

# Council

Meeting No 8

Monday 20 September 2021

Notice No 8/1633

Notice Date 16 September 2021

*minutes*

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## **Present**

The Right Hon The Lord Mayor - Councillor Clover Moore (Chair)

Members Deputy Lord Mayor - Councillor Jess Scully, Councillor Craig Chung, Councillor Christine Forster, Councillor Robert Kok, Councillor Jess Miller, Councillor Professor Kerryn Phelps AM, Councillor Linda Scott, Councillor Professor Philip Thalys and Councillor Angela Vithoulkas.

At the commencement of business at 5.03pm, those present were:-

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Scully, Councillor Chung, Councillor Forster, Councillor Kok, Councillor Miller, Councillor Phelps, Councillor Scott, Councillor Thalys and Councillor Vithoulkas.

The Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Director City Projects and Property, Director People, Performance and Technology, Director City Planning, Development and Transport, Director Legal and Governance and Director City Life were also present.

Councillor Scott left the meeting of Council at 6.07pm prior to discussion on Item 6.4, and returned at 6.09pm, after the vote on Item 6.4. Councillor Scott was not present at the meeting of Council, which was held remotely, during discussion or voting on Item 6.4.

## **Remote Meeting**

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that the meeting of Council was being held via audio visual links, with Councillors (and relevant staff) attending the meeting remotely.

## **Opening Prayer and Acknowledgement of Country**

The Lord Mayor opened the meeting with prayer and an acknowledgement of country.

## **Webcasting Statement**

The Chair (the Lord Mayor), advised that in accordance with the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice, Council meetings are audio visually recorded and webcast live on the City of Sydney website. The Chair (the Lord Mayor) asked that courtesy and respect be observed throughout the meeting and advised those in attendance to refrain from making defamatory statements.

**Item 1      Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

That the Minutes of the meeting of Council of Monday, 16 August 2021, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

## **Item 2        Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Linda Scott made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4.2 on the agenda, as she is President of Local Government NSW (LGNSW), the organisation whose annual conference the item relates to.
- a pecuniary interest in Item 6.4 on the agenda, in that she is the President of Local Government NSW (LGNSW), which is one of the external member organisations under discussion. The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) membership is held via LGNSW membership, and she is also ALGA President. LGNSW has Memorandums of Understanding with International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) and deep engagement with a large range of other industry organisations including the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA).

Councillor Scott stated that she would leave the meeting for this item.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of Council.

## **Local Government and Planning Legislation Amendment (Political Donations) Act 2008**

No disclosures were made by any members of the public at this meeting of Council.

**Item 3 Minutes by the Lord Mayor****Item 3.1 Supporting Vulnerable Communities Through the Pandemic****Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

**Impact of the Pandemic**

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to have a devastating impact on our City. Many of our fellow citizens have lost connection with their family and friends, lost businesses, employment and the ability to support their families, and lost the ability to participate in the activities that bring them joy. Sadly, an increasing number have also lost loved ones.

Many people say that this lockdown, which has now stretched for three months, has been harder than the restrictions imposed last year. Whilst necessary to protect us from Covid-19, it is taking its toll.

This has led to a mental health crisis, with some truly shocking statistics noting the increases in people seeking assistance from services, harming themselves or taking their own lives.

With the Federal Government finally securing the supply of vaccines, and an increased effort from the NSW Government to facilitate access through mass vaccination hubs, I am pleased to see that more than 80 per cent of people within our State have now had at least one dose of a vaccine. The NSW Government has also announced a 'roadmap' for what life will look like when we reach 70 per cent of the State having had both doses of a vaccine. Expected in late October, I know we are all looking forward to a greater level of freedom.

However, I remain concerned that many of our most vulnerable community members will be left behind. The rates of vaccination within our Local Government Area are lower than the State average and many of those who remain unvaccinated experience disadvantages, live in social and affordable housing, or are members of our Aboriginal and multicultural communities. They are at risk now and this will only increase when more of our economy opens up next month. This risk has been further highlighted by the rapid increase in Covid cases in areas such as Redfern, Waterloo and Glebe.

This is a critical issue that requires immediate action.

**Social Services Roundtable**

On 9 September 2021, I held a roundtable meeting with social service providers to discuss the impacts of the pandemic and restrictions on our vulnerable communities.

We heard that many of our most disadvantaged are being disproportionately impacted by restrictions, due to an existing lack of housing and food security, as well as inadequate levels of income support from the Federal Government.

There has been a massive increase in demand for food relief, which is putting pressure on community organisations who are working around the clock to help people meet their daily needs.

A lack of affordable housing means many people are barely able to get by even when working multiple jobs. When these jobs are lost due to restrictions, they simply cannot afford to pay rent and feed themselves and their families.

The income support payments available from the Federal Government are less than those provided last year. Regardless of any emergency payments, the base rate of Job Seeker must be increased to provide people with an appropriate safety net.

Hundreds of people experiencing homelessness have been temporarily housed, but we must ensure that the work is being done now to ensure there is appropriate transitional and ongoing housing provided when restrictions are lifted. We cannot have a situation where people are back on the street without support.

We must continue to advocate for structural social inequities to be addressed.

The roundtable meeting also provided an opportunity to highlight the great work being undertaken by service providers, as well as our own City staff, who continue to work hard for our community.

### **Increasing Access to Vaccinations**

In recent weeks I have been meeting regularly with the Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) to explore ways in which we can increase the accessibility of vaccinations within the City of Sydney Local Government Area and for social housing tenants and our local Aboriginal communities in particular.

This includes more, better located and consistent vaccination clinics, as well as outreach services that can also be paired with information, testing, and providing critical supplies, such as masks and food. To enable this, we have offered many City facilities, that have otherwise been closed due to restrictions.

As a result of these discussions, I am pleased to advise that several vaccination clinics have now been opened or extended, through until December 2021:

- Peter Forsyth Auditorium, Franklyn Street, Glebe
- Ultimo Community Centre, William Henry Street, Ultimo
- Green Square Library, Botany Road, Zetland
- National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, George Street, Redfern
- Northcott Community Centre, Devonshire Street, Surry Hills
- Flourish Australia, Buckingham Street, Surry Hills
- Ozanam Learning Centre, Forbes Street, Woolloomooloo

Sydney Local Health District staff will also be going door to door in social housing towers in Redfern and Waterloo to offer vaccinations.

I would like to thank all of those involved at Sydney Local Health District, as well as our own City staff, who have made this possible.

We will all continue to be vigilant, meet regularly and explore every opportunity to provide the best opportunity for our community to be kept safe and to get vaccinated.

## Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note that vulnerable communities within the City of Sydney are being disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions;
- (B) Council note our previous support of the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) campaign to 'Raise the Rate' of Federal Government income support payments through a resolution on 24 June 2019;
- (C) Council thank the many dedicated service providers, Sydney Local Health District and City of Sydney staff for their ongoing support of our community and for enabling a significant increase in the provision of Covid-19 vaccinations to our most vulnerable;
- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to continue to provide access to City facilities for vaccination clinics as a priority for the remainder of the year;
- (E) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Prime Minister requesting an increase in the Job Seeker payment; and
- (F) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Premier requesting the urgent provision of more social and affordable housing within the City of Sydney, as well as Greater Sydney, and a funded transition plan for people experiencing homelessness who have been temporarily housed during the current lockdown.

## COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Phelps, and by consent, the Minute was varied by the addition of words, such that clause (D) read as follows –

- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to continue to provide access to City facilities for vaccination clinics as a priority for the remainder of the year and beyond the end of 2021 as necessary;

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Phelps –

That clauses (E) and (F) be added as follows –

- (A) Council note that vulnerable communities within the City of Sydney are being disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions;
- (B) Council note our previous support of the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) campaign to 'Raise the Rate' of Federal Government income support payments through a resolution on 24 June 2019;
- (C) Council thank the many dedicated service providers, Sydney Local Health District and City of Sydney staff for their ongoing support of our community and for enabling a significant increase in the provision of Covid-19 vaccinations to our most vulnerable;

- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to continue to provide access to City facilities for vaccination clinics as a priority for the remainder of the year;
- (E) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to, in line with the City of Sydney's City for All strategy, and as part of the City's Grants Policy review, create a long-term funding program for social and community services that increases annually in line with increasing staffing and resource costs of City based services;
- (F) the Chief Executive be requested to allocate a further \$10M funding to the City's existing Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund over the 2021/22 to 2023/24 period;
- (G) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Prime Minister requesting an increase in the Job Seeker payment; and
- (H) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Premier requesting the urgent provision of more social and affordable housing within the City of Sydney, as well as Greater Sydney, and a funded transition plan for people experiencing homelessness who have been temporarily housed during the current lockdown.

The amendment was lost on the following show of hands –

(Ayes) Councillor Scott

(Noes) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chung, Forster, Kok, Miller, Phelps, Scully, Thalys and Vithoulkas.

Amendment lost.

The Minute, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

S051491

### **Item 3.2 The Water City - Collaborating with Sydney Water to Improve Our Water Management**

#### **Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

On 9 August 2021, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its sixth assessment report on climate change. The report makes for grim reading, as it further confirms that some of the impacts of climate change are now inevitable.

The City has been responding to the challenge of climate change on multiple fronts.

As a leader in this space, the City of Sydney is not only aiming for the bold emissions target of Net Zero by 2035, but we're also implementing infrastructure roadmaps that will make Sydney resilient to changing climate.

One great example of climate resilient infrastructure that will be essential to adapt to climate change are the corridors of green spaces. Greening reduces the impacts of urban heating, helps remove pollutants and boosts mental health. The City of Sydney recently committed to greening 40 per cent of its local area by 2050.

The City of Sydney led with the development of our Decentralised Water Master Plan ten years ago.

The Sydney Park Water Harvesting Scheme was originally completed in 2015. In 2017, the original water treatment plant at Sydney Park was removed to accommodate changing land use resulting from the NSW Government's WestConnex road project.

This required the City to build a new fit-for-purpose stormwater recycling treatment plant, so we could continue to utilise recycled water in and around Sydney Park. The new scheme harvests stormwater from Munnii Creek catchment, diverting up to 840 ML per year. It is pivotal in topping up the Sydney Park wetlands and irrigating the 44-hectare park and our Nursery Depot. While Sydney Park is our most significant project, the City has also installed or upgraded alternative water sources in over 20 parks. We have also installed over 250 rain gardens that clean stormwater runoff.

The Green Square Town Centre Water Re-Use scheme is another successful program that supplies recycled water for non-potable uses to 1,500 apartments currently, which is expected to rise to 4,000 apartments when the town centre is completed.

The City also committed to drought-proofing the CBD by installing recycled water pipelines in George Street and the Wynyard Walk during the construction of the Light Rail. This will take a significant step forward next month, when the City of Sydney partners with Sydney Water on an Expression of Interest to engage private recycled water operators across the city to supply recycled water to city buildings and parks.

I am heartened that Sydney Water are keen to collaborate with the City of Sydney supporting our aspirations for recycled water. The focus of the City aligns with Sydney Water's strategic objective of "Thriving, Liveable and Sustainable Cities".

The collaboration with Sydney Water is occurring on multiple fronts. It includes Sydney Water working with the City's Sustainability Programs team to help building owners reduce water waste and improve water efficiency, recommending to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment that Sydney Water would like to see recycled water use and dual plumbing in Waterloo Estate.

Sydney Water will be hosting the inaugural Sydney Water Innovation Festival from 18 to 20 October 2021. This event is modelled on the successful Northumbrian Water Innovation Festival which is now in its fifth year.

I am pleased to have been invited to open this online Festival, which is intended to bring together water industry, research and academia, key private sector stakeholders, the Indigenous and wider community to showcase leading-edge innovation, and address key water management challenges.

I am encouraged to see the new Managing Director, Roch Cheroux and his Executive Team at Sydney Water focused on innovation and sustainability. This approach will be critical to strengthen Sydney's position as a leading water-wise city and also to protect and clean-up our Sydney Harbour.

Greater Sydney Harbour is one of the world's greatest Harbours and is a state, national and global asset. It stretches from its upper tidal limits on the Parramatta River downstream to the ocean entrance between North and South Head. Its catchments are the home of 3.07 million people (projected to go to 4.35 million by 2041). It has been a magnet for tourists the world over and a source of great ecological diversity.

However, its waters have also been home to industry and pollution – most sediment contaminants entered the Harbour prior to 1970, when industry practices were poorly regulated. While we have seen some improvement, our Harbour is continually threatened by possible adverse impacts of population growth and development. It is also susceptible to the impacts of climate change including high rainfall intensity and resulting catchment runoff. In order to make the Harbour swimmable, it will require a whole of government approach.

Our focus on water recycling and stormwater management is a key ingredient in improving the quality of water in the Harbour.

The City is reducing stormwater pollution entering into the Harbour by installing and maintaining stormwater treatment systems such as Gross Pollutant Traps (GPT), raingardens, wetlands and swales in our stormwater network. The City's 250 raingardens and 47 Gross Pollutant Traps prevent hundreds of tonnes of litter from entering our waterways.

The City is also a leader in integrating water sensitive urban design (WSUD) in all urban development. Sydney Water's renewed focus on Liveability is makes them a great partner in focusing on aspects of our city that makes it enjoyable for residents and visitors, such as a clean and swimmable Sydney Harbour.

The idea of a clean and swimmable Harbour has been long held vision of The City. When the City built Pirrama Park, we future proofed this possibility in its design and construction. In 2019, the City commissioned an architect to look at options for bringing to life a swimmable Harbour – and highlighting what is possible in iconic parts of Sydney Harbour. There is growing community interest in this, and I would like to acknowledge the representations I have received from the Millers Point Community Residents Group and Pyrmont residents on this issue.

This vision rests on improving water quality, and the City will continue to play its part to make this happen through our stormwater management initiatives, and through our growing collaboration with Sydney Water.

**Recommendation**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council commend Sydney Water for its focus on innovation, sustainability and liveability;
- (B) Council note that Sydney Water are partnering with the City of Sydney on an Expression of Interest to be released to the market in October 2021 engaging with private recycled water operators across the city and how they might to supply recycled water to city buildings and parks;
- (C) Council note that the Lord Mayor will open the Sydney Water Innovation Festival, which is intended to bring together water industry, research and academia, key private sector stakeholders, the Indigenous and wider community to showcase leading-edge innovation, and address key water management challenges; and
- (D) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Premier to advocate for a whole of Government approach to making swimming possible in iconic parts of Sydney Harbour.

**COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE**

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

### **Item 3.3 Transition to Progress Pride Flag**

#### **Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras adopted the Progress Pride Flag during the Mardi Gras Festival 2021 to better represent the diversity of the LGBTQI+ community. It will continue to adopt the Progress Pride Flag for the Mardi Gras Festival 2022 and into the future.

Feedback on this move was overwhelmingly positive.

The Progress Flag was designed by non-binary artist and graphic designer Daniel Quasar in 2018 and incorporates:

- the existing six-coloured Rainbow Flag, widely recognised as the symbol of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities, designed by Gilbert Baker for the 1978 San Francisco Freedom Day Parade; and
- a chevron (a V shaped element) comprising black and brown for Indigenous people and people of colour and white, pink and blue, the colours of the Trans Pride Flag designed by American trans woman Monica Helms in 1999 - to represent trans, non-binary and gender diverse people.

The City has flown rainbow banners along Oxford Street every Mardi Gras since 2006 and at other times of the year. The City has held a rainbow flag raising ceremony at Sydney Town Hall since 2010. This event also marks the beginning of the Mardi Gras Festival. A rainbow flag is also permanently flown at Taylor Square.

I am now proposing that the City use the Progress Pride Flag to visually celebrate the gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, queer, intersex and sexually and gender diverse communities. In doing so, the City of Sydney would continue to demonstrate that its precincts are inclusive and safe and that the City supports all within the LGBTQI+ community.

I am also proposing that the existing flag and banners be recycled as we have done with other banners.

**Recommendation**

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) fly the Progress Pride Flag instead of the Rainbow Flag at Sydney Town Hall during Mardi Gras Festival (February/March) and Pride Week (June) annually and at other times significant to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community as required or requested;
- (B) replace the Rainbow Flag with the Progress Pride Flag at Taylor Square and at other locations within the City of Sydney where the Rainbow Flag is flown;
- (C) replace the existing Rainbow Banners with banners incorporating the Progress Pride Flag;
- (D) recycle the existing Rainbow Flags and Banners so they may have an ongoing use; and
- (E) note that the costs to replace and recycle these flags will be absorbed within the 2021/22 City Life operational budget.

**COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE**

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

**Item 4 Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer**

**Item 4.1 Proposed Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for 2022**

**Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer**

To Council:

This memorandum requests that Council approve the draft Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for 2022.

The draft Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for 2021 (Attachment A) has been prepared on the basis of a three-week meeting cycle (Councillor Briefings, Committees and Council), consistent with the meeting arrangements adopted by Council in previous years. The draft schedule proposes 10 meeting cycles for 2022.

Section 365 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that "the council is required to meet at least 10 times each year, each time in a different month", with "year" meaning the period from 1 July to the following 30 June (the financial year).

To ensure compliance with the provisions of section 365, the draft Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for the calendar year 2022 provides for:

- (a) five meetings in the first half of 2022 (making a total of 10 meetings for the 2021/22 financial year, inclusive of the five meetings of Council which will have been held in the second half of 2021); and
- (b) five meetings of Council held in the second half of 2022 (making a total of 10 meetings for the 2022/23 financial year, on the basis that a further five meetings of Council will be scheduled for the first half of 2023).

It is noted that:

- (a) the Special Conference of Local Government NSW is currently scheduled to be held from 28 February to 2 March 2022;
- (c) the 2022 Annual Conference of Local Government NSW is currently scheduled to be held from 23 to 25 October 2022;
- (d) briefings will be held on the Tuesday in June 2022 due to a public holiday falling on the relevant Monday; and
- (e) if considered necessary, additional "tentative" briefings dates, intended to accommodate such matters as external presentations, workshops and other non-meeting agenda items, will be separately distributed to Councillors, following approval of the draft schedule.

It would be appropriate for Council to now determine a program of meetings for next year to enable all interested parties to plan their commitments.

The City's website will be updated with the 2022 meeting dates if endorsed by Council.

On 24 July 2021, the Minister for Local Government announced that the September 2021 local government elections would be postponed to address the risks posed by the Delta outbreak of Covid-19 in Greater Sydney. A new date for the local government elections has been set for Saturday 4 December 2021.

On 16 August 2021, Council endorsed an amended schedule of meeting and briefings for 2021 to address the implications arising from the changed election date.

To ensure the timely governance of Council over the summer recess period, it is proposed that an extraordinary meeting of Council be held on Thursday 23 December 2021 after the finalisation of election results (noting that the NSW Electoral Commission and Office of Local Government have advised that this will most likely be between 21 and 23 December 2021).

## **Recommendation**

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) adopt the draft schedule of meetings and briefings for 2022, as shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum; and
- (B) endorse holding the post-election extraordinary meeting of Council on 23 December 2021.

## **MONICA BARONE**

Chief Executive Officer

## **Attachments**

**Attachment A.** Draft Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for 2022

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) adopt the draft schedule of meetings and briefings for 2022, as shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum; and
- (B) endorse holding the post-election extraordinary meeting of Council on 23 December 2021.

Carried unanimously.

S063444-02

<b>SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND BRIEFINGS FOR 2022</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>MEETING</b>
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – Monday 20 December 2021 to Wednesday 26 January 2022, inclusive</b>	
<i>**THURSDAY 23 DECEMBER 2021</i>	<i>EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL (Post Election)</i>
MONDAY 31 JANUARY	RECESS
MONDAY 7 FEBRUARY	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 14 FEBRUARY	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY	COUNCIL
MONDAY 28 FEBRUARY	RECESS
MONDAY 28 FEBRUARY – WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH	LGNSW SPECIAL CONFERENCE
MONDAY 7 MARCH	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 14 MARCH	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 21 MARCH	COUNCIL
MONDAY 28 MARCH	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 4 APRIL	COMMITTEES
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – Monday 11 April to Monday 25 April 2022, inclusive</b>	
MONDAY 11 APRIL	COUNCIL
FRIDAY 15 APRIL	(Good Friday Public Holiday)
MONDAY 18 APRIL	RECESS (Easter Monday Public Holiday)
MONDAY 25 APRIL	RECESS (ANZAC Day Public Holiday)
MONDAY 2 MAY	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 9 MAY	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 16 MAY	COUNCIL

<b>SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND BRIEFINGS FOR 2022</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>MEETING</b>
MONDAY 23 MAY	RECESS
MONDAY 30 MAY	RECESS
MONDAY 6 JUNE	RECESS
MONDAY 13 JUNE	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
TUESDAY 14 JUNE	BRIEFINGS
SUNDAY 19 JUNE – WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE	ALGA National General Assembly
MONDAY 20 JUNE	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 27 JUNE	COUNCIL
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - Monday 4 July to Friday 15 July 2022, inclusive</b>	
MONDAY 4 JULY	RECESS
MONDAY 11 JULY	RECESS
MONDAY 18 JULY	RECESS
MONDAY 25 JULY	RECESS
MONDAY 1 AUGUST	RECESS
MONDAY 8 AUGUST	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 15 AUGUST	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 22 AUGUST	COUNCIL
MONDAY 29 AUGUST	RECESS
MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 19 SEPTEMBER	COUNCIL
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - Monday 26 September to Friday 7 October 2022, inclusive</b>	

<b>SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND BRIEFINGS FOR 2022</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>MEETING</b>
MONDAY 26 SEPTEMBER	RECESS
MONDAY 3 OCTOBER	RECESS (Labour Day Public Holiday)
MONDAY 10 OCTOBER	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 17 OCTOBER	COMMITTEES
SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER – WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER	LGNSW Annual Conference
MONDAY 31 OCTOBER	COUNCIL
MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 21 NOVEMBER	COUNCIL
MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER	BRIEFINGS
MONDAY 5 DECEMBER	COMMITTEES
MONDAY 12 DECEMBER	COUNCIL
MONDAY 19 DECEMBER	RECESS
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – Wednesday 21 December 2021 to Thursday 26 January 2023, inclusive</b>	

The recess continues until the first Committee meetings of 2023.

## **Item 4.2 Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2021 - Nomination of Delegates**

### **Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer**

To Council:

This memorandum seeks Council's consideration of the nomination of Councillors as voting delegates to the Local Government New South Wales (LGNSW) Annual Conference and provides an update on the structure of the Annual Conference for 2021.

The conference is the main policy-making event for the local government sector. Delegates vote on motions which determine the policies and priorities for LGNSW and the sector. Delegates also vote for the LGNSW Board.

#### **Arrangements for the 2021 Conference**

The postponement of local government elections in NSW has had a significant flow-on effect for LGNSW's Annual Conference, previously scheduled to take place at the Hyatt Regency Sydney from 28 to 30 November 2021.

As a result, LGNSW has decided to split the annual conference event into two components:

- a one-hour Annual Conference to present the annual report and financial reports, which will be conducted online from 9.30am on Monday 29 November 2021; and
- a Special Conference, including the debate and resolution of motions, currently scheduled to be held in-person at the Hyatt Regency Sydney from Monday 28 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022.

As a registered organisation, LGNSW is bound by a number of legal obligations, including the need to report back to members on financial performance within six months of the end of the 2020/21 financial year. For this reason, an Annual Conference must be held within the relevant time period.

LGNSW's Annual Conference has traditionally provided the opportunity for member councils to bring forward policy motions for debate and resolution, thus helping to set the advocacy agenda for the year to come. Member feedback following the 2020 online conference experience indicated a strong preference for an in-person event at which more motions could be debated and resolved.

Motions will now be debated and resolved at LGNSW's Special Conference (Monday 28 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022).

The deadline for accepting motions for inclusion in the Special Conference business paper is Sunday 30 January 2022.

#### **Registration to Attend the Annual Conference Online Event**

Registrations for the Annual Conference online event on 29 November 2021 are now open. There will be no registration fees charged for the 2021 online annual conference.

### **Registration as a Voting Delegate at the Annual Conference Online Event**

The City of Sydney is entitled to register up to 10 voting delegates. It is proposed that Council nominates the Lord Mayor and all Councillors to attend.

The deadline to provide LGNSW with the names of voting delegates is Tuesday 5 October 2021. Additional nominations received after the closing date cannot be accepted. However, the names of voting delegates may be substituted at any time, in line with Rule 34 of the LGNSW Rules.

Voting delegates may not appoint a proxy to attend or vote at formal business sessions on their behalf.

### **LGNSW Board Election**

As 2021 is a Board election year, and to avoid any election irregularities, LGNSW has asked the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to conduct and finalise the election so it does not clash with the local government election.

Due to Covid-related restrictions, the election for the LGNSW Board will be undertaken via postal ballot. The deadline to provide LGNSW with the names of voting delegates for the Board election is Tuesday 5 October 2021.

The postal ballot will open 27 October 2021 and close 24 November 2021.

### **Special Conference 2022**

The deadline to provide LGNSW with the names of voting delegates is Thursday 17 February 2022.

A further memorandum, nominating voting delegates for the Special Conference and providing information on the event will be put to Council for endorsement following the 4 December 2021 election.

### **Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy**

Councillors Craig Chung, Kerry Phelp, Linda Scott, Jess Scully and Angela Vithoukas were the City of Sydney delegates at the online 2020 LGNSW Conference. Expenditure incurred for the 2020 conference totalled \$264.

The Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy 2017 provides for Councillors to attend the LGNSW Annual Conference at the City's expense. Funds are available in the 2021/22 operating budget to cover registration fees, travel and other reasonable expenses incurred by Councillors.

**Recommendation**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council appoint the Lord Mayor and all Councillors as its voting delegates at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference to be held online on 29 November 2021;
- (B) Council appoint the Lord Mayor and all Councillors as its voting delegates for the 2021 Local Government NSW Board election to be held via postal vote conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission;
- (C) all registration fees and other reasonable expenses associated with the attendance of Councillors at the conference be met by the City in accordance with the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy 2017; and
- (D) Council note that a Special Conference, including the debate and resolution of motions, is currently scheduled to be held in-person at the Hyatt Regency Sydney from Monday 28 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022, and that a further memorandum will come to Council with details of this event following the 4 December 2021 Local Government election.

**MONICA BARONE**

Chief Executive Officer

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council appoint the Lord Mayor and all Councillors as its voting delegates at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference to be held online on 29 November 2021;
- (B) Council appoint the Lord Mayor and all Councillors as its voting delegates for the 2021 Local Government NSW Board election to be held via postal vote conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission;
- (C) all registration fees and other reasonable expenses associated with the attendance of Councillors at the conference be met by the City in accordance with the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy 2017; and
- (D) Council note that a Special Conference, including the debate and resolution of motions, is currently scheduled to be held in-person at the Hyatt Regency Sydney from Monday 28 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022, and that a further memorandum will come to Council with details of this event following the 4 December 2021 Local Government election.

Carried unanimously.

X083598

## **Item 5 Matters for Tabling**

### **5.1 Disclosures of Interest**

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved Council note that the Disclosures of Interest returns will be received following the resumption of in-person meetings

Carried unanimously.

### **5.2 Petitions**

#### **(a) Urgent Attention Required for Degraded Nature Strips on Gordon Street in Paddington**

The following petition, of which notice was given by Councillor Scully, was tabled.

We live in Gordon Street in Paddington. Outside most of the houses in our block, between Elizabeth Street and George Lane, the nature strips are essentially dirt. They are dusty when dry and muddy when wet. They make the whole streetscape look terrible and they diminish the community. Their dry dust presents an asthma hazard. They lower the value of our properties.

Our section of Gordon Street is the least well maintained in the neighbourhood. It has been awful for years.

Nearby streets – Stewart Street, Regent Street and even the western end of Gordon Street, have grassed nature strips or nature strips planted with well-chosen plants interspersed with stepping stones. They look good and are an asset to the community.

This issue has been raised with City of Sydney on several occasions by several residents over the last decade. The Council has twice planted rolled turf, but the grass always dies, despite our watering. Perhaps the types of street trees are not compatible with growing grass under them – whatever the reason, our part of Gordon Street looks appalling.

The style of plantings along Regent Street might be a better option and should be considered.

We pay our rates and look after our houses, but City of Sydney is failing to adequately take care of the nature strips which are its responsibility.

It is time this issue was fixed. With Spring coming up, it is the right time to undertake plantings and remediate the nature strips.

Tree roots are cracking the footpath, creating trip hazards and damaging fence footings.

In this same section of Gordon Street, particularly around 46 Gordon Street, aggressive street tree roots are buckling the footpath, creating a trip hazard, and encroaching into property. Council and Telstra have cut the roots and cemented over the hazard on several occasions, but these have been only temporary solutions; the roots grow back and the trip hazard reappears.

The roots have also cracked the render off the limestone plinth that supports the metal fence and will eventually crack the plinth. The plinth and fence are part of the heritage façade of the building. The cracked render contributes to the overall poor look of the streetscape.

Urgent attention is required before the damage gets to the stage where it would require significant and expensive Council remediation.

In summary, we want Council to give this part of Gordon Street the same attention and treatment that other streets in the neighbourhood have received – plant out the nature strips in time for this Spring; and fix the issue of invasive street tree roots.

**(b) Make Nuffield Park Off-Leash**

The following Petition, of which notice was given by Councillor Scott, was tabled.

Zetland and Green Square are the most densely populated communities in Australia – yet they have some of the lowest access to open spaces to play.

Zetland forms part of the Green Square precinct, which has a population of 33,000, growing to 74,200 by 2041.

Zetland urgently needs more open space to play for our many small dogs to exercise and socialise with their inner-city families.

Zetland communities love Joynton Park, which is currently off-leash at all times - but the rapidly growing population needs more spaces to play.

Join the community call to the demand the City of Sydney turns Nuffield Park into a dog off-leash space to play, especially as a haven for our beloved small dogs.

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Thalís –

It is resolved that the Petitions be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

S044250

**Item 6 Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee**

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore

(Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Jess Scully

(Deputy Chair)

Councillors Craig Chung, Christine Forster, Robert Kok, Jess Miller, Prof Kerryn Phelps AM, Linda Scott, Prof Philip Thalys and Angela Vithoukaskas.

At the commencement of business at 2.04pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chung, Forster, Kok, Miller, Phelps, Scott, Scully, Thalys and Vithoukaskas.

Councillor Scott left the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee at 2.11pm, prior to discussion on Item 6.4, and returned at 2.15pm, after the vote on Item 6.4. Councillor Scott was not present at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, which was held remotely, during discussion or voting on Item 6.4.

The meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee concluded at 2.16pm.

**Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee**

Moved by Councillor Scully, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of its meeting of 13 September 2021 be received, with Item 6.1 being noted, the recommendations set out below for Items 6.2, 6.3 and 6.5 being adopted in globo, and Item 6.4 being dealt with as shown immediately following that item.

Carried unanimously.

## Item 6.1

### Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Linda Scott disclosed a pecuniary interest in Item 6.4 on the agenda, in that she is the President of Local Government NSW (LGNSW), which was one of the external member organisations under discussion. The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) membership is held via LGNSW membership, and she is also ALGA President.

In addition, Councillor Scott disclosed that a further membership, the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), has Memorandums of Understanding with LGNSW and ALGA to collaborate, and that LGNSW works closely with the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) and a range of other local government industry organisations listed, including co-hosting events and joint advocacy.

Councillor Scott advised that she would step out for the item.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matters on the agenda for this meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee.

The Committee recommended the following:

## Item 6.2

### Investments Held at 31 August 2021

It is resolved that the Investment Report as at 31 August 2021 be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

X020701

## Item 6.3

### Post Exhibition - Naming Proposal - Licorice Allsorts Park and Honeykiss Park

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the name "Licorice Allsorts Park" for the new open space at the corner of Rosebery Avenue and Crewe Place, Rosebery;
- (B) Council approve the name "Honeykiss Park" for the new green link between Rosebery Avenue, Spring Street and Confectioners Way, Rosebery; and
- (C) an application be made to the Geographical Names Board for the naming of the parks as approved in (A) and (B), in accordance with the Geographical Names Act 1996.

Carried unanimously.

X070134.001

## **Item 6.4**

### **External Memberships**

Moved by Councillor Scully, seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) receive and note the City's membership of the associations outlined in Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (B) note that final membership amounts change from time to time and any significant changes will be reported back to Council via CEO Update.

Carried unanimously.

S076031

## **Item 6.5**

### **Property Matter (Confidential)**

It is resolved that Council approve the recommendation contained within confidential Attachment A to the subject report.

Carried unanimously.

X073031

**Item 7 Report of the Environment Committee****PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore  
(Chair)

Councillor Jess Miller  
(Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Jess Scully, Councillors Craig Chung, Christine Forster, Robert Kok, Prof Kerryn Phelps AM, Linda Scott, Prof Philip Thalys and Angela Vithoulkas.

At the commencement of business at 2.17pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chung, Forster, Kok, Miller, Phelps, Scott, Scully, Thalys and Vithoulkas.

The meeting of the Environment Committee concluded at 2.19pm.

**Report of the Environment Committee**

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the report of the Environment Committee of its meeting of 13 September 2021 be received, with Item 7.1 being noted, and Item 7.2 being dealt with as shown immediately following that item.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 7.1****Disclosures of Interest**

No Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Environment Committee.

## **Item 7.2**

### **Laneways Revitalisation Program Review**

Note – the recommendation of the Environment Committee was not adopted. The following motion was adopted.

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note that since the development of the Central Sydney Laneways Revitalisation Program in 2008, a total of 25 lanes have now been upgraded;
- (B) Council endorse a revised list of priority laneways for the Central Sydney laneways that will guide the Laneways Revitalisation Program in the future; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate how the Laneways Revitalisation Program can support achieving targets and benefits outlined within the City's Greening Sydney Strategy and the Waste Strategy – specifically via the Sustainable Destination Partnership and Better Building Partnership – through innovative research, pilot programs and projects.

Carried unanimously.

S055024

## **Item 8      Questions on Notice**

### **1.    Covid-19 Vaccination in the City of Sydney**

#### **By Councillor Forster**

##### **Question**

As at 27 August 2021, Covid-19 vaccination rates in the City of Sydney were 52.9 per cent and 31.9 per cent for first and second dose respectively. This is well below the state average of 65.4 per cent and 35.4 per cent.

On 16 August 2021, Council unanimously endorsed a motion to endorse a public health promotion campaign aimed at reducing vaccine hesitancy and increasing vaccination rates across the Local Government Area including the implementation of measures such as prioritising frontline workers, seeking support for more walk-up vaccination clinics and extending the City's activities to support increased testing and vaccinations.

What has the City done to date to reduce vaccine hesitancy and increase vaccination rates across the Local Government Area?

S129269

#### **Answer by the Chief Executive Officer**

The City has been enabling the urgent opening of walk-up vaccination clinics to support increased vaccination rates through use of the City's facilities and resources. Most recently, the Redfern and Ultimo Community Centres and Green Square Library have been provided to NSW Health to ensure Covid testing and vaccinations are available to residents, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Testing and vaccination clinics have also operated in City facilities and locations including Peter Forsyth Auditorium, Glebe, Martin Place, Ward Park, Harold Park Community Hall, the Booter Community Centre, Camperdown, and East Sydney Community and Arts Centre. City staff are currently investigating and offering a range of other potential sites.

The Homelessness team has supported a weekly vaccination clinic in Woolloomooloo run by St Vincent's Health Network and the Kirketon Road Centre for people experiencing homelessness and those living in social housing. The City is also supporting the Kirketon Road Centre Covid testing and vaccinations across our local government area, providing support for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the public domain. In addition, St Vincent Health Network are providing mobile vaccinations to people sleeping rough, supported by City Public Space Liaison Officers and Way2home, funded by the City.

The City is working with Local Health Districts to share vaccination messaging as it is provided, including in community languages. To date, communications activities have driven 12,300 referrals to NSW Health vaccination booking pages in two weeks. A standing page on the City of Sydney News website “Get Vaccinated” is regularly updated, vaccination information is promoted in e-newsletter databases and pop-up vaccination clinics are promoted through City social media channels and through outreach to local social media community pages and groups. The City continues to promote the dedicated community hotline that helps to connect vulnerable people to support services. City staff are also sharing existing communications through our networks, including those created by local community groups such as the emerging First Nations Covid-19 Relief Network and Glebe Youth Service and will look to develop further communications to seed through community influencers.

The City continues to provide practical support for vulnerable communities including food relief through its donations to OzHarvest, FoodBank and Secondbite, quick response grants to address live issues in the community arising from the pandemic, as well as the provision of reusable cloth masks. This support is targeted specifically at social housing residents, rough sleepers, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, boarding house residents, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities, and international students and temporary visa holders.

The Chief Executive Officer also sends a weekly all staff message encouraging City staff and family members to get vaccinated.

## **2. Small Business Compliance Breaches**

By Councillor Vithoukas

### **Question**

How many small businesses have been issued breaches in regard to compliance from April 2020 to August 2021?

Please provide breakdowns:

- (a) month by month from April 2020 to August 2021;
- (b) type of business;
- (c) type of breaches; and
- (d) how much total revenue was raised from these breaches?

S129276

### **Answer by the Chief Executive Officer**

City staff issued 23 penalty infringements to businesses between April 2020 and August 2021.

Of these, 10 penalties infringements (\$7,260 in fines) were issued for food safety breaches. The remaining 13 infringements (\$54,000 in fines) were issued under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for breaches such as failure to stop unauthorised works, sex premises, unauthorised accommodation and tree removal.

In the 2019/20 financial year, the City’s Health and Building unit issued a total of 219 penalty infringements.

### 3. Non-Residential Roll Deadline

By Councillor Vithoukas

#### Question

The NSW Electoral Commission website states "the residential roll, roll of non-resident owners of rateable land and roll of occupiers and ratepaying lessees closes at 6pm, Monday, 25 October 2021".

The City of Sydney website states "applications and all changes of details must be received by the City by 27 September 2021 to ensure they can be processed in time for the 2021 election. After close of rolls on 25 October 2021, The City will pass electoral details of each eligible non-resident to the NSW Electoral Commission for verification. The details of those verified will be added to the authorised electoral roll for the 2021 election."

1. Why does the City close applications and changes to the non-residential roll one month prior to the NSW Electoral Commission?
2. What processes does the City undertake during the month from 27 September 2021 to 25 October 2021?
3. How many applications for the non-residential roll have been received from 1 January 2021 to 31 August 2021?
4. Once an application is received, what steps take place for each application until 27 September 2021?

S129276

#### Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The City accepts applications and changes for the non-residential register at any time. The date shown on the website, 27 September 2021, is the latest date of receipt to ensure applications can be processed in time for the 2021 election. This cut-off date coincides with the legislated nomination cut-off date and was advised to Councillors in the CEO Update of 13 August 2021. Applications received after this date will be processed in the order in which they are received until close of rolls at 6:00pm 25 October 2021 and the City will attempt to process all applications received in that period if possible.
2. In relation to the non-residential register, in this period the City will:
  - Process all applications and change details received by 27 September 2021
  - Upload and check ASIC details for entitled corporations and their secretaries and directors
  - Deem nominees for all entitled sole corporations and natural person groups where no manual nomination has been received
  - Upload and check all changes to rateable property owners
  - Process all applications and change of details received after 27 September 2021 in date order of receipt, excluding manual nominations
  - Review all regular exception reports and make any necessary corrections
3. The City received 876 applications for the non-residential register in this period.

4. All applications are reviewed on receipt by an enrolment officer. Manual checks are made to ensure entitlement criteria are met in relation to:
- the rateable property occupied
  - enrolment details of natural persons
  - corporate status of corporations
  - enrolment details of corporation nominees.

If all entitlement criteria are met, application details are added to the register and applicants and their nominees are contacted by email or letter.

If any entitlement criteria are not met, enrolment officers will phone applicants to either explain why they are not eligible or to request additional details. If applicants cannot be reached by phone, enrolment officers will make contact by email.

As noted at the answer to 1 this will continue to occur for applications received after 27 September 2021 until the close of rolls.

#### **4. 2021 Local Government Elections Preparations**

By Councillor Phelps

##### **Question**

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the NSW Government postponed the September 2020 Local Government elections to 4 September 2021. The NSW Government further postponed the Local Government elections until 4 December 2021.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise:

1. What extra preparations are required to hold the Local Government Elections on 4 December 2021?
2. If the Covid-19 situation has not adequately improved to hold the elections, what is the expected response from the Office of Local Government?
3. What additional preparations and costs are involved in the election being postponed?

S129272

##### **Answer by the Chief Executive Officer**

1. The NSW Electoral Commission has been engaged to administer the City's election. They have not yet advised on final arrangements. Their current Covid-19 action plan for the 2021 Local Government elections can be found at <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/LGE21-COVID19>.
2. At a briefing on the postponement of the election to 4 December 2021 for councils by the Office of Local Government and the NSW Electoral Commission, the Office of Local Government spokesperson confirmed that any subsequent postponement would require amendment to the Local Government Act 1993.
3. The City has not yet been advised by the NSW Electoral Commission as to the updated costs of conducting the 2021 election. Additional preparations and costs in relation to the non-residential register due to the postponement were advised to Councillors in the CEO Update on 13 August 2021.

## 5. Indoor Air Quality Monitoring and Ventilation

By Councillor Phelps

### Question

Monitoring indoor air quality is vitally important as we continue to deal with from the Covid-19 pandemic and prepare for the risk of future airborne pandemics.

Particularly since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, the impacts of poor ventilation in indoor settings, such as offices, have been increasingly recognised because of the airborne transmission of Covid-19, particularly in inadequately ventilated spaces.

It is a core responsibility of the City of Sydney as an employer to ensure that employees and members of the public are protected as much as possible against Covid-19 and other airborne viruses.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise:

1. What the City is doing in city-owned buildings to monitor indoor air quality and improve ventilation?
2. How has the City considered indoor air quality and ventilation when making decisions since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 on employees returning to work in the office?
3. What moves have been made to include ventilation standards in future development applications?

S129272

### Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. All ventilation systems installed within City buildings are maintained in full compliance with all relevant Regulations, Acts and codes of practice.

In response to the Covid pandemic, the City has implemented modifications to its air conditioning and ventilation to substantially increase the fresh air blend. This practice is in line with the latest ventilation guidelines advice as published by industry body, Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) on 16/07/2021 which promotes natural ventilation as the most effective method of controlling the SARS-CoV-2 virus, its variants and other pathogenic coronaviruses.

2. In addition to the increased in fresh air blending, the City has:
  - Developed a pre-check schedule of base building systems prior to reoccupation, including a fresh air purge on all ventilation systems.
  - Commenced a feasibility assessment on the application of the Air Cleaning Technologies including the installation of High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Filters within ducted ventilation systems and/or the installation of Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation (UVGI) as an alternate solution.
  - The City is also consulting with the City Futures Research Centre at the University of NSW on the feasibility of installing CO2 monitoring sensors, as an indicator of fresh air levels within indoor conditioned space.

3. Planning controls and State Planning Policy (Apartment Design Guide) contain extensive provisions for securing and maintaining adequate natural ventilation and natural cross ventilation. Minimum requirements and technical design standards relating to mechanical and ventilation of buildings are also contained in the National Construction Code. Compliance with NCC requirements is certified through the construction certificate (CC) process.

## **6. Pandemic Leave and Stand Downs for City Staff**

By Councillor Scott

### **Question**

1. Broken down by year, how many City staff have been stood down under the Splinter Award, and for how long?
2. Broken down by month, how many City staff have had their hours reduced since lockdown began in June 2021?

S129275

### **Answer by the Chief Executive Officer**

No City of Sydney employee was stood down under the Splinter Award in 2020. In July 2021, as a result of public health restrictions, 292 employees were stood down with pay under the 2021 Splinter Award. Most of these employees have now returned to their usual work or are undertaking suitable alternative work. As at 15 September 2021, two employees remain stood down with pay under the 2021 Splinter Award.

No employees had their hours reduced in June 2021. In July 2021, one part time employee had their hours reduced, with the hours not worked being paid as Covid-19 Special Paid Leave as per the 2021 Splinter Award. This employee has remained on this arrangement during August and September 2021. In August 2021, 70 employees in Infrastructure Maintenance worked on a roster basis which included a portion of their ordinary pay being paid as Covid-19 Special Paid Leave as per the 2021 Splinter Award. This arrangement remains in place.

**Item 9      Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions**

There are no Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions on Notice for this meeting of Council.

**Item 10 Notices of Motion****Item 10.1 Publicly Visible Tree Removal Register**

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Vithoulkas –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) currently, notices of tree removal are attached to trees slated for removal;
- (ii) current stay-at-home health orders limit our communities' opportunities to see notices of removal attached to publicly visible trees;
- (iii) resident groups Ultimo Village Voice Community Group and Pymont Action Community Group support a Publicly Visible Tree Removal Register;
- (iv) the City of Sydney's Community Participation Plan 2019 provides for a notification period for development applications of between 14 and 28 days for all development applications except for modifications to consent which will not impact upon surrounding land uses or increase impacts in comparison with the previous approval(s);
- (v) that for development applications the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 requires the City of Sydney:
  - (a) to give public notice in a local newspaper of the places, dates and times for inspection of the draft plan, and
  - (b) publicly exhibit a copy of the draft plan and a copy of any supporting documents on the dates and during the times set out in the notice;
- (vi) the City of Sydney's Community Participation Plan 2019 states that the City of Sydney will exhibit all draft development application plans on its website;
- (vii) tree pruning and removal in the City of Sydney are managed through its Tree Management Controls;
- (viii) the City of Sydney has an internal database detailing the 32,000 trees in the City of Sydney Local Government Area;
- (ix) mature trees provide significant shade and cooling in the City of Sydney;
- (x) mature trees provide important habitat for wildlife in the City of Sydney;
- (xi) native bird numbers in metropolitan areas including the City of Sydney have seen significant declines in recent decades;
- (xii) Australian magpie numbers have declined by 31 per cent in the East Coast region — including Sydney and Brisbane — between 1998 and 2013;
- (xiii) the Greening Sydney Strategy was unanimously endorsed at the July 2021 meeting of Council;
- (xiv) the Street Tree Masterplan is due to be renewed in 2022;

- (xv) the notifications of public tree removal under the City of Melbourne’s Tree Retention and Removal Policy can include “direct contact, site meetings, letters to residents in the immediate vicinity, signage on site and a published list on the City of Melbourne website”; and
  - (xvi) the City of Melbourne’s Tree Retention and Removal Policy considers information including reasonable period of notification, the prominence of the location, the significance of the tree, the size of the tree, the number of trees, impact of removal, reasons for public tree removal, consideration of all arboricultural solution and health of tree in its removal and notification procedures; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate amendments to the Tree Management Policy that would align the policy with the Community Participation Plan 2019 for development applications including displaying notices for intended tree removal online.

A show of hands on the motion resulted in an equality of voting as follow –

Ayes (5) Councillors Chung, Forster, Phelps, Scott and Vithoukias

Noes (5) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Kok, Miller, Scully and Thalís.

The Lord Mayor exercised her casting vote against the motion. The motion was declared lost.

Motion lost.

S129266

## Item 10.2 Community Engagement and the Protection and Proliferation of the Urban Forest

By Councillor Miller

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney recognises the intrinsic, health, economic and environmental value of urban ecology. Specifically, it recognises that living infrastructure such as trees and plants are valuable assets that play a critical role in protecting, cooling, calming, and adorning our city;
- (ii) the City of Sydney is committed to increasing its overall green cover to 40 per cent across the local area, including at least 27 per cent tree canopy, by 2050. It is the only council in Australia that has consistently increased canopy cover, and the only capital city to do so, despite significant urban growth;
- (iii) there is a suite of existing strategies and plans to help proactively manage greening the City including; the Environment Plan 2021-2025, the Greening Sydney Strategy, Tree Management Controls in the City's Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP), the Urban Forest Strategy, Park Tree Management Plans, and the Street Tree Master Plan (STMP);
- (iv) the City has several online publicly accessible resources such as:
  - (a) the Tree Asset Database, an interactive map with almost 47,000 records of trees located on public land across the Local Government Area under management by the City, which also includes public trees on the City's Significant Tree and Heritage Tree register. The data for each tree shows its name, ID number, type of tree (street or park tree) and its height;
  - (b) the Significant Trees Register, an interactive map that shows 2,674 trees on 157 public and private properties which have been nominated by the community based on their historical, cultural, social, ecological, or outstanding visual and aesthetic appeal. The data for each tree shows its name, location, type, class, origin, height, spread, and year planted; and
  - (c) the Story Map, an interactive map under the Greening Sydney Strategy that contains canopy cover, heat and other data acquired by the City or other sources over the past 12 years; and
- (v) Direction 6: 'Greening Together' in the City of Sydney's Greening Sydney Strategy identifies the value of community participation in greening the urban landscape, with Actions 18, 19 and 20 highlighting the need for community participation, funding and engagement to support the protection and proliferation of the urban forest - especially on private land; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate the extent to which Development Applications proposing tree removal can be made publicly visible and notified;

- (ii) determine the feasibility of overlaying this dataset with existing tree and heat mapping tools including the Tree Asset Database, Significant Tree Registry and ARCGIS story map; and
- (iii) identify ways in which trees removed by development consent can be compensated for via the Greening Sydney Fund as part of the Greening Sydney Strategy.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Miller. Subsequently, it was –

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Thalís –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney recognises the intrinsic, health, economic and environmental value of urban ecology. Specifically, it recognises that living infrastructure such as trees and plants are valuable assets that play a critical role in protecting, cooling, calming, and adorning our city;
- (ii) many of the City's residents, including those in Ultimo and Pyrmont, appreciate the value of trees in their areas and are passionate about protecting what they have and promoting increased greening;
- (iii) before the City removes any of its street or park trees, notification signs are placed on the trees for at least 14 days prior to their removal. The timing may be reduced if the works are urgent due to safety concerns. The timing is extended around key holiday periods such as Christmas/New Years and Easter;
- (iv) Development Applications that include proposed tree removal are notified online in accordance with the City's Community Participation Plan 2019;
- (v) the City of Sydney is committed to increasing its overall green cover to 40 per cent across the local area, including at least 27 per cent tree canopy, by 2050. It is the only council in Australia that has consistently increased canopy cover, and the only capital city to do so, despite significant urban growth.
- (vi) there is a suite of existing strategies and plans to help proactively manage greening the City including; the Environment Plan 2021-2025, the Greening Sydney Strategy, Tree Management Controls in the City's Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP), the Urban Forest Strategy, Park Tree Management Plans, and the Street Tree Master Plan (STMP);
- (vii) the City has several online publicly accessible resources such as:
  - (a) the Tree Asset Database, an interactive map with almost 47,000 records of trees located on public land across the LGA under management by the City, which also includes public trees on the City's Significant Tree and Heritage Tree registers. The data for each tree shows its name, ID number, type of tree (street or park tree) and its height;
  - (b) the Significant Trees Register, an interactive map that shows 2,674 trees on 157 public and private properties which have been nominated by the community based on their historical, cultural, social, ecological, or outstanding visual and aesthetic appeal. The data for each tree shows its name, location, type, class, origin, height, spread, and year planted; and

- (c) the Story Map, an interactive map under the Greening Sydney Strategy that contains canopy cover, heat and other data acquired by the City or other sources over the past 12 years; and
  - (viii) Direction 6: 'Greening Together' in the City of Sydney's Greening Sydney Strategy identifies the value of community participation in greening the urban landscape, with Actions 18, 19 and 20 highlighting the need for community participation, funding and engagement to support the protection and proliferation of the urban forest - especially on private land; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate the following and provide a report back to Council via the CEO Update:
- (i) opportunities and barriers to enabling trees approved to be removed by development consent being notified online prior to their physical removal;
  - (ii) the feasibility of integrating details about tree removal approved by development consent with the City's existing publicly visible online mapping tools including the Tree Asset Database, Significant Tree Registry, and the Story Map; and
  - (iii) ways in which trees approved for removal can be compensated for via the Greening Sydney Fund as part of the Greening Sydney Strategy.

Carried unanimously.

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### **Adjournment**

At this stage of the meeting, at 6.34pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

That the meeting be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

All Councillors were present at the resumption of the meeting of Council at 6.55pm.

### Item 10.3 Informing Small Businesses of the Ministerial Order

Moved by Councillor Vithoukias, seconded by Councillor Chung -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) that on 25 March 2020, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes issued an order under section 10.17 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;
- (ii) this Order is known as the EPA COVID-19 Development - Extended Operation Order 2020;
- (iii) the Order has been extended to 2021. It was put forward to protect the health, safety and welfare of members of the public during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (iv) there are many small business owners who do not know that this Order exists; and
- (v) there are many commercial and residential strata communities that do not know that this Order exists; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate as soon as possible how the City can inform all business owners, commercial and strata communities within the City of Sydney of the Ministerial Order;
- (ii) explain clearly in the communication the relevant information; and
- (iii) report back to Council via the CEO Update.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Scully –

That the motion be amended such that it read as follows –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) that on 25 March 2020, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes issued an order under section 10.17 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;
- (ii) this Order is known as the EPA COVID-19 Development - Extended Operation Order 2020;
- (iii) the Order has been extended to 2021. It was put forward to protect the health, safety and welfare of members of the public during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (iv) there are many small business owners who do not know that this Order exists;
- (v) there are many commercial and residential strata communities that do not know that this Order exists; and
- (vi) responsibility for ensuring that the community and businesses are fully informed of Ministerial Orders rests with the NSW Government; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to liaise with relevant NSW Government agencies requesting that they ensure business owners, commercial and strata communities are effectively informed of EPA Covid-19 Development – Extended Operation Order 2020.

A show of hands on the amendment resulted in an equality of voting as follows –

Ayes (5) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Kok, Miller, Scully and Thalys

Noes (5) Councillors Chung, Forster, Phelps, Scott and Vithoukas.

The Lord Mayor exercised her casting vote in favour of the amendment. The amendment was declared carried.

Amendment carried.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Phelps, and by consent, the amended motion was varied, such that it read as follows –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) that on 25 March 2020, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes issued an order under section 10.17 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 titled “Environmental Planning and Assessment (Covid-19 Development Extended Operation) Order 2020”;
- (ii) this Order granted legislative power, for a prescribed period, to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces to authorise a development to be carried out without the need for development approval in the ordinary manner under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 or consent from another body;
- (iii) its stated intent was protect the health, safety and welfare of members of the public during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (iv) the Order has been extended to 31 March 2021 to ensure greater flexibility to respond to changing needs during the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (v) there are many small business owners who do not know that this Order exists;
- (vi) there are many commercial and residential strata communities that do not know that this Order exists; and
- (vii) responsibility for ensuring that the community and businesses are fully informed of Ministerial Orders rests with the NSW Government; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) liaise with relevant NSW Government agencies requesting that they ensure business owners, commercial and strata communities are effectively informed of EPA Covid-19 Development – Extended Operation Order 2020; and
- (ii) explain clearly to the stakeholders listed above the relevant information and implications of this Order via electronic communication channels and the City of Sydney website.

The amended motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

**Point of Order**

During discussion of this item, Councillor Vithoukas raised a point of order in respect to terminology used by Councillor Scully.

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) did not uphold the point of order.

#### **Item 10.4 Indoor Air Quality Monitoring and Ventilation**

Moved by Councillor Phelps, seconded by Councillor Thalys –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted importance of monitoring the impact of indoor air quality on health and safety;
- (ii) OzSAGE, an Australian network of experts formed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, has highlighted the need for workplaces to have appropriate ventilation in order for employees to safely return to the office once lockdowns lift;
- (iii) monitoring indoor air quality is vitally important as we continue to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic and prepare for the risk of future airborne pandemics;
- (iv) respiratory aerosols from breathing and speaking accumulate in indoor spaces, increasing the risk of transmission of respiratory pathogens;
- (v) measuring indoor CO2 levels can provide an indication of if a space's air exchange balance is appropriate;
- (vi) installing indoor CO2 monitors which can show real-time data will allow organisations to monitor air quality and take steps to mitigate risk; and
- (vii) Belgium has recognised the impact of poor indoor air quality on public health, and in June 2021, made it mandatory for hotels, restaurants, bars, banquet halls and fitness centres to monitor CO2 levels at their venues. If the sensors show CO2 levels of 900-1,200 parts per million, venues are required to take action to improve it, and anything above that level is a safety breach enforced by inspectors issuing warnings and fines for non-compliance; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate the implementation of indoor air quality and ventilation standards in all City-owned buildings;
- (ii) investigate implementing indoor air quality and ventilation standards as a condition of development applications submitted to the City of Sydney; and
- (iii) report back on the feasibility and steps necessary to implement such conditions to Councillors via the CEO Update.

Carried unanimously.

S129263

## **Item 10.5 Establishing a Publicly-Funded Women's Refuge in the City of Sydney**

Moved by Councillor Phelps, seconded by Councillor Scully –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the 2021 Greater Sydney Covid-19 lockdown has had an adverse impact on family violence services and the women and children who need them;
- (ii) according to an August 2021 report by Domestic Violence NSW (DVNSW) titled "The impact of the 2021 Greater Sydney COVID-19 lockdown on specialist domestic and family violence services, and their clients":
  - (a) 73 per cent of domestic violence services have faced a significant increase in demand;
  - (b) 84 per cent of services said there has been an increase in the complexity of the situations for the clients referred; and
  - (c) 48.5 per cent of the 33 services operating waiting lists have seen an increase in the length of their waitlists; and
- (iii) the City of Sydney does not yet have a publicly-funded women's refuge for those fleeing violent and abusive situations; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate the potential to establish a women's and children's refuge in partnership with the NSW Government to support women and children escaping violent and abusive situations that may be made worse by the 2021 Greater Sydney Covid-19 lockdown as a matter of priority; and
- (ii) report back to Councillors via the CEO Update.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Scully, and by consent, the motion was varied such that it read as follows:

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the 2021 Greater Sydney Covid-19 lockdown has had an adverse impact on family violence services and the women and children who need them;
- (ii) according to an August 2021 report by Domestic Violence NSW (DVNSW) titled "The impact of the 2021 Greater Sydney COVID-19 lockdown on specialist domestic and family violence services, and their clients":
  - (a) 73 per cent of domestic violence services have faced a significant increase in demand;
  - (b) 84 per cent of services said there has been an increase in the complexity of the situations for the clients referred; and

- (c) 48.5 per cent of the 33 services operating waiting lists have seen an increase in the length of their waitlists;
- (iii) while the City of Sydney does not operate a refuge for those fleeing violent and abusive situations, there are a number of long-established and important specialist services in our Local Government Area providing accommodation, case management, material support and crisis care for women and children in need, which do provide accommodation for hundreds of people nightly;
- (iv) these organisations include the Women's and Girls' Emergency Centre, Elsie Women's Refuge and Women's Community Shelters, which have the specialist skills required to support women and children in crisis at some of the most challenging moments in their lives;
- (v) there is also Lou's Place which operates as a daytime refuge, Vincentian House, the B Miles Women's Foundation and Samaritan House that provide accommodation support to women experiencing homelessness;
- (vi) these organisations typically receive public funding from the NSW Government, which is responsible for funding social services, while some raise funds through philanthropic support;
- (vii) in 2021 the NSW Government allocated \$90 million to domestic violence services, \$60 million was for frontline services;
- (viii) another \$8.6 million was allocated for crisis shelters for 45 domestic violence services across metropolitan and rural NSW;
- (ix) the City of Sydney supports vulnerable women to access more affordable, safe and secure housing through various programs;
- (x) the Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund has provided a \$1.5 million grant to HammondCare that is a housing facility for people who have experienced long-term homelessness and has a dedicated floor for older women, and \$3 million to Wesley Mission for affordable rental housing for women aged over 55 who are at risk of homelessness, families impacted by domestic or family violence, and for key worker housing;
- (xi) the Chief Executive Officer is investigating a Notice of Motion by the Deputy Lord Mayor, supported by Council in July 2021, for a project that works with key sector services in our Local Government Area to provide affordable transitional housing for women experiencing domestic violence or at risk of homelessness;
- (xii) the City of Sydney works in partnership with Domestic Violence NSW and NSW Police to coordinate quarterly forums across the sectors working to respond to and reduce domestic violence;
- (xiii) the City of Sydney has delivered bespoke 'Cultural Competency and Safety' training for senior staff of domestic and family violence services working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children in the City;
- (xiv) the City of Sydney is involved in a pilot project called "Domestic Violence Pets in Need Program" that is funded by the Department of Communities and Justice to help survivors of domestic violence find temporary care for their companion animals while they are seeking safe alternative accommodation; and
- (xv) the City of Sydney awarded a Covid-19 Support Grant to the B Miles Women's Foundation providing support for women experiencing homelessness in 2021; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) consult with key sector services operating in our Local Government Area, such as those listed here, and Domestic Violence NSW, to determine the most impactful and appropriate way for the City of Sydney to continue to provide support for women experiencing crisis given the increased need as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown;
  - (ii) draw on this consultation when investigating the potential for the City to play a role in establishing a women's and children's refuge;
  - (iii) write to the NSW Government about how the City can work in partnership to support women and children escaping violent and abusive situations; and
  - (iv) report back to Councillors via the CEO Update.

The motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

S129263

**Item 10.6 Covid Safe Reopening of Outdoor Pools**

By Councillor Scott

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) on 9 September 2021 the NSW Government released their “Reopening NSW Roadmap”, the plan to lift lockdown restrictions for fully vaccinated people the Monday after NSW reaches 70 per cent of eligible residents fully vaccinated;
- (ii) the NSW Government’s Reopening NSW Roadmap allows for the reopening of gyms, indoor recreation centres and sporting facilities once the 70 per cent full vaccination target is met;
- (iii) the Reopening NSW Roadmap leaves in place restrictions including density limits of one person per 4 square metres indoors and mandatory masks indoor which will need to be accommodated by reopening venues and facilities;
- (iv) on 14 September 2021 the NSW Government announced an amendment to the Public Health Order to allow libraries to open for click and collect services;
- (v) Public Health Orders currently allow for beaches and natural pools to remain open but order all other pools to be closed;
- (vi) currently, natural swimming pools including Wylie's Baths in the Randwick Local Government Area and Dawn Fraser Baths in the Inner West Local Government Area are open to the public;
- (vii) there are four outdoor swimming pools in the City of Sydney, Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool, Victoria Park Pool, Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre and Prince Alfred Park Pool;
- (viii) the estimated gross total costs to the City of opening four outdoor pools for lapping swimming only would be \$119,688 per week with a net total cost of \$86,374;
- (ix) that Dawn Fraser Baths operates more similarly to an outdoor public pool than a beach having a reception area, toilets, change rooms and showers, all features common in outdoor public pools but often not seen at beaches;
- (x) Public Health Orders do not allow City of Sydney residents living in suburbs including Erskineville, Rosebery, Beaconsfield, Green Square and Alexandria who live greater than five kilometres from the ocean and/or recently reopened Dawn Fraser Baths to swim for their daily exercise during lockdown;
- (xi) Dawn Fraser Baths located in the Inner West Local Government Area reopened to the public on 8 September 2021. The baths have been divided into lanes to accommodate for physical distancing with a maximum of two swimmers per lane. Toilets are open but changing rooms and showers are closed and sun bathing is not allowed. Those who live in the Inner West Local Government Area or within five kilometres of the baths to book a one-hour session online;
- (xii) Dawn Fraser Baths will be open free of charge from 7am to 5pm, seven days per week for at least the first two weeks of their reopening; and

- (xiii) bookings for Dawn Fraser Baths open three days in advance, and they have been fully booked since reopening;
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to:
- (i) write to NSW Minister for Health Brad Hazzard to seek health advice on reopening outdoor public pools in the City of Sydney prior to NSW reaching vaccine targets of 70 per cent fully vaccinated; and
  - (ii) if health advice determines it would be safe, write to NSW Minister for Health Brad Hazzard to advocate for Public Health Orders to be amended to allow for outdoor public pools to be reopened in a Covid safe way; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) investigate how the City will implement the reopening roadmap for City spaces and services, including recreation centres, gyms, aquatic centres and pools, will safely reopen once 70 per cent of eligible people are fully vaccinated in NSW; and
  - (ii) report back to Council via the CEO Update with the results of these investigations at the earliest time possible.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Scott. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Vithoulkas –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) on 19 September 2021 the NSW Premier announced an amendment to the public health order to allow the reopening of public pools with a Covid safe plan from 27 September 2021;
  - (ii) on 9 September 2021 the NSW Government released their “Reopening NSW Roadmap”, the plan to lift lockdown restrictions for fully vaccinated people the Monday after NSW reaches 70 per cent of eligible residents fully vaccinated;
  - (iii) the NSW Government’s Reopening NSW Roadmap allows for the reopening of gyms, indoor recreation centres and sporting facilities once the 70 per cent full vaccination target is met;
  - (iv) the Reopening NSW Roadmap leaves in place restrictions including density limits of one person per four square metres indoors and mandatory masks indoors which will need to be accommodated by reopening venues and facilities;
  - (v) on 14 September 2021 the NSW Government announced an amendment to the Public Health Order to allow libraries to open for click and collect services;
  - (vi) Inner West libraries have reopened providing click and collect services;
  - (vii) Public Health Orders currently allow for beaches and natural pools to remain open but order all other pools to be closed;
  - (viii) currently, natural swimming pools including Wylie's Baths in the Randwick Local Government Area and Dawn Fraser Baths in the Inner West Local Government Area are open to the public;

- (ix) there are four outdoor swimming pools in the City of Sydney: Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool, Victoria Park Pool, Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre and Prince Alfred Park Pool;
  - (x) the estimated gross total costs to the City of opening four outdoor pools for lap swimming only would be \$119,688 per week with a net total cost of \$86,374;
  - (xi) that Dawn Fraser Baths operates more similarly to an outdoor public pool than a beach having a reception area, toilets, change rooms and showers, all features common in outdoor public pools but often not seen at beaches;
  - (xii) Public Health Orders do not allow City of Sydney residents living in suburbs including Erskineville, Rosebery, Beaconsfield, Green Square and Alexandria who live greater than five kilometres from the ocean and/or recently reopened Dawn Fraser Baths to swim for their daily exercise during lockdown;
  - (xiii) Dawn Fraser Baths located in the Inner West Local Government Area reopened to the public on 8 September 2021. The baths have been divided into lanes to accommodate for physical distancing with a maximum of two swimmers per lane. Toilets are open but changing rooms and showers are closed and sun bathing is not allowed. Those who live in the Inner West Local Government Area or within five kilometres of the baths can book a one-hour session online;
  - (xiv) Dawn Fraser Baths will be open free of charge from 7am to 5pm, seven days per week for at least the first two weeks of their reopening; and
  - (xv) bookings for Dawn Fraser Baths open three days in advance, and they have been fully booked since reopening; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) investigate how the City will implement the reopening roadmap for City spaces and services, including recreation centres, gyms, aquatic centres and pools, to safely reopen once 70 per cent of eligible people are fully vaccinated in NSW;
  - (ii) reopen outdoor pools from 27 September 2021 with a Covid safe plan;
  - (iii) reopen City of Sydney libraries for click and collect services from 27 September 2021 with a Covid safe plan; and
  - (iv) report back to City of Sydney Committees on 11 October 2021 with an adjusted City budget and timeframes for a Roadmap for Reopening for consideration by Council.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Thalys, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) on 19 September 2021 the NSW Premier announced an amendment to the public health order to allow the reopening of public pools with a COVID safe plan from 27 September 2021;
  - (ii) on 9 September 2021 the NSW Government released their “Reopening NSW Roadmap”, the plan to lift lockdown restrictions for fully vaccinated people the Monday after NSW reaches 70 per cent of eligible residents fully vaccinated;

- (iii) the NSW Government's Reopening NSW Roadmap allows for the reopening of gyms, indoor recreation centres and sporting facilities once the 70 per cent full vaccination target is met;
- (iv) the Reopening NSW Roadmap leaves in place restrictions including density limits of one person per four square metres indoors and mandatory masks indoors which will need to be accommodated by reopening venues and facilities;
- (v) on 14 September 2021 the NSW Government announced an amendment to the Public Health Order to allow libraries to open for click and collect services;
- (vi) Inner West libraries have reopened providing click and collect services;
- (vii) Public Health Orders currently allow for beaches and natural pools to remain open but order all other pools to be closed;
- (viii) currently, natural swimming pools including Wylie's Baths in the Randwick Local Government Area and Dawn Fraser Baths in the Inner West Local Government Area are open to the public;
- (ix) there are four outdoor swimming pools in the City of Sydney: Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool, Victoria Park Pool, Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre and Prince Alfred Park Pool;
- (x) the estimated gross total costs to the City of opening four outdoor pools for lap swimming only would be \$119,688 per week with a net total cost of \$86,374;
- (xi) that Dawn Fraser Baths operates more similarly to an outdoor public pool than a beach having a reception area, toilets, change rooms and showers, all features common in outdoor public pools but often not seen at beaches;
- (xii) Public Health Orders do not allow City of Sydney residents living in suburbs including Erskineville, Rosebery, Beaconsfield, Green Square and Alexandria who live greater than five kilometres from the ocean and/or recently reopened Dawn Fraser Baths to swim for their daily exercise during lockdown;
- (xiii) Dawn Fraser Baths located in the Inner West Local Government Area reopened to the public on 8 September 2021. The baths have been divided into lanes to accommodate for physical distancing with a maximum of two swimmers per lane. Toilets are open but changing rooms and showers are closed and sun bathing is not allowed. Those who live in the Inner West Local Government Area or within five kilometres of the baths can book a one-hour session online;
- (xiv) Dawn Fraser Baths will be open free of charge from 7am to 5pm, seven days per week for at least the first two weeks of their reopening; and
- (xv) bookings for Dawn Fraser Baths open three days in advance, and they have been fully booked since reopening; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate how the City will implement a reopening plan for City spaces and services, including pools, recreation centres, libraries, gyms and aquatic centres, to safely reopen in line with NSW Government Health Orders; and
- (ii) report back to Council regularly via the CEO Update on the investigations and actions.

Amendment carried unanimously.

The amended motion was carried unanimously.

S129266

### **Misrepresentation**

During discussion of this item, Councillor Thalys stated that he had been misrepresented in respect to comments made by Councillor Scott and clarified his position accordingly.

**Item 10.7 Upgrading Josephson Street Reserve, Paddington**

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Vithoulkas -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the 286 small pocket parks and nearly 100 playgrounds across the Local Government Area;
- (ii) the existing small parks renewal program which is a rolling annual asset renewal program aimed at renewal of parks to ensure they are safe, in good condition, are well presented and meet the needs of the community;
- (iii) parks are prioritised for renewal based on:
  - (a) asset condition;
  - (b) remaining useful life;
  - (c) wear;
  - (d) defects; and
  - (e) risk;
- (iv) budgets for small park upgrades are developed based on benchmark rates with small park renewals usually delivered over a two- to three-year period covering design, consultation and construction;
- (v) Josephson Street Reserve is located next to the Captain Cook Hotel. The Hotel has approval for footway seating in a 12 square metre area of the reserve;
- (vi) the Paddington-Darlinghurst Community Working Group has expressed its concern with the current lack of community amenity from the Josephson Street Reserve;
- (vii) the City has been vigilant in discarding the waste often illegally dumped in the Josephson Street Reserve;
- (viii) Josephson Street Reserve is often utilised by the Captain Cook Hotel or as an illegal car parking space; and
- (ix) due to its state of disrepair, the Josephson Street Reserve has become unusable for local residents, who are requesting by way of petition, an upgrade of the park into a space suitable for community use; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested, in light of changed circumstances and community concern about Josephson Street Reserve, to:
- (i) order an updated assessment be undertaken to effectively consider the need for an amendment to the small parks and playgrounds renewal timeframe to include an upgrade for the Reserve; and
  - (ii) engage with residents and owners of the Captain Cook Hotel to discuss usage and maintenance of the Josephson Street Reserve.

Carried unanimously.

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**Item 10.8 Nuffield Park Off-Leash**

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) there are currently 853 dogs registered in the suburb of Zetland;
- (ii) the population of the Green Square Precinct is expected to grow to 74,200 by 2041;
- (iii) at the 2016 census, 91.4 per cent of occupied private dwellings in Zetland were apartments or flats;
- (iv) the petition on Change.org calling for Nuffield Park to be made off-leash gained 129 signatures;
- (v) the petition lodged with 132 signatures from local residents and business owners calling for Nuffield Park to be made off-leash;
- (vi) Waterloo currently has three off-leash dog parks, Waterloo Park, Rope Walk Park and Crown Park;
- (vii) Erskineville currently has four off-leash dog parks, Green Bans Park 1, Green Bans Park 2, Solander Park and Harry Noble Reserve;
- (viii) Ultimo currently has three off-leash dog parks, Mary Ann St Park, Wentworth Park and Fig Lane Park;
- (ix) Pyrmont currently has three off-leash dog parks, Waterfront Park, Metcalf Park and Giba Park;
- (x) Zetland currently only has one off-leash dog park, Joynton Park; and
- (xi) the sunken centre of Nuffield Park makes it an ideal location for dog owners to safely exercise their pets; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate designating Nuffield Park Zetland an off-leash dog park.

Carried unanimously.

S129266

**Item 10.9 Creation of a Shared Traffic Zone in Church Street, Paddington**

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Vithoulkas -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) shared Traffic Zones are roads or networks of roads with a speed limit of 10km/h where pedestrians and vehicles safely share road space. The implementation of these spaces has been proven to lower pedestrian injury and mortality from road accidents;
- (ii) the 2013 Sydney Streets Code outlines movement of people around streets and access to infrastructure and services as priorities for the City of Sydney in the design of streets;
- (iii) the 2013 Sydney Streets Code outlines the aim of Shared Traffic Zones as “creat[ing] a shared safe street corridor of movement for pedestrians and vehicles”, with design objectives that promote safety for pedestrians in these streets;
- (iv) residents on Church Street and surrounding streets have been advocating for Church Street to be made a shared zone since at least 2016;
- (v) at the December 2017 meeting of Council a petition of 43 signatures, representing all premises on Church Street, calling for Shared Zones within Church Street Paddington; and Continuous Footway Treatments provided at the entry and exit points of the proposed shared zone was tabled by Councillor Phillip Thalys and accepted unanimously by Council;
- (vi) on 29 July 2021, Will Mrongovius, the Convenor of the Paddington-Darlinghurst Community Working Group, wrote to Councillors requesting on behalf of local residents that a Shared Zone be installed on Church Street, Paddington;
- (vii) the footpath at Church Street, Paddington, is 1.2 metres wide;
- (viii) the footpath at Church Street, Paddington, is in many sections obstructed by bins, utility and parking poles and residential front steps; and
- (ix) the footpath in Church Street, Paddington, is unusable for prams and wheelchairs; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate the implementation of Shared Zones for Church Street, Paddington; and
- (ii) investigate options for footpath widening to allow pedestrians, including those with prams, to safely utilise the footpath on Church Street, Paddington.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Thalís, seconded by Councillor Scully –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) shared Traffic Zones are roads or networks of roads with a speed limit of 10km/h where pedestrians and vehicles safely share road space. The implementation of these spaces has been proven to lower pedestrian injury and mortality from road accidents;
- (ii) the 2013 Sydney Streets Code outlines movement of people around streets and access to infrastructure and services as priorities for the City of Sydney in the design of streets;
- (iii) the 2013 Sydney Streets Code outlines the aim of Shared Traffic Zones as “creat[ing] a shared safe street corridor of movement for pedestrians and vehicles”, with design objectives that promote safety for pedestrians in these streets;
- (iv) residents on Church Street and surrounding streets have been advocating for Church Street to be made a shared zone since at least 2016;
- (v) at the December 2017 meeting of Council a petition of 43 signatures, representing all premises on Church Street, calling for Shared Zones within Church Street Paddington; and Continuous Footway Treatments provided at the entry and exit points of the proposed shared zone was tabled by Councillor Phillip Thalís and accepted unanimously by Council;
- (vi) the City has approved the provision of continuous footpath treatments in Church Street and Seymour Place at the intersection with South Dowling Street;
- (vii) the introduction of these treatments will give priority to pedestrians walking along South Dowling Street and improve accessibility and safety at these locations;
- (viii) on 29 July 2021, Will Mrongovius, the Convenor of the Paddington-Darlinghurst Community Working Group, wrote to Councillors requesting on behalf of local residents that a Shared Zone be installed on Church Street, Paddington;
- (ix) the City of Sydney classifies Church Street as a safe street. City staff undertook traffic counts in 2016 and 2020 recording that most drivers were travelling less than the posted speed limit;
- (x) the counts also recorded low traffic and pedestrian volumes using the street;
- (xi) the footpath at Church Street, Paddington, is 1.2 metres wide;
- (xii) the footpath at Church Street, Paddington, is in many sections obstructed by bins, trees, utility and parking poles and residential front steps; and
- (xiii) the footpath in Church Street, Paddington, is unusable for prams and wheelchairs; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate design options to improve pedestrian amenity in Seymour Place and Church Street, Paddington.



## Item 10.10 Religious Discrimination Bill and Parental Rights Bill

By Councillor Scott

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 proposed by One Nation's Member of the Legislative Council Mark Latham seeks to allow parents to remove their children from any lesson at a public school which contradicts their personal, social or political values in its current form;
- (ii) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 will effectively gag teachers in public schools from discussing any topic that may elicit a complaint from parents including LGBTIQ+ issues, climate change, Indigenous issues and history and the experiences of people with differing religious beliefs in its current form;
- (iii) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 precludes teachers at both private and public schools from recognising and supporting the gender identity of trans and gender diverse students in its current form;
- (iv) Equality Australia has expressed opposition the Education Legislations Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 labelling it as "harm(ful to) trans and gender diverse students by denying their existence and preventing teachers and counsellors from supporting them";
- (v) both the NSW Teachers Federation and the Independent Education Union made submissions to and gave evidence before the Legislative Council Committee inquiring into the Education Legislations Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020. Both organisations object to the Bill as it is unworkable and unsafe for both teachers and students;
- (vi) the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 proposed by One Nation's Member of the Legislative Council Mark Latham seeks to prohibit discrimination based on religious beliefs and activities by placing religion above other human rights, the law and government rules in its current form;
- (vii) the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 would allow faith-based organisations to be able to discriminate on the grounds of religion in employment, education and service delivery, even when receiving public funding in its current form;
- (viii) the NSW Liberal Government has committed its support to adding religion to the state anti-discrimination bill; and
- (ix) Equality Australia opposes the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 as it affords protection on the basis of religion to activities that may otherwise be in breach of a personal or civil obligation;

(B) Council condemn both the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020; and

(C) the Lord Mayor be requested to:

- (i) write to the Premier, Attorney General and Minister for Education advocating against the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 in its current form and Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 in its current form; and
- (ii) write to Labor Opposition Leader Chris Minns and the NSW Members for Sydney, Lake Macquarie, Wagga Wagga, Newtown, Balmain and Ballina seeking their opposition to both the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Scott. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Thalís –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 proposed by One Nation’s Member of the Legislative Council Mark Latham seeks to allow parents to remove their children from any lesson at a public school which contradicts their personal, social or political values in its current form;
- (ii) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 will effectively prohibit dealing with any topic that may elicit a complaint from parents including LGBTIQ+ issues, climate change, matters of immigration and cultural diversity, Indigenous issues and history and the experiences of people with differing religious beliefs in its current form;
- (iii) the Education Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 seeks to tie teacher accreditation to the compliance of such ‘parental primacy’ as described at (ii) above;
- (iv) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 precludes teachers and school counsellors at both private and public schools from recognising and supporting the gender identity of trans and gender diverse students in its current form;
- (v) in its current form the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 would allow parents to effectively veto content they disagree with in the curriculum, as established by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), from being taught, without safeguards to ensure a child’s education is not unreasonably compromised;
- (vi) in its current form the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 would require all school staff, including teachers, non-teaching staff, counsellors, advisers and consultants, to not recognise or support the gender identity of others who are transgender, gender diverse or non-binary;
- (vii) Equality Australia has expressed opposition the Education Legislations Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 labelling it as “harm(ful to) trans and gender diverse students by denying their existence and preventing teachers and counsellors from supporting them”;

- (viii) the NSW Teachers Federation has strongly condemned the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the report on the Bill from the NSW Parliamentary Education Committee as an “attack on the teaching profession and is the epitome of the politicisation of our schools”;
  - (ix) the Federation of Parents and Citizens Association of NSW, including 1800 member organisations, The Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People, and The Office of the Children’s Guardian consider the proposed legislation as unjustified, unnecessary and not to be adopted;
  - (x) both the NSW Teachers Federation and the Independent Education Union made submissions to and gave evidence before the Legislative Council Committee inquiring into the Education Legislations Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020. Both organisations object to the Bill as it is unworkable and unsafe for both teachers and students;
  - (xi) in its current form, the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 proposed by One Nation’s Member of the Legislative Council Mark Latham seeks to prohibit discrimination based on religious beliefs and activities by placing religion above other human rights, the law and government rules;
  - (xii) in its current form, the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 would allow faith-based organisations to be able to discriminate on the grounds of religion in employment, education and service delivery, even when religion is not relevant to the role or the service, and even when receiving public funding to deliver services to the public;
  - (xiii) a joint statement from Protect Us All signed by 110 organisations highlighted how in its current form the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 would “allow religion to be used as an excuse to hurt, exclude and demean others, including other people of faith”; and
  - (xiv) Equality Australia opposes the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 because it fails to protect all of us, equally under the law;
- (B) Council condemn both the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to:
- (i) write to the Premier, Attorney General and Minister for Education calling on the Government to oppose the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 in its current form and Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 in its current form and ensure that any religious discrimination proposals put forward by the NSW Government protect all of use, including people of faith and those without, equally; and
  - (ii) write to the Labor Opposition Leader, shadow Attorney General, shadow Education Minister and the NSW Members for Sydney, Lake Macquarie and Wagga Wagga calling on them to oppose both the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Thalys, and by consent, the motion was varied such that it read as follows:

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 proposed by One Nation's Member of the Legislative Council Mark Latham seeks to allow parents to remove their children from any lesson at a public school which contradicts their personal, social or political values in its current form;
- (ii) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 will effectively prohibit dealing with any topic that may elicit a complaint from parents including LGBTIQ+ issues, climate change, matters of immigration and cultural diversity, Indigenous issues and history and the experiences of people with differing religious beliefs in its current form;
- (iii) the Education Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 seeks to tie teacher accreditation to the compliance of such 'parental primacy' as described at (ii) above;
- (iv) the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 precludes teachers and school counsellors at both private and public schools from recognising and supporting the gender identity of trans and gender diverse students in its current form;
- (v) in its current form the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 would allow parents to effectively veto content they disagree with in the curriculum, as established by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESAs), from being taught, without safeguards to ensure a child's education is not unreasonably compromised;
- (vi) in its current form the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 would require all school staff, including teachers, non-teaching staff, counsellors, advisers and consultants, to not recognise or support the gender identity of others who are transgender, gender diverse or non-binary;
- (vii) Equality Australia has expressed opposition the Education Legislations Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 labelling it as "harm(ful to) trans and gender diverse students by denying their existence and preventing teachers and counsellors from supporting them";
- (viii) the NSW Teachers Federation has strongly condemned the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the report on the Bill from the NSW Parliamentary Education Committee as an "attack on the teaching profession and is the epitome of the politicisation of our schools";
- (ix) the Federation of Parents and Citizens Association of NSW, including 1800 member organisations, The Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People, and The Office of the Children's Guardian consider the proposed legislation as unjustified, unnecessary and not to be adopted;
- (x) both the NSW Teachers Federation and the Independent Education Union made submissions to and gave evidence before the Legislative Council Committee inquiring into the Education Legislations Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020. Both organisations object to the Bill as it is unworkable and unsafe for both teachers and students;

- (xi) in its current form, the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 proposed by One Nation's Member of the Legislative Council Mark Latham seeks to prohibit discrimination based on religious beliefs and activities by placing religion above other human rights, the law and government rules;
  - (xii) in its current form, the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 would allow faith-based organisations to be able to discriminate on the grounds of religion in employment, education and service delivery, even when religion is not relevant to the role or the service, and even when receiving public funding to deliver services to the public;
  - (xiii) a joint statement from Protect Us All signed by 110 organisations highlighted how in its current form the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 would "allow religion to be used as an excuse to hurt, exclude and demean others, including other people of faith";
  - (xiv) Equality Australia opposes the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 because it fails to protect all of us, equally under the law;
  - (xv) that Council unanimously opposed the harmful Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 and the harmful Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 by resolution of Council on 24 August 2020; and
  - (xvi) that arising from a Lord Mayoral Minute, Council unanimously called upon the Morrison Government to remove unbalanced provisions from its proposed Religious Discrimination Bill threatening safe and inclusive workplaces, schools and services, and privileging individual religious beliefs over patients' rights on 17 February 2020;
- (B) Council reaffirm its condemnation of both the harmful Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the harmful Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to:
- (i) write to the Premier, Attorney General and Minister for Education calling on the Government to oppose the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 in its current form and Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 in its current form and ensure that any religious discrimination proposals put forward by the NSW Government protect all of use, including people of faith and those without, equally; and
  - (ii) write to the Labor Opposition Leader, shadow Attorney General, shadow Education Minister and the NSW Members for Sydney, Lake Macquarie and Wagga Wagga calling on them to oppose both the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 and the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020.

The motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

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## **Adjournment**

At this stage of the meeting, at 8.39pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the meeting be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

The motion was carried on the following show of hands:

Ayes (9)        The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Forster, Kok, Miller, Phelps, Scott, Scully, Thalís and Vithoukas

Notes (1)      Councillor Chung.

Motion carried.

The Lord Mayor and Councillors Chung, Forster, Kok, Miller, Scott, Scully, Thalís and Vithoukas were present at the resumption of the meeting of Council at 8.56pm.

Councillor Phelps returned at 8.58pm, during discussion and before the vote on Item 10.11.

## Item 10.11 Long Term Funding for Social Services

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Vithoulkas -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) City of Sydney Grants and Sponsorships Program Guidelines are updated annually with the latest version published in February 2021;
- (ii) an updated version of the City of Sydney Grants and Sponsorships policy was adopted by Council on 22 February 2021;
- (iii) the Grants and Sponsorships Policy and Program Guidelines have a Community Services grant category which provides funding for “community programs or projects that help increase equality in the local area, develop resilient and adaptive communities and support strong governance and civic engagement for sustainability. The program assists organisations to pilot or trial innovative services or establish a program that addresses an unmet need for City of Sydney residents, workers and visitors”;
- (iv) City of Sydney Community Service Grants provide funding on an annual basis for one to three years;
- (v) most community service workers do not have enterprise agreements and their remuneration and entitlements are instead determined by the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry (SCHADS) Award;
- (vi) in 2010, the Australian Services Union started a campaign for fair pay in the social and community sector. In 2012 this campaign was won and resulted in SCHADS Award pay increases of between 35 per cent to 45 per cent sector wide. These increases have been phased in over eight years from 2012 to 2020;
- (vii) the bulk of increasing operational costs of social and community services over that past eight to nine years have been due to increasing staffing costs as the SCHADS Award has increased;
- (viii) other cost increases of providing social and community services include food, insurance and WHS;
- (ix) increases to the SCHADS Award are now determined annually by the Fair Work Commission based on several factors including annual increases to cost of living and that the community services sector has traditionally been a low paid sector;
- (x) annual increases to the SCHADS Award are determined by the Fair Work Commission and announced in June each year; and
- (xi) in June 2021, the SCHADS Award remuneration was increased by 2.5 per cent and super was increased by 0.5 per cent, a total increase of 3.0 per cent; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to, in line with the City of Sydney’s City for All Strategy, and as part of the City’s Grants Policy Review, investigate creating a long-term funding program for social and community services that increases annually in line with increasing staffing and resource costs of City based services.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Scully, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) City of Sydney Grants and Sponsorships Program Guidelines are updated annually with the latest version published in February 2021;
- (ii) an updated version of the City of Sydney Grants and Sponsorships policy was adopted by Council on 22 February 2021;
- (iii) the Grants and Sponsorships Policy and Program Guidelines have a Community Services grant category which provides funding for “community programs or projects that help increase equality in the local area, develop resilient and adaptive communities and support strong governance and civic engagement for sustainability. The program assists organisations to pilot or trial innovative services or establish a program that addresses an unmet need for City of Sydney residents, workers and visitors”;
- (iv) City of Sydney Community Service Grants provide funding on an annual basis for one to three years;
- (v) most community service workers do not have enterprise agreements and their remuneration and entitlements are instead determined by the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry (SCHADS) Award;
- (vi) in 2010, the Australian Services Union started a campaign for fair pay in the social and community sector. In 2012 this campaign was won and resulted in SCHADS Award pay increases of between 35 per cent to 45 per cent sector wide. These increases have been phased in over eight years from 2012 to 2020;
- (vii) the bulk of increasing operational costs of social and community services over that past eight to nine years have been due to increasing staffing costs as the SCHADS Award has increased;
- (viii) other cost increases of providing social and community services include food, insurance and WHS;
- (ix) increases to the SCHADS Award are now determined annually by the Fair Work Commission based on several factors including annual increases to cost of living and that the community services sector has traditionally been a low paid sector;
- (x) annual increases to the SCHADS Award are determined by the Fair Work Commission and announced in June each year;
- (xi) in June 2021, the SCHADS Award remuneration was increased by 2.5 per cent and super was increased by 0.5 per cent, a total increase of 3.0 per cent; and
- (xii) that Council’s Healthy Communities Sub-Committee considered recommendations for Community Services Grants on 21 June 2021, and Councillors discussed the need for a review of the current grant program in relation to the support of critical community infrastructure. In this discussion, the Chief Executive Officer noted this would be considered in the annual review of the City’s grants program in early 2022; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to, in line with the City of Sydney's City for All Strategy, and as part of the City's Grants Policy Review, consider the issue of increasing operational costs of essential community services as part of the review of the City of Sydney's Grants and Sponsorships Policy.

The amendment was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (9)        The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chung, Forster, Kok, Miller, Phelps, Scully, Thalys and Vithoulkas

Noes (1)        Councillor Scott.

Amendment carried.

The amended motion was carried unanimously.

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**Item 10.12 #Firedup for Footy Finals**

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Vithoukas –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that, for the first time, major sporting codes have either been unable to be played, have had to relocate and/or play to no spectators;
- (ii) in normal circumstances, Sydney would have seven NRL finals matches this season (the most of any year since 2014). There were nine AFL games played outside the state and thousands of community sporting games cancelled. As an example, more than 2,600 games of community AFL were cancelled due to Covid-19 this winter season across Sydney;
- (iii) the recent changes to Covid-19 restrictions meant that as of 13 September 2021, five fully vaccinated people are allowed to gather in outdoor settings socially-distanced from other groups of people;
- (iv) in the next month, there are upcoming Grand Finals for sporting codes that include:
  - (a) AFL - the Melbourne Demons will face the Western Bulldogs in the 2021 AFL Grand Final on Saturday 25 September 2021 at 7:15pm AEST/5:15pm AWST. The Demons are trying to win their first AFL premiership in 57 years; and
  - (b) NRL - this year's NRL Grand Final will take place on Sunday 3 October 2021, with the Finals teams yet to be determined. This is the second year that the NRL Grand Final has been played in Queensland due to the Covid-19 pandemic preventing the event being hosted in Sydney;
- (v) the negative mental and emotional toll that a prolonged lockdown has had on the people of Sydney - especially younger people and those living alone - and the value that feeling connected to others can have; and
- (vi) sport for many, offers a powerful opportunity to provide us with a sense of connection to one-another; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) in line with NSW Government Health Orders encourage our residents and businesses to celebrate 'footy season' by decorating their houses, streets and balconies in their team colours; and
- (ii) promote Covid-safe ways of barracking for your favourite AFL or NRL team via City of Sydney communication channels.

Carried unanimously.

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At 9.16 pm the meeting concluded.

Chair of a meeting of the Council of the City  
of Sydney held on Monday 18 October 2021 at which  
meeting the signature herein was subscribed.