

ITEM 3.2. AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS FOR COUNCILLOR JOHN MANT**FILE NO: S051491****MINUTE BY THE LORD MAYOR**To Council:

On 26 January 2016, Councillor John Mant became a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his '*significant service to urban planning and public administration as an advisor and consultant to local and state governments.*'

The honour recognises his distinguished career in Australia and overseas, and his strong commitment to directing his professional expertise and experience to public service.

Over his long career, John's policy and strategic advice has been sought by State and Federal Governments and major international organisations, including the World Bank. He has led planning and local government reform in several Australian states, including rewriting the NSW Local Government Act, which has resulted in more effective management systems and greater transparency.

As Commissioner of the 1992 inquiry into the Department of Housing, John made significant progress for social housing tenants. As a result of the inquiry, management of social housing in NSW was shifted away from architects and engineers to on-the-ground staff, including social workers.

Between 1993 and 1995 John served as Acting and Assistant Commissioner of the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption, and since that time continued to provide advice on issues relating to corruption prevention and transparency.

John has influenced new generations of planners through serving as Adjunct Professor of Planning at the University of Technology, Sydney from 1996 to 2005, introducing them to ideas such as 'place management'.

His professional work has been matched by his involvement in Common Equity NSW, the not-for-profit holding company for NSW cooperative housing organisations, his service as President of the Paddington Society, and his willingness to provide advice and assistance to numerous community organisations.

In 2012, John sought to extend this community service by successfully seeking election to the Council of the City of Sydney as a member of the Clover Moore Independent Team. I know we all appreciate Councillor Mant's advice on local government issues and value the knowledge and vast experience he brings to the City.

In 2008, a journalist asked John about his personal philosophy. He summarised it as: "*If there's something wrong, do something about it.*"

The people of Sydney continue to benefit from this personal philosophy and John's advocacy for transparent and effective governance and his thoughtful, holistic approaches to urban development.

Councillors, please join me in congratulating Councillor Mant on his important and well deserved honour.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that Council congratulate Councillor John Mant AM on being made a Member of the Order of Australia.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE

Lord Mayor