

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 February 2026 at Ashfield Service Centre

Meeting commenced at 7:35pm

Present:

Darcy Byrne	Mayor
Chloe Smith	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
Mat Howard	Councillor
Victor Macri	Councillor
Vittoria Raciti	Councillor
Philippa Scott	Councillor
Ismet Tastan	Councillor
Peter Gainsford	General Manager
Simone Plummer	Director Planning
Ruth Callaghan	Director Community
Sharon Bowman	Director Corporate
Peter Shields	Director Engineering
Ryann Midei	Director Property and Major Projects
Matthew Pearce	General Counsel
Megan Jenkins	Senior Lawyer
Manod Wickramasinghe	Traffic and Transport Planning Manager
Scott Mullen	Strategic Investments and Property Manager
George Georgakis	Administration Manager
Tia Camelin	Acting Business Paper Coordinator

APOLOGIES AND REQUEST FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION:

Nil.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST:

Councillor Barlow declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10 - *Local Transport Forum Terms of Reference and 2025 Authorisation and Delegation Instrument* as she works in the Office of Kobi Shetty MP, who in her capacity as the Member for Balmain, has a representative on the Transport Forum. She will remain in the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter as the vote is exercised through a representative.

Councillor Raciti declared a pecuniary interest on Item 16 – *67-75 Lords Road, Leichhardt – Dedication of Open Space – VPA* as her husband is the President of Leichhardt Apia Tigers and her son is on the Committee. She will leave the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillor Howard declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 5 – Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course Upgrade as he is a social member of the Marrickville Golf Club. He will remain in the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillor Antoniou declared a significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 12 – *Supporting Visual Artists and Writers to Find Affordable Spaces to Work in the Inner West* as the outgoing collective from Thirning Villa refugee arts project is an organisation that she has collaborated with over the years. In the last two years she has not partaken in compensated activity with them. She is still a supporter and out of an abundance of caution she will leave the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillor Scott declared a pecuniary interest on Item 16 – *67-75 Lords Road, Leichhardt – Dedication of Open Space – VPA* as her principal place of residence is adjacent to the development site. She will leave the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

Motion: (Carlisle/D’Arienzo)

That Council note the disclosure 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: (Atkins/Scott)

That the Minutes of the Council held on Tuesday, 9 December 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

C0226(2) Item 49 Mayoral Minute: Condolences from Inner West Council on the Bondi Massacre

Motion: (Byrne)

1. That Council condemns the devastating loss of life and horrific, senseless violence targeting the Jewish community on 14 December 2025, as they gathered to celebrate Chanukah on Bondi Beach.
2. That Council extends our deepest condolences to the families of the victims and all those affected by the Bondi Beach terrorist attack and wishes those injured in the attack a full and speedy recovery.
3. That Council commends and expresses gratitude for the extraordinary bravery of the police and emergency services personnel, Waverley Council staff, surf lifesavers, and community members who showed tremendous courage and acted quickly to bring people to safety.

4. That Council notes that Rotary has established the Unite for Bondi Appeal as the official fund for donations to help with the recovery of the victims and the community and that this fund has been authorised by the NSW Government.
5. In recognition of the enormous impact on Waverley Council including their staff and their community, that Council make a donation of \$20,000 to the Unite for Bondi Appeal for the purpose of supporting the Waverley community in their recovery. Funds for this are to be identified in the next 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

Procedural Motion (Howard/Atkins)

That Council Suspend Standing Orders to bring forward the following items to be dealt with at this time:

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|-------------|--|----|
| 1. Item 1 | Public Exhibition - Tempe Lands Masterplan | |
| 2. Item 4 | Major Capital Projects Committee - Revised Terms of Reference | |
| 3. Item 6 | Airspace land adjacent to St Peters Town Hall | |
| 4. Item 9 | Review of Car Share Parking Fees and Charges | |
| 5. Item 11 | Flood Management Advisory Committee Meeting – 26 November 2025 | |
| 6. Item 17 | Quarterly Strategic Investment Property Report | |
| 7. Item 18 | Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Monthly Project Update | 23 |
| 8. Item 19 | Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment - Monthly Project Update | |
| 9. Item 23 | Update - Crystal Street Petersham Roundtable | |
| 10. Item 25 | Park Fire Risk Management | |
| 11. Item 26 | Investment Report for the periods ending 30 November 2025 and 31 December 2025 | |
| 12. Item 27 | Quarter 2 Report on Operational Plan 2025/26 including Quarterly Budget Review Statement | 8 |
| 13. Item 28 | Updated Pecuniary Interest Returns | |
| 14. Item 30 | Notice of Motion: Junior Parkrun | |
| 15. Item 32 | Notice of Motion: Redundant Optus Cable | |
| 16. Item 33 | Notice of Motion: Supporting Place-Based Youth Services | |
| 17. Item 36 | Notice of Motion: Community Recycling Centres Review | |
| 18. Item 37 | Notice of Motion: Pedestrian safety at Unwins Bridge Road and Hillcrest Street, Tempe | |
| 19. Item 38 | Notice of Motion: Vegetation Management and Rehabilitation – Cooks River Foreshore, Thornley Street Marrickville | |
| 20. Item 39 | Notice of Motion: Geo-blocking Ovals for Shared E-bikes | |

- 21. Item 40 **Notice of Motion: Council Run Events on the GreenWay**
- 22. Item 42 **Notice of Motion: Cul de sac maintenance - Athol St, Leichhardt**
- 23. Item 45 **Notice of Motion: Seniors Morning Teas to Celebrate the GreenWay**
- 24. Item 46 **Notice of Motion: Maintaining integrity of annual grant program process**
- 25. Item 47 **Notice of Motion: 2026 National General Assembly Proposed Motion: The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**

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 reports be adopted:

- 1. Item 1 **Public Exhibition - Tempe Lands Masterplan**
- 2. Item 4 **Major Capital Projects Committee - Revised Terms of Reference**
- 3. Item 6 **Airspace land adjacent to St Peters Town Hall**
- 4. Item 9 **Review of Car Share Parking Fees and Charges**
- 5. Item 11 **Flood Management Advisory Committee Meeting – 26 November 2025**
- 6. Item 17 **Quarterly Strategic Investment Property Report**
- 7. Item 18 **Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Monthly Project Update** 23
- 8. Item 19 **Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment - Monthly Project Update**
- 9. Item 23 **Update - Crystal Street Petersham Roundtable**
- 10. Item 25 **Park Fire Risk Management**
- 11. Item 26 **Investment Report for the periods ending 30 November 2025 and 31 December 2025**
- 12. Item 27 **Quarter 2 Report on Operational Plan 2025/26 including Quarterly Budget Review Statement** 8
- 13. Item 28 **Updated Pecuniary Interest Returns**
- 14. Item 30 **Notice of Motion: Junior Parkrun**
- 15. Item 32 **Notice of Motion: Redundant Optus Cable**
- 16. Item 33 **Notice of Motion: Supporting Place-Based Youth Services**
- 17. Item 36 **Notice of Motion: Community Recycling Centres Review**
- 18. Item 37 **Notice of Motion: Pedestrian safety at Unwins Bridge Road and Hillcrest Street, Tempe**
- 19. Item 38 **Notice of Motion: Vegetation Management and Rehabilitation – Cooks River Foreshore, Thornley Street Marrickville**

- 20. Item 39 **Notice of Motion: Geo-blocking Ovals for Shared E-bikes**
- 21. Item 40 **Notice of Motion: Council Run Events on the GreenWay**
- 22. Item 42 **Notice of Motion: Cul de sac maintenance - Athol St, Leichhardt**
- 23. Item 45 **Notice of Motion: Seniors Morning Teas to Celebrate the GreenWay**
- 24. Item 46 **Notice of Motion: Maintaining integrity of annual grant program process**
- 25. Item 47 **Notice of Motion: 2026 National General Assembly Proposed Motion: The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**

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

C0226(1) Item 1 Public Exhibition - Tempe Lands Masterplan

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council endorse the exhibition of the draft Tempe Lands Masterplan (former Sydney Gateway Site) for a period of 28 days.
2. That Council receive a report on the outcomes of the community engagement by the May 2026 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

C0226(1) Item 4 Major Capital Projects Committee - Revised Terms of Reference

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Major Capital Projects Committee which includes the appointment of the Director Property and Major Projects as a non-voting member, consistent with the practices of similar committees.

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

C0226(1) Item 6 Airspace land adjacent to St Peters Town Hall

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council formally write to Airservices Australia requesting the transfer of the land

to Inner West Council, if the land has been deemed surplus to Airservices Australia's operational requirements.

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

C0226(1) Item 9 Review of Car Share Parking Fees and Charges

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council endorse the public exhibition of the proposed Car Share parking fees as detailed in the report, and that they be exhibited within the 2026/27 Fees and Charges.

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

C0226(1) Item 11 Flood Management Advisory Committee Meeting - 26 November 2025

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and adopt the recommendations of the Flood Management Advisory Committee meeting held on 26 November 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

C0226(1) Item 17 Quarterly Strategic Investment Property Report

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

- 1. That Council receive and note the report.**
- 2. That Council consider the publication of the confidential report attached to this business paper on Council's website after twelve months, subject to consultation with affected parties.**

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

C0226(1) Item 18 Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Monthly Project Update**Motions: (Howard/Atkins)****That Council receive and note the report which details the following progress since the last report:**

- 1. Stage 1 is scheduled for completion by mid-February 2026**
- 2. The continued progress of Stage 2, with the select tender process now closed and a separate confidential report to be tabled at the February 2026 Council meeting.**
- 3. Feasibility reviews were undertaken to assess the viability of modifying the Stage 2 design to meet elite Water polo competition standards which concluded such modifications would present unacceptable financial, operational and scheduling risks for Council and an additional funding of at least \$8M for the elite water polo pool, which is not in Council's Long Term Financial Plan.**

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**C0226(1) Item 19 Leichhardt Oval Refurbishment - Monthly Project Update****Motion: (Howard/Atkins)****That Council receive and note the report which details the following progress since the last report:**

- 1. The State Significant Development Application was submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure in late December 2025 and was publicly exhibited from 16 January 2026 to 12 February 2026.**
- 2. Schematic design has been completed, with the design now progressing into detailed development for the lower bowl seating, western grandstand, and northern grandstand, supported by specialised architectural, structural, services, and cost-planning consultants.**

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**C0226(1) Item 23 Update - Crystal Street Petersham Roundtable****Motion: (Howard/Atkins)**

- 1. That Council endorse the Crystal Street Roundtable Action Plan for delivery.**

2. That Council provides a report to the June 2026 Council meeting on those actions that require a longer timeframe. This further report will include an update of those actions that have been completed.

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

C0226(1) Item 25 Park Fire Risk Management

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the report on Park Fire Risk Management, which considers existing arrangements and further measures introduced to enhance fire risk management including additional maintenance and monitoring practices.

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

C0226(1) Item 26 Investment Report for the periods ending 30 November 2025 and 31 December 2025

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the investment report for the periods ending 30 November and 31 December 2025, demonstrating continued strong investment returns in a non-fossil fuel portfolio.

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

C0226(1) Item 27 Quarter 2 Report on Operational Plan 2025/26 including Quarterly Budget Review Statement

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council endorse the Quarterly Progress Report for Quarter 2 2025/26 on the Operational Plan 2025/26, noting that:
- a) 93% of the actions were completed or on track, and 80% of measures were on target or within tolerance; and
 - b) Highlights for the quarter included the Greenway opening, 3 major street festivals, Ashfield Aquatic Centre 5th Birthday and the 2-year anniversary of

FOGO.

2. That Council adopt the Quarterly Budget Review Statement including the recommended changes detailed therein for Quarter 2 2025/26, as follows:
 - a) Increasing Council's net operating position excluding capital grants from \$104,000 to \$160,000;
 - b) Decreasing the Capital Works Program from \$128.0 million to \$119.6 million primarily to realign budget to future years to meet expected completion dates; and
 - c) Increasing projected capital grants by \$3.8m.

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

C0226(1) Item 28 Updated Pecuniary Interest Returns

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council receive and note the updated Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest Returns lodged by the Mayor, Clr Darcy Byrne; Clr Mat Howard; Clr Philippa Scott; Clr Jo Carlisle; and Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) member Helen Hu.

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

C0226(1) Item 30 Notice of Motion: Junior Parkrun

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council notes the success of Parkrun as a free, volunteer-led initiative that promotes physical activity, social connection and inclusive use of public open space, including the ongoing success of the Bay Run Parkrun in Haberfield and other nearby Parkrun events.
2. That Council notes the establishment and growth of Junior Parkrun events in Australia and overseas, which provide free, weekly 2 kilometre events for children aged 4 to 14 years and their families, and the demonstrated physical, mental health and community benefits of these programs.
3. That Council requests staff to investigate the establishment of a Junior Parkrun in the Inner West, including consideration of locations such as Marrickville Oval, the GreenWay corridor, Pratten Park or another suitable site, and consultation with Parkrun Australia and relevant community stakeholders.
4. That Council requests that staff meet with Parkrun representatives and report back to Council within two months on the outcomes of this investigation, including feasibility, recommended locations, resourcing and cost implications, and alignment with Council strategies and priorities.

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

C0226(1) Item 32 Notice of Motion: Redundant Optus Cable

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council write to the responsible authorities to seek the removal of the redundant Optus cable network on telegraph poles. If no cooperation is given then write to the State Government asking them to introduce legislation requiring the removal of the redundant cable.

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

C0226(1) Item 33 Notice of Motion: Supporting Place-Based Youth Services

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

- 1. That Council, as part of the Child and Youth Strategy, included an exploration of place-based youth services and the potential models that council could support through partnerships and existing infrastructure.**
- 2. That Council as part of the Child and Youth strategy develop a communications plan to improve knowledge of and highlight existing youth services in each ward. The strategy should highlight the age demographics being serviced by each 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

C0226(1) Item 36 Notice of Motion: Community Recycling Centres Review

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

- 1. That Council acknowledges the vital role of Council's Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) at Leichhardt and St Peters in waste management, landfill diversion and supporting the circular economy in the Inner West.**
- 2. That Council notes that funding for CRCs is derived from both the Domestic Waste Reserve and the NSW Government's Community Recycling Centre program, administered by the Environmental Protection Authority through the Environmental Trust, with the stated purpose of assisting residents to responsibly**

dispose of household “problem waste”, including electronics, batteries and chemicals.

3. That Council thanks staff for their ongoing work in planning for and operating the CRCs in alignment with Council’s objectives and principles.
4. That Council undertakes a review of Community Recycling Centres with a view to:
 - a) Ensuring the operation of Inner West Council CRCs reflects best practice, including but not limited to:
 - i. Undertaking a survey of residents who utilise existing CRC services;
 - ii. Investigating the operation of CRCs at other councils, with a view to identifying and incorporating innovative approaches; and
 - iii. Including CRCs as an agenda item at an upcoming Circular Economy Roundtable to seek feedback and ideas
 - b) Improving accessibility of CRCs for local residents, including but not limited to:
 - i. Reviewing operating hours;
 - ii. Considering options to expand the types of waste accepted, including textiles and bulky items;
 - iii. Reviewing how CRCs interact with other Council waste services, including bulky waste collection and the Sustainability Hub; and
 - iv. Reviewing the promotion and communication of CRC services.
 - c) Positioning CRCs at the forefront of the circular economy within the Inner West, including but not limited to:
 - i. Developing stronger partnerships with local circular economy organisations to increase diversion outcomes;
 - ii. Providing additional training for CRC staff on circular economy principles and diversion pathways to better inform residents;
 - iii. Exploring the co-location of Waste Busters staff at CRCs on operational days;
 - iv. Improving signage and communications to enhance community understanding of circular economy opportunities; and
 - v. Investigating events such as reverse markets (“reverse shopping”) to facilitate reuse and donation of items to circular economy organisations.
5. That Council requests that a report be brought back to Council by August 2026, including data on existing CRC services, findings from the review, and recommendations for improvement.

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

C0226(1) Item 37 Notice of Motion: Pedestrian safety at Unwins Bridge Road and Hillcrest Street, Tempe

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council notes that residents report the pedestrian crossing at Unwins Bridge Road and Hillcrest Street, Tempe, is unsafe and that's there have been several near-misses at the location.
2. That Council undertakes a safety review of the intersection with a view to making improvements to make the intersection safer for pedestrians and cyclists, including but not limited to upgrading the crossing to a wombat crossing, renewing line marking, improving signage, advocating for a road crossing supervisor, or other traffic mitigation measures.
3. That Council report the findings of the review to the Local Traffic Forum within three months and in the meantime, undertake any urgent works to improve safety as a matter of priority.

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

C0226(1) Item 38 Notice of Motion: Vegetation Management and Rehabilitation – Cooks River Foreshore, Thornley Street Marrickville

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council requests Council staff investigate vegetation, weed infestation, and waste accumulation on Council-managed land adjoining the Cooks River foreshore at and behind 50–54 Thornley Street, Marrickville.
2. That Council requests Council staff liaise with affected residents, the Cooks River Alliance, Sydney Water or other agencies, and local bushcare groups to clarify land ownership, access, and appropriate management responsibilities.
3. That Council requests Council staff report back via briefing note on options to support rehabilitation works, including waste removal, provision of mulch and native plants (where eligible), and future maintenance arrangements consistent with Council's environmental and safety obligations, within one month.

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

C0226(1) Item 39 Notice of Motion: Geo-blocking Ovals for Shared E-bikes

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

1. That Council convene a meeting with shared e-bike providers operating within the

Inner West Local Government Area to request that all shared e-bikes be geofenced to prevent access to the playing surfaces of ovals across the LGA; and

- 2. That Council receive a report at the April Council meeting outlining the outcomes of these discussions.**

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

C0226(1) Item 40 Notice of Motion: Council Run Events on the GreenWay

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

- 1. That Council congratulate Inner West Council on the successful opening of the GreenWay in December 2025, noting that usage tripled in the first two weeks following its opening;**
- 2. That Council prepare a report for the April Council meeting outlining potential Council run events that could be held along the GreenWay, including but not limited to:**
 - a) A half marathon;**
 - b) Kids Bike Buses, including school commutes and other cycling based events aimed at increasing riding confidence and skills, including bike tune-up activities; and**
 - c) Partnering with local schools to deliver educational and practical bushcare programs**
- 3. That Council create and execute a communication plan that demonstrates how the GreenWay is currently being used by Inner West residents.**
- 4. That Council investigate the need for additional signage from Jack Shanahan Reserve to the Cooks River.**
- 5. That Council ensure the report includes estimated costs, budget implications, and suggested timeframes for delivery.**

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

C0226(1) Item 42 Notice of Motion: Cul de sac maintenance - Athol St, Leichhardt

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

- 1. That Council refer to the Local Transport Forum to consider formalising on-street parking at the cul-de-sac end of Athol Street, Leichhardt with marked lines and**

installation of clear no-parking signage where parking would impede driveway access.

2. That Council conduct tree trimming on the trees in the Athol Street cul-de-sac.
3. That Council investigate footpath maintenance to address lifted pavers or cracks, and ensure the path through from Darley Road is safe for residents and commuters to and from Marion Light Rail station.

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

C0226(1) Item 45 Notice of Motion: Seniors Morning Teas to Celebrate the GreenWay**Motion: (Howard/Atkins)**

1. That Council as an introduction to, and a celebration of the Greenway, expand the Seniors Morning Tea program, with 'Morning Teas for Seniors' events to take place at Johnson Park and Richard Murden Reserve to include guided tours of the Greenway, paced to suit all levels of mobility.
2. That Council schedule the Seniors Morning Teas at the Greenway to take place in the autumn and spring seasons of 2026.
3. That Council gauge transportation needs of attendees with mobility concerns to/from the events to determine whether the community bus would be required.
4. That Council provide public transport advice/guidance for ease of entry to the Greenway access points.
5. That Council communicate the events in the Inner West Council Newsletter, the Inner West Council website and social media pages, in multiple languages at libraries and community centres.
6. That Council prepare a report for the March 2026 Council meeting outlining the Seniors Morning Tea Program across the Inner West Council's community centres, detailing the locations and dates schedule for 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

C0226(1) Item 46 Notice of Motion: Maintaining Integrity of Annual Grant Program Process**Motion: (Howard/Atkins)**

1. That Council Affirms its commitment to the integrity and transparency of the Inner

West Council Annual Grant Program as the primary mechanism for distributing community grants.

2. That Council resolves that all requests for grant funding to community organisations, groups, or individuals must be processed through the established Annual Grant Program, subject to the published eligibility criteria, assessment processes, and timeframes outlined in the Annual Grant Program Guidelines.
3. That Council resolves that Council will not consider motions from individual Councillors seeking one-off grants for specific organisations outside the Annual Grant Program process, except in the following circumstances:
 - a) Emergency situations requiring immediate Council response where there is insufficient time to wait for the next grant round and where the matter poses significant risk to community safety or wellbeing; or
 - b) Where Council has specifically resolved to establish a new grant stream or program with defined criteria and assessment processes.
4. That Council notes that Councillors who identify community organisations or projects that may benefit from Council grant funding should:
 - a) Direct those organisations to the appropriate grant stream within the Annual Grant Program;
 - b) Encourage organisations to contact the relevant Council grant officers for application support as outlined in the Annual Grant Program Guidelines; and
 - c) If appropriate, advocate through proper processes for the creation of new grant streams to address identified community needs, with such new streams to include clear eligibility criteria and assessment processes.
5. That Council notes that this process is separate to Council event funding which may, from time to time, require one off funding commitments.
6. That Council requests the General Manager to investigate options for increasing funding to the Annual Grant Program through as part of the 2026-2027 budget process.

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

C0226(1) Item 47 Notice of Motion:2026 National General Assembly Proposed Motion: The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

That Council endorse the following motion to be submitted to the 2026 National General Assembly:

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in this term of government.

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

C0226(1) Item 2 Public Exhibition - Camperdown Park Draft Plan of Management

Motion: (Smith/Atkins)

1. That Council endorse the exhibition of the Draft Plan of Management and Masterplan for Camperdown Park for a period of 42 days and hold a customer service stall at Camperdown Park on a Saturday during the exhibition period.
2. That Council staff specifically engage with the Portuguese Ethnographic Museum regarding the exploration of the full renovation of the museum building as a community facility.
3. That Council receive a report on the outcomes of the community engagement by the June 2026 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

C0226(1) Item 3 Post Exhibition - Pocket and Neighbourhood Parks Plan of Management

Motion: (Smith/Clay)

That Council defers and receives a further report to the March Council Meeting which separates the Pocket Parks Plan of Management into a separate report for each of the five wards and includes:

- a) An estimated total expenditure per park and per ward;
- b) A list of which parks per ward fall into each category of prioritisation;
- c) Information as to how the recommendations and costings for each pocket park will be integrated into the capital works 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

C0226(1) Item 5 Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course Upgrade

Motion: (Howard/Bryne)

1. That Council agree to act as Project Sponsor for the Marrickville Golf Club community infrastructure project for the purposes of the Australian Government's

Major and Local Community Infrastructure Program (MLCIP).

2. That Council authorise the General Manager (or delegate) to submit the MLCIP funding application, and, if successful, enter into a Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth and undertake all compliance, reporting, audit and milestone payment obligations.
3. That Council support the establishment of a back-to-back agreement between Council and Marrickville Golf Club, to be finalised prior to execution of any Commonwealth funding agreement, setting out governance, project scope, program and milestones, budget and contingencies, procurement and probity, reporting, risk allocation, and insurance and indemnity arrangements.
4. That Council note that the back-to-back agreement will provide for milestone payments to the Club only after milestones are achieved, evidence is provided, and corresponding Commonwealth payments are received by Council.
5. That Council endorse the provision of in-kind Council officer support as necessary to facilitate the successful delivery 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

C0226(1) Item 8 Post Exhibition - Sydenham Road Strategy

Motion: (Howard/Scott)

1. That Council approve the Sydenham Road Strategy Short Term Grant Funded Works plan and Short Term Council Funded Works plan, subject to the following:
 - a) The parking plan, to be submitted to TfNSW for approval, be amended so that:
 - i. two parking spaces along the frontage of 73 Sydenham Road (northern side of road) be retained as unrestricted parking
 - ii. three spaces along the frontage of 46-50 Sydenham Road (southern side of the road) be retained as unrestricted parking
 - b) Fairy lights are provisioned at select locations along the route and will remain operable until key elements of the Long Term Vision are complete.
 - c) A review of pedestrian and cyclist safety be provided to the Local Transport Forum 9 months after commissioning of the Sydenham Road shared path including consideration of whether a shared path is necessary on the southern footpath of Sydenham Road.
2. That the parking arrangements be reviewed 9 months after implementation.
3. That Council approve the Long Term Vision Plan as the basis for advocacy to TfNSW subject to the following amendments:
 - a) A separated cycleway is proposed for the entire length of the Sydenham Road Strategy
 - b) The provision of an active transport link through this same land which would connect Sydenham Road to Sydney Steel Road either via the Sydney Water aqueduct or Garden Street.

- c) A new signalised intersection where Sydenham Road intersects with both Buckley Street and Fitzroy Street, incorporating pedestrian, cycling and vehicle safety improvements
 - d) Pedestrian, cycling and vehicle safe access improvements to the existing signalised intersection of Victoria and Sydenham Road.
4. That Council proceed with the process of planning for and designing a separated cycleway for the entire length of the Sydenham Road Strategy so as to be competitive for future grant and funding opportunities, and that the construction of a cycleway be subject to future community consultation.
 5. That Council write to the Minister for Transport to seek the provision of an active transport link through the land alongside the station (Lot 1 DP 107211) bound by Garden Street, Sydenham Station and properties No.12-14 Garden Street and 19 Sydenham Road, which would connect Sydenham Road to Sydney Steel Road either via the Sydney Water aqueduct or Garden Street.
 6. That Council to make a targeted approach to high-potential businesses in the study area to partner on the creation of parklets in their setbacks.

Motion Carried

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

Against Motion: Cr Macri

Amendment: (Macri/Raciti)

1. All other parking spaces on the northern side of Sydenham Road be converted to 7-hour parking from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday and 2-hour parking from 5pm-10pm Monday to Friday and from 8am-10pm on Saturday and Sunday.
2. That, given the impacts of the Metro on increased demand for commuter parking, Council write to the Minister for Transport to seek the provision of a commuter parking station at Sydenham Station on the land alongside the station (Lot 1 DP 1072112) bound by Garden Street, Sydenham Road, Sydenham Station and properties No.12-14 Garden Street and 19 Sydenham Road.

Motion Lost

For Motion: Crs Macri and Raciti

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

C0226(1) Item 10 Local Transport Forum Meeting - 8 December 2025

Motion: Scott/Macri

That Council receive and adopt the recommendations of the Local Transport Forum meeting held on 08 December 2025, subject to the following amendment:

- Add as point oo. the following to the recommendations for Item 1: Annandale LATM Study Final Report:**
- oo. Install raised pedestrian crossing in Booth Street between Taylor Street and Wigram Road.

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

Councillor Antoniou left the meeting at 8.27pm as she had declared a significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 12 as the outgoing collective from Thirning Villa refugee arts project is an organisation that she has collaborated with over the years. In the last two years she has not partaken in compensated activity with them. She is still a supporter and out of an abundance of caution she left the meeting during discussion and voting on the matter.

C0226(1) Item 12 Supporting Visual Artists and Writers to Find Affordable Spaces to Work in the Inner West

Motion: (Smith/Blake)

1. **Notes the importance of artists having access to affordable creative space, the high demand for affordable creative space in the inner city, and the Council’s significant and ongoing efforts to support local creatives while also providing community benefit.**
2. **That Council receives a report to the March Council Meeting providing additional information on Council’s investment in creative venues and opportunities to support creative arts in the Inner West, including:**
 - a) **The programs, residencies, and/or events currently utilising space at Thirning Villa, Whites Creek Cottage, and Stonevilla, their length of tenancy, and the costs to Council to support them;**
 - b) **The program and cost of scheduled capital works and maintenance at each of the venues listed above;**
 - c) **An update on the Marrickville Town Hall basement space; and**
 - d) **An overview of any other subsidised venues available to support creative arts in the Inner West, including Garry Owen House.**

Motion Carried

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

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Cr Antoniou

Councillor Antoniou returned to the meeting at 8.32pm.

C0226(1) Item 13 National General Assembly of Local Government 2026

Motion: (Scott/Byrne)

1. **That Council determine the Councillors attending the National General Assembly of Local Government 2026: Cr Byrne, Cr Atkins, Cr Clay and Cr Tastan.**
2. **That Council determine the one (1) Councillor that will be the voting delegate: Cr Byrne.**
3. **That Council consider any proposed motions and endorse as appropriate to be submitted to the National General Assembly of Local Government 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

C0226(1) Item 14 Public Exhibition - Complaints Handling Policy Review

Motion: (Scott/Atkins)

- 1. That Council place the draft Complaints Handling Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days to seek community feedback on the proposed Policy.**
- 2. That following the conclusion of the exhibition period, the draft Complaints Handling Policy be brought back to Council for consideration for adoption.**

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

C0226(1) Item 15 Abolishing Subminimum Wages for People with Disability

Motion: (Atkins/Carlisle)

- 1. That Council notes the progress outlined in this report, and endorses the ongoing pursuit of fair wage principles across procurement, grants, and sponsorships.**
- 2. That Council accepts the request from the Access LDG to amend the terms of their engagement to review and endorse staff amendments to policies, as opposed to reviewing each policy in detail.**
- 3. That, in response to the resolution to review the Sponsorship Policy to ensure exclusion of sponsorship for any individual or organisation that fails to provide appropriate remuneration to people with disability, Council:**
 - a) Place the attached draft Sponsorship Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days to seek community feedback, subject to the addition of the words “including those that pay a sub-minimum wage to such workers” at the end of paragraph 5(f) and at the end of the 5th dot point in the fourth paragraph of section 6.**
 - b) That following the conclusion of the exhibition period, the draft Sponsorship Policy be brought back to Council for consideration for adoption.**

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: (Carlisle/D'Arenzio)

That Council enter into Confidential session.

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

Council entered into Closed Session at 8.40pm.

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:

C0226(1) Item 7 RFT 21-25 – Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Tender – Stage 2

The reason for dealing with the report confidentially is that it contains 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.

C0226(1) Item 16 76-75 Lords Road, Leichhardt – Dedication of Open Space – VPA

The reason for dealing with the report confidentially is that it contains 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.

Council moved back into Open Session at 9.36pm following the adoption of the procedural motion below:

Procedural Motion: (Howard/Clay)

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

C0226(2) Item 7 RFT 21-25 – LEICHHARDT PARK AQUATIC CENTRE TENDER – STAGE 2

Motion: (Byrne/Scott)

1. That Council in accordance with Clause 178(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, decline to accept any of the tender submissions in relation to RFT 21-25 due to the risks outlined in this report.
2. That Council decline to invite fresh tender submissions or applications under Clause 178(3)(b)–(d) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, for the following reasons:
 - a) The tender submissions received for RFT 21-25 present significant risks as outlined in the tender evaluation report and inviting fresh tenders would not reasonably mitigate or eliminate these risks, nor is it likely to produce a materially different outcome.
 - b) The tender evaluation process is complete, and key issues affecting the viability and suitability of the submissions have already been identified, such that calling fresh tenders would result in unnecessary delay to the delivery of the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Stage 2 project.
 - c) Retendering would risk further prolonging the upgrade works to critical public aquatic infrastructure, noting that the existing pools have reached the end of their lifespan.
3. That Council determine to enter into negotiations with one or more of the tenderers, or any other relevant party, with a view to entering into a contract for the subject matter of the tender, in accordance with Clause 178(3)(e) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, for the following reasons:
 - a) Negotiations will allow Council to address the risks identified in the current tender submissions through targeted refinement of scope, value, methodology, or risk allocation, which cannot be achieved through a competitive re-tender process alone.
 - b) Entering negotiations provides the most expedient pathway to finalising a contract that ensures the successful and timely delivery of the Stage 2 works, including construction of the new 50m and 25m pools and associated infrastructure.
 - c) This approach maintains Council’s ability to secure a compliant, value for money outcome while ensuring project continuity and minimising disruption to the community.
4. Delegate authority to the General Manager to negotiate and enter into and manage a contract for the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre – Stage 2 upgrade, as set out in this report.
5. Receive updates on the negotiation process outlined in Resolution 3 through a Council report, with a report to be presented to Council upon the conclusion of negotiations detailing the final outcome.
6. Consider the publication of this business paper on Council’s website after the completion (end of defects liability period) of the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Stage 2 Upgrade, subject to consultation with affected parties.

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

Councillor Raciti left the meeting as she had declared a pecuniary interest on Item 16 as her husband is the President of Leichhardt Apia Tigers and her son is on the Committee.

Councillor Scott left the meeting as she had declared a pecuniary interest on Item 16 as her principal place of residence is adjacent to the development site.

C0226(1) Item 16 67-75 Lords Road, Leichhardt - Dedication of Open Space - VPA

Motion: (Byrne/Blake)

- 1. That Council reject the Voluntary Planning Agreement (the VPA) in respect of the dedication of 75 Lords Road, Leichhardt as land zoned RE1 - public open space;**
- 2. That Council write to the Department of Planning, Housing and Industry and the Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel advising that Council:**
 - a) Rejects the VPA; and**
 - b) Considers that the planning proposal fails to provide adequate public benefit to the community.**
- 3. That Council resolves to publish this confidential business paper on Council’s website after the determination of any development application submitted by the proponent in respect of 67-73 Lords Road and 75 Lords Road, subject to prior consultation with affected parties, including the proponent and the Department of Planning, Housing and Industry.**

Motion Carried

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

Against Motion: Nil

Absent: Clrs Raciti and Scott

OPEN COUNCIL ITEMS

C0226(1) Item 20 Leichhardt Oval Live Music Update

Motion: (Scott/Byrne)

- 1. That Council receive and note the report on the Leichhardt Oval Live Music highlighting the strategy and timeline for live music and entertainment at the Oval.**
- 2. That Council staff immediately commence discussions with local music promoters and the local music industry to hold a community live music event in September 2026 prior to the planned closure of Leichhardt Oval. This should include: Live Music Venues Alliance, the Office of the 24 Hour Economy Commissioner, Create NSW, Music and Booze Co, and others with experience hosting large scale live music events in the inner west.**

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

C0226(1) Item 21 Building Our Community Update

Motion: (Scott/D'Arienzo)

1. That Council receive and note the report which provides a program for engagement and development of the Building Our Community Plan.
2. That the engagement outcomes report and draft Inner West Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) be developed and shared with Council at the April 2026 meeting.
3. That Council staff include in the April report the entire program of engagement, and include continued doorknocking in phases two and three.

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

C0226(1) Item 22 Bi-Monthly Omnibus Planning Update

Motion: (D'Arienzo/Byrne)

1. That Council continue to advocate for a fast track assessment process from the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure to progress *Our Fairer Future Plan Phase 1*.
2. That Council prepares Stage 2 of Our Fairer Future to be limited to the following investigation areas:
 - a) Croydon/Iron Cove precinct
 - b) Site Specific Investigation Areas as outlined in Attachment 1 of the February 2026 report
 - c) Remaining areas identified through the low and mid-rise housing reforms as identified by Department of Planning (Annandale town centre (Booth Street), Lilyfield light rail station, Petersham station, St Peters station, Stanmore station)
 - d) Lewisham station
 - e) Any land owned by Homes NSW within the LGA for potential rezoning opportunities, with a focus on delivering increased social and affordable housing outcomes.
3. That the draft Stage 2 of Our Fairer Future be reported to the June 2026 Council meeting.
4. That the draft Affordable Housing Policy for community consultation be reported to the April 2026 council meeting.
5. That Council endorse the commencement of early online consultation for the *Parramatta Road Corridor State Led rezoning* in February 2026 for at least 28 days.

6. That the Inner West Development Control Plan be reported to the April 2026 council meeting.**Motion Carried****For Motion:** Crs Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott and Smith**Against Motion:** Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake and Tastan**C0226(1) Item 24 Mandatory Reporting to Council of Reports Received from Fire & Rescue NSW for 7 Properties****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**C0226(1) Item 29 Financially Sustainable Service Delivery Program****Motion: (Scott/Byrne)**

- 1. That Council receive the report and note that the program has successfully identified \$3.43m (1.1%) in operating budget savings for 2026/27 and \$4.74m (1.5%) for 2027/28 onwards, with additional opportunities still being explored, prior to the budget being placed on exhibition in April.**
- 2. That the Council executive report with the draft Budget at the April meeting further savings at least equivalent to an additional 0.5% of the budget.**

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**C0226(1) Item 31 Notice of Motion: Whites Creek Valley Park Care and Maintenance****Motion: (Fergusson/Scott)**

- 1. That Council acknowledge that, following a review of reports from the past 5–10 years which identified long-term deterioration, White's Creek Wetlands are now maintained by Council's Bush Regeneration Team, with more than 30 hours per week currently invested in rehabilitation works.**

2. That Council recognise and thank the Bush Regeneration Team for their work, including sediment removal, pump replacement, dredging and ongoing maintenance, pesticide-free weed management, and regular fauna surveys.
3. That Council acknowledge recent observations confirming healthy populations of Eastern Snake-Necked Turtle, Murray River Turtle, Eastern Dwarf Tree Frog, Striped Marsh Frog, and Peron's Tree Frog.
4. That Council recognises that a recent unexpected drying event at the Wetlands caused by the unauthorised release of the pond pump valve has caused concern amongst regular users and volunteers of Whites Creek Valley Park.
5. That Council acknowledge and thank the Friends of White's Creek Valley Park for their ongoing support and work.
6. That Council establish the Wetlands, Food Forest, Community Garden, and adjacent native bushland as environmentally sensitive areas, and promote and enforce a ban on plastics in these areas, alongside a review of the current maintenance plan.
7. That Council investigate the feasibility of appointing a specialist both in bush care and in wetlands management for Whites Creek Valley Park.
8. That Council review and improve waste management across the park, including requiring cottage hirers to remove their own rubbish.
9. That Council appoint a Council officer as a dedicated Wetlands Coordinator responsible for ongoing communication with the Friends of White's Creek Valley Park.
10. That Council review permissions for Food Forest volunteers to prune and manage trees as required, in accordance with permaculture principles.

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

C0226(1) Item 34 Notice of Motion: Robson Park Off Leash Dog Area Feasibility

Motion: (Blake/Barlow)

1. That Council notes:
 - a) That in September 2025, Council resolved to revert Blackmore Park, Leichhardt to a full time on leash area.
 - b) That in December 2024, Council resolved as part of the Biodiversity Strategy to investigate a trial rewilding of Robson Park, Haberfield.
 - c) That a Park Plan of Management for Robson Park is scheduled to be developed in 2028.
2. That Council resolve to bring forward the development of the Park Plan of Management to early 2026/27 and is to include:
 - a) The rewilding trial as previously adopted by Council; and

- b) A feasibility study of establishing a limited time, limited-area off-leash zone in Robson Park.**

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

The following Motion was then moved:

Motion: Scott/Clay

1. That Council notes:

- a) That in September 2025, Council resolved to revert Blackmore Park, Leichhardt to a full time on leash area.
- b) That in December 2024, Council resolved as part of the Biodiversity Strategy to investigate a trial rewilding of Robson Park, Haberfield.

2. That a Park Plan of Management for Robson Park is scheduled to be developed in 2028 and is to include:

- a) The rewilding trial as previously adopted by Council
- b) A feasibility study of establishing a limited time, limited-area off-leash zone in Robson Park

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

C0226(1) Item 35 Notice of Motion: Funding & Improvements to Christmas Decorations Across the Inner West LGA for Christmas 2026 and Beyond.

Clr Tastan withdrew the Notice of Motion and as such it was not considered at the meeting.

C0226(1) Item 41 Notice of Motion: Christmas in the Inner West

Motion: (Fergusson/Byrne)

- 1. That Council note that new Christmas decorations have been procured, with delivery expected early 2026, and commit to maximising their impact through complementary, low cost, community led initiatives.
- 2. That Council investigate ways to support Christmas festivity across the Inner West through a combination of localised and LGA wide initiatives that strengthen community connection and encourage residents to shop locally.

3. That Council prepare a report to the April Council meeting that includes the following;
 - a) Brief overview of how existing Christmas decorations will be deployed across the LGA in 2026
 - b) Opportunities to coordinate decorations with community events and local shopping precincts
 - c) Outline of the costs, feasibility and delivery approach for the following initiatives, and any additional initiatives identified by staff;
 - i. An Inner West “Light Up” Fest, including a best decorated house and street competition and an online map or webpage enabling residents to list participating homes and create a Christmas lights trail with a voting mechanism.
 - ii. Shopfront festive enhancements on Main Streets (e.g. bunting or tinsel) to increase street level activation and encourage local shopping.
 - iii. Working with community organisations to deliver a small-scale Christmas event in each ward, including community choirs and a Santa visit and ensure these events are well promoted in the lead up.
 - iv. Community Christmas Decoration workshops, i.e recycled Christmas wreath workshops at the Sustainability Hub and Council community centres.
 - d) Consult with the Inner West Council Small Business Local Democracy Group on proposed decoration locations for 2026 and opportunities to coordinate installations with local events.
4. That Council develop an online Inner West Christmas Portal, including:
 - a) An Inner West Christmas events calendar
 - b) A local shopping guide highlighting Inner West businesses
 - c) Content featuring local shop owners, artists and community organisations.
 - d) A dedicated webpage promoting the Inner West 'Light Up' Fest with voting mechanism, user upload gallery, prize information, terms and conditions and a map showing decorated houses across the Inner West.
5. That Council continue and expand promotion of the shopfront decoration competition, including encouraging participants to share entries through their own social media channels to amplify reach.
6. That Council create and execute a Christmas communication strategy to maximise community awareness and participation for competitions and events, and that the strategy includes a plan to incorporate acknowledgment of other major cultural and community celebrations into council communications.
7. That Council request that Council officers provide high-level observations (without detailed costings) on opportunities for future enhancement of Christmas decorations (including but not limited to the potential use of light projections on buildings and treescapes) and assets beyond 2026, to inform consideration in future budget processes.

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

C0226(1) Item 43 Notice of Motion: Public Tree Planting Awareness and Engagement Program**Motion: (Smith/Howard)**

1. That Council notes the ongoing commitment to expand and protect the Inner West's urban tree canopy, including Council's target of planting 1,000 new public trees each year and replacement tree planting policy where a tree is removed.
2. That Council notes that community members care deeply about local trees and the benefits they provide and that Council's tree planting efforts are of significant community interest.
3. That Council develops an online tree planting tracker and map, allowing community members to stay updated on Council's public tree planting program across the LGA year to year, including locations, species, and timelines for planting.
4. That Council develops appropriate signage to be installed onsite with each new public tree planting to support community awareness and engagement with Council's planting program, including information on the Urban Forest Strategy and tree planting targets, the benefits of street trees, and how to contact Council for further information about street trees.
5. That Council as part of the existing Adopt-A-Spot and Living Streets Verge Garden program, allows residents to nominate locations for a public tree planting (e.g. verges, parks, curb extensions, traffic islands etc.) for Council investigation, advice, and support.
6. That Council receives a report back on progress of the above initiatives to the April Council Meeting.
7. That following the disappointing incident where a recently planted memorial tree was removed without informing the family:
 - a) Acknowledge the distress caused to the family.
 - b) Request that staff urgently review the Memorial Planting and Plaques in Parks and Open Spaces Policy, identifying the issues that arose in this case
 - c) In the April report, report findings and recommended improvements.

Motion Carried**For Motion:** Crs Byrne, Carlisle, Clay, D'Arienzo, Fergusson, Howard, Macri, Raciti, Scott and Smith**Against Motion:** Crs Antoniou, Atkins, Barlow, Blake and Tastan**C0226(1) Item 44 Notice of Motion: Dive-In Cinema****Motion: (Smith/Byrne)**

1. That Council notes the popularity and importance of our local aquatic centres as low-cost venues for leisure, social events and community connection, and cooling centres during extreme heat, in a fun, family-friendly, and inclusive setting.
2. That Council notes Council's ongoing efforts to activate and diversify public infrastructure for community benefit, including the Creative Town Halls program,

Inner West Film Festival, and investigations for live music events at Henson Park and Leichhardt Oval.

- 3. That Council investigates establishing a ‘Dive-In Cinema’ event program for family-friendly movie screenings held at Inner West aquatic centres in the evening during summer, with the intention to establish a trial event as part of the remaining 2026 swim season.**
- 4. That Council investigates establishing a program of small-scale live music events at Inner West aquatic centres to showcase local artists during summer, in the style of ‘Sunday sessions’.**
- 5. That Council receives a report to the May Council Meeting on feasibility and cost of the above initiatives, including logistics considerations across all five aquatic centres, opportunities for local businesses to sponsor food and entertainment, consideration of similar events hosted by other councils, and a focus on family-friendly entertainment and accessibility.**

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 10:31pm.