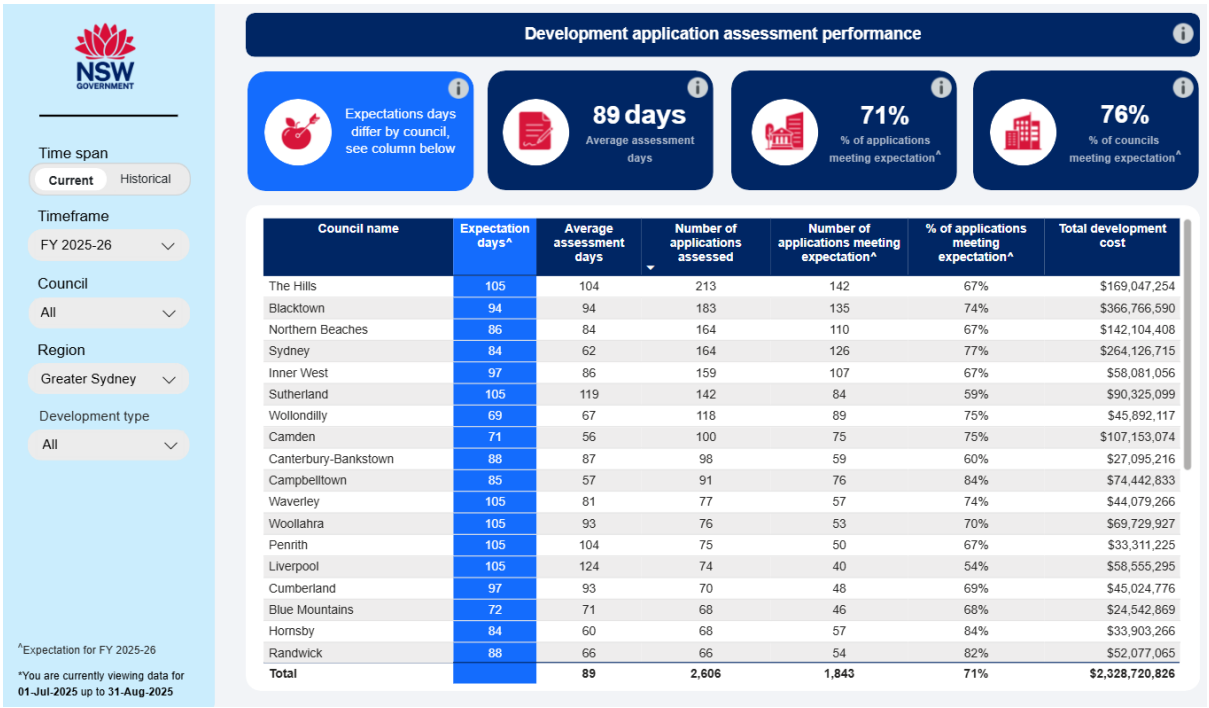
At the time of reporting, the results for August 2025 were not available.

Lodgement Performance for FY 25/26 - August



Council name	Average lodgement days	Number of applications lodged	Number of applications meeting expectation^	% of applications meeting expectation^	Total development cost
Bayside	3	90	79	88%	$88,240,656
Blacktown	8	216	116	54%	$427,373,012
Blue Mountains	27	103	5	5%	$34,552,185
Burwood	12	18	4	22%	$34,964,330
Camden	6	129	114	88%	$173,252,259
Campbelltown	4	99	90	91%	$275,511,375
Canada Bay	5	42	36	86%	$21,860,006
Canterbury-Bankstown	4	105	91	87%	$99,825,106
Cumberland	6	101	68	67%	$187,262,640
Fairfield	9	68	37	54%	$196,873,314
Georges River	15	75	22	29%	$67,254,641
Hawkesbury	11	54	19	35%	$35,447,045
Hornsby	6	99	64	65%	$64,984,562
Hunters Hill	10	23	7	30%	$19,841,506
Inner West	10	202	72	36%	$84,785,603
Ku-ring-gai	12	82	11	13%	$126,563,298
Lane Cove	16	31	10	32%	$90,506,151
Liverpool	14	70	12	17%	$188,884,794
Mosman	4	39	37	95%	$59,586,021
Total	**10**	**3,122**	**1,960**	**63%**	**$4,536,902,539**

For the month of August, lodgements of applications have taken on average 10 days which exceeds the new expectation for the 2025 to 2026 of 7 days. Whilst Council officers are working on some technical updates to assist with reducing this timeframe, these are still in configuration and testing and expected to be deployed in September.



Council name	Expectation days^	Average assessment days	Number of applications assessed	Number of applications meeting expectation^	% of applications meeting expectation^	Total development cost
The Hills	105	104	213	142	67%	$169,047,254
Blacktown	94	94	183	135	74%	$366,766,590
Northern Beaches	86	84	164	110	67%	$142,104,408
Sydney	84	62	164	126	77%	$264,126,715
Inner West	97	86	159	107	67%	$58,081,056
Sutherland	105	119	142	84	59%	$90,325,099
Wollondilly	69	67	118	89	75%	$45,892,117
Camden	71	56	100	75	75%	$107,153,074
Canterbury-Bankstown	88	87	98	59	60%	$27,095,216
Campbelltown	85	57	91	76	84%	$74,442,833
Waverley	105	81	77	57	74%	$44,079,266
Woollahra	105	93	76	53	70%	$69,729,927
Penrith	105	104	75	50	67%	$33,311,225
Liverpool	105	124	74	40	54%	$58,555,295
Cumberland	97	93	70	48	69%	$45,024,776
Blue Mountains	72	71	68	46	68%	$24,542,869
Hornsby	84	60	68	57	84%	$33,903,266
Randwick	88	66	66	54	82%	$52,077,065
Total		**89**	**2,606**	**1,843**	**71%**	**$2,328,720,826**

Timeframes for assessments from 1 July to 31 August took an average of 86 days. It should be noted that the Ministers Expectations has been reduced from 105 to 97 days which is comparable to the average achieved for the FY2024-2025.

Item 4 - Update on performance against KPI's

The table below provides an update on the performance of key process steps, that were previously reported to Council via a Bi-Monthly report. Some of these are now reported via the DPOP.

Key Process Steps	Customer Experience KPI	FY 23/24	FY 24/25	July 25	Aug 25
Pre DA Minutes	Letter sent in 10 days of meeting - Median	Data not available	10	8	15
Submit DA on Planning Portal to Lodgement in T1	100% in 10 days (Maintain current average of 7.5 calendar days)	76% in 10 days Average 7 days	58%	48% in 10 days Average 11 days	68% in 10 days Average 9 days
			*Tech solution in configuration to address this.		
Call Applicant and/or Property Owner to advise responsible officer for the DA	100% in 10 days of allocation. Introduction, explain process, answer questions and case manage the process	Data not available	46%	62%	69%
			*Tech solution in configuration to get data field for all applications		
Neighbour Notification posted	100% in 7 days following payment of all fees	30% in 7 days 77% in 14 days	74%	89% in 7 days 100% in 14 days	89% in 7 days 98% in 14 days
			*technical issues with mapping system		
Internal referrals obtained	80% response in 14 days	51%	46%	46%	55%
Site inspection	100% inspections are recorded on the council record.	84%	66%	95%	91%
Acknowledgment of receipt of submissions	100% of submissions received are acknowledged in writing	100%	100%	100%	100%
Automation of progress update of significant milestones	Change in assessment officer (within 5 days)	Data not available		Tech solution being configured .	Tech solution being configured
Determination	Median within 85 days	81.5 days	69 days	57.5 days	58 days

Call Applicant and/or Property Owner

There continues to be a concerted effort to increase performance for this KPI as well as the accuracy of data on this milestone. These issues are being addressed as follows:

- Tech 1 configuration update to ensure the task appears on all applications (currently in configuration);
- A weekly audit of all applications that have been lodged and the assessment feedback date not recorded within the KPI;

- Release of a 'script' for officers to support them in covering off all relevant information in that initial conversation. This will then be incorporated into the Development Assessment Protocols and updated process maps which are currently under review.

Item 5 - Operations & Special Projects - Initiatives & Projects
Projects and initiatives being managed by the Operations & Special Projects Manager that relate to Development Assessments are listed below.

Title	Description of Project, Initiative or Change	Due date	Date Completed
Infrastructure Contributions	The rollout of contributions module for OneCouncil, incorporation of the four contribution schemes, dashboards, and bond/deposit obligations.	1 Oct 25	In-Progress
Notification Printing	Part of an improvement initiative.	31-Dec-25	In-Progress
Field App for compliance application and request inspections	Introduction of the field app to replace current inspection software or manual inspection process across the directorate	31-Jan-26	In-Progress
AI in Development Assessment	AI tool to assist planners and a chatbot for external customers to obtain planning information	31-Jan-26	In-Progress
Development Assessment Round 5 Changes	Enhancement of the DA BPA to address and resolve outstanding issues stemming from previous modifications, ensuring improved functionality and alignment with current requirements.	31-Oct-25	In-Progress
Cherwell Ticket Backlog	Working with ICT and Attura to resolve outstanding tickets within the previous Cherwell ticketing system for the Planning Directorate	30-Sep-25	In-Progress
NSW Planning Portal API - DA Automation	Integration of the NSW Planning Portal API within the DA BPA	31 Oct-25	In-Progress
Architectural Excellence and Design Review Panel Improvement Initiative	Integrate the AEDRP process within OneCouncil. This process is currently performed outside of OneCouncil and has a number of manual steps.	31-Dec-25	In-Progress
Development Assessment Legal Process	Determine how to implement the legal process to be within OneCouncil	30-Jun-26	Not-Started
Development Assessment weekly reporting	Review reporting requires for DA Admin team and determine a streamline approach and cross training post Go Live of BPA updates.	30 Nov-25	Not-Started

Title	Description of Project, Initiative or Change	Due date	Date Completed
NSW Planning Portal API - DA Documents	NSW Planning Portal API for the upload of documents from DAs, MODs, and Reviews into OneCouncil. On-Hold due to the NSW Planning Portal not providing 'Assessment Set' information in payload.	30-Jun-24	On-Hold

Other Initiatives

As part of continuous improvement strategies, various initiatives have been introduced to streamline the assessment as well as supporting decision making and finding solutions for complex applications. One such initiative includes the review of complex applications by a panel of senior planning staff whereby certain criteria are met. The introduction of this panel has assisted planning staff in determining the most appropriate course of action for the various applications and acts as an important mentoring opportunity for more junior staff.

The officers continue to work on delivery of the items identified in Customer Service in Development Assessment - Action plan and other improvements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 23

Subject: MANDATORY REPORTING TO COUNCIL OF REPORT RECEIVED FROM FIRE & RESCUE NSW - 59-61 KENSINGTON ROAD SUMMER HILL AND 2A BROWN STREET ASHFIELD

Prepared By: Michael Ryan - Senior Manager, Health & Building

Authorised By: Simone Plummer - Director Planning

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979, when an inspection report is received by Council from Fire and Rescue New South Wales (FRNSW), Council must table this report and recommendations at the next meeting of the Council. Council has received a report for the following properties:

- 59-61 Kensington Road Summer Hill – report received from FRNSW on 6 June 2025 (*Attachment 1*). This is a 3 storey apartment building. Following advice from FRNSW the council officer attended the site and issued a Notice of Intention to serve a Development Order. This will be followed up until the rectification works are complete.

- 2A Brown Street Ashfield – report received from FRNSW on 20 August 2025 (*Attachment 2*). This is an 8 storey mixed use development with council owned parking. Following the council officer inspection one of the issues identified was a failure of the self closing door mechanism to the fire isolation stairway in the upper level of the council carpark. Upon becoming aware of this the matter was prioritised by council's maintenance team and repaired. All other matters remain the subject of a Notice of Intention to issue an Order and will be followed up until they are resolved.

DISCUSSION

59-61 Kensington Road Summer Hill

This property is a class 2 apartment building consisting of 3 storeys with private garages located on the ground floor.

The property was inspected by FRNSW Fire Safety Compliance Unit on 3 April 2025 following correspondence (Attachment 1) received regarding concerns raised by the property's fire contractor. FRNSW advised Council on 6 June of their actions and a senior Fire Safety Officer from Council attended site the same day.

The identified defects from FRNSW relate to Portable Fire Extinguisher, Access and Egress, and Compartmentation. The FRNSW report recommends Council to review and conduct an inspection regarding the following matters:

i. Inadequate provision of Portable Fire extinguishers.
ii. The smoke alarms located in the public corridors/common areas may not be interconnected and therefore unable to provide a common building alarm (Building Occupant Warning System)
iii. The balustrade on level 3 does not achieve a height of 1 metre and contains openings that would allow a 125mm diameter sphere to pass through it.
iv. Handrails in the stairs were not continuous between stair flight landings and had obstructions that could break a hand-hold.
v. Screen security doors have been installed on the outside of multiple unit entry doors.
vi. Penetrations were identified within the bounding construction.

Following the inspection by Council's officer a Notice of Intention to serve a Development Control Order (Notice) was issued. This Notice requires rectification works to resolve the issues identified above which will ensure the building has adequate functional essential fire safety measure to ensure occupant safety. A Final Fire Safety Certificate is required at the completion of these works, which will remain under review until they are resolved.

2A Brown Street Ashfield

2A Brown Street Ashfield is a relatively recently constructed (2016) premises consisting of an eight-storey mixed use development comprising of Class 2 (Apartments), Class 6 (Shops) and Class 7a (carparking).

Correspondence was received from FRNSW on 20 August 2025 (Attachment 2) which identified concerns in relation to the existing fire safety provisions. Within that advice FRNSW indicated they had conducted an inspection on 23 July 2025 and issued a Notice of Intention to Serve a Development Control Order (Notice) on 24 July 2025. This Notice requires rectification works to the Fire Detection and Alarm System, with regard to matters listed below;

- The Fire Indicator Panel (FIP) was displaying one (1) fault and five (5) isolations.
- Inconsistencies between zone block plans provided at the FIP.
- No sprinkler block plan was provided at the FIP.
- A boost inlet at the fire hydrant booster is missing a Storz coupling.
- Signage which states the maximum allowable inlet pressure has not been provided at the sprinkler booster.
- A complete stock of spare sprinklers and a spanner had not been provided at the sprinkler control valves.
- A sprinkler block plan has not been mounted adjacent to the sprinkler control assemblies.
- The sprinkler valve room was being used as a storage room containing construction materials.
- The external Fire Hose Reel cabinet located adjacent to Drakes Lane was found missing the stop valve and interlocking device to secure the nozzle and had stored materials and rubbish within the cabinet.
- The Fire Hose Reel located on the ground floor of Tower B was found disengaged from its interlocking device.
- The exit sign located in the ground floor lobby was not illuminated.
- Directional exit signage was not provided in the rear fire-isolated stairway to direct occupants up the stairway at the point where the corridor meets the stairway.
- The exit providing discharge from the fire-isolated stairs of the residential Tower B to Drakes Lane was found missing signage to alert people of the operation of the door.

- The exit door discharging next to Jetts Fitness is heavily graffitied and is making the fire safety door signage difficult to notice.
- The double swing doors between the commercial ground floor corridor and loading dock are unable to self-close due to a damaged self-closing device.
- The fire door to the fire-isolated stairway in Basement 2 – upper council carpark was found in the open position and unable to close via the self-closing mechanism due to being caught on the concrete floor.
- The ground floor rear fire-isolated corridor was found with damaged lightweight fire rated construction and exposing drainage pipes and other non fire-fighting services.

Council's Senior Fire Safety Officer conducted an inspection of the premises on 4 September 2025, and issued a further/concurrent Notice of Intention to issue a Development Control Order on 5 September 2025. The performance failure of the fire door to the fire isolated stairway in the council carpark was reported to Council's maintenance team and was resolved same day the report was made. The rectification works required by the Notice will resolve the issues identified above. The Notice will ensure that the building has adequate functional essential fire safety measures to ensure occupant safety. A Final Fire Safety Certificate is required at the completion of these works, and the matters will remain under review until they are resolved.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Fire & Rescue NSW - Inspection Report - 59-61 Kensington Road Summer Hill
2.⇩ Fire & Rescue NSW Inspection Report and Notice - 2A Brown Street Ashfield

Item 23

From: "Fire Safety" <FireSafety@fire.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Fri, 30 May 2025 16:16:47 +1000
To: "Inner West Council" <council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Letter Out – 9_32 Inspection Report - Fire Safety Concern – 59-61 Kensington Road Summer Hill – SRID 8000041370
Attachments: Letter Out - 9_32 Inspection Report– 59-61 Kensington Road Summer Hill - Inner West Council.pdf
Categories: Hunter

Attn: **Manager Compliance/Fire Safety**

Please find attached correspondence regarding the above premises.

If you have any further queries regarding this matter, please contact the Fire Safety Branch on 9742 7434 quoting your reference number.

Regards,

Administrative Support Officer
Fire Safety Team | Fire and Rescue NSW
T: (02) 9742 7434 **E:** firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au
1 Amarina Avenue, Greenacre NSW 2190 | Locked Mail Bag 12, Greenacre, NSW 2190

PREPARED FOR ANYTHING. www.fire.nsw.gov.au

Fire and Rescue NSW acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we stand and pay our respects to their Elders from the past and present.

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Attachment 1

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OFFICIAL

File Ref. No: FRN25/893 - BFS25/1655 - 8000041370
TRIM Ref. No: D2025/058911
Contact: Conor Hackett

30 May 2025

General Manager
Inner West Council
PO Box 14
PETERSHAM NSW 2049

Email: council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Attention: Manager Compliance/Fire Safety

Dear Sir / Madam

Re: INSPECTION REPORT
SP 6243
59-61 KENSINGTON ROAD SUMMER HILL ("the premises")

Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) received correspondence on 4 March 2025 concerning the adequacy of the provision for fire safety in connection with 'the premises'.

The correspondence stated that:

> *The fire compliance contractor of our strata scheme ceased trading last year. The new contractor has identified several non-compliances that were not identified in the previous years, especially in relation to unit entry doors.*
>
> *The AFSS is due in 2 weeks, and thus has left the strata scheme in a predicament where we cannot gain extra quotes to compare costs. The new contractor is potentially using this to their advantage for an increase in cost for rectification.*
>
> *Is there a process for being able to work through the non-compliances over a longer period and get best value-for-money? These non-compliances have been there for years, is there a process for acceptance of minor non-compliances?*

Pursuant to Section 9.32(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), Authorised Fire Officers from the Fire Safety Compliance Unit of FRNSW inspected 'the premises' on 3 April 2025.

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OFFICIAL

On behalf of the Commissioner of FRNSW, the comments in this report are provided under Section 9.32(4) and Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17(1) of the EP&A Act.

The items listed in the comments of this report are based on the following limitations:

- A general overview of the building was obtained without using the development consent conditions or approved floor plans as a reference.
- Details of the Provisions for Fire Safety and Fire Fighting Equipment are limited to a visual inspection of the parts in the building accessed and the fire safety measures observed at the time.

COMMENTS

This report is limited to observations and sections of the building accessed at the time of the inspection and includes potential deviations from the National Construction Code 2022 Building Code of Australia – Volume One (NCC) and applicable Australian Standards.

Please be advised that whilst the report is not an exhaustive list of non-compliances, the items as listed may contradict development consent approval. In this regard, it is at council's discretion as the appropriate regulatory authority to consider the most appropriate action and determine whether an investigation is required.

The following items were identified during the inspection:

Essential Fire Safety Measures

1. Portable Fire Extinguishers (PFEs) – It is noted that PFEs are listed as an essential fire safety measure on the Fire Safety Schedule however PFEs have not been distributed outside sole-occupancy units to serve only the storey at which they are located, contrary to the requirements of Clause E1D14 of the NCC.

   Signage indicates that PFEs have been provided in the plant rooms on the lowest level however, as the plant room doors were locked at the time of the inspection, PFEs were not readily accessible, contrary to the requirements of Clause 3.2 of AS2444–2001.

2. Building Occupant Warning System (BOWS) - It is unclear whether the smoke alarms in the public corridors/common areas, are interconnected between all levels, to provide a common building alarm to alert all building occupants, in accordance with Clause S20C7 of Specification 20 of the NCC.

   In that regard, the latest service report for the premises (dated 24 April 2025) states '*interconnected device does not activate audible alarm in other devices. Interconnection cable does not look to be attached'*. Further investigation by Council may be required.

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Access & Egress

3. Balustrade - The balustrade on the level 3 landing, achieves a height of less than 1m above the floor level and contains openings that would permit a 125mm sphere to pass through it, contrary to the requirements of Clauses D3D18 & D3D19 of the NCC.

4. Handrail - Handrails in the stairs were not continuous between stair flight landings and had obstructions that will tend to break a hand-hold, contrary to the requirements of Clause D3D22 of the NCC.

Compartmentation

5. Screen Doors - Screen security doors have been installed on the outside of multiple Sole Occupancy Unit (SOU) entry doors throughout the premises. FRNSW are of the opinion that screen doors promote the occupants to 'chock open' the SOU entry fire door, which is contrary to the requirements of Clause C4D12 of the NCC which requires a doorway in a Class 2 SOU be protected by a fire door which is equipped with a device which returns the door to the fully closed position immediately after each opening.

   The following is the formal position of FRNSW regarding screen doors: *FRNSW does not determine whether security or screen doors can be fitted to the main fire door of a unit. The fitting of any security/screen door to an SOU is a matter to be determined by the appropriate regulatory authority (e.g. Council) or certifier.*

   FRNSW recommends against the fitting of security or screen doors to SOUs due to the increased likelihood of the main fire door being propped open (e.g. for ventilation airflow), and the fire rating of the door frame being compromised from any modification when fitting any additional door.

6. Milk Boxes - 'Milk Boxes' are located in the bounding construction required to have an appropriate fire resistance level (FRL). It could not be determined whether the 'milk box' openings have an FRL with respect to integrity and insulation in accordance with the requirements of Clause C4D12(6) of the NCC.

FRNSW believes that there are inadequate provisions for fire safety within the building.

RECOMMENDATIONS

FRNSW recommends that Council:

a. Review items 1 to 6 of this report and conduct an inspection.

b. Address any other deficiencies identified on "the premises".

Please be advised that Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17(2) requires any report or recommendation from the Commissioner of FRNSW to be tabled at a Council meeting.

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This matter is referred to Council as the appropriate regulatory authority. FRNSW awaits the Council's advice regarding its determination under Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17 (4) of the EP&A Act.

Please do not hesitate to contact Conor Hackett of FRNSW's Fire Safety Compliance Unit at FireSafety@fire.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 9742 7434 if there are any questions or concerns about the above matters. Please refer to file reference FRN25/893 - BFS25/1655 - regarding any correspondence concerning this matter.

Yours faithfully

Conor Hackett
Senior Building Surveyor
Fire Safety Compliance Unit

Document Set ID: 40695990
Version: 1, Version Date: 06/06/2025

From: "Fire Safety" <FireSafety@fire.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wed, 20 Aug 2025 10:17:41 +1000
To: "Inner West Council" <council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Letter Out - 9_32 Inspection Report - 2a Brown Street Ashfield - Inner West Council - SRID 8000043698
Attachments: Letter Out - 9_32 Inspection Report - 2a Brown Street Ashfield - Inner West Council.pdf

Attn: **Manager Compliance/Fire Safety**

Please find attached correspondence regarding the above premises.

If you have any further queries regarding this matter, please contact the Fire Safety Branch on 9742 7434 quoting your reference number.

Regards,

Administrative Support Officer
Fire Safety Team | Fire and Rescue NSW
T: (02) 9742 7434 **E:** firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au
1 Amarina Avenue, Greenacre NSW 2190 | Locked Mail Bag 12, Greenacre, NSW 2190

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Version: 1, Version Date: 20/08/2025

OFFICIAL

File Ref. No: FRN13/4549 – BFS25/4573 - 8000043698
TRIM Ref. No: D2025/093834
Contact: Matthew Warbrick

20 August 2025

General Manager
Inner West Council
Po Box 14
Petersham NSW 2049131

Email: council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Attention: Manager Compliance/Fire Safety

Dear Sir / Madam

RE: INSPECTION REPORT
PHOENIX ARCADE & STATION 2A APARTMENTS
2A BROWN STREET ASHFIELD ("the premises")

Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) received correspondence on concerning the adequacy of the provision for fire safety in or in connection with 'the premises'.

The correspondence stated that:

- *Multiple occasions to calls to this address identified over 10 faults in FIP and continuously no tech action over last 6 months, even after manager contacted. Have homeless sleeping in fire stairs which are wedged open, who have been damaging lifts, extinguishers and sprinkler systems..*

Pursuant to Section 9.32(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), Authorised Fire Officers from the Fire Safety Compliance Unit of FRNSW inspected 'the premises' on 23 July 2025.

On behalf of the Commissioner of FRNSW, the comments in this report are provided under Section 9.32(4) and Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17(1) of the EP&A Act.

The items listed in the comments of this report are based on the following limitations:

- A general overview of the building was obtained without using the development consent conditions or approved floor plans as a reference.

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Version: 1, Version Date: 20/08/2025

- Details of the Provisions for Fire Safety and Fire Fighting Equipment are limited to a visual inspection of the parts in the building accessed and the fire safety measures observed at the time.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SERVE AN ORDER

FRNSW issued a Notice of Intention to Serve an Order (**1**) dated 24 July 2025 (copy attached) under the provisions of Section 9.34 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

REPRESENTATIONS & INSPECTION

Written representations were received concerning the proposed **Order 1** under Schedule 5, Part 6, Section 8 of the EP&A Act, and after receiving the representations, an inspection was conducted on 5 August 2025 under Section 9.32 of the EP&A Act. Upon hearing and considering the representation and subsequent inspection, FRNSW has decided not to give an Order under Schedule 5, Part 7, Section 15 of the EP&A Act.

COMMENTS

The following items were identified in relation to the provisions for fire safety:

Firefighting equipment and services

1. Automatic fire detection and alarm system

   a. The fire indicator panel (FIP) was displaying one (1) fault and five (5) isolations.

      FRNSW issued notice of intention to serve a fire safety order (see appendix 1) to address concerns with the FIP. A reinspection by FRNSW on 5 August found the FIP indicating one (1) fault to tower B lift shaft commercial.

      The building management committee (BMC) informed FRNSW that the repairs to the faulty detector are ongoing due to the lift being out of operation and access to the detector in the lift shaft is not available.

   b. Two (2) versions of zone block plans are provided at the FIP. The information on each of the block plans is not consistent and requires review to ensure compliance with Clause 3.10 of AS 1670.1-2018. Additionaly, neither of the block plans depict the sprinkler zones within the basement carpark. A copy of the sprinkler block plan should be provided at the FIP to assist firefighting operations.

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2. Fire hydrant system

   a. A boost inlet at the fire hydrant booster is missing a Storz coupling, contrary to the requirements Clause 7.1 of AS 2419.1–2021 and FRNSW's Fire safety guideline 'FRNSW compatible Storz hose connections'.

3. Fire sprinkler system

   a. Signage stating the maximum allowable inlet pressure has not been provided at the sprinkler booster, contrary to the requirements clause 4.4.3 of AS 2118.1 – 1999

   b. A complete stock of spare sprinklers and a spanner had not been provided at the sprinkler control valves, contrary to the requirements of Clause 6.7 of AS2118.1-1999.

   c. A sprinkler block plan has not been mounted adjacent to the sprinkler control assemblies, contrary to the requirements of Clause 8.1 of AS 2118.1-1999.

   d. The sprinkler valve room was found being used as a storage room containing construction material. The sprinkler control room should have all non-fighting equipment removed.

4. Fire Hose Reels (FHR)

   a. External FHR cabinet located adjacent to Drakes Lane:

      i. Was found missing the stop valve and interlocking device to secure the hose nozzle, contrary to the requirements of AS 1221 – 1997.

      ii. Was found stored with rubbish and household items, contrary to the requirements of Clause 10.4.4 of AS 2441-2005.

   b. The FHR located on the ground floor of tower B was found disengaged from its interlocking device, contrary to the requirements of Clause 12 of AS 2441-2005.

Egress

5. Exit signs

   a. The exit sign in the ground floor lobby is not illuminated contrary to the requirements of AS2293.1.

   b. Directional exit signage is not provided in the rear fire-isolated stairway to direct occupants up the stairway at the point where corridor meets the stairway, contrary to the requirements of E4D6 of the NCC.

6. Exits

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a. The exit providing discharge from the fire-isolated stairs of residential Tower B to Drakes Lane (towards Brown Street) was found missing signage to alert persons of the operation of the door, contrary to the requirements of Clause D3D28 of the NCC.

b. The exit door discharging next to Jetts Fitness is heavily graffitied and is making the fire safety door signage difficult to notice and not readily seen, contrary to the intent of D3D28 of the NCC.

Fire resistance and separation

7. Fire doors

a. The double swing doors between the commercial ground floor corridor and loading dock are unable to self-close due to a damaged self-closing devices, contrary to the requirements of C4D5 of the NCC.

b. The fire door to the fire-isolated stairway in Basement 2 – upper council carpark was found in the open position and unable to close via the self-closing mechanism due to being caught on the concrete floor, contrary to the requirements of Clause C4D9 of the NCC.

8. Service penetrations in fire-isolated exits

a. The ground floor rear fire-isolated corridor was found with damaged lightweight fire rated construction and exposing PVC drainage pipes and other non-fighting services, contrary to the requirements of C4D10 of the NCC.

FRNSW believes that there are inadequate provisions for fire safety within the building.

RECOMMENDATIONS

FRNSW recommends that Council:

a. Review items 1 to 8 of this report and conduct an inspection.

b. Address any other deficiencies identified on “the premises”.

Please be advised that Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17(2) requires any report or recommendation from the Commissioner of FRNSW to be tabled at a Council meeting. This matter is referred to Council as the appropriate regulatory authority. FRNSW awaits the Council’s advice regarding its determination under Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17 (4) of the EP&A Act.

Please do not hesitate to contact Matthew Warbrick of FRNSW’s Fire Safety Compliance Unit at FireSafety@fire.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 9742 7434 if there are any questions or concerns about the above matters. Please refer to file reference

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FRN13/4549 – BFS25/4573 - 8000043698 regarding any correspondence concerning this matter.

Yours faithfully



Ryan Maestri
Senior Building Surveyor
Fire Safety Compliance Unit

Attachments [Appendix 1 – Proposed fire safety order No 1 - 4 pages}

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Appendix 1 – Proposed Fire Safety Order No 1. – 4 pages

NSW GOVERNMENT FIRE + RESCUE

File Ref. No: FRN13/4549 – BFS25/4573 - 8000043698
TRIM Ref. No: D2025/84520
Contact: Matthew Warbrick

24 July 2025

The Owners - Strata Plan No. 90092
C/- Premium Strata Pty Ltd
Level 2, Suite 3
189 O'Riordan Street
Mascot NSW 2020

Dear Owners of Strata No. 90092

Re: NOTICE OF INTENTION
PROPOSED FIRE SAFETY ORDER – ORDER NO.1
PHOENIX ARCADE & STATION 2A APARTMENTS
2A BROWN STREET ASHFIELD("the premises")

Authorised Fire Officers of the Fire Safety Compliance Unit of Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) inspected "the premises" and identified fire safety concerns on Wednesday, 23 July 2025. FRNSW gives you a **Notice of Intention to give a Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 ('Notice')** because of the concerns. This "Notice" is issued under Section 9.34 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* (EP&A Act) and Schedule 5, Part 6, Section 8 (owner) of the EP&A Act.

A copy of the **Proposed Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 ('Proposed Order')** is also attached. This "Notice" outlines the terms of the "Proposed Order". You may explain by way of representations to FRNSW why the Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 should not be given under Schedule 5, Part 7, Section 13 of the EP&A Act.

Please note that the proposed order has also been issued to the owners of Strata Plan No. 91866

Representations are to be made in writing and should be received by FRNSW no later than **5:00 pm Monday, 11 August 2025**. After hearing and considering any representations, under the provisions of Schedule 5, Part 7 (Section 14 and Section15) of the EP&A Act, FRNSW may decide:

- to give a Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 in accordance with the "Proposed Order";

Fire and Rescue NSW | ABN 12 593 473 110 | www.fire.nsw.gov.au
Community Safety Directorate
Fire Safety Compliance Unit
1 Amarina Ave
Greenacre NSW 2190
T (02) 9742 7434
F (02) 9742 7843
www.fire.nsw.gov.au

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- to give a Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 in accordance with modifications made to the "Proposed Order";
- not to give a Fire Safety Order – Order No.1.

A copy of this "Notice" will be forwarded to Inner West Council, under the provisions of Schedule 5, Part 6 (Section 12) of the EP&A Act.

Please do not hesitate to contact Matthew Warbrick of FRNSW's Fire Safety Compliance Unit at FireSafety@fire.nsw.gov.au or call on (02) 9742 7434 if there are any questions or concerns about the above matters. Please ensure that you refer to file reference FRN13/4549 – BFS25/4573 - 8000043698 regarding any correspondence concerning this matter.

Yours faithfully

Ryan Maestri
Senior Building Surveyor
Fire Safety Compliance Unit

CC: Building Management Committee
Lochlan Leong - BMC Manager
Email: lochlan@bc88mgmt.com.au

Building Management
Lefand Property Services
Email: station2a@lefand.com.au

General Manager
Inner West Council
Email: council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

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NSW GOVERNMENT FIRE + RESCUE

Proposed Fire Safety Order
ORDER No. 1

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)*
Part 9 Implementation and Enforcement – Division 9.3 Development Control Orders
Fire Safety Orders in accordance with the table to Part 2 - Schedule 5.
Intend to give an Order in accordance with Section 9.34(1)(b)

I,	Matthew Warbrick (name)	Building Surveyor (rank)	909348 (number)

being an authorised Fire Officer within the meaning of Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 16 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and duly authorised for the purpose, hereby order:

Owners of Strata Plan 91866 & Owners of Strata Plan 90092 (name of the person whom Order is served)	Owner (position, i.e. owner, building manager)

with respect to the premise

PHOENIX ARCADE & STATION 2A APARTMENTS
SP 91866 & SP 90092
2A BROWN STREET ASHFIELD ("the premises")
(name/address of premises to which Order is served)

to do or refrain from doing the following things:

1. Ensure that the Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm System (AFDAS) installed in the premises is capable of operating in accordance with the standard of performance it was designed and installed to by:

    a. Repairing all faults and isolations to the fire indicator panel.

The terms of the Proposed Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 are to be complied with:

By no later than **14 days** from the date of the Fire Safety Order – Order 1.

The reasons for the issue of the Proposed Fire Safety Order - Order No.1 are:

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a. At the time of the inspection:

   i. The building was occupied

   ii. The fire indicator panel associated with the AFDAS was displaying one (1) fault and five (5) isolations

b. Faults and isolations to the AFDAS will delay the detection and occupant warning of a fire at the premises and result in delayed warning and evacuation of occupants from the building.

c. To ensure that the AFDAS installed in the premises is capable of operating in accordance with the standard of performance it was designed and installed to.

d. To do or refrain from doing such things specified in the Order to ensure or promote adequate fire safety or awareness.

Appeals

Pursuant to Section 8.18 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), there is no right of appeal to the Court against a Fire Safety Order – Order 1 once it is issued, other than an order that prevents a person from using or entering premises.

Non-Compliance with Fire Safety Order – Order No.1

Once issued, failure to comply with a Fire Safety Order – Order 1 may result in further Orders and/or fines being issued.

Substantial penalties may be imposed under Section 9.37 of the EP&A Act for failure to comply with a Fire Safety Order – Order No.1.

NOTE: Representations are to be made in writing and should be received by FRNSW no later than **5.00 pm** on **Monday, 11 August 2025**.



Matthew Warbrick
Building Surveyor
Fire Safety Compliance Unit

This **Proposed** Fire Safety Order - Order No. 1 was mailed on **28 July 2025**.

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Item No: C0925(1) Item 24

Subject: AR BLUETT MEMORIAL AWARD, STEPHEN WARD SCHOLARSHIP

Prepared By: Joan Murphy - Senior Manager People and Culture and Vi Dinh - Workforce and Diversity Manager

Authorised By: Peter Gainsford - General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

One of the benefits of winning the AR Bluett Memorial Award is that at least one employee from the winning Council can access the Stephen Ward Scholarship of up to $10,000 for the purpose of further study, professional development or research. Following an application process three employees were selected as Awardees. In line with the Scholarship guidelines the Awardees are to provide a report, signed off by the General Manager on completion of the study, professional development or project and submit it to Council and then to the AR Bluett Trust. If the Trustees are satisfied that the reporting requirements have been met, the fund will release the Scholarship payment.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Stephen Ward Scholarship is to:

1. Honour the significant contribution made to Local Government by former Shires Association President Stephen Ward, who was tragically killed in a commuter plane accident on 11 June 1993, whilst returning to Cootamundra after representing Local Government at a major local government forum.

2. Provide an opportunity and encouragement to a local government employee to undertake further study, professional development or research.

Eleven employees applied for the Scholarship and three were selected by Council's Executive team in June 2024. The Awardees were;

	Name	Position title	Team	Scholarship application type	Cost
1	Yuwei (Vivian) Ge	Centre Director	Children Services	Study	$4,405
2	Cale Golding	Customer Experience Team Leader	Aquatics	Professional development	$600
3	Joel Giblin	Property Officer Leichhardt Oval	Property	Professional development	$4,995

DISCUSSION

The summary below outlines how the scholarship has supported the Awardees to enhance their skills and leadership capabilities, apply their learning in the workplace and contribute meaningfully to Council.

1. Vivian Ge – Children's Centre Director, Leichhardt Early Learning Centre

Background
This report outlines professional development in Educational Leadership at the University of New South Wales (UNSW), which has strengthened leadership capability and improved outcomes in Children's Services. The program has enhanced team collaboration, increased sector recognition, and significantly uplifted service quality, supporting Council's strategic goals in education, leadership, and community wellbeing.

In 2023, I commenced a Master of Educational Leadership at UNSW, supported by the AR Bluett Memorial Award, Stephen Ward Scholarship. This opportunity was pursued to deepen leadership knowledge, apply evidence-based practices, and contribute to service-wide improvements. Balancing study with full-time leadership has been challenging, but the experience has fostered personal growth and professional reflection. A key learning has been the adoption of relational leadership, centred on empathy, collaboration, and authentic connection, which has transformed team culture and practice.

Discussion
Application of learnings to job role at Inner West Council
Postgraduate study has strengthened my leadership capability and confidence, leading to strong academic achievement and sector engagement through a national conference. I've developed mentoring skills and the ability to lead reflective practice, which has positively influenced team culture. These outcomes continue to support service quality and leadership growth.

Benefits to Inner West Council
My leadership development has directly contributed to our service achieving four "Exceeding" themes in the Assessment and Rating process. I've co-led council-wide Action Research projects and consistently shared knowledge across teams, fostering a culture of excellence. These efforts have strengthened leadership capacity within Children's Services and supported strategic improvement across Council.

2. Cale Golding - Customer Experience Team Leader, Ashfield Aquatic Centre

Background
This report outlines professional development through the Royal Life Saving Aquatic Technical Operator course. Although ongoing, the training is already enhancing operational knowledge in water quality, plant systems, and risk management. Learnings are being applied to improve staff capability and community communication on aquatic facility maintenance and safety.

The Aquatic Technical Operator course equips pool supervisors with essential skills in WHS, water quality, and facility maintenance. It combines online and practical assessments to ensure effective learning. This industry-standard training enhances staff capability to manage aquatic systems safely and professionally, supporting high standards in public facility operations.

Discussion
Application of learnings to job role at Inner West Council
Completing the course has improved my ability to support aquatic operations through confident water testing and corrective actions aligned with NSW Health standards. It has

strengthened collaboration between departments during incidents and enabled clear responses to public queries. My understanding of plant maintenance reassures patrons that facilities are professionally and safely managed.

Benefits to Inner West Council
This training has boosted Inner West Council's internal capacity by enhancing staff knowledge of technical systems and reducing external reliance. It improves public communication, builds community trust, and supports safer operations. The course also encourages collaboration and knowledge-sharing across aquatic departments, strengthening overall service delivery and operational confidence.

3. Joel Giblin - Property Officer - Leichhardt Oval

Background
This report outlines professional development in a venue management leadership program focused on strategic planning, safety, negotiation, and customer experience. The learnings support improvements at Leichhardt Oval, helping ensure it remains a well-run, high-quality venue for sport and community events, aligned with Council's commitment to excellence and future growth.

Attendance at the annual Venue Management Association (VMA) Leadership Institute (LI) program provided advanced training in strategic planning, safety, negotiation, and customer experience. The program's learnings directly support the ongoing improvement and professional operation of Leichhardt Oval, aligning with Council's commitment to delivering high-quality community and sporting infrastructure.

Discussion
Application of learnings to job role at Inner West Council
Participation in the leadership program strengthened my skills in strategic planning, safety, negotiation, and customer experience. These learnings are now applied to my role managing Leichhardt Oval, improving venue operations, stakeholder engagement, and service delivery, supporting Council's goal of maintaining a high-quality, community-focused sporting facility.

Benefits to Inner West Council
Participation in the leadership program has enhanced Council's in-house expertise in venue operations, supporting more effective planning, risk management, and service delivery. It strengthens Council's ability to manage Leichhardt Oval independently, fosters innovation through industry connections, and ensures the venue continues to meet evolving community expectations and operational standards.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 25**

Subject: **UTILISATION OF COUNCIL VENUES**

Prepared By: Scott Mullen - Strategic Investments & Property Manager

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the utilisation of community venues for the period 1 January to 30 June 2025.

During this period, a total of 8,932 bookings were recorded, including 1,313 creative bookings, a decrease of 20% and 41% respectively compared to the previous six months.

Total revenue generated across all venues was $398,895.00, while $994,347.86 in fee subsidies supported community and creative groups. Customer satisfaction with booking processes reached 96.34%, an increase of 2.34%.

Key factors influencing the reduction in bookings included seasonal variations and temporary venue closures for capital works and elections.

The Creative Town Halls program continued to facilitate creative use, with 263 enquiries and 136 successful bookings, predominantly in theatre and music.

Initiatives such as the concierge service and marketing strategies are ongoing to enhance access and utilisation, improve satisfaction, and maximise community benefit from Council-managed venues.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 9 April 2024 meeting, Council resolved the following in part:

1. *To adopt the updated Community Venue Hire Grants and Fee Scale Policy and allow creative individuals or groups the use of Town Halls or their associated spaces with a 100% fee waiver in accordance with the conditions contained within the policy.*

4. *That a report be provided to Council on a 6-monthly basis detailing the utilisation of Council venues.*

Council manages a variety of community-accessible venues through the Optimo booking system, offering different locations and sizes to suit diverse purposes. The venues available include:

- 4 outdoor squares or plazas
- 25 Small Venues & Meeting Rooms with a capacity 35 people or less
- 5 Large Venues capacity 60 people or less
- 4 Large Venues or Halls capacity 80 to 100 people or less

Council's seven Town Halls include rooms and spaces available for hire, with the Pride Centre at Newtown Town Hall leased and managed by Twenty10, a non-profit LGBTIQ+ organisation, which handles community bookings under the same Council-adopted Fees and Charges Policy.

Hirers can view information and book Council's venues through the Council Website (and the Optimo Booking system) here https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/explore/venues-for-hire.

The hirers for the venues are identified either as regular or casual.

The regular hirers generally have a standing booking, weekly, monthly or some other frequency and these bookings are established through an annual expression of interest process held in September each year to allow existing community groups and other hirers to renew their use in 2025 and to allow new hirers the opportunity to access council's venues.

Casual hirers are permitted to reserve venues during periods not allocated to regular hirers.

Grants and fee scale policy
Council offers a scaled fee structure for hiring indoor venues, outdoor plazas, and street closures and occupations for resident street parties. This structure is designed to ensure that community spaces remain affordable and accessible.

The scaled fee structure is informed by several key considerations, including ensuring accessibility and affordability for local residents, supporting activities that promote health and wellbeing, assessing whether Council assistance is essential for the activity's viability, and evaluating the alignment of proposed activities with Council's strategic objectives.

In accordance with Council's adopted Fees Policy, individuals, not-for-profit organisations, and community and creative groups may qualify for a fee waiver of either 50% or 100%. These subsidies are extended to a diverse range of eligible groups, thereby supporting their capacity to deliver meaningful programs and events to the community.

Creative Town Halls program
Launched in July 2024, the *Creative Town Halls* initiative has increased use of Council's Community Venues. The program received positive feedback from both past Creative Spaces participants and the wider arts community.

To help creatives navigate available spaces, the Community Venues and Creative Communities teams introduced a new concierge service. This service acts as a first point of contact, offering guidance to those unfamiliar with Council venues and helping match them with suitable spaces.

The initiative also included updates to the *Creative Town Halls* webpage located here https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/explore/venues-for-hire/creative-town-halls, making it easier for applicants to find venues that meet their needs.

Customer Satisfaction Survey
A customer satisfaction survey is provided to each hirer, which is collected at the end of each hire event.

The survey serves as a critical tool for the venues team, enabling systematic evaluation of any concerns and facilitating continuous improvement based on feedback received from hirers. Its purposes include:

- Gathering comprehensive information from room hirers to better understand customer needs, enhance service delivery, implement targeted marketing strategies, and optimise revenue generation.
- Encouraging constructive feedback and positive testimonials to strengthen word-of-mouth promotion for Council venues.
- Identifying growth opportunities and refining operations by tailoring services and amenities to align with hirer preferences, resulting in higher levels of satisfaction.
- Gaining insights into the values and priorities of hirers to inform the introduction of new services and the enhancement of existing offerings.
- Analysing booking trends, room preferences, and periods of peak demand to support efficient resource allocation and scheduling.
- Improving overall hirer satisfaction and deploying effective marketing strategies to increase bookings, drive repeat business, and maximise long-term revenue.

It's worth noting that a new marketing strategy as presented to Council at its June 2025 meeting, is endeavouring to improve venue utilisation.

DISCUSSION

Presented below is a summary outlining the utilisation of Council venues for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2025:

Utilisation	**1 January to 30 June 2025**	1 July to 30 December 2024
Number of regular venue hirers	**137**	120
Number of casual venue hirers	**1,217**	1,304
Number of Regular Bookings (from our regular hirers)	**8,585**	10,677
Number of Casual Bookings (from one-off casual hirers)	**347**	423
Total Number of Bookings	**8,932**	10,677
Number of creative bookings within the total number of bookings	**1,313**	2,225
Total Revenue for all Venues	**$398,895.00**	$308,000
Subsidy Granted for Venue Hire	**$994,347.86**	$1,300,000
Percentage satisfaction of hirers with community venues bookings processes	**96.34%**	94%

For comparison, during the previous reporting period from 1 July to 30 December 2024, there were 10,677 regular bookings from repeat hirers and 423 casual bookings from one-off users, resulting in a total of 11,100 individual bookings. Of this total, 2,225 were creative bookings.

During the first half of 2025, total bookings declined by 20%, and creative bookings dropped by 41% compared with the preceding six-month period. This reduction is attributed to both a seasonal lull in January and February, the scheduled closure of Marrickville Town Hall and Annandale Community Centre due to Capital Works projects, as well as the closure of Marrickville Town Hall for the state election period.

Customer satisfaction increased by 2.34% over the reporting period.

A detailed breakdown of utilisation, revenue, and fee subsidies by venue is provided in *Attachment 1*.

Creative use of Town Halls

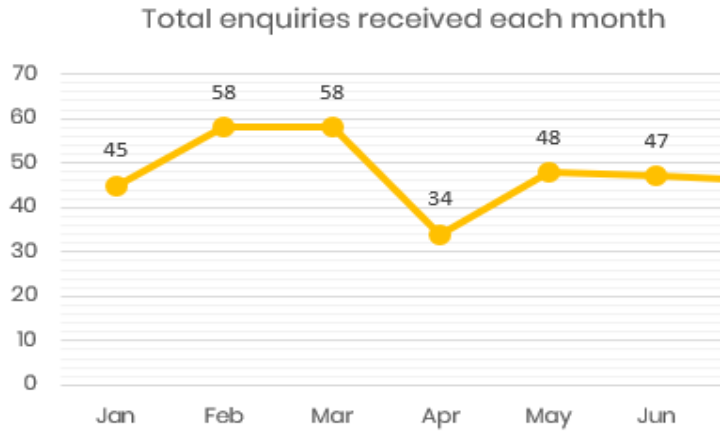
During the reporting period from 1 January to 30 June 2025, a total of 263 enquiries were received via the Creative Town Halls concierge service. Of these, 136 applications resulted in successful bookings, with Theatre and Music identified as the two most common categories for Creative enquiries.

Specifically, there were 105 Theatre-related enquiries, of which 60 culminated in confirmed bookings, and 69 Music-related enquiries, resulting in 35 bookings.

It is important to note that not all enquiries received by the Concierge from Creatives lead to bookings. Reasons may include venue availability, scheduling conflicts, withdrawal of booking requests, or ineligibility under council guidelines. Of the 263 total enquiries, 164 originated from local creatives, while 99 were from non-local creatives.

The following graph provides a month-by-month summary of enquiries received via the Creative Town Halls Concierge service for creative use during the period January to June 2025.

Graph 1: Concierge enquiries for Creative Town Halls January to June 2025



A detailed summary of creative utilisation across Council's Town Halls and other community venues for the reporting period 1 January to 30 June 2025 is presented in *Table 1* below.

Table 1: Creative Town Halls – Bookings by Venues - 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025

Venue	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
Annandale Community Centre	17	16	1	4	4	4
Ashfield Town Hall	22	29	29	43	37	25
Balmain Town Hall	29	27	27	29	19	37
Leichhardt Town Hall	3	16	17	22	20	23
Marrickville Town Hall	3	24	29	0	9	34
Petersham Town Hall	2	15	16	28	36	36
St Peters Town Hall	24	33	36	17	21	30
Others (non-Town Hall venue)	29	53	87	107	85	64
TOTALS	**129**	**213**	**242**	**250**	**231**	**253**

Marketing Strategy for Utilisation of Councils venues

It is considered that Council can significantly boost the utilisation of its venues for community use by focusing on visual appeal through professional photography, highlighting local suppliers, enhancing the social media presence with engaging content and targeted ads, and fostering local partnerships.

In this regard, each of the strategies outlined below are currently being implemented to simplify the process for potential hirers, increase venue visibility, and build a strong sense of community engagement, leading to increase venue utilisation and user satisfaction. These strategies were presented in the May 2025 Council report titled *Clontarf Cottage Refurbishment and Marketing Strategy* and included in this report for completeness.

1. Photography and Visual Appeal

Goal: Enhance the visual representation of the venues to inspire community members to envision how the spaces could be used for their own events.

Action Steps

- Provide higher quality photography: Source high-quality images of key venues. Ensure the photos showcase the venues in their best light, with particular focus on well-styled setups for various types of events (e.g., weddings, conferences, fitness classes, or community fairs).
- Styled Photoshoots: Arrange photoshoots that demonstrate the venues in use. Styled events, whether it's a community gathering or a corporate seminar, will help prospective customers visualise how the space could work for their own needs.
- Before-and-After Photos: Include shots that show the venue both empty and set up for an event. This highlights the versatility of the space and helps future hirers imagine the potential.
- Update the website and all marketing materials with new images to create a fresh, inviting look.

2. Streamlining the Booking Process with Local Supplier Lists

Goal: Simplify the event planning process for those hiring the spaces and establish a clear, reliable network of local suppliers.

Action Step

- Highlight Local Suppliers: Focusing on local suppliers will foster community partnerships and create a supportive network that benefits both businesses and hirers.

3. Social Media & Paid Advertising

Goal: Boost visibility of the venues through effective use of social media and paid advertising campaigns.

Action Steps

- Update Social Media Focus: Currently, the social media presence highlights some of the creative uses of the spaces, but there's limited promotion of the paid hire options. A strong focus should be placed on showcasing the venues as rentable spaces for events, meetings, and community activities.
- Leverage Visual Content in Social Media Campaigns: Once professional photos are obtained, incorporate them into a social media content calendar. Post images of venues in action, alongside customer testimonials and event highlights to build interest and engagement.
- Paid Advertising: Use targeted social media ads and Google Ads to reach both local residents and businesses looking for event venues. Ads can promote special deals, seasonal offers, or highlight venues that are currently available for booking.
- Hashtags and Community Engagement: Create and promote a branded hashtag that can be used by customers when posting their own event photos at the venues. This will help build a sense of community and showcase real-life events held at council venues.

Action Steps:

- Create a content calendar for social media that includes regular posts featuring high-quality images of the venues.
- Target specific demographics based on event type and venue size.
- Set up social media engagement opportunities, such as competitions, where users can win a discounted booking by tagging the council's venues.

4. Local Partnerships and Community Engagement

Goal: Establish and strengthen relationships with local organisations to encourage regular use of council venues.

Action Steps:

- Establish Partnerships with Community Groups: Collaborate with local non-profits, schools, and businesses to offer venue space for community events, such as fundraisers, workshops, and local meet-ups. This can increase the venues' visibility while fostering a sense of community ownership.
- Incentives for Community Events: Consider offering discounts or priority booking for community events that benefit local initiatives or align with the council's social impact goals.
- Host Open Days: Organise an "open day" where community members can tour the venues, meet with event planners, and experience the spaces firsthand. This also offers the opportunity to promote the preferred supplier list and any booking incentives.
- Reach out to local organisations and schools and offer exclusive deals or support for their events.

5. Website Optimisation and Online Booking

Goal: Make the booking process seamless and user-friendly to encourage more online reservations.

Action Steps:

- Easy-to-Use Website: Ensure the council's venue website is easy to navigate and features up-to-date information about availability, fees, charges and subsidies, and available facilities. Include a gallery of high-quality images of the venues, along with testimonials from previous hirers.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Total revenue for all venues was approximately $398,895.00. The total value of subsidies provided across all venues amounted to $994,347.86.

The actions outlined in the Marketing Strategy are being funded by operational budgets.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Community Venues Utilisation - Revenue & Fee Subsidy - 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025

Attachment 1. Community Venues Utilisation - Revenue & Fee Subsidy - 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025			
Period 1 January 2025 till 30 June 2025 Utilisation (26 Weeks)			
Facility/room	**Utilisation (%)**	**Revenue**	**Total Fee Subsidy**
Annandale Community Centre			
Annandale CC Back Hall	43%	16,779.00	22,248.88
Annandale CC Meeting Room	2%		
Annandale CC Upstairs Hall	11%		
Ashfield Civic Centre			
Activity Room 1 - Therese Hefferman	37%	70,361.00	333,650.00
Activity Room 2 - Patricia Blackman	43%		
Activity Room 3 - Peter Cross	44%		
Activity Room 4 - Irene Williams	43%		
Ashfield Town Hall	69%		
Balmain Town Hall			
Balmain Town Hall Main Hall	46%	43,735.00	3,001.50
Balmain Town Hall - Uncle Bob Webb Chambers (formerly BTH - Meeting Room)	15%		
Balmain Library Edna Ryan Meeting Room	5%		
Clontarf Cottage			
Clontarf Cottage	9%	33.00	5,312.50
Haberfield Centre and Library			
Michael Maher Room	42%	22,751.00	51,603.25
Graham Yarroll Room	30%		
Euphemia Ferrier Room - Meeting Room 1	18%		
Thelma Hatfield Room - Meeting Room 2	16%		
Hannaford Community Centre			
Hannaford CC Activity Room (Ground)	16%	30,184.00	
Hannaford CC Main Hall (Heffernan) (1st Floor)	36%		
Hannaford CC Upstairs Media Room (2nd Floor)	12%		
Hannaford CC Upstairs Meeting room (2nd Floor)	17%		
Herbert Greedy Hall			
Herb Greedy Hall - Main Hall	54%	10,041.00	101,118.13
Jimmy Little Community Centre			
Jimmy Little CC Main Hall	28%	17,426.00	22,462.50
Jimmy Little CC Meeting room	2%		
Leichhardt Town Hall			
Leichhardt Town Hall - Main Hall	50%	30,342.00	52,277.50
Leichhardt Town Hall Reception Room (formerly Councillor's Lounge)	3%		
Leichhardt Library Meeting Room	13%	0	345
Leichhardt MarketPlace			
Market Place Leichhardt Community Meeting Room	7%	0	2,716.88
Marrickville Library Venues			
Marrickville Pavilion Hall	35%	31,733.00	18,035.72
Marrickville Library Learning Room - Francis Charteris Room	15%		
Marrickville Library Learning Room - Pauline McLeod Room	18%		
Marrickville Library Learning Room - JJ Cahill Room	6%		
Marrickville Town Hall			
Marrickville Town Hall - Main Hall	33%	47,458.00	57,240.00
Basement Marrickville	0%		
Marrickville Town Hall - Creative East	7%		
Marrickville Town Hall - Creative West	7%		
Marrickville Town Hall - Winged Victory Room	10%		
Mervyn Fletcher Memorial Hall			
Mervyn Fletcher Hall - Main Hall	32%	3,430.00	50,688
Petersham Town Hall			
Petersham Town Hall - Main Hall	63%	31,386.00	73,806.25
Petersham Town Hall - Pan Pacific Room	13%		
Petersham Town Hall - Francisca Paso Doble Studio	0%	0	0
Petersham Town Hall - Tina Sparkle Studio	0%	0	0
Petersham Town Hall - Old Council Chambers	0%	0	0
Seaview Street Hall			
Seaview Street Hall - Main Hall	44%	1,920.00	72,292.50
St Peters Town Hall			
St Peters Town Hall (Downstairs Meeting Room)	21%	11,603.00	43,815.00
St Peters Town Hall (Upstairs Hall)	43%		
Wharf Road Community & Recreation Hall (Refugee Centre)			
Wharf Road Community & Recreation Hall - Main Hall	32%	0.00	59,809
Whites Creek Cottage & Stables			
White's Creek Cottage (Melaleuca Room)	27%	14,955.00	2,037.75
White's Creek Stables	13%		0
LUNA Apartments Community Room			
Yanada Room	25%	14,758.00	21,887.50
	TOTALS	398,895.00	994,347.86

Item No: C0925(1) Item 26
Subject: LEICHHARDT OVAL REFURBISHMENT - MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATE
Prepared By: Scott Mullen - Strategic Investments & Property Manager
Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport
4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment project.

The Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment is currently in the design phase having its high level scope confirmed at the 29 April 2025 Council meeting by endorsement of the final design concepts.

This resulted in a project scope to the:

- Western Grandstand Player Amenities
- Western Grandstand – modern facilities for spectators, sponsors and media
- Lower Seating Bowl – All new 'stadium type' seating to ensure safety and compliance
- New Northern Grandstand

There is a comprehensive project assurance and governance framework being applied to the project. In this regard, a Project Control Group has been established, with the General Manager as the Sponsor, that will have oversight of the project

The planning approval pathway for the finalised scope is a State Significant Development (SSD) as the estimated cost of development exceeds $30 million, with the NSW DPHI Planning and Public Spaces Team as the Consent Authority. Planning is currently being undertaken to satisfy the Secretary's environmental assessment requirements (SEARs) which is required to seek consent for the refurbishment.

Council has undertaken procurement events to confirm the consultants team undertaking the management and design of the project. In this regard, Ernst and Young were appointed at the August 2025 Council meeting for project management services.

EY is a globally recognised consultancy with a Sydney-based Project Management Division that has a strong track record in delivering major sports stadiums, recreational facilities, and related infrastructure projects across the Sydney metropolitan area and broader NSW. This includes overseeing big stadium projects including Allianz Stadium, CommBank Stadium and the new Penrith Stadium.

Cox Architecture were appointed at the August 2025 Council meeting as the Principal Design Consultant who will lead a team of consultants including structural, electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, planning, heritage, accessibility and BCA to undertake the design development and schematic design phase.

Cox Architecture has extensive experience in delivering a diverse range of stadia projects, reflecting their 60 years of design excellence in sports stadia, elite training, and community facilities. They possess considerable expertise in complex sport developments and a thorough understanding of venue requirements, including sporting codes, digital technology, spectator experience, and crowd movements.

The project has the following high level program:

- Project Planning Scope Confirmation – May 2025 (Completed)
- Consultant Engagements – August 2025 (Completed)
- Planning Approval Consent – August 2026
- Complete 80% design for tender – August 2026
- Contract award and execution – September 2026
- Construction commences on-site – October 2026
- Construction complete – February 2028

The Quantity Surveyor has confirmed the Project Budget breakdown and the estimated costs for the design concepts are approximately $50M which is subject to further value engineering and a future procurement process to ensure that Council receives the best value for money from the project.

There is $40M funding allocated in the draft Long Term Financial Plan for the 2025/2026 financial year and Council will seek further State and Commonwealth grant funding opportunities and could potentially stage some of the works.

BACKGROUND

In October 2023 Inner West Council adopted the Leichhardt Oval Masterplan following extensive public engagement.

In June 2024, the Commonwealth, State and Local Governments formed a funding partnership to secure the future of Leichhardt Oval. The Commonwealth committing $20 million to the project, with the NSW Government and the Inner West Council investing $10 million each towards the upgrade.

At the Council meeting held on 29 April 2025 meeting, Council resolved the following:

> *That Council endorse the Leichhardt Oval renovation final design concepts April 2025 (Attachment 1 of the Council report) and proceed with preparing detailed plans in order to seek planning approval.*

This resulted in a project scope to the:

- Western Grandstand Player Amenities
- Western Grandstand – modern facilities for spectators, sponsors and media
- Lower Seating Bowl – All new ‘stadium type’ seating to ensure safety and compliance
- New Northern Grandstand

There is a comprehensive project assurance and governance framework being applied to the project. In this regard, a Project Control Group has been established, with the General Manager as the Sponsor, that will have oversight of the project.

Council is also engaging a project assurance consultant to ensure project integrity and risk management. This engagement will include reviewing performance, costs, and timelines, providing improvement recommendations, and preparing monthly reports for Inner West Council throughout the project. It is anticipated that the consultant will be engaged by the end of September 2025.

The project continues to be monitored in accordance with the Risk Management Plan and is reported to Governance forums including:

- Project Control Group – Monthly
- Major Capital Projects Committee – Monthly
- Audit Risk and Improvement Committee – Quarterly
- Inner West Council meetings – Monthly

DISCUSSION

The Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment is currently in the design phase having its high level scope confirmed at the 29 April 2025 Council meeting by endorsement of the final design concepts.

The planning approval pathway for the finalised scope is a State Significant Development (SSD) as the estimated cost of development exceeds $30 million, with the NSW DPHI Planning and Public Spaces Team as the Consent Authority. Planning is currently being undertaken to satisfy the Secretary's environmental assessment requirements (SEARs) which is required to seek consent for the refurbishment.

Council has undertaken procurement events to confirm the consultants team undertaking the management and design of the project. In this regard, Ernst and Young were appointed at the August 2025 Council meeting for project management services.

EY is a globally recognised consultancy with a Sydney-based Project Management Division that has a strong track record in delivering major sports stadiums, recreational facilities, and related infrastructure projects across the Sydney metropolitan area and broader NSW. This includes overseeing big stadium projects including Allianz Stadium, CommBank Stadium and the new Penrith Stadium.

Cox Architecture were appointed at the August 2025 Council meeting as the Principal Design Consultant who will lead a team of consultants including structural, electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, planning, heritage, accessibility and BCA to undertake the design development and schematic design phase.

Cox Architecture has extensive experience in delivering a diverse range of stadia projects, reflecting their 60 years of design excellence in sports stadia, elite training, and community facilities. They possess considerable expertise in complex sport developments and a thorough understanding of venue requirements, including sporting codes, digital technology, spectator experience, and crowd movements.

Council will seek an Expression of Interest for building contractors at the end of 2025 then proceed through a select tender process to appoint a successful contractor to commence work at the end of the 2026 winter season.

The project has the following high level program:

- Project Planning Scope Confirmation – May 2025 (Completed)
- Consultant Engagements – August 2025 (Completed)
- Planning Approval Consent – August 2026
- Complete 80% design for tender – August 2026
- Contract award and execution – September 2026
- Construction commences on-site – October 2026
- Construction complete – February 2028

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Quantity Surveyor has confirmed the Project Budget breakdown and the estimated costs for the recommended design concepts are approximately $50M which is subject to further value engineering and a future procurement process to ensure that Council receives the best value for money from the project.

There is $40M funding allocated in the draft Long Term Financial Plan for the 2025/2026 financial year and Council will seek further State and Commonwealth grant funding opportunities and could potentially stage some of the works.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 27

Subject: LEICHHARDT PARK AQUATIC CENTRE UPGRADE - MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATE

Prepared By: Stuart Hull - Senior Manager Capital Works

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West
2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport
4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre (LPAC) Upgrade project.

It is proposed to deliver the LPAC Upgrade generally in two stages due to construction practicalities and ensuring as many facilities at LPAC are open as possible during construction. It is also proposed to commence construction works during the winter months to minimise impacts on community pool users, sport groups, swim learners and LPAC operations.

Stage 1 works (mushroom pool and a new kids' splash play area) commenced in April 2025 and have progressed significantly. The concrete pour for stage one of the mushroom pool has been completed, and steel reinforcement for the second stage of the mushroom pool is now in place and ready for concrete placement. The formwork and steel reinforcement for the splashpad have also been finalised, with preparations underway for it to be poured concurrently with the mushroom pool.

All inground services to the plantroom area are now completed, and the plantroom slab, along with part of the surrounding pavement, has been poured. The blockwork for the new plantroom, including the installation of structural steel and roof sheeting, has been accomplished. Preparation is ongoing for the pouring of plant room plinths.

Additionally, the concrete plinth and new Main Switchboard (MSB) on Mary Street have been installed and are awaiting energisation. The new mains cables are currently being pulled through the newly constructed conduits in the laneway and on Mary Street to the new MSB, in anticipation of the scheduled Ausgrid power outage during the second week of September. This will be undertaken in the evening to minimise impacts to the operations of the centre.

It is anticipated that Stage 1 will be completed in December 2025 (weather permitting).

Stage 2 (construction of new heated 8-lane 50m pool and a heated 25m pool) is currently in the design phase, along with the preparation of the tender documentation package. These documents will be issued under the select tender in September 2025.

At the August 2025 Council meeting, the following additional items were endorsed and have now been incorporated into the project scope:

- Playground in the grassed area between the pools and the Bay Run.
- Eight additional shade structures around 50m and 25m pools

Stage 2 is currently in the design phase, along with the preparation of the tender documentation package. These documents will be issued under the select tender in September 2025.

An extensive design and tender documentation review process is currently being undertaken, with oversight from the project assurance consultant Turner & Townsend. In addition, NSW Public Works, a New South Wales (NSW) Government agency that provides expert advisory, planning, and delivery services for infrastructure and asset management projects across the state, are providing an added layer of quality assurance oversight to the process.

Stage 2 is due for completion in September 2027.

The upgrade of LPAC has been estimated at $55.5 million, with Stage 1 allocated $9.78 million and Stage 2 allocated $45.72 million. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) has confirmed that funding to cover the estimated project cost is accounted for in the draft Long Term Financial Plan for the 2025/2026 financial year.

The inclusion of the playground and additional shade structures endorsed at the August 2025 Council meeting have an associated cost of $290,000 and $144,000, respectively. Accordingly, the project budget will be increased by $434,000 to accommodate these enhancements, resulting in a revised total project budget of $55.934 million. The CFO has confirmed funding can be drawn from the Infrastructure reserve and will be considered in the first quarterly budget review for FY25/26.

BACKGROUND

With the existing 50m and dive pools reaching the end of their lifespan having been constructed in the early 1960s, Council is undertaking a comprehensive upgrade to revitalise the facility. This transformation will ensure the Aquatic Centre remains a vibrant and sustainable hub for the community for the next 50 years.

Council has appointed external consultants to provide Architectural design, Project Management and Project Assurance services with demonstratable experience and capability to successfully deliver the project.

In this regard, CO.OP Studios were appointed as the lead design consultant in mid-2023 to provide all architectural and engineering design services. CO.OP and their sub-consultant team have extensive experience around Australia though their network of state offices designing elite level sporting and aquatic centre projects.

Altus Group were appointed in late 2024 as the Project Managers and bring with them a wealth of experience in delivering aquatic centre projects.

There is a comprehensive project assurance and governance framework being applied to the project. In this regard, Council appointed Turner and Townsend (T&T) as the Project Assurance Consultant in late 2023 to have oversight of Stages 1 and 2 to ensure the highest standards of project integrity and risk management.

T&T have had an ongoing involvement through the development of the designs, project risk management, cost estimates and business case documents. This involvement will continue

through to project completion and include monthly reporting to the Major Capital Projects Committee on the progress of the project.

Wilde & Woolard has been appointed as the projects Quantity Surveyor (QS) to prepare cost estimates. The QS will also have an on-going role through the construction stages in assessing progress claims and variation costs, and monitoring cash flows.

The project continues to be monitored in accordance with the Risk Management Plan and is reported to Governance forums including:

- Project Control Group – Monthly
- Major Capital Projects Committee – Monthly
- Audit Risk and Improvement Committee – Quarterly
- Inner West Council meetings – Monthly

DISCUSSION

The LPAC Upgrade will be delivered in two stages due to construction practicalities and ensuring as many facilities at LPAC are open as possible during construction. It is also proposed to commence construction works during the winter months to minimise impacts on community pool users, sport groups, swim learners and LPAC operations.

Stage 1
This includes refurbishment of the outdoor kid's pool known as mushroom pool and a new kids' splash play area that will have a BBQ area, seating, and shade structures.

The indoor program pool hall will have HVAC upgrades, alongside the construction of a new fully electrified heating and filtration plant for the indoor program pool and kid's pool.

Stage 1 works commenced in April 2025 and works have progressed significantly. The concrete pour for stage one of the mushroom pool has been completed, and steel reinforcement for the second stage of the mushroom pool is now in place and ready for concrete placement. The formwork and steel reinforcement for the splashpad have also been finalised, with preparations underway for it to be poured concurrently with the mushroom pool.

All inground services to the plantroom area are now completed, and the plantroom slab, along with part of the surrounding pavement, has been poured. The blockwork for the new plantroom, including the installation of structural steel and roof sheeting, has been accomplished. Preparation is ongoing for the pouring of plant room plinths.

Additionally, the concrete plinth and new Main Switchboard (MSB) on Mary Street have been installed and are awaiting energisation. The new mains cables are currently being pulled through the newly constructed conduits in the laneway and on Mary Street to the new MSB, in anticipation of the scheduled Ausgrid power outage during the second week of September. This will be undertaken in the evening to minimise impacts to the operations of the centre.

It is anticipated that Stage 1 will be completed in December 2025 (weather permitting).

Stage 2
The current scope includes the construction of new heated 8-lane 50m pool (1.1 to 1.8m deep) and a heated 25m pool (from zero to 2.1m depth with movable floor and accessible device), spectator seating and shade structures, new first aid, lifeguard, and storage rooms, new fully electrified pool heating system and filtration plants for 50 m and 25 m pools, accessibility lift and upgraded stairs to access the rear turfed area along with re-turfing, accessible pathway link and new picnic shelter.
At the August 2025 Council meeting, the following additional items were endorsed and have now been incorporated into the project scope.

- Playground in the grassed area between the pools and the Bay Run.

- Eight additional shade structures around 50m and 25m pools

Stage 2 is currently in the design phase, along with the preparation of the tender documentation package. These documents will be issued under the select tender in September 2025.

An extensive design and tender documentation review process is currently being undertaken, with oversight from the project assurance consultant Turner & Townsend. In addition, NSW Public Works, a New South Wales (NSW) Government agency that provides expert advisory, planning, and delivery services for infrastructure and asset management projects across the state, are providing an added layer of quality assurance oversight.

Stage 2 has the following high-level program:

- Complete 80% design for tender – August 2025
- Release D&C RFT to shortlisted tenderers – September 2025
- Construction tender and evaluation – January 2026
- Contract award and execution – February 2026
- Construction commences on-site – May 2026
- Construction complete – September 2027

The planning pathway approval for the project is via Section 2.73(2) of the State Environmental Planning Policy. This requires a Review of Environment Factors to confirm compliance and ensure the works are consistent with the Plan of Management and relevant environmental considerations prior to works commencing.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

An extensive value engineering and cost saving exercise has been undertaken to the project with oversight by the external Project Assurance Consultant and Quantity Surveyor.

Council was recently advised of its successful application for the Federal Government's Round 1 Community Energy Upgrade Fund grant in the amount of $1,054,000 for Stage 1 works, this grant agreement has been received and executed.

The upgrade of LPAC has been estimated at $55.5 million, with Stage 1 allocated $9.78 million and Stage 2 allocated $45.72 million. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) has confirmed that funding to cover the estimated project cost is accounted for in the draft Long Term Financial Plan for the 2025/2026 financial year.

The inclusion of the playground and additional shade structures endorsed at the August 2025 Council meeting have an associated cost of $290,000 and $144,000, respectively.

Accordingly, the project budget will be increased by $434,000 to accommodate these enhancements, resulting in a revised total project budget of $55.934 million.

The CFO has confirmed funding can be drawn from the infrastructure reserve and will be considered in the first quarterly budget review for FY25/26

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 28
Subject: LEICHHARDT PARK WHARF AND PONTOON
Prepared By: David Paton - Engineering Services Manager
Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West
5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past century there have been a succession of marine structures built on the western edge of Leichhardt Park which have served the needs of small vessels and recreational activities such as fishing. In 2008, Council completed the construction of a new pontoon alongside the existing timber wharf to improve accessibility for the community. The timber wharf has since reached the end of its service life and was closed to the public in 2022 for safety reasons.

Some members of the community have petitioned to keep the timber wharf. Community members have acknowledged the significant role marine structures at this location have provided over past years, and they have also sought for changes to the structure so that it can serve larger boats. A specialist consultant was commissioned to assess the feasibility of rehabilitating the timber wharf, and to consider whether works to the wharf or nearby pontoon could result in larger boats using the facility.

The specialist consultant has determined that the depth of water at both the existing pontoon and wharf only supports boats up to approximately 8 metres in length. The consultant has also advised it is possible to accommodate a boat up to the maximum size that can enter the surrounding bay by building a marine structure that extends further out into the bay where the current wharf is located.

The specialist consultant has evaluated several options that could be further considered. Before any decision can be made on the way forward, further investigation is required to ensure all aspects are adequately considered. This includes design investigation, planning approvals and community consultation. On this basis, this report recommends that Council receive and note the report whilst these further considerations proceed.

BACKGROUND

Leichhardt Park currently has a timber wharf and a pontoon which are adjacent to the Maliyawul Street carpark.

Over the past century marine structures at this location have provided access to the waterway for the benefit of the community, including the Leichhardt based Italian fishing fleet. These

marine structures have continued to change over this time. The current configuration of the timber wharf has been in place since the late 1980's.



Aerial image of the L-shaped wharf alongside Leichhardt Park in 1943.

With the assistance of grant funding Council completed the construction of a new pontoon adjacent to the timber wharf in 2008. The new pontoon extends further into the waterway than the timber wharf and it was designed to provide an inclusive and accessible access point to the waterway for the local community.

In 2019, Council completed a detailed structural Inspection and Assessment Report on the timber wharf. Council undertook some urgent repair works in response to the findings from the report. The report concluded that "the existing structure requires significant repair works to repair damaged members" and "recommended that Council consider the cost of the repair against the value of the structure given there is an existing new floating maritime structure directly adjacent to the fixed wharf."

The timber wharf was closed in September 2022 at short notice due to further safety concerns, which did not allow time for prior community engagement. The wharf is at the end of its useful life and has been deemed unsafe for public use and access such as:

- The vertical timber piles are necking and have been eaten away by marine borers which limits the structural load capacity.
- Timber planks are not secure due to wood rot and deterioration.
- The lower landings that are frequently submerged in high tides have badly deteriorated and are missing timber members.

Council received a petition in March 2025 from the community requesting that Council "carry out the necessary works to restore the functional use of Leichhardt Wharf while retaining its architectural contribution to the visual heritage of Iron Cove". Further submissions from the community have placed emphasis on the capacity of the wharf structure to accommodate larger boats, compared to the pontoon.

DISCUSSION

Council commissioned a report from a specialist consultant on the feasibility of rehabilitating or upgrading the wharf or pontoon, including whether either could cater for larger boats. The report addresses the design standards for such facilities and is informed by a bathymetric survey which shows the water depths in the bay and in the vicinity of the pontoon and wharf. It

does not contemplate all design, financial and planning related requirements, or any feedback from the community.

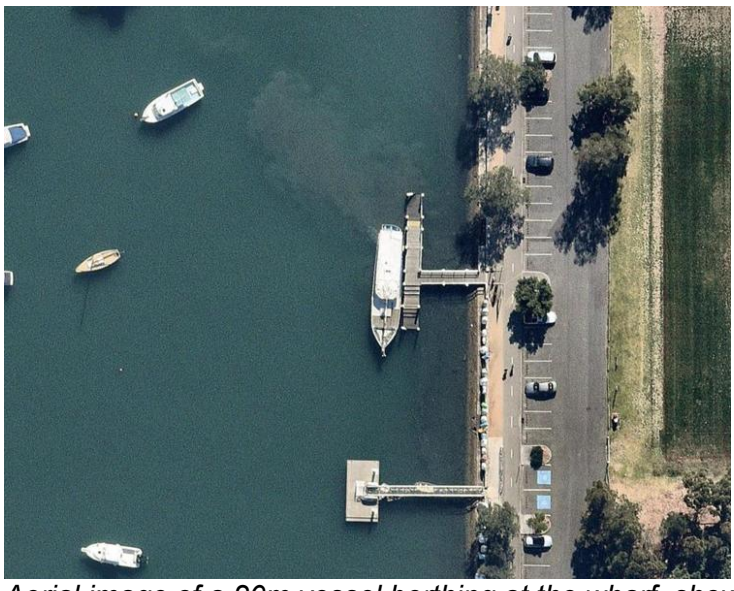
The key finding of the report is that the governing constraint to the size of boats able to access either of the existing facilities is the water depth in the bay, as defined by the survey. The minimum depth requirements are relevant in the immediate proximity of the two facilities, as well as the manoeuvring areas in front of them and the passageways leading to and from the wider bay area.

The minimum depth of water in the immediate vicinity of both facilities dictates that they can currently cater for a boat typically up to 8 metres in length. The water depths in the manoeuvring areas in front of the pontoon are also insufficient to accommodate a larger boat size (beyond 8 metres in length).

The water depths further out from the wharf and the nearby waterway passageways are sufficient to accommodate boats that are approximately 12 metres in length, but these greater depths could only be accessed by extending a marine structure out to those deeper waters at the location of the existing wharf.

Water depths in this vicinity have changed over time, which is typical for natural waterways. The report compared bathymetric data against the original design plans for the pontoon, and whilst this is of limited accuracy, it suggests depths at the pontoon have reduced by up to 200mm over the last 17 years.

The report also notes that whilst larger boats could access these facilities during high tides due to the increased depth, compliance with the Australian Standards is based on the lower levels, and this would be the basis for any approvals relating to changes to marine structures at this location. The following image demonstrates why there are limitations on the size of boat that can enter the bay due to water depths. The image depicts a vessel approximately 20 metres in length which is causing substantial seabed disturbance whilst attempting to berth at the wharf.



Aerial image of a 20m vessel berthing at the wharf, showing seabed disturbance.

Options Assessment

The consultant has considered a series of possible next steps, considering the feasibility of rehabilitating or upgrading the wharf or pontoon in Leichhardt Park.

All options in the report allow for the removal of all timber wharf components on the basis that they need to either be replaced or an alternate facility provided to meet the service needs. It is

noted that the Plan of Management for Leichhardt Park supports the ongoing provision of a marine structure to access the waterway at this location.

Whilst there are further aspects yet to be considered before a future direction can be set, Council staff have done further preliminary analysis of these options considering possible service needs. The service needs considered include:

- Provision of inclusive access to the waterline and to board a boat berthed at the facility.
- Caters for an 8 metre long boat (existing) or 12 metre long boat (desired – maximum possible due to seabed depths nearby)
- Recreational uses, including fishing, launching small watercraft and general access to the waterline.

The following options table summarises the relative merits of approaches considered by the specialist consultant.

Option	Comparison of Different Service Outcomes Achieved					
	Inclusive access for 8m long boats	Inclusive access for 12m long boats	Removes 'duplicated' service	Estimated Capital Cost (000)	Meets budgeted capital Funds	Meets budgeted operational funding ongoing
Remove timber wharf, retain pontoon	✓	✗	✓	$150,000	✓	✓
Replace existing timber wharf, retain pontoon	✓	✗	✗	$700,000	✗	✓
Replace and extend existing timber wharf, retain pontoon	✓	✓	✗	$900,000	✗	✗
Remove timber wharf, relocate pontoon in its place	✓	✓	✓	$350,000	✓	✓

The duplication of marine facilities at this location is not necessary to meet service or capacity needs. The pontoon facility can generally provide for all service needs, whilst the timber wharf is not inclusive, provides limited service outcomes and is high cost. There remains strong sentiment within the community to retain the timber wharf for historical reasons, although its current configuration is not reflective of past configurations of wharves that have served at this location.

Before any decision can be made on the way forward, further investigation is required to ensure all aspects are adequately considered. This includes funding options, design investigation, planning approvals and community consultation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is $376,300 included in the 2025/26 Capital Works program to support works at this location. There are adequate funds available to proceed with the options analysis and community consultation activities. Once the proposed works are determined, if there is a change in the service provision, it may be possible to attract for grant funding from the NSW Government. Where the works require additional funds beyond those budgeted, this will require further approval from Council.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Vessel Berthing Assessment - Leichhardt Park Maritime Structures

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ASSESSMENT OF VESSEL BERTHING

JULY 2025
REF: 967-20250622-01
ISSUE: 3

PROJECT:

LEICHHARDT PARK MARITIME STRUCTURES
MALIYAWUL STREET
LEICHHARDT NSW 2040

CLIENT:

Document Control

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

James Rose Consulting (JRC) was engaged by Inner West Council to undertake a review of the two public maritime structures in the bay adjacent to Leichhardt Park, Maliyawul Street, Leichhardt. The review was to assess the available vessel berthing of the two structures and assess options to improve public access. The bay adjacent to Leichhardt Park forms part of Iron Cove.

The two structures assessed include the Leichhardt Public Wharf (Northern Structure) which is a fixed timber T-Head wharf structure and the Leichhardt Park Public Pontoon (Southern Structure) that consists of a concrete floating pontoon and aluminium gangway.

The assessment identified the controlling constraint for vessels using the existing two maritime structures is the limited water depth of the bay. The water depth of the bay varies between 1.0m to 2.0m below Chart Datum based on the Hydrographic Survey completed by TfNSW – NSW Maritime in July 2024. Chart Datum is the lowest astronomical tide level within Sydney Harbour and is used to calculate the depth of water required for vessels to access the waterway at all tides. The typical depth of water of the bay is 1.7m which limits power boats of 10-12m in length to safely use the bay during all tides.

The water depth adjacent to both maritime structures is only 1.3m which limits the power boats using the facilities to 8m and less.

Three options were investigated to improve the access to the water for larger vessels and specifically power boats of 10-12m in length. The first option included the construction of a new fixed T-Head wharf similar to the existing facility however the new structure would be constructed further into the bay. The second option involves demolition of the existing fixed wharf and relocation of the existing floating structure to access deeper water. A third option to extend the existing concrete floating wharf further into the bay was rejected due to the limited depth of water at this location.

Both viable options identified would require approval from TfNSW with an assessment of waterway navigation by other waterway users, environmental impact to existing aquatic ecology and heritage impacts. Both structures are suitable for the berthing of 10-12m power boats.

It is noted that the bay is limited to vessels of 10-12m in length to allow safe navigation at all tides. It is recommended that Council assess the benefits of improved berthing access for boat users, currently limited to an 8m power boat, up to a maximum 12m power boat (limited by the bay water depth) against the capital cost of the upgraded structures.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 General

James Rose Consulting (JRC) was engaged by Inner West Council to undertake a review of the two public maritime structures in the bay adjacent to Leichhardt Park, Maliyawul Street, Leichhardt. The review was to assess the available vessel berthing of the two structures and assess options to improve public access. The bay adjacent to Leichhardt Park forms part of Iron Cove. The site is shown in Figure 1 below.

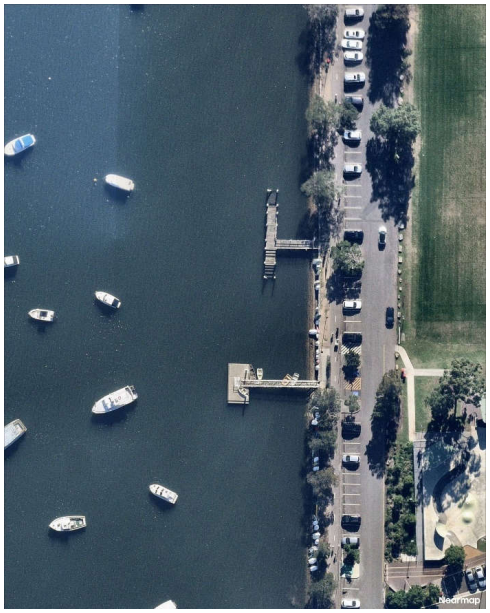


Figure 1 – Site Layout

The southern structure is known as the Leichhardt Park Public Pontoon and the northern structure known as the Leichhardt Public Wharf.

The primary fluctuation of water levels at the site is due to tidal effects. The local tidal planes for Sydney Harbour are:

HAT	Highest Astronomical Tide	+2.1m
MHWMS	Mean High Water Mark Spring	+1.6m
AHD	Australian Height Datum	+0.93m
MLWMS	Mean Low Water Mark Spring	+0.4m
CD	Chart Datum	+0.0m

The datum for the tidal planes is Chart Datum which is 0.925m below A.H.D.

The site is exposed to wind and waves from the west and north together with vessel wash. The design wave height for the Leichhardt Park Public Pontoon was calculated as 750mm from the west and 530mm from the north.

2.2 Documents Reviewed

The following documents were reviewed as part of the vessel berthing assessment.

- Leichhardt Park Public Pontoon 'As Constructed' Drawing 06/041-1-01 to 06/041-1-06 dated 20/11/09 prepared by CW Henstock & Associates Pty Ltd.
- Hydrographic Survey, Leichhardt Park Jetty, Iron Cove – July 2024. Survey produced by Transport for NSW, NSW Maritime, Reference 704-072/01.
- James Rose Consulting Level 2 Inspection and Assessment of the Leichhardt Public Wharf dated February 2023, Ref. 677-20240222-01 Issue 2.

The following Australian Standards and guidelines were reviewed as part of the assessment.

- Design Guidelines for Wharves and Jetties August 1990 prepared by NSW Public Works Department, Report No. 88062.
- Australian Standard AS 3962:2001 Guidelines for design of marinas.
- Australian Standard AS 3962:2020 Marina design.
- Australian Standard AS 4997:2005 Guidelines for the design of maritime structures
- NSW Maritime Engineering Standards and Guidelines for Maritime Structures dated March 2005.

3 LEICHHARDT PARK MARITIME STRUCTURES

3.1 General

The bay adjacent to Leichhardt Park includes two public maritime structures and a number of private swing moorings. The public maritime structures allow for a number of uses including access to the water for small personal craft, berthing of larger vessels and fishing.

The southern maritime structure was constructed in 2009 and consists of a 9.0 x 4.5m concrete floating pontoon that is restrained laterally by two concrete piles. The floating pontoon allows for access to berthing vessels at all tides as the pontoon will rise and fall with the tide to provide consistent access. The pontoon consists of a concrete deck with foam flotation units. The outside edge of the concrete deck includes hardwood timber walers and rubber fendering to protect vessels and the pontoon from damage. The pontoon is fitted with four bollards to allow vessels to be tied up alongside the pontoon. The pontoon is accessed by an 18.0m long aluminium gangway. The shore end of the gangway is supported by a concrete abutment with two concrete filled FRC piers. The pontoon is an accessible structure.

The northern maritime structure consists of a fixed T-Head wharf that projects approximately 13m into Parramatta River, Iron Cove. The north and south T-Head section consist of landing steps to allow vessels to berth alongside and for access at different tide levels. The T-Head wharf section is accessed by a fixed timber access wharf. The structure consists of timber deck bearers, capwales, lower waling and bracing. The structure is supported by 22 turpentine timber piles including two raker piles. The shore end of the fixed structure is supported by two concrete filled FRC piers. The wharf is constructed using traditional bridge and wharf construction techniques. Based on the RMS Guideline for the Assessment of Public Ferry Wharf Safety (2016) the structure is classified as Class 5R (restricted) i.e. a wharf subject to pedestrian loading only with no vehicle access.

3.2 Water Depth Available

The water depth within the bay has been assessed based on a hydrographic survey conducted by TfNSW – NSW Maritime. The hydrographic survey measures the depth of the seabed from the chart datum. An extract of hydrographic survey is provided in Figure 2 below. A full copy of the Hydrographic Survey, Leichhardt Park Jetty, Iron Cove – July 2024 produced by Transport for NSW, NSW Maritime, Reference 704-072/01 is provided in Appendix B.

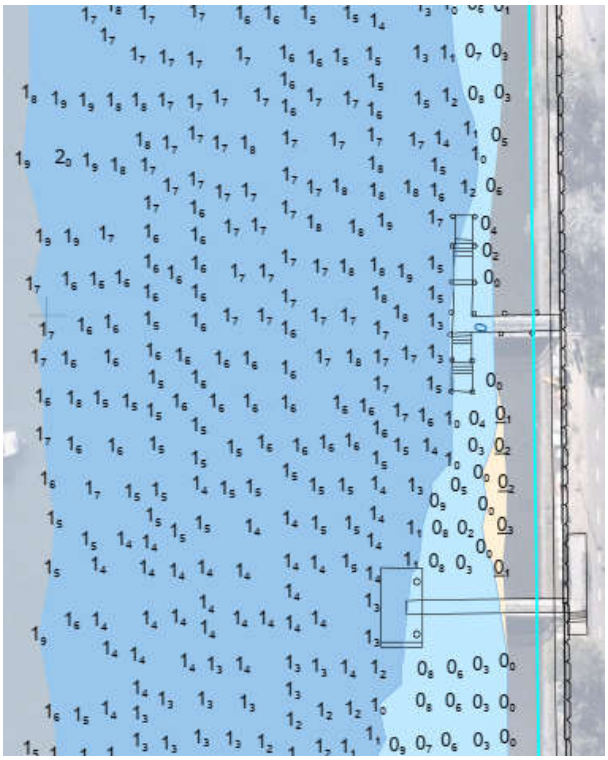


Figure 2 – Extract of 2024 Hydrographic Survey (TfNSW – NSW Maritime)

The depth of water within the bay is generally between 1 to 2 metres in depth below chart datum. The depth of water west of the pontoon structure is generally 1.3 to 1.4m. The depth of water north and west of the wharf structure is generally 1.6 to 1.7m. The minimum depth of water directly adjacent to both the pontoon and wharf berthing structures is 1.3m.

The depth of water required to provide access into, and within a marina, is calculated from the following parameters:

a) The maximum draft of vessels (depth below water line),
b) Wave climate,
c) Nature of the seabed material and,
d) Allowance for siltation of waterway.

The use of the water depth calculation for marinas is also applicable for access to public accessible maritime structures to ensure safe access during all tides. The water depth calculations provide for an under keel clearance to allow safe navigation at all tide levels.

Figure 3 (below) is an extract from Australian Standard AS 3962: 2020 – Marina design to provide the typical draft for various vessels. The average draft and 95-percentile draft is provided. It is standard to adopt the 95-percentile draft in the design of marinas.

Vessel length (L), m	***Vessel draft (m)***					
	Power boats		***Yachts***		***Catamarans and Houseboats***	
	Average	***95 Percentile***	***Average***	***95 Percentile***	***Average***	***95 Percentile***
8	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.5	0.6	1.1
10	0.9	1.1	1.6	1.8	0.7	1.2
12	1.0	1.3	1.8	2.4	0.8	1.3
15	1.2	1.5	2.2	2.8	1.1	1.6
20	1.4	1.8	2.6	3.5	1.4	1.9

Figure 3 – Extract Table 3.1 – Typical Vessel Drafts (AS 3962:2020)

As noted in Section 2.1, the design wave height for the bay is 750mm based on the westerly wind wave. Water depth allowance calculations make an allowance for half the design wave height.

Based on a review of the Leichhardt Park Public Pontoon ‘as constructed’ drawings and piling records, the seabed consists of a silty sand material. Design standards require a minimum under-keel clearance of 300mm where the seabed consists of a soft material such as silty sand.

3.3 Design Vessel

An assessment of the water depth available against the typical draft of power boats has been undertaken for the range of water depths available and is presented in Figure 4.

Water Depth (m)	***Permitted Design Vessel Length (m)***	
	Power Boats	
	Average Draft	***95 Percentile Draft***
1.3	8	-
1.7	12	10

Figure 4 – Design Vessel Assessment

It is noted that there is a 25mm exceedance for 1.3m water depth (average draft) and 1.7m water depth (95 percentile draft). No allowance has been made for siltation of the bay.

It is also noted that the current Australian Standard AS3962:2020 has increased the 95-percentile draft of vessels in comparison to AS3962:2001 i.e. the 95-percentile draft for a 12m long vessel has increased from 1.0m in the 2001 standard to 1.3m in the current standard.

The above assessment against Australian Standards indicates that the bay is limited to vessels around 10-12m in length however both maritime structures are limited to vessels under 8m in length due to the water depth.

The restrictions on vessels using the bay due water depth is demonstrated in Figure 5 which shows a vessel of 20m length (approx.) and draft of 1.4m - 1.8m accessing the wharf structure. The image shows the disturbance caused to the seabed during entry to the bay and berthing.

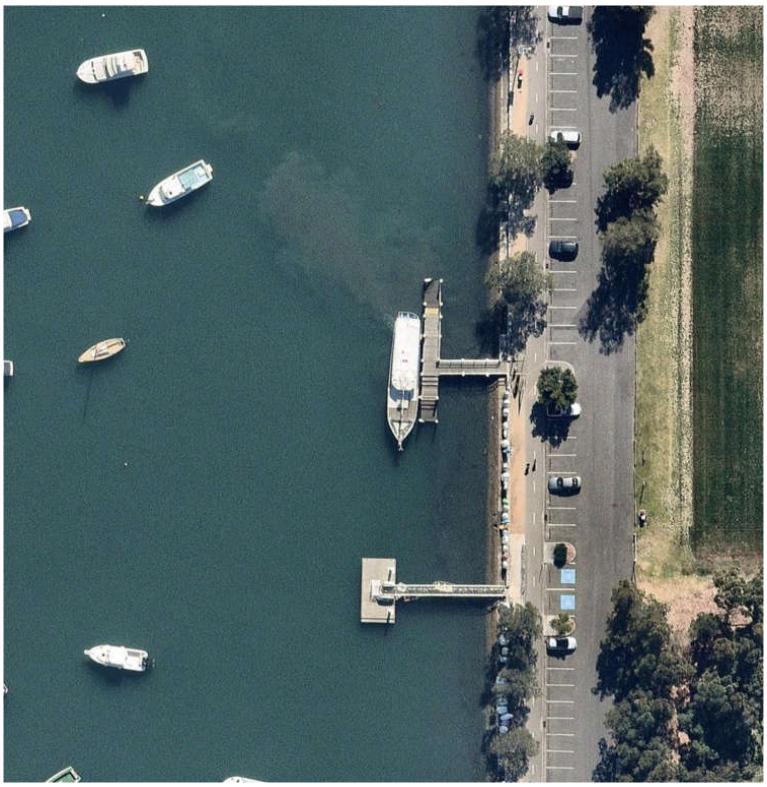


Figure 5 – 20m vessel berthing at wharf structure with seabed disturbance

4 MARITIME STRUCTURES UPGRADE OPTIONS

4.1 General

The current facilities are limited to berthing power boat vessels of up to 8m in length due to the water depth directly adjacent to each facility. Two options have been investigated to improve berthing access to allow berthing of power boat vessels up to 10-12m in length. A third option was considered that involved extending the pontoon structure into the bay however this was discarded due to the limited water depth available.

4.2 Upgrade Existing Fixed Wharf Structure

To allow power boat vessels up to 12m to safely access the fixed wharf structure the existing wharf would need to be demolished and reconstructed approximately 8m further into the bay to allow a water depth of 1.7m at the berth face. A schematic of the potential layout is shown in Figure 6. A preliminary estimate to demolish the existing wharf structure and construct a new, similar structure would be in the order of $850,000 - $900,000.

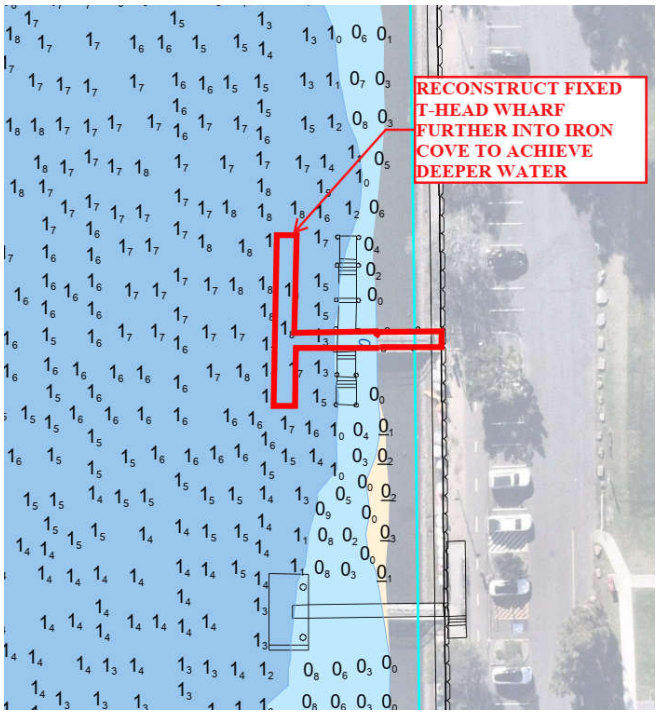


Figure 6 – Option to Reconstruct Fixed T-Head Wharf

4.3 Relocate Existing Pontoon Structure

To allow power boat vessels up to 12m to safely access the floating pontoon structure the existing fixed wharf would need to be demolished and the existing pontoon and gangway relocated north approximately 45m to allow a water depth of 1.7m at the berth face. A schematic of the potential layout is shown in Figure 7. A preliminary estimate to demolish the existing wharf structure and relocate the existing pontoon structure would be in the order of $300,000 - $350,000.

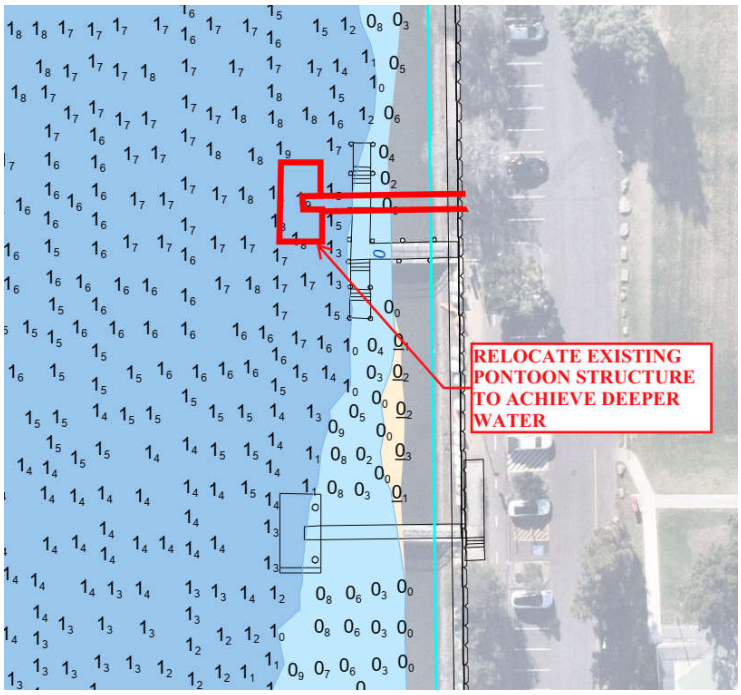


Figure 7 – Option to Relocate Existing Pontoon Structure

5 PLANNING PATHWAY

All works below the mean high-water mark requires approval from TfNSW with an assessment against State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021. The general process for gaining approval for the works would include the following:

a) Submission of Permission to Lodge documentation. This can be equated to landowners approval to submit an application but does not guarantee approval of the submission.
b) Submission of the development application. Submission documentation at this stage will generally include a hydrographic survey, aquatic ecology assessment and addressing any heritage aspects of the development.
c) If development consent is granted a Construction Certificate will need to be issued which can be done by a private certifier.
d) At completion, an Occupation Certificate will need to be issued.
e) TfNSW will then complete an 'as built' survey which will be used within any licence agreement for use of the area.

The development consent process is estimated to take a minimum of 6 to 12 months and would need to include an assessment of navigation of waters by other waterway users.

The waterway adjacent to Leichhardt Park is identified as Zone 5 – Water Recreation within SEPP (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021. The objectives of this zone include the following:

a) To give preference to and increase public water-dependent development that will promote the enjoyment of, and free access to, the Foreshores and Waterways Area.
b) To allow development that will enhance public use of waters in the zone and not compromise public use of waters in the zone in the present or future.
c) To minimise the number, scale and extent of artificial structures, considering the function of the structures.
d) To allow commercial water-dependent development that—
    a. meets a justified demand, and
    b. provides benefits to the general and boating public, and
    c. results in a visual outcome that is compatible with the planned character of the locality.
e) To minimise congestion and conflict arising from the use of waters in the zone and the adjoining foreshores.
f) To protect and preserve beach environments and ensure they are free from artificial structures.
g) To ensure the scale and size of development are appropriate to the locality.
h) To ensure the scale and size of development protect and improve the natural assets and the natural and cultural scenic quality of the surrounding area, particularly when viewed from waters in the zone or from areas of public access.

The proposed works appear to fit within the above objectives.

Appendix A

Work-As-Executed Drawings for
Leichhardt Park Public Pontoon

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 THESE DRAWINGS SHALL BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH SPECIFICATIONS AND WITH RELEVANT WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS AS MAY BE ISSUED DURING THE COURSE OF THE CONTRACT. ANY DISCREPANCY SHALL BE REFERRED TO THE DESIGN ENGINEER BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THE WORK.

1.2 ALL MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP SHALL CONFORM TO THE RELEVANT CURRENT AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS UNLESS OTHERWISE VARIED BY THE SPECIFICATION AND TO THE BY-LAWS AND ORDINANCES OF THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

1.3 ALL DIMENSIONS SHOWN SHALL BE VERIFIED BY THE CONTRACTOR ON SITE. ENGINEERS' DRAWINGS SHALL NOT BE SCALED FOR DIMENSIONS.

1.4 ALL STRUCTURES SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A STABLE CONDITION DURING CONSTRUCTION AND NO PART SHALL BE OVERSTRESSED. FALSEWORK AND TEMPORARY BRACING SHALL BE PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTOR TO KEEP THE WORKS AND EXCAVATIONS STABLE AT ALL TIMES.

1.5 ALL PROPOSALS AND DESIGN OF ANY FALSEWORK WILL HAVE TO BE CHECKED AND APPROVED BY THE DESIGN ENGINEER PRIOR TO THEIR INCORPORATION IN THE WORKS.

1.6 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL GIVE 48 HOURS NOTICE FOR ALL ENGINEERING INSPECTIONS.

1.7 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE ALL LEVELS ARE IN METRES BASED ON THE Z.F.D.T.G AND ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES.

1.8 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFIRMING WITH MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS OF PRODUCTS, MATERIALS AND/OR EQUIPMENT SPECIFIED ON THE CONTRACT DRAWINGS, OR IN THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS IN GENERAL (OR EQUIVALENT ITEMS) THAT THE DETAILS, DIMENSIONS AND PROPERTIES OF THE PRODUCTS, MATERIALS AND/OR EQUIPMENT TO BE SUPPLIED ARE AS SHOWN ON THE CONTRACT DRAWINGS, OR AS SET OUT IN THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS IN GENERAL. WHERE A DISCREPANCY EXISTS BETWEEN THE ITEM TO BE SUPPLIED AND THE DETAILS SHOWN ON THE CONTRACT DRAWINGS, OR SET OUT IN THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL REFER THE DISCREPANCY TO THE DESIGN ENGINEER FOR CLARIFICATION PRIOR TO ORDERING OR MANUFACTURING THE ITEM AND CARRYING OUT THE ASSOCIATED WORKS.

1.9 NO CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS SHALL BE ALLOWED TO FALL, FLOW OR CARRIED ONTO THE BED OR WATERS OF THE PORT. ANY SUCH MATERIAL ENTERING THE PORT SHALL BE REMOVED TO AN ACCEPTABLE RECYCLE PLANT IMMEDIATELY.

1.10 THE CONTRACTOR IS TO ABIDE-BY AND BE AWARE OF ALL OH & S AND ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS OF LEICHHARDT COUNCIL FOR THE AREA AND ANY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS DURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED FACILITIES.

2.0 TIMBER MEMBERS (Where relevant)

2.1 TIMBERS SHALL BE F17 HARDWOOD, EXCEPT FOR TIMBER IN WATER WHICH WILL BE TURPENTINE F22 STRESS GRADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1720.1-1997 UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE.

2.2 SAWN TIMBERS SHALL BE OF STRUCTURAL GRADE 1 TIMBER OF ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIES: IRONBARK, GREY GUM, WHITE MAHOGANY, TALLOWWOOD OR GREY BOX.

2.3 ANY TIMBERS IN THE INTER-TIDAL ZONE SHALL BE OF STRUCTURAL GRADE 1 TIMBER OF THE SPECIES TURPENTINE, ALTERNATIVELY KOPPERS DOUBLE TREATED TIMBERS OF AN EQUIVALENT STRESS GRADE AND STRUCTURAL GRADE CAN BE USED.

2.4 THE WHOLE OF THE TIMBER WORK SHALL BE EXECUTED IN THE BEST STYLE OF BRIDGE AND WHARF CARPENTRY. ALL JOINTS SHALL BE NEATLY MADE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A TIGHT FIT AND WEDGING OR PACKING SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED. FULL LENGTHS OF TIMBERS SHALL BE USED AND THE ENDS CUT AS SHOWN OR INDICATED ON THE DRAWINGS. JOINTS SHALL HAVE THE ENDS SAWN SQUARE.

2.5 IT IS THE CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT ALL TIMBERS ARE PROPERLY AND ADEQUATELY SEASONED AT THE TIME OF USE IN THE WORKS. ANY DEFECTS IN THE WORKS RESULTING FROM MOVEMENT OR SHRINKAGE OF TIMBER SUBSEQUENT TO INSTALLATION SHALL BE RECTIFIED AS DIRECTED BY THE DESIGN ENGINEER AND AT THE CONTRACTOR'S EXPENSE.

2.6 SAWN TIMBER IS TO BE WELL SAWN, STRAIGHT, WITH ENDS CUT SQUARE. IT SHALL BE FREE FROM IMPAIRING GRUB HOLES, LIVE INSECTS, TERNITE GALLERIES, DECAY, KNOTS AND OTHER THAN SOUND INTER GROWN KNOTS, KNOT HOLES, HEART SPLITS, TRANSVERSE OR RING SHAKES, IMPAIRING GUM POCKETS, EXCESSIVE GUM VEINS WHICH ARE EXPOSED ON THE FACE OF THE PIECE AND WILL PERMIT LIFTING OF THE PIECE, SAPWOOD, WANE OR WANT, AND ANY OTHER DEFECTS LIABLE TO IMPAIR THE UTILITY OF THE PIECE.

2.7 WHERE TIMBER MEMBERS ARE DRILLED OR NOTCHED, THE DRILL HOLES, NOTCHES, ETC, SHALL BE TREATED WITH AN EPOXY COMPOUND FROM VESSEY CHEMICALS PTY. LTD., KNOWN AS "KNIFING GRADE VEPOX CC4051". THE PRODUCT SHALL BE APPLIED STRICTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.

2.8 DECKING TIMBERS TO BE FIXED USING 2 NO. 3.75MM DIAMETER GALVANISED TWIST SHANK NAILS X 90 MM LONG AT EACH JOIST CROSSED.

2.9 ALL BOLTS TO BE M20 (GALVANISED) U.N.O. FIT ALL BOLTS WITH 85 X 85 X 6 MM GALVANISED WASHERS UNDER HEAD AND NUT. EDGE DISTANCES FROM THE CENTRELINE OF BOLTS TO CUT ENDS OF TIMBERS SHALL BE 8 TIMES THE BOLT DIAMETERS MINIMUM. EDGE DISTANCES FROM CENTRELINE OF BOLTS TO SIDE OF TIMBER MEMBERS SHALL BE 2 TIMES THE BOLT DIAMETERS MINIMUM.

3.0 PILING

3.1 ALL PILING WORKS SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 2159 - 1995 AND AS 4100.

3.2 SITE INFORMATION:

AS LIMITED INFORMATION ON THE SEA BED IS AVAILABLE IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROPOSED MARINE STRUCTURE, THE DESCRIPTIONS OF MATERIALS AND CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED ON THE SITE ARE PRESENTED IN GOOD FAITH FOR THE CONTRACTOR'S INFORMATION. NO GUARANTEE IS GIVEN THAT THOSE MATERIALS ENCOUNTERED WILL NOT VARY THROUGHOUT THE SITE. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSING THE INFORMATION PROVIDED AND DRAWING CONCLUSIONS AS TO THE EXTENT AND NATURE OF THE MATERIALS INDICATED. ANY FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS THE CONTRACTOR MAY DEEM NECESSARY MAY BE CONDUCTED, AT THE CONTRACTOR'S EXPENSE.

3.3 CONSTRUCTION METHOD:

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL ENSURE THAT THE CONSTRUCTION METHOD DOES NOT OVERSTRESS ANY ELEMENT OF THE WORKS NOR ADVERSELY EFFECT ANY ADJACENT STRUCTURES, AND IN DETERMINING THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION METHOD, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE EFFECTS OF NOISE, VIBRATION AND ANY JETTING/MUCKING OPERATIONS. THE METHOD AND SEQUENCE OF DRIVING PILES SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE DESIGN ENGINEER BEFORE ANY DRIVING OPERATIONS ARE COMMENCED.

3.4 INSTALLATION OF PILES:

THE PILES SHALL BE INSTALLED IN THE POSITIONS SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS AND WITHIN THE TOLERANCES SPECIFIED HEREIN AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 7 OF AS 2159.
PILES SHALL BE INSTALLED BY DRIVING, SOCKETING AND A COMBINATION OF BOTH TO ACHIEVE THE MINIMUM EMBEDMENT SHOWN ON THE DRAWINGS.

3.4.1 LENGTHS TO BE PITCHED:

THE LENGTHS OF PILES TO BE PITCHED SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE CONTRACTOR TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALL PERTINENT FACTORS INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

(A) THE MINIMUM PENETRATION INTO DENSE SAND AND IN ROCK SPECIFIED ON THE DRAWINGS.

(B) ANY ALLOWANCE REQUIRED FOR DAMAGED HEADS AND FOR THE PARTICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF PLANT.

3.4.2 DRIVING TOLERANCES:

UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED DEVIATION OF THE PILE CENTRE AT RL+3.5M (ZFDTG) FROM THE CENTRE POINT SHOWN SHALL BE 50 MM IN ANY DIRECTION. THE MAXIMUM ANGULAR DEVIATION OF A FINISHED PILE FROM THE TRUE VERTICAL SHALL BE 1 IN 150. FORCIBLE CORRECTIONS SHALL NOT BE MADE TO PILES WITHOUT THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE DESIGN ENGINEER.

3.4.3 DEFECTIVE PILES:

ANY PILES FOUND TO BE BENT, BUCKLED OR OTHERWISE DAMAGED OR OUT OF POSITION SHALL BE REMOVED AND REPLACEMENT PILES INSTALLED AS AND WHERE DIRECTED BY THE DESIGN ENGINEER.
ANY REPLACEMENT PILE SHALL BE SUPPLIED AND INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATION. ALL COSTS OF WORK RELATING TO REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE PILES SHALL BE BORNE BY THE CONTRACTOR.

4.0 STRUCTURAL STEEL

4.1 ALL WORKMANSHIP AND MATERIALS SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 4100 AND AS 1554 EXCEPT WHERE VARIED BY THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.

4.2 ALL STEEL SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 3678 AND AS 3679 TO GRADE 350 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

4.3 ALL BOLTS SHALL BE GRADE 8.8/S UNLESS NOTED. NO CONNECTION SHALL HAVE LESS THAN 2 BOLTS. ALL BOLTS, NUTS & WASHERS TO BE GALVANISED. TB AND TF BOLTS TO BE INSTALLED USING APPROVED LOAD INDICATING WASHERS, OR BY TURN OF NUT CONTROL OF TENSIONING AS PER AS 1252.

4.4 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE, FILLET WELDS SHALL BE 6 mm CONTINUOUS TYPE SP (SPECIAL PURPOSE) AND BUTT WELDS SHALL BE COMPLETE PENETRATION BUTT WELDS TO AS 1554. ALL WELDING PROCEDURES SHALL BE QUALIFIED BEFORE ANY WELDING IS COMMENCED IN TERMS OF AS 1554.

4.5 IT IS THE CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT STEELWORK IS SECURELY AND TEMPORARILY BRACED AS NECESSARY TO STABILISE THE STRUCTURE DURING ERECTION.

4.6 STRUCTURAL STEELWORK SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING SURFACE TREATMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATION.

ELEMENT	:	EXPOSED STEEL
ELEMENT CLEANING	:	ABRASIVE BLAST CLEAN TO CLASS 3 IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 1627 PT 4
PROTECTIVE COATING	:	TWO COATS OF HIGH BUILD EPOXY COATING SIMILAR TO DEVOE-DEVRAN 230 MANUFACTURED BY ALTEX COATINGS TO ACHIEVE A MINIMUM DRY FILM THICKNESS OF 200 MICROMETRES PER COAT AND AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MANUFACTURER.

4.7 TO ALL AREAS DAMAGED DURING ERECTION, APPLY TWO COATS OF HIGH BUILD EPOXY TO ACHIEVE A MINIMUM THICKNESS OF 400 MICROMETRES AS ABOVE.

4.8 ALL WELDED AREAS SHALL BE DEGREASED, THEN CLEANED BACK TO BRIGHT METAL, BY AIR NEEDLE GUN OR ABRASIVE DISC OR OTHER APPROVED METHOD, AND IMMEDIATELY REPAINTED AS RECOMMENDED IN 4.6.

4.9 ALL WELDED AREAS AND ANY DAMAGED AREAS SHALL BE REPAIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLAUSE 10.5 OF AS/NZS 2312:1994.

4.10 THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE ALL CLEATS AND DRILL ALL HOLES NECESSARY FOR FIXING STEEL TO STEEL AND TIMBER TO STEEL.

5.0 FORMWORK

5.1 THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND PERFORMANCE OF THE FORMWORK IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR.

5.2 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF FORMWORK / AND STRIPPING TIMES TO COMPLY WITH AS 3610 AND AS 3600 UNLESS OTHERWISE APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER.

6.0 CONCRETE

6.1 ALL WORKMANSHIP AND MATERIALS SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 3600 AND AS 3610 CURRENT EDITIONS WITH AMENDMENTS, EXCEPT WHERE VARIED BY THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.

6.2 CONCRETE QUALITY

CONCRETE SHALL CONFIRM TO AS 1379. ALL CEMENT SHALL CONFORM TO AS 1315 AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE PROJECT SPECIFICATION. PORTLAND CEMENT SHALL BE TYPE SL AND SHALL BE OBTAINED FROM AN APPROVED SOURCE. MANUFACTURING, SUPPLYING, LAYING AND TESTING OF CONCRETE SHALL CONFORM TO AS 1379-1997.

PROJECT CONTROL TESTING SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 3600.

7.0 ALUMINIUM

7.1 ALUMINIUM ALLOYS SHALL COMPLY WITH AS AS/NZS 1734, AS/NZS 1865, AS/NZS 1866, AS/NZS 1867 AND AS 2848.1.

7.2 THE ALUMINIUM ALLOY CLASSIFICATION SHALL STRICTLY BE ADOPTED.

7.3 ALL ALUMINIUM STRUCTURES SHALL BE FABRICATED AND ERECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS/NZS 1664:1997.

7.4 ALL WELDING SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS/NZS 1665:200+.

7.5 UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL WELDS SHALL BE CONTINUOUS 3 MM FILLET WELDS.

7.6 WELDING SHALL BE CARRIED OUT BY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED ALUMINIUM WELDING PERSONNEL.

7.7 TESTING OF WELDS AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARDS.

Registered Professional Engineer 264903
Mr Colin W Henstock
MICE MIEAust CPEng
N P E R
Signature... Date.. 29 / 11 / 06
Registered on the NPER in the Category of
Civil
National Professional Engineers Register

DESIGN LOADING

1. DEAD LOAD
   SELF - WEIGHT + SERVICES AND TOPPING
2. STRUCTURAL LIVE LOAD
   RAMP 4 kPa UDL OR POINT LOAD 4.5 kN
   PONTOON 3 kPa UDL OR POINT LOAD 4.5 kN
3. FLOATATION LOAD
   PONTOON 3 kPa UDL
4. STABILITY LOAD
   PONTOON 3 kPa UDL
5. ENVIRONMENTAL LOAD
   PONTOON 2 KN/m UDL
5. BERTHING LOAD
   REFER TO VESSEL DETAILS ON DWG.NO. 06/041-1-02.

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ALL LEVELS ARE IN METRES
UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

REV	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	CHKD
C	07.07.09	AS-CONSTRUCTED	PNM	
B	06.03.07	LOADING MODIFIED & SUBMITTED TO NSW MARITIME	PNM	
A		AS CONSTRUCTED	A.E.T	

DRAWN: A.E.THOMPSON | VERIFIED | DESIGNED | ADJUSTED:
SHEET SIZE: A1 | DATUM: ZERO FORT DENISON TIDE GAUGE | SCALE: 1:1

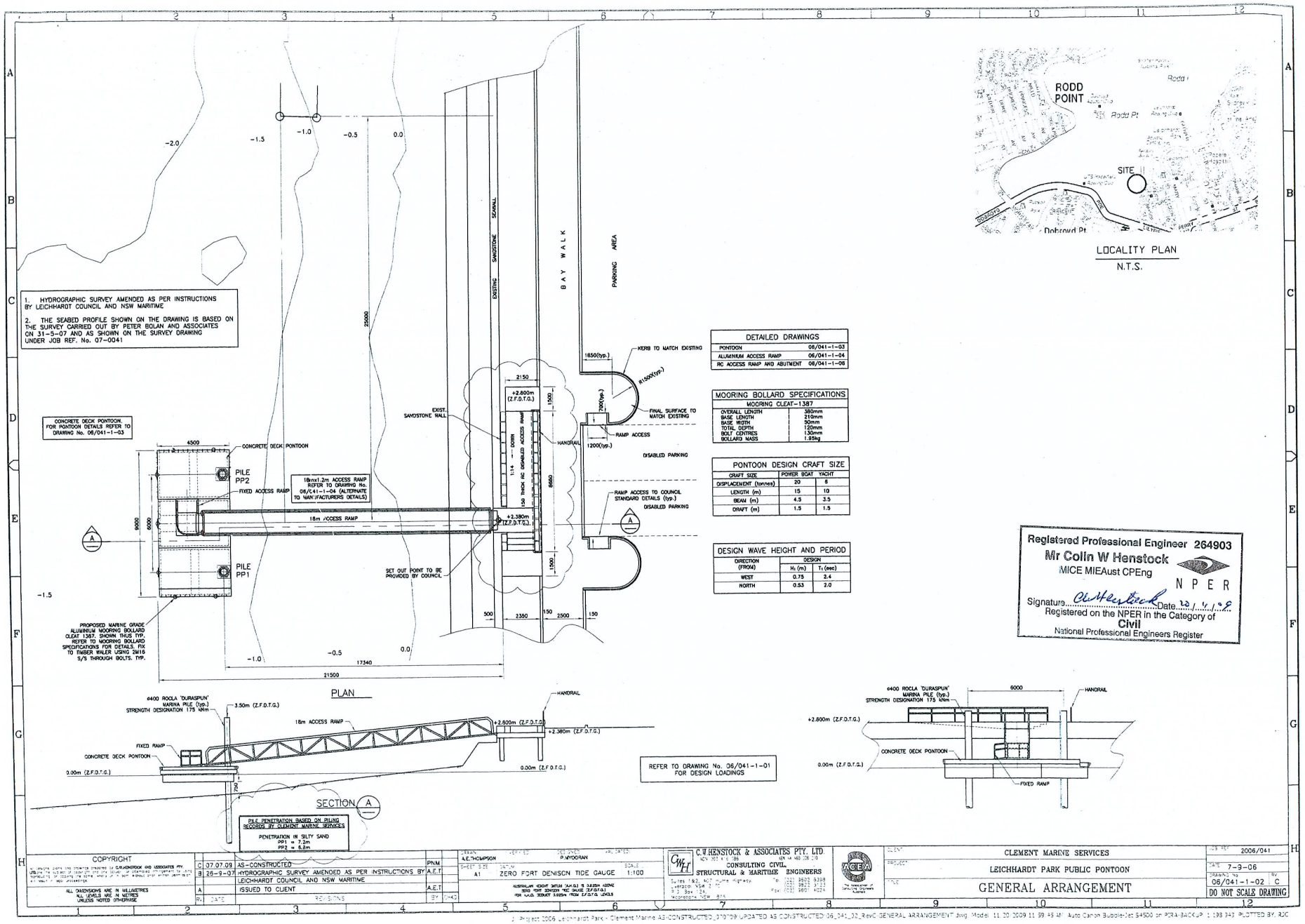
C.W. HENSTOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.
ACN 003 416 586 ABN 44 163 329 175
CONSULTING CIVIL, STRUCTURAL & MARITIME ENGINEERS
Suites 1&2 401 Parramatta Road Leichhardt NSW 2040
PO Box 124 Haberfield NSW 2045
Tel: (02) 9560 9700 Fax: (02) 9560 4084
(02) 9660 9798 (02) 9660 9723

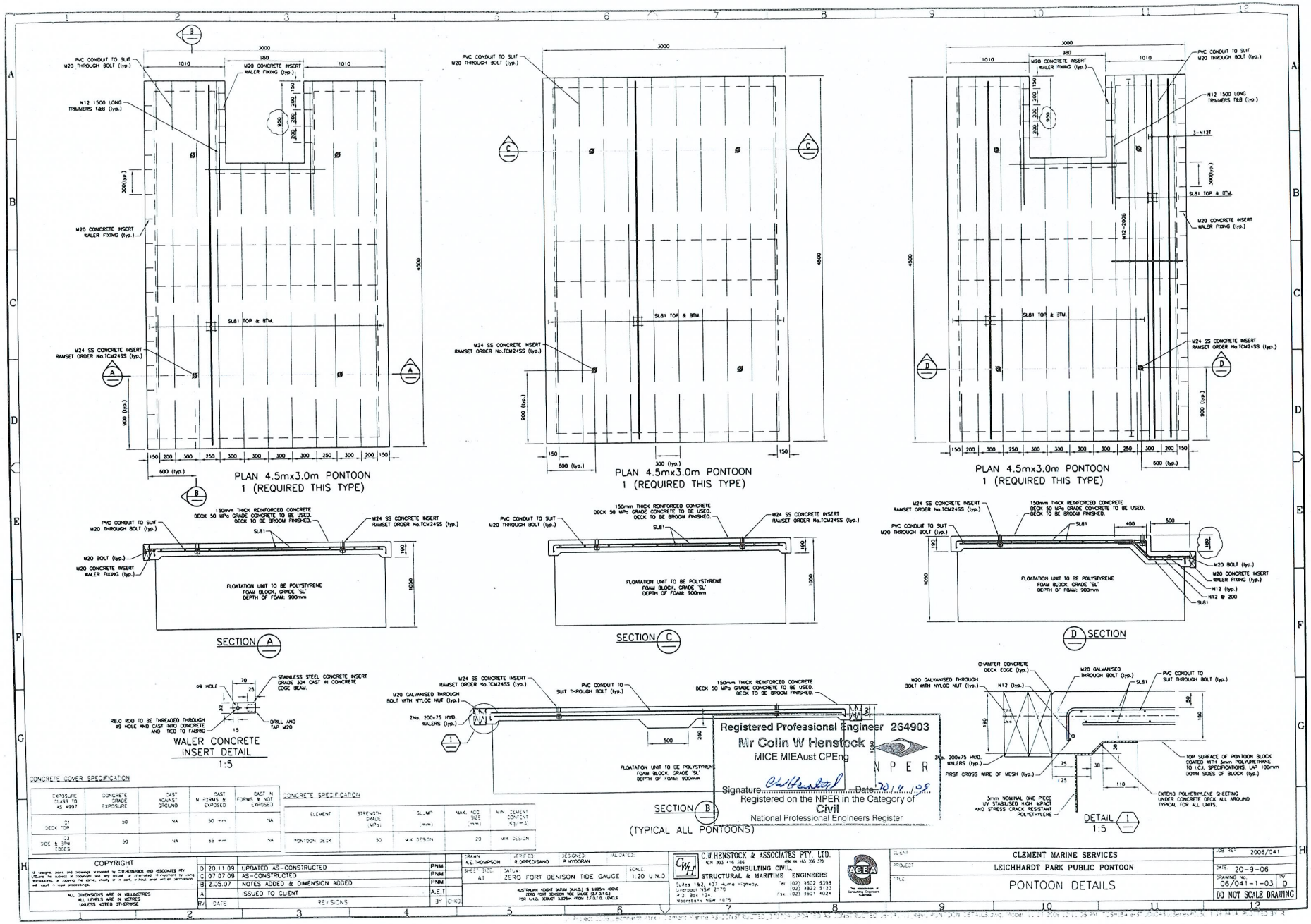
ACEA The Association of Consulting Engineers Australia

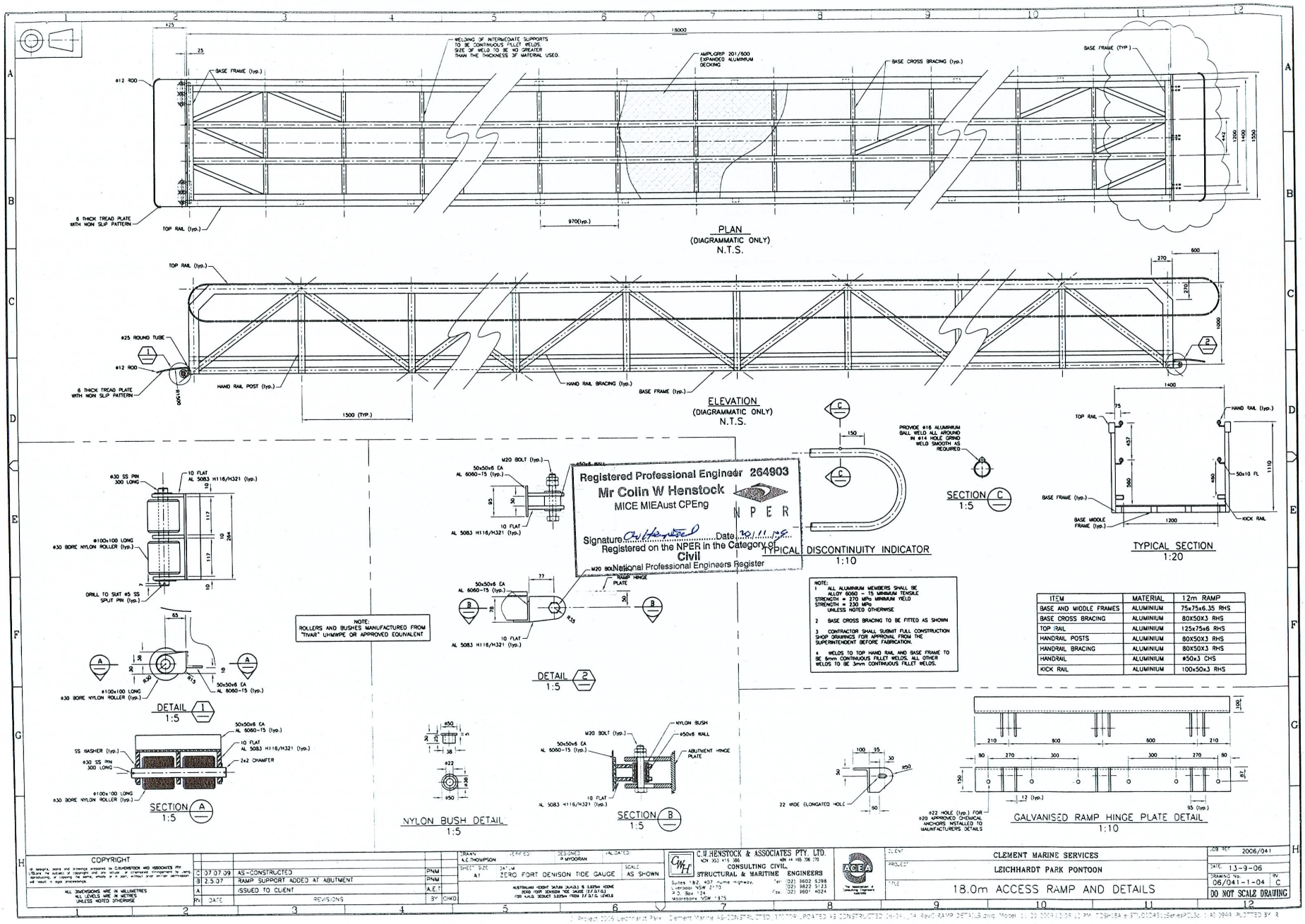
CLIENT: CLEMENT MARINE SERVICES
PROJECT: LEICHHARDT PARK PUBLIC PONTOON
TITLE: GENERAL NOTES

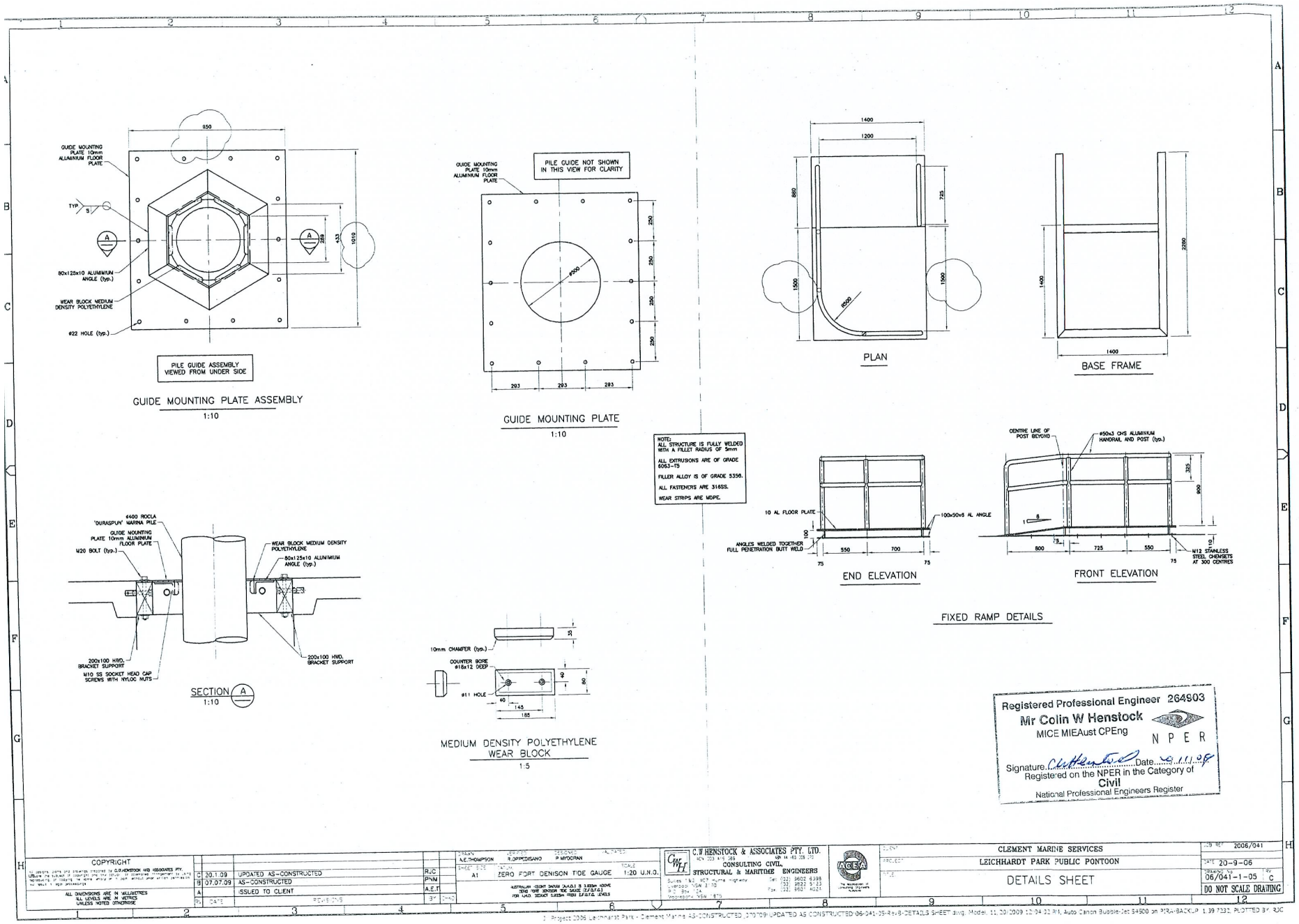
JOB REF: 2006/041
DATE: 7-9-06
DRAWING No: 06/041-1-01
REV: C
DO NOT SCALE DRAWING

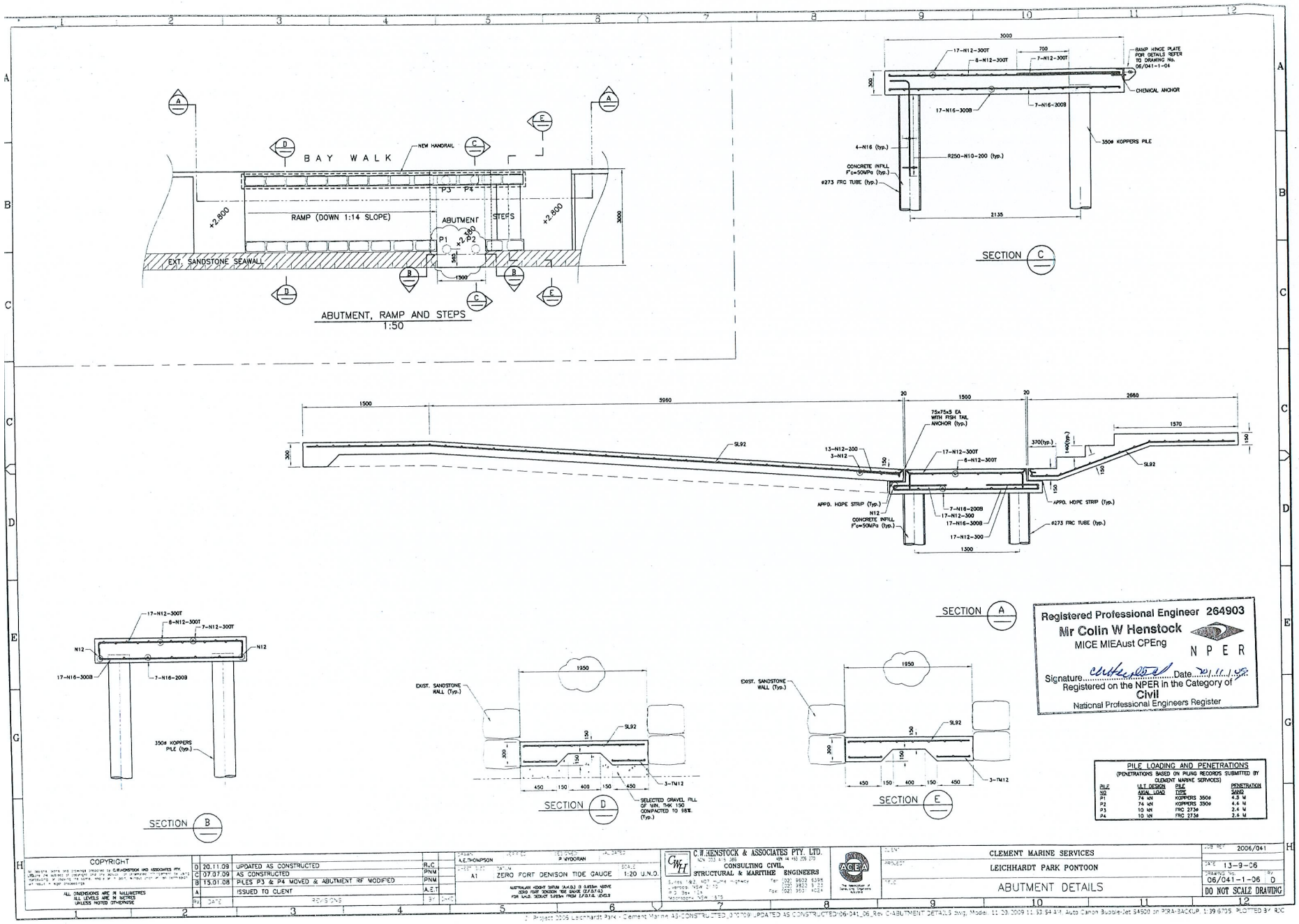
J:\Projects\2006\Leichhardt Park - Clement Marine\AS-CONSTRUCTED\070709\UPDATED AS CONSTRUCTED\06_041_01_Rev C\GENERAL NOTES.dwg, Model, 11/20/2009 11:56:32 AM, Auto Canon Bubble-Jet S4500 on PIPA-BACKUP, 1:1.99607, PLOTTED BY, RJC


1. HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY AMENDED AS PER INSTRUCTIONS BY LEICHHARDT COUNCIL AND NSW MARITIME
2. THE SEABED PROFILE SHOWN ON THE DRAWING IS BASED ON THE SURVEY CARRIED OUT BY PETER BOLAN AND ASSOCIATES ON 31-5-07 AND AS SHOWN ON THE SURVEY DRAWING UNDER JOB REF. No. 07-0041
BAY WALK
PARKING AREA
EXISTING SANDSTONE SEAWALL
CONCRETE DECK PONTOON. FOR PONTOON DETAILS REFER TO DRAWING No. 06/041-1-03
CONCRETE DECK PONTOON
PILE PP2
PILE PP1
FIXED ACCESS RAMP
18m ACCESS RAMP
18m x 1.2m ACCESS RAMP REFER TO DRAWING No. 06/41-1-04 (ALTERNATE TO MANUFACTURERS DETAILS)
EXIST. SANDSTONE WALL
HANDRAIL
KERB TO MATCH EXISTING
FINAL SURFACE TO MATCH EXISTING
RAMP ACCESS
DISABLED PARKING
RAMP ACCESS TO COUNCIL STANDARD DETAILS (typ.)
SET OUT POINT TO BE PROVIDED BY COUNCIL
PROPOSED MARINE GRADE ALUMINUM MOORING BOLLARD CLEAT 1387, SHOWN THUS TYP. REFER TO MOORING BOLLARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR DETAILS. FIX TO TIMBER WALER USING 2M16 S/S THROUGH BOLTS. TYP.
PLAN
SECTION A
ø400 ROCLA 'DURASPUN' MARINA PILE (typ.) STRENGTH DESIGNATION 175 kNm
FIXED RAMP
CONCRETE DECK PONTOON
PILE PENETRATION BASED ON PILING RECORDS BY CLEMENT MARINE SERVICES
PENETRATION IN SILTY SAND
PP1 = 7.2m
PP2 = 6.2m
REFER TO DRAWING No. 06/041-1-01 FOR DESIGN LOADINGS
RODD POINT
SITE
LOCALITY PLAN
N.T.S.
DETAILED DRAWINGS
PONTOON 06/041-1-03
ALUMINIUM ACCESS RAMP 06/041-1-04
RC ACCESS RAMP AND ABUTMENT 06/041-1-05
MOORING BOLLARD SPECIFICATIONS
MOORING CLEAT-1387
OVERALL LENGTH 380mm
BASE LENGTH 210mm
BASE WIDTH 90mm
TOTAL DEPTH 120mm
BOLT CENTRES 130mm
BOLLARD MASS 1.95kg
PONTOON DESIGN CRAFT SIZE
CRAFT SIZE: POWER BOAT, YACHT
DISPLACEMENT (tonnes): 20, 6
LENGTH (m): 15, 10
BEAM (m): 4.5, 3.5
DRAFT (m): 1.5, 1.5
DESIGN WAVE HEIGHT AND PERIOD
DIRECTION (FROM): DESIGN
WEST: 0.75, 2.4
NORTH: 0.53, 2.0
Registered Professional Engineer 264903
Mr Colin W Henstock
MICE MIEAust CPEng
NPER
Signature..... Date..23/1/.25
Registered on the NPER in the Category of
Civil
National Professional Engineers Register
COPYRIGHT
ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES
ALL LEVELS ARE IN METRES
UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
C 07.07.09 AS-CONSTRUCTED PNM
B 26-9-07 HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY AMENDED AS PER INSTRUCTIONS BY LEICHHARDT COUNCIL AND NSW MARITIME A.E.T
A ISSUED TO CLIENT A.E.T
REVISIONS
DRAWN A.E.THOMPSON
DESIGNED P.NYOGRAN
SHEET SIZE A1
DATUM ZERO FORT DENISON TIDE GAUGE
SCALE 1:100
C.W.HENSTOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.
CONSULTING CIVIL, STRUCTURAL & MARITIME ENGINEERS
CLIENT CLEMENT MARINE SERVICES
PROJECT LEICHHARDT PARK PUBLIC PONTOON
TITLE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
JOB No. 2006/041
DATE 7-9-06
DRAWING No. 06/041-1-02
REV. C
DO NOT SCALE DRAWING
J:\Projects\2006_Leichhardt_Park - Clement Marine\AS-CONSTRUCTED_07\07\09 UPDATED AS CONSTRUCTED\06_041_02_RevC GENERAL ARRANGEMENT.dwg Model 11.20.2009 11:59:45 AM Auto Canon Bubblejet S4500 on PIRA-BACKUP 1:198.343 PLOTTED BY: RJC


PLAN 4.5mx3.0m PONTOON
1 (REQUIRED THIS TYPE)
PLAN 4.5mx3.0m PONTOON
1 (REQUIRED THIS TYPE)
PLAN 4.5mx3.0m PONTOON
1 (REQUIRED THIS TYPE)
SECTION A
SECTION C
D SECTION
WALER CONCRETE
INSERT DETAIL
1:5
SECTION B
(TYPICAL ALL PONTOONS)
DETAIL 1
1:5
Registered Professional Engineer 264903
Mr Colin W Henstock
MICE MIEAust CPEng
N P E R
Civil
National Professional Engineers Register
CONCRETE COVER SPECIFICATION
CONCRETE SPECIFICATION
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LEICHHARDT PARK PUBLIC PONTOON
PONTOON DETAILS
C.J. HENSTOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.
CONSULTING CIVIL, STRUCTURAL & MARITIME ENGINEERS
ZERO FORT DENISON TIDE GAUGE
1:20 U.N.O.
2006/041
20-9-06
06/041-1-03
D
DO NOT SCALE DRAWING

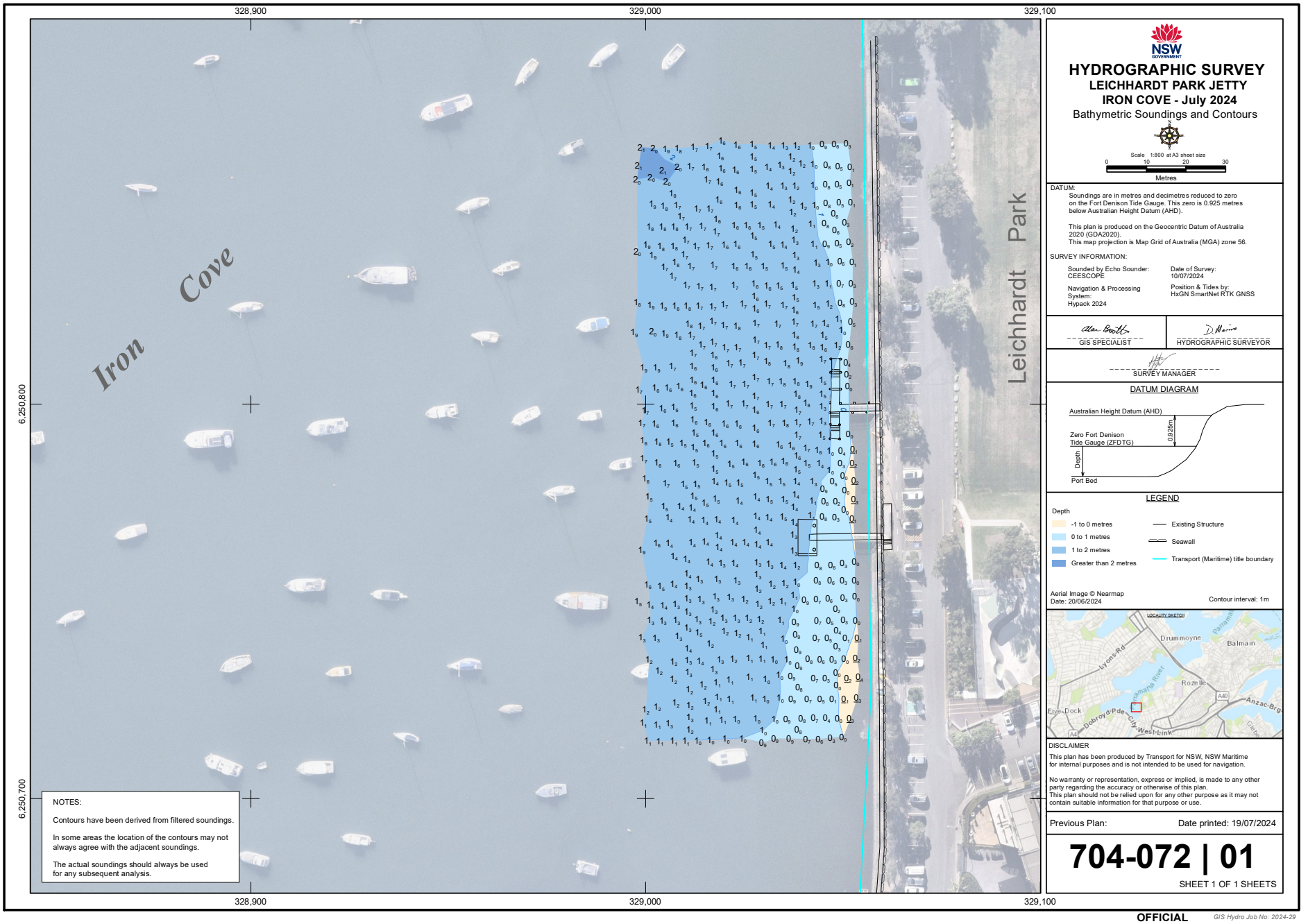

PLAN
(DIAGRAMMATIC ONLY)
N.T.S.
ELEVATION
(DIAGRAMMATIC ONLY)
N.T.S.
Registered Professional Engineer 264903
Mr Colin W Henstock
MICE MIEAust CPEng
Signature ..... Date 30/11/17
Registered on the NPER in the Category of
Civil
National Professional Engineers Register
TYPICAL DISCONTINUITY INDICATOR
1:10
SECTION C
1:5
TYPICAL SECTION
1:20
DETAIL 1
1:5
DETAIL 2
1:5
SECTION A
1:5
SECTION B
1:5
NYLON BUSH DETAIL
1:5
GALVANISED RAMP HINGE PLATE DETAIL
1:10
NOTE:
ROLLERS AND BUSHES MANUFACTURED FROM "TIVAR" UHMWPE OR APPROVED EQUIVALENT
NOTE:
1 ALL ALUMINIUM MEMBERS SHALL BE ALLOY 6060 - T5 MINIMUM TEMPERATURE STRENGTH = 270 MPa MINIMUM YIELD STRENGTH = 230 MPa UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
2 BASE CROSS BRACING TO BE FITTED AS SHOWN
3 CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT FULL CONSTRUCTION SHOP DRAWINGS FOR APPROVAL FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT BEFORE FABRICATION.
4 WELDS TO TOP HAND RAIL AND BASE FRAME TO BE 5mm CONTINUOUS FILLET WELDS. ALL OTHER WELDS TO BE 3mm CONTINUOUS FILLET WELDS.
ITEM | MATERIAL | 12m RAMP
BASE AND MIDDLE FRAMES | ALUMINIUM | 75x75x6.35 RHS
BASE CROSS BRACING | ALUMINIUM | 80X50X3 RHS
TOP RAIL | ALUMINIUM | 125x75x6 RHS
HANDRAIL POSTS | ALUMINIUM | 80X50X3 RHS
HANDRAIL BRACING | ALUMINIUM | 80X50X3 RHS
HANDRAIL | ALUMINIUM | ø50x3 CHS
KICK RAIL | ALUMINIUM | 100x50x3 RHS
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ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES
ALL LEVELS ARE IN METRES
UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
REVISIONS
C 07.07.09 AS-CONSTRUCTED PNM
B 2.5.07 RAMP SUPPORT ADDED AT ABUTMENT PNM
A ISSUED TO CLIENT A.E.T
DRAWN A.E.THOMPSON
DESIGNED P.NYDORAN
SHEET SIZE A1
SCALE AS SHOWN
ZERO FORT DENISON TIDE GAUGE
C.W.HENSTOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.
CONSULTING CIVIL, STRUCTURAL & MARITIME ENGINEERS
CLIENT CLEMENT MARINE SERVICES
PROJECT LEICHHARDT PARK PONTOON
TITLE 18.0m ACCESS RAMP AND DETAILS
JOB REF 2006/041
DATE 13-9-06
DRAWING No. 06/041-1-04
REV. C
DO NOT SCALE DRAWING


GUIDE MOUNTING PLATE 10mm ALUMINIUM FLOOR PLATE
TYP
80x125x10 ALUMINIUM ANGLE (typ.)
WEAR BLOCK MEDIUM DENSITY POLYETHYLENE
ø22 HOLE (typ.)
PILE GUIDE ASSEMBLY VIEWED FROM UNDER SIDE
GUIDE MOUNTING PLATE ASSEMBLY
1:10
PILE GUIDE NOT SHOWN IN THIS VIEW FOR CLARITY
GUIDE MOUNTING PLATE 10mm ALUMINIUM FLOOR PLATE
GUIDE MOUNTING PLATE
1:10
PLAN
BASE FRAME
NOTE:
ALL STRUCTURE IS FULLY WELDED WITH A FILLET RADIUS OF 5mm.
ALL EXTRUSIONS ARE OF GRADE 6063-T5
FILLER ALLOY IS OF GRADE 5356.
ALL FASTENERS ARE 316SS.
WEAR STRIPS ARE HDPE.
10 AL FLOOR PLATE
100x50x6 AL ANGLE
ANGLES WELDED TOGETHER FULL PENETRATION BUTT WELD
END ELEVATION
CENTRE LINE OF POST BEYOND
ø50x3 CHS ALUMINIUM HANDRAIL AND POST (typ.)
M12 STAINLESS STEEL CHEMSETS AT 300 CENTRES
FRONT ELEVATION
FIXED RAMP DETAILS
ø400 ROCLA 'DURASPUN' MARINA PILE
GUIDE MOUNTING PLATE 10mm ALUMINIUM FLOOR PLATE
M20 BOLT (typ.)
WEAR BLOCK MEDIUM DENSITY POLYETHYLENE
80x125x10 ALUMINIUM ANGLE (typ.)
200x100 HWD. BRACKET SUPPORT
M10 SS SOCKET HEAD CAP SCREWS WITH NYLOC NUTS
SECTION A
1:10
10mm CHAMFER (typ.)
COUNTER BORE ø18x12 DEEP
ø11 HOLE
MEDIUM DENSITY POLYETHYLENE WEAR BLOCK
1:5
Registered Professional Engineer 264903
Mr Colin W Henstock
MICE MIEAust CPEng
NPER
Signature.....Date.....
Registered on the NPER in the Category of
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UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
C 20.1.09 UPDATED AS-CONSTRUCTED RJC
B 07.07.09 AS-CONSTRUCTED PNM
A ISSUED TO CLIENT A.E.T.
REVISIONS
DRAWN N.E.THOMPSON
DESIGNED R.DIPPOLDSANO P.MYOCRAN
SHEET SIZE A1
DATUM ZERO PORT DENISON TIDE GAUGE
SCALE 1:20 U.N.O.
C.W HENSTOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.
CONSULTING CIVIL, STRUCTURAL & MARITIME ENGINEERS
CLIENT CLEMENT MARINE SERVICES
PROJECT LEICHHARDT PARK PUBLIC PONTOON
TITLE DETAILS SHEET
JOB REF 2006/041
DATE 20-9-06
DRAWING No 06/041-1-05
REV C
DO NOT SCALE DRAWING
J:\Projects\2006 Leichhardt Park - Clement Marine\AS-CONSTRUCTED_070709\UPDATED AS CONSTRUCTED\06-041-05-Rev8-DETAILS SHEET.dwg, Model, 11/7/2009 12:04:32 PM, Auto Canon Bubble-Jet S4500 on PIRA-BACKUP, 1:39.7332, PLOTTED BY: RJC


BAY WALK
NEW HANDRAIL
RAMP (DOWN 1:14 SLOPE)
ABUTMENT
STEPS
EXT. SANDSTONE SEAWALL
+2.800
+2.380
3000
1300
ABUTMENT, RAMP AND STEPS
1:50
17-N12-300T
8-N12-300T
7-N12-300T
700
RAMP HINGE PLATE FOR DETAILS REFER TO DRAWING No. 06/041-1-04
CHEMICAL ANCHOR
17-N16-300B
7-N16-300B
4-N16 (typ.)
R250-N10-200 (typ.)
CONCRETE INFILL F'c=50MPa (typ.)
ø273 FRC TUBE (typ.)
350ø KOPPERS PILE
2135
SECTION C
1500
5960
20
2660
75x75x5 EA WITH FISH TAIL ANCHOR (typ.)
SL92
13-N12-200
3-N12
1570
370(typ.)
140(typ.)
APPD. HDPE STRIP (Typ.)
N12
7-N16-200B
1300
SECTION A
17-N16-300B
N12
350ø KOPPERS PILE (typ.)
SECTION B
EXIST. SANDSTONE WALL (Typ.)
1950
450
150
400
3-TN12
SELECTED GRAVEL FILL OF MIN. THK 150 COMPACTED TO 98%. (Typ.)
SECTION D
SECTION E
Registered Professional Engineer 264903
Mr Colin W Henstock
MICE MIEAust CPEng
NPER
Signature.....Date.....
Registered on the NPER in the Category of
Civil
National Professional Engineers Register
PILE LOADING AND PENETRATIONS
(PENETRATIONS BASED ON PILING RECORDS SUBMITTED BY CLEMENT MARINE SERVICES)
PILE NO | U.L.T. DESIGN AXIAL LOAD | PILE TYPE | PENETRATION BELOW
P1 | 74 kN | KOPPERS 350ø | 4.3 M
P2 | 74 kN | KOPPERS 350ø | 4.4 M
P3 | 10 kN | FRC 273ø | 2.4 M
P4 | 10 kN | FRC 273ø | 2.4 M
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UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
D 20.11.09 UPDATED AS CONSTRUCTED
C 07.07.09 AS CONSTRUCTED
B 15.01.08 PILES P3 & P4 MOVED & ABUTMENT RF MODIFIED
A ISSUED TO CLIENT
REVISIONS
DRAWN A.E.THOMPSON
DESIGNED P.KYDORAN
SHEET SIZE A1
DATUM ZERO FORT DENISON TIDE GAUGE
SCALE 1:20 U.N.O.
C.W.HENSTOCK & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.
CONSULTING CIVIL, STRUCTURAL & MARITIME ENGINEERS
CLIENT CLEMENT MARINE SERVICES
PROJECT LEICHHARDT PARK PONTOON
TITLE ABUTMENT DETAILS
JOB REF 2006/041
DATE 13-9-06
DRAWING No. 06/041-1-06
REV D
DO NOT SCALE DRAWING

Appendix B

Hydrographic Survey – Iron Cove – July 2024



OFFICIAL

GIS Hydro Job No: 2024-29

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 29**

Subject: **NOTICE OF MOTION: CAR SHARE SPOTS**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

From: **Councillor Victor Macri**

MOTION

That a report on the annual fee for car share spaces to include a comparison of other councils to come back to Council for consideration at the February 2026 meeting.

Background

With the number of car share companies expanding, it is putting increase pressure on at grade parking spots it is crucial that we use this resource wisely and in the best interests of the residents ensuring we achieve an equitable outcome.

Dear all,

I am writing in relation to Item 9 of the Local Traffic Committee meeting on 16 June 2025. The item referred to an approach from Flexicar for 12 on-street car share spaces in the Inner West LGA. The Minutes will record that the motion passed with the exclusion of Arthur Street Marrickville.

I voted for the motion and the exclusion as I believed it was my responsibility as Jo Haylen's rep to do so. Personally, I am opposed to the motion and would like to justify my opposition. I will preface my comments by saying that I understand the positive aspects of car-share, i.e., alternative to car ownership, convenience, environmental benefits to mention a few.

My issue revolves around the use of public car spaces and the charges involved. As I understand, the current fees are:
Application fee - $187
Signage - $439
Annual fee - $200

The annual fee for a dedicated car space is not realistic. A quick Google search found the following commercial car space rents in residential or other private carparks.
Ashfield $141-$292/month
Leichhardt $208-$242/month
Marrickville $312-$390/month
Balmain $260-$403/month
Summer Hill $130-$364/month
Annandale $412-$637/month

It is important to recognise that these car spaces are off-street and not utilising public streets. The other major difference is that these rentals are monthly.

Calculating on an annual amount, these commercial rents are between $1,440 and $7,644 per annum. Based on that alone, the $200 annual fee charged by IWC is unrealistic.

As to rental charges, following is a comparison of the four major car share companies.
GoGet KINTO Popcar Flexicar

Subscription (Mth) $30 - $20 $15
Daily hire $69 $68 $79 $85
Per KM - 27c - 35c

Compared to No Birds ($31-60 daily) and Orana ($35-65) rentals charged by the car share companies isn't necessarily a good deal.

Car share companies doubtless take money away from established car hire companies. That may explain why Hertz purchased the car-sharing company Flexicar in December 2010.

Given the concessions offered to car share companies it was a sound business decision. Generally, car hire companies must own or rent premises to hold its vehicles, whilst car share companies do incur such overheads. The formation of this business plan is pure genius and unfortunately councils across Sydney are on board for the ride.

Private car ownership reveals the following –
Per Household Greater Sydney IWC
Overall Car Ownership 84.2% 78.8%
One Car 38.1% 50.3%
Two Cars 31.0% 22.5%
Three Cars or more 15.1% 6.1%
No Cars 10.8% 17.0%

There are approximately 880 car share spaces in Greater Sydney, of which I believe around 80 are in the IWC LGA. Keeping in mind that the Fairer Future for the Inner West strategy mentions 35,000 homes, the statistics above would indicate an increase of around 17,600 cars.

According to Statista.com revenue in the Australian car-sharing market is projected to reach US$246.80m (AUS$380m) in 2025.

On that figure alone, it is time that IWC charged commercial rents for the use of spaces. The use of public street spaces should also be reconsidered. It is reasonable that the IWC use council owned car parks to rent spaces.

The car share industry has set up an advantageous business model, and good luck to them. That said, the IWC is losing out on an income stream that would benefit all ratepayers. It is undeniable that car share companies (i.e., private car rental companies) are receiving advantages not open to similar companies.

I urge the Council to reconsider the low charges made available to car share companies for use of public car parking space. Whilst I oppose use of parking spaces on public roads, the Council should at least consider raising the annual fees to reflect commercial rents in the IWC LGA.

Failing that, car share spaces should only be available in council owned car parks.

Graeme McKay

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 30**

Subject: **NOTICE OF MOTION: TREE REMOVAL AT 54 THORNLEY STREET LEICHHARDT**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

From: **Councillor Andrew Blake**

MOTION

1. That Council note that:

a) Thornley Street is a quiet residential street situated on the Excelsior Estate running north to south;

b) Outside 54 Thornley Street is a 16m tall Yellow Bloodwood tree which is one the last remaining mature aged tree within the area;

c) The tree plays significant functions such as:

i. Canopy and shade;

ii. Emotional solace to those waiting at Leichhardt Women's Medical Centre; and

iii. Home to multiple species of mammals including possums, and birds, including lorikeets, cockatoos and currawongs.

d) On about 5 June 2025, Council affixed a tree removal notice to the tree;

e) On 6 June 2025, a local resident submitted a GIPA application in respect of the tree (*Attachment 3*). The GIPA application sought production of documents dated or coming into existence on or after 1 January 2023 concerning, constituting or on the subject matter of any of the following:

i. The decision made by the Inner West Council to issue a tree removal notice dated on or about 6 June 2025.

ii. The reasons for the decision.

iii. Inspections of the tree by employees and/or consultants of the Inner West Council.

iv. Assessments by employees and/or consultants of the Inner West Council on the condition of the tree including written reports.

e) On 10 June 2025, being 2 business days after affixing the notice, Council commenced preparatory works to remove the tree the following date by placing bollards outside 54 Thornley Street. There were no extenuating circumstances requiring the removal of the tree within 14 days after the affixing of the notice and such action was contrary to Section 9 of Council's Urban Forest Policy adopted 20 May 2025.

f) On 10 June 2025, Council stopped the works to remove the tree following representations by Clr Philippa Scott.

g) On a date after 10 June 2025, council replaced the tree removal notice with a second notice. The notice advises that a replacement Brush Box (understood to be "100 litre" tree) shall be planted as part of Council's 2025/2026 Tree Planting Program if the tree is removed.

h) On about 22 June 2025, residents established a petition calling for the recission of the decision to remove the tree. Notice of the petition was given to residents via a letter box drop to the 500 houses closest to the tree and posts to the Leichhardt Community Group Facebook page. As at 10:00am on 9 August 2025, 380 residents have signed the petition

i) On about 17 July 2025, Council responded to the GIPA Application by only providing an extract from its CRM and correspondence to/from Councillors and

residents dated after the first removal notice was affixed to the tree.

j) On 30 July 2024, Michael Tay, Coordinator Public Tree prepared an Inspection Report addressing details of his inspection of the tree on 21 March 2025 and the reasons for the tree's removal. In his report, Mr Tay considered that:
   i. The condition of the tree is good, and it is generally healthy.
   ii. The only reason for its removal is because, in his opinion, there are no practical remedial options to reinstate the footway to a conforming level and width

k) Residents have commissioned Margot Blues, Consulting Arborist (AQ5) to prepare an independent report on the condition of the tree. In her report dated 4 August 2025 Ms Blues expressed opinions to the following effect:

l) Her TRAQ assessment resulted in an overall tree risk rating of LOW and an overall residual risk rating of LOW.
   i. As the tree is mature, in good health and well established, its removal should be the last consideration especially from an environmental viewpoint.
   ii. The tree has a very high retention value based on its health, condition, environmental benefits, prominence and estimated remaining ULE.
   iii. The slight disruption to the footpath … would not seem significant enough to warrant the removal of such a mature healthy tree. [The issue] could be managed and the tree retained.

2. That Council accept the petition tabled as *Attachment 2* to this Notice of Motion.

3. That Council requests the General Manager to:
   a) Rescind the decision made on or before 5 June 2025 to remove the tree situated at 54 Thornley Street, Leichhardt (Tree).
   b) Commission a report from a suitably qualified independent environmental consultant (Environmental Consultant) to provide advice and recommendations in respect of Council's obligations under the NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Act (NSW) 2016 and the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and *Biodiversity and Conservation* Act (Cth), and on receiving such a report act in accordance with the recommendations made the Environmental Consultant.
   c) Work with residents of Thornley to explore options for repairing the cracked footpath, include ramps, and/or constructing a footpath around the eastern side of the tree.
   d) In the event that Council has demonstrated that it has fulfilled its obligations with the above acts and exhausted all engineering options to preserve the tree, a replacement tree is to within four weeks of the removal of the Tree as part of its 2025/2026 tree planting program.
   e) If the tree is to be removed, a wildlife removal plan is to be put in place before removing the tree.

Background

The Thornley Street Bloodwork is an iconic landmark in Leichhardt. It provides shade to residents and passerby's, as well as a home for numerous wildlife. This tree was slated for removal in June. The residents of Thornley have organized a petition to save this tree with almost 400 signatures. Despite repeated requests to delay the removal of this tree until after the August council meeting – so that the residents petition could be table, the tree was set for removal on 6 August. Over a dozen residents gathered in the early morning as a protest to the removal before the chain saws were called off.

This meeting is now opportunity for the residents to be heard and for council to look at alternative solutions to removing integral parts of our urban canopy.

Officer's Comments:

Comment from General Manager:

Following recent requests from Councillors to defer removal of the tree, Legal Services have advised that the role of a Councillor is not to influence an administrative decision by Council officers when such decision has been properly performed under delegation. There is no express prohibition that forbids a Councillor from becoming involved in an operational decision of Council. However, if such a decision has been made in accordance with the legislation and more importantly to protect the safety of members of the public, then the role and influence of a Councillor in such decisions is limited. There is an open question in relation to the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act) about whether a Councillor or Council vote and decision which may override an operational decision of Council [the organisation], impacts the exclusion of Councillors from section 5 *Meaning of 'Person conducting a business or undertaking"* (or PCBU) subsection (5) which provides "An elected member of a local authority does not in that capacity conduct a business or undertaking.". If so, Councillors risk being held liable as an Officer under the WHS Act for any associated public safety incidents which follow.

The reason for the tree removal of the tree was addressed in correspondence to residents on 30 June 2025 with a new tree removal date proposed of 24 July 2025.
Council's reason for removal hasn't changed since this time but further supplementary information was provided to Councillors in a Briefing Note dated 1 August and the most recent submission provided by residents has been also addressed in detail in the file note dated 12 August 2025. Both of these are attached for Council's reference in an additional report titled 54 Thornley Street Tree removal.

There is no practical option that will keep the footway open and retain the tree. Council has a responsibility to manage foreseeable risk and maintain appropriate footpaths for all users regardless of mobility. The removal and replacement of the tree provides a viable intergenerational option that removes the risk and provides for the future.

Council staff have formed the opinion that the tree is generally healthy, the High risk posed to pedestrians is foreseeable and unacceptable, and there are no practical remedial options to reinstate the footway to a conforming level and width. As stated in Council's Risk Management Policy, Council has a low risk appetite for activities that pose safety risks to the public.
The tree will be removed under the *Roads Act 1993* to allow the works to be undertaken and address the traffic hazard. The works include:

1. The tree removal, stump grinding,
2. Footway and kerb and gutter reinstatement with an investigation to expand to increase space for the new tree, and
3. A new 100 litre Brushbox planted as part of Council 2025/26 program due to commence in spring 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

1.⇩ Tree Photograph
2.⇩ Save the Tree Petition
3.⇩ Tree Removal Notice
4.⇩ Tay Report
5.⇩ Blues Report

Document 2: Photograph of tree



Save The Tree

Petition to Inner West Council Councillors.

We the undersigned request Inner West Council to rescind the decision to remove the Yellow Bloodwood tree located at the corner of Thornley and Cary Streets, Leichhardt.

The petitioners consider:

- The Council's reasons for the removal are insufficient to warrant the decision; and
- The Council's concerns regarding the tree can be addressed using alternative methods.

This petition will be presented to Councillors of the Inner West Council.

Number	Time stamp	First name	Last name	Email	Address
1	22/06/2025 21:12:04	[redacted]			
2	22/06/2025 21:15:05				
3	22/06/2025 21:27:29				
4	23/06/2025 08:54:58				
5	23/06/2025 10:20:53				
6	23/06/2025 11:10:48				
7	23/06/2025 20:05:27				
8	24/06/2025 07:55:28				
9	24/06/2025 07:58:32				
10	24/06/2025 09:54:11				
11	24/06/2025 09:55:40				
12	24/06/2025 11:24:14				
13	24/06/2025 11:48:57				
14	24/06/2025 17:17:52				

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

1/19

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18	25/06/2025 13:02:36	
19	25/06/2025 21:02:16	
20	26/06/2025 08:18:32	
21	26/06/2025 11:43:10	
22	26/06/2025 11:43:35	
23	26/06/2025 12:29:46	
24	26/06/2025 12:33:17	
25	26/06/2025 17:15:03	
26	26/06/2025 17:32:14	
27	26/06/2025 18:18:57	
28	26/06/2025 18:32:48	
29	26/06/2025 18:38:56	
30	26/06/2025 19:15:31	
31	26/06/2025 19:59:10	
32	26/06/2025 20:07:47	
33	26/06/2025 20:08:43	
34	26/06/2025 20:16:24	
35	27/06/2025 05:15:37	
36	27/06/2025 09:18:21	

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

2/19

37	27/06/2025 10:27:22
38	27/06/2025 11:18:52
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40	27/06/2025 12:10:21
41	27/06/2025 12:45:17
42	27/06/2025 13:55:04
43	27/06/2025 14:13:20
44	27/06/2025 16:30:30
45	27/06/2025 18:36:28
46	27/06/2025 18:38:01
47	27/06/2025 18:38:56
48	27/06/2025 18:42:54
49	27/06/2025 18:43:51
50	27/06/2025 18:44:06
51	27/06/2025 18:46:04
52	27/06/2025 18:50:13
53	27/06/2025 18:52:49
54	27/06/2025 18:57:42
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56	27/06/2025 19:26:58
57	27/06/2025 19:27:52
58	27/06/2025 19:32:30

[redacted]

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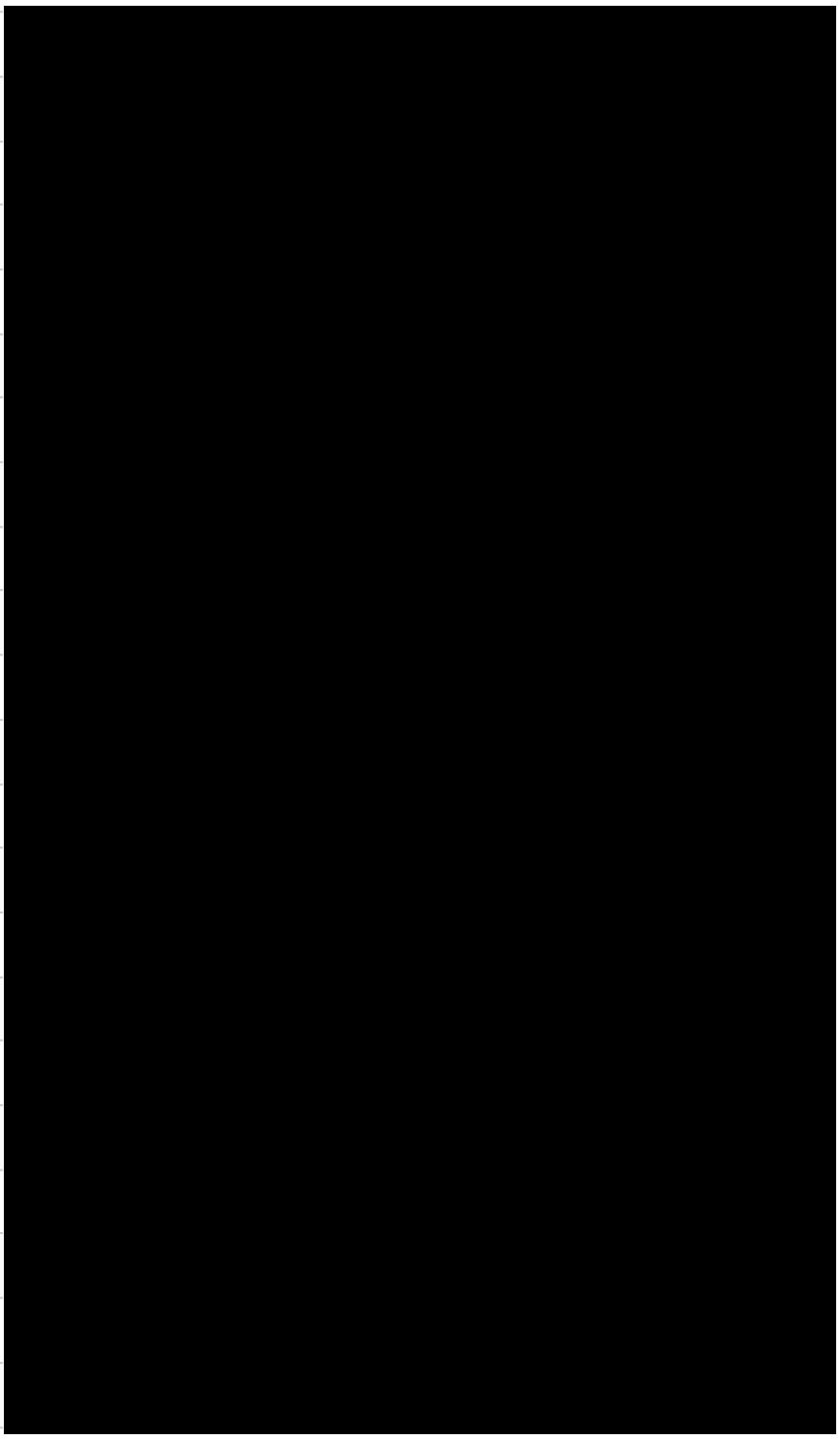
3/19

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60	27/06/2025 19:36:01
61	27/06/2025 20:07:38
62	27/06/2025 20:07:53
63	27/06/2025 20:16:42
64	27/06/2025 20:24:10
65	27/06/2025 20:45:57
66	27/06/2025 20:59:32
67	27/06/2025 21:36:09
68	27/06/2025 21:43:20
69	27/06/2025 22:11:17
70	27/06/2025 22:34:18
71	27/06/2025 23:40:58
72	28/06/2025 08:11:38
73	28/06/2025 09:13:36
74	28/06/2025 10:46:54
75	28/06/2025 11:27:56
76	28/06/2025 11:57:04
77	28/06/2025 12:09:12
78	28/06/2025 12:44:08
79	28/06/2025 13:03:55
80	28/06/2025 19:09:51

[redacted]

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

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88	29/06/2025 21:11:26
89	29/06/2025 21:49:21
90	30/06/2025 13:42:42
91	30/06/2025 14:52:29
92	30/06/2025 17:29:54
93	30/06/2025 21:11:49
94	30/06/2025 21:37:50
95	30/06/2025 21:38:27
96	30/06/2025 22:32:59
97	30/06/2025 23:51:33
98	01/07/2025 17:29:35
99	01/07/2025 17:30:19
100	02/07/2025 17:09:54
101	03/07/2025 20:24:40
102	04/07/2025 06:44:05



Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

5/19

103	04/07/2025 10:11:06
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105	04/07/2025 12:08:35
106	07/07/2025 08:45:40
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109	11/07/2025 20:54:46
110	11/07/2025 20:55:52
111	11/07/2025 20:56:57
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113	11/07/2025 21:03:56
114	11/07/2025 21:34:44
115	11/07/2025 22:17:32
116	11/07/2025 22:27:04
117	11/07/2025 23:27:21
118	12/07/2025 07:40:51
119	12/07/2025 07:49:01
120	12/07/2025 08:59:35
121	12/07/2025 09:15:10
122	12/07/2025 09:25:01
123	12/07/2025 12:41:11
124	13/07/2025 16:29:23

[redacted]

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

6/19

125	13/07/2025 17:00:44
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131	19/07/2025 12:09:25
132	19/07/2025 12:47:11
133	19/07/2025 12:56:07
134	19/07/2025 13:10:56
135	19/07/2025 14:09:54
136	19/07/2025 15:56:58
137	19/07/2025 16:43:48
138	19/07/2025 16:44:22
139	19/07/2025 16:45:28
140	19/07/2025 17:10:49
141	19/07/2025 17:22:58
142	19/07/2025 17:34:11
143	19/07/2025 21:11:12
144	19/07/2025 21:51:23
145	19/07/2025 22:25:56
146	19/07/2025 22:54:39

[redacted]

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

7/19

147	20/07/2025 08:45:23
148	20/07/2025 08:46:49
149	20/07/2025 09:25:30
150	20/07/2025 09:49:27
151	20/07/2025 10:31:42
152	20/07/2025 12:41:17
153	20/07/2025 12:56:36
154	20/07/2025 13:22:29
155	20/07/2025 15:39:25
156	20/07/2025 19:55:49
157	20/07/2025 22:03:23
158	20/07/2025 22:51:46
159	21/07/2025 13:59:50
160	21/07/2025 14:00:54
161	21/07/2025 14:24:12
162	21/07/2025 14:24:17
163	21/07/2025 14:30:54
164	21/07/2025 15:10:52
165	21/07/2025 17:29:52
166	21/07/2025 18:48:35
167	21/07/2025 21:41:29
168	22/07/2025 08:51:13

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Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information. 8/19

169	22/07/2025 09:06:55	[redacted]
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174	23/07/2025 12:04:55	
175	23/07/2025 12:09:02	
176	24/07/2025 19:48:22	
177	25/07/2025 18:17:42	
178	25/07/2025 22:46:38	
179	26/07/2025 15:28:05	
180	26/07/2025 16:22:55	
181	28/07/2025 08:20:42	
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183	01/08/2025 12:17:54	
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185	04/08/2025 12:36:12	
186	04/08/2025 12:37:32	
187	04/08/2025 12:40:09	
188	04/08/2025 12:40:20	
189	04/08/2025 12:40:44	
190	04/08/2025 12:41:04	

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information. 9/19

191	04/08/2025 12:42:54
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194	04/08/2025 12:46:53
195	04/08/2025 12:47:29
196	04/08/2025 12:49:22
197	04/08/2025 12:51:19
198	04/08/2025 12:52:19
199	04/08/2025 12:52:44
200	04/08/2025 12:53:58
201	04/08/2025 12:54:19
202	04/08/2025 12:57:44
203	04/08/2025 12:57:49
204	04/08/2025 12:58:47
205	04/08/2025 12:59:12
206	04/08/2025 12:59:28
207	04/08/2025 13:02:49
208	04/08/2025 13:05:30
209	04/08/2025 13:06:37
210	04/08/2025 13:07:35
211	04/08/2025 13:10:01
212	04/08/2025 13:11:39

[redacted]

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

10/19

213	04/08/2025 13:12:48
214	04/08/2025 13:13:08
215	04/08/2025 13:16:27
216	04/08/2025 13:17:39
217	04/08/2025 13:26:21
218	04/08/2025 13:28:00
219	04/08/2025 13:32:22
220	04/08/2025 13:36:33
221	04/08/2025 13:37:28
222	04/08/2025 13:40:34
223	04/08/2025 13:52:45
224	04/08/2025 14:10:25
225	04/08/2025 14:12:48
226	04/08/2025 14:20:21
227	04/08/2025 14:23:19
228	04/08/2025 14:23:34
229	04/08/2025 14:34:11
230	04/08/2025 14:48:19
231	04/08/2025 14:55:27
232	04/08/2025 15:08:08
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Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

11/19

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238	04/08/2025 15:41:43
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240	04/08/2025 15:43:48
241	04/08/2025 15:49:35
242	04/08/2025 16:03:26
243	04/08/2025 16:04:35
244	04/08/2025 16:06:56
245	04/08/2025 16:12:44
246	04/08/2025 16:14:42
247	04/08/2025 16:15:11
248	04/08/2025 16:19:17
249	04/08/2025 16:49:20
250	04/08/2025 16:50:39
251	04/08/2025 16:54:00
252	04/08/2025 16:57:36
253	04/08/2025 17:02:12
254	04/08/2025 17:07:27
255	04/08/2025 17:08:49
256	04/08/2025 17:19:01

[redacted]

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

12/19

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259	04/08/2025 17:27:52
260	04/08/2025 17:29:56
261	04/08/2025 17:31:53
262	04/08/2025 17:43:50
263	04/08/2025 18:03:02
264	04/08/2025 18:03:23
265	04/08/2025 18:25:07
266	04/08/2025 18:25:41
267	04/08/2025 18:33:51
268	04/08/2025 18:34:44
269	04/08/2025 18:38:33
270	04/08/2025 18:56:13
271	04/08/2025 18:59:57
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273	04/08/2025 19:06:34
274	04/08/2025 19:06:45
275	04/08/2025 19:08:34
276	04/08/2025 19:08:36
277	04/08/2025 19:16:55
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Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

13/19

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285	04/08/2025 19:46:18	
286	04/08/2025 20:16:52	
287	04/08/2025 20:27:14	
288	04/08/2025 20:32:15	
289	04/08/2025 20:33:05	
290	04/08/2025 20:34:44	
291	04/08/2025 20:35:20	
292	04/08/2025 20:43:08	
293	04/08/2025 21:14:19	
294	04/08/2025 21:39:59	
295	04/08/2025 22:13:47	
296	04/08/2025 22:17:53	
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299	04/08/2025 22:42:24	
300	05/08/2025 06:48:19	

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

14/19

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312	05/08/2025 08:10:13
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315	05/08/2025 08:34:13
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317	05/08/2025 09:10:37
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321	05/08/2025 09:55:34
322	05/08/2025 10:12:33

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15/19

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331	05/08/2025 17:21:05
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333	05/08/2025 17:52:14
334	05/08/2025 18:24:29
335	05/08/2025 18:40:45
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16/19

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Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

17/19

367	06/08/2025 22:58:02
368	06/08/2025 23:17:24
369	06/08/2025 23:57:55
370	07/08/2025 04:09:25
371	07/08/2025 06:07:16
372	07/08/2025 06:37:27
373	07/08/2025 07:12:47
374	07/08/2025 08:39:23
375	07/08/2025 08:43:19
376	07/08/2025 14:58:12
377	07/08/2025 16:34:32
378	07/08/2025 16:38:37
379	07/08/2025 18:34:29
380	07/08/2025 19:46:25
381	07/08/2025 19:56:36
382	07/08/2025 20:28:40
383	07/08/2025 21:13:45
384	07/08/2025 22:37:04
385	07/08/2025 22:52:58
386	08/08/2025 02:55:01
387	08/08/2025 02:56:15
388	08/08/2025 10:07:25

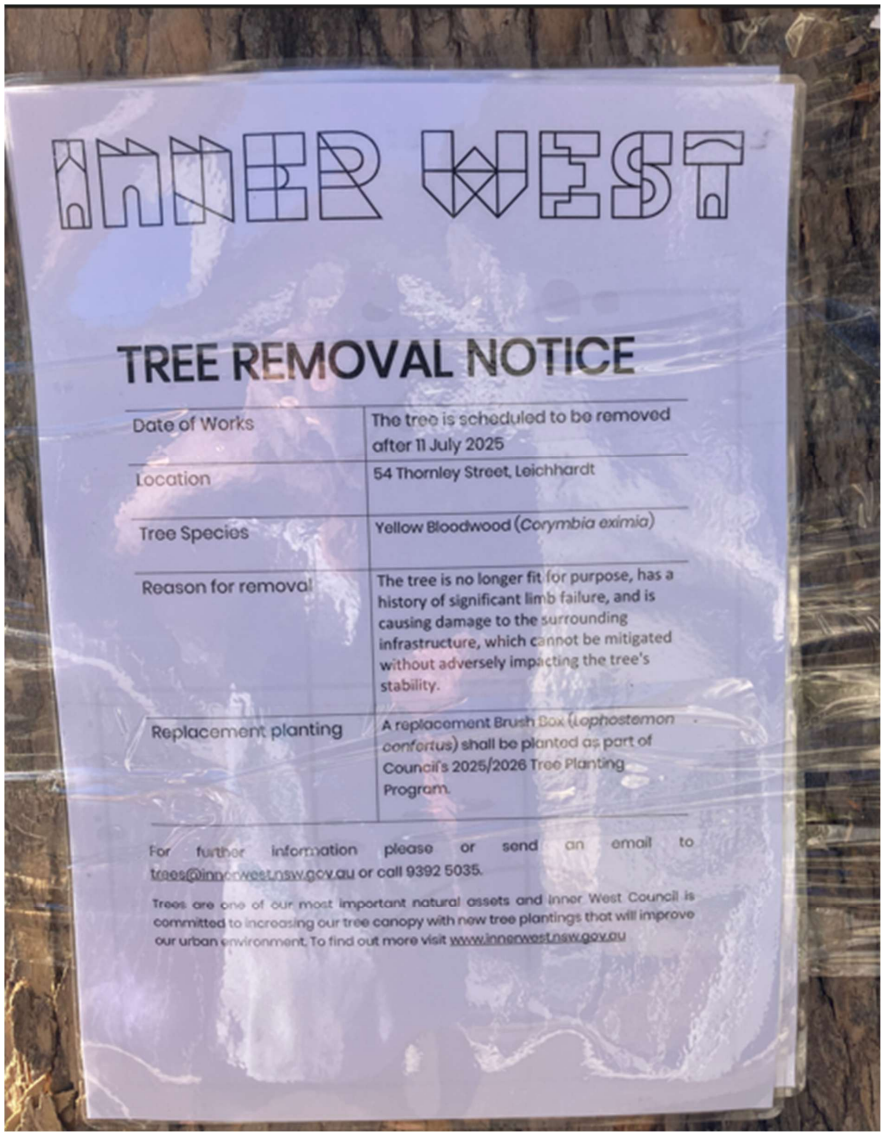
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Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

18/19

389	08/08/2025 11:19:46	[redacted]
390	08/08/2025 12:00:30	

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INNER WEST

TREE REMOVAL NOTICE

Date of Works	The tree is scheduled to be removed after 11 July 2025
Location	54 Thornley Street, Leichhardt
Tree Species	Yellow Bloodwood (*Corymbia eximia*)
Reason for removal	The tree is no longer fit for purpose, has a history of significant limb failure, and is causing damage to the surrounding infrastructure, which cannot be mitigated without adversely impacting the tree's stability.
Replacement planting	A replacement Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*) shall be planted as part of Council's 2025/2026 Tree Planting Program.

For further information please or send an email to trees@innerwest.nsw.gov.au or call 9392 5035.

Trees are one of our most important natural assets and Inner West Council is committed to increasing our tree canopy with new tree plantings that will improve our urban environment. To find out more visit www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au

INSPECTION REPORT - NOTIFIABLE TREE REMOVAL

To:	**Lachlan Broadbent, Senior Manager Operations**
CC:	**Manod Wickramasinghe, Acting Director Engineering**
From:	**Lindsay Field, Public Trees Manager**
Tree Officer:	**Michael Tay, Coordinator Public Trees**
Date:	**30 July 2025**
Subject:	**Notifiable Tree Removal 54 Thornley Street Leichhardt**

Dear Mr Broadbent

Summary

The following information details the inspection and reasons for the removal of the Yellow Bloodwood (*Eucalyptus eximia*) at the front of 54 Thornley St Leichhardt.

1 Background

A request was received by a nearby resident on 16 December 2024. A follow up email was received from the resident on 7 April 2025 raising further concern due to people tripping on the footway. On 22 April 2025 IWC Civil inspected and could not rectify the footway.

On 21 March 2025, I (Michael Tay) Inspected the tree and the surrounding interactions. The following details my inspection.

2 Tree assessment

Date of Inspection	21 March 2025
Name & Qualification	Michael Tay – AQF level 5
Species	Eucalyptus eximia
Location	Footway – Front of property
Height	16 metres
Diameter 1.4m above grade	0.75 metres
Size index calculation	1200
Health	Good
Structure	Fair - lean over roadside, exudation of kino (sap) at limb union.
Previous failures	Yes – Multiple, Primary branch and lower order branches.

Property interaction roots	No visible damage to the property structures or fixtures
Infrastructure interaction roots or root crown	Yes – roots impacting footpath access (non-compliant) and roadside kerb and gutter.
TRAQ Risk Rating	High – roots causing footway trip hazards and restricting access. The tree has outgrown the planted location.
Options considered to retain tree	Isolate risk of trip, engineering solutions to widen or raise footpath, mitigate roadside impacts
Any Feasible Options	No
Useful Life Expectancy	0 Years

3 Conclusion & Recommendation

I have formed the opinion that the tree is generally healthy, the risk posed to pedestrians in the foreseeable future is unacceptable, and there are no practical remedial options to reinstate the footway to a conforming level and width.

In accordance with my delegation under the Roads Act 1993 I recommend that the tree is removed, the footway and kerb and gutter reinstated and a new tree planted.

Michael Tay
Coordinator Public trees
AQF 5 Arboriculture Tafe NSW

Reviewed
Lindsay Field
Public Trees Manager
AQF 8 Arboriculture Melbourne University



Image 1. Tree looking from Cary Street, Leichhardt



Image 2. view of displaced and encroachment into footway be tree roots and root crown.



Image 3. view of tree looking toward Cary Street noting expansive root crown, displaced footway and heaved asphalt due to surface roots.



Image 4. An exudation of kino (sap) at limb union.



Image 5. Upper canopy showing previous cuts from removal of stubs assumed to be the failed limbs previously reported.



Image 6. Wounding to the trunk for ongoing vehicle impacts

MARGOT BLUES
CONSULTING ARBORIST

4 August 2025

Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information.

[redacted]
Sent by email: [redacted]

Corymbia eximia (Yellow Bloodwood) – Street Tree
Verge fronting No 54 Thornley St Leichhardt

At your request, the above street tree was assessed on Friday 1 August 2025 in the presence of yourself and two other residents. It is understood Council is proposing removal with a high number of residents dissatisfied with the decision and are seeking a comprehensive and satisfactory justification for its removal.

I have been asked to assess the tree's health and condition, suitability to the site, useful life expectancy (ULE) and possible recommendations.

Various correspondence documents have been received regarding this matter.

Council's justification for removal:

- Damage to infrastructure being asphalted footpath and rootplate extending over the kerb. Impedance of stormwater flow from the gutter.
- Narrowness of footpath restricting prams and mobility scooters.
- Branch failure (x 3) and damage sustained to a boundary front fence – public risk and hazard.

Results

The tree was visually assessed from ground level only. No destructive investigations occurred.

Review of historical imagery included Google Street view (date range 2007 – 2021) and Nearmap (Nov 2009 – May 2025). From this date range imagery, the tree has remained in good health and condition as evidenced by the high leaf ratio throughout this period.

The tree presented as a mature and healthy native species (Photos 3 & 7). No defect within the tree warranting removal was seen.

Evidence of three pruned sites noted with no decay present at these sites. The pruned sites were lower limbs towards the south and west of the main trunk (Photo 4).

The lower trunk had a slight bias lean to the N/NE then righted to 90 degrees (Photos 3, 5 6 & 7).

- Canopy balanced.
- Trunk diameter (DBH 1.4m) 750cm
- Trunk diameter (DGL) 1100cm
- Estimated tree height 16 metres
- Canopy spread 11m radial and considered balanced.
- Branch attachment and angle Good

No evidence of termite activity seen e.g. arboreal nests, mudding on the trunk or root plate area indicative of termite activity.

No evidence of root plate lifting and no evidence of pests or diseases.

Damaged footpath (Photos 1 & 2).

No evidence of damage occurring inside the front boundary fence of No 54 Thornley Street.

- ULE long (Greater than 40 years) – based on its current condition.

Historical online weather data currently commences from December 2024 to present (http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/dwo/IDCJDW2061.latest.shtml).

- The volume of foot traffic up and down the street was reportedly low.
- The planting theme along Thornley Street is generally Callistemon sp (Bottlebrush).

Proposed replacement planting as suggested by Council is a 100 litre tree (Brush Box *Lophostemon confertus).*

Risk and hazard (TRAQ)

TRAQ assessment resulted in an overall tree risk rating of **LOW** and an Overall residual risk rating of **LOW** – see attached worksheet.

Discussion

Reviewing the tree's health over that last 18 years, it would appear the tree has well survived its harsh urban environment. No sign of canopy deterioration (retrenchment[1]).

No comment can be made on the condition of the failed branches as no arboricultural assessment could be determined. The branch collars at the pruned sites appeared within normal limits and detailed weather data was not available to correlate branch failure timing with associated weather events.

In consideration, the failure of three branches only over a five and a half year interval and all similarly orientated off the main trunk would suggest that the tree has been impacted by

[1] Retrenchment: natural process during which an overtly mature tree reduces its crown and increases its girth to consolidate resources and increase longevity. (Tree Risk Assessment Manual – ISA).

adverse weather events rather than genetically defective and or affected by pest or disease. The historical imagery did not suggest that these failed branches were overextended.

The slight bend in the tree's lower trunk then righting to vertical indicates the tree has adjusted to the lean (Matheny, 1994). In the case of Eucalypts (including Corymbia) they are considered crown shy (Florence, 2004) therefore will bend away from other objects to maximise sunlight on the canopies.

The slight disruption to the footpath and gutter would not seem significant enough to warrant the removal of such a mature healthy tree. These issues could be managed and the tree retained.

The referenced replacement tree will be a 100 litre specimen as nominated by Council – possibly a Brush Box. With this replacement species, will not the same problems arise in a few decades as this species has the potential to replicate the current (and greater) dimensions of the existing tree. Therefore the current infrastructure issues will be replicated.

There is no indication that a 100 litre tree can be planted in the available space due to inground limitations such as cables, pipes, soil volume limitations etc. Newly planted trees generally have tree guards installed during the establishment period.

Conclusion

As the tree is mature, in good health and well established, its removal should be the last consideration especially from an environmental view point.

The tree has a very high retention value based on its health, condition, environmental benefits, prominence and estimated remaining ULE.

Recommendations:

- The current asphalt footpath can be repaired to remove/minimise trip hazards (Figure 1).
- Extend the footpath to pass on the eastern side of the tree, permitting prams and mobility scooters access. This would constitute the loss of one car parking space. In turn the gutter lip could be placed (extended) away from the tree's lignotuber. (At the time of inspection water pooling in the gutter was minimal and not commensurate with whole tree removal. – See Photos 5 & 6).
- Regular inspection of the tree especially after inclement weather events particularly when winds impact the tree from abnormal wind directions and/or turbulence from storms.

The footpath can be repaired as per Fig 1.



Figure 1: Footpath design above tree roots (location 186 Lyons Rd Five Dock).

I trust this information addresses the scope of works.

Margot Blues
Consulting Arborist (AQF5)
Dip. Horticulture (Arboriculture)
B.App.Sc (Horticulture)
Licenced Pest Technician
TRAQ qualified.

INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN CONSULTING ARBORICULTURISTS
IACA
ACCREDITED MEMBER™

Bibliography

Dunster, J. A. (2017). *Tree Risk Assessment* . Champaign Illinois: International Society of Arboriculture .

Florence, R. (2004). *Ecology and Silviculture of Eucalypt Forests.* Collingwood : CSIRO.

Matheny, C. (1994). *A Photographic Guide to the Evaluation of Hazard Tree in Urban Areas.* Champaign, Illinois USA: International Society of Arboriculture.

Photographs



Photo 1: Current infrastructure around tree's base.



Photo 2: Raised asphalt.



Photo 3: Slight trunk bend then upright. Excellent canopy health.



Photo 4: Two of the three pruned sites.



Photo 5: Slight pooling of water. Water did not overflow onto the footpath.



Photo 6: Possible alternative design.



Photo 7: Tree in excellent health.

ISA Basic Tree Risk Assessment Form

Client [redacted] Redacted in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Table to s. 14 (3) reveal an individual's personal information. Date 1/8/2025 Time 10.30am

Address/Tree location _____ Tree no. _____ Sheet 1 of 2

Tree species Corymbia eximia dbh 750mm Height 16m approx Crown spread dia. 11 metres

Assessor(s) Margot Blues Time frame 3 years Tools used Metal tape measure

Target Assessment

Target number	Target description	Target zone: Target within drip line	Target zone: Target within 1 x Ht.	Target zone: Target within 1.5 x Ht.	Occupancy rate (1–rare 2 – occasional 3 – frequent 4 – constant)	Practical to move target?	Restriction practical?
1	Parked cars	✔			3	Yes	Yes
2	Moving traffic	✔			2	No	No
3	Private dwellings	✔			4	No	No
4	Pedestrians	✔			2	No	No

Site Factors

History of failures NIL **Topography** Flat☐ Slope■ <5 % **Aspect** N/E

Site changes None ■ Grade change☐ Site clearing☐ Changed soil hydrology☐ Root cuts☐ Describe _____

Soil conditions Limited volume☐ Saturated☐ Shallow☐ Compacted☐ Pavement over roots■ 85 % Describe Footpath & roadway

Prevailing wind direction S/SW **Common weather** Strong winds☐ Ice☐ Snow☐ Heavy rain☐ Describe 30 year average

Tree Health and Species Profile

Vigor Low☐ Normal☐ High■ **Foliage** None (seasonal)☐ None (dead)☐ Normal 99.5 % Chlorotic ____ % Necrotic .5 %

Pests Nil seen **Abiotic** Slight bias trunk lean then rights to 90 degrees

Species failure profile Branches☐ Trunk☐ Roots☐ Describe Nil known

Load Factors

Wind exposure Protected☐ Partial☐ Full☐ Wind funneling☐ _____ **Relative crown size** Small☐ Medium☐ Large■

Crown density Sparse☐ Normal■ Dense☐ **Interior branches** Few☐ Normal■ Dense☐ **Vines/Mistletoe/Moss** ☐ NIL

Recent or planned change in load factors NIL seen or known

Tree Defects and Conditions Affecting the Likelihood of Failure

— Crown and Branches —

Unbalanced crown ☐ LCR 67 %

Dead twigs/branches ☐ ____% overall Max. dia. _____

Broken/Hangers Number _____ Max. dia. _____

Over-extended branches ☐

Pruning history

Crown cleaned ☐ Thinned ☐ Raised ☐

Reduced ☐ Topped ☐ Lion-tailed ☐

Flush cuts ☐ Other Maintenance pruned

Cracks ☐ _____ Lightning damage ☐

Codominant ☐ _____ Included bark ☐

Weak attachments ☐ _____ Cavity/Nest hole ____% circ.

Previous branch failures ■ x 3 Similar branches present ☐

Dead/Missing bark ☐ Cankers/Galls/Burls ☐ Sapwood damage/decay ☐

Conks ☐ Heartwood decay ☐ _____

Response growth _____

Main concern(s) NIL

Load on defect N/A ☐ Minor ☐ Moderate ☐ Significant ☐ _____

Likelihood of failure Improbable ☐ Possible ☐ Probable ☐ Imminent ☐ _____

— Trunk —

Dead/Missing bark ☐ Abnormal bark texture/color ☐

Codominant stems ☐ Included bark ☐ Cracks ☐

Sapwood damage/decay ☐ Cankers/Galls/Burls ☐ Sap ooze ☐

Lightning damage ☐ Heartwood decay ☐ Conks/Mushrooms ☐

Cavity/Nest hole _____ % circ. Depth _____ Poor taper ☐

Lean <5 ° Corrected? Yes

Response growth _____

Main concern(s) NIL

Load on defect N/A ■ Minor ☐ Moderate ☐ Significant ☐

Likelihood of failure

Improbable ☐ Possible ■ Probable ☐ Imminent ☐

— Roots and Root Collar —

Collar buried/Not visible ☐ Depth_____ Stem girdling ☐

Dead ☐ Decay ☐ Conks/Mushrooms ☐

Ooze ☐ Cavity ☐ _____% circ.

Cracks ☐ Cut/Damaged roots ■ Distance from trunk <2m

Root plate lifting ☐ Soil weakness ☐

Response growth _____

Main concern(s) NIL

Load on defect N/A ■ Minor ☐ Moderate ☐ Significant ☐

Likelihood of failure

Improbable ☐ Possible ■ Probable ☐ Imminent ☐

Risk Categorization

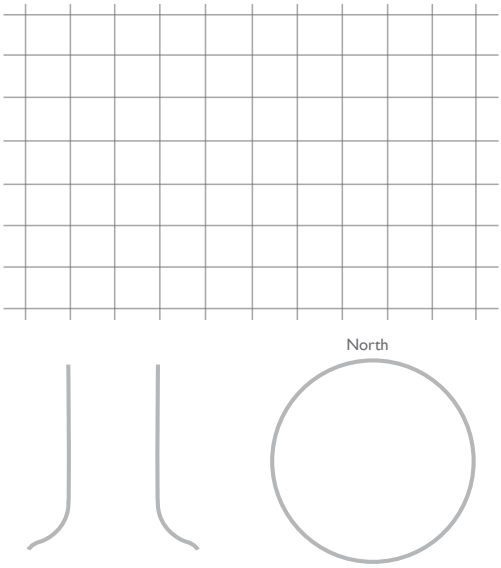
Condition number	Tree part	Conditions of concern	Part size	Fall distance	Target number	Target protection	Likelihood: Failure: Improbable	Failure: Possible	Failure: Probable	Failure: Imminent	Likelihood: Impact: Very low	Impact: Low	Impact: Medium	Impact: High	Likelihood: Failure & Impact (from Matrix 1): Unlikely	Somewhat	Likely	Very likely	Consequences: Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe	Risk rating of part (from Matrix 2)
1	Branches	Damage property (parked cars)	20cm	5m	1	Nil		●				●			●								Low
2	Branches	Moving traffic	20cm	5	2	NIL		●				●											Low
3	Branches	Dwellings	20	5	3	NIL		●				●								●			Low
4	Branches	Pedestrians	20	5	4	NIL		●				●			●								Low

Matrix 1. Likelihood matrix.

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impacting Target			
	Very low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely

Matrix 2. Risk rating matrix.

Likelihood of Failure & Impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low



Notes, explanations, descriptions Risk posed is low. No evidence of any defect warranting whole tree removal seen. Trunk lean corrected. Wide rootplate with no evidence of any movement.

Mitigation options Tree inspection once every 12 months or more frequently particularly after inclement weather events particularly intense thunderstorms. Look for branch cracking on the upper stems due to updraft turbulence

Residual risk Low

Residual risk

Residual risk

Residual risk

Overall tree risk rating Low ■ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Extreme ☐

Work priority 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐

Overall residual risk Low ■ Moderate ☐ High ☐ Extreme ☐

Recommended inspection interval ever 12 months

Data ☐Final ☐Preliminary **Advanced assessment needed** ■No ☐Yes-Type/Reason

Inspection limitations ☐None ☐Visibility ☐Access ☐Vines ■Root collar buried Describe Asphalt covering roots.

This datasheet was produced by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and is intended for use by Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ) arborists – 2013

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 31**

Subject: **NOTICE OF MOTION: COOKS RIVER LIGHTING**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

From: **Deputy Mayor Mat Howard**

MOTION

1. **That Council notes the recent allocation of funds required to install lighting along the Cooks River Pathway from Kendrick Park, Tempe, to Steel Park, Marrickville.**

2. **That Council acknowledges that this funding is the result of tireless community advocacy following the abhorrent attack of a young woman on the Cooks River Pathway in 2023.**

3. **That Council recognises the critical contribution of community members, such as Kiera Mackenzie, who have worked to raise awareness around the lack of lighting along the river, as well as local organisations such as the Cooks River Alliance, Mudcrabs, and Marrickville Football Club.**

4. **That Council continue to support ongoing community initiatives aimed at improving safety along the Cooks River and throughout the Inner West.**

5. **That Council ask council officers to add the Cooks River lighting project to the agenda and regular reporting of the Major Projects Committee.**

6. **That Council provide regular updates of progress to the community, Marrickville Football Club, Cooks River Alliance, and the Office of the Member for Summer Hill and Office of the Member for Heffron.**

7. **That Council, given the funding commitment from the State Government, and following a further assessment of costs for the Cooks River Lighting project, reallocate any surplus funding initially dedicated to the project in the Inner West Council's operational budget to fund the upgrade of lighting, footpaths, safety upgrades and other infrastructure as part of the Sydenham Road Strategy.**

Background

The recent 2025-2026 Budget contained a $1.6 million allocation of funding to Inner West Council to upgrade lighting along the northern side of the Cooks River from Kendrick Park, Tempe, to Steel Park, Marrickville.

This followed a concerted community campaign to install lighting following a violent attack on a young woman walking along the river, and sustained advocacy from Inner West Council.

A "walk shop" was convened by the Member for Summer Hill in 2024, bringing together representatives from Transport for NSW, Inner West Council, gas and oil companies with responsibility for the high pressure pipelines that run along the river, the Cooks River Alliance and others.

The intention of this motion is to acknowledge this community win and to provide further clarity and oversight over the development of the project.

The 2025-26 Inner West Council Budget provisioned for $1.6 million to complete this project, drawn from the Depreciation Reserve.

The reallocation of funding from the Depreciation Reserve in Inner West Council's Budget to the Sydenham Road strategy will ensure additional works are undertaken to improve community safety in the Marrickville-Midjuburi Ward, further enhancing access to public transport and enhancing active transport.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 32**

Subject: **NOTICE OF MOTION: SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY AUDIT**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

From: **Deputy Mayor Mat Howard and Councillor Kerrie Fergusson**

MOTION

1. **That Council undertake a full audit of road safety around local schools in the Inner West Council area, with the ambition of improving road safety for students, pedestrians, cyclists and all road users.**

2. **That Council include as part of the audit:**
   a) **A safety assessment of all existing infrastructure, including pedestrian crossings, footpaths, cycleways, signalling, signage, parking, line markings and kiss and ride arrangements;**
   b) **A program of maintenance of existing infrastructure to improve safety;**
   c) **Opportunities for new infrastructure or traffic arrangements that will improve road safety around schools; and**
   d) **Opportunities to trial a reduction in school zone speeds to 30 km/hr in select locations.**

3. **That Council directly engage schools, P&C's/P&F's, students, residents surrounding schools, and local businesses, in the audit, through both direct engagement and a community survey.**

4. **That Council publicise the audit in the Inner West Community News and other council communication channels.**

5. **That Council directly engage the Department of Education, independent and catholic schools associations, and Transport for NSW in the audit.**

6. **That Council provide a full report, detailing the data and outcomes to the June 2026 Inner West Traffic Committee and a later council meeting, which specifies:**
   a) **information and feedback gathered at each school and early childhood education centre in the local government area;**
   b) **A list of safety concerns and actions to reasonably address them, including the relevant agency responsible (i.e. Transport for NSW, Department of Education, Inner West Council or other council, or other agency); and**
   c) **Any actions taken by Inner West Council to mitigate safety concerns, or plans to do so.**

7. **That Council undertake to address any urgent safety-critical maintenance of existing infrastructure as it arises, and as a priority.**

8. **That Council fund the audit through existing operational budgets, any critical maintenance works identified through the quarterly budget review process, and any other medium and long-term works through future budget processes.**

9. **That Council provide a councillor briefing before December 2025 to update councillors on the staff's recommended approach to undertake this work and on progress made.**

Background

Road trauma and injury remains the number 1 killer of children aged 2 and above. The most dangerous time on our roads is around 3pm, the afternoon pick-up.

At the same time, fewer than 40% of school children ride or walk to school.

Inner West Council has a long history of proactive engagement when it comes to promoting safety around local schools, in partnership with local schools, parents and residents.

A full audit of road safety around schools and early childhood education centres will provide critical data and community feedback about safety concerns at local schools and centres, and help determine a program of works alongside other responsible agencies to improve road safety around our schools and places of learning.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 33**

Subject: **NOTICE OF MOTION: VIETNAMESE REFUGEE MEMORIAL**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

From: **Deputy Mayor Mat Howard**

MOTION

1. **That Council note the resolution C0425(1) of 29 April 2025 to acknowledge the contribution of Vietnamese Refugees to the Inner West.**

2. **That Councill further resolve that this acknowledgement should take the form of a permanent memorial and that it be located in the vicinity of Little Vietnam in Marrickville.**

3. **That Council begin consultation with the Vietnamese community and Marrickville community on the establishment of a permanent memorial.**

4. **That Council construct and dedicate the memorial prior to 30 April 2026, ensuring it is delivered within the year commemorating 50 years since the end of the Vietnam War.**

5. **That Council apportion funding from the main streets revitalisation fund to deliver the project.**

6. **That Council receive a progress report via councillor briefing note in September 2025, outlining the timeline, costs and consultation and engagement schedule for the establishment of a permanent memorial.**

7. **That Council engage staff from both the Communities Directorate and Infrastructure Directorate in the delivery of the memorial.**

Background

At the Council meeting held on 29 April 2025, Council resolved the following in part:

3. *That Council specifically acknowledge the enduring contribution made by the roughly 150,000 Vietnamese refugees that came to Australia following what is often referred to as the Fall of Saigon in 1975, many of whom settled in Marrickville.*

4. *That this acknowledgement take the form of a monument, plaque, tree planting or other significant acknowledgement in Marrickville, to be determined in consultation with the local Vietnamese community and Marrickville-Midjuburi Councillors*

Following feedback from community, it is clear there is public interest in the acknowledgement taking the form of a permanent memorial.

The motion seeks to formalise and provide clarity on the delivery of a permanent memorial and to commence community consultation.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item 34

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 34**

Subject: **NOTICE OF MOTION: SUPPORT FOR INNER WEST TECH + START UP AND AI PROCUREMENT**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

From: **Councillor Kerrie Fergusson**

MOTION

That Council engage directly with Inner West Tech + Start Up, a local organisation supporting innovation and entrepreneurship, to explore opportunities for Council collaboration and support, including but not limited to:

a) **Hosting themed "tech challenge" events that connect local talent to real municipal issues;**
b) **Running Council sponsored competitions that reward tech based solutions delivering community benefit;**
c) **Assist with the establishment of pop-up tech hubs to support networking, development, and collaboration; and**
d) **Prepare a report for the October 2025 Council meeting detailing:**
- Council's current and proposed support for Inner West Tech + Start Up
- A plan for Council's procurement process to enable consideration and piloting of local AI and technology proposals.

Background

Sydney's tech and start-up scene is booming, valued at around $55 billion with over 3,000 startups and a fast growing workforce. Inner West Tech + Start Up (IWTS) is a fast growing, volunteer run not-for-profit community of over 200 local founders, engineers, and investors. It is supported by a five person committee comprised of established Inner West business leaders and plays a key role in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship within the Inner West LGA.

Working with IWTS and local startups will open dialogue between council and our local Tech community around solutions that can be tailored specifically to fit the needs of Local Government and our community. Initiatives like pop-up tech hubs and tech challenges encourage fresh ideas. This partnership would demonstrate the Inner West Council's commitment to not only supporting local innovation and but to improving services for residents.

For more information on the Inner West Tech + Start Up, head to www.innerwest.tech

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 35**

Subject: **NOTICE OF MOTION: RIGHTS TO PROTEST**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

From: **Councillor Liz Atkins**

MOTION

1. **That Council acknowledges the right to peaceful protest is fundamental to a mature democracy.**

2. **That Council notes that this right has been under attack in New South Wales.**

3. **That Council calls on the NSW Government to repeal recent changes to the law that have criminalised the right to protest.**

4. **That Council writes to the NSW Premier, Opposition Leader and all local State MPs advocating for this change.**

5. **That Council submits points 1-3 of this motion to the Local Government NSW 2025 Annual Conference.**

Background

NSW has a proud history of protest movements that have shaped our society. From the first Mardi Gras parade to the renowned Green Bans protecting green space and heritage across Sydney - much of what we love about living here has been hard-won through protest movements.

Last year, the Human Rights Law Centre's Protest in Peril report found that the right to protest has been under attack by governments and institutions. Over the previous 20 years NSW has passed more anti-protest laws than any other Australian jurisdiction, including two more under the current government in the past 7 months.

The introduction of several new anti-protest laws have received bipartisan support in recent years. The most egregious of these has been the vague and unnecessary expansion of police “move-on” powers to disperse peaceful protesters who have gathered close to a place of worship.

These anti-protest laws are an affront to our democracy and must be repealed.

Officer’s Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 36

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: GAMBLING HARM MINIMISATION IN CHILDREN

From: Councillors Vicki Clay and Jo Carlisle

MOTION

1. **That Council note support for Gambling Harm Minimisation in the Inner West community.**

2. **That Council include GambleAware Week 20-26 October 2025 in online communications and on the Council website.**

3. **That Council note data from the Office of Responsible Gambling indicating nearly 30% of children have gambled.**

4. **That Council support the Office of Responsible Gambling initiatives to address gambling harm in children by making Council venue(s) available (where requested) for the conduct of GambleAware information sessions by the Office of Responsible Gambling, for Inner West parents and children.**

5. **That Council provide the GambleAware resource information to the Youth Interagency.**

6. **That Council provide GambleAware resource information to Council's Youth Local Democracy Group**

Background

On 28 August 2025, Council conducted a Roundtable on Gambling Harm Minimisation to:

- Discuss undertaking research on reducing gambling harm in the Inner West
- Explore the appetite of potential partners to take part in a research project to ascertain actual gambling harm in the Inner West
- **Explore options for preventing gambling harm in the first place** (GambleAware Week 20-26 October 2025)

Experts were in attendance from:

- Advocacy and Government Relations, Wesley Mission
- Gambling Working Group, Fairfield City Health Alliance
- Population Health, Sydney Local Health District, Health NSW
- Office of Responsible Gambling

The Office of Responsible Gambling has an awareness campaign called GambleAware, which aims to address gambling-related issues and the subsequent harms.

As part of the presentation from the Office of Responsible Gambling, it was noted that nearly **30% of children have gambled**. The Office of Responsible Gambling has a GambleAware for Parents program which:

- Aims to drive awareness of gambling and young people, and provide parents with practical tips to reduce children's exposure to gambling
- The program is for parents or caregivers with children aged **11-17 years**

- The messaging shows parent/caregiver how to know where they may be influencing their child's attitudes and behaviours, keep an eye on their games, and start a conversation about gambling
- Campaign promotions are through native content, podcast ads, online videos, media releases, articles/advertorials, social media, GambleAware website.

In addition, NSW secondary school teachers are encouraged to utilize the free GambleAware in schools resources as part of everyday class work.

It is important that gambling harm be addressed as early as possible in the lives of those at risk.

As an initiative to 'explore options for preventing gambling harm in the first place', Council can assist in addressing gambling harm in children by making Council venue(s) available to the Office of Responsible Gambling to conduct GambleAware information sessions/workshops, for Inner West parents and children; and in addition, provide resource information to Youth Interagency and the Council's Youth Local Democracy Group.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 37

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: DELIVERING NEW HOMES IN THE PARRAMATTA ROAD CORRIDOR

From: The Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne

MOTION

1. **That Council seek a partnership with the NSW Government to undertake further residential rezoning of the Parramatta Road corridor, with the aim of delivering up to 8000 new homes in the section of the corridor within the Inner West local government area.**
   a) **This is to be undertaken through a state significant development process, with Inner West council as a participating partner. The methodology for the investigations would replicate the locally based planning and block-by-block analysis that has been the basis of the *Our Fairer Future plan* (Inner West LEP 2025); and**
   b) **The planning process should also include consideration of transport, public domain improvements, open space, not-for-profit housing, commercial and retail opportunities, and improvements to the streetscape.**

2. **That Council write to the NSW Premier and the NSW Planning Minister seeking their agreement to commence this project immediately, with close collaboration between the Inner West council and the Department of Planning.**

3. **That Council note that our advocacy for the conversion of the former Westconnex dive site at Camperdown to a mixed residential development has been successful in achieving 200 new publicly owned homes as part of the development.**
   a) **Restate as part of this proposal to the NSW Government that the remaining two residual WestConnex sites in Ashfield and Haberfield should be converted to residential with public housing incorporated, based on the already established model at Camperdown.**

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 38
Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION REFORMS
From: Councillor Liz Atkins

MOTION

1. **That Council endorses the following motion to be submitted to the Local Government NSW 2025 Annual Conference:**
   a) **That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:**
      i. **affirm the critical importance of providing safe and high quality to care for children in Early Childhood Education and Care settings;**
      ii. **recognise the systemic failure of current systems to ensure quality standards have been met, and as a consequence children have been endangered;**
      iii. **acknowledge that for-profit service providers are more likely to fall below acceptable standards, and that Early Childhood Education is best delivered by not-for-profit organisations;**
      iv. **acknowledge that Local Councils are well placed to provide and to support not-for profit early childhood education;**
      v. **fund Councils to establish safe staffing ratios so that no educator is left alone with children and acknowledge that CCTV is no substitute for safe staffing;**
      vi. **provide block funding to local councils for the purpose of expanding the council-run early learning centres, and to allow councils to help meet demand for early learning across NSW;**
      vii. **allocate 100% of Smart & Skilled Funding to TAFE NSW for early childhood education & care training;**
      viii. **introduce rent controls upon landlords of early learning centres; and**
      ix. **review and resource the regulator so that it is fit for purpose and to ensure that all centres are inspected and quality standards enforced and publicly reported.**

2. **That the General Manager be delegated the authority to make any minor amendments to the wording of this motion if requested by LGNSW and agreed to by the mover of the motion.**

Background

The early learning sector has slowly plunged into a labour crisis driven by low wages, challenging working conditions, and a hyper privatised delivery model that risks putting profit before quality.

Since the 1990s the number of for-profit early learning services has exploded. Previously only representing a fraction of the sector, for-profit services now represent 95% of new builds and government run services represent 10% or less of total market share. This is a result of ceasing block funding for the operation of not-for-profit centres such as councils and introducing subsidies to corporate organisations in the sector.

This creates financial challenges for families as for-profit services cluster in ‘childcare oases’ in wealthier suburbs that can afford higher fees, while much of NSW languishes in a ‘childcare desert’ where there are far more children than available places. This trend is expected to

continue with real estate firms such as Ray White and CBRE pitching large size for-profit services as 'the most stable commercial investment'.

Educators share this challenge with for-profit providers tending to employ educators on the Children's Services Award rather than an Enterprise Agreement. This has led to a situation where the majority of educators have indicated in a union survey that they plan to leave the sector in the next few years. A 2024 audit of rental prices by Anglicare, which indicates that less than 1% of rentals are affordable for early childhood educators, suggests that even educators at government run services on the Local Government Award are not immune to this problem.

Recent release of regulator documents in the NSW Parliament, and their reporting by ABC has also shone light on how this impacts child safety. In particular private equity firms like G8 and Affinity have been named in criminal investigations as a result. But data shows that this trend impacts the sector broadly, with over 40% of government services rated 'exceeding' compared to 11% of for-profit services. This correlates with a clear pattern of Council services having higher staffing ratios.

The marketisation of training of educators has also created challenges for the sector with Smart and Skilled funding available for private colleges who are incentivised to pass students as quickly as possible. Audits by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) have shown an emerging issue of entirely non-existent qualifications, while fast track programs at other providers are otherwise deemed as lacking by the sector.

Local government is the main provider of public early childhood education and care, and collectively runs approximately 300 services, and hosts many other not-for-profit service providers. Rising land costs in Sydney increasingly also make non-government not-for-profit education and care less viable as trends continue. This makes Councils one of the largest players in not-for-profit early childhood education and care in NSW and means that it is vital that Councils be involved in responding to this crisis.

Recent federal government responses are only the beginning of addressing an issue that deeply impacts our local constituents. Restrictions on the use of phones and vapes and the roll out of CCTV are not intended nor suitable as preventative measures against child abuse. Safe staffing levels are the most obvious preventative response, and has been highlighted by the relevant Union.

The current minimum standards for staffing ratios were implemented in 2005. They allow for one educator to four babies, one educator to five toddlers, and one educator to ten three to five year olds. As the bare minimum these standards were never intended to represent best practice, and it is well past time that these standards are re-evaluated and best practice for safety established.

Councils are not immune to safety concerns or the labour crisis occurring in the sector. Many Councils rely on private labour hire firms such as ANZUK, Macarthur, and Ranstadt in order to meet ratios due to extended vacancies in lower paid roles or unexpected sick leave. These are educators who are paid less than Council's in-house staff and are strangers to the children, while the Council pays significant fees to firms.

This means educators who often have no relationship with children or staff may be left alone with children. A significant case of this was reported in the media this year, with an alleged paedophile who worked at after school care in the City of Sydney, Inner West, Northern Beaches, Willoughby. The investigation into this case is ongoing at time of writing.

There are clear reforms to be made by the NSW Government to ensure that the sector meets its potential. This includes genuine resourcing and support of the regulator and strengthening

TAFE NSW to ensure that educators are trained appropriately. It also entails resourcing Councils to expand service delivery so that safe, affordable, and high quality public education and care is available for families.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 39

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: MUSIC EVENT AT HENSON PARK

From: The Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne

MOTION

That Council convene a meeting with the Newtown Jets to discuss their proposal for a live music cultural event at Henson Park.

Background

Dear Darcy,
I am contacting you on behalf of the Newtown Jets to seek Inner West Council's support to assist with the creation of a new event at Henson Park that celebrates inner west Sydney's diverse and vibrant music (& arts) culture.

With Stage 1 & 2 redevelopment works scheduled for completion in January 2026, we believe the timing is perfect for an event unlike any other previously held at the ground which will open up the magnificence of Henson Park to an even wider community.



With ten years of experience hosting our annual **Beer Footy Food Festival** which brings together footy fans, beer enthusiasts and foodies for a shared experience, boasting a curated selection of local craft breweries and a range of gourmet food stalls. It really is a public occasion, that all our stakeholders including Inner West Council and the local community can be proud of.

In partnership with some of the country's leading music event planners, and sensitive to the renovation program of the Henson Park sports ground playing surface, we are proposing a first off event in April 2026 with a capacity of 5,000 attendees per day celebrating a mix of predominantly local talent which will reinforce the inner west as Sydney's epicenter of music and establish Henson Park as an entertainment venue as well as the beloved sports ground it is and has been since 1936.

A successful event, professionally managed, might also lend itself to recurrent approval if Inner West Council deemed it appropriate.

Newtown Jets thanks you for your enthusiasm and support of local sport and also your encouragement for the LGA to host music & arts events in the future, especially at a time where there is an unprecedented lack of venues for similar scale events in Australia's largest city.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or require additional information.

Yours in Music and Sport,

Stuart McCarthy
CEO
Newtown R.L.F.C

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 40

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: IMPROVING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE - EMBEDDING SOCIAL WORKERS IN THE INNER WEST LIBRARY SYSTEM

From: Councillor Izabella Antoniou

MOTION

1. **That Council note and recommit to the priority to 'Investigate embedding social workers in Council's library system'.**

2. **That Council note that this endeavour will be an important model for vulnerable young people to access necessary social support and minimising barriers to entry.**

3. **That Council prepare a report to be brought back to the November 2025 meeting: outlining the scope, service model, and proposed timeline for embedding social workers into the council library system.**

Background

Research from Charles Sturt University has found that Public library staff are increasingly required to work with members of the public with high social needs. This is due to a range of factors including the closure of many frontline services, and low barrier to entry when it comes to accessing public libraries.

Regarding an Inner West specific context, the cost of living crisis is a factor leading to increased vulnerability within the community. Local services such as Bill Crews Foundation and Addi Road have spoken outwardly about the increased demand for their services, and the diversification of those needing help.

According to NCOSS's Fairer Inner West fact sheet (2023), a higher proportion of respondents in the Inner West (62%) had trouble paying for household expenditure items, compared with the state average of 58%. Our LGA also had the highest increase in Domestic and Family Violence - 54% - over the course of the pandemic compared to any other area in the state.

Council has recognised a need to make support services accessible as it is highlighted as a goal within the current priorities and operational plan to investigate the installation of social workers within the library system.

In order to meet this emerging need, improve community resilience, while also providing appropriate support for library staff, a report outlining a trial of the program is to be delivered to council identifying an appropriate model and location(s).

As part of this trial program design, consultation with relevant local democracy groups and service providers in the area should be conducted to put forward a model that suits local needs and feeds into existing service providers.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 41

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: 'I HAVE A DREAM' MURAL NEWTOWN - STATE HERITAGE LISTING

From: Councillors Vicki Clay and Chloe Smith

MOTION

1. **That Council note ongoing work by Inner West Council to ensure the protection of the 'I Have a Dream' Mural, including the application of an anti-graffiti coating and ongoing monitoring of the mural.**

2. **That Council acknowledge the 'I Have a Dream' Mural was heritage listed by the (then) Marrickville Council in 2014.**

3. **That to provide for further protections of the 'I Have a Dream Mural,' Council seeks advice on the application process for State Heritage listing with the NSW Government, to be reported back to Council.**

Background

In 1991 two artists in Newtown painted the 'I Have a Dream Mural' in King Street Newtown, as a reflection of 'three themes from the 20th century, Ms. Pryor said: gender equality, environmental activism and civil rights. The mural's location on King St perfectly fits the reference to Martin Luther King Junior's iconic speech, *I Have A Dream*.' [Juilee Pryor – artist].

Since that time, the mural has gained international recognition as a feature of a Coldplay music video and has become an important part of the many features that attract visitors to Newtown and is much loved and cherished by the local community.

Consequently, in 2014, Marrickville Council commissioned an independent report to assess the mural's value. It found "the mural is of local historical, aesthetic and social heritage significance' and confirmed that the mural had been provided with local government heritage listing.

Sadly, in recent days, the mural has been under concerted attack by graffitists, who have sought to damage/destroy the original artwork and negate its messaging.

Inner West Council has since actioned removal of the graffiti and covered the mural with a clear protective anti-graffiti coating, which would make future graffiti attacks easier to clean off. The Council has also committed to ongoing monitoring of the mural.

However, due to the importance of the mural and its global recognition, for further protection, it is recommended that Council seek to potentially expand on the local government heritage listing, by seeking advice from the NSW Government on the application process necessary for State Heritage Listing.

Before and After Photographs





Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 42

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: STANMORE VILLAGE BUSINESS SUPPORT

From: Councillors Vicki Clay and Chloe Smith

MOTION

1. **That Council, as part of the communications for the Stanmore Music Festival, incorporate promotional messaging for local retail businesses in Stanmore Village.**

2. **That Council, as part of the program for the Stanmore Music Festival, work with festival organisers to develop a program map that includes all the food, drink and hospitality related businesses located near the Festival.**

Background

Stanmore Village is a small retail space, with a slow growth pattern over the past few decades, with some establishments closing during the COVID and post-COVID era. While there have been some businesses opening, they have predominantly been in the healthcare sector and the arts.

However, over the past six months, Stanmore Village has had the advantage of three new food-related businesses opening, namely Baking 101, Divide 8 and Meaty's Butcher. This has equated to a substantial growth in the options for local residents. The butcher has also been proactive in its enhancement of the popular Salisbury Hotel menu and 'meat tray' raffles.

In discussions with the proprietors, they expressed confidence in the Stanmore Village locale and ambience as a rationale for the selection of their retail location. It is also noted that two additional businesses are currently being developed in Stanmore Village. This is positive and supportive commentary on/reflection of the manner in which Council sustains the Village, making it a pleasant and welcoming environment.

The businesses are aware of the upcoming Stanmore Music Festival, and are planning on participation in a way that will provide an opportunity for the businesses to present their wares to the attendees during the Festival.

Communications of the Stanmore Music Festival would be predominantly in relation to the entertainment options available, however, it would be supportive of the new (and established) food, drink and hospitality businesses to include recognition in the Festival's communications.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 43

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT STUDY - DULWICH HILL

From: Councillor Jessica D'Arienzo

MOTION

1. **That Council notes community concerns regarding traffic safety, congestion, and pedestrian accessibility in the Dulwich Hill area bounded by and including New Canterbury Road, Pigott Street and Denison Road, including the surrounding streets of Dulwich Street and Lewisham Street.**

2. **That Council acknowledges the need for comprehensive traffic analysis in this precinct to ensure the safety and wellbeing of residents, pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.**

3. **That Council conducts a comprehensive traffic management study for the Dulwich Hill area bounded by:**
    a) **New Canterbury Road (northern boundary)**
    b) **Denison Road (southern boundary)**
    c) **Pigott Street (eastern boundary)**
    d) **Including the surrounding streets: Dulwich Street and Lewisham Street**

4. **That Council requests that the traffic management study include, but not be limited to:**
    a) **Traffic volume analysis and peak hour assessments**
    b) **Speed surveys and compliance monitoring**
    c) **Pedestrian and cyclist safety assessments**
    d) **Parking utilisation studies**
    e) **Analysis of through-traffic versus local traffic**
    f) **Identification of accident blackspots and safety concerns**
    g) **Assessment of public and active transport accessibility**
    h) **Impact analysis of nearby developments and land use changes**

5. **That Council engages with the local community with a community meeting to gather input on traffic-related concerns and potential solutions.**

6. **That Council recommends traffic management improvements including traffic calming measures, parking management strategies, speed limit reviews, signage and line marking improvements.**

7. **That Council provides a report to the Local Transport Forum presenting the findings of the traffic management study and recommended actions.**

Background

The Dulwich Hill precinct bounded by New Canterbury Road, Pigott Street and Denison Road, including Dulwich Street and Lewisham Street serves as both a residential area and a busy transport corridor. Residents have raised concerns about traffic safety, speeding, parking pressures, and pedestrian safety in the area.

A comprehensive traffic management study will provide Council with the evidence base needed to make informed decisions about infrastructure improvements and traffic

management strategies that balance the needs of residents, businesses, and road users while prioritising safety and liveability.

This motion aligns with Council's commitment to creating safe, accessible, and sustainable transport networks throughout the Inner West.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 44

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: FOGO IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

From: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mat Howard

MOTION

1. **That Council expand the FOGO collection in schools and Council run early learning centres to include not for profit, community based childcare centres, funded through the Domestic Waste Reserve.**

2. **That Council consider a program that offers FOGO to for-profit childcare centres on a fee-for-service basis and provide a report to the December Council meeting.**

Background

Following the successful roll out of food recycling to every Inner West household in 2024, Inner West Council collected 17,546 tonnes of FOGO in the first year of operation, far above what was anticipated. That's the equivalent of 36,848 tonnes of CO2.

Noting this success, Council resolved to expand the service to schools and Council-run early learning centres following a survey conducted by Council that showed strong support from educators, students and parents who want food recycling implemented to help with education about sustainability.

As part of this offering, Council offers two FOGO green bins to each school and Council-run childcare centres at no cost to allow for a weekly collection as part of the weekly residential collection.

10 of Council's early learning centres and Nicholson Street Public School have commenced using the FOGO service. Ferncourt Public School, Wilkins Public School, St Patricks Primary School, Sydney Secondary College (Balmain) and Haberfield Public School are to commence shortly.

Council has now received interest from community based, not for profit early learning centres to be included in the FOGO program noting their unique position in the sector.

In order to further progress the FOGO implementation into the community, and at the same time educating the children of our local residents about FOGO practices, it is proposed that the current FOGO service for schools and Council early learning centres is also offered to the not for profit, community based childcare centres in the LGA.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 45

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: ST PETERS INTERCHANGE PARKLAND

From: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mat Howard

MOTION

1. **That Council reaffirm its position that any remediation approach at the St Peters Interchange must address the source of contamination and risks to community safety.**

2. **That Council write to Transport for NSW and the NSW Environmental Protection Agency calling for full transparency on contamination risks, the interim gas venting plan, and the timeline for safe delivery of the promised parkland.**

3. **That Council request staff seek from Transport for NSW, the Environment Protection Authority and the site auditor a detailed update on the site, remediation plans, and associated risks and that further information be provided to councillors via a report to council as soon as practicable.**

Background

The St Peters Interchange site was formerly the Alexandria landfill and was earmarked as new public parkland as part of the WestConnex project. Local residents were promised quality open space to offset the loss of homes, amenity and parkland during the motorway's construction.

However, the site remains cordoned off due to contamination concerns. A recent report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* (13 August 2025) revealed that the state's senior chemicals and radiation adviser at the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) refused to endorse the interim management plan for the site. The plan involves installing 50 passive gas vents to release contaminated gas but does not address the underlying source of pollution. The adviser described this as a "cheaper" and "slightly poorer" option that could worsen long-term contamination issues.

This revelation highlights differences of opinion between the EPA and the independent auditors overseeing remediation, raising serious concerns about the adequacy of the interim solution. Despite the interchange opening several years ago, the promised parkland remains undelivered, undermining community trust.

Inner West Council has consistently stood with residents in calling for safe, high-quality green space at St Peters. This motion ensures Council continues to advocate strongly for the delivery of the promised park, holding the NSW Government accountable for its commitments.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 46

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: REVIEW OF PEDESTRIAN CROSSING - LIVINGSTONE ROAD, MARRICKVILLE

From: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mat Howard

MOTION

1. **That Council acknowledge the concerns raised by residents about the safety of the raised pedestrian crossing on Livingstone Road, adjacent to St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church.**

2. **That Council note reports of several near misses at this crossing, which is heavily used by families, children, older residents and parishioners attending church and community activities.**

3. **That Council request staff to undertake a review of the Livingstone Road pedestrian crossing, in consultation with the church and local schools, and report back to the Local Traffic Forum before December 2025 with recommendations for any improvements.**

Background

The raised pedestrian crossing on Livingstone Road, Marrickville, was installed to improve safety for pedestrians in an area of heavy vehicle and foot traffic.

The crossing is a critical access point for a diverse range of community members. As well as working to ensure pedestrian safety for the general community, the crossing is immediately adjacent to St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, which hosts regular Sunday services, a weekly Sunday school, and community activities catering to both younger and older people. The crossing is also heavily utilised by students at Marrickville West Primary School, St Maroun's College, and Casimir College.

Council has consistently recognised the importance of providing safe and accessible walking routes, particularly around schools and community facilities, including places of worship. A well-designed pedestrian crossing not only improves safety but also encourages active transport, reduces reliance on cars, and enhances the walkability of our neighbourhoods.

Residents have raised repeated concerns that despite the raised design, the Livingstone Road crossing continues to pose risks for pedestrians. Reports of several near misses highlight the need to review whether additional measures — such as improved sightlines, signage, lighting, or traffic calming — are necessary to ensure it functions as intended.

A review of this crossing would be consistent with Council's commitment to road safety, active transport, and creating safer streets for all users, particularly the most vulnerable.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 47

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: INNER WEST LANDMARK PLAYGROUND

From: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mat Howard and Councillor Kerrie Fergusson

MOTION

1. **That Council note the construction of landmark playgrounds across NSW, including Wulaba Park, Fairfield Adventure Park, Casula Parklands Playground, Bungarribee Park, Charles Heath Reserve, Five Dock, Strathfield Park, and Banksia Play Space at Wadanggari Park.**

2. **That Council investigate the design and construction of a landmark playground in the Inner West Council Area and consider the establishment of a landmark playground as part of the Inner West Playground Strategy, to be exhibited in 2026, and in any future review of the Inner West Developer Contributions Plan.**

Background

Landmark playgrounds are being designed and delivered across Sydney and NSW.
They provide an opportunity for children to engage in imaginative play, promote active living and recreation, and are catalysts for local economic activity as families travel from far and wide to give children new play experiences.

While we should all be immensely proud of council's ongoing work to upgrade and enrich local parks and playgrounds, there is an opportunity to deliver a landmark playground in this term of council that reflects the boldness and creativity of our local community.

Examples of new landmark playgrounds across Sydney include the following:
EQ Playground, Entertainment Quarter
Thorndon Park, Campbelltown (SA)
Oatley Park Inclusive Playground, Oatley
Bungarribee Park, Western Sydney Parklands
Wulaba Park, Green Square
Banksia Playspace at Wadanggari Park, St Leonards
Strathfield Park, Strathfield
Charles Heath Reserve, Five Dock

As we grow our community and work to incorporate additional housing in our local suburbs, we can leverage developer contributions to invest in local community infrastructure such as playgrounds.



Bungarribee Park, Western Sydney Parklands



Wulaba Park, Green Square



Banksia Playspace at Wadanggari Park, St Leonards



EQ Playground, Entertainment Quarter



Thorndon Park, Campbelltown (SA)



Oatley Park Inclusive Playground, Oatley



Strathfield Park, Strathfield



Charles Heath Reserve, Five Dock

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 48

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: FOOTPATH TO HAWTHORNE LIGHT RAIL STATION

From: Councillor Philippa Scott

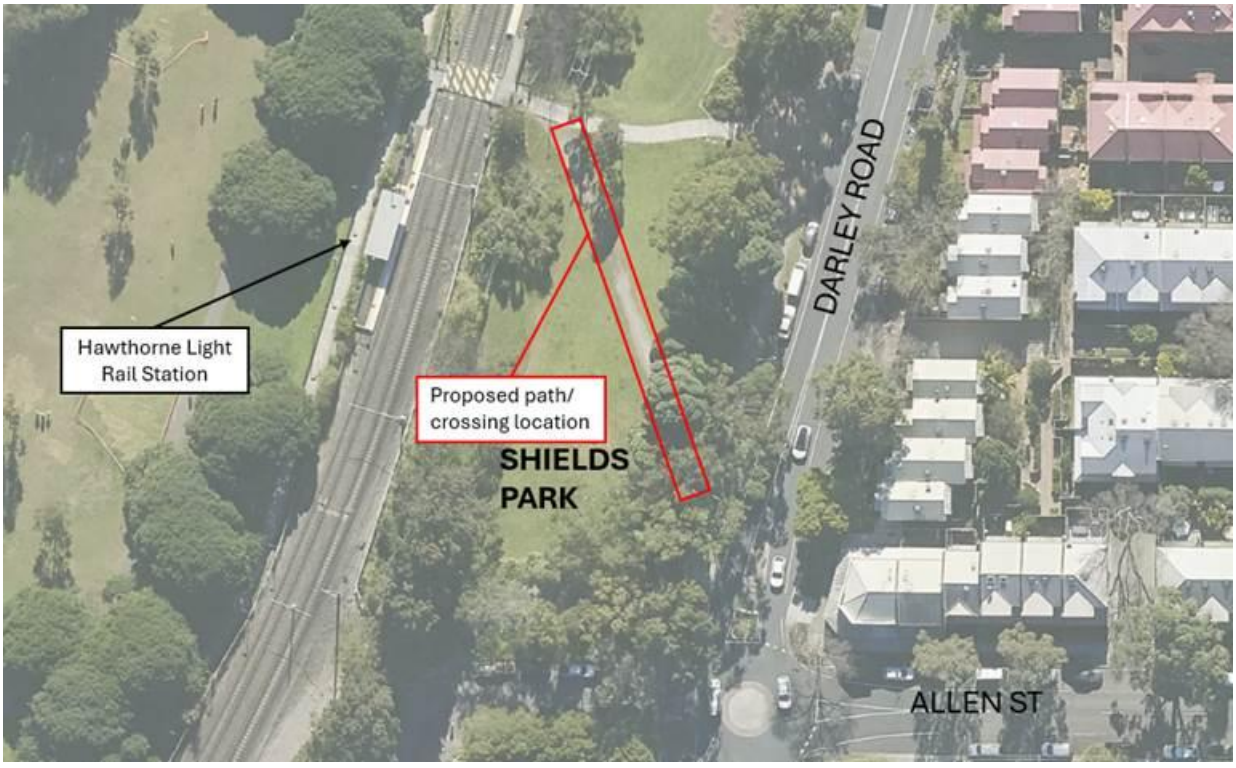
MOTION

1. **That Council note that there is an existing pedestrian desire line through the grassed area of Shields Park between the Hawthorne Light Rail Station and Darley Road, Leichhardt, which has created a noticeable 'goat track'. There is opportunity to construct a pathway to formalise this desire line.**

2. **That Council note that staff have estimated the cost to formalise this path is $50,000.**

3. **That Council resolve to report back at the next quarterly budget review with a capital works funding option which requires no overall increase in capital funds, and to complete the works within the 2025/26 financial year.**

Background



Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 49

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: SAFETY ON LIVINGSTONE ROAD

From: Councillor Chloe Smith

MOTION

1. **That Council notes resident concerns about safe vehicle entry and visibility when accessing Livingstone Road from side streets between New Canterbury Road and Frazer Street/Sydenham Road, particularly during peak hours.**

2. **That Council notes that Livingstone Road (between New Canterbury Road and Frazer Street/Sydenham Road) is a state road, and refer the following matters to Transport for NSW and/or the Local Transport Forum for further investigation and report back:**
   a) **installation of 'keep clear' road markings where side streets enter Livingstone Road;**
   b) **installation of 'give way' or other safety signage where side streets enter Livingstone Road;**
   c) **no parking on Livingstone Road in the immediate vicinity of Rosford Avenue;**
   d) **any other safety measures identified; and**
   e) **also consider safe road treatments to improve access and egress to the Marrickville Library and associated residential carpark from Livingstone Road, including the feasibility of a "keep clear" road marking.**

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 50

Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: ENMORE ROAD BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

From: Councillor Chloe Smith

MOTION

1. **That Council notes that Enmore Road is home to the state's first ever Special Entertainment Precinct (SEP) and is the premier destination for live music and entertainment in NSW.**

2. **That Council notes that Enmore Road was accidentally excluded from business engagement following the adoption of new trading hours and extension of the precinct in June 2025, and reaffirms Council's commitment to engaging with local businesses, business associations, and other stakeholders across Inner West SEPs to inform and support their engagement with the SEPs.**

3. **That Council door-knocks and contacts all businesses in the Enmore Road SEP within the next fortnight to distribute plain-language information about the new SEP conditions and provide a direct point of contact within Council for SEP enquiries and also provides this information for distribution to the Newtown Enmore Business Chamber (NEBC).**

4. **That Council hosts a forum in partnership with the NEBC to discuss how Council can continue to support business in Newtown and Enmore, including:**
    a) **The Enmore Road SEP and future South King Street SEP,**
    b) **Inner West Council's business associations grants program adopted in June 2025 and other opportunities to support outdoor dining, place-making, streetscape, and facade improvements,**
    c) **The impact of the State Government's Vibrancy Reforms,**
    d) **Events in Enmore and Newtown, including Fest by Inner West and the potential revival of the Newtown Festival,**
    e) **Creating a diverse economy that supports day and night-time retail and hospitality opportunities,**
    f) **Ongoing engagement opportunities and any other matters arising.**

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 51**

Subject: **QUESTION ON NOTICE: TREE REMOVALS**

From: **Councillor Andrew Blake**

Compliance with Environmental Legislation

Question

What assessment has Council made of its legal obligations under the NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Act (NSW) 2016 and the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and *Biodiversity and Conservation Act* (Cth) (Environmental Legislation) when deciding whether to remove a tree such as the one situated at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

A review of the triggers in the *NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Act* (NSW) 2016 and the *Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity and Conservation Act* (Cth) found that such triggers were not activated.

The Federal and State legislation specifically deals with endangered species, habitats and ecosystems. In this case, a single tree in the urban context located on a road reserve would not necessarily cause a requirement for Council to undertake any mandated environmental assessments.

The loss of a single tree as under the Biodiversity and Conservation Act has a negligible impact to the decline of the Grey-headed Flying Fox at a national level, considering the level of dispersal across eastern Australia.

Based on the nightly movement of the Grey-headed Flying Fox (up to 60klm), the loss of a single tree within an area of several thousand hectares, where even at a density of only two potential foraging trees per hectare, suitable for foraging during the Spring when the Yellow Bloodwood flowers, is unlikely to result in a significant impact on the Wooli Creek or Lachlan Swamp camps, so that those camps are placed at increased risk of extinction.

The tree is a species that is not considered to naturally occur in the Inner West Local Government Area. The Yellow Bloodwood is a species of sandstone plateau environments and occurs in areas such as the lower Blue Mountains and Galston Gorge. Being a planted specimen, it is not part of an Endangered Ecological Community.

Council's tree planting programs plant a range of large and small native species annually that offset any tree removals that occur. The annual program ensures that the potential impact from any removal is minimised.

Question

What work did Council undertake in accordance with its legal obligations under the state and federal Environmental Legislation before making the decision to remove the Tree at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

None. Council is aware of the environmental requirements under *NSW Biodiversity and Conservation Act* (NSW) 2016 and the *Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity and Conservation Act* (Cth), and that no environmental assessment was triggered in the removal of a single street tree.

Council is undertaking the works under Section 88 of the Roads Act which was considered by Biscoe J in *Parks and Playgrounds Movement Inc* in relation to the power to remove a number of large figs that occurred within a road reserve in a residential area. Importantly at [98] Biscoe J states:

A roads authority may, despite any other Act or law to the contrary, remove or lop any tree or other vegetation that is on or overhanging a public road if, in its opinion, it is necessary to do so for the purpose of carrying out road work or removing a traffic hazard.

The purpose of s 88 is to empower a roads authority to deal with a situation which, in its opinion, is dangerous or hazardous. By its nature, a dangerous or hazardous situation may need to be addressed quickly, even urgently. The ongoing hazard or danger to the public which results from holding that s 88 is subject to the delay involved in obtaining development consent if required under Part 4 of the EPA Act (including taking account of all the mandatory matters in s 79C) or in satisfying the requirements of ss 111 and 112 in Part 5, suggests a construction that s 88 is not subject to those requirements of Parts 4 and 5.

Compliance with Urban Forestry Policy

Question

What internal controls are in place to ensure Council complies with the Urban Forest Policy adopted 20 May 2025 (May 2025 Policy) when making decisions to remove trees on and after 20 May 2025?

Answer

Staff have been provided with and briefed on the Urban Forest Policy with operational procedures and tools put in place to meet the Policy requirements.

Question

When making the Decision to remove the Tree at 54 Thornley Street, did Council have an obligation to comply with Section 9 of the May 2025 Policy (or a similar provision of an earlier urban forestry policy that was current at the time of the Decision)? If not, why not?

Answer

Council was not obliged to retrospectively apply the new Urban Forest Policy to any tree that had been identified for removal prior to its adoption on 20 May 2025.

The tree is located in the former Leichhardt Council area, which had no requirement for notification in the former Leichhardt Urban Forest Policy or the Leichhardt Technical Manual.

The former Marrickville and Ashfield Policies (Strategies) notification process was applied to the whole of the amalgamated Inner West Council. The tree at 54 Thornley was subject to the historical notification process which did not require a memo (File Note).

Question

Did Council prepare a Notification Memo (or equivalent) for management stating the reason for the removal of the tree and options considered?

Answer

No – It was not required as the determination to remove the tree preceded the adoption of the Urban Forest Policy on 20 May 2025. The previous process did not require a Notification Memo (file note).

Question

What was the basis for reducing the minimum 14-day notification period so as to permit the removal of the Tree within 14 business days after the affixing the removal notice to the Tree on about 5 June 2025?

Answer

The process prior to the adoption of Urban Forest Policy on 20 May 2025 only required 10 days' notice.

The 10 day notification was inadvertently reduced when the staff member who had the notification sign to attach became suddenly ill. The staff member was away from work for most of the week and Council was not aware that they had the sign with them to attach, and flyers, and they hadn't completed this process.

This occurred in the context of a high-volume of work orders generated post the January to March 2025 weather events.

Once Council was made aware that the notification process had not met its set standards, works were stopped and the notification was extended to 20 days.

Removing and Replacing trees

Question

What is the value of a mature Blood Wood tree in the Inner West?

Answer

The valuation of any tree is reliant on a range of factors from tree through to location. There is no fixed value.

Question

What is the value of the tree at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

The Thyer Valuation method was used to calculate the value of the tree at 54 Thornley Street. The result was a value of $21,382

Question

What is the average cost of removing a tree across the Inner West?

Answer

Costs vary subject to size of tree, location access, location and use of area, restrictions to stump grinding, services, cranes or other large plant, traffic control and or night works required and proximity of powerlines.

An average cost cannot be provided; however, tree removal can cost between $450 to $2,000 for a small tree or a mid-size tree in a park with good access and no limiting factors. For larger trees costs range from $4,000 up to $25,000, factoring for larger equipment needed, greater workforce and site needs.

Question

What is the average cost of removing a mature Blood Wood tree?

Answer

Costs vary due to many reasons such as the size of Bloodwood species, location access, location and use of area, restrictions to stump grinding, traffic control, the need for night works and the proximity of powerlines. An average cost cannot be provided, however, tree removal can cost between $2,000 in a park with good access and no limiting factors, up to $25,000 where a power outage is required.

Question

What is the estimated cost of removing the tree at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

$7,000 was the estimated cost prior to any works proceeding due to proximity of Powerlines and need for Traffic Control.

Question

What remedial options were considered for preserving the tree at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

The remedial options considered and feasibility are listed in the table below.

Option	Detail	Implications	Feasible?
1	Do nothing and retain the tree	• This would provide further evidence regarding potential for limb failure over next 12 to 18 months. • Does not resolve the footway trip hazard. • Council is on notice given the reported limb failures and people tripping near the tree. • Council would not be able to defend an incident given the previous history and existing footway condition.	No
2	Cut the tree canopy, tree roots and root crown back and reinstate	• Further pruning poses an increased risk as this directly affects how the tree performs in weather events, increasing the risk of limb failure and impact other biological functions within the tree. Past practices such as lopping are deemed an unacceptable practice as per AS4373-2007 Pruning amenity trees, due to range of negative potential impacts for the tree, increased risk, and likely reduced life expectancy.	No

Option	Detail	Implications	Feasible?
	asphalt along footway	• The level of displacement and root crown spread on the surface prevents the normal solution Council uses to remove and replace the asphalt. • The footway works requires excavation to bring the footway back to a suitable level. This requires the roots and root crown to be removed to allow a complaint footpath. • The severing, grinding or otherwise damaging roots within the trees structural root zone is contrary to Australian Standard AS4970-2009 Protection of trees and would compromise the trees structural stability increasing the risk and likelihood of whole tree failure. • Further ramping of asphalt over the roots and root crown would not achieve a compliant footway width or slope, given the spread of the tree at ground level and would impact the adjacent entry way to the private property. • To construct a complaint raised boardwalk along the footway cannot be achieved due to the private property entry way, the adjacent driveway. This would require some excavation for footings within the trees structural root zone and installation of a handrail.	
3	Install porous paving, Softfall or other similar products.	• The roots of the tree and the root crown are at or above the footway surface. • To install these options would require some excavation which would damage/sever tree roots and root crown within the trees structural root zone, compromising the trees structural stability.	No
4	Close the footway to pedestrians	• This would impact the access to the property immediately adjacent as entry gate is located at the tree. • Would remove the trip hazard risk • Would require all pedestrians to cross to the other side of the road. • May require a crossing in Thornley street before the closed footway. • Would require a traffic study to determine the level of risk to all pedestrians, impact to traffic in the surrounding streets by the change and may require the road be coming one way. • Would be in place until the tree is eventually removed subject to future health and structure.	No
5	Remove the tree, reinstate the footpath Kerb & gutter and plant a 100 litre Brushbox tree.	• Removes the immediate risk for footpath users. • Resolves the midterm storm water flow issue • Removes the potential for further large limb failures. • Provides renewal of the urban forest and all associated benefits at this location. • Reduces Council risk profile at this location.	Yes
6	Build the footway in	• Require the inner edge of the footpath to be located out in the parking lane at one (1) meter from face of existing	No

Option	Detail	Implications	Feasible?
	the road.	gutter, so that pedestrians would not hit their heads on the leaning trunk and to avoid the tree root system in the gutter. • The footpath would then extend a further 1.2m into the 10.5m road to achieve the minimum footpath width. This would reduce the overall road width to 8.3 meters at this point leading into the Carey Street intersection. • The footpath would need to transition further back along Cary Street to allow safe use by all residents, resulting in loss of the parking space at 54 Thornley Street. • The required tree protections zone (TPZ) as per AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites is a 9-meter radius based on 12 x diameter of trunk at 1.4m above ground to ensure tree health and stability. • The SRZ (structural root zone) calculation is not relevant as the tree has an asymmetrical root system (AS4970-2009) therefore the TPZ becomes the default SRZ. • Whilst not applicable, the critical SRZ calculation for this tree is a 2.93 meters radius, which encompasses the lifted and heaved asphalt area in the footway. This is an area critical to the tree's stability and extreme caution is required in this zone, this is generally considered a not go zone. • Allowing some reduction of the 9-meter TPZ, the excavation would need to transition back into the footway a minimum 6 meters at either side measured from the centre of the tree so that the excavation would not compromise the tree. This distance may impact the driveway of 52 Thornley Street Leichhardt. • There is no drainage in Thornley Street or nearby, so a pit could not be installed to manage the water that would pool inside between old and new footpath, which would be sealed at each end. Best practice is to not install surface pipes in the gutter at either end of the new foot path due to repeat failures and maintenance. • The footpath would require excavation of road and existing footway, this may further impact tree roots due to their tendency to develop under gutters and kerb in a linear fashion (Craul 1985, 1999) as the road pavement is heavily compacted and does not support root growth. This is further supported by the peer reviewed arboriculture literature. • Tree roots generally grow in the top thirty centimetres of soil with some descending roots (Perry 1982, Moore 2012) within a specific tolerance for oxygen, moisture, temperature and compaction which results in loss of pore space (Coder 2000, Craul 1985, 1999, Perry 1982). Whilst trees may have some deeper roots, they still need to develop the typical spreading lateral root plate, which combine with any sinker roots to provide stability through cohesion with the soil (Perry 1982, Moore 2012). • Cost of in road build estimate @ $40,000. • This option does not address the trip hazard for the resident at 54 using their entry gate located at the tree	

Option	Detail	Implications	Feasible?
		and would require closure of the existing footway as the tree roots in the footway cannot be excavate.	
7	Ramp over the tree roots.	• This would need to be a suspended walkway min clearance of 297mm above ground level and top of path would need to be 376mm above ground level • No excavation can occur within 6m radius of the tree to ensure tree stability is not compromised. • Support pads could be installed no closer than 3m radius from the tree provided no excavation occurs. • Suspended walkway would need to bridge 6m between supports. • A set of stairs would need to be installed on the private land with minimal excavation. • No level changes, filling over tree roots or root crown can occur without compromising tree health and structure – would significantly reduce the tree Useful Life Expectancy and create hidden decay that could cause failure.	No

Question

What methods had previously been used to extend the life of the tree at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

Change from Concrete path to asphalt. Pruning to reduce limb failure in 2024, however, this has since been found to be ineffective as per Arboricultural research.

Question

How many limb failures have been recorded for the tree at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

The table below provides a chronology of events.

Date	Item	Action
31 May 2019	Request: Limb failed from tree onto residents' fence and across pathway	Limb removed
16 November 2023	Request: Large fallen limb. Property damage blocking footway and driveway access	Limb removed. Works order completed in system 29 November 2025
29 November 2023	Request: Limb fell taking down powerlines and blocking footway claims the tree is hazardous and placing Council on notice	Refers Limb failed on 16 November 2023.
December 2024	Phone call during weather event. Large limb failed. Confirmed in submission by resident of house 52	Inspection by Coordinator Public Trees found large limb cut up and piled under the tree consistent with SES methodology. Council removed debris.

Question

What is the average number of limb failures for a Bloodwood tree of a similar age of the tree at 54 Thornley Street?

Answer

There are many factors, and no one answer. The history of average limb failure on bloodwood (or any species) has not been captured.

Limb failure can occur for a range of reasons from single weather event, cumulative events through to changes in available soil moisture or loss of roots due to biotic or abiotic causes. Tree exposure and location can all play a part in whether limbs fail.

In the natural environment Corymbia and Eucalypt species shed limbs as they grow as part of their biological process, sacrificing some limbs for the overall wellbeing of the whole tree and ensuring growth.

Question

Has Council investigated the practicalities of planting a replacement tree at 54 Thornley Street, including whether the stump of the tree can be removed to allow such planting to occur?

Answer

Yes, Council can effectively plant a replacement tree. There is no stormwater on the side of 54 Thornley Street and no critical infrastructure, which allows Council to undertake additional works to reduce the future interactions between the tree and infrastructure, extending the useful life of both.

Question

What actions will Council take if it is not possible to plant a Replacement Tree at 54 Thornley Street, (e.g., if it is not possible to satisfactorily remove the stump of the Tree)?

Answer

The stump can be removed and is planned to be done in 2 stages to create the space required to plant a new tree. Stage 1 is grinding by contractor. Stage 2 is excavation by Council's Civil team.

Question

What is Council's evaluation criteria for determining whether a tree on public land ought to be removed?

Answer

At the time the tree was assessed Councils' evaluation criteria was based on the former Marrickville and Ashfield Strategies.

The tree assessment process has been developed further since adoption of the May 2025 Urban Forest Policy. The Urban Forest Policy Strategic Action Plan required several documents and processes to be developed.

These new processes for tree assessment have been developed in accordance with Industry Best Practice Tree Assessment and the Inner West Council Urban Forest Policy, which includes consideration of the context, use of space and inclusiveness and any interaction with other structures or assets. The type of assessment can vary subject to the circumstance. the current process to a formalised

The steps taken are outlined below

- A tree inspection through visual tree assessment (VTA stage 1). Where required further investigations are conducted (VTA 2 and 3), and
- A detailed tree risk assessment (TRAQ) in accordance with industry best practice tree condition assessment methodology, and
- Supporting evidence, including clear and relevant photographs of the tree(s), any hazards, targets, and demonstration of risk, and
- Consult relevant professions as required such as engineers or heritage officers for advice, and
- A feasibility review of options for managing risk, review of options for managing risk and determination.

Prior to the adoption of the current policy, Inner West Council tree processes required officers to generally consider the above issues during their assessment. As part of the Urban Forest Policy Strategic Action Plan, these steps are being formalised and the improved digitised tree assessment process will capture all the relevant factors including the risk rating for any tree.

Question

How does Council evaluate requests made by residents that such trees be removed?

Answer

Council considers tree health, structure, negative interactions with property or infrastructure and context in accordance with Best Practice. Refer to the previous question and response which outlines the process for assessments.

Question

How many trees on public land with a size index of 700 or greater are being considered for removal, and where are those trees located?

Answer

Council can only confirm if a tree is being considered for removal as each inspection is undertaken as part of the tree assessment process. There is no list of trees for consideration.

Question

How many trees on public land with a size index of 700 or greater have been removed by Council since 1 July 2024, and where were those trees located?

Answer

Council does not have this data available prior to 20 May 2025, as the size index process was not a requirement or captured under the previous Council Policies, and all tree works were recorded against individual works requests. The new Council process for tree assessments will allow for data to be readily provided into the future.

Since 1 July 2024 (20 May 2025) Council has listed 14 notifiable trees with an index of 750 or greater for removal. One of the 14 trees had size index of 1000 or greater, being a Sydney Blue Gum in a footway at 36A Rose St Annandale.

The list below provides the locations and details of the 14 trees.

Date	Location	Tree	Details
04 June 2025	33 Pigott Street, Dulwich Hill	Sapium sebiferum (Chinese Tallowwood)	The tree is in poor overall condition and has low retention value.
04 June 2025	6 Norman Street, Rozelle	Claret Ash (Fraxinus raywood)	The tree is impacting the surrounding infrastructure where the root interaction cannot be mitigated without adversely impacting the tree's stability.
01 July 2025	8 Turner Avenue, Haberfield	Phoenix Palm (Phoenix canariensis)	Self-sown and unstainable in current location
01 July 2025	67 Chandos Street, Ashfield	Lophostemon Confertus	Tree in poor health and condition.
01 August 2025	24A Harriet Street, Marrickville	Angophora floribunda (Rough barked apple)	Impacting surrounding infrastructure which cannot be mitigated without adversely affecting tree stability.
24 July 2025	38 Kensington Road, Summer Hill	Brush Box (Lophostemon confertus)	The tree appears to have developed a lean and it's health is in decline.
31 July 2025	158 Bland Street, Haberfield	Crepe Myrtle (Lagerstroemia indica)	The tree is in poor health, exhibits severe dieback, poor structure and has a short safe useful life expectancy.
04 August 2025	36A Rose Street, Annandale	Sydney Blue Gum (Eucalyptus saligna)	The tree has poor form and trunk lean away from powerlines and is impacting the surrounding infrastructure where the root interaction cannot be mitigated without adversely impacting the tree's stability.
04 August 2025	10-14 Lillian Fowler Street, Marrickville	She Oak (Casuarina species)	The tree is in very poor health and in decline.
08 August 2025	Balmain Sailing Club, Water Street Birchgrove	Eucalyptus species	The tree is in terminal decline and displays severe borer damage to the lower trunk.
12 August 2025	210B Denison Street, Newtown	Black Locust (Robinia pseudoacacia)	Poor form, vehicle impact damage and significant obstruction to road access.
12 August 2025	227 and 229 Sydenham Road, Marrickville	2 x Tuckeroo tree (Cupaniopsis anacardioides)	The tree is impacting private property which cannot be overcome without adversely affecting the tree's stability. The adjacent tree has an interdependent canopy, and its risk will increase due to poor

Date	Location	Tree	Details
			structure.
04 September 2025	23 Hampden Street, Ashfield	Brush Box (Lophostemon confertus)	The tree has caused significant damage to the surrounding infrastructure, which cannot be mitigated without adversely impacting the tree's stability.
04 September 2025	Council land parcel at the rear of 25 Palace Street, Petersham	Jacaranda tree (Jacaranda mimosifolia)	The tree has caused significant damage to the adjacent private property, which cannot be overcome through reasonable or practical means.

Question

Does Council use the services of external AQ5 qualified arborists to assess the health of all trees with a size index of 1000 or greater that are being considered for removal?

Answer

Council uses consulting AQF5 Arborists on occasion, when further investigation is required using specialist equipment, or to assist with tree inspections when there is a peak in workload.

Council employees are AQF5 Arborists in tree assessment roles, who undergo the same training as the external consultants. Council has employed a University Qualified AQF8 Arborist to manage Public Trees. Council has the skill set and experience required to assess and manage public trees.

It is important to note that the decision to remove trees is not based solely on the condition of the tree, access, risk and inclusiveness are all relevant factors in meeting Council's legal and legislative obligations. An external arborist will consider the tree however they are not obligated and may not consider all the legal and legislative requirements that Council must consider. Whilst assessment of the trees is highly important these other elements of the urban environment must also be considered.

Question

How does Council assess the health of a tree with a size index of 1000 or greater?

Answer

Council assesses the health and structure of all trees using the same process in accordance with Industry Best Practice. The biological and biomechanical functions of a tree are the same, regardless of size.

Question

How many times has Council made such assessments since 1 July 2024?

Answer

Councils Public Tree Team assessed 6,804 Customer requests from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Question

How are those assessments recorded?

Answer

All customer requests are recorded in Council's enquiry system. Prior to the Policy change of May 2025, the outcome of inspections relating to a tree were recorded and attached to an individual customer request. With the introduction of the Policy Council is now transitioning to a customised and digitised tree management system.

Question

When was the first decision made to remove the tree at 54 Thornley Street, and is there a written record of this decision?

Answer

The decision to remove the tree was initially flagged on 22 March 2025 by the Public Trees Coordinator. The Inner West Council Civil team confirmed they could not restore a safe footway on 22 April 2025. The decision was recorded against customer request.

Question

Did any inspections of the Tree or the footpath immediately adjacent to it (Adjacent Footpath) occur between 1 January 2023 and the Decision Date?

Answer

The following table provides a chronology of inspections of the tree and or footpath.

Date	Event	Action
2018	Civil review and site development.	Concrete footway removed and Asphalt footway first installed.
31 May 2019	Request: Limb failed from tree onto residents' fence and across pathway	Limb removed
16 November 2023	Request: Large fallen limb. Property damage blocking footway and driveway access	Limb removed. Works order completed in system 29 November 2025
29 November 2023	Request: Limb fell taking down powerlines and blocking footway claims the tree is hazardous and placing Council on notice	Refers Limb failed on 16 November 2023.
4 December 2023	Response to CRM received on 29 November	Reduction pruning undertaken to try and limit the number of failures. Limited success with this approach.
December 2024	Phone call during weather event. Large limb failed.	Inspection by Coordinator Public Trees found large limb cut up and piled under the tree consistent with SES methodology. Council removed debris.

Date	Event	Action
16 December 2024	Request received regarding footpath Prams can't go easily pass because of the roots, trip hazard to all, especially elderly people.	Inspection of the tree queued.
17 March 2025	Inspection of tree relating to December 2024 Customer request	Council Public Trees Coordinator inspected the tree to confirm that removal was required.
31 March 2025	Works programming	Workorder created to remove the tree subject to Civil Works inspection.
22 April 2025	Civil Works Inspection confirming the footway could not be safely restored to due to the position of the tree roots	Works programmed and packaged for quotation in April 2025.

Question

Does Council have a record of any complaints about the footpath immediately adjacent to the Tree at 54 Thornley Street, beyond the 2 that Michael Tay refers in his Inspection Report dated 30 July 2025?

Answer

One footpath request received 16 December 2024.

Question

What is the risk posed to pedestrians at 54 Thornley Street in the foreseeable future to which Mr. Tay refers to in his report from 30 July?

Answer

The risk identified to pedestrians is High (see previously provided briefing note for further information).

Question

What is the basis of Mr. Tay's opinion that there are no practical remedial options to reinstate the Footpath at 54 Thornley Street to a conforming level and width?

Answer

The basis of the opinion by Coordinator Public Trees is based on a range of factors based on experience and arboricultural knowledge, as well as the advice from the Civil inspection. Key considerations include:

- The level of interaction,
- Proximity of from gate,
- Extent of tree roots and that they are raised within the footway,
- The extended root crown,
- The height required to build a suspended walkway
- Performance of past remedial options

The Public Trees Manager reviewed this and formed the same opinion based on a collaborative discussion with Civil design and Traffic engineers, on the feasibility of the options

in both footway and road that proved unfeasible when considering tree, pedestrians and traffic considerations.

Question

Why does Council consider that it is not possible to repair the Adjacent Footpath using materials similar to those used at 14 Thornley Street?

Answer

At 14 Thornley Street the option to install porous paving, softfall or other similar products was possible. It is acknowledged that this option is not recommended as:

- The roots of the tree and the root crown are at or above the footway surface.
- To install these options would require some excavation which would damage/sever tree roots and root crown within the trees structural root zone, compromising the trees structural stability.

The installation of materials similar to 14 Thornley would not achieve the required 1.2m footpath width required or would require severing of the trees root crown and tree roots compromising the tree and creating a foreseeable risk of whole tree failure. This would not be in accordance with industry best practice nor the Australian Standard AS4970-2009 and is not defensible in the event of an incident.

Question

Were any requests made to Council during the period 1 January 2025 and 5 June 2025 to remove the Tree at 54 Thornley Street either in writing or otherwise which are not recorded in Council's CMR? If so, please provide details.

Answer

No.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 52

Subject: QUESTION ON NOTICE: CALLAN PARK

From: Councillor Ismet Tastan

Comment by the General Manager:

Answers to the questions will be provided at the Ordinary Council meeting in October 2025.

Questions relating to Callan Park Buildings - Repatriation Ward B - currently flagged as a potential location for a clubhouse for Balmain District Football Club (BDFC).

Question

Does Inner West Council have a licence to occupy Repatriation Ward B?

Question

How much funding has Council identified is required to fund renovations and upgrades of Repatriation Ward B and if so, where did/will this come from? Are there specific conditions imposed on providing this funding?

Question

Has it been decided who will be responsible for the renovation - Greater Sydney Parklands Trust/ BDFC/ Inner West Council?

Question

Does Council have a licence to occupy other buildings within Callan Park and if yes - which ones?

Question

Has Council had to fund repairs on other buildings it occupies under licence in Callan Park and if so, what was the purpose and cost of these?

Callan Park Sporting Fields

Could you please provide the following (separately per field) :

Question

What sporting groups use the fields at Callan Park?

Question

What months do the different sporting groups play?

Question

What days and hours do sporting groups play and train?

Question

What fees are paid to Council for these grounds by each club?

Question

What expenses does Council incur per financial year in maintaining these fields?

Question

What turf does Council use on these fields?

General questions

Question

Is each field maintained to a standard that is “fit for purpose” for each sport? How does Council define “fit for purpose” ?

Question

Are there any plans to increase fees in the next two years?

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 53**

Subject: **TOGETHER2: SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CAFE FOR DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Adele Pittaway - Community Wellbeing Manager

Authorised By: Ruth Callaghan - Director Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The CEO of Together2, formally known as the Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre, approached Council staff in late 2024 with a request that Council contribute to capital works to convert a space in its building at 756 Darling St Rozelle (which it rents from the Uniting Church) to establish a social enterprise café aimed at providing training, work experience and potential employment for young people with disabilities. Council then resolved that consultations commence with Together2 and Council staff on the potential for a joint project and consideration of what the capital costs might be.

Based on information and quotes provided by Together2 to Council staff during 2025, the organisation is seeking $472,986 as a "one-off capital investment" for the project. While the concept is supported and several meetings seeking further information have been held, the scope of the works needs to be more clearly defined before Council can commit to significant funding to a building that it does not own. As the attachments to this report indicate, the information provided to date includes the proposed floor plan, architectural drawings and material finishes (furniture, cabinetry etc).

Council's Major Projects team have indicated that to effectively assess the extent of the project, including quantification of project costs, further information would be required such as a report on the building's condition, survey, hazmat report etc and other due diligence in relation to the structure of the building. Council could offer to Together2 that building project experts from the Major Projects team could be made available for a walk through of the building and assistance in identifying next steps.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 22 October 2024, Council resolved the following:

> *That Council consult with Together2 about joint project with Council to fit out and establish a social enterprise cafe at the Together2 premises to provide training and employment opportunities for local young people living with disability, and table a report for the December Ordinary Council meeting on how the partnership could be structured and what the capital costs of the project might be.*

A report was received and noted by Council on 3 December 2024. The report detailed that the Director Community met with the Together2 CEO and project staff on 20 November 2024 to discuss the social enterprise café and requested further detail in relation to the project scope and financial costs.

On 4 March 2025 a meeting was held between Together2 leadership and senior Council staff to discuss the capacity for funding the social enterprise café given that Council does not own the premises and there is no current budget allocation. Since then there have been several meetings and email discussions but staff do not yet have the detail required to do a full assessment of the proposal.

DISCUSSION

Together2 (formerly the Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre) fosters inclusivity and celebrates diversity through work with community including older people, young people and those living with disabilities. Together2 state that the proposed social enterprise will “provide employment and training pathways for individuals with disabilities and those facing workforce participation barriers” in addition to serving as “a welcoming ’third space’ where informal and intentional social interactions thrive”. Council is supportive of this community development approach.

During the meeting on 4 March 2025, Together2 were advised by staff that funding was not available to cover the costs indicated in the quotes provided to that date (up to $450,000). An email sent following the meeting asked for detailed information on; what aspects of the social enterprise Council could Council support financially or otherwise, what referral pathways could be established to ensure benefit to the wider local government area and the funding required for capital works to the building.

On 7 April 2025 (see attached document of that date) Together2 confirmed a request “seeking a one-off capital investment of $472,986 from Council to support the establishment of a fully compliant and accessible social enterprise café at 756 Darling Street, Rozelle.”

Ongoing discussions are required to assess the project and the size of any potential investment by Council including a more detailed scope of the proposed structural works to the building. Staff from Council’s major projects area with the relevant expertise could assist with this by providing expert guidance on next steps to Together2.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Revitalising Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre - SEC Proposal IWC
2. Proposed Interior Fit-out Design Concept V2.0
3. WD-200A-Proposed Plan
4. ROZELLE - Quote Summary (12.06.2024) - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

5. Quotation - Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

6. AGC Quote - Commercial. Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.



Revitalising Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre: A Vision for Connection, Empowerment, and Wellbeing

This proposal outlines an innovative plan to further establish Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre as a vibrant community hub for the Inner West. Guided by the *Inner West Community Strategic Plan: Our Inner West 2036* and the *Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2023–2026*, the initiative focuses on creating a social enterprise café and community wellbeing centre. This project will provide employment pathways, enhance social inclusion, and address community needs through tailored programs, co-designed with residents. In partnership with grassroots organisations like Good in the Hood, and supported by together²'s expertise, the Centre will offer holistic services to the general community, including training opportunities for individuals with disabilities and aged care supports under the *Support at Home* program. By fostering connection, resilience, and accessibility, this proposal sets out a transformative vision for the future of Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre and its role in building a thriving, empowered Inner West community.

Steven Lowrie
Chief Executive Officer

Marco DeAngelis
Head of Community Enterprise

11th December 2024

Revitalising Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre: A Vision for Connection, Training, and Wellbeing

Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre is set to further establish its role as a vibrant, welcoming hub at the heart of the Inner West community. Guided by the principles outlined in the *Inner West Community Strategic Plan: Our Inner West 2036* (Inner West Council, 2018), the *Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2023–2026* (Inner West Council, 2023), and insights from *The Future of Social Connection Report* (Bower et al., 2024), this proposal outlines a transformative vision to establish a social enterprise café and community wellbeing centre.

A cornerstone of this initiative is the Centre's partnership with *Good in the Hood*, a grassroots volunteer organisation dedicated to fostering community resilience and addressing food insecurity. Through our partnership we serve over 400 people each week, providing essential support to those in need. This collaboration exemplifies the power of strategic partnerships in achieving meaningful community outcomes, enabling the Centre to share resources and align efforts to maximise its impact.

The initiative is being developed within together²'s community-centred strategic framework, which prioritises the needs, aspirations, and active involvement of Inner West residents. By responding to feedback about the community's desire to strengthen Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre as an inclusive and empowering space, the proposed café and wellbeing centre will mark a significant milestone in reinforcing the Centre's identity as a trusted and accessible hub. Through this project, Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre will reflect its community's identity and become a space where people come together to connect, learn, and thrive.

A Renewed Vision for Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre

The social enterprise café and community wellbeing centre will bring together the elements of diversity, creativity, and inclusion that define the Inner West. By addressing the structural and individual causes of social disconnection outlined in *Placing Social Connection at the Heart* (Bower et al., 2024), the initiative will enhance residents' mental, social, and physical wellbeing while fostering a stronger, more connected community.

We aim to have a significant focus on fostering social capital through community-led networks. This approach ensures the Centre operates as a central hub for integrated and holistic service delivery while remaining closely aligned with together²'s wider specialist NDIS and aged care services.

Supporting Citizenship and Inclusion for People with Disabilities

The Centre will prioritise supporting individuals with disabilities, including those receiving NDIS employment supports, to achieve full integration into the community. Drawing inspiration from Simon Duffy's *Keys to Citizenship*, the project will focus on creating opportunities for respect, equality, and individuality. These principles serve as a framework for meaningful community participation and underscore the need for justice and mutual respect.

Keys to Citizenship Applied to Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre:

- **Freedom**: Providing individuals with disabilities the autonomy to make decisions, take risks, and live on their own terms. Through thoughtfully designed programs and supports, everyone can exercise choice and control.

- **Direction**: Ensuring that every person can lead a meaningful life aligned with their passions, interests, and abilities. Tailored training opportunities in the café and wellbeing centre will help participants find fulfilling paths.
- **Money**: Recognising that financial independence is essential for dignity and autonomy. The café will integrate employment pathways, including School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES), offering individuals the opportunity to gain work experience and earn an income.
- **Home**: Building a sense of belonging by creating an inclusive space that individuals can call their own. This community hub will offer safety, privacy, and connection.
- **Support**: Promoting a supportive environment were seeking and receiving help is valued. The wellbeing centre will deliver services that prioritise citizenship while maintaining independence.
- **Life**: Encouraging individuals to contribute to their community in diverse ways, from volunteering to participating in social and cultural activities. The Centre will provide opportunities to join classes, workshops, and community events.
- **Relationships**: Facilitating relationships and connections that enrich life. By creating a warm and welcoming environment, the café and wellbeing centre will nurture friendships, family bonds, and broader community ties.

Building Opportunities for Participation and Wellbeing

The integration of Simon Duffy's framework with the Centre's services ensures that people with the general community including those with disabilities and aged care related needs can fully participate in community life. This model will address barriers such as social isolation, poverty, and lack of appropriate supports while raising expectations for inclusion and equity.

Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre will also focus on practical outcomes such as:

- **Employment Opportunities**: Providing meaningful jobs and skill-building programs within the café and other initiatives, particularly for individuals with disabilities and disadvantaged backgrounds.
- **Community Engagement**: Creating spaces where individuals can connect, collaborate, and contribute, fostering a deep sense of belonging.
- **Education and Skill Development**: Offering workshops and training programs to enable lifelong learning and active citizenship.
- **Support Services**: Delivering trauma-informed, tailored support that empowers individuals while addressing specific needs.

This renewed vision aims to make Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre a place where everyone, regardless of ability, can thrive, connect, and contribute meaningfully to their community. It represents a holistic approach to citizenship and inclusion, helping to build a more just and connected society.

Benefits of a Social Enterprise Café and Community Wellbeing Centre

Creating Opportunities for Connection and Growth

The café will serve as a welcoming “third space” where informal and intentional social interactions thrive. It will be a meeting point for diverse members of the Inner West, fostering friendships, collaboration, and a strong sense of belonging (Bower et al., 2024). The inclusion of training spaces will enhance the Centre’s capacity to offer skill development opportunities for individuals with disabilities, local students, and volunteers.

Emphasising Accessibility and Inclusion

The proposed design will feature accessible and neuro-affirming elements to ensure all members of the community feel respected and welcome. This approach aligns with the *Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2023–2026*, reflecting a commitment to reducing barriers and creating environments that empower all individuals.

Driving Economic Participation

The café will provide employment and training pathways for individuals with disabilities and those facing workforce participation barriers. Integration with School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES) under the NDIS framework will provide young people with disabilities meaningful opportunities to develop essential skills and gain employment experience. Additionally, these activities will contribute to the café's operational sustainability while fostering an inclusive workforce.

Reintroducing Community-Focused Aged Care Services

Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre will leverage its registration under the Australian Government's *Support at Home* program to provide aged care services, including domestic assistance and social support. These services will enhance the independence and quality of life for older residents while creating additional pathways for community connection and wellbeing.

Enhancing Wellbeing Through Tailored Programs

The wellbeing centre will host workshops, support groups, and activities co-designed with residents to address local needs. Programs will include mental health initiatives, physical activity classes, and trauma-informed support services. By addressing challenges such as social isolation and loneliness, the Centre will strengthen individual and collective resilience (Bower et al., 2024).

Strategic Alignment

Inner West Community Strategic Plan: Our Inner West 2036

- Supports unique, liveable neighbourhoods and promotes caring, healthy communities.
- Enhances social infrastructure to foster connection and belonging.
- Encourages local economic growth through partnerships and employment initiatives.

Inner West Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2023–2026

- Ensures physical and social environments are accessible and inclusive.
- Reduces attitudinal barriers through education and community engagement.
- Promotes equity and inclusion in community facilities and services.

Placing Social Connection at the Heart (Bower et al., 2024)

- Addresses loneliness with evidence-based interventions
- Highlights the value of community-led initiatives for fostering social connection.
- Emphasises the importance of inclusive spaces in building social capital.

Sustainability and Longevity

The social enterprise model ensures financial sustainability by reinvesting café revenue into community programs. This approach supports Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre in remaining a dynamic hub for connection and wellbeing, responsive to evolving community needs.

To strengthen its sustainability framework:

- Integration with School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES). The café will provide training and employment for young individuals with disabilities, creating a steady workforce while enhancing inclusivity.
- Reintroduction of Aged Care Services. Through the *Support at Home* program, services such as social support and domestic assistance will not only address local needs but also contribute to the Centre's operational sustainability.

More broadly together[2] will continue to provide specialist NDIS and aged care supports, ensuring the Centre's services are comprehensive and aligned with community needs. The collaborative structure will foster relationships, prioritise shared resources, and empower individuals, creating a holistic and enduring service model.

Conclusion

This proposal aims to further establish Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre as a localleader of inclusion, creativity, and community empowerment. By addressing social disconnection and prioritising accessibility, the initiative will strengthen the Inner West's social fabric, enhancing residents' wellbeing and fostering connection.

Funding from Inner West Council is essential to bring this vision to life. The Centre's success depends on securing financial support to complete building works, acquire equipment, and launch programs. Without this funding, the initiative cannot reach its potential to transform the Centre into a self-sustaining hub for connection, training, and wellbeing.

By investing in this project, the Council will play a pivotal role in creating a sustainable, empowered, and connected community, setting a new benchmark for inclusive local governance. With your support, Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre can become a vibrant space where individuals thrive, connections flourish, and the true spirit of the Inner West is celebrated.

Summary of Attached Information

Recent project updates include adjustments to the original design plans to prioritise training and capacity-building spaces:

- Revised layout. The main café area will now include a training space for individuals with disabilities, local students, and corporate volunteers, supporting skill development and community engagement.
- Cool room addition. A new cool room will increase capacity for both the social enterprise café and the Good in the Hood food relief program.
- Project costs. Preliminary quotes estimate $190,000 for equipment and $350,000–$400,000 for building works. Additional quotes are being finalised, with adjustments to optimise costs.

References

Bower, M., Smout, S., Johnson, S., Costello, A., Andres, L., Donohoe-Bales, A., Leach, M., Pellicano, E., Hiller, R. M., Fonagy, P., Ypsilanti, A., Kumar, S., Scott, L., Pearson, S., Hobson, H., Barclay, D., Harding, S., Teesson, L., Baggaley, J., Stears, M., & Teesson, M. (2024). *Placing social connection at the heart*. UCL Policy Lab and The Matilda Centre.

Inner West Council. (2018). *Inner West Community Strategic Plan: Our Inner West 2036*. Inner West Council.

Inner West Council. (2023). *Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2023–2026*. Inner West Council.

Good in the Hood. (n.d.). *Good in the Hood: Fostering community resilience and addressing food insecurity*. Retrieved from https://www.goodinthehood.com.au.

Duffy, S. (2014). *Keys to citizenship: A guide to getting good support for people with learning difficulties*. Paradigm.

Proposed Interior Fit-out Design Concept V2.0

‘Together Two’,
Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre,
756 Darling Street,
Rozelle, NSW 2039.

To: Steven Lowrie + Marco De Angelis,
Together Two
January 20 / 2022

CheeLamDesign

Section 1

Existing + Precedents

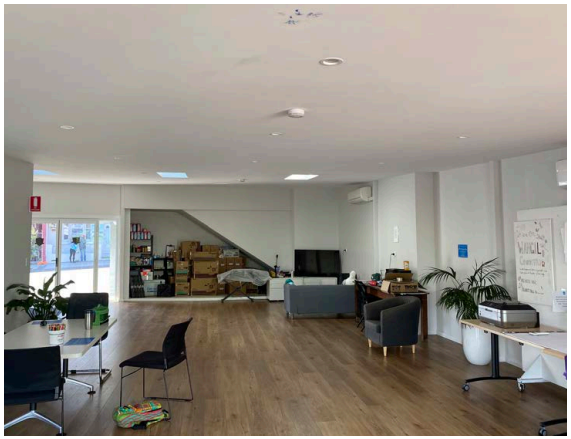
Existing

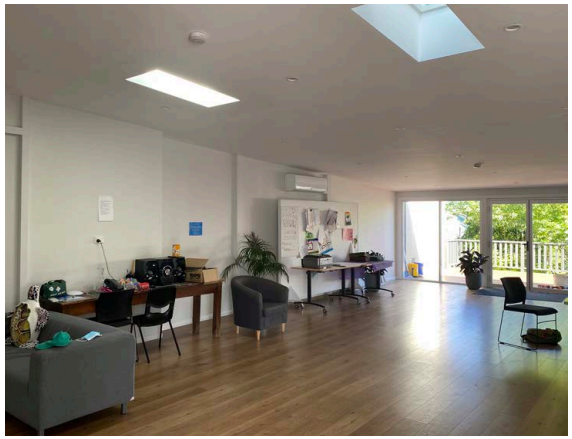
The current premises comprises 2 distinct sections, with the single level converted garage section being the main open plan and multi purpose community space, whilst the double-storey 'residential' building accommodates administrative spaces upstairs and some community-use spaces downstairs.

The ground floor areas were renovated about 12 mths ago, with new floor, wall and ceiling finishes, including a new accessible toilet. It currently presents as newly renovated.

With cost and sustainability being key considerations, we believe the floor and ceiling should be largely retained as part of any new interior concept, where possible.

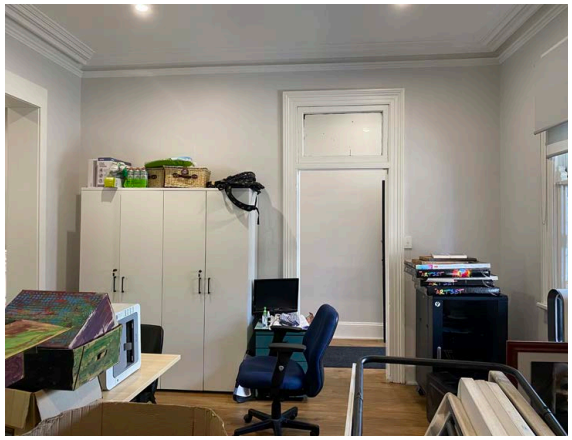






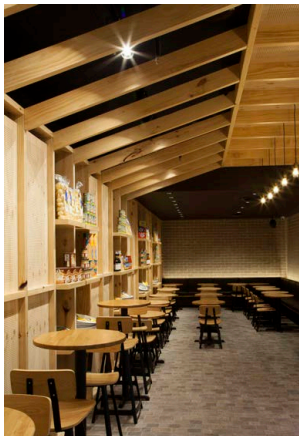


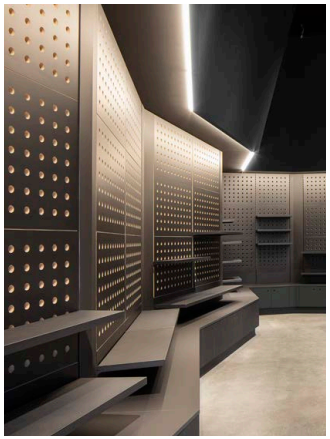




Precedents

These images are examples of some fresh food, retail and hospitality projects that we have completed in the past, included here purely as a reference point, to illustrate our belief there is great potential in creating an interior environment that is not only functional, but one that conveys a brand's key values, personality and messages, and that also provides for a memorable, immersive experience for the customer. Our projects are more than just assemblages of finishes and fixtures, but environments that are borne out of and inspired by a brand's narrative.











Section 2

Inspiration

Inspiration

'Together Two' is the newly launched re-brand of the Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre, marking a significant shift in the organisation's directions towards a more multi-tiered approach in their services and clientele (aged care, disability, youth), going beyond the confines of just Rozelle (ie the Inner West), and being a more agile facilitator, designer and change maker. Together Two's ambition is to become a dynamic organisation known for their personalised solutions and dedication to the wellbeing of their community. A key aspect behind the brand's DNA is to create space for individuals to be themselves, empowering people to come together and connect, and to build an environment for inclusive communities to grow.

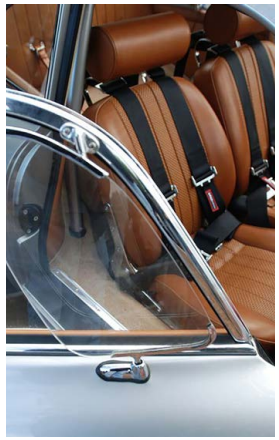
A significant aspect of the interior brief, is the accommodation of a new Social Enterprise Cafe, that anchors the main ground floor open-space, whilst co-sharing the open plan and its multitude of activities and community groups. Key considerations include: 1/ ensuring the Cafe retains its own identifiable 'brand' and personality, 2/ the Cafe happily co-habitates alongside the Together Two brand environment, 3/ the spaces cater to multiple-user groups and their activities, remaining flexible and adaptable, and 4/ cost and sustainability are factored into any design response.

With the newly renovated ground floor spaces, we made early design decisions and elected to retain the floor and ceiling finishes where possible. Whilst we understand that there was an intention to adopt a 'street-style'/upcycled material approach, to achieve a 'Newtown'/'old school' recycled vibe, we have revisited this direction, considering the previous garage use, and the existing finishes that anchor the space.

We have created a robust, slightly industrial response to the cafe at the front, as a nod to its history as a garage. Steel-framed windows and doors at the street front, concrete and weathered steel are key materials, with the colour contrast providing a great platform to highlight the food on display. This transitions into the 'Together Two' environment which is a modern, timber-based palette, with acoustic plywood joinery/wall linings. We have integrated some graphic pictograms that were developed for the cafe, adding to them and 'embedding' them into the surrounding joinery. Select colours are used to feature these. Table tops are recycled plastic sheets, that add a fine-grain texture that is reminiscent of terrazzo. The overall interior is warm, welcoming, unpretentious, playful, restrained and understated.



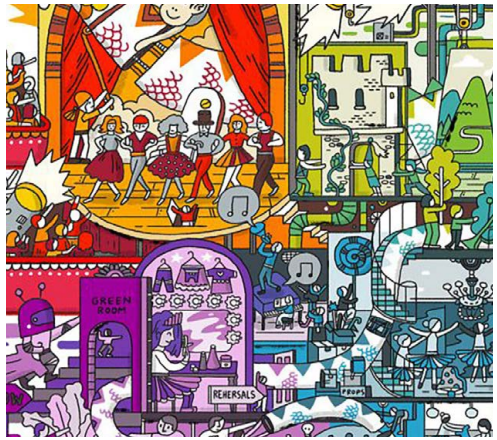


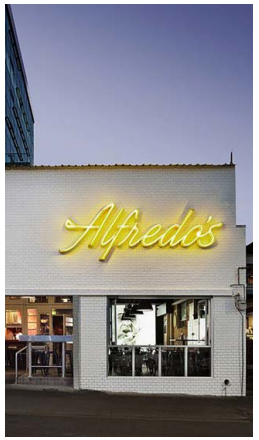














Section 3

Concept

Concept - Proposed Plan: Cafe Mode (Scale 1:100/A3)



01 Day: Cafe Mode (Mon to Fri)
Scale: 1:100

50-60 pax cafe



02 Day: Cafe Mode V2 (Mon to Fri)
Scale: 1:100

59-64 pax cafe

Concept - Proposed Plan: Pop-up Pantry + Theatre Mode (Scale 1:100/A3)



01 Day: Food Redistribution + Pop up Patry Mode (Tue + Thu)
Scale: 1:100

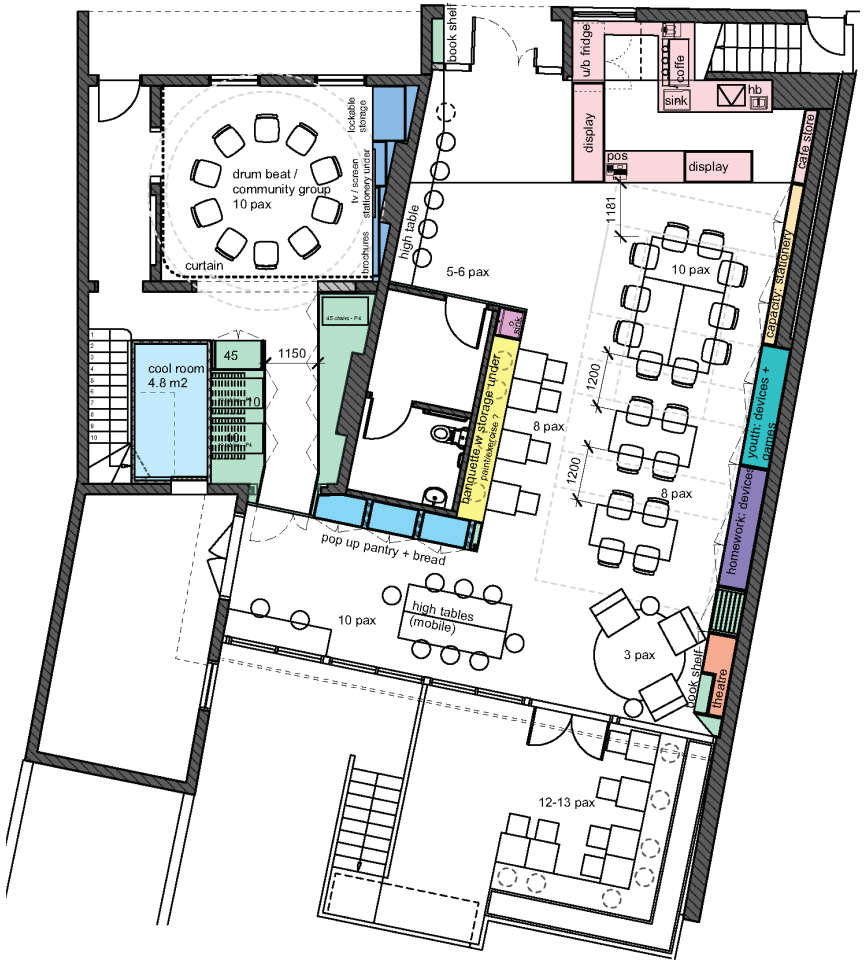


02 Evening: Theatre Mode (Mon + Thu)
Scale: 1:100

Concept - Proposed Plan: Painting + Youth Mode (Scale 1:100/A3)



01 Evening: Painting Mode (Mon)
Scale: 1:100

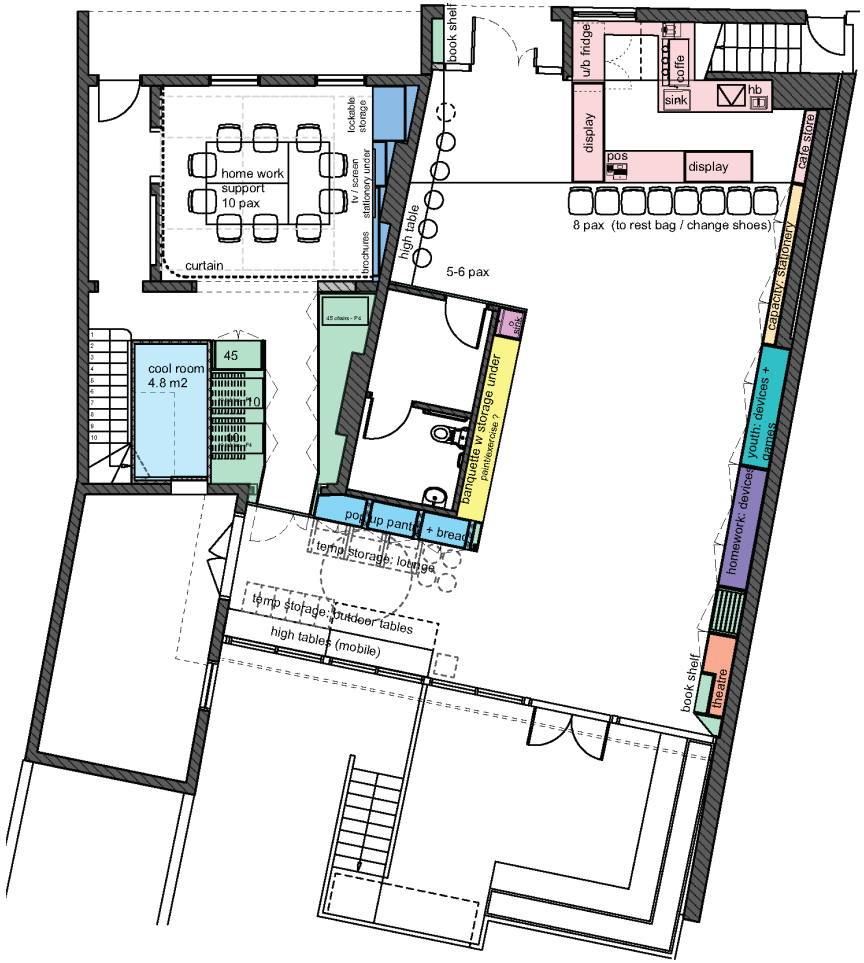


02 Evening: Youth + Drum/Community Group Mode (Tue+Wed+Thu)
Scale: 1:100

Concept - Proposed Plan: Sharing with Youth + Exercise Mode (Scale 1:100/A3)

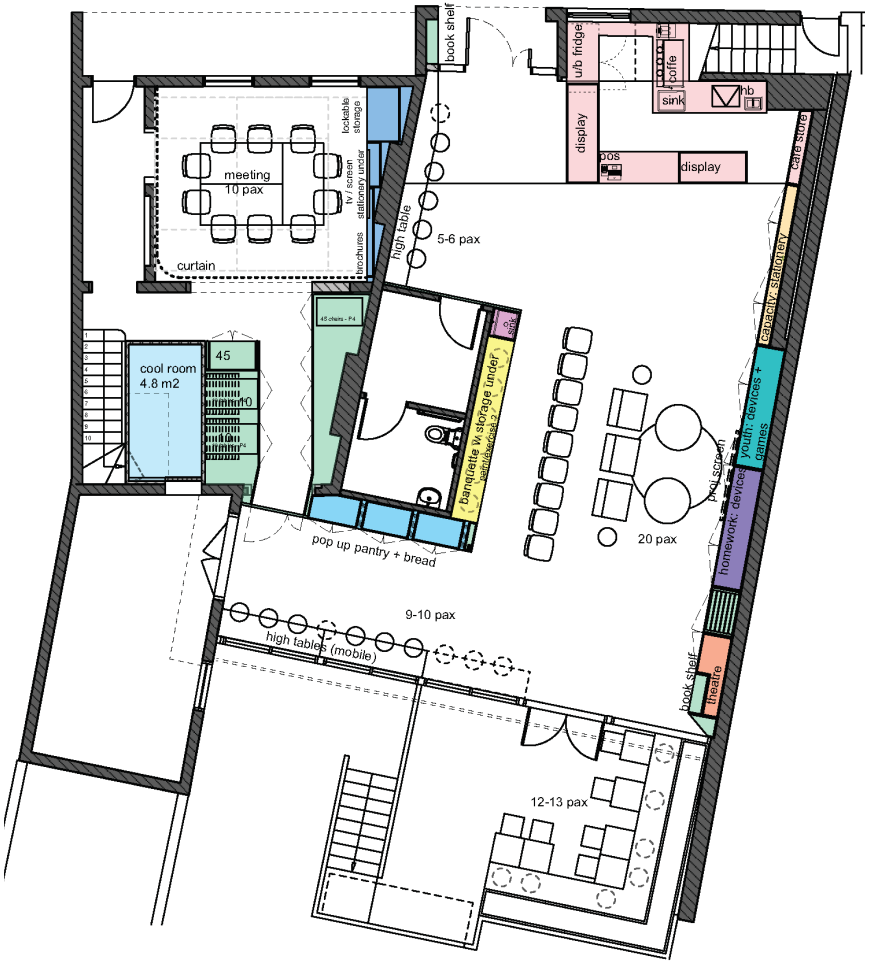


01 Evening: Youth + Drum Shared Mode (Tue)
Scale: 1:100



02 Evening: Excercse (Wed)
Scale: 1:100

Concept - Proposed Plan: Cinema + Large Meeting (Scale 1:100/A3)

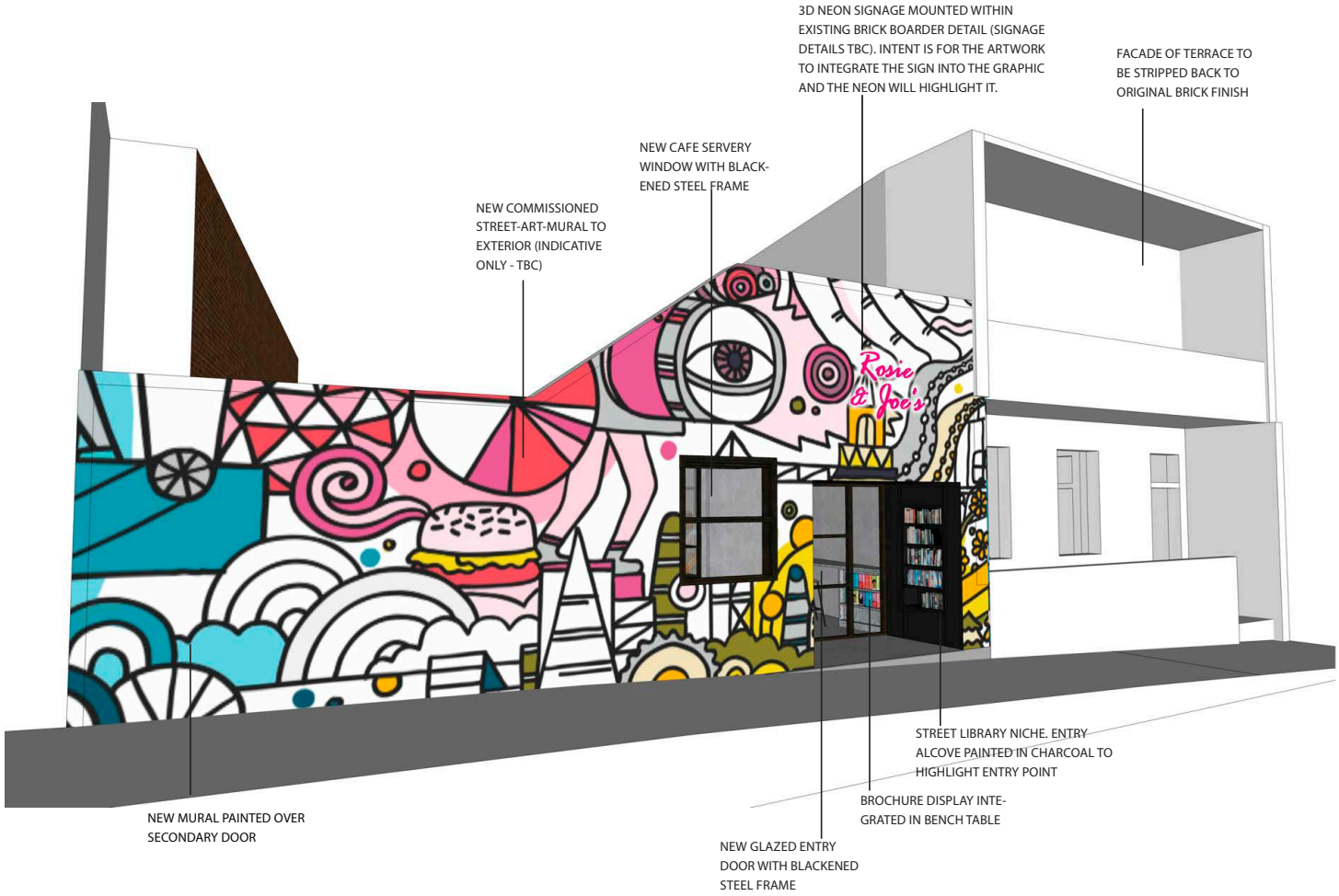


01 Cinema Mode
Scale: 1:100



02 Large Meeting
Scale: 1:100

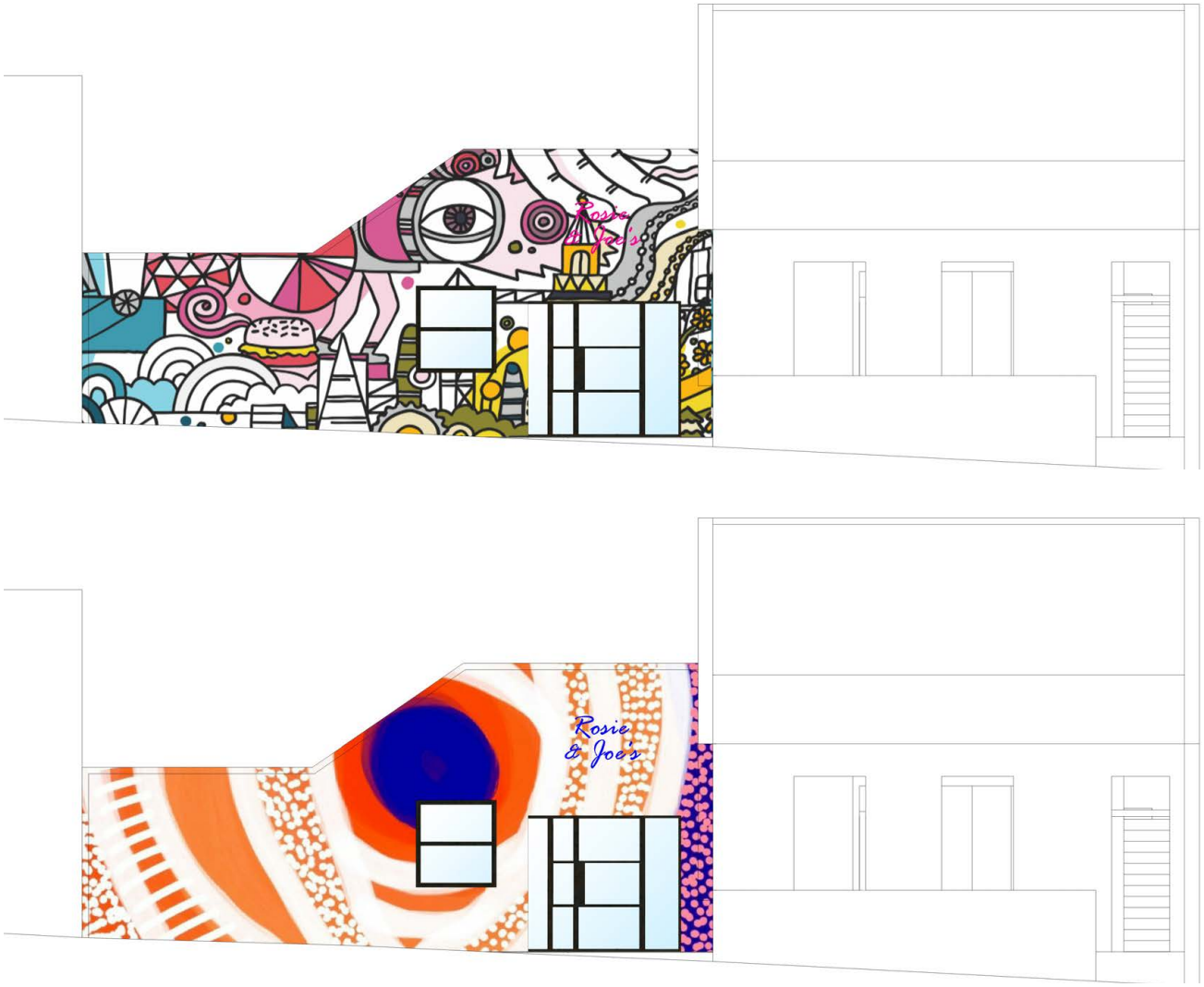
Concept - Perspective View 01 (Rendered)



Concept - Perspective View 02 (Rendered)



Concept - Street Elevation - Artwork Options



Concept - Perspective View 03 (Rendered)

"CONCRETE-LOOK" FIBRE CEMENT SHEETING TO CEILING AND WALLS CAFE KIOSK

CAFE STORAGE WITH DOORS IN "FLUTED-GLASS LOOK" POLYCARBONATE AND BLACKENED STEEL TRIMS

CAFE KIOSK ENCLOSURE (SHOWN IN OPEN POSITION) WITH BLACKENED STEEL FRAMING AND "FLUTED-GLASS LOOK"POLYCARBONATED PANELS

STREET=ART MURAL APPLIED TO ENTIRE LENGTH OF STORAGE WALL (INDICATIVE ONLY - TBC)

FLEXIBLE STORAGE CONCEALED BEHIND FIBRE-CEMENT-TYPE CLADDING TO CABINET DOORS

EXISTING SET PLASTERBAORD CEILING WITH CEILING MOUNTED TRACK LIGHTING, WHITE TO MATCH CEILING

OPEN BOOK SHELF INTEGRATED IN JOINERY WALL



AMBIENT DISPLAY WITH BLACKENED STEEL TRIMS

CAFE KIOSK WITH "CONCRETE-LOOK" FIBRE CEMENT SHEETING TO FRONT, BLACKENED STEEL TRIMS AND STONE TOP

"CONCRETE-LOOK" FLOOR FINISH TO ENTRY

STACKABLE CHAIRS AND TABLES. TABLES WITH RECYCLED PLASTIC TOPS AND BLACK POWDERCOATED LEGS . FURNITURE SELECTIONS TO BE CONFIRMED WITH CLIENT.

EXISTING "TIMBER" FLOOR

WALL CLADDING TO CENTRAL "TOILET BLOCK" COMPRISES PERFORATED GALVANISED STEEL PANELS WITH ACOUSTIC BACKING, WITH BLACK POWDERCOATED SURROUNDING FRAMES. (SEE DETAIL)

Concept - Perspective View 04 (Rendered)

WALL CLADDING TO CENTRAL "TOILET BLOCK" COMPRISES PERFORATED GALVANISED STEEL PANELS WITH ACOUSTIC BACKING, WITH BLACK POWDERCOATED SURROUNDING FRAMES. (SEE DETAIL)

CAFE KIOSK ENCLOSURE (SHOWN IN OPEN POSITION) WITH BLACKENED STEEL FRAMING AND "FLUTED-GLASS LOOK"POLYCARBONATED PANELS

REFRIGERATED DISPLAY

EXISTING SET PLASTERBAORD CEILING WITH CEILING MOUNTED TRACK LIGHTING, WHITE TO MATCH CEILING

STREET=ART MURAL APPLIED TO ENTIRE LENGTH OF STORAGE WALL (INDICATIVE ONLY - TBC)

FLEXIBLE STORAGE CONCEALED BEHIND FIBRE-CEMENT-TYPE CLADDING TO CABINET DOORS

OPERABLE WALL TRACK



BANQUETTE SEATING WITH STORAGE UNDER. UPHOLSTERED TO SEATING RECESS WITH TAN LEATHER, WITH BUTTON STITCHING DETAIL TO REAR WALL (SEE OTHER VIEW)

EXISTING "TIMBER" FLOOR

STACKABLE CHAIRS AND TABLES. TABLES WITH RECYCLED PLASTIC TOPS AND BLACK POWDERCOATED LEGS . FURNITURE SELECTIONS TO BE CONFIRMED WITH CLIENT.

LOUNGE CHAIRS TO SELECT

Concept - Perspective View 05 (Rendered)

WALL CLADDING TO CENTRAL "TOILET BLOCK" COMPRISES PERFORATED GALVANISED STEEL PANELS WITH ACOUSTIC BACKING, WITH BLACK POWDERCOATED SURROUNDING FRAMES. (SEE DETAIL)

OPERABLE WALL TRACK

EXISTING SET PLASTERBAORD CEILING WITH CEILING MOUNTED TRACK LIGHTING, WHITE TO MATCH CEILING

CAFE KIOSK ENCLOSURE (SHOWN IN OPEN POSITION) WITH BLACKENED STEEL FRAMING AND "FLUTED-GLASS LOOK"POLYCARBONATED PANELS

OPEN DISPLAY SHELVING

FLEXIBLE STORAGE CONCEALED BEHIND FIBRE-CEMENT-TYPE CLADDING TO CABINET DOORS

STREET=ART MURAL APPLIED TO ENTIRE LENGTH OF STORAGE WALL (INDICATIVE ONLY - TBC)



BANQUETTE SEATING WITH STORAGE UNDER. UPHOLSTERED TO SEATING RECESS WITH TAN LEATHER, WITH BUTTON STITCHING DETAIL TO REAR WALL.

STACKABLE CHAIRS AND TABLES. TABLES WITH RECYCLED PLASTIC TOPS AND BLACK POWDERCOATED LEGS . FURNITURE SELECTIONS TO BE CONFIRMED WITH CLIENT.

EXISTING "TIMBER" FLOOR

LOUNGE CHAIRS TO SELECTION

Concept - Perspective View 05B (Rendered)



Concept - Perspective View 06 (Rendered)



Concept - Perspective View 07 (Rendered)

STREET=ART MURAL APPLIED TO ENTIRE LENGTH OF STORAGE WALL (INDICATIVE ONLY - TBC)

OUTDOOR BANQUETTE SEATING WITH HERB GARDEN PLANTER BOX BEHIND

EXISTING SET PLASTERBAORD CEILING WITH CEILING MOUNTED TRACK LIGHTING, WHITE TO MATCH CEILING

BANQUETTE SEATING WITH STORAGE UNDER. UPHOLSTERED TO SEATING RECESS WITH TAN LEATHER, AND BUTTON STITCHING DETAIL TO REAR WALL, AND BOLSTER.

MOBILE WINDOW BENCH TABLE AND STOOLS

WC DOOR CONCEALED INTEGRATED WITH CLADDING



STACKABLE CHAIRS AND TABLES. TABLES WITH RECYCLED PLASTIC TOPS AND BLACK POWDERCOATED LEGS . FURNITURE SELECTIONS TO BE CONFIRMED WITH CLIENT.

EXISTING "TIMBER" FLOOR

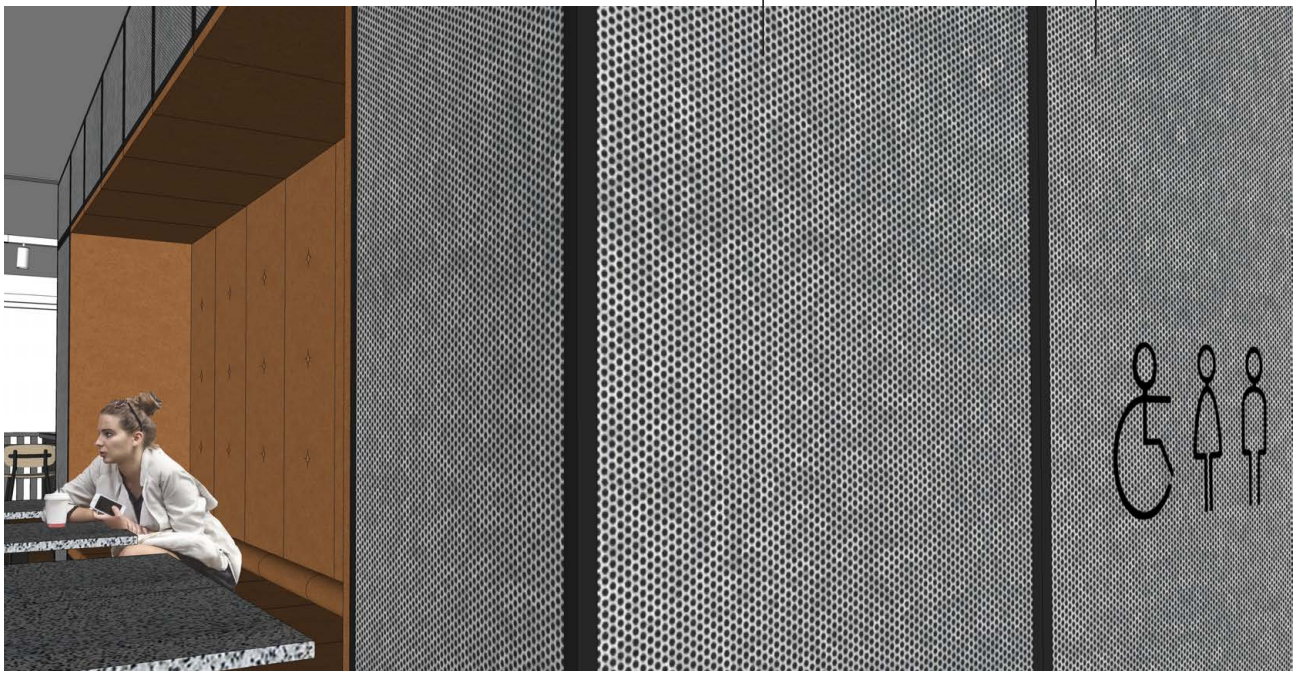
FIXED BENCH TABLE WITH STOOLS

Concept - Detail View : galvanised perforated panels

WALL CLADDING TO CENTRAL "TOILET BLOCK" COMPRISES PERFORATED GALVANISED STEEL PANELS WITH ACOUSTIC BACKING, WITH BLACK POWDERCOATED SURROUNDING FRAMES. (SEE DETAIL)

WC DOOR CONCEALED INTEGRATED WITH CLADDING

EXAMPLE OF GALVANISED STEEL FINISH, SHOWING "PITTED" TEXTURE AND MOTTLED REFLECTION





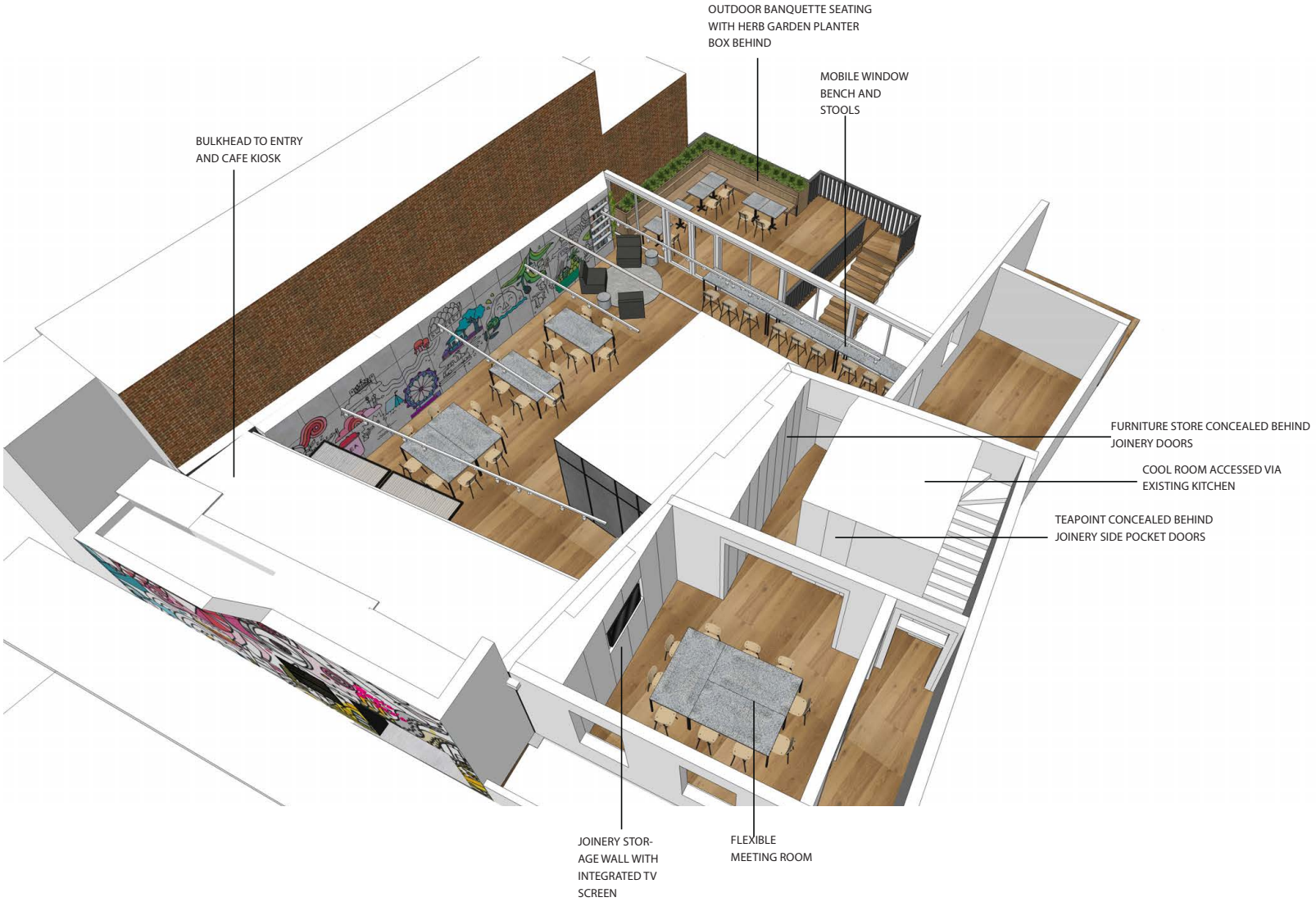
Concept - Axonometric View 01



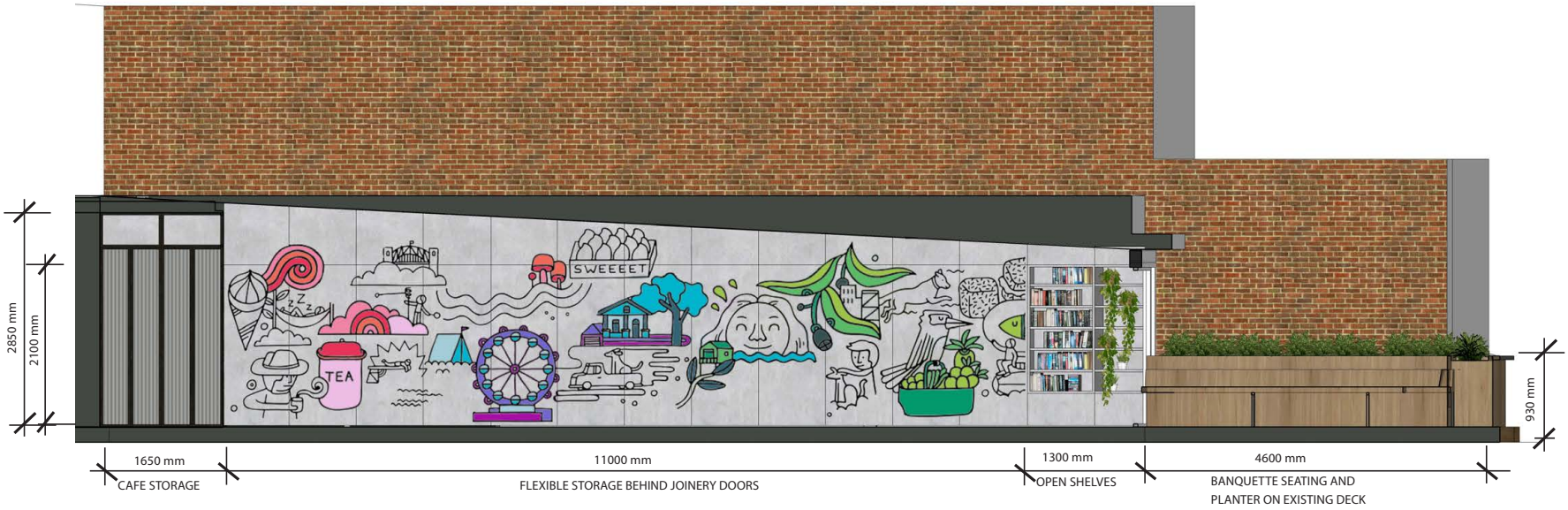
Concept - Axonometric View 02



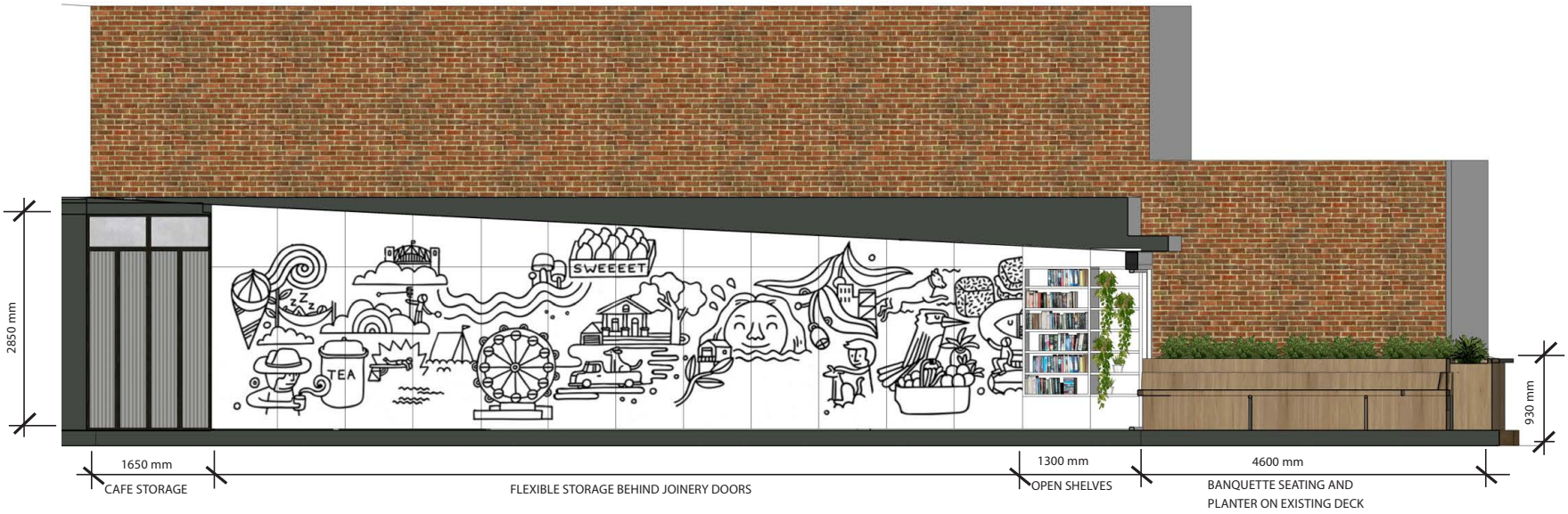
Concept - Axonometric View 03



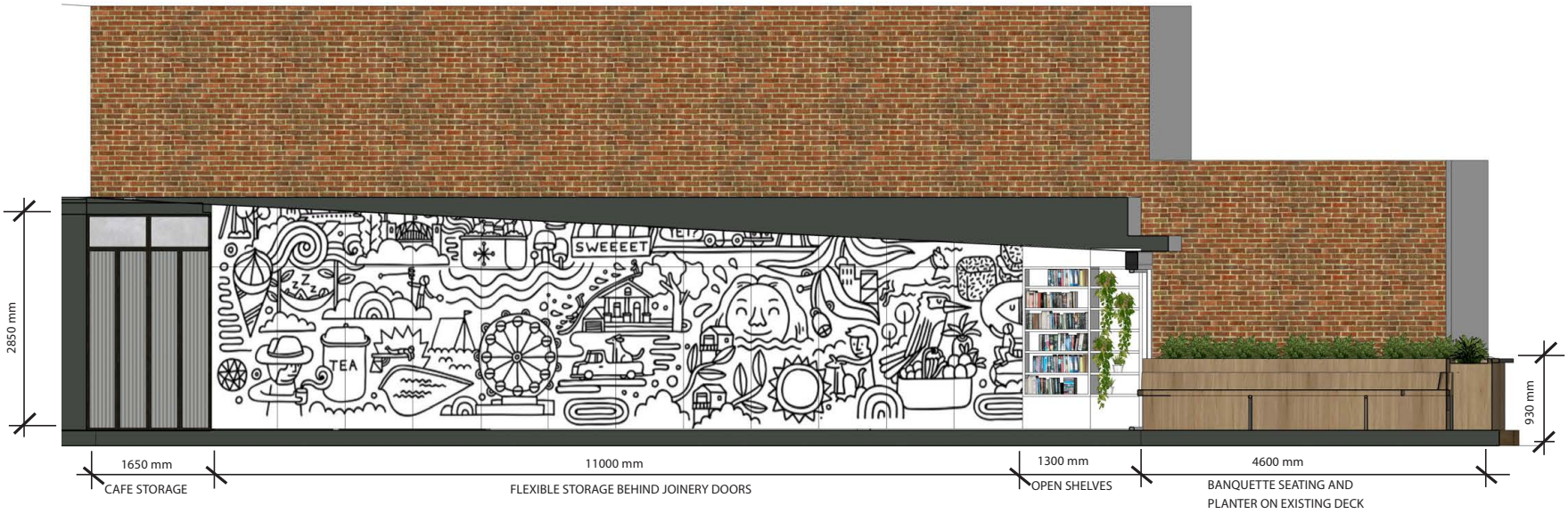
Concept - Elevation 01 (Storage Wall with artwork mural) - OPTION A



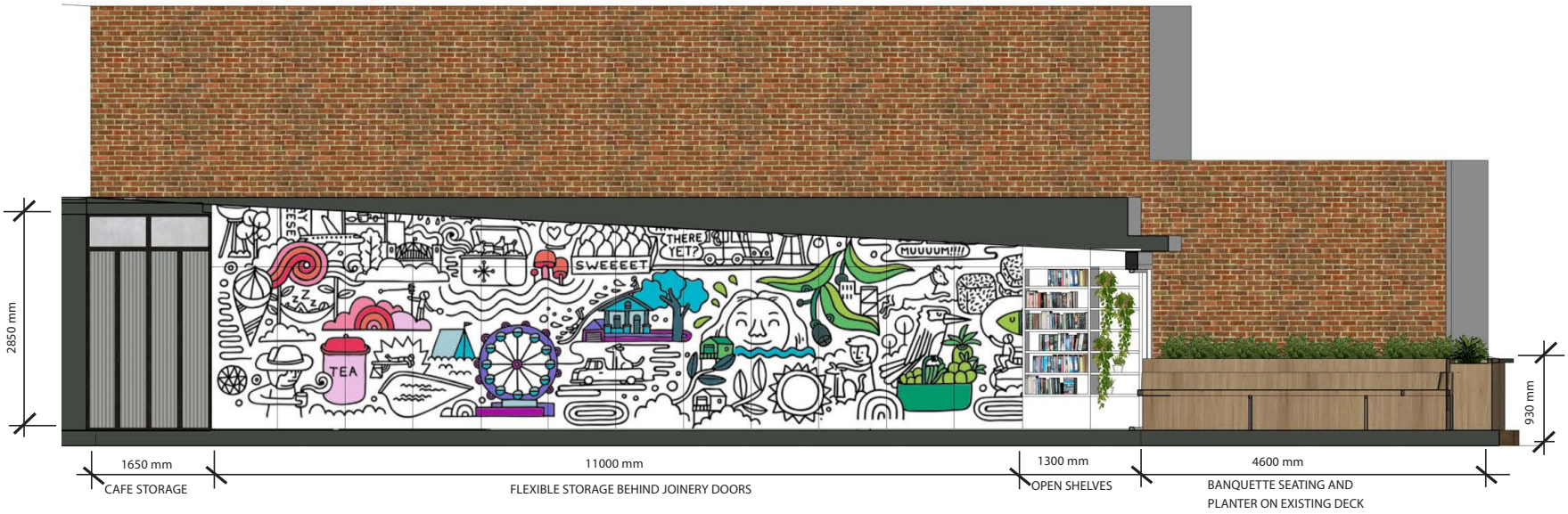
Concept - Elevation 01 (Storage Wall with artwork mural) - OPTION B



Concept - Elevation 01 (Storage Wall with artwork mural) - OPTION C



Concept - Elevation 01 (Storage Wall with artwork mural) - OPTION D



Section 4

Materiality

Materiality

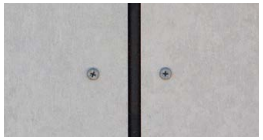
Reference images shown here are to illustrate the design intent as outlined in this Concept Proposal. Final material specifications will be confirmed.

EXISTING "TIMBER" FLOOR



FIBRE-CEMENT SHEETING, WITH EXPRESSED JOINTS, CLEAR-SEALED

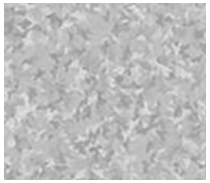




PERFORATED GALVANISED STEEL PANELS WITH ACOUSTIC BACKING



GALVANISED STEEL



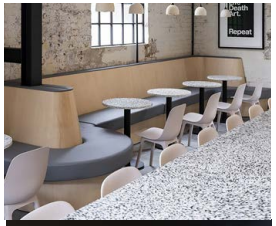
LINISHED ST/STEEL



WHITE JOINERY DOORS/PANELLING



RECYCLED PLASTIC TO TABLE-TOPS (CUSTOM COLOUR MIX)





RECESSED LED DOWN-LIGHTS - WHITE/BLACK TO MATCH CEILING

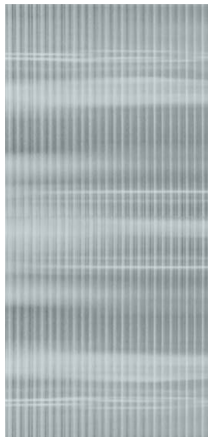


TRACK LIGHTING





"BLACKENED STEEL" FINISH - ASTOR FINISH "PROCYON"



FLUTED GLASS LOOK - DANPALON POLYCARBON-ATE



STONE BENCHTOP- STONE ITALIANA 'K-ART, GLOSS'



MAX-E SHOPFITTING SYSTEM FOR SHELV-ING STORAGE (CONCEALED BEHIND ACOUSTIC PLYWOOD JOINERY)



CRANK "LITTLE HAVANA" - TU-BULAR STEEL AND TIMBER CHAIR, STACKABLE 6-8



TOP : FOLDING TABLES WITH RECYCLED PLASTIC TOP

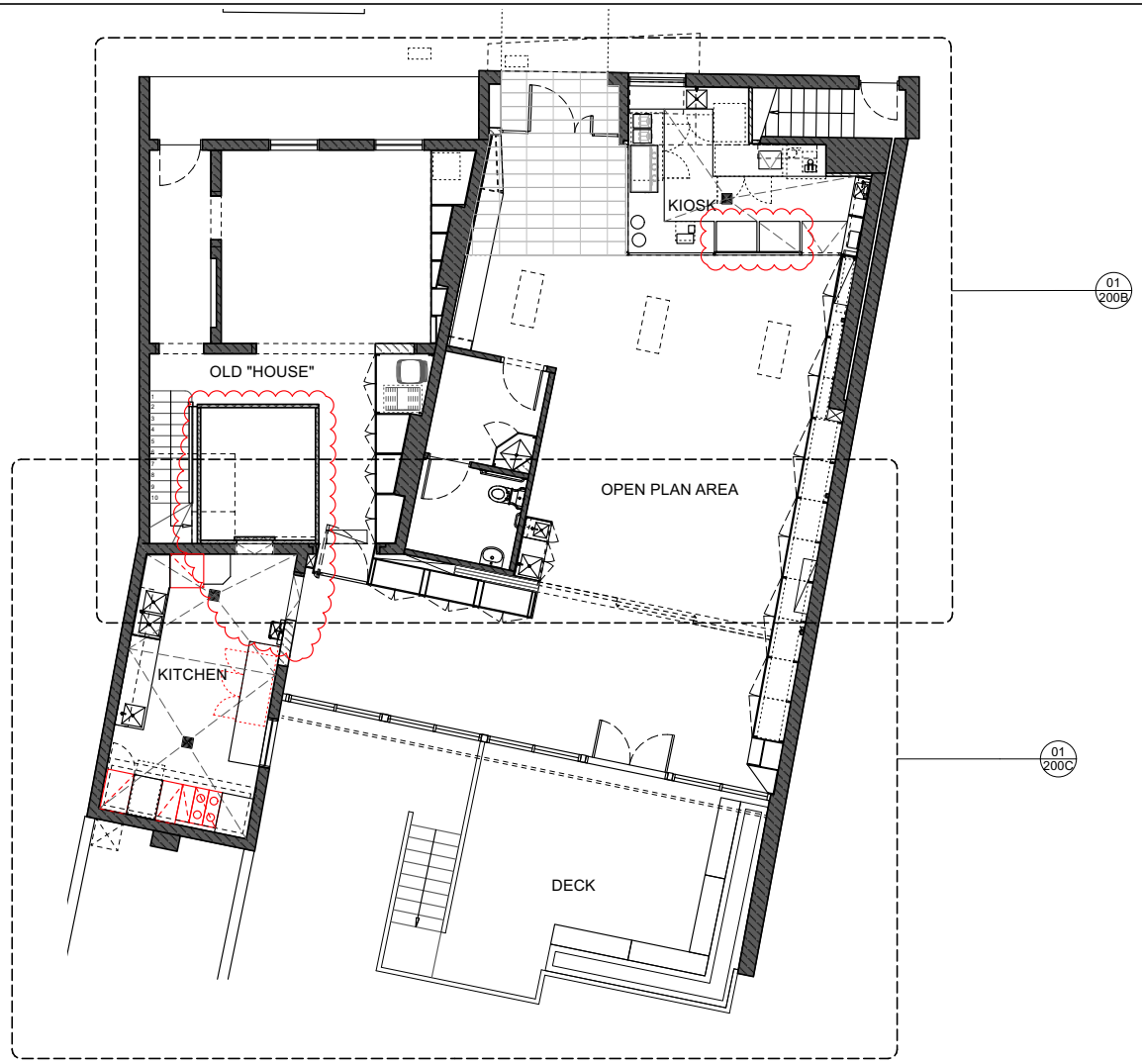
BLACK SATIN POWDERCOAT TO FURNITURE+ FRAMES



ARMCHAIR - "BELLY", FROM RJLIVING



SOFA/CHAISE - "TODD", FROM CASTLERY



01 Proposed Plan: Reference
Scale: 1:100

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Date	Issue	Amendments	Chk'd
16/7/24	05	CC application - amendments clouded	CL
11/7/24	04	Sydney Water Tap-in Application	CL
11/3/24	03	Final Design - Construction Certificate application	CL
21/12/23	02	Final Design - Draft for Client Review	CL

CLIENT
Rozelle Neighbourhood Center

ARCHITECTURE + INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE
CheeLamDesign
PO Box 1202
Newtown NSW 2042
Australia
ABN 90 155 959 201
+61 410 609 839
studio@cheelamdesign.com
Nominated Architect: C Lam (8386)

PROJECT
Rozelle Neighbourhood Center
754 Darling St, Rozelle

DRAWING TITLE
Proposed Plan (Reference)

SCALE AT A3 SIZE 1:100 or as noted
0 1 2 3m

MGA NORTH

PROJECT NO.	DRAWING NO	ISSUE
CLD2021.20	WD-200A	05

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 54**

Subject: **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HUBS**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Adele Pittaway - Community Wellbeing Manager

Authorised By: Ruth Callaghan - Director Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the trial of a Domestic Violence Hub as set out in the confidential report and that a report on the outcomes of the trial be provided to Council by December 2026.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

4: Healthy, resilient and caring communities

DISCUSSION

Council will move into closed session to deal with the Domestic Violence Hubs, for information which is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(f) of the Local Government Act 1993) contains matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property

Pursuant to section 10A(2), 10(2) and 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the media and public will be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified as confidential under *Section 10A(2)(f)* of the Local Government Act 1993.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report - Domestic Violence Hubs - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property (Section 10A(2)(f) of the Local Government Act 1993).

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 55**

Subject: **LAMBERT PARK SPORTING GROUND - APIA LEASE CONDITIONS**

Council at its meeting on 19 August 2025 resolved that the matter be deferred to the meeting to be held on 23 September 2025.

Prepared By: Scott Mullen - Strategic Investments & Property Manager

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in Confidential *Attachment 1*.

DISCUSSION

Council will move into a closed session to deal with the Lambert Park Sporting Ground - APIA Lease Conditions, as the information is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The matter is deemed confidential, as the matter is commercial information of a confidential nature, that would if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

Pursuant to section 10A(2), 10(2) and 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the media and public will be excluded from the meeting on the basis the business to be considered is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993.*

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report - Lambert Park Sporting Ground - Apia Lease Conditions - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 56**

Subject: **PUBLIC EXHIBITION - VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT - 67-75 LORDS ROAD, LEICHHARDT**

Prepared By: Scott Mullen - Strategic Investments & Property Manager

Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in Confidential *Attachment 1*.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

DISCUSSION

Council will move into a closed session to deal with the Public Exhibition - Voluntary Planning Agreement - 67-75 Lords Road, Leichhardt, as the information is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The matter is deemed confidential, as the matter is commercial information of a confidential nature, that would if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

Pursuant to section 10A(2), 10(2) and 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the media and public will be excluded from the meeting on the basis the business to be considered is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993.*

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report - Public Exhibition - Voluntary Planning Agreement - 67-75 Lords Road, Leichhardt - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

2. VPA - 75 Lords Road - Planning Agreement - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

3. VPA - 75 Lords Road - Linear Park Design Package - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to

conduct) business.

4. VPA - 75 Lords Road - Landscape Concept Plan - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

5. VPA - 75 Lords Road - Explanatory Note - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 57
Subject: QUARTERLY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROPERTY REPORT
Prepared By: Scott Mullen - Strategic Investments & Property Manager
Authorised By: Ryann Midei - Director Property and Major Projects

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council with a quarterly update on the financial and operational performance of its commercial property investments in Liverpool and Warrawong.

For the quarter ending 30 June 2025, the combined net income from these properties totalled $1,219,709, with strong occupancy rates.

BACKGROUND

Council previously held investment properties at Tempe Lands, which were acquired by Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) for the Sydney Gateway Project in March 2020 through a compulsory process by agreement.

In 2021, Council engaged Ernst & Young (EY) to conduct a comprehensive review of the existing property portfolio and to assist in the development of a Real Estate Investment Strategy. The strategy adopted provides a structured framework and clear criteria for acquiring replacement investment properties, ensuring that future purchases are aligned with the previous rental revenue generated by the acquired lands.

The acquisition of investment properties located in Liverpool and Warrawong was approved at Special Council Meetings held in November 2022 and April 2023, respectively.

A summary of financial performance is provided below for each of the two properties. Further information of a confidential nature is provided in the confidential report.

DISCUSSION

203 NORTHUMBERLAND STREET LIVERPOOL

The property offers a total Net Lettable Area (NLA) of 7,278.10 square metres. Of this, 7,126.70 square metres (representing 97.92%) have been successfully leased. The remaining 151.40 square metres (2.08%), located on the ground floor, are currently unleased; however, terms for leasing this space have been agreed upon.

Financial Performance
A summary of the financial performance of the property is provided below:

	Full Year		
Account	Actual	Budget	$Var
Revenue	3,727,815.42	3,503,291.00	224,524.42
Operating Expenditure	592,232.97	625,896.93	33,663.96
Direct Recoveries	32,886.65	-	- 32,886.65
Net Operating Profit (Loss)	3,102,695.80	2,877,394.07	225,301.73
Owner Expenditure	65,237.47	-	- 65,237.47
Net Profit / (Loss)	3,037,458.33	2,877,394.07	160,064.26

Revenue
The total revenue amounts to $3,727,815, compared to a budgeted figure of $3,503,291, resulting in a favourable variance of $224,524 (6.4%). Revenue is reported on a year-to-date accrual basis, covering the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

The favourable revenue variance is primarily attributed to increased office leasing activity:

- Suite 501, initially budgeted as vacant, is now leased to Neami.
- Suites 502 and 503, also budgeted as vacant, have been leased to STARTTS.
- Suite 504, originally forecast to be vacant, has had its lease renewed with Credit Repair.

Expenses
The total building expenses, encompassing operating expenditure, direct recoveries, and owner expenditure, amounted to $690,357 against a budget of $625,897. This represents an unfavourable variance of $64,460 (10.30%).

The increase in expenditure is primarily attributable to the payment of the STARTTS leasing fee to Knight Frank, totalling $43,532.

Financial Balance
The balance exceeded budget expectations, resulting in a favourable variance of $160,064, or 5.56%.

Capital Works
The planned capital budget for FY 2025/26 is $433,500.

Recent property activities included comprehensive audits of mechanical systems, building inspections, and external façade assessments, with repair works as required being planned. Planned works also cover the rear car park and entrance areas.

The overall ten-year capital budget for the property, as detailed in the EY Due Diligence Analysis at time of purchase, has been incorporated into Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

67 KING STREET WARRAWONG

The property offers a total Net Lettable Area (NLA) of 5,224.00 square metres. All 5,224.00 square metres (representing 100%) have been successfully leased, with no unleased areas currently available.

Monthly Holdovers is 2,479.50 sqm (47.46%). This relates to Helius Pathology and ISLHD. Both tenants have exercised their lease options to extend their lease term.

Financial Performance
A summary of the financial performance of the property is provided below:

	Full Year		
Account	**Forecast**	**Budget**	**$Var**
Revenue	1,988,770.56	1,990,201.06	-1,430.50
Operating Expenditure	468,183.06	490,322.00	22,138.94
Direct Recoveries	7,771.00	-	-7,771.00
Net Operating Profit (Loss)	1,512,816.50	1,499,879.06	12,937.44
Owner Expenditure	630.00	-	-630.00
Net Profit / (Loss)	1,512,186.50	1,499,879.06	12,307.44

Revenue
The total revenue amounts to $1,988,771, compared to a budgeted figure of $1,990,201, resulting in an unfavourable minor variance of $1,431 (0.07%). Revenue is reported on a year-to-date accrual basis, covering the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Expenses
The total building expenses, including operating expenditure, direct recoveries, and owner expenditure, amounted to $476,584 compared with a budget of $490,322. This reflects a variance of $13,738 (2.80%).

Financial Balance
The financial balance exceeded budget expectations, resulting in a favourable variance of $12,307, or 0.82%.

Capital Works
The planned capital budget for FY 2025/26 is $491,875.

Recent works for the property included planning for carpark resurfacing, repair of a block wall, some exterior painting, and drainage improvements. Roof safety improvements continued.

The overall ten-year capital budget for the property, as detailed in the EY Due Diligence Analysis at time of purchase, has been incorporated into Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report, though financial performance of the properties has been included within the discussion of this report.

For the quarter ending 30 June 2025, the combined net income from these properties totalled $1,219,709.

Council will move into closed session to deal with the Quarterly Strategic Investment Property Report for additional information which is classified as confidential under Section 10A(2)(d)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The matter is deemed confidential, as the matter is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Pursuant to section 10A(2), 10(2) and 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the media and public will be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(d)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report - Quarterly Investment Property Report June 2025 - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature (Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; AND commercial information of a confidential nature (Section 10A(2)(d)(ii) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 58**

Subject: **RFT 48-24 STORMWATER DRAINAGE PIT AND PIPELINE CONDITION SURVEY 2025**

Prepared By: David Paton - Engineering Services Manager

Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the recommendations contained in Confidential *Attachment 1*.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West
2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

DISCUSSION

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, on Wednesday 13 November 2024, Inner West Council invited tenders for RFT 48-24 Stormwater Drainage Pit and Pipeline Condition Survey 2025. The advertisement period closed on Thursday 5 December 2024.

Council will move into closed session to deal with the RFT 48-24 Stormwater Drainage Pit and Pipeline Condition Survey 2025 for information which is classified as confidential under *Section 10A(2)(c)* of the *Local Government Act 1993* and section 10A(2)(d)(i) (of the Local Government Act 1993) *that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business AND that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.*

Pursuant to section 10A(2), 10(2) and 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the media and public will be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified as confidential under *Section 10A(2)(c)* and section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the *Local Government Act* 1993.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report - RFT 48-24 Stormwater Drainage Pit and Pipeline Condition Survey 2025 - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature (Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

2. RFT 48-24 Stormwater Audit Tender Evaluation Report - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature (Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed prejudice the

commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Item No: **C0925(1) Item 59**

Subject: **RENEWAL OF MICROSOFT ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT**

Prepared By: Darren Morris - Chief Information Officer and Steven Thompson - IT Business Solutions Manager

Authorised By: Sharon Bowman - Director Corporate

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the recommendation contained in the Confidential Attachment 1.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

DISCUSSION

Council will move into a closed session to deal with Renewal of Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, as the information is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The matter is deemed confidential, as the matter is commercial information of a confidential nature, that would if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

Pursuant to section 10A(2), 10(2) and 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the media and public will be excluded from the meeting on the basis the business to be considered is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993.*

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Report - Renewal of Microsoft Enterprise Agreement - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to information (Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993) that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Item No: C0925(1) Item 60

Subject: APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (ARIC) MEMBER, MINUTES AND ARIC ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Prepared By: Julian Sakarai - Senior Manager Governance and Risk

Authorised By: Sharon Bowman - Director Corporate

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Council receive the minutes and adopt the recommendations of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 27 August 2025.**

2. **That Council adopt the recommendations contained in *Confidential Attachment* Appointment of Independent Member to Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft confirmed minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) meeting held on 27 August 2025 are attached for Council's consideration, including the draft *ARIC Annual Report 2024-25*.

A Confidential report is also provided in relation to the appointment of an Independent Member to the ARIC.

DISCUSSION

ARIC minutes and ARIC Annual Report 2024-25

The ARIC Terms of Reference require copies of the minutes of ARIC to be provided to Council. The draft confirmed minutes of the ARIC meeting held on 27 August 2025 are attached for Council's consideration.

The minutes reflect ARIC's approval of the draft *ARIC Annual Report 2024-25*. The ARIC annual reports are aligned to a financial year reporting timetable, consistent with Office of Local Government Guidelines on Risk Management and Internal Audit and with Council's broader annual and financial reporting requirements.

ARIC Independent Member Appointment

At the Council Meeting held on 3 September 2024, Council resolved to increase the number of independent members on its ARIC to three. On 18 February 2025 Council considered and appointed two Independent Members. The attached confidential Attachment 1 makes a recommendation in respect of a final Independent Member appointment to fill the remaining vacancy.

Council will move into closed session to deal with the appointment of the ARIC independent Member, which is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(a) of the *Local Government*

Act 1993. The matter is deemed confidential, as it contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

Pursuant to section 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the media and public will be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified as confidential under section 10A(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. ⇩ Draft Minutes of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting 27 August 2025
2. ⇩ Draft ARIC Annual Report 2024-25
3. Confidential Report - Appointment of Independent Member to Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993).

4. Independent Member CV - *Confidential*

This attachment is confidential in accordance to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993).

Minutes of Meeting 27 August 2025

Meeting commenced at 2.30 pm

Prior to the meeting the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC or Committee) met in-camera online.

PRESENT

Audit Risk & Improvement Committee Members	
Independent Member - Chair	Ilona Meyer
Independent Member	Belinda Lawn
Independent Member	Chris Davies
Independent Member	Vacant
Other attendees	
General Manager	Peter Gainsford
Director Community	Ruth Callaghan
Director Property and Capital Projects	Ryann Midei
Director Planning	Simone Plummer
Director Corporate	Sharon Bowman
Director Engineering	Peter Shields
Chief Financial Officer	Chris Sleiman
Senior Manager People and Culture	Joan Murphy
Corporate Strategy and Engagement Manager	Prue Foreman
Senior Manager Capital Works	Stuart Hull
Manager Strategic Investments and Property	Scott Mullen
Senior Manager Governance and Risk	Julian Sakarai
Risk WHS and Audit Manager	Justin Lucas
Risk Management and Audit Officer (Minute taker)	Ngaire Meekan
Audit Leader for IWC, NSW Audit Office	Chariee Bultitude
Director, Financial Audit, NSW Audit Office	Manuel Moncada
Internal Ombudsman	Elizabeth Renneberg
KPMG - Lead – Internal Audit Partner	Aisling Kilgannon
KPMG - Manager	Adriana Marques
KPMG - Infrastructure, Assets & Places Partner	Caitlin Keating

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which the meeting took place and paid her respects to elders past, present and emerging.

The Chair, Ilona Meyer, welcomed Committee members and attendees to the meeting.

APOLOGIES:

Apologies from Clr Philippa Scott and Matthew Pearce – General Counsel

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS:

The Committee Members confirmed the status of their disclosures of interests.

The Chair Ms Meyer confirmed there were no changes to her disclosures of interest.

Ms Lawn disclosed a recent appointment to the following council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees: Central Coast Council as an independent member 4 years from 1 July 2025 and City of Parramatta Council as an independent member for 4 years until August 2029.

Mr Davies disclosed a recent appointment to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for Central Coast Council for 3 years from 1 July 2025.

Mr Davies is also a member of the Willoughby City Council ARIC. Mr Davies has declared he is a member of the Fair Work Commission Audit Committee and a conflict may arise should Council be subject to any matters before the Commission. Any potential conflict of interest will be treated on a case-by-case basis. He is also contracted by Turner and Townsend, and is working solely on the Sydney Metro West project. Turner and Townsend provide Council with Assurance Services on the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre. Mr Davies is not involved in providing these assurance services and has no knowledge of that work performed by Turner and Townsend. He will remain in any discussion regarding the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre during the meeting as there are no conflicts. For the avoidance of doubt, Mr Davies will declare any actual or perceived conflicts every time such may arise, consistent with his obligations under the ARIC Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct.

The Committee Members confirmed they had no conflicts of interest in relation to any matter before the ARIC.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee held on Wednesday, 21 May 2025 be confirmed.

It was noted these were approved out of session by members and adopted by Council on 19 August 2025.

It was noted that actions from the prior meeting were fulfilled out of session, being:

- Distribution and receipt of responses for the ARIC self-assessment questionnaire.
- The provision by the General Manager to the Chair of the draft attestation in relation to risk management and internal audit requirements for the 2024-25 financial year, and the Chair's confirmation she has no concerns with the attestation.

RIS0825 Item 1 ARIC Recommendations and ARIC Annual Workplan for 2024-25 and 2025-26

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read.

The Committee discussed amendments to the Annual Work Plan. The Committee discussed the assurance component of the Annual Work Plan, and the connection between the Council and the Committee under the Regulations and Guideline.

The Chair noted she is available to attend Councillor workshops when invited to attend.

The Committee received status updates on the ARIC recommendation register.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report and approve changes to the annual workplan.

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

RIS0825 Item 2 General Manager Verbal Update

DISCUSSION

The General Manager provided an update on Council operations including major planning initiatives, financial sustainability efforts and inclusion programmes, capital works and compliance achievements.

The update highlighted the work undertaken by Council officers in supporting Council to deliver the Our Fairer Future Plan, an alternative approach to state housing reform with significant community engagement. The General Manager noted that the Our Fairer Future Plan is scheduled to be considered at an Extraordinary Council Meeting in September 2025, with a standalone public forum planned due to high public interest.

The General Manager updated the Committee about Council's Disability Traineeship and EmbraceAbility mentoring program, which won the Organisational Diversity and Inclusion award at the 2025 LG Professionals NSW Excellence Awards.

The General Manager provided an overview of recent capital works and asset management activity, with key highlights being the handover of the Rozelle Parklands, and significant progress on the Leichhardt Oval Upgrade and the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade. In relation to the Leichhardt Oval Upgrade, the General Manager noted that Ernst and Young has been appointed as the Project Manager, and Cox Architecture has been appointed as the Principal Design Consultant, with stage one underway and tendering for stage two in progress.

The General Manager noted that Council has introduced bill smoothing for rates, allowing Inner West Council residents to make flexible payments towards their rates through a digital platform.

The General Manager confirmed Council achieved full compliance with the new risk management and internal audit regulations, as confirmed in the attestation statement to be

included in the 2024-25 Annual Report, as required by the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

The General Manager also introduced the Committee to Council's newly appointed Directors: Director Corporate, Sharon Bowman, and Director Engineering, Peter Shields, and provided the Committee with background on the expertise they bring to Council.

The General Manager outlined the recent business planning process across all Council's service areas, which align with the principles of the Australian Business Excellence Framework which will assist Council deliver improved outcomes in planning, continuous improvement, service benchmarking.

The General Manager also provided an overview of the proposed Financially Sustainable Service Delivery Program, which will involve detailed analysis of all service areas, with a focus on, revenue, expenditure and service delivery standards to identify improvement areas that will inform future budgets.

The Committee discussed the future budget process and enquired as to Council's level of assurance considering recent events in Victorian childcare services. The General Manager and Director Community briefed the Committee on ongoing efforts in child safety and assurance including robust working with children checks and real-time verification processes.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the verbal update.

Moved: Belinda Lawn
Seconded: Chris Davies
Carried

RIS0825 Item 3 Internal Ombudsman Shared Service Update

DISCUSSION

The Internal Ombudsman provided a summary of the report, highlighting the continued excellent working relationship with Council and key changes in service utilisation and spread of activities over the past 12 months between complaints, prevention activities and education.

The Committee noted that the Internal Ombudsman works with Council to seek to address matters, engaging the relevant managers and business areas with any concerns.

The Committee discussed the range of complaints and subsequent recommended actions arising, and were provided with an overview of any systemic issues. The Internal Ombudsman clarified that over the past year only one matter has resulted in a request to update one of Council's policies and noted that this was for a minor internal issue which did not arise from community complaints.

The Committee noted the training and reporting arrangements relating to Public Interest Disclosures and that the Internal Ombudsman has recently completed the NSW Ombudsman self-assessment audit on behalf of Council.

RECOMMENDATION
That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

RIS0825 Item 4 KPMG - Internal Audit Status Update

DISCUSSION

The Internal Audit Service Partner presented their report.

The Committee discussed the 2 internal audit reports tabled to the Committee: Capital Works Project Management and Audit Actions Closure Review.

The Capital Works Project Management internal audit focussed on the application of Council's project management framework, maturity assessment, procurement processes and implementation of project management software.

The Committee discussed the maturity assessment for capital works project management, and risks relating to small and medium sized projects.

The Audit Actions Closure Review was conducted to confirm whether Council's reported closure of audit actions was supported by evidence, aligned with the intent of the original findings and was consistent with international professional practice requirements. The Committee noted there are some matters to be finalised and an addendum to the report to be issued. The Committee noted the 30 action items considered in the report were validated as closed, including all ICAC related actions.

The Committee noted the status of current year audits and changes to scheduling.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Belinda Lawn
Seconded: Chris Davies
Carried

RIS0825 Item 5 Audit Office of NSW Verbal Update

DISCUSSION

The Director Financial Audit AONSW provided an overview on the external audit, Interim Management Letter, financial statement changes and management's response to audit findings.

The Committee noted AONSW have published the Cybersecurity Insights Report and the Audit Work Program 2025-2028 with four key performance audits planned; noting Councils who will be selected are yet to be determined.

The Director Financial Audit AONSW responded to a query from a prior meeting relating to Local Government trends and provided the Committee with insights on prior targeted areas

in amalgamated Councils. The Committee noted that AONSW continues to adjust and increase its expectations in relation to cybersecurity assurance.

The Committee heard from the Chief Financial Officer and Director Corporate regarding specific queries.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the verbal update.

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

RIS0825 Item 6 Governance, Risk, Compliance and Audit (GRCA) Quarterly Report Q3 FY2025

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read. The Senior Manager Governance and Risk provided an update on governance and risk matters.

The Committee noted Council has prepared the ARIC Annual Report and Council is able to provide an interim progress report to ICAC in relation to Operation Hector.

The Committee discussed conflict of interest declarations processes, ethics and compliance training and participation, risk management and business continuity planning.

The Committee discussed the recent ARIC Survey and plans for a follow up workshop to consider improvement opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. **Receive and note the report.**
2. **Approve the draft ARIC annual report for 2024-25 financial year.**
3. **Approve the baseline metric for ARIC performance assessment in surveys (at four out of five for every criterion in the survey).**
4. **Provide, out of session, specific feedback on any issues and improvement opportunities identified by members to mature ARIC reports.**

Moved: Belinda Lawn
Seconded: Chris Davies
Carried

RIS0825 Item 7 WHS and Wellbeing Quarterly Report Q3 FY2025

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read. The Risk, WHS and Audit Manager provided an update on matters arising over the previous year, plans to mature the WHS incident management system and the current status and future plans to mature the safety management system.

The Committee received a briefing on recent safety incidents and control improvements arising from them.

The Committee received a briefing on an incident involving a company in the resource recovery services industry, the industry's response and continuous improvement initiatives. The company provides services to Council. The company had a worker fall from a vehicle and the person recently passed away from injuries sustained in the fall. Council has reviewed its own processes and fleet to ensure they meet new and emerging safety expectations.

The Committee expressed their deepest condolences to the family and workers.

RECOMMENDATION

1. **That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.**
2. **That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee offer their deepest condolences to the family, workers and everyone affected by this tragedy.**

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

RIS0825 Item 8 People and Culture - Quarter 3, FY2025

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read. The Senior Manager People and Culture highlighted initiatives over the past quarter including the Authentic Leader program, workforce management strategy, traineeships and audit action progress.

The Committee discussed the reported workforce statistics and budget considerations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Belinda Lawn
Seconded: Chris Davies
Carried

RIS0825 Item 9 Integrated Planning and Reporting update

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read. The Committee discussed the performance indicators and processes for quarterly and annual reporting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

RIS0825 Item 10 Quarterly Major Projects Report

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read. The Director Infrastructure highlighted progress on key major projects.

The Committee discussed project progress reporting, the major projects governance framework and the impact of design and site constraints on projects.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Belinda Lawn
Seconded: Chris Davies
Carried

RIS0825 Item 11 Investment Report as at April 2025

DISCUSSION

The Chief Financial Officer presented the investment report, highlighting financial statement planning, addressing investment strategy, ESG investment criteria, cash flow, and audit preparation.

The Committee members discussed the Investment Policy review and benchmarking.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

RIS0825 Item 12 Planning for Financial Statements for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2025

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read. The Chief Financial Officer outlined the next stages in preparation for the issue of end of financial year statements.

The Committee noted the Draft Financial Statements 2024-2025 and accompanying Financial Overview will be issued to the Committee for review and feedback out of session.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

RIS0825 Item 13 Quarterly Investment Properties Update

DISCUSSION

The report was taken as read.

The Committee noted the key performance indicators used to assess the portfolio.

RECOMMENDATION

That Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the report.

Moved: Chris Davies
Seconded: Belinda Lawn
Carried

General Business

The Committee discussed planning for future in-camera sessions scheduled prior to ARIC meetings.

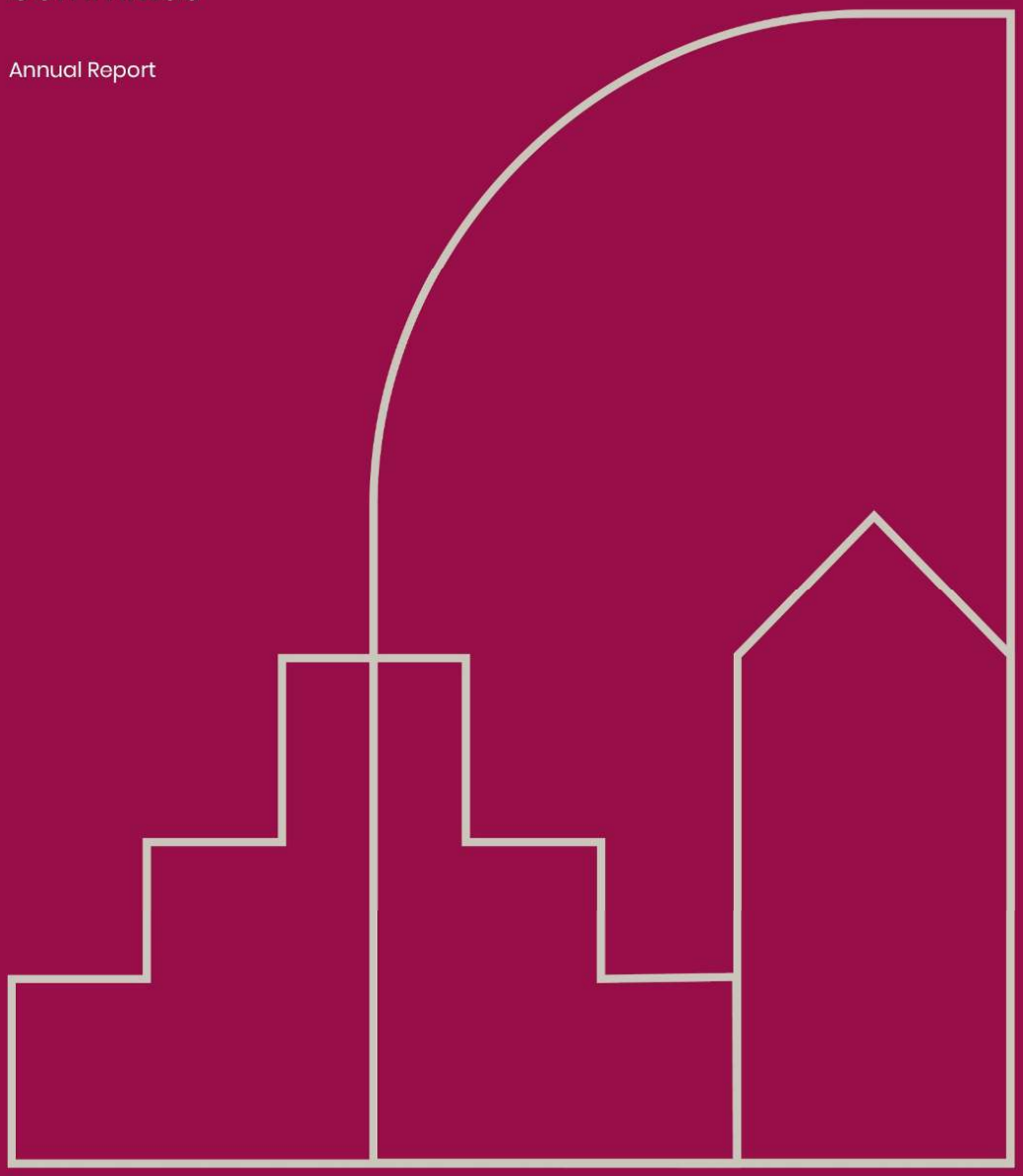
The draft Minutes of the meeting will be circulated out of session to members for approval.

Meeting closed at 5.01pm.

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

2024 - 25

Annual Report



Inner West Council acknowledges the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora nation, who are the traditional custodians of the lands in which the Inner West Local Government Area is situated





Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

The Inner West Council (Council) Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) is a key supporting element of good corporate governance. Its establishment reflects the commitment of Council to industry better practice and high standards of accountability to the community it serves.

The ARIC has a key role in Council's governance framework by bringing a systematic and disciplined approach to examination of the effectiveness of audit, risk management, governance, and continuous improvement processes in Council.

The purpose of the ARIC is to provide independent assistance to Council by monitoring, reviewing and providing advice about Council's governance processes, compliance, risk management and control frameworks, external accountability obligations and overall performance.

The ARIC works under Terms of Reference (TOR) which align with the Office of Local Government Guidelines and industry leading practice.

In accordance with the TOR, the ARIC presents an Annual Report on its activities to Council. The ARIC also provides minutes of its meetings to Council and these minutes are available on Council's website.

This report

This report is prepared in relation to the 2024-25 financial year.

This is the first full year the ARIC has been operating under new regulatory requirements which commenced on 1 July 2024.

Section 428A of the Local Government Act 1993

This section of the Act requires: (1) A Council to appoint an ARIC. (2) The ARIC must keep under review aspects of Council's operations, specifically: compliance, risk management, fraud control, financial management, governance, implementation of the strategic plan, delivery program and strategies, service reviews, collection of performance measurement data by the Council and any other matters prescribed by the regulations. (3) The ARIC is also to provide information to the Council for the purpose of improving the Council's performance of its functions.

This report covers the activities of the ARIC in meeting its duties under section 428A (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act and its Terms of Reference for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 (the 2024-25 financial year).

It also meets requirements on Council and its ARIC under Division 6A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulations) in relation to Auditing and Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees and the Office of Local Government's November 2023 Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government (Guidelines), which are in effect from 1 July 2024.





Chair's message

It is with great pleasure that I continue to serve on the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (Committee or ARIC), having joined as an Independent Member in February 2023 and as Chair since June 2024.

This has been a transformative year for the Committee as we navigated the implementation of new regulatory requirements that commenced on 1 July 2024 under the Local Government (General) Amendment (Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees) Regulation 2023 and the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government.

The Committee has remained focused on the continual improvement of risk management and governance processes across Council's operations.

Key activities during the 2024-25 financial year have included:

- **Regulatory Compliance**: Successfully implementing enhanced governance frameworks to meet new OLG requirements, including updating our Risk Management policy and procedures, adopting an Internal Audit Charter consistent with the model charter in the Guidelines, and updating our ARIC Terms of Reference to exceed minimum standards.
- **Financial Oversight**: Reviewing the draft annual financial statements, focusing on accounting policies and procedures, adjustments arising from the audit process, and recommending adoption of the annual financial report to Council.
- **Internal Audit Enhancement**: Reviewing and adopting the Internal Audit Charter and Internal Audit Universe, developing and adopting Strategic and Annual Work Plans for forward periods, and monitoring the progress and effectiveness of the internal audit function through five comprehensive audits conducted by KPMG.
- **Risk Management**: Reviewing Council's updated Risk Management Strategy, risk appetite and risk registers, along with Council's insurance strategy.
- **ICAC Response**: Overseeing Council's comprehensive response to Operation Hector recommendations, monitoring the implementation of 30 separate actions across 7 ICAC recommendations to strengthen governance and procurement practices.
- **Performance Assessment**: Conducting ARIC's Annual Performance Assessment to ensure continuous improvement in our service delivery.

During the year, we held five meetings including four regular meetings and one finance-related special meeting. The Committee considered 70 reports covering diverse areas from major capital projects and IT security to workplace health and safety performance and fraud prevention initiatives.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the significant work undertaken by Council's Governance and Risk team, including the completion of the Delegations Framework review, the Policy Harmonisation Project which has to date refreshed 50 policies in total, and the development of new Risk Management, Procurement and Fraud and Corruption Control Frameworks.

We are looking forward to building on the substantial collaborative work achieved in 2024-25, as well as continuing to engage with both internal and external audit teams in our commitment to excellence in governance.

I would like to thank the other Members of the Committee, our outgoing independent members who provided valuable service during transition periods, and the Management Team for their support in ensuring Inner West Council effectively discharges its responsibilities for financial reporting, risk management, internal controls, governance and internal and external audit.

Ilona Meyer
Chair Inner West Council
Audit Risk & Improvement Committee

General Manager's message

This has, once again, been a significant year for Council in many respects including in relation to its cultural journey, governance and risk policy framework implementation, and in response to a changing regulatory landscape.

During the reporting period, Council undertook steps to embed the Australian Business Excellence Framework (Framework) into our business planning and evaluation processes, delivering on the next stage of Council's improvement journey.

The work was extended through Council's Leader's Day in June 2025, with over 200 of our leaders. We examined behaviour statements that align to our values of Integrity, Respect, Compassion, Innovation and Collaboration and linked them with the Framework and LG Capability Framework.

We undertook the 2025 Service Excellence Survey and the results have informed our 2026 business planning processes. This process started in June 2025 and will be finalised by August 2025.

Council participated in the LG Professionals NSW awards with a stunning performance. Council won the Award for Organisational Diversity and Inclusion for its Disability Traineeship and EmbraceAbility Mentoring program. This award recognises Council's delivery on its commitment to prioritising inclusive employment for people with disabilities in the Inner West. We were also finalists in 7 categories and highly commended in the Community Partnerships category for Inner West Aquatics in the community. This recognised our great work with Royal Life Saving NSW, various Trans and Gender Diverse partners, not for profits, local swim clubs making our aquatic facilities more inclusive, accessible and beneficial for all.

I'm also very proud to announce Inner West Council is a Gold Award Winner in the Australasian Reporting Awards for our 2024/25 Annual Report in the Public Administration category. This is our second consecutive Gold Award win for our Annual Report and a fantastic acknowledgement of the hard work that goes into producing such an impressive publication.

Council participated in the LG Professionals Australasian Management Challenge, with Council's team the Innervators winning the NSW event and competing in the national and New Zealand competition. While the top spot went to a team from Tasmania we are proud of their stellar efforts. The award celebrates innovative thinking, leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving at its best.

We have supported Council deliver on its strategic vision by undertaking an extensive program of capital projects and infrastructure delivery works this year. We have delivered the Camdenville Park upgrade and the Richard Murden Inclusive Playground. Rozelle parklands were handed to Council. The St Peters to Sydenham Station cycleway was built. The Dulwich Hill Station Precinct upgrade. The opening of the Pride Centre at Newtown Town Hall. A major renewal at Balmain Library and Town Hall. The Urban Forest Policy was adopted by Council in May 2025 and over 1,000 trees were planted as part of the annual planting program. Significant ongoing projects are the Greenway in corridor project and the Leichhardt Oval, Henson Park grandstand and Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre upgrades.

Over the last two years we have also exceeded the targets in the Electric Vehicle Encouragement strategy. There are now over 170 public charging ports active across the Inner West, with thirty more on the way. Inner West presently has better access to public electric vehicle charging infrastructure than any other community in NSW. While our fleet vehicles continue to undergo significant transformation to adopt EVs and to make appropriate changes to our workshops and charging infrastructure as per Council's Fleet Transition Plan.

During the last half of the financial year, I announced and have been working through the details of an organisational restructure which increased the number of Directorates to five, namely Community, Planning, Corporate, Engineering and Property and Major Projects.

The restructure sets the organisation up to effectively deliver on Inner West Council's key priorities.

Council has undertaken a significant amount of work to enhance its corruption prevention systems and embed and mature its management of risk holistically across its operations.

During the reporting period, the regulatory requirements for, and expectations of, Council's ARIC changed significantly from prior years. A key change made to the *Local Government (General Regulation)* 2021 is that, as General Manager, I am now required to certify compliance in relation to a new set of risk and audit requirements. The certification is included in an attestation statement in Council's Annual Report. I am pleased to certify full compliance with the requirements in the attestation statement and wish to acknowledge the crucial role that the ARIC has played in delivering improvements in our monitoring and assurance environment. I look forward to continuing close collaboration with ARIC and achieving even more during 2026.

Councillors, the Chair, Committee members, and officers have collaborated closely to ensure compliance with these enhanced expectations of governance.

Peter Gainsford
General Manager
Inner West Council

ARIC Governance

New regulatory settings

On 1 July 2024 the *Local Government (General) Amendment (Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees) Regulation 2023* (Regulations) commenced. The Regulations were supplemented by the Office of Local Government's *Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government* (Guidelines).

Council has undertaken a significant programme of work to meet the Regulation and Guideline requirements.

This work encompasses all core requirements of the Regulation and all requirements of the Guideline in relation to the risk management, internal audit and ARIC related activities of Council.

Notably, ARIC and Council has implemented and maintained throughout the period:

- an updated Risk Management policy and procedure consistent with the new requirements
- an Internal Audit Charter consistent with the model charter in the Guidelines.
- an updated ARIC Terms of Reference (TOR), with the appropriate composition and underpinning strategic documentation governing the operations of the Committee.

Council has adopted measures within its TOR which exceed the minimum standards in the Model TOR. Council has also adopted requirements in the ARIC TOR which supplement the independence and eligibility criteria prescribed by the Regulation.

The TOR provide for the appointment of a Chair and three, rather than two, independent members. This is a mechanism to ensure Council's ARIC has the requisite range of skills and expertise, and to ensure the ARIC's future capacity.

The TOR also impose maximum limits on an ARIC independent member's participation in other similar Committees. This restriction is designed to ensure that independent members have sufficient capacity, time, and focus to devote to the operations of Council's ARIC.

ARIC Annual Performance Assessment

The ARIC conducted an assessment of its and the Chair's performance, to ensure an effective, comprehensive and complete service is being provided.

A report on the review and continuous improvement initiatives was provided to the 20 March 2024 and 21 May 2025 ARIC meetings. This process is undertaken annually and reports on learnings and continuous improvement opportunities from 2024-25 will be tabled in the upcoming financial year.

Appointments

Ilona Meyer was appointed as the Chair of Council's ARIC at the Council meeting on 22 June 2024, following a period as the Acting Chair from 27 July 2023.

Councillor Philippa Scott was appointed as the Councillor Member for the remaining period of the Council term at the 22 June 2024 Council meeting.

Local government elections were held on 14 September 2024, to elect all councillors to serve until September 2028.

Following this, at the Council meeting held on 22 October 2024, Councillor Scott was appointed as Councillor Member to the ARIC.

During the financial year, a number of expression of interest (EOI) processes were undertaken to fill independent member vacancies.

To ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, on 3 September 2024, Council (re) appointed two independent members, Emily Hodgson and Heather Smith, to serve for the last half of the 2024 calendar year, while EOI processes were underway. We are grateful to Emily and Heather for returning to assist Council during this period.

On 18 February 2025, Council appointed Belinda Lawn and Chris Davies as Independent Members of Council's ARIC, meeting the requirements of 216C of the Regulation.

Council is undertaking further EOI processes to select and appoint the third independent member position provided for under its TOR.

Committee members

Independents



Ilona Meyer
Acting Chair (from 27 July 2023) and Chair (from 25 July 2024)

Ilona brings over 25 years experience as a Non-Executive Director and General Counsel in the healthcare, defence and emerging technologies sectors.

She has held executive roles within private and public companies, gaining extensive experience in providing advice and managing legal & compliance teams through digital transformation, complex commercial transactions, mergers & acquisitions, implementation of risk management frameworks, as well as navigating high profile litigation and regulatory disputes. Ilona is also a Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee for Micro-X Limited (ASX:MX1); and Member of the Nominations Committee of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC).

Ilona is an admitted Solicitor and Barrister to the NSW Supreme Court and High Court of Australia, Associate Member of the Institute of Internal Auditors Australia and recognised as a Top 100 Brilliant Woman in AI Ethics 2024; and Top 100 Governance Professional in 2023 and 2024.



Belinda Lawn
Independent Member

Belinda brings over 30 years' experience in human resources, risk management, strategy and governance to the Inner West ARIC.

She most recently worked as an Executive Director for the NSW Department of Customer Service where she was Chief People Office and led the Governance, Risk and Assurance function.

Belinda is also an independent member of the Woollahra Council and the Audit and Risk Committee for the Office of Children's Guardian.

Belinda leads Confiance Consulting where she consults on a wide range of services including investigations, human resources, risk and compliance.



Chris Davies
Independent Member

Chris brings over 20 years' experience in risk management internal audit, governance and fraud control to the Committee, across a variety of sectors including local government, infrastructure, national security, sport and recreation, social services and health.

His experience includes being a member of the Willoughby City Council ARIC and Fair Work Commission Audit Committee and has held the position of Head of Risk and Internal Audit with a large government commercial agency.

He is a member of the ARIC in his own personal compacity and is currently a management consultant with a global consulting company that provides advisory service on major infrastructure projects.

Committee members

Councillor *Outgoing Independent members*



Phillipa Scott
Councillor

Philippa Scott is a lifelong Inner West local and an experienced governance, policy and management professional, committed to social justice.

In 2021, she was elected as a Labor Councillor for the Leichhardt Ward of the Inner West Council. She was Deputy Mayor for the 2022-2023 term. Philippa is a Board Director of Local Government NSW, the peak body for local government, and has served as a Board Director of Metro Assist, a migrant resource centre serving the Inner West and Canterbury-Bankstown LGAs.

Before politics, Philippa worked as a governance and policy manager in the not-for profit and university sectors for over ten years.

Philippa holds a combined Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws degree from the Australian National University, a Master of Laws (Honours) degree from UTS and a Master of Education degree from the George Washington University in Washington D.C. She is the Chair, Major Capital Projects Committee and Member, Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel.



Mark Sercombe
Independent Member
(concluded December 2024)

Mark is a technology, risk and assurance specialist with significant expertise in cyber security and systems. He brings experience in auditing, finance, risk, governance and business improvement practices. He has been a member of audit and risk committees since 2017 after establishing an assurance and risk advisory firm in 2014. Mark was a Partner with Deloitte for seventeen years. Mark lectures part time in accounting information systems at the University of Sydney's Business School.

Mark holds a Bachelor of Economics, is a Fellow Chartered Accountant with credentials in internal audit (CIA, PFIIA) and information systems audit (CISA, ISO 27001 Lead Auditor).



Heather Smith
Independent member
(concluded December 2024)

Heather's career spans service operations, human resources, IT, risk and finance. Through her career spanning public, private and for purpose (not-for- profit) sectors Heather has focused on finding pragmatic, implementable solutions to respond to organisational strategy challenges or change.

She has brought together diverse teams to align innovation with action, achieving stakeholder and organisational goals.

The breadth of her experience provides the ability to appropriately question the performance, reports and opportunities highlighted by internal audit.



Emily Hodgson
Independent member
(concluded December 2024)

Emily Hodgson is the Chief Financial Officer at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) since October 2021.

Emily formerly served as ASIC's Chief Financial Officer for eight years.

Originally an auditor with KPMG and PWC, Emily holds a Bachelor of Commerce with a major in accounting from the University of Newcastle.

Emily is also a non-Executive Board Member at Women's Community Shelters.

Year in review

Five (5) meetings were held during the 2024-25 financial year.

These included four (4) regular meetings and (1) Finance related special meeting, as follows:

- 17 September 2024
- 10 October 2024 (Financial)
- 6 December 2024
- 5 March 2025
- 29 May 2025

Attendance

Committee Member	Meeting Date				
	17 Sept	10 Oct	6 Dec	5 Mar	29 May
Ilona Meyer	●	●	●	●	●
Clr Philippa Scott		●	●		●
Belinda Lawn				●	●
Chris Davies				●	●
Emily Hodgson	●	●	●		
Heather Smith		●	●		
Mark Sercombe	●	●			

Other regular (non-voting) attendees to ARIC meeting include:

- General Manager
- Director Community
- Director Corporate
- Director Infrastructure
- Director Planning
- Senior Manager Governance & Risk
- Risk and Audit Manager
- Governance Manager
- Chief Financial Officer
- Chief Information Officer
- KPMG Engagement Partner (Internal Auditors)
- KPMG Associate Director (Internal Auditors)
- Internal Ombudsman Shared Service (IOSS)
- Director and Audit Leads, Audit Office of NSW.

Disclosures of Interests

Disclosures are recorded at the start of each meeting and annually for all ARIC members. Consistent with new requirements in the draft and now final Guidelines, Council also classifies external ARIC members as 'designated persons' who must complete and submit 'returns of interest'.

Audit of Financial Statements

The External Audit of the Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2025 was conducted by the Audit Office of NSW.

The ARIC considers the findings and recommendations of the Audit Office and assesses Council's performance implementing those findings and recommendations.

The ARIC considers and provides input and feedback on the draft Financial Statement to management and the Audit Office.

Internal Audit Charter

Council adopted a revised Internal Audit Charter on 9 April 2024 which is consistent with the model charter in the Guidelines. The Charter includes an analysis of Council's internal audit universe across its five core business directorates. The Charter is a living document and planning tool used by Council and its ARIC to ensure areas of potential risk across Council are adequately considered and factored into internal audit planning.

The Committee noted the Internal Audit Universe attachment to the Charter will be aligned to a new organisational structure at the end of the financial year.

Internal Audit

Internal Audits at Council during the period were conducted by KPMG. The KPMG Engagement Partner and Associate Director for Council attend each ARIC meeting, provide a status report against the agreed Internal Audit Plan, and audit findings. KPMG also conduct independent reviews of Council's delivery of completed audit actions and performance reports to support the review of the effectiveness of the Internal Audit function, at the appropriate time. During the financial year, KPMG conducted five internal audits, being:

- Payroll Leave
- People and Culture
- Payroll
- Data Management Health Check
- Fraud and Corruption Control (multiple reports).

Key Governance and Risk operations and projects

Delegations framework and register review

During the period Governance and Risk completed the project to review Council's delegations Framework and update all delegations across Council. The management of delegations requires ongoing effort as structural and operational changes are undertaken and as people fill different roles across Council, with just under six hundred being actioned over the year.

Policy harmonisation project

Council undertook a holistic review of its policies and has substantially delivered a policy harmonisation project. At the commencement of the financial year, Council had reviewed, redeveloped and formally adopted or rescinded 38 policies and had 19 scheduled to be reviewed during the 2025/25 financial year. At the conclusion of the financial year, Council had adopted 12 policies and had presented for adoption or exhibition a further 11 with another 9 under development.

The count above does not include procedures or operational management standards (OMS) which are adopted by the General Manager and Executive and which govern internal operations. There has been a substantial body of work undertaken to ensure Council's internal operations are reviewed and continuously improved to meet current operational needs and expectations of good practice.

System support to manage Council's obligations

During the period, Council selected a system to assist manage and report on compliance with its key governance, risk, compliance and audit obligations. Work to deploy this system will occur during the upcoming financial year.

Risk Management, Business Continuity, Incident Management framework refreshes

Council's team reviewed relevant policies and procedures constituting its risk management framework during the period. Its approach to strategic risks is embedded and has assisted guide significant control and business continuity and incident and crisis response capability improvements during the year.

Significantly, a refresh of Council's operational risk registers was undertaken over the period. All service areas across Council participated in a careful re-examination of our operational, safety, data and privacy, fraud and corruption control and work and public health and safety risks across the organisation. This helps ensure our risk management and control monitoring, continuous improvement and assurance activities reflect the current operational environment and ensure our control environment is effective and meets current needs.

Training of our Incident Management Team is a standing activity and includes certification in the Australian Inter-service Incident Management System, which enables Council to respond confidently to emergencies within the LGA. During the year, Council responded to a number of incidents which either were, or could have escalated to, higher risk situations. These include potential cyber or data security issues, a number of incidents during the summer storms involving the public, as well as the notifiable work health and safety incidents discussed below.

Council's participation in the Local Emergency Management Organisation (LEMO) is led by the Infrastructure (now Engineering) Directorate. The LEMO was activated twice during the financial year. A fire in Marrickville where Council provided assistance to emergency services and affected persons. And in relation to a storm event in January 2025, where there was a declared statewide emergency.

Work Health and Safety

Council continues implementing its Work Health Safety and Wellbeing (WHS&W) strategies enabling a positive and safe workplace culture through effective leadership, systems and processes.

On 3 December 2024 Council adopted a new WHS&W Policy to reaffirm and reinvigorate its framework for the management of the work health, safety and wellbeing (including psychosocial dimensions) of its workers, services providers, volunteers and visitors to Council workplaces. Supporting the policy, Risk WHS and Wellbeing teams commenced a comprehensive refresh of all Council's WHS&W suite of operational management standards. Work to refresh these documents will continue during the 2026 financial year.

Council restructured its approach to WHS&W Committees and formalised that approach in revised WHS&W Committees Terms of Reference, which establish a 'Peak' management committee and

Directorate WHS Committees. This structure has assisted Council to better prioritise and action safety continuous improvement across its operations.

There were four notifiable safety incidents during the period. Each incident was investigated informed by the ICAAMS methodology and control improvements to prevent recurrence implemented. These improvements are most significant in relation to a waste transfer station managed by Council, which has and continues to undergo significant safety and operational improvements to prevent falls from height at the site. In addition, there was a notifiable incident in March 2025 reported by the principal contractor for the Greenway walking corridor. An excavator slid from an elevated work platform and rolled onto the light rail track. While no one was injured, light rail services were impacted but restored early the following day.

Our safety experts collaborated with multiple Directorates and service areas to review the technical documents which govern the safe working practices of our field staff undertaking higher risk frontline service delivery activities. Over sixty documents were reviewed with staff and specialist advisors collaborating to establish a revised and streamlined set of operating documents to suit different levels of risk and the current site and operating conditions where the work is performed.

Through this project, Council has focussed its job and compliance monitoring, quality assurance and audit activities on the higher risk activities and established more proportionate, up to date and practical procedures to ensure our workers have and know how to use the right equipment, vehicles and plant for the work, and are properly trained and instructed in the environments and tasks their work now encompasses.

Council also replaced its safety incident management system. The new system (BeSafe) went live in May 2025. The new system provides additional functionality including location tagging of incidents and better supports remote worker incident reporting, enhancing our ability to support and respond to incidents in the field swiftly and effectively.

Fraud and Corruption Control and reporting to ICAC

Council continued to strengthen its fraud and corruption risk management framework in alignment with audit recommendations and guidance from external integrity agencies.

The fraud and corruption risk register has been integrated with the broader operational risk register, ensuring consistent documentation, oversight, and treatment of fraud and corruption risks across all service areas. Oversight of these activities is maintained through regular reporting to the ARIC.

Significant progress has been made in relation to audit actions from the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and on actions arising from reports of Council's internal auditors.

Council is implementing the recommendations from ICAC's Operation Hector report, which examined the awarding of contracts by Transport for NSW and Inner West Council. All seven recommendations were accepted by Council, and a comprehensive plan comprising of 30 actions was tabled to ICAC.

As at 18 July 2025, 19 of these actions have been completed and closed, with progress tracked through Council's audit action tracking system. For the remaining open actions, Council has completed the initial commitments it made. However, further continuous improvement opportunities have been identified to embed and support fraud and corruption control initiatives. These continuous improvement actions will be implemented over the 2026 financial year.

Council also continues to implement findings from KPMG's internal audit of its Fraud and Corruption Control Framework. Conducted in two phases, the audit included detailed data analytics over financial and procurement data from July 2017 to June 2023. Management actions from both phases are being implemented and monitored, with no matters identified to date that require escalation to the General Manager or external regulatory authorities.

Insurance

During the year, Council undertook a request for tender, to ensure its commercial policies of insurance services provider represents the best value to Council. Council adopted the recommendation of the tender evaluation panel and re-appointed Statewide Mutual Scheme until 30 June 2031.

The Claims team reports quarterly to management and the ARIC on the progress of its public liability and motor

vehicle claims, as part of initiatives to drive continuous improvement in its service delivery.

Council has implemented a Claims webpage providing key information to the public about how-to lodge claims against Council, including reporting incidents and factors that may be considered relevant to their claims.

ARIC Recommendations and Audit Actions

The process to update and resolve outstanding ARIC Recommendations and Council wide Audit Actions with relevant departments will always be ongoing.

The resolution of ARIC recommendations and Audit Actions are relevant to Council's continuous improvement initiatives.

During the 2024-25 financial year, ARIC Recommendations remained actively tracked and completed promptly, with typically only one or two matters requiring completion beyond the ARIC meeting following the Recommendation being made (noting some recommendations are ongoing in nature).

In its December 2024 management letter, the Audit Office NSW raised 5 current year matters and noted 3 prior year matters not yet resolved by management. It confirmed the completion of **3** external Audit Actions during the period with 2 issues not yet due.

Council examined the completion of 21 internal audit actions during the financial year. At the May 2025 meeting prior to financial year end, Governance and Risk reported it has just over one hundred and seventy six internal audit actions and 10 external audit Actions under monitoring.

A significant activity towards the end of the period was adjusting the cycle of review and commissioning an internal audit of closed audit actions. That internal audit has confirmed Council's approach is consistent with international practice standards expectations.

During calendar year 2023, significant progress had been made to address longstanding actions. That activity paused while Council focussed on refreshing and maturing its risk management and control activities and re-establising the rhythyms of its meetings and reporting cycles to meet the new ARIC Strategic Work Plan and Annual Plan and to prioritise implementation of its fraud and corruption control activities.

Work evaluating legacy audit actions was deferred to the close of EOFY with closure of further actions to be vetted and tabled to ARIC meetings during the 2025-26 financial year. Council will continue to focus on these matters until they are fully resolved.

Presentations and Reports

Seventy reports were tabled to the ARIC over its five meetings during the 2024-25 financial year. Reports and presentations covered:

- Council's Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Service Delivery Program
- Customer Service projects
- Budgetary and financial updates
- Council investments portfolio (Investments Reports and Investments Policy Updates)
- Major capital projects
- Procurement strategies, practices and controls
- Information technology including projects, IT security, data protection and privacy matters
- People and culture and Workplace Health and Safety performance and initiatives
- Risk management including matters such as business continuity, incident management, fraud and corruption prevention
- The policy harmonisation project and resulting new and updated policies and procedures
- Performance, trends, initiatives and recommendations of the IOSS
- Internal Audits, their progress, findings and any implementation plans arising
- Council's adherence to OLG Guidelines requirements and matters requiring endorsement to meet those,
- Progress reports on ARIC Resolutions and findings and recommendations made by IOSS, the Internal and External Auditors.

The Internal Ombudsman Shared Service

The Internal Ombudsman Shared Service (IOSS) for InnerWest, City of Parramatta and Cumberland City Councils commenced in September 2017. The IOSS consists of the Internal Ombudsman, Assistant Internal Ombudsman and Complaint Assessment and Administration Officer.

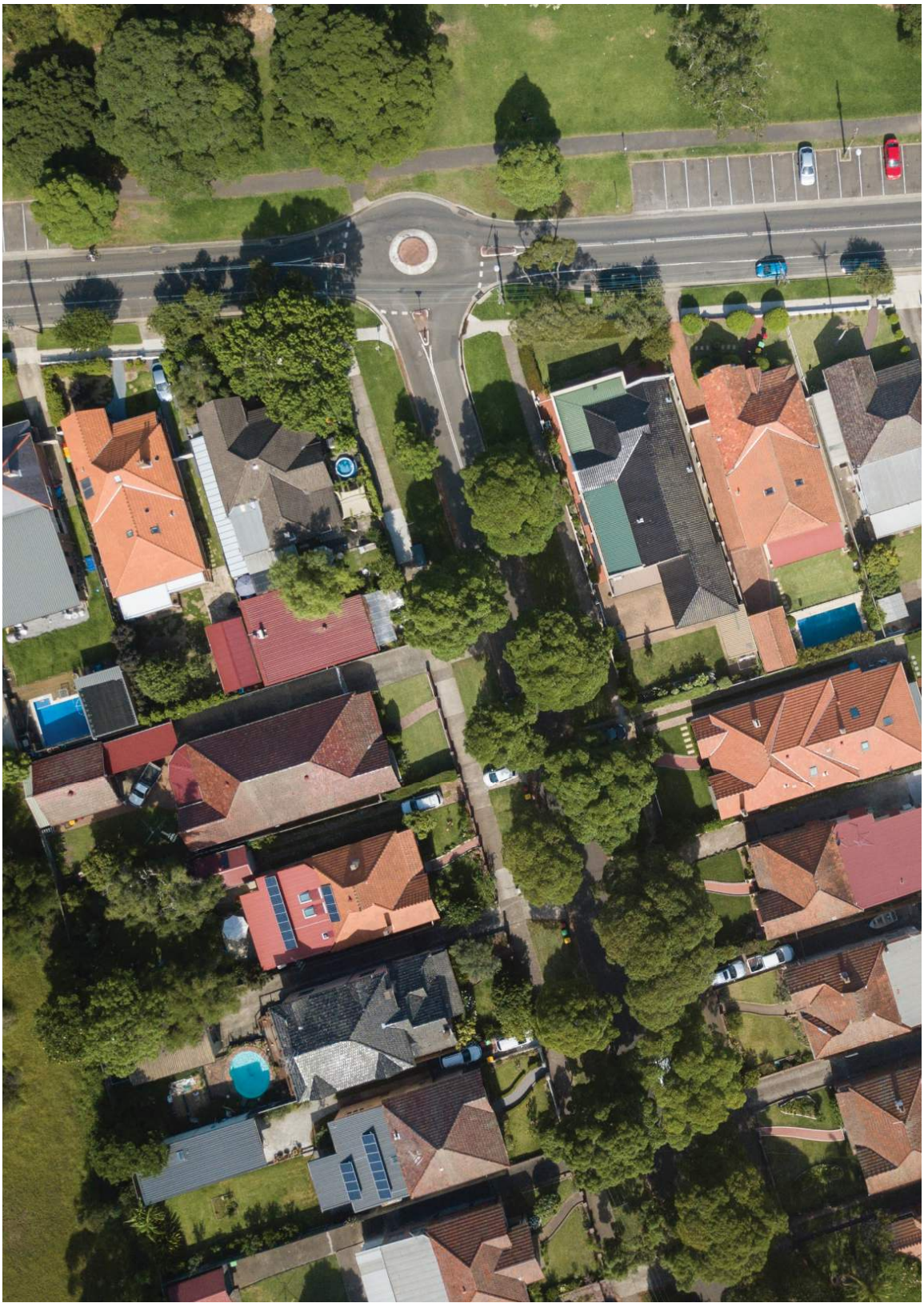
The activities of the IOSS encompass: prevention activities including providing probity advice, policy review and assistance with policy development, for example in relation to Child Protection Guidelines and Domestic and Family Violence Policy; education and training, for example in relation to complaint handling, public interest disclosures, probity in procurement and presentations to the Local Government NSW Good Governance Forum and the Australian Institute of Internal Auditors; and the investigation of complaints within the jurisdiction of the IOSS Governance Charter including in relation to delays and administrative conduct.

The work of the IOSS is reviewed by the IOSS Management Committee, consisting of the General Manager and the Chief Executive Officers of the member Councils.

The Internal Ombudsman attends every ARIC meeting for all the member Councils and provides a report at each meeting of its activities with the specific Council in addition to a summary of activities undertaken with the other Councils.

The IOSS also presents its Annual Report to each Council's ARIC and once the Annual Report is endorsed by the ARIC, it is provided to Councillors and then the community.


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