

AGENDA

Community and Culture Committee

Monday, 13 May 2024

6:00 PM

Dragon Room

Georges River Civic Centre

Hurstville



OATH OF OFFICE OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

All Georges River Councillors are reminded of their Oath of Office or Affirmation of Office made at the time of their swearing into the role of Councillor.

All Councillors are to undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Georges River Council area and are to act faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgement.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

All Georges River Councillors are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflict of interest (perceived or otherwise) in a matter being considered by Council or at any meeting of Council.

COMMUNITY AND CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING

ORDER OF BUSINESS

OPENING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Council acknowledges 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.

APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

REQUEST TO JOIN VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

PUBLIC FORUM

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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CONFIDENTIAL (CLOSED SESSION)

COM014A-24	Lease Agreement between Georges River Council and Olds Park Sports Club Limited (Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)	
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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Item: COM013-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee Meeting held on 8 April 2024

Author: Executive Services Officer

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Previous Minutes

COM013-24

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee Meeting held on 8 April 2024, be confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment [↓](#)1 Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee Meeting held on 8 April 2024



MINUTES

Community and Culture Committee

Monday, 08 April 2024

6.00 PM

Dragon Room

Georges River Civic Centre

Hurstville



PRESENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Lou Konjarski (Acting Chairperson), Councillor Ashvini Ambihaipahar, Councillor Kathryn Landsberry, Councillor Natalie Mort, Councillor Nick Smerdely (joined the meeting at 6.12pm), Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos, and Councillor Benjamin Wang (left the meeting at 6.19pm and did not return to the meeting).

COUNCIL STAFF

General Manager - David Tuxford, Director Community and Culture - Kristie Dodd, Manager City Life - Margaret Le, Manager Cultural Engagement and Library Services - Justin Yeomans, Manager Office of the General Manager - Vicki McKinley, Coordinator Programming and Operations - Andrew Williams, Sponsorship Specialist - Kathy Payne, General Counsel - James Fan, Team Leader Technology Business Support - Earl Santos, Executive Assistant to the Director Community and Culture - Franziska Mintus and Personal Assistant to Manager Cultural Engagement and Library Services - Billie Johnson (Minutes).

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

MOTION: Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Mort

That as the Community and Culture Committee Chairperson, Councillor Liu, is an apology for tonight's meeting, a vote be taken of the Councillors present, appointed to the Community and Culture Committee, to elect a Chairperson for this meeting.

That Councillor Konjarski assume the position of Chairperson for the Community and Culture Committee Meeting of 8 April 2024.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

OPENING

The Acting Chairperson, Councillor Konjarski, opened the meeting at 6.02 pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Acting Chairperson, Councillor Konjarski acknowledged the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. He paid his 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.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MOTION: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Stratikopoulos

That an apology on behalf of Councillor Liu be accepted and a Leave of Absence granted.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry,
Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

REQUEST TO ATTEND VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

There were no requests to attend via Audio Visual Link.

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING

The Acting Chairperson, Councillor Konjarski 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

There were no disclosures of interest made.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no registered speakers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

COM008-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee Meeting held on 11 March 2024

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Ambihaipahar

That the Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee Meeting held on 11 March 2024, be confirmed.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COM009-24 Quarterly Community Property Report - 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024
(Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Ambihaipahar

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

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

COM010-24 Outgoing Sponsorship request Georges River Local Business Awards
(Report by Coordinator Events and Sponsorship)

Note: Councillor Smerdely joined the meeting at 6.12pm.

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Wang, Councillor Landsberry

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

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

COM011-24 Georges River Council Public Art Policy
(Report by Coordinator Cultural Services)

Note: Councillor Wang left the meeting at 6.19pm and did not return to the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Mort

(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.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos

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

COM012-24 Adoption of the Georges River Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Acquisition Area Strategy (Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Mort

- (a) That Council adopts the Georges River Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Acquisition Area Strategy.
- (b) 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.
- (c) 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.
- (d) That Council acknowledge that it has no short or long term plans to explore partial reclamation of golf courses to increase open space.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Konjarski, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Mort, Councillor Smerdely, Councillor Stratikopoulos

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

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 6.30pm.

Acting Chairperson

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item: COM014-24 Minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee meeting held 4 April 2024

Author: Personal Assistant to Manager, City Life and Manager City Life

Directorate: Community and Culture

Matter Type: Committee Reports

COM014-24

RECOMMENDATION:

That the recommendations contained within the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 4 April 2024 be submitted to the Community and Culture Committee for consideration and to be adopted by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The recommendations contained within the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 1 February 2024 are submitted to the Community and Culture Committee for consideration and to Council for adoption.

BACKGROUND

2. At the meeting of Council on the 31 October 2022, the establishment of Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee (The Committee) was approved by Council for consideration and dissemination of information to local, regional, and state sporting bodies, as well as cross-code collaboration between local sporting bodies to achieve greater utilisation of facilities and fields.
3. The Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting was held on 1 February 2024 allowing members to attend in-person and/or via Teams.
4. Minutes of this meeting are now submitted to the Community and Culture Committee for consideration and for adoption by Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. No budget impact for this report.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/93153

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment [↓](#)1 Minutes - Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee 04 April 2024



MINUTES

Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee

Thursday, 04 April 2024

6.00pm

Dragon Room

Level 1, Georges River Civic Centre
Corner Dora and MacMahon Streets,
Hurstville



GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

Item: COM015-24 Georges River Council Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2

Author: Grants Officer

Directorate: Community and Culture

Matter Type: Committee Reports

COM015-24

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the funding recommendations resulting from Georges River Council Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2, as detailed in Attachment 1 to this report, be adopted.
- (b) That Council note that funds of \$523.00 not allocated in Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 be returned to general revenue as savings.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Council holds an annual program of Community Grants funding to partner with community groups and help meet identified community needs, as outlined in the Georges River Council Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032.
2. The budget for Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 is \$165,000.
3. This report seeks approval for the allocation of community grant funding to not-for-profit community groups and community organisations to meet program objectives and address priority community needs in the Georges River Council local government area.
4. In Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2, 32 eligible applications and 2 ineligible applications for funding were received, with request amounts totalling \$380,470.
5. Funding is recommended either full or partial support for 18 applications with a total proposed allocation of \$164,477.
6. The remaining unallocated funds of \$523.00 will be returned to general revenue as savings.
7. The funding recommendations are attached to this report, as detailed in Attachment 1.

BACKGROUND

8. The Georges River Community Grants Program allocates funds to meet program objectives and address priority community needs under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act (1993)* in an effective and equitable manner, based on the individual merits of each request.
9. The Georges River Council Grants and Donations Policy (2023) was adopted by Council on 23 October 2023 (COM031-23) and includes the program objectives, eligibility criteria and assessment process for the Community Grants Program.
10. The total allocated budget for Community Grants 2023-2024 is \$310,000.
11. The Community Grants 2023-2024 budget has been allocated as follows:

Grant Program	Allocated	Recommended	Approved
Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 1	\$150,000	\$130,215	\$130,215
Funds not allocated in Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 1 were allocated to Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 as per recommendations from report COM036-23.			
Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2	\$165,000	\$164,477	Pending
Micro Grants 2023-2024	\$10,000	Assessment in process	

COM015-24

12. Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 opened on 1 February 2024 and closed on 13 March 2024.
13. Council received 32 eligible applications, with funding requests totalling \$368,970.
14. Applications for funding were considered across two categories: Major Projects (up to \$25,000) and Small Projects (up to \$10,000).
15. Applications were assessed against a range of criteria including:
 - (a) the social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of each project,
 - (b) the organisation's capacity to manage funds, and
 - (c) the organisation's capacity to deliver and evaluate the project successfully.
16. Consideration was also given to projects aligning with identified community needs, and strategic alignment with the Community Strategic Plan and other Council plans and strategies.
17. An assessment panel of Council officers assessed the 32 eligible applications between 15 April and 24 April 2024.
18. The panel recommended either full or partial support for 18 applications with a total proposed funding allocation of \$164,477. This consisted of seven (7) projects in the Major Projects category to the value of \$89,144, and eleven (11) projects in the Small Projects category to the value of \$75,333.
19. No recommended applicants have outstanding audited financial statements, as per the requirement for organisations receiving grants, donations, sponsorships and/or subsidies above \$15,000 from Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

20. Recommended allocations are within the Georges River Council Community Grants Program budget allocation of \$310,000.
21. The total recommended funding allocation for Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 is \$164,477, with \$523.00 not allocated in Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 to be returned to general revenue as savings.
22. Additionally, the Micro Grants 2023-2024 Program was allocated a budget of \$10,000.
23. Successful grant applicants will be reminded of the requirement for audited financial statements for organisations with documented grants, donations, sponsorships and/or subsidies above \$15,000.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

24. Following recommendations from the audit of the Financial Assistance Program under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act (1993)*, Council resolved to discontinue the Community Grants Assessment Panel (CCL053-20). Consequently, if Council proposes to amend the officers' recommendations for Community Grants funding, Council should indicate a reason in accordance with the criteria in the Grants and Donations Policy (2023).
25. Further, Council faces a reputational risk if a project not aligned with Council's plans and strategies is awarded a grant. This is mitigated through a rigorous assessment process where all applications are assessed against the criteria outlined in Council's Grants and Donations Policy (2023) and Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 Guidelines.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

26. Individual Grant Meetings were held while the grant round was open to meet with the Grants Officer to discuss grant project ideas, the application process and eligibility criteria. Meetings were scheduled for 30 minutes either in-person or online. Thirty (30) Individual Grant Meetings were held.
27. Additionally, six Information Sessions, presented by Council's Grants Officer, were held while the grant round was open to build grant skills, knowledge, and capacity. Four sessions were held in-person at Hurstville Library, Clive James Library (Kogarah), and Mortdale Community Centre. Two sessions were held online via Zoom. Sessions were held at a variety of times, within and outside of business hours. 53 people registered to participate across all Information Sessions, with a 57% attendance rate.
28. Council offered free grant writing training. The training is a practical step-by-step guide with tools and checklists to apply for grants. Completing the training will strengthen generic grant application skills building community capacity to apply for grants with any potential funder. The online training is available on Council's website and can be completed at any time within 45 minutes. The training is provided in perpetuity by Win the Grant.
29. Council also offered two project planning workshops presented by an external facilitator, Natalie Bramble from Win the Grant to assist in developing well rounded grant projects with clear objectives and project plans. One workshop was held in-person at Hurstville Library and one workshop was held online via Zoom. 24 people registered to participate with a 54% attendance rate.
30. Council's Grant Programs have a 75 Net Promoter Score (NPS) based on 120 responses since July 2023. Respondents include attendees at grant events and information sessions as well as grant applicants. NPS is a metric that measures customer satisfaction and scores above 50 are considered excellent.
31. Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2, the Information Sessions and the Individual Grant Meetings were promoted via:
 - (a) Council's website - Community Grants, Micro Grants, Grants Help Hub and What's On pages;
 - (b) Council's social media platforms;
 - (c) Council's Community e-newsletter;
 - (d) three advertisements in the St George & Sutherland Shire Leader newspaper;

- (e) two advertisements in the St George and Sutherland Shire human services e-newsletter (SGS News);
 - (f) three entries in the Councillor Information Bulletin;
 - (g) three Grants Newsletter's distributed to 195 subscribers. The Grants Newsletter is a new initiative and is a Council designed and distributed Newsletter;
 - (h) an email to Council's current Advisory Committee members; and
 - (i) an email to the professional networks of the Community Capacity Building team.
32. Unsuccessful grant applicants are provided with the option to request feedback from Council's Grants Officer, to build grant writing capacity for future grant applications.
33. All successful grant recipients will be invited to further Council events to continue to build capacity of grant recipients, including an Orientation Workshop on receipt of funding and a Reflection and Storytelling event at the conclusion of the grant cycle.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/87729

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Georges River Council Community Grants 2023-2024 Round 2 - Summary of Applications (Confidential)

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (CLOSED MEETING)

Council's Code of Meeting Practice allows members of the public present to indicate whether they wish to make representations to the meeting, before it is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting dealing with any or all of the matters listed should or should not be considered in closed session.

RECOMMENDATION

That in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act 1993, the following matters be considered in closed Meeting at which the press and public are excluded.

COM014A-24 Lease Agreement between Georges River Council and Olds Park Sports Club Limited

(Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)

THAT in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act 1993, the matters dealt with in this report be considered in closed Council Meeting at which the press and public are excluded. In accordance with Section 10A(2) (d(ii)) it is considered the matter commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

THAT in accordance with Section 10D it is considered that if the matter were discussed in an open Council Meeting, it would on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

That in accordance with the provisions of Section 11(2) of the Act, the reports and correspondence relating to these matters be withheld from the press and public.