

# MINUTES

---

## Council Meeting

Monday, 22 April 2024

7:00 PM

Dragon Room

Civic Centre

Hurstville



## **PRESENT**

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The Mayor, Councillor Sam Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Elise Borg, Councillor Ashvini Ambihaipahar, Councillor Veronica Ficarra, Councillor Christina Jamieson, Councillor Nick Katris, Councillor Lou Konjarski, Councillor Kathryn Landsberry, Councillor Nancy Liu, Councillor Peter Mahoney, Councillor Natalie Mort, Councillor Nick Smerdely, Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos, and Councillor Benjamin Wang.

### **COUNCIL STAFF**

General Manager – David Tuxford, Director Assets and Infrastructure – Andrew Latta, Director Environment and Planning – Meryl Bishop, Director Community and Culture – Kristie Dodd, Director Business and Corporate Services – Danielle Parker, Manager, Office of the General Manager – Vicki McKinley, Executive Services Officer – Nickie Paras, Executive Services Officer – Marisa Severino, General Counsel - James Fan, Executive Manager City Futures - Simon Massey, Acting Manager Strategic Placemaking Project Delivery – James Magee, Chief Finance Officer – Scott Henwood, Acting Chief Information Officer – Sandra Maclean, Manager City Technical Services – Tom Heath, Head of Technology – Garuthman De Silva and Technology Services Officer Earl Santos.

## **OPENING**

The Mayor, Councillor Elmir, opened the meeting at 7:10pm.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Mayor, Councillor Elmir acknowledged the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. I pay my respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live, work and meet on these lands.

## **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

All those present stood for the singing of the National Anthem.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ANZAC DAY**

The Mayor, Councillor Elmir acknowledged the brave Australians who have served and those who have died as a result of war.

*They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow; they were staunch to the end against odds uncounted. They fell with their faces to the foe.*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them.*

*Lest We Forget.*

## **PRAYER**

Mr Bruce Cooke St Mark's Anglican Church South Hurstville offered a prayer to the meeting.

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Elmir called for a minute's silence.

### **REQUEST TO ATTEND VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK**

There were no requests to attend via Audio Visual Link.

### **APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

That an apology be accepted for Councillor Symington and leave of absence granted.

**MOTION:** Councillor Katris, Councillor Ficarra

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihapahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

### **NOTICE OF WEBCASTING**

The Mayor, Councillor Elmir advised staff and the public that the meeting is being recorded for minute-taking purposes and is also webcast live on Council's website, in accordance with section 5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice. This recording will be made available on Council's Website.

### **CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

Council's Code of Meeting Practice prohibits the electronic recording of meetings without the express permission of Council.

### **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

**Councillor Mahoney** declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item **CCL021-24 (ASS009-24) - Report of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 8 April 2024** for the reason that he is acquainted with one of the non-voting members who is a former work colleague. Councillor Mahoney will remain in the meeting and take part in consideration and voting on this item.

**Councillor Mahoney** declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item **CCL026-24 - Applications Pursuant to Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy - March 2024** for the reason that he is a member of Oatley Flora and Fauna Conservation Society which is the beneficiary of two fund applications. Councillor Mahoney will remain in the meeting and take part in consideration and voting on this item.

**Councillor Mahoney** declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item **NM037-24 - Glenlee** for the reason that he am a member of Oatley Flora and Fauna Conservation Society and Friends of Glenlee, which are advocating for the preservation and acquisition of the property. In addition, Friends of Glenlee has been named in the Director's Comment. Councillor Mahoney will remain in the meeting and take part in consideration and voting on this item.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

	Speaker	Report No.	Report Title
1	Mikall Chong (In person)	NM030-24	Appreciation to Kim Fenwick & Ray Kerridge of St. George Police Command and Opportunities for Safety Strategies
2	Adrian Prakash (In person)	NM030-24	Appreciation to Kim Fenwick & Ray Kerridge of St. George Police Command and Opportunities for Safety Strategies
3	Sonia Krcalovic (Remotely)	NM030-24	Appreciation to Kim Fenwick & Ray Kerridge of St. George Police Command and Opportunities for Safety Strategies
4	Susan Ghosn (In person)	QWN006-24	Update NM054-23 Establish Bushcare in Hurstville Ward
<u>Note:</u> It was noted that Councillor Ficarra left the Chambers at 07:29pm			
<u>Note:</u> It was noted that Councillor Ficarra returned to the Chambers at 07:30pm			
5	Adrian Polhill (In person)	QWN007-24	Synthetic Fields
6	Frank Wu (In person)	NM036-24	Establish Weekly Night Market in Hurstville
7	Sonia Rita Baxant (In person)	NM035-24	Plan to Increase Native Tree Cover
8	Matthew Allison (In person)	NM037-24	Glenlee
9	Dr Scott Wilson (Remotely)	QWN007-24	Synthetic Fields
10	Kim Wagstaff (In person)	NM041-24	Reducing Pollution in the Georges River
11	Megan Argent (Remotely)	NM037-24	Glenlee
12	Tony Baddour (Written Submission)	NM036-24	Establish Weekly Night Market in Hurstville
13	Kathryn Skelsey (Written Submission)	QWN012-24	Penshurst Park Community Request

Note: Speaker number 11, Megan Argent, was called twice during the Public Forum to speak and the call went to voicemail.

Note: It was noted that Councillor Smerdely left the Chambers at 07:53pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Smerdely returned to the Chambers at 07:59pm

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**CCL020-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 March 2024**  
(Report by Executive Services Officer)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Katris, Councillor Smerdely

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 March 2024, be adopted.

### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

## **MAYORAL MINUTE**

**MM004-24 Thanking Meryl Bishop for her Outstanding Service and Contribution to Georges River Council**  
(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Elmir)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Stratikopoulos left the Chambers at 08:02pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Stratikopoulos returned to the Chambers at 08:09pm

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

That Council acknowledge and thank Meryl Bishop, outgoing Director Planning & Environment, for her dedication and service to Georges River Council and the local community. We wish her every success in her future endeavours.

### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**MM005-24 Congratulate St George Business Chamber and Autism Community Network on an amazing Gala Dinner**  
(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Elmir)

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

That Council congratulate the St George Business Chamber and the Autism Community Network on a successful Gala Dinner.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihapahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**MM006-24 Update on Kempt Field**  
(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Elmir)

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

That Council thank the NSW Government for committing \$11.8 million towards the remediation of Kempt Field.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihapahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**MM008-24 Condolence Motion - Bondi Junction Attack 13 April 2024**  
(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Elmir)

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

- (a) That Council acknowledge the horrific events that unfolded at Bondi Junction on Saturday 13 April and send out our deepest sympathies to families who have been affected by this tragedy.
- (b) That Council write a letter to the Mayor of Waverley, Paula Masselos, on behalf of the Georges River community expressing our sympathies and acknowledging the resilience of the Waverley community to band together in response to the traumatic events.
- (c) That Council hold a minute's silence to honour the victims.
- (d) That Council acknowledge the incident at Christ the Good Shepherd Church in Wakeley on Monday 15 April and send our support to the church community who have been impacted.
- (e) That Council support the NSW Faith Affairs Council statement in response to the events at the Christ the Good Shepherd Church.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Elmir called for a minute's silence.

**MM009-24 Congratulations to Kogarah Lions Club on their 70th Anniversary**  
(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Elmir)

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

That Council acknowledge and congratulate the Lions Club on their dedicated service to the community of Georges River over the last 70 years.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**MM010-24 IPWEA Awards**  
(Report by Director, Assets and Infrastructure)

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

That Council congratulate the George River Council Assets and Infrastructure team for their achievements in attaining two highly commended awards in the 2024 IPWEA NSW & ACT Engineering Excellence Awards in Category 2: New or Improved Techniques and Category 5: Excellence in Road Safety.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**MM011-24 Optimising Use of Premium Facilities for Community Use**  
(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Elmir)

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

That the General Manager initiate a formal, comprehensive plan aimed at optimising community use and access to premium facilities. Updates on progress are to be reported to Council. Key

elements of the plan should include:

- i. Review of current policies to ensure inclusion of all relevant sites and eligibility criteria for access.
- ii. Fees and charges that differentiate, commercial and community use.
- iii. Budget to transparently report any increase subsidies.
- iv. Budget for expansion of the bookable program / keyless entry.
- v. Structural changes to make the relevant sites accessible including financial implications of doing so.
- vi. Communications plan developed for promotion of hireable spaces.

### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihapahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**MM007-24**      **Vale John Flowers**  
(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Elmir)

**RESOLVED:** The Mayor, Councillor Elmir

That Council notes the passing of Mr John Flowers and extend our deepest sympathies to his family.

### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihapahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

## **CONDOLENCES**

Councillor Konjarski expressed condolences for Peter Spanoudakis.

Mr Spanoudakis was born in the city of Thessaloniki, Greece, on 5 August 1944 and arrived in Australia in June 1962 and commenced work as a boilermaker and sheet metal worker, with particular expertise in industrial air conditioning.

Peter was passionate about football and was a very talented player in his own right. Peter married the love of his life, Susan, in 1966 and they went on to have two children, Manny and Patty.

Peter's love of football continued through his son Manny. Peter was the ideal mentor and role model to his children and grandchildren.

Peter's smile, sense of humour and empathy were admired by the many who knew him. He passed away surrounded by his family on 2 April 2024 after a short battle with cancer. Peter is



survived by his wife, Susan, son Manny, daughter Patty and six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Elmir called for a minute's silence.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CCL021-24 Report of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 8 April 2024**

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Katris left the Chambers at 08:31pm

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Mort

That the Assets and Infrastructure Committee recommendations for items ASS008-24 to ASS009-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

#### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

### **ASS008-24 OLDS PARK FIELD THREE PERIMETER FENCE**

(Report by Acting Manager Strategic Placemaking)

- (a) That Council receive and note the request for a perimeter fence around Olds Park Field Three.
- (b) That Council declines the request for the installation of a perimeter fence around Olds Park Field Three for the reasons outlined in this report.
- (c) That Council officers investigate and identify an engineering solution for the drain, if required, that is currently located around Olds Park Field Three to reduce any safety risk.

### **ASS009-24 REPORT OF THE GEORGES RIVER LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 APRIL 2024**

(Report by Coordinator Traffic and Transport)

That the recommendations contained within the minutes of the Georges River Local Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on 2 April 2024 be adopted by Council.

### **CCL022-24 Report of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 8 April 2024**

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Mort

That the Community and Culture Committee recommendations for items COM009-24 to COM012-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

## Record of Voting

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

### **COM009-24 QUARTERLY COMMUNITY PROPERTY REPORT - 1 JANUARY 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2024**

(Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)

That Council receive and note the Quarterly Community Property Report for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

### **COM010-24 OUTGOING SPONSORSHIP REQUEST GEORGES RIVER LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS**

(Report by Coordinator Events and Sponsorship)

That Council approve the Outgoing Sponsorship request of \$10,000 to become a major sponsor of the 2024 Georges River Local Business Awards.

### **COM011-24 GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL PUBLIC ART POLICY**

(Report by Coordinator Cultural Services)

- (a) That Council approve the revised draft Georges River Council Public Art Policy to be placed on public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days.
- (b) That a further report be submitted to Council on the feedback received during the exhibition period, together with any recommended changes to the draft Georges River Council Public Art Policy prior to adoption.

### **COM012-24 ADOPTION OF THE GEORGES RIVER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND ACQUISITION AREA STRATEGY**

(Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)

That Council adopts the Georges River Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Acquisition Area Strategy.

That Council note all actions recommended within this technical report are subject to further detailed investigation by Council officers, allocation of future budget and subsequent Council approval.

That Council note that 430 submissions were opposed to the Strategy's recommendations for Council to explore partial reclamation of golf courses as one of the avenues to contribute to the shortfall for active open space within the LGA.

That Council acknowledge that it has no short or long term plans to explore partial reclamation of golf courses to increase open space.

**CCL023-24 Report of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 8 April 2024**

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry

That the Environment and Planning Committee recommendations for item ENV016-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**ENV016-24 DRAFT PRINCIPAL CERTIFIER COMPLAINTS POLICY 2024**

(Report by Business Improvement Officer)

- (a) That the Council endorses the Draft Principal Certifier Complaints Policy 2024 for community consultation for a period of 60 days.
- (b) That a further report will be provided to Council following the exhibition period.

Note: It was noted that Councillor Katris returned to the Chambers at 08:33pm

**CCL024-24 Report of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 8 April 2024**

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar

That the Finance and Governance Committee recommendations for items FIN011-24 to FIN014-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED

**FIN011-24 INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 29 FEBRUARY 2024**

(Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting)

That the Investment Report as at 29 February 2024 be received and noted by Council.

**FIN012-24 DRAFT FRAUD AND CORRUPTION CONTROL POLICY AND SYSTEM**  
(Report by Head of Corporate Governance and Risk)

- (a) That Council approve the Fraud and Corruption Control System (Attachment 1) and Policy (Attachment 2) to be placed on public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days and for the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) to be provided an opportunity to review and comment.
- (b) That Council endorse for the Fraud and Corruption Control System (Attachment 1) and Policy (Attachment 2) to become effective after public exhibition if no submissions have been received.
- (c) That the General Manager be delegated authority to make minor administrative changes, if required.

**FIN013-24 2023/24 HALF YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023**  
(Report by Integrated Planning and Reporting Officer)

- (a) That Council receive and note the half yearly progress report July 2023 - December 2023.
- (b) That Council endorse the delivery program and operational plan items recommended for cancellation, being placed on hold, or altered as detailed in Attachment 1.
- (c) That a copy of the half yearly progress report July 2023 – December 2023 be published on Council's website.
- (d) That the General Manager be delegated authority to make minor editorial changes to the Half Yearly Progress Report prior to publishing on Council's website.

**FIN014-24 ENHANCE THE REPORTING AND LOGGING OF COMMUNITY REQUESTS**  
(Report by Chief Information Officer)

- (a) That Council continue the use and promotion of 'Log It / Fix It' system as the primary method to lodge service requests with Council, incorporating customer feedback to:
  - i. Develop additional user guides to be added to the 'Log It / Fix It' portal to improve customer ease in lodgement of enquiries.
  - ii. Review placement of the 'Log It / Fix It' on Council websites to increase usage of this primary method by customers.
  - iii. Better manage customer expectations in reporting issues to Council, in reviewing the current terminology and branding of the 'Log It / Fix It' to 'Report It' or similar.
  - iv. Assess and improve the usability of the Logit/Fix It on the Council website.
  - v. Test the functionality of the user experience on a mobile device to ensure the interface is mobile friendly.
  - vi. Improve multi lingual accessibility.
- (b) That Council evaluate the benefits and efficiencies associated with a customer response management system as part of the Enterprise System Review and includes the above improvements in the relevant scoping documents when it market tests.

## **FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

### **CCL025-24 Draft 2024/25 Operational Plan, 2022 - 2026 Delivery Program and Updated Resourcing Strategy** (Report by Integrated Planning and Reporting Officer)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris

- (a) That Council endorse for the purposes of public exhibition the attached Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, being the Draft 2024/25 Operational Plan including the Draft Budget, Fees and Charges, Delivery Program and Resourcing Strategy, noting the proposed changes to the Delivery Program.
- (b) That the Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents be approved for public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days.
- (c) That the General Manager be delegated authority to make formatting and minor editorial adjustments to the Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents.
- (d) That submissions received as part of the public exhibition of the Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, including the 2024/25 Draft Budget and Fees and Charges be presented to Council via a briefing, prior to the final adoption of the Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents at the June 2024 Council meeting.
- (e) That submissions received as part of the public exhibition of the Draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, including the 2024/25 Draft Budget and Fees and Charges be reported to the June 2024 Council meeting for consideration as part of the adoption of these documents.
- (f) That Council receive and note the financial sustainability risks, particularly in regard to increasing revenues and managing expenditure, to secure Council's long-term sustainability.
- (g) That Council approve the attached Draft Infrastructure Asset Management Policy to be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days.
- (h) That Council endorse the Draft Infrastructure Asset Management Policy to become effective after public exhibition, if no submissions have been received, and that the General Manager be delegated authority to make formatting and minor editorial adjustments, if required.

#### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**CCL026-24 Applications Pursuant to Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy - March 2024**

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg

That the following applications for funding, pursuant to the Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy, be approved:

- (a) CWF 62/23-24 – Application Not Eligible
- (b) CWF 63/23-24 - Application submitted by Councillor Ficarra on behalf of IRT - Peakhurst Retirement Village Residents and Friends Association in the amount of \$1,500.
- (c) CWF 64/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Mahoney on behalf of Lugarno Progress Association in the amount of \$632.50.
- (d) CWF65/23-24 – Application Not Eligible
- (e) CWF66/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Jamieson on behalf of 3 Bridges Mindful Dementia Care in the amount of \$1,500.
- (f) CWF67/23-24 – Application Not Eligible
- (g) CWF68/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Liu on behalf of St George & Sutherland Shire Table Tennis Association in the amount of \$500.
- (h) CWF69/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Mahoney on behalf of Lugarno Progress Association Incorporated in the amount of \$1,000.
- (i) CWF70/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Ambihaipahar on behalf of Anglican Parish of Peakhurst/Mortdale in the amount of \$2,000.
- (j) CWF71/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Landsberry on behalf of Oatley Flora and Fauna Conservation Society in the amount of \$1,000.
- (k) CWF72/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Landsberry on behalf of Carss Park Community Garden in the amount of \$600.
- (l) CWF73/23-24 – Application Not Eligible.
- (m) CWF74/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Ambihaipahar on behalf of Lugarno Progress Association in the amount of \$1,000.
- (n) CWF75/23-24 – Application submitted by Councillor Ambihaipahar on behalf of Oatley Flora and Fauna Conservation Society in the amount of \$784.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NOTICES OF MOTION****NM030-24 Appreciation to Kim Fenwick & Ray Kerridge of St. George Police Command and Opportunities for Safety Strategies**  
(Report by Councillor Liu)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Smerdely left the Chambers at 08:38pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Smerdely returned to the Chambers at 08:41pm

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Liu, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg

- (a) That Council thank St George Precinct Multicultural Community Liaison Officer, Kim Fenwick and retired St George Police Senior Constable Ray Kerridge of St George Police Command for their work in the community.
- (b) That Council continue to enhance the current working relationship with the St George Police Command and the Multicultural Community Liaison Officer in particular.
- (c) That Council hold quarterly meetings with St. George Police Area Command to provide opportunities for Council staff on safety strategies, Police officers on crime prevention, community relations and the local culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community (both new and existing community members) to work together for addressing safety issues and acting on solutions. These meetings will aid in continuous interagency collaboration and strengthen the relationship between Georges River Council, St George Police Area Command and community members.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM031-24 Congratulations to Amanda Reid**  
(Report by Councillor Mort)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mort, Councillor Landsberry

That Council congratulates St George Cycling Club's, Amanda Reid, on her recent World Championship title.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM032-24      Congratulations to Izzi Louison-Roe**  
(Report by Councillor Mort)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mort, Councillor Liu

- (a) That Council congratulates St George Athletic Club athlete, 16 year old Izzi Louison – Roe, on her NSW title after participating in the 2024 NSW Athletics Championships.
- (b) That Council congratulates St George Athletic Club's many outstanding athletes who performed through the current athletics' season.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM033-24      Sponsorship Agreement**  
(Report by Councillor Ambihaipahar)

**MOTION:** Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Landsberry

- (a) That Council notes the recent ABC investigation report on Netstrata's alleged business practices which has shed light on concerning practices within the strata management industry, including undisclosed fees, kickbacks, and conflicts of interest.
- (b) That the General Manager provides a report which outlines possible actions available and implications which may include (but not limited to) termination of Netstrata's naming rights to Jubilee Stadium. This report should also take in consideration findings by the NSW Department of Fair Trading once their investigation is completed.
- (c) That Council writes to the New South Wales Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading and the NSW Strata and Property Services Commissioner, urging them to address the urgent need for reform within the strata management industry to protect the interests of residents and ensure transparency, accountability, and fair dealing among strata management companies.

**AMENDMENT:** Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Stratikopoulos

- (a) That Council await the findings of the independent audit by the NSW Department of Fair Trading into the strata industry and the General Manager provide a report to Council on the findings
- (b) That Council writes to the New South Wales Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading and the NSW Strata and Property Services Commissioner, urging them to address the urgent need for reform within the strata management industry to protect the interests of residents and ensure transparency, accountability, and fair dealing among strata management companies.

**Record of Voting**

For the Amendment: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Katris, Councillor Liu, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos

Against the Amendment: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang



On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was eight (8) votes FOR and seven (7) votes AGAINST. The Mayor exercised his casting vote. The Amendment was carried.

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Stratikopoulos

- (a) That Council await the findings of the independent audit by the NSW Department of Fair Trading into the strata industry and the General Manager provide a report to Council on the findings.
- (b) That Council writes to the New South Wales Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading and the NSW Strata and Property Services Commissioner, urging them to address the urgent need for reform within the strata management industry to protect the interests of residents and ensure transparency, accountability, and fair dealing among strata management companies.

### Record of Voting

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Liu, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos

Against the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was eight (8) votes FOR and six (6) votes AGAINST. The Motion was carried.

### **NM034-24 Initiative to Improve Native Vegetation Cover** (Report by Councillor Mahoney)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry

- (a) That the General Manager promote the 'National Tree Day' through suitable channels to increase visibility and inform ratepayers about free native plant eligibility.
- (b) That the General Manager prepares a report on the costs and feasibility of holding a "Tree Forum" for the community, this event should ideally be scheduled around National Tree Day. The forum will cover topics such as:
  - i. The various advantages of planting trees
  - ii. The significance of preserving and increasing our tree cover
  - iii. Encouraging community involvement in tree planting activities
  - iv. The consequences for failing to follow tree management policies.

### Record of Voting

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM035-24 Plan to Increase Native Tree Cover**  
(Report by Councillor Mahoney)

Note: Councillor Smerdely left the Chambers at 9:26pm

Note: Councillor Stratikopoulos returned to the Chambers at 9:27pm

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry

That the General Manager compiles a report into the development and implementation of a plan to increase native tree cover in streets, parks, reserves and other open spaces, and in potential green corridors.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM036-24 Establish Weekly Night Market in Hurstville**  
(Report by Councillor Wang)

Note: Councillor Stratikopoulos returned to the Chambers at 9:29pm

Note: Councillor Smerdely returned to the Chambers at 9:30pm

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Wang, Councillor Liu

- (a) That the General Manager prepare a report evaluating the feasibility of establishing a weekly night market in Hurstville. The feasibility study to include responses to the following elements:
- i. Commercial arrangements (Council led or private sector led).
  - ii. Planning controls
  - iii. Day of the week / timing
  - iv. Controls to maximise local business opportunities
  - v. Public programming / live music / performance
  - vi. Promotion
  - vii. Security
  - viii. Cost and any initiatives that could be implemented in order to recover/recoup such costs
  - ix. Implementation / timing of delivery
  - x. Learnings from equivalent night markets
  - xi. Learnings from night markets across the Sydney Metropolitan Region
- (b) That Council translates the newly adopted Event Charter and Event Toolkit into the top three non-English languages in the Georges River LGA. This will facilitate opportunities for our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse [CALD] communities to deliver events in the LGA.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor

Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM037-24 Glenlee**  
(Report by Councillor Mahoney)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Liu left the Chambers at 09:41pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Liu returned to the Chambers at 09:43pm

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Katris

- (a) That the General Manager writes to the Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC, Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment and Minister for Heritage:
- i. to advise that 'Glenlee' has reportedly been sold, pending settlement.
  - ii. to request the urgent authorisation for access to the property by Council officers and/or its appointed consultants for the purposes of carrying out any inspections deemed necessary to assess the property for Aboriginal and natural heritage, and to confirm that Council has allocated \$50,000 for that purpose.
  - iii. to request the immediate protection of any Aboriginal objects and places located on the site in accordance with the provisions of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.
  - iv. to request the execution of the recommendations contained in the "Heritage Data Form" compiled by GML Heritage in their entirety, including:
    - a. a comprehensive conservation management plan for the site should be prepared to guide future uses and development of the site to ensure the retention and conservation of its heritage value.
    - b. further consultation be undertaken with the local Aboriginal community to better understand local social and intangible connections.
    - c. the Aboriginal objects held within the house be inspected (these were not sighted by GML or the MLALC), confirmed to be Aboriginal objects (or otherwise), and an attempt at understanding provenance be made.
- (b) That the General Manager writes to the Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC, Minister for Heritage requesting that an Interim Heritage Order be placed over the moveable objects, relics and artifacts located in the house, out buildings, boat shed and on the site.
- (c) That the General Manager writes to the new owners of "Glenlee" to request access to the property by Council officers and/or its appointed consultants for the purposes of carrying out any inspections deemed necessary to assess the property.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM038-24 Beautifying Georges River Gateway - Todd Park**  
(Report by Councillor Mort)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mort, Councillor Landsberry

That Council beautifies the Georges River Gateway location at Todd Park, at the intersection of Princes Highway and Kings Georges Road, to include:

- i. Updating the signage to include Georges River Council instead of Kogarah Municipal Council.
- ii. Reinstating the use of the flag poles behind the Todd Park signage.
- iii. Cleaning the sandstone Todd Park sign.
- iv. Updating signage on the Sandstone Wall at Carwar Avenue, Carss Park.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**NM039-24 Notification of Parking Fines**  
(Report by Councillor Ambihaipahar)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Landsberry

- (a) That Council implements a policy that prioritises the provision of written on the spot notifications to drivers upon the issuance of parking fines, where it is safe and legal to do so. This will afford drivers procedural fairness to allow an opportunity for them to capture evidence, such as (but not limited to) photographs, dash cam video footage and recall versions of events.
- (b) That Council investigates incorporating capturing a 'reason code' where a Print and Post parking fine is issued identifying why a written on the spot notification was not issued. The investigation should include how Council can record evidence to substantiate the 'reason code' such as (but not limited to) photographs, video, file notes etc.
- (c) That Council implement the following actions to improve information provided to drivers issued with a parking fine:
- (d) That the GRC website be updated to include information on how to view footage that may have been captured relating to an offence.
- (e) That Council contact Revenue NSW to determine if it is possible to amend standard detail on the back of the fine to include information on how to contact Council on how to obtain further evidence, including video footage, of the offence.
- (f) That Council write to Revenue NSW to request that fines issued for parking are sent as Push Notifications to vehicle owners via the Services NSW application.

**Record of Voting:**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort,

Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

Against the Motion: Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Katris

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was twelve (12) votes FOR and two (2) votes AGAINST. The Motion was CARRIED.

#### **NM040-24 Heritage Building Grants Program**

(Report by Councillor Ambihaipahar)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Konjarski left the Chambers at 10:19pm

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Ambihaipahar, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg

That Council considers including the Heritage Building Grants Program in the Financial Year 2024/25 budget.

#### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

#### **NM041-24 Reducing Pollution in the Georges River**

(Report by Councillor Mahoney)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Konjarski returned to the Chambers at 10:21pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Stratikopoulos left the Chambers at 10:21pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Stratikopoulos returned to the Chambers at 10:26pm

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort

That, in order to reduce pollution of the Georges River in the vicinity of Lime Kiln Bay:

- i. the General Manager compiles a report to consider plans for:
  - a. the refurbishment of the Lime Kiln Bay Wetlands system which flows from Dairy Creek into the river; and
  - b. the construction of any necessary upgraded or additional gross pollutant traps in order to capture items from stormwater flowing under Hurstville Golf Course into the river.
- ii. the General Manager prepares cost estimates for the necessary works.
- iii. Council seeks grant funding from relevant state and federal ministers, in order for these works to be completed.

#### **Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was

CARRIED.

**NM042-24 Dog Off-Leash Signage in Oatley Park**  
(Report by Councillor Ficarra)

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Liu

- (a) That Council notes the concerns and reports of residents walking dogs off-leash within Oatley Park, a designated wild life protection area.
- (b) That a Regulatory Signage Plan is developed, and signage subsequently installed, to aid effective enforcement of prohibited activities within Oatley Park.
- (c) The all signage complies with the relevant standards and guidelines.

**Record of Voting**

For the Motion: Mayor, Councillor Elmir, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Ficarra, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Katris, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was UNANIMOUS. The Motion was CARRIED.

**QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

**QWN006-24 Update on NM054-23 - Establish Bushcare Group in Hurstville Ward**  
(Report by Councillor Wang)

Answer published in the business paper.

Note: Councillor Wang asked a Question with No Notice to the Director Assets and Infrastructure “*What is the budget position to start research to establish a bushcare group in Hurstville*”. The Director took the question on notice. The response will be reported to the May 2024 Council Meeting.

**QWN007-24 Synthetic Fields**  
(Report by Councillor Mahoney)

Answer published in the business paper.

**QWN008-24 Status of Rona Street Peakhurst Footpath**  
(Report by Councillor Jamieson)

Answer published in the business paper.

**QWN009-24 Update on NM058-23: Mortdale Village Centre Parking**  
(Report by Councillor Jamieson)

Answer published in the business paper.

**QWN010-24 Update on Mortdale Streetscape**  
(Report by Councillor Jamieson)

Answer published in the business paper.

Note: It was noted that Councillor Konjarski left the Chambers at 10:46pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Katris left the Chambers at 10:46pm

**QWN011-24 Ellen Subway Pedestrian Crossing Notification**

(Report by Councillor Jamieson)

Answer published in the business paper.

**QWN012-24 Penshurst Park Community Requests**

(Report by Councillor Jamieson)

Answer published in the business paper.

Note: It was noted that the Director Assets and Infrastructure agreed to meet with Councillor Jamieson to respond to her additional questions.

Note: It was noted that Councillor Katris returned to the Chambers at 10:49pm

**CONCLUSION**

The Meeting was closed at 10:50pm

---

Chairperson