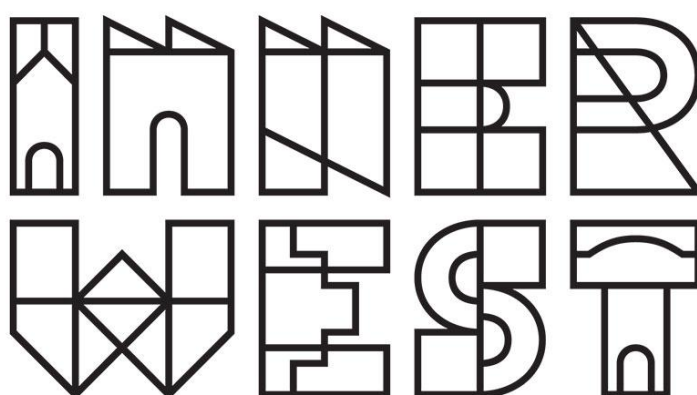


SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA 1

Distributed on 21 April 2026



COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2026

7:30 PM

Location Ashfield Service Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield

**MEETING AGENDA – PRECIS
SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS**

The following report appears as a late item as information required for the preparation of the report was not available at the time of distribution of the Business Paper.

1 Questions From Councillors**ITEM****Page**

C0426(1) Item 47 Questions From Councillors on Agenda Items

3

Item No: C0426(1) Item 47
Subject: QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS ON AGENDA ITEMS
From: Director Corporate Sharon Bowman

The Code of Meeting Practice (Clause 3.32) 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 if Councillors ask questions before the meeting following their review of the agenda, we will publish the questions and our responses unless the information is already included in the agenda.

Questions on the following matters were asked and responses provided as listed below:

ITEM NO	SUBJECT
1	Delivery Program 2025-29 (Year 2), Operational Plan and Budget 2026/27 and Long-Term Financial Plan 2026-36 - Drafts for Public Exhibition
6	In-road tree planting St Marys Street Camperdown – Consultation outcomes
28	Notice of Motion: Partnership to Deliver King Street Crawl and Summer

Item 1: Delivery Program 2025-29 (Year 2), Operational Plan and Budget 2026/27 and Long-Term Financial Plan 2026-36 - Drafts for Public Exhibition

Question 1.

What would be the effect on the budget for next year and the long term financial plan if:

1. Early Childhood Education and Care charges were increased by indexation instead of the proposed above indexation rate of 4.2%?
2. those charges were not increased at all?
3. all fees and charges (excluding Rates and Waste Charges) were frozen at 2025/26 levels for 2026/27?

Response Provided (by Director Corporate):

As set out in the table below, if ECEC charges were increased by 3.6% CPI instead of the 4.2% proposed, the budget surplus would be reduced by \$172,000 and over 10 years of the LTFFP the impact would compound to almost \$2m.

If the ECEC charges were not increased at all this year, the budget surplus would be reduced by \$846,000 which would compound to almost \$10m over the 10-year LTFFP.

We note that based on benchmarking data, even after the proposed increase of 4.2%, IWC's ECEC fees remain on the low side of comparable centres. Additionally, Commonwealth subsidies are available to assist families in need.

Based on current fees and costs, the service runs at a significant deficit, and further constraining the fees would increase the cross-subsidy required to run this service.

Children's Service	2026/27 (\$'000)	2027/28 (\$'000)	2028/29 (\$'000)	2029/30 (\$'000)	2030/31 (\$'000)	2031/32 (\$'000)	2032/33 (\$'000)	2033/34 (\$'000)	2034/35 (\$'000)	2035/36 (\$'000)	10 Year Total (\$'000)
If 3.6% was applied on Fees and Charges instead of 4.2% - decrease in fees by	172	178	185	191	197	202	207	212	217	223	1,983
If no fees increase is applied in 2026/27 but future year increased by CPI- the decrease in fee will be	846	875	906	937	966	990	1,014	1,040	1,066	1,092	9,731

If all fees and charges were frozen, there would be a \$2.2m impact on the 2026/27 budget, accumulating to over \$25m over the 10-year LTFP (see below).

Fees and Charges	Service Unit	Effect on 26/27	Effect on 27/28	Effect on 28/29	Effect on 29/30	Effect on 30/31	Effect on 31/32	Effect on 32/33	Effect on 33/34	Effect on 34/35	Effect on 35/36	10 Year Total
	Full Year Impact (Fig in '000)	2,175	2,251	2,330	2,412	2,484	2,546	2,610	2,675	2,742	2,810	25,036

While these amendments would not create a budget deficit, it is noted that the budget surpluses are quite modest - for 2026/27 less than 1.5% of total expenses. It is considered financially prudent to maintain a budget surplus of at least this level, to cover unforeseen emergencies or 'budget shocks'.

Question 2.

Could you please advise how much has been budgeted for maintenance of the GreenWay? Is this part of the Operating Budget for Civil Maintenance? Does this include monitoring for graffiti and damage to tunnels as well as maintenance and care of vegetation, including weed removal?

Response Provided (by Director Corporate):

Additional budget has been provided for Parks and Streetscapes Operations to ensure the Greenway is appropriately maintained, including maintenance of all areas in Council's care and control. Work is being done by day labour crews. The team has recently increased inspections, and we are currently reviewing service standards to ensure the Greenway is maintained to the same standard as other iconic parks in the Inner West.

Question 3.

Could you advise which line item funding of the GreenWay Art Prize is in, and is it included in the long term financial plan? How much is budgeted for it going forward?

Response Provided (by Director Corporate):

\$15,000 budget has been provided for the Art Prize to continue for this year. The plan is to continue this into the future, as the Greenway Community Forum and their chair, Alex Lofts, were happy with arrangements in 2025.

Question 4.

What works are proposed for 290-293 Illawarra Road Marrickville as part of the Budget (\$630,000 in 27/28)?

Also, what works are proposed at Henson Park Tennis Building (\$1.4 million in 27/28)?

Response Provided (by Acting Director Property and Major Projects):

290-293 Illawarra Road Marrickville proposed works (\$630,000 in 27/28)

Council owns a residential property at this address (see images below). The funding was allocated some time ago and on the basis that some investment would be required to support a future use. Certain plans for this property are not set. This will be considered as part of the forthcoming Property Strategy, where a future plan for the property is set and then associated funding needs will be determined. It may be the case that the \$630,000 is not required, depending upon what the future plan is.

Images of the property at 290-293 Illawarra Road Marrickville:



Henson Park Tennis Building proposed works (\$1.4 million in 27/28).

This funding allocation was also made some time ago. Certain building components (including the roof) require renewal, and the funding was provisioned based on condition.

Item 6: In-road tree planting St Marys Street Camperdown – Consultation outcomes

Question.

Just wondering whether it is possible to also have a kerb blister garden at the other end of the block as well, i.e. at Probert Lane as well as a Probert Street?

Response Provided (by Acting Director Engineering):

Based on your description, I assume you mean including a kerb blister garden on the eastern side of St Mary Street north of Probert Lane.

Our initial review indicates that we could incorporate this additional garden but we will investigate further as part of the project and include if there are no issues with approvals.

Item 28: Notice of Motion: Partnership to Deliver King Street Crawl and Summer

Question.

Regarding item 28 Partnership to Deliver King Street Crawl, would you be able to lay out the anticipated ways financial contributions would be administered in this instance. I.e. would we provide a lump sum to the organisers for them to allocate at their discretion? Or do we have visibility on what line items we have supported through a post-event report.

I also wanted to ask what the current complaints process is like for events such as the Summer and King street crawl. I had patrons approach me with issues, where it was unclear who they were supposed to go to due to the decentralised nature of the event.

Response Provided (by Director Community):

In the first instance staff wouldn't action or discuss any arrangements with any organisation until Council had approved the allocation of funds.

In similar circumstances to the Summer Crawl example, once approved by Council, staff (within delegation) would draft an agreement (checked by legal) which would include deliverables and reporting requirements.

Any organisation receiving funds from Council eg through community grants, has to acquit the funds.

In relation to complaints about third party events, we would deal with them on a case by case basis. As you know, council allocates funding through EOIs and sometimes Council decision. The organisation running the event would be expected to deal with complaints in the first instance. I'm not sure about your example so can't really be more specific about Councils role.

Attachments

Nil.