AGENDA

Council Meeting

Monday, 16 December 2024 7:00 PM

Dragon Room 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.

COUNCIL 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.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

PRAYER	
APOLOGIES	
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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Item: CCL095-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2024

- Author: Executive Services Officer
- Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Previous Minutes

RECOMMENDATION:

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

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment <u>1</u> Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2024

MINUTES

Council Meeting

Monday, 25 November 2024 7:00 PM

Dragon Room Civic Centre Hurstville GEORGES RIVER COUNC

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PRESENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Matthew Allison, Councillor Ashvini Ambihaipahar, Councillor Elaina Anzellotti, Councillor Tom Arthur, Councillor Elise Borg, Councillor Oliver Dimoski, Councillor Thomas Gao, Councillor Christina Jamieson, Councillor Kathryn Landsberry, Councillor Nancy Liu, Councillor Peter Mahoney, Councillor Natalie Mort, Councillor Leon Pun, Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos, and Councillor Ben Wang.

COUNCIL STAFF

General Manager – David Tuxford, Director Assets and Infrastructure – Andrew Latta, Director Environment and Planning – Joseph Hill, Director Community and Culture – Kristie Dodd, Director Business and Corporate Services – Danielle Parker, Manager, Office of the General Manager – Vicki McKinley, Executive Services Officer – Marisa Severino, General Counsel -James Fan, Executive Manager City Futures – Kent Stroud, Head of Technology – Garuthman De Silva and Technology Services Officer Earl Santos.

OPENING

The Mayor, Councillor Borg, opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Aunty Barb Simms delivered a heartfelt Welcome to Country to officially open the new Council's term.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

PRAYER

Pastor Andy Wallis, from Revival Life Centre, offered a prayer to the meeting.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence.

REQUEST TO ATTEND VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

There were no re`quests to attend via Audio Visual Link.

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING

The Mayor, Councillor Borg 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.

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DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Wang disclosed a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in item NM086-24 Hurstville Night Market, for the reason he is a member of Georges River Association and one of the speakers Mr Jun Qi was the number 4 of his 2024 council election team. Councillor Wang will remain in the meeting and take part in the consideration of this item.

Councillor Wang disclosed a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in item CCL090-24 Applications Pursuant to Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy, for the reason that he attends the St George Anglican Church of Australia Hurstville and he is the multicultural ambassador of the Salvation Army. Councillor Wang will remain in the meeting and take part in consideration of this item.

Councillor Wang disclosed a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in item NM092-24 Dashain and Tihar Festivals, for the reason that the speaker Kamal Sigdel for this motion was number 3 in his 2024 council election ticket. Councillor Wang will remain in the meeting and take part in the consideration of this item.

PHF	FOR	ПИ
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	Nomo	Donort No	Report Title
1	Name Predrag Gudeij (In person)	Report No. NM089-24	Installation of Roundabout at the intersection of Carrington Avenue and Warwick Street Hurstville
2	Michael Jothy (written submission)	NM086-24	Hurstville Night Market
3	Michelle Ford (written submission)	CCL086-24	NM081-24 Reconstruction of new Facility at Carss Park - Options for Funding
4	Hitesh Chawla (in person)	NM089-24	Installation of Roundabout at the Intersection of Carrington Avenue and Warwick Street Hurstville
5	Ruby Chen (in person)	QWN029-24	Update to Playgrounds at Woodville Park, Croot Park and Empress Reserve
6	Jun Qi (in person)	NM086-24	Hurstville Night Market
7	Theresa Kot (in person)	NM096-24	Roundabout – Colvin Avenue and Edward Street Carlton
8	George Efremidis (in person)	NM089-24	Installation of Roundabout at the Intersection of Carrington Avenue and Warwick Street Hurstville
9	Chrissy Antonopoulos (remotely)	NM095-24	Traffic Study – Park Road Carlton
10	Adrian Polhill (remotely)	NM099-24	Tree Management Policy Review
11	Janelle Cook (written submission)	CCL086-24	NM081-24 Reconstruction of new Facility at Carss Park – Options for Funding
12	Betty Wen (in person)	NM086-24	Hurstville Night Market
13	Nick Smerdely (written submission)	NM085-24	Promoting Gambling Harm Minimisation within Georges River
14	Sheridan Smith (in person)	CCL086-24	NM081-24 Reconstruction of new Facility at Carss Park – Options for Funding
15	Kim Wagstaff (remotely)	CCL092-24	T24/009 Donnelly Park Foreshore Protection and Environmental Enhancement

Susan Ghosn (in person)	QWN030-24	Timothy Park and Hurstville Interchange Park
Kamal Sigdel (in person)	NM092-24	Dashain and Tihar Festivals
Charlotte Mullens (in person)	QWN029-24	Update to Playgrounds at Woodville Park, Croot Park and Empress Reserve
Levko Romanovski (in person)	NM099-24	Tree Management Policy
Con Zergiotis (remotely)	NM099-24	Tree Management Policy
Dr Kate da Costa (written)	NM085-24	Promoting Gambling Harm Minimisation within Georges River
	Kamal Sigdel (in person) Charlotte Mullens (in person) Levko Romanovski (in person) Con Zergiotis (remotely)	Kamal Sigdel (in person)NM092-24Charlotte Mullens (in person)QWN029-24Levko Romanovski (in person)NM099-24Con Zergiotis (remotely)NM099-24Dr.Kate da Costa (written)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

CCL077-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 September

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Jamieson

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 September 2024, be adopted.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL078-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 14 October 2024

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 14 October 2024, be adopted.

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

MAYORAL MINUTE

MM027-24 Business Chamber South's Achievements and Upcoming Initiatives -Small Business Month

(Report by The Mayor, Councillor Borg)

RESOLVED: Mayor, Councillor Borg

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That Council congratulate Business Chamber South for their efforts and achievements and recognise the importance of strategic partnerships to drive the economic development of the region

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

MM028-24 Acknowledging the contributions to the Georges River community of long-term news photographers John Veage and Chris Lane (Report by The Mayor, Councillor Borg)

RESOLVED: Mayor, Councillor Borg

That Council acknowledge the dedication and service to our Local Government Area of both photographers.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Mort

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow the Mayor to present a certificate of recognition to John Veage and Chris Lane Meeting, the time being 8.21pm

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED: Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos

That Standing Orders be resumed, the time being 8.23pm

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski,

Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CONDOLENCES

There were no condolences for tonight's meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CCL079-24 Report of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 11 November 2024

(Report by Manager Office of the General Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Wang

That the Assets and Infrastructure Committee recommendations for items ASS028-24 to ASS029-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

ASS028-24 REPORT OF THE GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2024 (Report by Coordinator Traffic and Transport)

That the recommendations contained within the Minutes of the Georges River Council Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 November 2024 are submitted to the Assets and Infrastructure Committee for consideration and to Council for adoption.

ASS029-24 CLAYDON RESERVE, MOORE RESERVE AND DONNELLY PARK -PROPOSED 'NO CAMPING OR STAYING OVERNIGHT' SIGNAGE (Report by Coordinator Traffic and Transport)

That Council approve for the installation of signage stating 'No Camping or Staying Overnight (vehicles included), penalties may exceed \$1,000 under Section 632 of the Local Government Act 1993' at the following locations, per the plan in the report:

- (a) Claydon Reserve, Ramsgate Road, Sans Souci.
- (b) Claydon Reserve, Torwood Street, Sans Souci.
- (c) Moore Reserve Boat Ramp, Morshead Drive, Hurstville Grove.
- (d) Donnelly Park, Kyle Parade, Connells Point.

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CCL080-24 Report of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 11 November 2024

(Report by Manager Office of the General Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Stratikopoulos

That the Community and Culture Committee recommendations for items COM033-24 to COM055A-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

COM033-24 QUARTERLY COMMUNITY PROPERTY REPORT - 1 JULY 2024 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

(Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)

That Council receive and note the Quarterly Community Property Report for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 September 2024.

COM034-24 GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL LIBRARY USE AND MEMBERSHIP POLICY FOR ADOPTION

(Report by Coordinator Library Customer Experience)

That Council adopts the revised draft Georges River Council Library Use and Membership Policy after the draft Policy has been public exhibited for a period of not less than 28 days.

COM035-24 NAME PROPOSAL FOR CREATIVE STUDIO IN MERV LYNCH RESERVE, BEVERLY HILLS

(Report by Coordinator Library Operations)

That Council approve the name 'Beverly Hills Creative Studio' for the facility located in Merv Lynch Reserve, Beverly Hills.

COM036-24 DRAFT ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

(Report by Community Capacity Building Officer - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Portfolio)

- (a) That Council endorse the draft Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy (Attachment 1) to be placed on public exhibition for an extended period of no less than 56 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 revised draft Strategy prior to adoption.

COM037-24 EVENT GRANT - CHRISTMAS IN KOGARAH (Report by Events Officer)

That Council approves the event grant request of \$10,000 (\$9,450 financial and \$550 in kind

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value) to support the 'Christmas in Kogarah' event on Saturday 7 December 2024.

COM054A-24 REVIEW OF THE MANAGEMENT OF SYNTHETIC TURF FIELDS (Report by Manager City Life)

- (a) That Council receive and note the outcome of the review conducted and detailed within this confidential report.
- (b) That Council approve the direction for the management of synthetic turf sport fields as outlined in this report for a trial period of two years.
- (c) That Council officers communicate Council's decision with relevant stakeholders.
- (d) That a future report is presented to Council to outline the results of the two-year trial period for the management of synthetic turf sport fields

COM055A-24 NON-EXCLUSIVE LICENCE AGREEMENT - ST GEORGE DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB (INCORPORATED), HURSTVILLE OVAL FACILITIES (Report by Coordinator, Programming and Operations)

That Council approve for the General Manager to enter into a Non-Exclusive Licence agreement with St George District Cricket Club (Incorporated) for the use of Hurstville Oval facilities during each Summer Sporting Season for the term of the agreement and as further detailed within this report.

CCL081-24 Report of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 11 November 2024

(Report by Manager Office of the General Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

That the Finance and Governance Committee recommendations for items FIN033-24 to FIN057A-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

FIN033-24 INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 JULY 2024 (Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting)

That the Investment Report as at 31 July 2024 be received and noted by Council.

FIN034-24 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 23 MAY 2024 (CONFIRMED) AND 15 AUGUST 2024 (UNCONFIRMED) (Report by Chief Audit Executive)

(a) That the confirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 23 May 2024 be received and noted by Council.

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(b) That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 15 August 2024 be received and noted by Council.

FIN035-24 INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

(Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting)

That the Investment Report as at 31 August 2024 be received and noted by Council.

FIN036-24 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS STATISTICS 2024

(Report by Chief Audit Executive)

That Council receives and notes the report on the Code of Conduct Complaints Statistics for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

FIN037-24 INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

(Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting)

That the Investment Report as at 30 September 2024 be received and noted by Council.

FIN038-24 T24/002 LEASE OF CARSS PARK CAFE

(Report by Senior Procurement and Contracts Business Partner)

- (a) That Council accepts the commercial offering from By the Bay Café and Grill Pty Ltd, recommended for T24/002 Lease of Carss Park Cafe, for the annual commercial rent sum of \$100,000.00 (excluding GST), : as outlined the confidential attachments.
- (b) That the General Manager be authorised to execute the Lease with the successful Contractor on behalf of Council.
- (c) That Council inform the unsuccessful parties to the negotiation process of the resolution.

FIN039-24 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

(Report by Senior Business Performance Accountant)

- (a) That Council receives and notes the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ending 30 September 2024.
- (b) That Council adopt the proposed amendments to the 2024/25 Budget as outlined in the attachments.

FIN040-24 PROPOSED STRATEGIC RISKS 2024/25 AND UPDATE TO RISK APPETITE (Report by Head of Corporate Governance and Risk)

- (a) That Council receive and note the JLT Public Sector Risk Report, July 2024 (Attachment 1).
- (b) That Council endorse the proposed changes to the 2024/25 Strategic Risks outlined in Attachment 2 to be provided to Council for approval in November 2024:
 - i) Financial Sustainability
 - ii) Cyber Security
 - iii) Assets and Infrastructure

CCL095-24	CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2024
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- iv) People and Culture
- v) Climate Change
- vi) Reputation
- vii) Ineffective Governance
- viii) Social Cohesion
- ix) Housing Infrastructure
- x) Waste Management
- xi) Liability Claims
- xii) Business Continuity
- (c) That Council endorse the changes to Council's Risk Appetite Statement (Attachment 3).

FIN056A-24 TREE MATTER - MORTDALE

(Report by Head of Strategic Property)

- (a) That a boundary adjustment be undertaken at 10 Boundary Road, Mortdale by way of widening of the public road reserve to permit the tree on the corner of Boundary Road and Universal Street, Mortdale to be located wholly within the public road reserve.
- (b) That the General Manager be authorised to complete all necessary actions for the proposed road widening as outlined within this report, including signing any relevant documentation.
- (c) That all survey, legal and required fencing costs in this matter be met by Council.
- (d) That the subject tree be placed on the Significant Tree Register following completion of the road widening process.

FIN057A-24 PROPERTY MATTER - OPEN SPACE LAND ACQUISITION AND EMBELLISHMENT - KEITH STREET, PEAKHURST (Report by Senior Property Officer)

- (a) That Council purchase the property at 13 Keith Street, Peakhurst, being Lot 2 in Deposited Plan 27817 on the terms outlined in (confidential) Attachment 1 to this report.
- (b) That Council authorise the General Manager to execute the Contract for Sale, Transfer Document and all other associated documentation to complete the purchase of Lot 2 in Deposited Plan 27817 at 13 Keith Street, Peakhurst.
- (c) That in accordance with Section 31 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993, the land be classified as Community Land upon settlement.
- (d) That Council endorse the budget allocation and funding source as outlined within this report to progress the acquisition and embellishment of open space at Keith Street, Peakhurst as detailed in this report. Noting a further report and resolution of Council will be required prior to committing to purchase of 15 Keith Street, Peakhurst.

CCL082-24 Report of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 11 November 2024

(Report by Manager Office of the General Manager)

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RESOLVED: Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Liu

That the Environment and Planning Committee recommendations for items ENV039-24 to ENV044-24 with the exception of ENV043-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

ENV039-24 MANAGEMENT OF FERAL AND INFANT COMPANION ANIMALS POLICY (2024) - OUTCOME OF PUBLIC EXHIBITION

(Report by Manager Environment Health & Regulatory Services)

That Council adopt the Management of Feral and Infant Companion Animals Policy (2024) as attached to this report.

ENV040-24 KEEPING OF ANIMALS POLICY (2024) - OUTCOME OF PUBLIC EXHIBITION

(Report by Manager Environment Health & Regulatory Services)

That Council adopt the Keeping of Animals Policy (2024) as attached to this report.

ENV041-24 ENDORSEMENT OF STUDY AREAS AND OBJECTIVES FOR KOGARAH STRATEGIC CENTRE AND RIVERWOOD LOCAL CENTRE MASTER PLANS

(Report by Senior Strategic Planner)

That Council endorse the proposed study areas (shown in **Figures 2 and 4**) and objectives for the Kogarah Strategic Centre and Riverwood Local Centre master plans as contained within the body of this Report.

ENV042-24 ADOPTION GENERIC PLANS OF MANAGEMENT - AMENDMENT 1 (Report by Strategic Planner)

- (a) That Council adopt the exhibited Generic Plans of Management for Sportsgrounds, Parks, Natural Areas and General Community Use (Amendment 1) in accordance with section 40 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and section 3.23(6) of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.
- (b) That Council authorise the Director of Environment and Planning to make minor editorial modifications in the finalisation of Amendment 1 to the Generic Plans of Management for Sportsgrounds, Parks, Natural Areas and General Community Use.
- (c) That the adopted Amendment 1 to the Generic Plans of Management for Sportsgrounds, Parks, Natural Areas and General Community Use be forwarded to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – NSW Crown Lands for information.
- (d) That Amendment 1 to the Generic Plans of Management for Sportsgrounds, Parks, Natural Areas and General Community Use be placed on Council's website following adoption by Council.

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ENV044-24 COUNCIL RELATED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS POLICY (Report by Manager Development and Building)

- (a) That the Environment and Planning Committee endorse the draft Council Related Development Application Policy to be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 42 days to allow the community to comment on the draft Policy.
- (b) That a further report be presented to Council after the community consultation period has concluded advising Council of the outcome of the comments received before seeking Council to adopt the draft Policy.

ENV043-24 FINES AMENDMENT (PARKING FINES) BILL 2024

(Report by Manager Environment Health & Regulatory Services)

RESOLVED: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Pun

Note: Councillor Ambihaipahar was granted additional time to speak to the Motion.

- (a) That Council writes to the Minister for Finance the Honourable Courtney Houssos detailing the following regarding the Fines Amendment (Parking Fines) Bill 2024:
 - i. Acknowledging the passing of the *Fines Amendment (Parking Fines) Bill 2024* and confirming support for the reforms to ensure parking fines are issued in a fair and transparent manner. Further that this letter outlines consideration, as outlined in the report when establishing regulations and/or other relevant reforms.
 - ii. Preparing a data-driven letter that includes metrics from the April 2024 resolution to demonstrate the impact of current practices on costs, safety, and efficiency.
 - iii. Advocating for balanced reforms by highlighting the importance of measures that protect Council staff while ensuring fairness and transparency for residents.
 - iv. Presenting constructive alternatives to enhance the effectiveness of the parking fine system, including:
 - a. Introducing penalties for intimidating or threatening enforcement officers.
 - b. Expanding exemptions in situations where staff safety may be at risk.
 - v. Reinforcing procedural practices that enhance transparency, including but not limited to:
 - a. Continued reliance on video evidence to support fine issuance.
 - b. Clear opportunities for review and appeal to ensure fairness.
- (b) That a copy of the letter is posted on the Councillor Hub.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

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ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

CCL083-24 Mandatory Reporting to Council - Fire and Rescue NSW Defect Report - 17 Norman Street, Peakhurst (Report by Manager Environment Health & Regulatory Services)

RESOLVED: Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Landsberry

That the information be received and noted.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

CCL084-24 Report on Outstanding Council Resolutions (Period up to and including 30 September 2024) (Report by Executive Services Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar

That the report be received and noted.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL085-24 Tabling of Disclosure of Interests Returns of Councillors and Designated Persons

(Report by Senior Access to Information Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

That Council receives and notes the Tabling of Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors and Designated Persons.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL086-24 NM081-24 Reconstruction of new Facility at Carss Park - Options for funding

(Report by Director Business and Corporate Services)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

- (a) That Council approve the following funding strategies, in order of preference, to contribute \$10 million toward the construction of the Carss Park Aquatic Facility, acknowledging the need for contingency measures if operating surpluses are not achieved:
 - i. Commit to achieving operating surpluses of between \$2-3 million in the financial years 2025/26, 2026/27, and 2027/28 as the preferred method to fund the capital contribution without affecting other programs or services.
 - ii. If operating surpluses are insufficient:
 - a. Redirect \$3.3 million annually from the capital program to ensure funding flexibility while safeguarding high-priority projects.
 - b. If high-priority capital projects cannot be deferred, utilise minor asset disposal as a contingency to secure the necessary funds, minimising the impact on Council's broader financial position.
 - iii. Note that the 2025 Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan Review, upon completion, may result in a portion of funding being eligible for the aquatic facility or reimbursement to alternate funding sources in the second and third years of the contribution period.
- (b) That Council approve capping the total proposed contribution to the Carss Park Aquatic Facility at \$17.5 million, comprising \$500,000 for plans and studies undertaken, \$7 million for demolition and remediation undertaken, and a proposed construction contribution of \$10 million.
- (c) That Council establish a 'Carss Park Aquatic Facility Construction Contribution Reserve' to isolate any above-budget surplus unrestricted cash.
- (d) That the General Manager undertake the following actions to ensure compliance with the Office of Local Government (OLG) Capital Expenditure Guidelines:
 - i. Write to the NSW Government Office of Sport requesting a copy of the finalised business case.
 - ii. Notify the OLG of the capped contribution of \$17.5 million towards the Carss Park Aquatic Facility
 - iii. Undertake community consultation on the contents of this report for a period of not less than 42-days (due to the Christmas closedown), with the outcomes reported back to Council at the February 2025 Ordinary Meeting of Council.
- (e) That the General Manager communicate the outcomes of this report presented to the February 2025 Ordinary Meeting of Council to the NSW Government, Office of Sport and seek a commitment that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is finalised and agreed to by both parties prior to Council providing funding to the construction of the Carss Park Aquatic Facility.
- (f) That Council note the projected ongoing operating, depreciation, and maintenance costs for the proposed Carss Park Aquatic Facility and the requirement to resolve this in the

Georges River Co	uncil - Georges River Council - Council Meeting - Monday, 16 December 2024		
CCL095-24	CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2024	Page 22	
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2024	1 490 22	

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Long-Term Financial Plan in 2025/26.

(g) That Council notes its obligation under Section 8b of the Local Government Act, that Council spending should be responsible, sustainable, and focus on effective management, intergenerational equity, and balancing current costs with future impacts.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL087-24 Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2024

(Report by Chief Financial Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Stratikopoulos

That Council, in accordance with Section 419 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), receive and note the presentation of the audited General Purpose Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL088-24 Annual Report and State of Our City Report

(Report by Integrated Planning and Reporting Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Mahoney

- (a) That Council endorse the draft Georges River Council Annual Report 2023/24.
- (b) That Council endorse the State of Our City Report 2021-2024, appended to the draft Annual Report 2023/24.
- (c) That the draft Annual Report 2023/24 and State of Our City Report 2021-2024 be graphically designed, published to Council's website and forwarded to the Minister for Local Government.
- (d) That the General Manager be delegated authority to undertake any necessary minor administrative or editorial changes to the draft Annual Report 2023/24.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor

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Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL089-24 Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan End of Year Progress Report (Report by Integrated Planning and Reporting Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Mahoney

- (a) That Council receive and note the End of Year Progress Report July 2023 June 2024 (Attachment 1) of performance made towards Georges River Council's Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023/24.
- (b) That Council endorse the Delivery Program and Operational Plan items recommended for carry over, as detailed in Table 1: Proposed Carry Overs.
- (c) That a copy of the End of Year Progress Report July 2023 June 2024 be published on Council's website and a link provided to the Office of Local Government.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL090-24 Applications Pursuant to Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy -November 2024

(Report by Executive Services Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

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

- (a) CWF 1/24-25 Application submitted by Councillor Wang on behalf of St George's Anglican Church of Australia Hurstville in the amount of \$500.
- (b) CWF2/24-25 Application submitted by Mayor, Councillor Borg on behalf of Sans Souci Sea Devils Swim Club in the amount of \$1,000.
- (c) CWF3/24-25 Application submitted by Councillor Wang on behalf of The Salvation Army Hurstville in the amount of \$800.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

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ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

CCL091-24 T24/005 Operational Management Agreement Norm O'Neill Cricket Training Centre

(Report by Team Leader Procurement and Contracts Governance)

RESOLVED: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Arthur

- (a) That Council note the information provided within this report in relation to exploring options for repurposing the Norm O'Neill Cricket Training Centre facility.
- (b) That Council approve cessation of the negotiation process and note the reasons for an alternate approach to the market.
- (c) That Council endorse the seeking of expressions of interest from suitably experienced and qualified organisations.
- (d) That the General Manager is delegated authority to negotiate with the current operator to ensure interim operations continue while the expression of interest process is undertaken, and a long-term decision is finalised.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL092-24 T24/009 Donnelly Park Foreshore Protection and Environmental Enhancement

(Report by Team Leader Procurement and Contracts Governance)

RESOLVED: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Landsberry

- (a) That Council note the increase in required budget and additional funding to proceed with the Donnelly Park Foreshore Improvement Works.
- (b) That the revised project budget is approved, as detailed in this report.
- (c) That the additional funding allocations is approved, as outlined in this report.
- (d) That in accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council accepts the Tender from The Irrawong Trust trading as Total Earth Care Pty Ltd (ABN: 14 043 484 770) for T24/009 Donnelly Park Foreshore Protection and Environmental Enhancement for the contract sum of \$2,400,760.00 (excluding GST) as outlined in the confidential attachments.
- (e) That the General Manager be authorised to execute the Contract with the successful Contractor on behalf of Council.
- (f) That Council inform the unsuccessful Tenderers of the resolution.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

CCL093-24 T24/022 Peakhurst Park Modular Community Facility - Design, Development Approval and Construction (Report by Team Leader Procurement and Contracts Governance)

RESOLVED: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Ambihaipahar

- (a) That in accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council accepts the Tender from Modstruct Group Pty Ltd for T24/022 Peakhurst Park Modular Community Facility – Design, Development Approval and Construction for the contract sum of \$1,625,244 (excluding GST). as outlined in the confidential attachments.
- (b) That the General Manager be authorised to execute the Contract with the successful Contractor on behalf of Council.
- (c) That Council inform the unsuccessful Tenderers of the resolution.

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

CCL094-24 South Hurstville Kindergarten Start Strong funding changes (Report by Manager Community and Early Learning Services)

RESOLVED: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council approves the reduced gap fee for families at South Hurstville Kindergarten, reflecting the increase in funding from the NSW Government Department of Education's Start Strong funding program.
- (b) That Council notes that these are administrative changes to the Fees and Charges schedule 2024/25 and as such does not require public exhibition, as the reduction has no negative impact on families or Council's budget.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NOTICES OF MOTION

NM084-24 Kempt Field, Allawah

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(Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu)

RESOLVED: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Allison

- (a) That Council request the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to provide the Remediation Action Plan and Landscape Plan for the Kempt Field Park remediation project.
- (b) That Council request the inclusion of soft fall areas and increased future community amenity within the Landscape Plan.
- (c) That Council and the NSW Government work together to achieve the best outcomes for this project.

Record of Voting

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

NM085-24 Promoting Gambling Harm Minimisation within Georges River (Councillor Mahoney)

RESOLVED: Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Wang

Note: Councillor Mahoney was granted additional time to speak to his Motion.

- (a) That Council commits to promoting gambling harm minimisation to the Georges River community, especially vulnerable and marginalised communities, through partnership, education and stakeholder initiatives, in alignment with NSW Government Office of Responsible Gambling policies and priorities.
- (b) That the General Manager writes to:
 - (i) The Hon. David Harris, MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing to advocate for additional legislation about advertising on Sydney Trains by gambling companies;
 - (ii) The Hon. Jo Haylen, Minister for Transport, to request a review of the contractual arrangements between Sydney Trains and gambling companies.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

That Councillor Mahoney be granted additional time to his motion.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti,

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM086-24 Hurstville Night Market

(Councillor Wang)

RESOLVED: Councillor Wang, Councillor Ambihaipahar

- (a) That Council acknowledges the community-led Hurstville Night Market held on 5 October 2024.
- (b) That any future community-led Hurstville Plaza Night Markets be assessed and approval provided in line with Council's event application criteria, and/or in line with the draft Night Markets Feasibility Study (NM036-24)
- (c) That Council consult with the Economic Leadership Group, comprising key business and industry leaders from across the area, to shape the Economic Development Strategy, including exploring ways to stimulate the night-time economy, such as night markets.

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM087-24 Capital Expenditure Spending (Councillor Pun)

MOTION: Councillor Pun, Councillor Arthur

That Council adopts a staged approach to reporting capital expenditure by ward since 1 July 2016:

- i. At the next Ordinary Meeting, staff are to present a report detailing any readily available information on capital expenditure by ward, with an emphasis on projects funded through the Stronger Communities Fund (SCF). The report should include project details, locations by ward, amounts, current status, and any additional funding sources.
- ii. Commencing from the February 2025 Ordinary Meeting, progressive reports will be presented at each subsequent Ordinary Meeting. These reports will provide a comprehensive analysis of capital expenditure across all wards, including project details, locations, amounts, statuses, and additional funding sources. The reports will be grouped and scheduled as follows:
 - a. 2016–2017 (February 2025)
 - b. 2017–2021 (March 2025)
 - c. 2021–2024 (April 2025)

Note: the schedule above does not preclude earlier presentation of information if resourcing and

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ease of collation allow.

- iii. Staff investigate methods to regularly capture and report capital expenditure data by ward.
- Note: It was noted that Councillor Wang left the Chambers at 09:16pm
- Note: It was noted that Councillor Wang returned to the Chambers at 09:18pm

AMENDMENT: Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council note the below reports publicly available on Council's website outlining the expenditure of the Stronger Communities Fund;
 - i. COM023-19 Stronger Communities Fund Update (Community & Culture July 2019) which outlines;
 - 1. Community Grants Program allocation of \$1 million in grants to community organisations
 - 2. Major Project Program allocation of \$9 million in Round 1
 - Major Project Program allocation of \$9.5 million in Round 2
 - ii. COM003-23 Stronger Communities Funding Update July December 2022 (Community & Culture February 2023)
 - iii. CCL073-23 Stronger Communities Funding Update January-June 2023 (Council Meeting August 2023) which outlines;
 - 1. The final update on the Stronger Communities Fund projects as the grant funding has been expended.
- (b) That at the February 2025 Ordinary Meeting a report is provided outlining the Capital Projects Expenditure for new assets by ward for the period 2016-2024 for any Capital Projects over \$500,000.
- (c) For ongoing reporting purposes staff assign a ward category for new assets over \$500,000 and this is included in the relevant reports being;
 - i. The Annual Report and State of our City Report (12 month snapshot)
 - ii. Delivery Program and Operational Plan Progress Report (6-monthly report)
 - iii. That Council note a full schedule of capital works, broken down by ward, is publicly available via the Projects section of the Council's Website.

Record of Voting

For the Amendment:	Councillor Allison, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos
Against the Amendment:	Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Gao, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Pun, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Amendment was eight (8) votes FOR and seven (7) votes AGAINST. The Amendment was CARRIED and therefore became the Motion.

RESOLVED: Councillor Stratikopoulos and Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council note the below reports publicly available on Council's website outlining the expenditure of the Stronger Communities Fund;
 - i. COM023-19 Stronger Communities Fund Update (Community & Culture July 2019)

which outlines;

- 1 Community Grants Program allocation of \$1 million in grants to community organisations
- 2 Major Project Program allocation of \$9 million in Round 1
- 3 Major Project Program allocation of \$9.5 million in Round 2
- ii. COM003-23 Stronger Communities Funding Update July December 2022 (Community & Culture February 2023)
- iii CCL073-23 Stronger Communities Funding Update January-June 2023 (Council Meeting August 2023) which outlines;
 - 1. The final update on the Stronger Communities Fund projects as the grant funding has been expended.
- (b) That at the February 2025 Ordinary Meeting a report is provided outlining the Capital Projects Expenditure for new assets by ward for the period 2016-2024 for any Capital Projects over \$500,000.
- (c) For ongoing reporting purposes staff assign a ward category for new assets over \$500,000 and this is included in the relevant reports being;

i. The Annual Report and State of our City Report (12 month snapshot)

- ii. Delivery Program and Operational Plan Progress Report (6-monthly report)
- iii. That Council note a full schedule of capital works, broken down by ward, is publicly

available via the Projects section of the Council's Website.

Record of Voting

- For the Motion: Councillor Allison, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos
- Against the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Gao, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Pun, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Motion was eight (8) votes FOR and seven (7) votes AGAINST. The Motion was CARRIED.

NM088-24

Support for Multi Sport Stadium in Beverly Hills (Councillor Pun)

<u>Note</u>: A copy of a two page letter from Basketball NSW to Georges River Council, dated 25 November 2024, concerning development of a new indoor sports facility in the LGA, was tabled and a copy is ON FILE.

RESOLVED: Councillor Pun, Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council consider an operational budget bid of \$120,000 in the 2025/2026 budget for the development of a strategic and detailed business case for a multi-sport stadium in the local government area to accommodate the needs of the St George Basketball Association and other indoor sports.
- (b) That the business case assesses the feasibility of the best location for the stadium, based on the previously endorsed (ASS016-22) sites: the Johnny Warren Indoor Sports Centre, Penshurst and Tallawalla Reserve, Beverly Hills as well as any additional sites to be considered as a result of the Georges River Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment

and Acquisition Area Strategy (CINAAAS).

- (c) That Council apply for any grant funding opportunities that may arise to fund the strategic and detailed business case including liaising with Basketball NSW to finalise a funding agreement for a financial contribution towards the project.
- (d) Whilst the planning phase of the project is underway, Council officers apply for any state or federal grants that will assist towards the capital construction costs.
- (e) That Council acknowledge the letter of intent from Basketball NSW tabled at the 25 November Council meeting to make a financial contribution to the project.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM089-24 Installation of Roundabout at the Intersection of Carrington Avenue and Warwick Street, Hurstville (Councillor Pun)

RESOLVED: Councillor Pun, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

- (a) That Council complete the feasibility assessment currently underway to improve traffic facilities at the intersection of Carrington Avenue and Warwick Street, Hurstville.
- (b) That upon approval of the feasibility assessment by TfNSW, Council commence the detailed design phase of the recommended traffic facility improvements (that may include a roundabout or other solutions), with the detailed designs to be completed in the current 2024/25 financial year.
- (c) That the recommended detailed designs be reported to the Georges River Local Traffic Committee for consideration prior to construction.
- (d) That traffic facility improvements that comply with current Australian Standards and TfNSW Guidelines at this location be included for consideration in the 2025/26 Capital Works Program.
- (e) That Council write to the surrounding residents to inform them of the results of the outcome of feasibility study and when the report will go to the Traffic Advisory Committee.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM090-24 Community Venue Hire and Underutilisation of Council Venues (Councillor Wang)

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Note: It was noted that Councillor Gao left the Chambers at 09:53pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Arthur left the Chambers at 09:54pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Jamieson left the Chambers at 09:55pm

Note: It was noted that Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu left the Chambers at 09:56pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Gao returned to the Chambers at 09:57pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Arthur returned to the Chambers at 09:57pm

Note: It was noted that Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu returned to the Chambers at 10:00pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Jamieson returned to the Chambers at 10:00pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Landsberry left the Chambers at 10:00pm

RESOLVED: Councillor Wang, Councillor Pun

That the General Manager:

- (a) Reviews the utilisation rates of all twelve (12) Council-owned venues, including community halls and centres, with data aggregated by Ward and typical access fees. This review will inform proposed adjustments to fees and charges for the 2025-2026 budget, aimed at incentivising increased usage across the community.
- (b) Develops a targeted capacity-building program to increase awareness among culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. This program will focus on helping these communities understand the venue hire and grant processes, as well as access to subsidised properties, ensuring they are informed about available resources and venue options.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM091-24 Summer Water Safety Advocacy

(Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Landsberry returned to the Chambers at 10:02pm

RESOLVED: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort

That Council continues to promote and advocate for Summer Water Safety through various channels, including but not limited to official website, local newspaper and different social media outlets for both public water and private water safety.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

<u>Note</u>: Councillor Mort asked a Question with No Notice to the General Manager "could the kids Alive on line learn to swim program be included in the Get Summer Ready" communication campaign. The General Manager took the question on notice. The response will be reported to the December 2024 Council Meeting.

NM092-24 Dashain and Tihar Festivals

(Councillor Wang)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Ambihaipahar left the Chambers at 10:08pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Ambihaipahar returned to the Chambers at 10:09pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Mahoney left the Chambers at 10:09pm

RESOLVED: Councillor Wang, Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council acknowledges the significant contribution that the Nepali community makes to the Georges River Council local government area and celebrate the cultural significance of the Dashain and Tihar festivals to this community
- (b) That Council expresses its appreciation to the Nepali residents, who make up 15% of the population in Hurstville and 6% in the Georges River Council local government area, for their contributions to the local community and local business.
- (c) That Council explores ways to support future cultural events such as Dashain and Tihar, which celebrate the unique heritage of our multicultural community and strengthen social ties across diverse backgrounds.

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM093-24

Congratulations to Corey Blyth - 2025 Rhodes Scholarship (Councillor Mort)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Mahoney returned to the Chambers at 10:12pm

RESOLVED: Councillor Mort, Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council congratulate Corey Blyth of Kyle Bay, a distinguished student from the UNSW Law and Justice Faculty, on being awarded the prestigious 2025 Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford University.
- (b) That a formal letter of congratulation be sent to Mr Blyth from the Mayor congratulating him on his significant achievement.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy

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Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM094-24 Heavy and Long Vehicle Parking Locations (Councillor Landsberry)

RESOLVED: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council investigate suitable locations for heavy or long vehicles to park overnight in excess of the one (1) hour time limit.
- (b) That the results of this investigation be provided to a future Georges River Local Traffic Advisory Committee meeting.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM095-24 Traffic Study - Park Road Carlton

(Councillor Gao)

MOTION: Councillor Gao, Councillor Arthur

That Council take prompt action to initiate a traffic study on Park Road in Carlton to explore options for improving pedestrian safety and accessibility.

AMENDMENT: Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Mahoney

- (a) That Council undertake a traffic study on Park Road, Carlton, adjacent to St Cuthberts Church, to explore options for improving pedestrian safety and accessibility.
- (b) That the outcome of the traffic study be reported to the Georges River Local Traffic Committee for consideration.
- (c) That Council considers an operational budget bid in the 2025/2026 budget in order to undertake this study.

Record of Voting

For the Amendment: Councillor Allison, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

Against the Amendment: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Gao, Councillor Pun

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on the Amendment was ten (10) votes FOR and five (5) votes AGAINST. The Amendment was CARRIED and therefore became the Motion.

RESOLVED: Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Mahoney

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- (a) That Council undertake a traffic study on Park Road, Carlton, adjacent to St Cuthberts Church, to explore options for improving pedestrian safety and accessibility.
- (b) That the outcome of the traffic study be reported to the Georges River Local Traffic Committee for consideration.
- (c) That Council considers an operational budget bid in the 2025/2026 budget in order to undertake this study.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM096-24 Roundabout - Colvin Avenue and Edward Street, Carlton (Councillor Gao)

RESOLVED: Councillor Gao, Councillor Arthur

- (a) That Council undertake a holistic traffic assessment of Edward Street to assess;
 - i. vehicle speeds from Tanner Avenue to Princes Hwy
 - ii. traffic volumes (comparing them to volumes recorded before and after the completion of the Aldi building)
 - iii. parking restrictions outside Aldi to ensure safety

iv. Transport for NSW crash data

- (b) That the outcome of the traffic assessment, identifying the best solutions to improve safety and address residents speeding concerns, be reported to the Georges River Local Traffic Committee for consideration.
- (c) That as per previous Council officer recommendation, this study commences 6-months after the occupation of the residential flat building on the southern corner of Edward Street and Princes Hwy in order to provide an accurate reflection of the 'new' traffic volumes and conditions in the area.
- (d) That as part of the traffic study, Council seeks community feedback via Your Say on concerns with traffic in the area.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM097-24 Recreational Infrastructure - Anglo Square Park, Carlton (Councillor Gao)

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Note: It was noted that Councillor Pun left the Chambers at 10:39pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Pun returned to the Chambers at 10:40pm

RESOLVED: Councillor Gao, Councillor Arthur

That a future report is provided to Council;

- i. detailing permitted works that can take place at Anglo Square Park in Carlton
- ii. that outlines the scope of a feasibility study and community consultation plan to determine any future recreational infrastructure upgrades, including consideration of a basketball half-court in the park.
- iii. outlining estimated costs required to undertake the feasibility study and community consultation

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM098-24 Traffic Concerns during E-waste Drop-off Events at Mortdale Depot (Councillor Anzellotti)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Stratikopoulos left the Chambers at 10:43pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Stratikopoulos returned to the Chambers at 10:48pm

RESOLVED: Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Ambihaipahar

- (a) That Council acknowledge the significant concerns raised by residents of Roberts Avenue, Lorraine Street, Stanley Street, and surrounding areas, as well a local business owner on Depot Road, regarding the negative impact on traffic flow during the E-Waste Drop-Off events at the Mortdale Depot.
- (b) That Council conduct a revised traffic management plan to evaluate the current traffic management measures in place during E-Waste Drop-Off events including:
 - i. The impact of these events on traffic congestion, particularly on Roberts Avenue, which is already a known traffic bottleneck.
 - ii. The impact on access to local businesses along Depot Road and surrounding streets. Potential recommendations for improving traffic flow, including but not limited to alternate routes, event scheduling, or enhanced traffic management measures.
 - iii. Review of VMS signage which could possibly notify residents to travel an alternate route to avoid being caught up in the traffic overflow, given the popularity of the event.
 - iv. Consideration to notifying business and residence within the impacted area in writing, rather than relying on social media announcements.
 - v. Ensuring that a revised traffic plan takes into consideration the experiences of local residents and business owners who have reported significant delays and traffic overflow, with some residents experiencing delays of up to 45 minutes to access their

properties, even if they are not participating in the E-Waste Drop-Off service.

vi. Writing to all affected residents and businesses on Roberts Avenue, Lorraine Street, Stanley Street, Depot Road, and nearby areas of the outcomes of the revised traffic study, including any recommendations for future management of traffic during these events.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

NM099-24 Tree Management Policy Review (Councillor Landsberry)

Note: It was noted that Councillor Wang left the Chambers at 10:59pm

Note: It was noted that Councillor Wang returned to the Chambers at 11:02pm

MOTION: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Jamieson

That the Director of Assets and Infrastructure initiates a review of the Tree Management Policy to address ongoing concerns relating to the impact of Tallowwood trees on residents, private property, and Council infrastructure.

AMENDMENT: Councillor Mahoney, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

(a) That the Director of Assets and Infrastructure initiates a review of the Tree Management Policy to address ongoing concerns relating to the impact of Tallowwood trees on residents, private property, and Council infrastructure.

- (b) The review should include specific details such as:
 - i. Asset value of the Tallowwood Trees in the LGA
 - ii. Their contribution to urban cooling
 - iii .How much carbon they have, and will, drawdown during their life time
 - iv. Biodiversity they support
 - v. Recommendation that they are included in the significant tree register

Record of Voting

For the Amendment: Councillor Allison, Councillor Dimoski, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort

Against the Amendment: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

On being PUT to the meeting, voting on this Amendment was five (5) votes FOR and ten (10) votes AGAINST. The Amendment was LOST. The Motion was then PUT to the meeting.

RESOLVED: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Jamieson

That the Director of Assets and Infrastructure initiates a review of the Tree Management Policy

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to address ongoing concerns relating to the impact of Tallowwood trees on residents, private property, and Council infrastructure.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

PROCEDURAL MOTION - EXTENSION OF TIME

RESOLVED: The Mayor, Councillor Borg and Councillor Allison

That at this time being 11.00pm an extension of time be granted up until 11.15pm.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Allison, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Anzellotti, Councillor Arthur, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang

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

QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

QWN028-24 Housing Reforms (Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu)

Answer published in the business paper.

QWN029-24 Update to Playgrounds at Woodville Park, Croot Park and Empress Reserve (Councillor Wang)

Answer published in the business paper.

QWN030-24 Timothy Park and Hurstville Interchange Park (Councillor Wang)

Answer published in the business paper.

QWN031-24 Jubilee Avenue Traffic Study (Councillor Gao)

Answer published in the business paper.

QWN032-24 Update on NM074-24 and NM078-24 Narwee Shopping Centre (Councillor Ambihaipahar)

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Answer published in the business paper.

QWN033-24 Codes of Conduct Costs

(Councillor Ambihaipahar)

Answer published in the business paper.

- <u>Note</u>: Councillor Ambihaipahar asked a Question with No Notice and two follow up questions to the Chief Executive Auditor,
- Q1: What is the make-up of the figures provided in the business paper for QWN033-24, which totalled \$347,311? Was it the spend on external Investigators?
- A: Yes, it's all external investigators.
- Q2: I noted in the response that it didn't include staff time and that was on the basis that we didn't have data for the period that was requested. Do you know what periods we do have data for staff time spent on code of conduct investigations?
- Q3: Are we able to provide an actual amount just for transparency in that response on how much has been spent on staff time for that period of time?

The further questions were taken on notice.

The responses will be reported to the December 2024 Council Meeting.

QUESTIONS WITH NO NOTICE

QNN005-24 Question asked at the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting - 11 November 2024 (Report by Head of Strategic Property)

Answer published in the business paper.

QNN006-24 Question asked at the Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting - 11 November 2024

(Report by Manager Strategic Placemaking)

Answer published in the business paper.

QNN007-24

Question asked at the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting - 11 November 2024

(Report by Manager Strategic Planning)

Answer published in the business paper.

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 11:08pm

Chairperson

MAYORAL MINUTE

Item: MM029-24 PRO-AM Golf Day

Mayor: The Mayor, Councillor Borg

BACKGROUND

After a five-year hiatus, the Georges River Council Pro Am made a triumphant return to Hurstville Golf Course in October 2024. The event attracted 200 players and was regarded as a resounding success.

Thanks to the generous support of local Registered Clubs, sponsors, players and the organising committee including Lions Club of Lugarno who worked tirelessly to ensure the day ran smoothly, the event raised \$20,000 for the St George & Sutherland Medical Research Foundation. This internationally recognised organisation conducts groundbreaking research, and the funds raised will contribute to its extensive grant program. Council is honoured to support such a vital cause.

Over the past two decades, Council's Charity and Pro-Am Golf Days have raised more than \$500,000, with this year's proceeds once again benefiting the St George & Sutherland Medical Research Foundation. The ongoing participation of sponsors and players, many of whom have supported the event since its inception, underscores the strong community backing for these initiatives.

Preparations are already underway for the next event, the Annual Georges River Council Charity Golf Day, scheduled for Friday, 7 March 2024, at Hurstville Golf Course. Council looks forward to continuing this tradition of community support and collaboration.

MOTION:

That Council congratulates the Pro-Am Organising Committee on another successful event, raising \$20,000 for St George & Sutherland Medical Research Foundation and notes the continued contribution of the Lions Club of Lugarno.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item: MM030-24 Kogarah RSL Sub-branch Youth Club

Mayor: The Mayor, Councillor Borg

BACKGROUND

I would like to honour and celebrate the remarkable contributions and dedication to community service of Caringbah resident Jenny Sammut. She has been the long-standing leader of the Kogarah RSL Sub-Branch Youth Club, a voluntary role she passionately excelled at for 35 years.

For over four decades, the Kogarah RSL Sub-Branch Youth Club has been a cornerstone of our community, providing opportunities for young people to learn, grow, and connect. Established in 1962, its mission was clear: to create a space where boys—and shortly after, girls—could engage in meaningful activities such as gymnastics, swimming, cricket, marching bands, and dance classes. The club not only cultivated physical skills but also fostered lifelong friendships and a strong sense of community.

Throughout its history, the club embraced inclusion, offering accessible and affordable programs to families. More recently, it introduced specialised gymnastics classes for children with special needs, ensuring that all kids had a place to thrive.

The club's involvement extended beyond sports, with members honouring returned servicemen and women annually during the Kogarah RSL Sub-Branch ANZAC Day service. These acts of respect and gratitude further strengthened its ties to our community and its traditions.

This year marks the end of an era for the Youth Club, making the difficult decision of closing its doors after 40 years. It held its final Annual Display and Presentation Day on December 1st and is holding a farewell Christmas party today. While its closure is a poignant moment, the legacy it leaves behind is profound.

At the heart of this legacy stands Jenny Sammut, who has served as the Club Superintendent and volunteer manager for an extraordinary 35 years. Jenny's leadership has been instrumental in shaping the club into a beacon of inclusion and opportunity. Under her guidance, the club reached its peak, serving over 240 children and evolving to focus on recreational and competitive gymnastics, including the beloved "Jellybeans" special needs class.

After speaking with Jenny, we learnt that her most memorable moment over the years was seeing her Jellybeans special needs class come out on stage and do their performance with all children at the club. That's her greatest achievement. She's still in contact with some of the families today. All those years ago, their children started out in gymnastics under her wing as five-year-olds, and now are thriving as young adults.

Her priority was to make sure she and the club provided a safe environment where the children could make the best of their abilities. She also made sure it was an environment where children from different needs, backgrounds and religions learnt about friendship and being responsible.

Her biggest takeaway from her experiences in those 35 years was humility. She recognised every child is special and different, has their own special needs, has a special way of communicating. Jenny believed all children can learn to the best of their abilities given the right environment for them to thrive in.

She did it all for her love of the children.

Jenny gave her heart and soul to the youth club, and its community, all the while holding her full-time position teaching children with special needs and raising her own family.

As a humble leader she said she is deeply grateful to the families that have been part of this journey and the countless committee members who volunteered their time and energy to make the club a success.

Jenny's passion, resilience, and unwavering commitment have left an indelible mark on the hearts of our community.

To honour Jenny's tireless dedication and her extraordinary impact, I am proud to present her with a Mayoral Achievement Certificate. Jenny embodies the spirit of community service, and her heartfelt contributions will resonate for years to come.

MOTION:

- (a) That Council congratulate Kogarah RSL Sub-branch Youth Club on their 40 years of dedicated service to the community.
- (b) That Council thank and present Jenny Sammut who has led the Club for the past 35 years with a Mayoral Achievement Certificate in recognition of this service.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item: MM031-24 Oatley Lions Club Christmas Market Day

Mayor: The Mayor, Councillor Borg

BACKGROUND

The Oatley Lions Club Christmas Market Day, held on Saturday, 23 November 2024, was a resounding success.

Since its charter in 1977, the Oatley Lions Club has been dedicated to serving the local community and beyond. This year's event brought together residents, local schools, and not-for-profit organisations to celebrate the spirit of giving and to support those in need.

Blessed with fine weather, the market day fostered a vibrant and enjoyable atmosphere. The Oatley Lions Club raised an impressive \$10,000, which will go towards supporting their various community service projects. Additionally, local community groups in attendance collectively raised over \$12,000 for their individual charitable causes, marking a significant achievement for the broader community.

MOTION:

That Council congratulate the Oatley Lions Club on their successful Christmas Market Day Event and thank all volunteers for their tireless service to the community.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Item: CCL096-24 Report of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024
- Author: Integrated Planning and Reporting Officer
- **Directorate:** Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Assets and Infrastructure Committee recommendations for items ASS030-24 to ASS031-24, as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following Committee recommendations for items ASS030-24 to ASS031-24 are submitted to Council for determination.

The recommendations were made by the Assets and Infrastructure Committee at its meeting on 9 December 2024.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ASS030-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024 (Report by Executive Services Officer)

That the Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024, be confirmed.

ASS031-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Georges River Council Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on 3 December 2024 (Report by Executive Services Officer)

That the Minutes of the Georges River Council Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on 3 December 2024, be confirmed.

FILE REFERENCE D24/343011

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

Georges River Co 2024	uncil - Georges River Council - Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL096-24	REPORT OF THE ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

NED

GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

MINUTES

AMUT **Assets and Infrastructure Committee**

Monday, 09 December 2024 7:00 PM

Waratah Room INCONFIRM **Georges River Civic Centre Hurstville**

Georges River Co 2024	uncil - Georges River Council - Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL096-24	REPORT OF THE ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

CCL096-24 REPORT OF THE ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

PRESENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Ashvini Ambihaipahar (Chairperson), Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos and Councillor Wang.

COUNCIL STAFF

Director Assets and Infrastructure - Andrew Latta, EA to the Director, Assets and infrastructure – Rachelle McGrath (minutes), Executive Services Officer – Nickie Paraskevopoulos and Mark Tadros – Technical Support Officer.

OPENING

The Chairperson, Councillor, Ambihaipahar opened the meeting at 7.02pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson, Councillor Ambihaipahar 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.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

That an apology be accepted for Councillor Anzellotti.

MOTION: Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

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 Chairperson, Councillor Ambihaipahar 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.

Georges River Council - Georges River Council - Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December 2024 CCL096-24 REPORT OF THE ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9

DECEMBER 2024

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest made.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no registered speakers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ASS030-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024 (Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Wang, Councillor Mort

That the Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024, be confirmed.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang.

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

ASS031-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Georges River Council Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on 3 December 2024 (Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Liu, Councillor Dimoski

That the Minutes of the Georges River Council Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on 3 December 2024, be confirmed.

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Wang.

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

<u>Note</u>: The following Question with No Notice was asked by Councillor Pun with regard to TAC096-24 : 73 Ponyara Road Beverly Hills.

Q1. Could Council officers provide further details on whether this is a work zone or what the proposed work zone is in relation to?

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 7.06pm

Georges River Council - Georges River Council - Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December 2024 REPORT OF THE ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 CCL096-24 DECEMBER 2024

Minutes of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

[Appendix 1]

Chairperson, Ashvini Ambihaipahar

erson of the second sec (in accordance with Clause 18.5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, these Minutes have been signed by the Chairperson of the 10 December 2024 meeting)

Item: CCL097-24 Report of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

- Author: Executive Services Officer
- Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Community and Culture Committee recommendations for items COM039-24 to COM060A-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following Committee recommendations for items COM039-24 to COM060A-24 are submitted to Council for determination.

The recommendations were made by the Community and Culture Committee at its meeting on 9 December 2024.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

COM039-24 MINUTES OF THE SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 14 NOVEMBER 2024

(Report by Director Community and Culture)

That the recommendations contained within the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 November 2024 be submitted to the Community and Culture Committee for consideration and to be adopted by Council.

COM040-24 REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY 2023-2033

(Report by Executive Manager City Futures)

That Council:

- (a) Notes the Office of Local Government requirement and maintains the existing Georges River Council Community Engagement Strategy 2023-2033.
- (b) Approves a formal consultation of the Georges River Council Community Engagement Strategy 2023-2033 to be undertaken between July to October 2025.

COM041-24 DRAFT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY 2024

(Report by Executive Manager City Futures)

That Council:

- (a) Endorses the draft Community Engagement Policy 2024.
- (b) Places the draft Community Engagement Policy 2024 on public exhibition for a period of 56 days for community consultation.

COM042-24 EVENT GRANT - GREEK EPIPHANY FESTIVAL 2025 (Report by Events Officer)

That Council approves the event grant request of \$19,840 (\$15,000 financial and \$4,840 in kind value) to support the 'Epiphany Greek Festival' on Sunday 12 January 2025.

COM043-24 COMMUNITY GRANTS 2024-2025 ROUND 1

(Report by Grants and Project Officer)

That the funding recommendations resulting from Georges River Council Community Grants 2024-2025 Round 1, as detailed in Attachment 1 to this report, be adopted.

COM060A-24 OUTCOME OF INVESTIGATION WORKS AT 38 HUMPHREYS LANE HURSTVILLE

(Report by Manager, Cultural Engagement and Library Services)

That Council:

- (a) Receive and note the findings of the preliminary investigation works at 38 Humphreys Lane, Hurstville; and
- (b) Resolve that 38 Humphreys Lane, Hurstville is not a suitable location for a library service.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/346923

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

Georges River Cou 2024	ncil - Georges River Council - Community and Culture Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL097-24	REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

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GEORGES RIVER COUNCII

MINUTES

Community and Culture Committee

Monday, 09 December 2024 6:00 PM

INCONFIRMED MINUT **Dragon Room Georges River Civic Centre** Hurstville

Georges River Council - Georges River Council - Community and Culture Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December 2024	
CCL097-24	REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

PRESENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Landsberry, (Chairperson), Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Councillor Mort and Councillor Wang.

COUNCIL STAFF

General Manager – David Tuxford, Director Community and Culture - Kristie Dodd, Executive Manager City Futures – Kent Stroud, Manager City Life - Margaret Le, Manager Cultural Engagement and Library Services – Justin Yeomans, Manager Community and Early Learning Services – Jodi Tweed, Coordinator Community Capacity Building - Alexis Drevikovsky, Coordinator Communications and Engagement – Catherine James, Grants Officer – Ben Taylor, Manager Office of the General Manager - Vicki McKinley, Executive Services Officer – Marisa Severino, Technology Business Support Officer – Brendan Thorpe, and Executive Assistant to the Director Community and Culture – Billie Johnson (Minutes).

OPENING

The Chairperson, Councillor Landsberry, opened the meeting at 6.00pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson, Councillor Landsberry acknowledged the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Custodians of all lands, waters and sky in the Georges River area. She paid her 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

That an apology be accepted for Councillor Anzellotti.

MOTION: Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, 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 Chairperson, Councillor Landsberry 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.

Georges River Co 2024	uncil - Georges River Council - Community and Culture Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL097-24	REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

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

COM038-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024 (Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Wang, Councillor Arthur

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

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COM039-24 Minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee meeting held 14 November 2024

(Report by Director Community and Culture)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mort, Councillor Gao

That the recommendations contained within the Minutes of the Georges River Council Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 November 2024 be submitted to the Community and Culture Committee for consideration and to be adopted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

COM040-24 Review of the Community Engagement Strategy 2023-2033 (Report by Executive Manager City Futures)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Wang, Councillor Mort

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

That Council:

- (a) (a) Notes the Office of Local Government requirement and maintains the existing Georges River Council Community Engagement Strategy 2023-2033.
- (b) (b) Approves a formal consultation of the Georges River Council Community Engagement Strategy 2023-2033 to be undertaken between July to October 2025.

(c) Record of Voting

(d)

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

COM041-24 Draft Community Engagement Policy 2024

(Report by Executive Manager City Futures)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Allison, Councillor Mort

That Council:

- (e) (a) Endorses the draft Community Engagement Policy 2024.
- (f) (b) Places the draft Community Engagement Policy 2024 on public exhibition for a period of 56 days for community consultation.

(g) Record of Voting

(h)

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

COM042-24 Event Grant - Greek Epiphany Festival 2025

(Report by Events Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Arthur, Councillor Wang

That Council approves the event grant request of \$19,840 (\$15,000 financial and \$4,840 in kind value) to support the 'Epiphany Greek Festival' on Sunday 12 January 2025.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

COM043-24 Community Grants 2024-2025 Round 1 (Report by Grants and Project Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang

That the funding recommendations resulting from Georges River Council Community Grants 2024-2025 Round 1, as detailed in Attachment 1 to this report, be adopted.

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

PROCEDURAL MOTION CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (CLOSED SESSION)

At this stage of the meeting, time being 6.21pm, the Chair, Councillor Landsberry, advised that the meeting would move into Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A of the Local Government Act 1993.

Accordingly, members of the press and public are excluded from the Closed Session and access to the correspondence relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session will be withheld.

This action was taken to allow discussion of the following item:

COM060A-24 Outcome of Investigation Works at 38 Humphreys Lane Hurstville (Report by Manager, Cultural Engagement and Library Services)

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 contains 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.

The Chair, Councillor Landsberry asked the Director Community and Culture if any representations had been received from the public that the item should not be discussed in Closed Session.

The Director replied that no representations had been received in relation to the item in Closed Session.

Councillor Landsberry asked if there were any members of the public gallery who would like to speak on the reasons the Committee proposes to consider the item in Closed Session.

MOTION: Councillor Wang, Councillor Mort

That in accordance with the Section 10A Clause 2 of the Local Government Act 1993, the

COM060A-24 – Outcome of Investigation Works at 38 Humphreys Lane Hurstville

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

CLOSED CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

CONSIDERATION OF CONFIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

COM060A-24 Outcome of Investigation Works at 38 Humphreys Lane Hurstville (Report by Manager, Cultural Engagement and Library Services)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Wang, Councillor Allison

That Council:

- (i) (a) Receive and note the findings of the preliminary investigation works at 38 Humphreys Lane, Hurstville; and
- (j) (b) Resolve that 38 Humphreys Lane, Hurstville is not a suitable location for a library service.
- (k) Record of Voting
- (I)

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

PROCEDURAL MOTION RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION: Councillor Wang, Councillor Arthur

That the meeting revert to Open Session, the time being 6.32pm

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

 Georges River Council - Georges River Council - Community and Culture Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December 2024

 CCL097-24
 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024

 [Appendix 1]
 Minutes of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

Page 58

OPEN SESSION CONFIRMATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mort, Councillor Arthur

That the recommendations from the Closed Session be confirmed as recommendations of the Committee.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Dimoski, Councillor Gao, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu, Councillor Mort, Councillor Wang.

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

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 6.34pm.

JNCON

Chairperson, Kathryn Landsberry (in accordance with Clause 18.5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, these Minutes have been signed by the Chairperson of the 10 December 2024 meeting)

CCL098-24

Item: CCL098-24 Report of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

- Author: Executive Services Officer
- Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Environment and Planning Committee recommendations for items ENV046-24 to ENV047-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following Committee recommendations for items ENV046-24 to ENV047-24 are submitted to Council for determination.

The recommendations were made by the Environment and Planning Committee at its meeting on 9 December 2024.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

ENV046-24 ANNUAL UPDATE - PROGRESS TOWARDS NET ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS TARGET

(Report by Manager Environment Health & Regulatory Services)

- (a) That Council note the progress made in financial year FY23/24 toward meeting the target of net zero carbon emissions in Council's operations by 2025.
- (b) That Council's determination of the use of national and/or international carbon offsets be deferred until December 2025 after:
 - i. Council has undertaken an independent assessment of its emissions scope by July 2025 and sought confirmation of the emissions data used to date in Council's energy and emissions reporting; and
 - A market assessment has been completed to compare the costs of purchasing internal or national offsets and presented to council in a further report, expected prior to December 2025.
- (c) That Council supports the expedition of the Fleet Transition Plan with the goal to reduce fleet related emissions as an organisational priority.
- (d) That Council note the increase of gas usage in Council's operations and supports FY25/26 budget bids to investigate the transition of gas assets to electric to reduce emissions.
- (e) That Council note budget bids will be submitted in February 2025 for the 25/26 operational budget using available market pricing closer to the time of submission for the purchase of carbon offsets by December 2025 and for operational projects that may be identified to further reduce fleet and gas related emissions as outlined within this Report.

ENV047-24 T24/005 RESIDENTIAL ELECTRONIC (EWASTE) DROP-OFF EVENTS (Report by Team Leader Procurement and Contracts Governance)

- (a) That in accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council accepts the Tender that is recommended for T24/010 Residential Electronic (e-waste) Drop-Off Events, as outlined in the confidential attachments.
- (b) That the General Manager be authorised to execute the Contract with the successful Contractor on behalf of Council.
- (c) That Council inform the unsuccessful Tenderers of the resolution.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/343006

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment **1**

Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

Georges River Co 2024	uncil - Georges River Council - Environment and Planning Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL098-24	REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

CCL098-24 Attachment 1

MINUTES

Environment and Planning Committee

Monday, 09 December 2024 7:00 PM

Dragon Room Georges River Civic Centre, Hurstville



Georges River Co 2024	uncil - Georges River Council - Environment and Planning Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL098-24	REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024

UNCONFIRMEDMINUTES

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

CCL098-24 REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

PRESENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councillor Elise Borg (Mayor), Councillor Peter Mahoney (Chairperson), Councillor Matthew Allison Councillor Tom Arthur, Councillor Christina Jamieson, and Councillor Kathryn Landsberry.

COUNCIL STAFF

Director Environment and Planning – Joseph Hill, Manager Development & Building – Carine Elias, Manager Office of the General Manager – Vicki McKinley, Executive Services Officer – Marisa Severino, Chief Information Officer - Brendan Scott and Team Leader Technical Services Mark Tadros.

OPENING

The Chairperson, Councillor Mahoney, opened the meeting at 7.01pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson, Councillor Mahoney 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.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence.

REQUEST TO ATTEND VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

There were no requests to attend via Audio Visual Link.

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING

The Chairperson, Councillor Mahoney 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.

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

PUBLIC FORUM

ITEM	SPEAKER
ENV046-24 Annual Update – Progress towards Net Zero Carbon	
Emissions Target	Adrian Polhill

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

ENV045-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024 (Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Landsberry, Councillor Jamieson

That the Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024, be confirmed.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Mahoney, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENV046-24 Annual Update - Progress towards Net Zero Carbon Emissions Target (Report by Manager Environment Health & Regulatory Services)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Allison, Councillor Jamieson

- (a) That Council note the progress made in financial year FY23/24 toward meeting the target of net zero carbon emissions in Council's operations by 2025.
- (b) That Council's determination of the use of national and/or international carbon offsets be deferred until December 2025 after:
 - i. Council has undertaken an independent assessment of its emissions scope by July 2025 and sought confirmation of the emissions data used to date in Council's energy and emissions reporting; and
 - ii. A market assessment has been completed to compare the costs of purchasing internal or national offsets and presented to council in a further report, expected prior to December 2025.
- (c) That Council supports the expedition of the Fleet Transition Plan with the goal to reduce fleet related emissions as an organisational priority.
- (d) That Council note the increase of gas usage in Council's operations and supports FY25/26 budget bids to investigate the transition of gas assets to electric to reduce emissions.
- (e) That Council note budget bids will be submitted in February 2025 for the 25/26 operational budget using available market pricing closer to the time of submission for the purchase of carbon offsets by December 2025 and for operational projects that may be identified to further reduce fleet and gas related emissions as outlined within this Report.

Georges River Council - Georges River Council - Environment and Planning Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December 2024 CCL098-24 REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9

CCL098-24 REPORT OF THE ENVIRONME DECEMBER 2024

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Mahoney, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry

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

ENV047-24 T24/005 Residential Electronic (eWaste) Drop-Off Events

(Report by Team Leader Procurement and Contracts Governance)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Allison, Councillor Landsberry

- (a) That in accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council accepts the Tender that is recommended for T24/010 Residential Electronic (e-waste) Drop-Off Events, as outlined in the confidential attachments.
- (b) That the General Manager be authorised to execute the Contract with the successful Contractor on behalf of Council.
- (c) That Council inform the unsuccessful Tenderers of the resolution.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Mahoney, The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Allison, Councillor Arthur, Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Landsberry

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

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 7:30pm.

eter n

Chairperson, Peter Mahoney

(in accordance with Clause 18.5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, these Minutes have been signed by the Chairperson of the 10 December 2024 meeting)

Item: CCL099-24 Report of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

- Author: Executive Services Officer
- Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Finance and Governance Committee recommendations for items FIN042-24 to FIN045-24 as detailed below, be adopted by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following Committee recommendations for items FIN042-24 to FIN045-24 are submitted to Council for determination.

The recommendations were made by the Finance and Governance Committee at its meeting on 9 December 2024.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- FIN042-24 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD 15 AUGUST 2024 (CONFIRMED), 28 OCTOBER 2024 (CONFIRMED) AND 14 NOVEMBER 2024 (UNCONFIRMED) (Report by Chief Audit Executive)
- (a) That the confirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 15 August 2024 and 28 October 2024 be received and noted by Council.
- (b) That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 14 November 2024 be received and noted by Council.
- FIN043-24 INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2024 (Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting)

That the Investment Report as at 31 October 2024 be received and noted by Council.

FIN044-24 QUARTERLY COMMERCIAL PROPERTY PORTFOLIO REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2024 (Report by Senior Property Officer)

That Council receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio, for the period ending 30 June 2024.

FIN045-24 QUARTERLY COMMERCIAL PROPERTY PORTFOLIO REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024 (Report by Senior Property Officer)

That Council receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio, for the period ending 30 September 2024.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/343016

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ATTACHMENTS

Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 9 Attachment **1** December 2024

Georges River Cou 2024	ncil - Georges River Council - Finance and Governance Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL099-24	REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

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MINUTES

Finance and Governance Committee

Monday, 09 December 2024 6:00 PM

Waratah Room Georges River Civic Centre Hurstville



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Georges River Co 2024	uncil - Georges River Council - Finance and Governance Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL099-24	REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

PRESENT

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor, Councillor Elise Borg, Councillor Christina Jamieson (Chairperson), Councillor Ashvini Ambihaipahar, Councillor Leon Pun, Councillor Peter Mahoney, and Councillor Sam Stratikopoulos.

COUNCIL STAFF

Director Business and Corporate Services - Danielle Parker, Chief Finance Officer - Scott Henwood, Chief Information Officer - Brendan Scott, Chief Audit Executive - Steven Baker, General Counsel - James Fan, Senior Property Officer - Kristen O'Grady Head of Strategic Property - Bernard Morabito, Executive Services Officer - Nickie Paras, IMT Administration Officer - Garima Jasoria (Minutes), Team Leader Technology Business Support - Mark Tadros.

OPENING

The Chairperson, Councillor Jamieson, opened the meeting at 6:01 pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson, Councillor Jamieson 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.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence.

REQUEST TO ATTEND VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

MOTION: Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Ambihaipahar

That Councillor Pun be granted permission to join the meeting via Audio Visual Link.

Record of Voting

For the Motion:

Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

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

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING

The Chairperson, Councillor Jamieson 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.

Georges River Cor 2024	uncil - Georges River Council - Finance and Governance Committee Meeting - Monday, 16 December
CCL099-24	REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2024
[Appendix 1]	Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

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

FIN041-24 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024 (Report by Executive Services Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Stratikopoulos, Councillor Mahoney

That the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2024, be confirmed.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIN042-24 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee - Minutes of Meetings held 15 August 2024 (Confirmed), 28 October 2024 (Confirmed) and 14 November 2024 (Unconfirmed) (Report by Chief Audit Executive)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mahoney, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

- (a) That the confirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 15 August 2024 and 28 October 2024 be received and noted by Council.
- (b) That the unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 14 November 2024 be received and noted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

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

FIN043-24 Investment Report as at 31 October 2024

(Report by Senior Financial Accountant - Reporting)

RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Ambihaipahar

[Appendix 1] Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024

That the Investment Report as at 31 October 2024 be received and noted by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

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

FIN044-24 Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio Report for Period Ending 30 June 2024

(Report by Senior Property Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Mahoney, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

That Council receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio, for the period ending 30 June 2024.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

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

FIN045-24 Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio Report for Period Ending 30 September 2024

(Report by Senior Property Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor, Councillor Borg, Councillor Stratikopoulos

That Council receive and note the contents of this report in relation to the Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio, for the period ending 30 September 2024.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Councillor Jamieson, Councillor Ambihaipahar, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor Pun, Councillor Stratikopoulos, The Mayor, Councillor Borg

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

CONCLUSION

The Meeting was closed at 6:09 pm.

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Chairperson, Christina Jamieson

(in accordance with Clause 18.5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, these Minutes have been signed by the Chairperson of the 9 December 2024 meeting)

CCL100-24

FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

Item: CCL100-24 Notice of Intention to Vary Existing Performance Improvement Order

Author: General Counsel

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Finance and Governance

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Minister for Local Government's Notice of Intention to Vary an Existing Performance Improvement Order dated 21 November 2024 is noted by Council.
- (b) That the Media Policy be amended by the deletion of clause 7.2.
- (c) That the General Manager is instructed to respond to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with the proposed response in **Attachment 2** to this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Council received correspondence on 21 November 2024 from the Honourable Ron Hoenig MP, Minister for Local Government (Minister), which enclosed a Notice of Intention to vary a Performance Improvement Order issued on 21 June 2021 (Existing PIO).
- 2. The correspondence in effect states that while the Minister is satisfied that Council has addressed the matters in the Existing PIO, he proposes to vary the Existing PIO to create a new set of obligations (**Proposed PIO**) as at **Attachment 1**.
- 3. A proposed response to the Proposed PIO subject to Council's resolution to adopt this response is at **Attachment 2** which sets out why the Proposed PIO is considered unwarranted in the circumstances, uncertain and inappropriate, and should therefore not be accepted by Council.

BACKGROUND

- 4. Council, through the General Manager and the Mayor, received correspondence on 21 November 2024 from the Minister.
- 5. The correspondence enclosed a Notice of Intention to vary a Performance Improvement Order issued on 21 June 2021.
- 6. The Existing PIO was issued by the Hon Shelly Hancock in her capacity as the Minister for Local Government and required Council to address a number of governance issues as well as imposing specific requirement on particular councillors. The Existing PIO required, in effect, that:
 - (a) Councillors refrain from acting contrary to the Code of Conduct by making allegations of wrongdoing of other Council officials outside the Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct;
 - (b) That certain Councillors refrain from seeking information relating to investigations into their conduct; and
 - (c) Council undertake a further assessment of the adequacy of systems and protocols for maintaining confidentiality of information, and address any such inadequacies.

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- 7. The correspondence from the Minister enclosing the Proposed PIO states that the Minister is satisfied that Council has addressed those matters in the Existing PIO, however has become "concerned about Council's implementation of its Media Policy" and under the Proposed PIO, proposes to vary the Existing PIO to create a new set of obligations pursuant to s 438C(2A) of the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act).
- 8. The terms of the Proposed PIO are:

Council is required to undertake the following actions to improve its performance:

- 1) Georges River Council is ordered not to apply or attempt to apply any existing legislation, regulation, policy or code that impedes the right of a councillor's ability to communicate about political matters, which includes council-related matters unless such legislation, regulation or code is necessary for a purpose that is compatible with the system of government and democracy in Australia, and only if they are suitable, reasonably necessary and proportionate in achieving that.
- 2) Council amends its Media Policy to remove clause 7.2 creating a mandatory obligation to register media contracts. Council is to amend its Policy by the second meeting after this order is received.
- 4) The relevant Council staff (including those who may communicate with councillors), to receive training on the role of councillors and their responsibilities in supporting councillors in the exercise of their role.
- 9. The reasons for the Proposed PIO are set out in the document (Attachment 1).
- 10. The Minister's correspondence invites submissions in response to the Proposed PIO within 28 days (18 December 2024).
- 11. A proposed response to the Proposed PIO subject to Council's resolution to adopt this response is at **Attachment 2** which sets out why the Proposed PIO is considered unwarranted in the circumstances, uncertain and inappropriate; and should not be accepted by Council.
- 12. The proposed response also notes that Council's Media Policy was amended to include clause 7.2 as a result of Council resolution CCL040-20 on 22 June 2020 (Attachments 3 and 4), and that Council's Media Policy is otherwise the same as the Office of Local Government's Model Media Policy. Should Council resolve not to adopt recommendation (b) and instead retain clause 7.2 of the Media Policy, then the highlighted text of the proposed response will be deleted.
- 13. If the Proposed PIO is issued, Council is required to:
 - (a) cause such document to be published on the Council's website.
 - (b) provide the Minister with written reports on compliance with the PIO and actions taken at bi-monthly intervals, no later than two months from the commencement of the PIO.
- 14. The Proposed PIO states that the consequences of non-compliance may result in the Minister considering the following:
 - (a) Issuing a further PIO;
 - (b) Issuing a Compliance Order under s 438HA of the LG Act; or
 - (c) Temporarily suspending the Council under Chapter 13, Part 7 of the LG Act.

CCL100-24

15. If the Minister issues the Proposed PIO, the Minister may appoint one or more persons as a temporary adviser to the Council. A temporary adviser may be appointed on the recommendation of the Council or on the Minister's own initiative, but only after the Minister has considered whether the appointment will, in the opinion of the Minister, assist the Council to comply with, or implement actions under, the PIO issued: s 438H(3).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 16. There are no immediate financial implications associated with the proposed response to the PIO.
- 17. In the event that the Proposed PIO is issued and a temporary adviser is appointed by the Council pursuant to s 438G(3), such temporary advisers must be paid a salary from the Council's funds as determined by the Council (in the case of an adviser appointed on the recommendation of the Council).

RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 18. At the meeting on 25 November 2024, Council resolved to endorse the proposed changes to the 2024/2025 Strategic Risks with 12 key risks identified.
- 19. The issuing of the Proposed PIO may affect the following Strategic Risks:
 - (a) Strategic Risk 4 People and Culture: Council's ability to attract and be able to continually develop and retain a capable, qualified and appropriately skilled workforce may be affected if Council is the subject of a Performance Improvement Order.
 - (b) Strategic Risk 6 Reputation: Council's identity, brand and standing may be negatively impacted by a Performance Improvement Order, reducing Council's ability to engage in sound decision-making and being able to take strategic action whilst maintaining essential services and support for the community.
- 20. The deletion of clause 7.2 of the Media Policy may affect Strategic Risk as follows:
 - (a) Strategic Risk 7 Ineffective Governance: The removal of a register of media contact may affect Council's ability to ensure compliance with relevant legislative, statutory, regulatory and policies and procedures. Particularly, a register of media contact promotes accountability and transparency in that the community can know which Council Officials have approached or been approached by media organisations and on particular issues.
- 21. A register of media contacts enables Council's communications staff to identify where media have requested engagement with Councillors once such media contact is registered. Councillors can then be actively supported by Council staff, such as through the provision of speaking points and factual background on a given issue. As a risk to Council's operations, the removal of a mandatory obligation to register media contact may reduce the ability of Council staff to actively support Councillors in their engagement with media, and also consequently pose risks to the consistency of messaging from Council. This risk can however be mitigated by Council's Media Policy.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

22. Community engagement on the Proposed PIO and the proposed amendment to the Media Policy is not required under Council's Community Engagement Strategy.

FILE REFERENCE D24/337090 ATTACHMENTS

Attachment <u>1</u> Signed Proposed Performance Improvement Order

2013 Alasbe	
Attachment <u>J</u> 2	Proposed response to Proposed Performance Improvement Order
2017 Adaber	
Attachment <u>J</u> 3	Extract of Minutes of Council Meeting 22/06/20 - CCL040-20
Attachment <u>1</u> 4	Treatment of Confidential Information at Georges River - FIN024-20
200 Karba	

Local Government Act 1993

Section 438A

Proposed Variation of a Performance Improvement Order

I, the Honourable Ron Hoenig MP, Minister for Local Government, do, by this order under section 438A and 438C of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), propose to require Georges River Council, for the reasons specified in Schedule 1 below, to undertake the actions described in Schedule 2 below within the period specified.

The Hon. Ron Hoenig, MP. Minister for Local Government

SCHEDULE 1

Reasons for Variation of Order – section 438C(2A) of the Act

In June 2021, the then Minister for Local Government issued a performance improvement order to Georges River Council (**PIO**). I am satisfied that the requirements of the PIO have been adequately dealt with. I propose to vary the PIO to remove those requirements. I propose to vary the PIO to include the requirements set out in schedule 2 for the reasons set out below. In my view, any one of these reasons are significant enough on their own to justify issuing the variation to the PIO.

Failure to comply with legislative responsibilities (referring to cl 413D(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

- 1) Council staff have unreasonably sought to impose restrictions on a councillor representing their community the evidence is in an email provided to a councillor following a media interaction
- 2) The Council Media Policy imposes an additional requirement on councillors to register their media contracts which is both beyond the model policy and arguably a restriction or an implied restriction, on a councillor's ability to communicate. Evidence is the Media Policy of Council and its inclusion of clause 7.2.

I am of the view that Council's actions, both through the additional requirement in its media policy for a registration process, as well as the actions of staff (see the email sent to a councillor), have potentially placed the Council in breach of the Act. In particular, section 232 which sets out the role of a councillor and councils' actions specifically in:

- Constraining a councillors' role in representing the collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community (s232(1)(d) of the Act),
- Constraining a councillor's ability to facilitate communication between the local community and the governing body (s232(1)(e) of the Act), and

 Preventing a councillor being accountable to the local community for the performance of the Council (s232(2) of the Act.

Poor or inappropriate behaviour... by staff (referring to cl 413D(f) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

I am of the view that there are risks that there is a culture that dissent by councillors is not tolerated. Diversity of opinion is critical to the proper functioning of Government at all levels. Noting Council has been challenged in the past by poor behaviour of councillors, it appears that a culture has been established in which the staff of Council attempt to control the words and actions of councillors. An email exchange between a councillor and Council officer (obtained by the Office of Local Government), is a demonstration of that culture.

Another example of the culture of control of councillors which has developed is that I am aware Cr Ambihaipahar was referred to a code of conduct examiner by council staff, following her interactions with the media. I am concerned that councillors may feel constrained in talking to the media in future because they do not wish to be referred to a code of conduct examiner.

I am also aware that former Cr Nick Katris was censured following a disagreement with staff over the accuracy of a report. While I do not make my decision based on this example, this may constitute another example of inappropriate restrictions placed upon Councillors.

Any other matter that is relevant (referring to cl 413D(g) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

A clear policy direction from the Minister for Local Government has been the importance of councillors being visibly in control of their councils. For this to occur, councillors must be free to debate issues and engage with the community. In particular, councils should not impede the right of a councillor to communicate about political matters, which includes council-related matters, unless a control is imposed (legislation, regulation, or code), which is necessary for a purpose compatible with the system of government and democracy in Australia, and only if they are suitable, reasonably necessary and proportionate in achieving that purpose.

A further reason to vary the PIO in my view, is that the Council's media policy is impinging on councillors' implied freedom of political communication.

SCHEDULE 2

Action required to improve performance – section 438C(2A) of the Act

Council is required to undertake the following actions to improve its performance:

- Georges River Council is ordered not to apply or attempt to apply any existing legislation, regulation, policy or code that impedes the right of a councillor's ability to communicate about political matters, which includes council-related matters unless such legislation, regulation or code is necessary for a purpose that is compatible with the system of government and democracy in Australia, and only if they are suitable, reasonably necessary and proportionate in achieving that.
- Council amends its Media Policy to remove clause 7.2 creating a mandatory obligation to register media contracts. Council is to amend its Policy by the second meeting after this order is received.

4) The relevant Council staff (including those who may communicate with councillors), to receive training on the role of councillors and their responsibilities in supporting councillors in the exercise of their role.

Period for compliance with Order

Council is to comply with the requirements of the Order within the timeframes specified in Schedule 2.

Compliance reporting to be submitted at bi-monthly intervals:

Report on the status of the implementation of all actions in Schedule 2 to be provided no later than two months from the commencement date of the PIO.

Evidence to be provided with the compliance reports

Provide a copy of any action/improvement plans and strategies and a report on the outcome of reviews as required by Schedule 2.

Provide a copy of a report on the actions taken by Council to address issues identified by the required reviews as at that time.

Consequences of non-compliance

If the Performance Improvement Order is not complied with, I may consider:

- Issuing a further Performance Improvement Order; and/or
- Issuing a compliance order under s438HA; and/or
- Temporarily suspending the Council under Chapter 13, Part 7 of the Act.

 Georges River Council - Georges River Council - Council Meeting - Monday, 16 December 2024

 CCL100-24
 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO VARY EXISTING PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ORDER

 [Appendix 2]
 Proposed response to Proposed Performance Improvement Order

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Office of the General Manager

Executive Assistant: Sue Matthew Direct Telephone: (02) 9330 6256 File Reference: D24/325617, D24/XXXX

Date

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP Minister for Local Government GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister,

Notice of Intention to Vary a Performance Improvement Order

I refer to your correspondence of 21 November 2024 enclosing a Notice of Intention to Vary an existing Performance Improvement Order (**Draft PIO**).

Pursuant to Council's resolution of [INSERT DATE], I am responding to the Draft PIO.

No power to vary the June 2021 PIO

- 1. The Draft PIO states that you are 'satisfied that the requirements of the [June 2021] PIO have been adequately dealt with. I propose to vary the PIO to remove those requirements'.
- 2. On satisfaction that the June 2021 PIO has been complied with, that order is discharged and your powers in respect of that PIO are exhausted.
- Section 438C(2A) of the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act), read in the context of Chapter 13, Part 6, does not allow for the variation of a PIO that has been discharged.
- 4. The ongoing variation of PIOs that have been satisfied (and issued in different circumstances to a differently constituted governing body) would lack finality and certainty.

 Georges River Civic Centre Corner MacMahon and Dora Streets, Hurstville
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 Clive James Library and Service Centre Kogarah Town Square, Belgrave Street, Kogarah
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The Draft PIO is invalid

- 5. The Draft PIO is, and any performance improvement order that you issue to the Council based on the Draft PIO will, be invalid.
- 6. Firstly, the only 'potential breach' of the LG Act referred to in the Draft PIO is a breach of section 232. However section 232 is a 'relevant provision' for the purposes of section 674A of the LG Act.
- 7. Section 674A(2) provides that:

'The relevant provisions do not give rise to, and cannot be taken into account in, any civil cause of action <u>and do not affect any rights or liabilities arising</u> apart from the relevant provisions.'

- 8. The effect of section 674A(2) is to preclude anything in section 232 giving rise to, or being able to be taken into account in, any liability (which would include a performance improvement order). The Council submits that the only potential breach of the LG Act that you identify in the Draft PIO cannot be relied on to issue a performance improvement order.
- 9. Secondly, and despite the Council's view that the June 2021 PIO cannot be varied as proposed, section 438C(2A) of the LG Act requires you to specify the terms of the proposed variation and the reasons for that variation.
- 10. Whilst the term must take its meaning from its context, the usual meaning of 'specify' is to 'indicate with unambiguous clarity', to state 'in explicit terms' and with 'clarity and precision': Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Gillis [2003] NSWCA 340 at [27]. The statutory concept is not satisfied by 'vague generalities': Tickner v Chapman (1995) 57 FCR 451.
- 11. The statutory scheme requires that you put the proposed actions, and your reasons for them, to the Council precisely and unambiguously to enable the Council to know why you propose to vary the PIO and to allow the Council a reasonable opportunity to address your reasons.
- 12. The Draft PIO does not do this as:
 - a. Proposed action 1 is non-specific, vague and uncertain such that it is incapable of communicating to the Council what the Draft PIO requires the Council to do. It leaves the required action to the Council's discretion and cannot be objectively applied. Minds may differ as to what

constitutes 'compatible, suitable, reasonably necessary or proportionate' legislation, regulation, policies or codes which you say are the only ones the Council should apply. Orders are required to be formulated in precise terms to avoid uncertainty, the potential for continual breaches and so the central issue is not left unresolved except by the exercise of a discretion: *Foster v Sutherland Shire Council* [2001] NSWLEC 89. Proposed action 1 does not meet those requirements.

- b. Reasons 1 and 2 of the Draft PIO refer to 'an email exchange between a councillor and Council officer (obtained by the Office of Local Government)'. The exchange is not particularised. Evidence of this email exchange should be provided to allow the Council to understand your reasons and properly make submissions in response to the Draft PIO. The Council is not afforded procedural fairness in the absence of the specific evidence you refer to in the Draft PIO.
- c. Reason 2 states that 'Noting Council has been challenged in the past by poor behaviour of councillors, it appears that a culture has been established in which staff of Council attempt to control the words and actions of councillors'. The basis for this note is not relevant to, nor appropriate in the Draft PIO. The challenge referred to is not particularised. If it is a reference to circumstances prompting the June 2021 PIO, you have acknowledged that has been adequately dealt with. The culture of attempting to control the words and actions is also not particularised. It this is a reference to clause 7.2 of the Media Policy, that policy was adopted by the governing body.
- d. Proposed action 4 (there appears to be no action 3) requires that 'The relevant Council staff (including those who may communicate with councillors) to receive training on the role of councillors and their responsibilities in supporting councillors in the exercise of their role'. Section 438A(5) of the LG Act allows a PIO to require action to be taken by 'the council, by individual councillors, or both'. Proposed action 4 is not permitted by s438A(5) as it requires action by 'relevant staff'. The action lacks clarity and requires a judgment as to who you consider the 'relevant' staff to be. If the action is intended to be taken to be a direction to the governing body, it is unclear what that action is. Is it that the Council adopt a policy, or issue a direction to the General Manager? The action must be communicated unambiguously and in not doing so, the Draft POI is uncertain.

 Georges River Civic Centre Corner MacMahon and Dora Streets, Hurstville
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CCL100-24 Attachment 2

- 13. Thirdly, an order cannot be given that requires conditional compliance with other legislation.
- 14. Proposed action 1 requires the Council, through the General Manager, to decide what legislation, regulation, codes or policies should <u>not be applied</u>, unless the legislation, regulation, policy or code is:
 - a. necessary for a purpose that is compatible with the system of government and democracy in Australia, and
 - b. suitable, reasonably necessary and proportionate in achieving that.
- 15. An order cannot be given that requires conditional compliance with other legislation. The Council is bound by the laws of the Commonwealth and State and is required to comply with its obligations under applicable legislation. The circumstances and manner of compliance with legislation cannot be ordered.
- 16. If legislation is considered to affect political communication or is otherwise undemocratic, that is a matter for the Parliament of Australia, Parliament of NSW and the executive to decide what restrictions (if any) to political communication should apply in the context of local government.

The Circumstances do not Warrant a PIO

- 17. Irrespective of the concerns set out above, the Council submits that the circumstances do not warrant either the issue or variation of a PIO. The proposed actions in the Draft PIO are not reasonably necessary in the circumstances.
- 18. Section 438A(1) of the LG Act allows you to issue a PIO if you reasonably consider 'that action must be taken to improve the performance of the council'. Section 438(4) provides that the actions to improve performance of a council are those that you consider to be 'necessary to improve or restore the proper or effective functioning of the council'.
- 19. The Draft PIO was signed on 21 November 2024, four days before the Council had its first meeting on 25 November 2024 following elections in October 2024. In that time the Council's performance had not be inhibited by either the actions of staff, councillors or policies developed by the Council.
- 20. For the reasons below, the Council considers clause 7.2 of the Media Policy has not caused a failure to comply with legislative responsibilities or impinged on the implied freedom of communication, and the examples offered in the Draft PIO do

CCL100-24 Attachment 2

not reflect a pattern of poor or inappropriate behaviour by members of staff of the Council.

Clause 7.2 of Council's Media Policy

- 21. The operation of clause 7.2 of Council's Media Policy does not cause the Council to have 'failed to comply with its legislative responsibilities' to justify the issue or proposed variation of the PIO. Registering media contact does not impact the role of a councillor as described in section 232 of the LG Act.
- 22. The specific amendment which inserted clause 7.2 to the Media Policy was adopted by Council with stated aim of protecting confidential information. On 22 June 2020, Council unanimously resolved to 'Strengthen Council's current Communications and Media Management Policy, by establishing a register requiring all Council Officials to formally register all contact with media outlets (including contact that has been declined)'.
- 23. Clause 7.2 of Council's Media Policy requires that Councillors' contact with media be registered with the Council. This does not amount to a constraint on a councillor's role as prescribed under section 232 of the LG Act. Councillors remain free to deal and speak with media at their own discretion irrespective of clause 7.2 of the Policy, which simply requires that media contact be registered.
- 24. Section 232 sets out the role of a councillor and is not a prescribed 'legislative responsibility' of Council within the meaning of 'legislative responsibilities' under section 413D(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (**LG Reg**). Regardless, the requirement to register media contact does not hinder the discharge of councillor's responsibilities or functions.
- 25. The Media Policy, with clause 7.2 in effect, has also since been reviewed and readopted unanimously by Council on 26 June 2023.
- 26. In the Council's view, a Councillor's ability to engage with media with registration of contact, is compatible with acting consistently with all existing legislation and regulation as well as Council's Code of Conduct, adopted from the Model under s 440 of the LG Act.
- 27. This view is supported by the significant amount of engagement Councillors have and continue to undertake with media which do not result in code of conduct complaints or raise concerns about any inability of councillors to engage with media.

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- 28. It is also relevant that the Office of Local Government Model Media Policy, and Council's Policy, state that:
 - 'Council officials must comply with the Council's code of conduct when engaging with the media in an official capacity or in connection with their role as a council official.
 - *'When engaging with media councillors:*
 - must clarify when speaking to the media that they are expressing their personal views as an individual councillor and that they are not speaking for the Council (unless authorised to do so)
 - must uphold and accurately represent the policies and decisions of the Council.'
- 29. The Model Media Policy anticipates controls governing how councillors deal with the media. Clause 7.2 is similar to those model provisions, and certainly does not impede on the right to communicate.
- 30. [Whilst the Council does not consider clause 7.2 of the Media Policy to be impinging on councillors undertaking their role as described in section 232 of the LG Act, clause 7.2 of the Media Policy has been considered to be of limited utility in relation to the initially stated aim of protecting confidential information. Accordingly, Council resolved on 16 December 2024 to amend the Media Policy.
- 31. As a result clause 7.2 of the Media Policy is no longer relevant to your decision to issue or vary a performance improvement order and should no longer form part of your consideration. In these circumstances the Council submits that the grounds you previously considered warranted the issue of the Draft PIO no longer apply.]

Poor or Inappropriate Behaviour of Staff

- 32. Reason 2 of the Draft PIO is your view that there are risks that there is a culture that dissent by councillors is not tolerated. Three examples are cited for this:
 - a. An email exchange between a Councillor and a Council officer,
 - b. Reference to a code of conduct investigation against a current Councillor, and
 - c. Censure of a former Councillor.

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- 33. The criterion in section 413D(f) of the LG Reg requires that before issuing a PIO the Minister is to consider amongst other criteria 'whether there is a pattern of poor or inappropriate behaviour, either by one or more councillors or members of staff of the council, that has not been rectified'.
- 34. The reasons in the Draft PIO do not set out any specific actions of staff relating to the three examples.
- 35. In respect of the first example, evidence of the email exchange has not been provided to the Council to enable it to properly respond to the Draft PIO. To the extent the email exchange relates to the application of clause 7.2 of the Media Policy, the decision to adopt that clause was made by the governing body, and Council staff are required to implement that decision. [That concern would also be resolved by the decision to amend the Media Policy, and therefore 'has been rectified' within the meaning of section 413D(f) of the LG Reg.]
- 36. In respect of the second example, the Council's Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct (**Code of Conduct Procedures**), adopted from the Model under s440A of the LG Act, do not permit me to reveal the identity of the complainant. However:
 - a. if the reasons in the Draft PIO are suggesting that Council staff cannot make Code of Conduct complaints in future for fear of that being considered 'poor or inappropriate behaviour', that is unacceptable,
 - b. if the reasons in the Draft PIO are suggesting that council staff made a decision to refer a complaint to a code of conduct examiner, that is not correct. Under the Code of Conduct Procedures, if I form a view that a complaint should not be declined under clause 5.3, finalised under clause 5.23 or resolved under clause 5.24, I must refer the complaint to the Council's complaints coordinator. The complaints coordinator then must refer the complaint to a conduct reviewer pursuant to clause 6.1 of the Code of Conduct Procedures. The complaints coordinator has no discretion and is obliged to do so. There is no discretionary decision by council staff to refer a councillor to a code of conduct examiner.
- 37. Given that this matter remains subject of investigation, it would not be appropriate to comment further.
- 38. In respect of the third example, this is not relevant to the concern raised under section 413D(f) of the LG Reg and the censure of the former Councillor occurred

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after an external conduct reviewer conducted an investigation and provided a report to Council. Councillors adopted the findings of the report at a meeting on 28 February 2022 that there was a breach of the Code of Conduct and resolved to censure the Councillor. This is an example of the councillors being in control of the Council rather than staff.

39. The Council submits that the examples cited in the Draft PIO do not demonstrate a pattern of poor or inappropriate behaviour by staff. If this concern is centred in clause 7.2 of the Media Policy, Council staff are required to implement lawful decisions of the Council, and the policy was adopted by the governing body. In addition, Council's senior staff who communicate with Councillors receive ongoing training as part of their roles.

Implied Freedom of Political Communication

- 40. The Council disagrees with reason 3 of the Draft PIO that clause 7.2 of the Media Policy impinges on councillors' implied freedom of political communication for the reasons stated above. [Irrespective, this concern has been resolved by the Council's resolution].
- 41. In all other respects, the Council's Media Policy reflects the Office of Local Government Model Media Policy.

Conclusion

- 42. For the reasons above, [and having implemented proposed action 2], the Council submits the Draft PIO should be withdrawn and no further action taken. The circumstances do not warrant the issue of the Draft PIO, and any performance improvement order based on the Draft PIO will be invalid.
- 43. If you are minded to take improvement and intervention action despite the above, the Council submits that there are alternative mechanisms which should be utilised in the current circumstances per Appendix 1 of the Office of Local Government's Improvement and Intervention Framework in relation to NSW Councils (Guidelines).
- 44. In this regard the Council notes that:
 - a. section 4 of the Guidelines provides that actions will be escalated 'appropriately and promptly in proportion to the situation, using the strongest options where the council has clearly indicated its unwillingness to comply with any relevant early intervention or warning',

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and the Office of Local Government will consider 'the broader implications of any intervention on the local government sector' when planning an intervention,

- b. section 5 of the Guidelines seek to ensure that risk to the Office's reputation are managed by interventions only occurring 'following an analysis of the circumstances' and being 'scaled, ensuring councils have adequate opportunity to positively respond',
- c. Appendix 1 of the Guidelines, Improvement and Intervention Strategies, includes a number of potential actions before performance management action such as the issue of a PIO is taken.

Yours sincerely

David Tuxford General Manager

CC: Chris Rowe Senior Investigator Office of Local Government

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Georges River Council – Ordinary Meeting - Monday, 22 June 2020 Page 54						
Item:	CCL040-20 Report of the Finance and Governance Comm held on 9 June 2020	ittee Meeting				
Author:	Executive Services Officer					
Directorate:	Office of the General Manager					
Matter Type:	Committee Reports					

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee recommendations for Items FIN023-20 to FIN027-20 as detailed below be adopted by Council.

FIN023-20 Investment Report as at 30 April 2020

That Council receives and notes the contents of the Investment Report as at 30 April 2020.

FIN024-20 Treatment of Confidential Information at Georges River Council

- That Council receives and notes the information contained within this report. (a)
- That Council adopts the improvements listed below for the treatment of confidential (b) matters only;
 - Cease hard copy printing of confidential business papers •
 - Prohibit the taking of photos of confidential information / presentations during Councillor Workshops / Briefings
 - Prohibit the recording (audio or visual) of any meeting, briefings, workshops, or part thereof on mobile phones
 - Provide a standard template to allow Council Officials ease of reporting any contact with potential tenderers during expression of interest or tender processes
 - Strengthen Council's current Communications and Media Management Policy, by establishing a register requiring all Council Officials to formally register all contact with media outlets (including contact that has been declined)
- That the relevant Codes, Policies, Procedures and practices be amended to reflect (C) the above changes and to be publicly exhibited as required by the Local Government Act 1993.

FIN025-20 Administrative Matter - Execution of Documents Under Delegation Authority, June 2020 Report

That this matter be defer to a closed confidential session of Council to allow further discussion.

FIN026-20 Adoption of Public Interest Disclosure Reporting Policy 2020

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CCL040-20

CCL040-20

- (a) That Council adopts the attached Public Interest Disclosure Reporting Policy 2020.
- (b) That the General Manager be delegated authority to make editorial amendments as required to the Policy.

FIN027-20 Business Continuity Plan and Contingencies in Respect to COVID-19

- (a) That Council receives and notes the contents of this report.
- (b) That Council continues to receive the updates and monthly reports on decisions made pursuant to the Instrument of Delegation to the Mayor (Emergency Administrative Provisions).
- (c) That Council acknowledge and thank the General Manager and Council staff for all their work in relation to the Business Continuity Plan and Contingencies in Respect to COVID-19.

FILE REFERENCE

19/2261

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment <u>1</u>1 Minutes - Finance and Governance - 9 June 2020

=IN024-20

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Georges River Council – Finance and Governance Committee - Tuesday, 9 June 2020

Item:	FIN024-20 Treatment of Confidential Information at Georges River Council				
Author:	Manager, Office of the General Manager				
Directorate:	Office of the General Manager				
Matter Type:	Committee Reports				

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council receive and note the information contained within this report.
- (b) That Council consider including the improvements outlined in this report, in the relevant Codes, Policies, Procedures and practices of Council at the appropriate review dates.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. At its Extraordinary Meeting of 11 February 2019, Council considered a report titled 'Jubilee Stadium Naming Rights Expression of Interest Process Complaint by Mr Norman Sarraf' (CCL002A-19). Within the attachment to this report, a recommendation was made to Council by HWL Ebsworth Lawyers that Council review its processes and policies concerning the protection of confidential information.
- 2. At its Ordinary Meeting of 23 April 2019, Council resolved that the General Manager prepare a report providing details of the measures currently in place to ensure the security and maintenance of confidential information provided to Councillors.
- 3. This report has been prepared in accordance with Council's resolution from 23 April 2019 (NM025-19).

MATTERS THAT ARE TO BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL

- 4. Section 10A(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* ('Act') permits a Council or a Committee of Council to close a meeting, or part of a meeting, to the public if it is to consider confidential information.
- Section 10A(2) of the Act prescribes the only permissible reasons for a Council or a Committee of Council to close a meeting, or part of a meeting, to the public. Those reasons are;
 - (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
 - (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
 - (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,
 - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed
 - i. prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - ii. confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - iii. reveal a trade secret,
 - (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law,

- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property,
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege,
- (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land,
- (i) alleged contraventions of any code of conduct requirements applicable under section 440.
- 6. Council's Code of Conduct provides as follows in relation to the release of confidential information:

Use of Certain Council Information

- 8.9 In regard to information obtained in your capacity as a Council Official, you must:
 - a) only access Council information needed for Council business
 - b) not use that Council information for private purposes
 - c) not seek or obtain, either directly or indirectly, any financial benefit or other improper advantage for yourself, or any other person or body, from any information to which you have access by virtue of your office or position with Council
 - d) only release Council information in accordance with established Council policies and procedures and in compliance with relevant legislation

Use and Security of Confidential Information

- 8.10 You must maintain the integrity and security of confidential information in your possession, or for which you are responsible.
- 8.11 In addition to your general obligations relating to the use of Council information, you must:
 - a) protect confidential information
 - b) only release confidential information for the purpose it is intended to be used
 - c) only release information if you have authority to do so
 - d) not use confidential information gained through your official position for the purpose of securing a private benefit for yourself or for any other person
 - e) not use confidential information with the intention to cause harm or detriment to your Council or any other person or body
 - f) not disclose any information discussed during confidential session of a Council or Committee meeting or any other confidential forum (such as, but not limited to, workshops and briefing sessions)

FIN024-20

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COUNCIL OFFICIAL

7. A Council Official is defined in Council's Code of Conduct as;

"Includes councillors, members of staff of a council, contractors, administrators, community members of wholly advisory committees, members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), members of reference panels, council committee members, delegates of council and council advisers."

MEASURES IN PLACE TO PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION PROVIDED TO COUNCIL OFFICIALS

Induction and Training

- As part of the comprehensive Councillor Induction Program, which was offered to all current Councillors in September 2017 (and is ongoing), Councillors were asked to sign two documents;
 - An Oath or Affirmation

In accordance with Section 233A of the Act, all Georges River Councillors were asked to sign an 'Oath' or an 'Affirmation' of office.

All Councillors agreed to undertake the duties of the office of Councillors in the best interests of the Georges River Council area and the Georges River Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them.

• A Councillor Confidentiality Agreement

All Councillors signed an agreement that they understand the requirements of them as Councillors in accordance with the Act, the Council's Code of Conduct and other laws imposing restrictions in relation to the disclosure and use by them of information obtained in their role as a Councillor.

- 9. Council staff and contractors enter into similar confidentiality arrangements when accepting their terms and conditions of employment and enter into contracts of appointment.
- 10. Council Officials are offered regular training on the Code of Conduct and other governance matters. Such training is offered annually or when amendments are made to the Act, Code of Conduct, other policies related to the governance of Council.

Business Papers

- 11. All business papers are provided to Councillors on the Councillor Portal and are published in both HTML and PDF format.
- 12. When drafting a report, Council Officers are to consider if the report is to be classified confidential (pursuant to Section 10A(2) of the Act) and thereby removed from the publically available portion of the business paper.
- 13. When there are confidential items, Council's electronic corporate system (InfoCouncil) automatically applies a 'confidential' watermark across the published papers.
- 14. In the instances where a request has been made for printed copies of a business paper, publically available documents are printed on white paper and confidential documents are printed on blue paper. This provides Council Officials with immediate recognition of confidential and restricted information.
- 15. Where a Council report has been be classified as confidential (pursuant to Section 10A(2) of the Act) the entire report and all attachments are restricted and not available for public circulation.

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- 16. Where an attachment to a Council report has been classified as confidential (pursuant to Section 10A(2) of the Act) but the covering report is appropriate for public circulation, only the relevant attachment/s are restricted.
- 17. Council Officials are provided with secure document destruction bins for business paper disposal.

Councillor Workshops / Briefings

- 18. Councillor Workshop / Briefing presentations are provided to Councillors on the Councillor Portal and are published with a confidential watermark.
- 19. The format of the presentations prohibits the documents being able to be forwarded, saved, printed or copied in any form.

Council and Committee Meetings

- Section 13 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice specifies the grounds on which a meeting of Council can be closed to the public. These reasons reflect Sections 10A(1) and 10A(2) of the Act.
- 21. When a meeting of Council resolves itself into Committee of the Whole and moves to a closed confidential session, all members of the public and the press are asked to leave the meeting room.
- 22. After the public and press have exited the meeting, the meeting room doors are closed and the webcasting ceases, to allow Council Officials to deliberate the confidential matters.

Webcasting / Broadcasting of Council and Committee Meetings

- 23. Clause 4.18 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice stipulates that all meetings of Council are to be webcast, with the exception of closed confidential sessions.
- 24. When the meeting of Council moves to a closed confidential session, Council Officers cease the public webcast / broadcast of the meeting.

Electronic Document Management System (CM9)

- 25. When a Council Official saves a document or correspondence (Council or Committee reports, internal documents, emails, employment documentation, incoming or outgoing correspondence) in Council's Electronic Document Management System (CM9), specific security / restrictions can be applied to ensure confidentiality.
- 26. Documents can be restricted to certain people or certain positions within the organisation.
- 27. To prevent the manipulation of Council business papers (confidential or otherwise), documents are not provided in searchable PDF or MS Word. This ensures the integrity of the information provided to Councillors and the community.

Executive Team Meetings

- 28. As with Council and Committee Meetings, Executive Team meetings can also move into a closed confidential session if the matter to be discussed is deemed confidential pursuant to Sections 10A(1) and 10A(2) of the Act.
- 29. Confidential items for the consideration of the Executive Team are circulated on a separate document to the 'standard' agenda and electronic versions of this confidential documentation is saved in secure CM9 folders.

<u>General</u>

30. Councillors are provided with individual lockers, with PIN code access. These lockers are for the personal use of each Councillor and provide a safe location for document delivery and return.

FIN024-20

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POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO DOCUMENT / INFORMATION SECURITY

- 31. Council could consider the following additional measures to further improve the treatment of confidential information at Georges River Council;
 - Cease hard copy printing of business papers
 - Prohibit the taking of photos of confidential information / presentations during Councillor Workshops / Briefings
 - Prohibit the recording (audio or visual) of any meeting, briefings, workshops, or part thereof on mobile phones
 - Provide a standard template to allow Council Officials ease of reporting any contact with potential tenderers during expression of interest or tender processes
 - To strengthen Council's current Communications and Media Management Policy, establish a register requiring all Council Officials to formally register all contact with media outlets (including contact that has been declined)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

32. No budget impact for this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

33. The measures currently being undertaken, in respect to the treatment of confidential information, have been applied in order to mitigate any potential enterprise and operational risk/s.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

34. Community engagement was not required when preparing this report.

FILE REFERENCE

D20/115856

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=IN024-20

Item: CCL101-24 Application Pursuant to Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy - December 2024

- Author: Executive Services Officer
- Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Finance and Governance

RECOMMENDATION:

That the following application for funding, pursuant to the Councillors Ward Discretionary Fund Policy, be approved:

• CWF 4/24-25 – Application submitted by Deputy Mayor Councillor Liu on behalf of St George Arts and Entertainment Centre in the amount of \$1,600.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. Council, at its meeting on 22 July 2024, endorsed the revised Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy (the Fund).
- 2. The Policy provides a framework which enables Councillors to provide minor financial support to individuals and community groups within wards which will complement Council's existing grants, sponsorship, and donations framework.
- 3. This report includes details of applications which have been assessed against the funds eligibility criteria and determined to qualify for funding.

BACKGROUND

- 4. The Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy stipulates two categories for applications of funds, those by an individual or community group.
- 5. For the 2024/25 financial year, there is a \$75,000 allocation made available for Councillors elected at the September 2024 Local Government Elections.
- 6. In keeping with ensuring accountability and transparency, details have been included below regarding applications that are now listed for consideration and their demonstrated ability to satisfy the eligibility criteria of the Fund.
- 7. In addition to these measures, details of funds awarded are available on Council's website and are included in Council's Annual Report as is required regarding the allocation of funds through Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993.*

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. All application details can be found in the attachment to this report. Funds of \$75,000 have been allocated in the 2024/25 Operational Plan.

Non-Capital Funds (\$5,000/Councillor)	Funds Allocated to date including this report	Remaining Balance			
Councillor Allison	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Ambihaipahar	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Anzellotti	\$0	\$5,000			

Councillor Arthur	\$0	\$5,000			
Mayor, Councillor Borg	\$1,000	\$4,000			
Councillor Dimoski	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Gao	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Jamieson	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Landsberry	\$0	\$5,000			
Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu	\$1,600	\$3,400			
Councillor Mahoney	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Mort	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Pun	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Stratikopoulos	\$0	\$5,000			
Councillor Wang	\$1,300	\$3,700			

RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 9. The Enterprise Risk Management Strategy contains two relevant actions regarding the provision of an open, accessible, and transparent decision making and meeting process.
- 10. The adopted process for the allocation of funds through the Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund Policy is one of many strategies that have been implemented to ensure that these actions are achieved.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

11. Community engagement will be conducted including:

FILE REFERENCE

D24/338691 ATTACHMENTS Attachment 1 Attachment - Councillor Ward Discretionary Funds Attachment 2 Councillor Ward Discretionary Funds ABN Numbers

CCL101-24 APPLICATION PURSUANT TO COUNCILLOR WARD DISCRETIONARY FUND POLICY - DECEMBER 2024

[Appendix 1] Attachment - Councillor Ward Discretionary Funds

	Funding					ACNC Registered						Does the recipient meet the eligibility requirement	
CWT 4/24-25	S George Arts and Extertainment	Community Group (Max \$2,000)	ST GUEDREE ANTS AND ENTERLARMENT CENTRE	1Y GEOREE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE	1753837403	No	2200576	Assisting & supporting its annual dominant & Row There priormance and celebration party	16-12-2024	1600	root community organisation, established in 2013 and based in St George and Georges River LGA. Internally, Gathering people with similar art talents and interest of singing, choir, dancing and musical	1.1.3 Develop, support and promote programs, services and activities that foster social support, participation and welbeing for our deverse community regardless of app, gender, physical or metal abling, sexual centration or cultural or religious background.	

Nickie Paraskevopoulos

From:	eForms
Sent:	Thursday, 5 December 2024 11:55 AM
To:	Claudine Pfeiffer; Jennifer Anderson; Marisa Severino; Nickie Paraskevopoulos; Sue
	Matthew, Vicki McKinley; Georges River Council Mail; Georges River Council Mail;
	Nickie Paraskevopoulos; ebrady@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au
Subject:	Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund - NANCY LIU
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

Hi Office of General Manager,

Councillor Ward Discretionary Fund you submitted was successfully sent for review.

Details of the Fund is shown as below.

- 1. Code: CWF 4/24-25
- 2. Name of Councillor Requesting funding: NANCY LIU
- 3. Name of Councillors in support of Ward funding (if applicable):
- 4. Class of application: Community Group (Max \$2,000)
- 5. Legal Name: ST GEORGE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
- 6. Trading name: ST GEORGE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
- 7. Registered for GST: No
- 8. ACNC Registered: No
- 9. ABN: 37552837401
- 10. Incorporated Entity: 2200576

11. Intended purpose of funding: Assisting & supporting its annual Christmas & New Year performance and celebration party

- 12. Event/project date: 19-12-2024
- 13. Amount of funding requested (Max \$2,000): 1600
- 14. Contact Name: Danny Dong
- 15. Phone number: 411586568
- 16. Mobile: 411586568
- 17. Email: Seasnowdanny@gmail.com
- 18. Website:

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20. Suburb: Penshurst

21. State: New South Wales

22. Postcode: 2222

23. Please enter Postal address:

24. Declaration of conflict of interest: No conflict of interest

25. Community Group: A non-profitable, non political grass root community organisation, established in 2013 and based in St George and Georges River LGA. Internally, Gathering people with similar art talents and interest of singing, choir, dancing and musical instruments etc; providing opportunities of learning, performing and social support to the members. Externally, it has been also involving in community and charitable activities, such as LNY and other cultural celebrations in GR Council and other Greater Sydney councils, visiting elderly in nursing homes, etc.

12/12/24, 7:17 AM

NSW Incorporated Associations Register

Association Summary - New South Wales

NSW SVERNMENT Fair Trading

ABN 81 913 830 179

Extracted from NSW Fair Trading database: 12 December 2024 07:17

Association Name: ST GEORGE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE INCORPORATED

Incorporation Number: INC9890602

Status: REGISTERED

Date of Incorporation: 24 December 2008

Registered State: NEW SOUTH WALES

Regulator: NSW FAIR TRADING

Official Address Suburb: HURSTVILLE

The Information made available in this Public Portal search facility is a subset of the data on the Register maintained by the Secretary, and is provided as a means of quickly locating key information on NSW Incorporated Associations. Should copies of specific documents lodged by an association or an official extract of the Register be required you may follow the link <u>accessing Associations public records</u> to obtain further information.

For further Information or to advise of incorrect information contact NSW Fair Trading on 1800 502 042 Monday to Friday between 8:30am and 5:00pm, or <u>registryinguiries@icustomerservice.nsw.gov.au</u>.

ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Item: CCL102-24 Lugarno Passive Watercraft Launching Facility Construction - Budget Update

Author: Manager City Techncal Services

Directorate: Assets and Infrastructure

Matter Type: Assets and Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council note the increase in required budget to proceed with the construction of the Lugarno Passive Watercraft Launching Facility.
- (b) That Council approve the additional budgeted expenditure, as outlined in the confidential attachment.
- (c) That the additional budgeted expenditure is funded, as outlined in the confidential attachment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1. Council obtained grant funding from NSW Department of Primary Industries under the Recreational Fishing Trust grant program for the design and construction of a passive watercraft launching facility in Lugarno Parade Reserve, Forest Road, Lugarno.
- 2. Additional funding is required to engage a suitably qualified construction contractor following the closure of the procurement process to execute the work.

BACKGROUND

- 3. The Lugarno Passive Watercraft Launching Facility is identified as a high priority construction project in the Georges River Foreshore Access and Improvement Plan, 2021.
- 4. This project aims to provide a safe and accessible launching facility with suitable water access to encourage kayakers and other light watercraft users, promoting and supporting physical activity and healthy lifestyles. The structure is also designed to address critical issues relating to current erosional processes of the existing foreshore and old ferry ramp area.
- 5. Council's design consultant developed the construction design package in the 2023/24 Financial Year, with extensive community participation through two 'Your Say Georges River' consultation periods.
- 6. A cost estimate for this project was provided by a suitably qualified Quantity Surveyor as part of the final construction design package in the 2023/24 financial year.
- 7. Following the completion of the procurement process in the current 2024/25 financial year for the construction of the Lugarno Passive Watercraft Launching Facility, it is evident that the initial budget identified as part of the Quantity Surveyor cost estimate is insufficient to complete the works, and additional budget is required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8. Additional non-budgeted funds are required to enable the engagement of a suitably qualified contractor to execute the construction of the Lugarno Passive Watercraft Launching Facility in the current 2024/25 Financial Year.
- 9. Table 1 in the confidential attachment identifies the proposed funding and budget revisions for this project.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

10. If funding is not allocated, the Lugarno Passive Watercraft Launching Facility construction project cannot proceed.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

11. Community notification will be conducted following the engagement of a contractor.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/341084 ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Lugarno Passive Watercraft Launching Facility Construction - Budget Update (Confidential Report) - *published in separate document* (Confidential)

NOTICES OF MOTION

Item: NM100-24Night Time Economy in Commercial Centres

Councillor: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

MOTION:

That Council take proactive steps to support local businesses and foster a thriving night-time economy across the Georges River Local Government Area (LGA) by implementing the following actions:

- (a) Collaborate with Business Chamber South to identify and capitalise on opportunities to boost the night-time economy in major business hubs within the LGA.
- (b) Actively encourage outdoor dining in designated areas by:
 - i. Working with and supporting businesses to apply for outdoor dining permits and activate outdoor spaces.
 - ii. Promoting vibrant, inclusive community spaces that enhance social engagement.
- (c) Working with the businesses in Hurstville Plaza on Forest Road, to activate outdoor dining. This will involve:
 - i. Conducting consultation with the businesses.
 - ii. Engaging local businesses to seek input and support for outdoor dining.
 - iii. Report back to Council with feedback from businesses to explore actions to encourage outdoor dining.
- (d) Assist local businesses to form district teams and apply for the NSW Government's Uptown Grants; aimed at revitalising high streets and driving economic activity.
- (e) Include new initiatives into the development of next Georges River Economic Development Strategy including, enhancing street appeal, driving local activation, and expanding the night-time economy.
- (f) Provide feedback on the Cultural State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP), supporting proposed changes to the planning system that facilitate creative, hospitality, and cultural uses contributing to a vibrant 24-hour economy.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

This Motion is:

- Consistent with Pillar 3: Our Economy in Georges River Council Community Strategic Plan
- Delivers on Goal 3.1 Local jobs and local businesses are supported to grow

Council and Business Chamber South have developed a strong partnership to support and promote small businesses within our local community. Council will continue to work collaboratively with Business Chamber South to support the activation of the night-time economy. Georges River Council is a gold sponsor of the Business Chamber South and continues to support activities that encourages economic activity, including relevant Government grants and funding opportunities.

Council's Economic Development team is working with the Strategic Property team and will promote how eligible businesses can apply for outdoor dining through the Business Unite

newsletter, future business walks with Service NSW Business Concierge, and provide the appropriate guidance for businesses to submit their application.

Council is currently in the planning phases of renewing its Economic Development Strategy. The process to develop a new strategy will start in 2025. The Economic Development Strategy will seek input from the broader community including businesses in Hurstville and across the LGA, Councillors, and the Economic Leadership Group. New initiatives to encourage outdoor dining, drive local activation and expand the night-time economy will be considered in the next iteration of GRC's Economic Development Strategy.

Council will promote the Uptown Grant until the application closes on the 29 January 2025 through the Economic Leadership Group, Business Unite newsletter and local business networks. Council will provide advice and a letter of support to known district teams as they occur.

Council will make a submission on the Cultural State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) and encourage submissions from the local business community through the Business Unite newsletter and Economic Leadership Group to provide their feedback.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial/budget impact for this recommendation.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/319679

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item: NM101-24Congratulations to Local Restaurants

Councillor: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

MOTION:

That Council acknowledges and congratulates the outstanding achievements of the following Hurstville restaurants within the Georges River Local Government Area, which have been awarded the prestigious Chef's Hat from the Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide:

- i. Hatch Restaurant, Hurstville, awarded in December 2023.
- ii. Taste of Shunde Restaurant, Hurstville, awarded in November 2024.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

Council has included acknowledgement of the recent Chef's Hat awards to Hatch Restaurant and Taste of Shunde Restaurant in the current edition of the Business Unite newsletter. The story is also linked to the Leader story and the Good Food Guide.

Our partner, Business Chamber South, has acknowledged Hatch and Taste of Shunde via LinkedIn and Council has reshared this post adding an acknowledgement to the restaurants.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial/budget impact for this recommendation.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/331265

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item: NM102-24Council Verges

Councillor: Councillor Ambihaipahar

MOTION:

(a) That the General Manager develops a Verge Management Policy:

- i. To include a comprehensive approach that outlines responsibilities in managing and maintaining street verges across the local government area (LGA).
- ii. To address factors such as, but not limited to:
 - a. The size and location of verges.
 - b. Difficulty factors such as exposed tree roots, steep inclines, and high traffic areas.
 - c. Environmental considerations, including the suitability of native plantings and water conservation practices.
 - d. Other relevant policies and programs, such as the Verge Garden Program.
- iii. To ensure feedback from residents, stakeholders, and experts in environmental sustainability, such as Oatley Flora and Fauna, are considered and incorporated.

(b) That an update is provided in the next appropriate Council Newsletter:

- i. To ensure a summary of the actions taken in relation items (a)i, ii and iii of this Notice of Motion are included to inform residents of the LGA.
- ii. To highlight any upcoming opportunities for residents to provide feedback or participate in consultation about verge maintenance in their areas.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

This Motion is consistent with Georges River Council's Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032:

• Pillar 4 Our Built Environment, Goal 4.5 - Council-led development and assets provide quality, long term benefits to everyone.

A street verge (nature strip) is any Council owned or controlled land located between a constructed road and a parcel of private property, that is on the road reserve. It is generally that portion of the street verge that is grassed and may contain street trees, driveways, and footpaths. It does not include land reserves for a public purpose or bushland.

It is the responsibility of the property owner/resident to maintain the nature strips directly outside their place of residence. This includes the front, side and rear nature strips adjacent to their property.

Where there is an instance of an unmaintained or overgrown nature strip, Council officers will contact the property owner/resident to tend to the nature strip as soon as possible. Council officers will also ensure that the nature strip is maintained by the property owner/resident on a frequent and regular basis as a matter of public safety.

Georges River Council currently does not have a Verge Management Policy. Council did however establish a Verge Garden Program in 2022, which enables residents and business owners to plant a garden on the nature strip providing it is in accordance the Verge Garden Program Guidelines (as provided on the Georges River Council website).

The establishment of a Verge Management Policy will provide a clear delineation for the responsibility of the management and maintenance of nature strips for residents and business

owners across the Georges River Council local government area and promote environmentally sustainable practices.

The contact details for several organisations that provide options for senior residents or people with limited capacity to assist with basic garden and lawn mowing assistance are provided on the Georges River Council website.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The development of a Verge Management Policy is not currently included in the Georges River Council Delivery Program or Operational Plan for 2025/26.

Due to current Council priorities and associated internal resourcing constraints, a budget bid for Council's 2025/26 Operating Budget will be submitted for the development of a Verge Management Policy.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/334666

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item: NM103-24Traffic and Parking Measures

Councillor: Councillor Wang

MOTION:

That Council:

- i. Advise the community on the recent reopening of the Beverly Hills Commuter Car Park at Edgbaston Road car park, highlighting its current availability and suitability for commuters.
- ii. Advocate to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for part of the car park spaces or times to be allocated to non-commuting local residents, business owners, and their customers to benefit the broader community.
- iii. Investigate opportunities to utilise the triangular section of Tooronga Terrace to create one or two additional parking spaces.
- iv. Explore the feasibility of implementing one-hour timed parking restrictions (seven days a week) for existing 90-degree parking spaces along Tooronga Terrace to benefit local businesses and visitors.
- v. Assess the installation of a safety mirror or similar device in Wyanga Lane to enhance pedestrian and vehicle safety.
- vi. Reinforce parking patrols and enforcement of loading zone restrictions in Wyanga Lane and compliance with time restrictions around Tooronga Terrace to improve safety and access.
- vii. Keep following up with U-Go Mobility to assess the current usage of the "Beverly Hills Station, Morgan St" bus stop and explore the possibility of extra parking spaces with time restriction.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

This Motion is consistent with Georges River Council's Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032:

- Pillar 3: Our Economy, Goal 3.1 Local jobs and local businesses are supported to grow.
- Pillar 4: Our Built Environment, *4.1 New development should make Georges River more liveable, vibrant and sustainable.*
- Pillar 5: Our Place in Sydney, Goal 5.2 The three spheres of government work together to improve services and facilities in our area.

Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) recently delivered a multi-storey commuter car park with 200 parking spaces at Beverly Hills, completing this project in November 2024. The commuter car park is located at Edgbaston Road adjacent to the railway corridor, approximately 70 metres southwest of Beverly Hills Station.

This New South Wales Government (NSW) led multi-storey car park aims to provide safe, accessible, and convenient commuter parking close to the station, and help meet the growing demands for commuter parking in the area.

The Beverly Hills project was part of the NSW Commuter Car Park Program aimed at providing more convenient access to public transport at key interchanges and helping to ease congestion on our roads.

The Beverly Hills Commuter Carpark project was a joint initiative of the Australian Federal Government and NSW. The General Manager wrote to The Hon. Joanna Haylen (NOM012-24)

on 23rd August 2024 advocating for the inclusion of non-commuter parking in the commuter car park. This advocacy has been consistent since the preliminary planning of the project in 2022. TfNSW has not agreed to the multiple requests of Council in relation to this matter since this time.

In relation to points iii to v, Council officers will assess the viability of any proposed vehicular or pedestrian safety improvements that form the basis of a future report to the Georges River Council Traffic Advisory Committee, and the recommendation provided by the Traffic Advisory Committee will be reported to Council for endorsement.

In relation to vi, current patrols in this area are based on community requests. The issues identified in this Motion are noted and Council officers will undertake patrols as deemed necessary.

Finally, vii, Council officers, in consultation with the bus companies, will review the usage of the bus zone.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should Council resolve to support this Motion, the financial implications will be provided in a future report.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/335430

ATTACHMENTS

Item: NM104-24Parking Matters - Carlton Day Night Pharmacy

Councillor: Councillor Gao

MOTION:

That Council:

- (a) Notes the significant challenges associated with parking outside the Carlton Day-Night Pharmacy and adjacent businesses on weekends due insufficient parking restrictions and vehicle turnover.
- (b) Assesses the parking options on the Princes Highway outside the Carlton Day-Night Pharmacy and adjacent businesses.
- (c) Writes to Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) to request that changes be made to the parking restrictions to increase vehicle turnover and make the pharmacy services more accessible for the community.
- (d) Notes the desire from businesses to see expanded parking restrictions across the weekend to improve access to the vital services provided by the pharmacy.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

This Motion is inconsistent with Georges River Council's Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032:

- Pillar 1 Our Community, Goal 1.1 Our community is socially and culturally connected and we strive for social equity.
- Pillar 3 Our Economy, Goal 3.1 Local jobs and local businesses are supported to grow.

The Princes Highway is a State Road, managed by Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW). State Roads are the primary network of principal traffic carrying and linking routes for the movement of people and goods within the urban centres of Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong and Central Coast, and throughout the State.

These roads are the responsibility of the State Government to fund (TfNSW), prioritise and carry out works.

The current parking restrictions between Francis Street and Westbourne Street on the Princes Highway Carlton are $\frac{1}{2}$ P 10am – 6pm Mon-Fri and 8:30am -12:30pm Sat and a clearway 6am - 10am Monday – Friday

There is also an approximate 16m Bus Zone including a shelter on the Westbourne Street end.

There are approximately eight businesses in this vicinity that have not been consulted. It is the Council Officer recommendation that all businesses be consulted by Transport for NSW prior to any changes being made.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial/budget impact for this recommendation.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/338109

ATTACHMENTS

Item: NM105-24Warnings regarding use and disposal of batteries

Councillor: Councillor Mahoney

MOTION:

That the General Manager writes to the Hon. Jihad Dib MP, Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC, Minister for the Environment and the Hon Anoulack CHANTHIVONG MP, Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, to request that, in view of recent fires occurring in garbage and recycling collection trucks and facilities, that the NSW Government conducts an urgent publicity campaign through TV, radio and social media in order to heighten awareness about the severe safety risks involved with the use of batteries (in particular, the lithium-ion type), and battery chargers, and with the information provided to include safe methods of disposal of these items.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

This Motion is consistent with Georges River Council's Community Strategic Plan 2022 – 2032:

- Pillar 1: Our Community 1.3.1 Implement actions to maintain and promote the community safety of our area and
- Pillar 2: Our Green Environment 2.2.2 Ensure waste managed as a resource with minimal impacts from its disposal.

Council at its meeting on 22 July 2024 considered a similar Notice of Motion on this topic and resolved:

"That Council conducts a publicity campaign via its website, print and social media channels in order to heighten awareness about the severe safety risks involved with the use of batteries and battery chargers, and with the information provided to include safe methods of disposal of these items."

In response to the 22 July 2024 Motion, Council updated its website, issued a media release titled - Safety first: Are you battery safety aware? in August and provided a similar message in the Community Magazine Spring 2024 edition. The new Motion is a natural progression of the work previously conducted by Council in ensuring that a statewide message is received on this critical matter of public safety.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial/budget impact for this recommendation.

FILE REFERENCE D24/338519

ATTACHMENTS

Item: NM106-24Tree Planting Program

Councillor: Councillor Allison

MOTION:

To support Georges River Council in reaching 40% tree canopy by 2036:

(a) That the General Manager writes to Hon. John Graham MLC, Minister for Transport and the Hon Stephen Kamper MP, Minister for Lands and Property, to request that a comprehensive tree planting strategy be developed focusing on NSW government-owned property within the Georges River local government area, in consultation with Georges River Council.

(b) That the Strategy explore planting opportunities in but not limited to:

- i. Nature strips and reserves along State roads
- ii. Rail corridors
- iii. Department of Education Land
- iv. Hospitals
- (c) That a budget bid be included in the 2025/26 Operational Budget process to develop a Strategy for Open Space Tree Planting.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

This Motion is consistent with Georges River Council's Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032:

• Pillar 2 Our Green Environment, Goal 2.3 - Greening, canopy cover and bushland and biodiversity preservation are maximised.

Trees and bushland are highly valued by the Georges River community for their ecological, aesthetic, social and economic contribution. Trees play an important role in creating a healthy and attractive urban environment, providing a sense of place for the community, reducing impacts of the urban heat island effect, and sustaining the local wildlife population.

The Georges River local government area has an estimated urban canopy cover of 29.17%, excluding mangroves, or 35% including mangroves (Vegetation Mapping Report 2018). Most of the existing canopy cover is provided on public land, including street trees, public reserves, and bushland.

Approximately 40,000 street trees have been identified and mapped as part of Council's tree management system to date. Trees in public reserves are currently being added to the tree management system.

Council has an adopted target of achieving 40% urban canopy cover by 2036, in line with the Greater Sydney Region Plan.

A key challenge for Georges River Council in achieving this target is the finite amount of suitable open space for tree planting due to increasing competing demands for passive and active recreation, such as sports fields, dog parks and recreation.

This Motion provides an opportunity to develop a holistic approach to tree planting across the local government area and meet specific canopy cover targets by increasing planting opportunities on NSW government-owned property within the local government area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The development of a Strategy for Open Space Tree Planting is not currently included in the Georges River Council Delivery Program or Operational Plan for 2025/26.

Due to current Council priorities and associated internal resourcing constraints, a budget bid will be submitted as part of the 2025/26 Operating Budget process.

FILE REFERENCE D24/338837

ATTACHMENTS

Item: NM107-24Construction of Memorial Garden to Honour Victims of Domestic Violence

Councillor: Councillor Mahoney

MOTION:

- (a) That the General Manager, in close consultation with local women's and family support groups, refuges and charities, NSW Police and NSW Health and any other relevant organisations and authorities, prepares a report to be presented to a future meeting of Council to consider the feasibility and approximate cost of constructing a Memorial Garden in order to honour victims of domestic violence.
- (b) That the report incorporates potential locations and funding sources, including internal and external sources, and NSW and Federal grants.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT:

The Motion is consistent with the following Council strategies and plans:

- Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032, Pillar 1 Our Community, Goal 1.3.1. Implement actions to maintain and promote the community safety of our area.
- Social Justice Charter 2022-2026 Principles of respect and empowerment.
- Social Justice Charter Plan Focus 2 -Safe Places and Spaces People in Georges River feel safe, accepted and included.
- Georges River Council Community Safety Education Program (CSEP) to raise awareness about community safety issues including domestic violence.

Should Council approve this motion, a review of the following plans and policies that relate to the placement and form of memorials in the Georges River Local Government Area (LGA) will be required:

- Place Naming Policy this policy is due for review in May 2025.
- Generic and site-specific Plans of Management these plans provide rules for the use of open space in the LGA.

Should Council approve this motion, consultation will be conducted with the St George Domestic Violence Committee, Council's key partner in addressing domestic and family violence. This committee comprises of local organisations that provide support to individuals experiencing domestic and family violence in the St George region. Additional consultation will include the St George Local Area Command, South East Sydney Local Health District, and individuals with lived experience to assess the relevance and suitability of establishing such a garden.

Council currently delivers the following domestic and family violence-related initiatives under the Community Safety Education Program:

- Annual St George Candlelight Vigil to mark National Domestic Violence Remembrance Day;
- Annual NO Domestic Violence Walk for schools and community organisations to mark International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women;
- 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence education campaign;
- Development of resources responding to emerging trends; and

Financial Implications

Should Council approve this motion, the anticipated cost of consultation with the community and relevant organisations as well as the cost of policy and document review is within Council's allocated operational budget.

The cost of constructing a Memorial Garden to honour victims of domestic violence is not in Councils allocated operational budget and will be provided in a future report.

FILE REFERENCE

D24/338935

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QWN034-24 Merv Lynch Reserve Dog Park

Author: Deputy Mayor, Councillor Liu

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Questions with Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

Can the General Manager provide information on Council's current proposal and feedback from the surrounding communities on completion of the Your Say consultation regarding the Merv Lynch Reserve Dog Park?

OFFICER RESPONSE

Council has received strong positive and negative feedback from the community regarding the Merv Lynch Dog Park during the first round of community consultation through 'Your Say Georges River'.

Based on the feedback received, two detailed concept designs for a dog park in Merv Lynch have been developed that are aimed at meeting the differing demands of the community and cater for all user groups.

Council is seeking feedback on these detailed concept designs through 'Your Say Georges River' (<u>https://yoursay.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/off-leash-dog-park-improvements</u>) and encourages all interested community members to provide their feedback.

This consultation is open from 03/12/24 until 12/01/25.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QWN035-24 Homelessness in Georges River

Author: Councillor Ambihaipahar

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Questions with Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

NM046-23 - Homelessness in Georges River

This Motion was passed in August 2023 and appears to be still in progress. Can I have outline of what has been done to date besides the issuance of letters and why is this Motion taking a long time to complete?

OFFICER RESPONSE

The Community Safety portfolio sits within the Community Capacity Building team, which has a full time equivalent of 5.8FTE. During 2024, the average vacancy rate has been 20.2%, which has impacted on project delivery.

Given the vacancy rate, the Community Capacity Building team has prioritised projects based on compliance, legislation requirements and budget allocation in 2024. Priority projects in 2024 included development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy, implementation of our legislated Disability Inclusion Action Plan, implementation of the Community Safety Education Program, delivery of legislated actions within Council's Child Safe Action Plan, consultation on and implementation of the Social Justice Charter Plan, and undertaking Council's first Accessible, Inclusive and Liveable Communities Audit of key Council facilities. In addition, the Community Capacity Building team delivered initiatives aligning with identified dates of significance including Seniors Expo, GRYFest, Reconciliation Week, Child Protection Week and NO Domestic Violence Walk as well as the Community Grants and Venue Hire Grants programs.

Council officers are undertaking research and planning required to develop and prepare the report in response to NM046-23 - Homelessness in Georges River. The Community Capacity Building team currently has a vacancy rate of 17.2% and portfolios have been realigned within the team to allow Council officers to prioritise a number of projects in the first half of 2025. These projects will include implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy and Action Plan, Dementia Friendly Communities accreditation, and Homelessness in Georges River research and report.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QWN036-24 Kempt Field

Author: Councillor Pun

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Questions with Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

Can Council provide an update on Kempt Field, noting and including how it is dealing with the ammonia coming from the developments at 93 Forest Road and 12 Jack Brabham Drive?

OFFICER RESPONSE

In September 2024, the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) commenced the construction and remediation phase of their Kempt Field Site Remediation Project. The Waste Assets Management Corporation (WAMC) within Property and Development NSW, a division of DPHI, is leading the delivery of the \$11.8 million remediation of the NSW Government owned 3.17 ha Kempt Field public reserve.

The WAMC Kempt Field Site Remediation Project aims to address longstanding subsidence and buried waste issues. Further investigations were undertaken by WAMC at the site in mid-March 2024 and these findings informed a Remediation Action Plan and the scope of works required to manage the issues.

The land associated with Kempt Field and parts of adjoining premises were used as a previous landfill site. Ammonia may be generated due to the breakdown of organic matter within a landfill site and can be present in leachate (liquid that results from the percolation or seepage of water through a solid waste disposal site). Where ammonia is detected in leachate from former landfill sites it is collected and treated prior to discharge to the sewer.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QWN037-24 12-22 Dora Street, Hurstville

Author: Councillor Wang

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Questions with Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

What is the status of the fire safety compliance at the premises known as 12 to 22 Dora Street Hurstville?

Where can owners/occupiers of units within this premises find out further information?

OFFICER RESPONSE

As the subject of this Question with Notice relates to an ongoing regulatory investigation, it is not appropriate to make public comment regarding the status of the investigation, other than to say that investigations are continuing. Providing further information in a public forum could compromise Council's investigation and leave Council open to legal liability and reputational damage.

Council's Development Compliance Team is working with fire safety experts engaged by the Building Management Committee (who have been established to address fire safety compliance), the legal representatives of the premises and Fire and Rescue NSW to resolve the fire safety issues to bring the premises into compliance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Council will update these entities on the status of the investigation as it progresses.

Owners or occupiers of units with this premises are to contact their Strata Manager for the premises or the managing agent for any Unit under a lease/rental agreement to obtain further information.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QWN038-24 Lugarno Shopping Centre Accessible Parking and Toilet Facilities

- Author: Councillor Anzellotti
- **Directorate:** Office of the General Manager
- Matter Type: Questions with Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

Accessible Parking at Lugarno Shops:

- 1. Can the Council confirm whether the accessible parking at Lugarno shops complies with the AS/NZS 2890.6-2009 standards, which outline the requirements for accessible car parking spaces?
- 2. Is it true that the accessible parking spaces are not currently meeting the required dimensions of 2.4m wide with a 2.4m shared space in between?

Toilet Amenities Block:

- 1. Why is there a survey being conducted when a petition with over 500 signatures has already been collected in support of the amenities block?
- 2. Could the council explain why the survey seems to be framed in a way that may discourage support for the project, such as asking questions like, "If removal of parking was required to deliver this project, would you still be supportive?" which could be seen as casting fear and doubt about the project's success?
- 3. How much is the survey costing the council, and why are these funds being spent when residents and small business owners have already gathered support and done the necessary groundwork for this facility?

OFFICER RESPONSE

Accessible Parking at Lugarno Shops:

and compliance with legislative requirements.

- 1. The accessible car parking bays were established in accordance with the requirements of AS2890.5-2009.
- 2. The current dimensions of the accessible spaces are 3.8m and 3.6m wide, in line with the requirements of AS2890.5-2009. The current AS2890.5-2022 requires a shared space of 2.4m between car spaces for any newly installed accessible car parking spaces.

Toilet Amenities Block:

- The petition was not operated through an official Council channel. The survey is conducted through 'Your Say Georges River'. 'Your Say Georges River' is Council's official public participation platform. This survey ensures fair and equitable participation for all community members, allowing everyone to voice their opinions. As per the Council Resolution (NM029-24) requiring consultation with Lugarno Progress Association, local business owners and resident, Council officers have undertaken an approach that aligns with Council's commitment to best practices in community engagement as outlined in our Community Engagement Strategy 2023-2033, which includes equitable practices that enable all community members to actively participate in democratic processes
- 2. This survey poses questions for the community to consider regarding the construction of public amenities at Chivers Hill Shops. As car parking may be impacted by the options available, a balanced view from the community is sought in relation to all aspects of use to ensure

alignment with Council's commitment of being open and transparent in our engagement efforts.

3. 'Your Say Georges River' is managed through existing internal resources and staffing; no additional expenditure is incurred in its operation.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QWN039-24 Glenlee

Author: Councillor Mahoney

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Questions with Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

- 1. Has there been a response from the Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC, Minister for Climate Change, Energy, Heritage and the Environment. to the following correspondence from Council?:
 - (a) Council's letter to the Minister dated 13 September 2023 (as resolved in NM050-23), which requested NSW Government funding for the preparation of a business case for the purchase of Glenlee; and
 - (b) Council's letter to the Minister sent on 24 April 2024 (as resolved in NM037-24) which raised heritage protection and other matters.
- 2. By legal definition, what would trigger an "imminent threat" to enable the Minister to enact a new Interim Heritage Order?

OFFICER RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS

- 1. (a) No letter has been received in response to Council's request for funding for a business case.
 - (b) A letter in response was received on 3 June 2024 advising that the existing local heritage listing on the Georges River Local Environmental Plan 2021 provides protection for Glenlee's heritage values under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.
- 2. There is no legal definition of 'imminent threat' in any relevant legislation, however Interim Heritage Orders (IHOs) can only be made for sites of potential heritage significance that are not already afforded statutory heritage protection. Glenlee is already listed on an environmental planning instrument as an item of environmental heritage so there is no legal ability to issue any further IHOs.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QWN040-24 Tree Managment Policy Review

Author: Councillor Landsberry

Directorate: Office of the General Manager

Matter Type: Questions with Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

Further to Notice of Motion NM099-24 Tree Management Policy Review, can the Director of Assets and Infrastructure please advise:

Are there any Tallowwood trees currently scheduled for replacement as per the former Kogarah Council Street Tree Management Plan, due to ongoing damage to private property and Council infrastructure?

OFFICER RESPONSE

The former Kogarah Council did commence a block removal program to remove selected Eucalyptus Microcorys (Tallowwood) in accordance with the 'Kogarah Council Street Tree Management Strategy & Masterplan 2009 part 3.3.3'.

The criteria for inclusion for removal was based on the following:

- Health of the trees.
- Structural condition of the trees.
- Poor form, primarily from ongoing over-pruning due to powerlines
- Significant damage to public utility or private infrastructure where the problem cannot be overcome by an engineering solution.

A large portion of the trees that were identified within this strategy were removed during this time. Others were identified, however were withdrawn from the list as other management strategies were implemented to mitigate issues.

Georges River Council has developed new policies, procedures and plans of management, including the 'Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032' identifying the community's desire for increased canopy cover. The recently adopted '2024 Tree Management Policy' provides a framework for tree management including pruning and removal when necessary.

Georges River Council has an aging canopy, and while removal is warranted at times, it is only undertaken when all practical management strategies have been investigated and exhausted.

Currently, there are no Eucalyptus Microcorys (Tallowwood) scheduled for removal due to ongoing damage to private property or Council infrastructure. In most recent cases, council officers have been able to undertake works or implement strategies to mitigate damage, including root pruning, installation of root barriers, or installation of flexible porous paving solutions.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

QUESTIONS WITH NO NOTICE

Item: QNN008-24 Question asked at the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2025 - QWN033-24 Code of Conduct Costs

- Author: Manager Office of the General Manager
- **Directorate:** Office of the General Manager
- Matter Type: Questions with no Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

Councillor Ambihaipahar asked the following question which was taken on notice at the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2024 in relation to QWN033-24 Code of Conduct Costs:

Q1. I noted in the response that it didn't include staff time and that was on the basis that we didn't have data for the period that was requested. Do you know what periods we do have data for staff time spent on code of conduct investigations?

Are we able to provide an actual amount just for transparency in that response on how much has been spent on staff time for that period of time?

OFFICER RESPONSE

The estimated notional cost for staff time spent on matters related to code of conduct investigations totalled \$45,900, and is broken down as follows:

2018/19 – Nil data 2019/20 - \$17,400 2020/21 - \$13,500 2021/22 - \$5,200 2022/23 – Nil data 2023/24 - \$9,800

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QNN009-24 Question asked at the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2024 - NM091-24 Summer Water Safety Advocacy

- Author: Manager Office of the General Manager
- Directorate: Office of the General Manager
- Matter Type: Questions with no Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

Councillor Mort asked the following question which was taken on notice at the Council Meeting held on 25 November 2024 in relation to NM091-24 Summer Water Safety Advocacy:

Q1. Could the Kids Alive on-line Learn to Swim Program be included in the 'Get Summer Ready' communication campaign?

OFFICER RESPONSE

The Kids Alive on-line learn to swim program is consistent with the 'Get Summer Ready' campaign and has been linked to relevant social media.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Item: QNN010-24 Question asked at the Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting 9 December 2024 re:TAC096-24 :73 Ponyara Road Beverly Hills

- Author: Executive Assistant to the Director Assets and Infrastructure
- Directorate: Assets and Infrastructure
- Matter Type: Questions with no Notice

COUNCILLOR QUESTION

Councillor Pun asked the following question which was taken on notice at the Assets and Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 9 December 2024 in relation to TAC096-24 : 73 Ponyara Road Beverly Hills.

Q1. Could Council officers provide further details on whether this is a work zone or what the proposed work zone is in relation to?

OFFICER RESPONSE

The proposal is for the demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new two storey dwelling. The 'Works Zone' will be placed in front of No.73 Ponyara Road, Beverly Hills, providing an area where vehicles associated with the works can park, allowing safe and direct access to the site. The 'Works Zone' is 6m in length and will be in operation between 7am and 5pm, Monday – Saturday.

Answer published in the business paper.

ATTACHMENTS

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.

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.

OPEN COUNCIL

CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS