

## Relevant Information for Council

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**FILE:** X084741 **DATE:** 17 March 2022

**TO:** Lord Mayor and Councillors

**FROM:** Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

**THROUGH:** Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** Information Relevant To Item 7.2 - Tech Central Innovation Precinct - Progress Update

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### Alternative Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the current and upcoming work of the City of Sydney in the Tech Central innovation precinct;
- (B) Council approve the ongoing financial contribution to the University of Sydney of \$50,000 (exclusive of GST) per year for two years as the City's contribution towards the cost of an officer to provide secretariat and coordination support for the Camperdown Ultimo Alliance, which is coordinated and managed by University of Sydney;
- (C) Council approve the financial contribution of \$39,000 (inclusive of GST) as the City's contribution towards the Camperdown Structure Plan, which is coordinated and managed by Inner West Council;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise and administer contracts with the University of Sydney in respect of the contribution referred to in (B) above and Inner West Council in respect of (C) above; and
- (E) ***Council continue to promote the importance of community engagement among all partners and projects owners within the precinct and work with those stakeholders to provide information for the community about what is happening in Tech Central overall.***

Additions shown in ***bold italics***.

## **Purpose**

The Tech Central Innovation Precinct - Progress Update report identifies community consultation around specific projects within the precinct as well as regular and accessible information about the development of the precinct as a whole as critically important. Councillors discussed this issue at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 14 March 2022 and suggested that an additional recommendation (E) be included to commit to this work.

## **Background**

The Camperdown Ultimo Alliance is primarily a collaboration mechanism to bring the key precinct partners together. The Alliance does not have a community engagement function or resource. However it can be an advocate for the local communities to ensure adequate and genuine consultation is conducted as part of individual project delivery within the precinct.

Councillors discussed the issue of the community not having clarity on what is happening in the precinct, what projects are planned and when they will have opportunities to participate in consultation. The Greater Sydney Commission has recently appointed an engagement officer for Tech Central and City staff will meet with this officer to advise them in developing a community communications plan. This will provide local communities with access to information about the innovation precinct as a whole, as well as individual projects.

For City of Sydney led projects, we will consult the community in line with the Community Engagement Strategy and usual practice. Where the City is not responsible for community consultation for a project, staff will advocate to the project owners directly and through the Camperdown Ultimo Alliance to develop and implement adequate and timely engagement plans.

## **Memo from Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer**

Prepared by: Kate Deacon, Executive Manager Strategy and Communication

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Approved



**MONICA BARONE**

Chief Executive Officer