

16 December 2024

At 5.00 pm

Council

Agenda

1. **Confirmation of Minutes**
2. **Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**
3. **Minutes by the Lord Mayor**
 - 3.1 Vale Leon Paroissien AM
 - 3.2 Inquiry on Essential Worker Housing
 - 3.3 Securing the Future of Community Justice Centres
 - 3.4 Food Support for Christmas
 - 3.5 Action Must Follow 2024 Drug Summit
4. **Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer**
 - 4.1 Council Committees – Functions (Amendment to Start Time)
 - 4.2 Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2025 Annual Review
5. **Matters for Tabling**
6. **Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee**
 - 6.1 Confirmation of Minutes
 - 6.2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest
 - 6.3 Investments Held as at 30 November 2024
 - 6.4 Delegations of Authority to the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer
 - 6.5 Post Exhibition - Code of Meeting Practice and Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy
 - 6.6 Project Scope - Bay Street Depot Upgrade
 - 6.7 Public Exhibition - Naming Proposal - Heckle Lane

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- 6.8 Public Exhibition - Naming Proposal - Frog Lane
 - 6.9 Proposed Land Classification - 57C Ashmore Street, Erskineville
 - 6.10 Proposed Land Classification - 895-901 Bourke Street, Waterloo
 - 6.11 Contract Variation - Head Design Consultant - Ultimo Road to Campbell Street Cycleway Project
 - 6.12 Exemption from Tender and Contract Variation - AON Risk Services
 - 6.13 Exemption from Tender and Contract Variation - Board Meeting Management - Diligent Board Books
 - 6.14 Exemption from Tender and Contract Variation - Bulky Organics and Cleansing Waste Processing
- 7. Report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee**
- 7.1 Confirmation of Minutes
 - 7.2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest
 - 7.3 Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel - Terms of Reference, Membership and Appointment of Chairperson
- 8. Report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee**
- 8.1 Confirmation of Minutes
 - 8.2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest
 - 8.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Ad Hoc Grant - The Nest
- 9. Report of the Equity and Housing Committee**
- 9.1 Confirmation of Minutes
 - 9.2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

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- 9.3 Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Affordable Housing Contributions Review - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012, Sydney Local Environmental Plan (Green Square Town Centre) 2013, Sydney Local Environmental Plan (Green Square Town Centre - Stage 2) 2013 and Draft City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program 2024

10. Report of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee

- 10.1 Confirmation of Minutes
- 10.2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest
- 10.3 Post Exhibition - Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035
- 10.4 Grants and Sponsorship - Ad Hoc Grant - Australian Fashion Council

11. Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee

- 11.1 Confirmation of Minutes
- 11.2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest
- 11.3 Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Modern Residential Flat Buildings, Powerhouse Museum and Oxford Street LGBTIQ+ Heritage Items - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 Amendments
- 11.4 Public Exhibition - Draft Local Approvals Policy for Hoisting and Construction Activities On and Above Roads
- 11.5 Public Exhibition - Draft Local Approvals Policy for Construction-Related Temporary Structures On and Above Roads
- 11.6 Post Exhibition - Outdoor Dining Guidelines Amendment
- 11.7 Post Exhibition - Planning Proposal - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 and Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 Amendment
- 11.8 Adoption - Council-Related Development Applications Policy
- 11.9 Fire Safety Reports

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12. Questions on Notice

13. Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions

14. Notices of Motion

14.1 Affordable Housing at 54-56 Erskineville Road, Erskineville

14.2 Vale Mannie De Saxe

14.3 Prayer at Council Meetings

Item 1

Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the following meeting of Council are submitted for confirmation:

Meeting of 25 November 2024

Item 2

Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the Lord Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath or Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the City of Sydney and the City of Sydney Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act, to the best of their ability and judgement.

Disclosures of Interest

Pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice and the City of Sydney Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to disclose and manage both pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting.

In both cases, the nature of the interest must be disclosed.

This includes receipt of reportable political donations over the previous four years.

Item 3.1**Vale Leon Paroissien AM****File No: S051491****Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

Australia's visual arts world is mourning the passing of Leon Paroissien AM on 5 November 2024. Curator and mentor to many, Leon made a significant contribution to Sydney's and Australia's cultural life, including as inaugural Chair of the City's Public Art Advisory Panel.

As with many professionals of his generation, Leon's career began with being awarded a trainee teacher's scholarship which enabled him to study at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) and Melbourne Teachers' College. After initially teaching in Victorian secondary schools, he taught art history at the Melbourne Teachers' College and subsequently became a senior lecturer at the Tasmanian School of Art in Hobart. Along the way, he completed a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne majoring in English, History and Art History, which led to his extensive research for a master's degree in the history of Australian colonial architecture pre-1850 (to be interrupted by later professional postings).

In December 1972, then Federal Minister for the Arts, Gough Whitlam revamped the Australia Council, establishing 7 independent artform boards. Leon was founding director of the Visual Arts Board, a position he held from 1974 to 1980.

In this role, Leon sought funding for artists, exhibitions, and organisations that could support the visual arts. Initiatives included founding (for support of Art History) the Art Association of Australia and New Zealand (AAANZ) in 1974, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in December. A partner organisation also initiated by the Visual Arts Board in 1974 (to support art and design schools nationally) was the Australian Association for Tertiary Art and Design Education (AATADE) – which evolved into the Australian Council of University Art and Design Schools (ACUADS, active since 1981).

Another significant achievement from those years was Leon's role in establishing the Australian Government's Exhibitions Indemnity Scheme, which today continues to enable valuable international cultural works to be seen in Australian galleries and museums, by indemnifying their owners against loss and damage to works loaned.

In late 1983, Leon and his partner Bernice Murphy were appointed as co-curators of the University of Sydney's Power Collection. In 1961, the University received a bequest of £2 million (valued at more than \$60 million today) from the estate of distinguished expatriate artist, John Wardell Power, grandson of William Wardell the architect of St Mary's Cathedral. John Power left his fortune to be used to introduce 'the latest artistic ideas', and 'the purchase of the most recent contemporary art of the world' to Australia. In 1968, the University of Sydney began to amass an extensive collection of contemporary art, and Leon and Bernice were determined that it would be more widely seen.

Negotiations with the then Premier, Neville Wran led to the former Maritime Services Building at Circular Quay being secured in 1984. Renovation designs by Andrew Andersons were confirmed in 1989, and 2 years later it opened as the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) with Leon as its first Director and Bernice its Chief Curator.

This was the first major public institution dedicated to collecting and exhibiting contemporary Australian and international artworks, with Leon describing it as “a facility of national cultural significance”.

Leon left the MCA in 1998 to become founding director of a second Museum of Contemporary Art, this time in Taipei. It opened in 2001.

Leon maintained his involvement in Australia’s cultural life. He was a strong supporter of the Biennale of Sydney, having been its Artistic Director in 1984. He chaired many boards and committees, including the Sydney Olympic Public Art Advisory Committee, and later Object: Australian Design Centre in Sydney, as well as the City’s Public Art Advisory Panel from 2007 to 2019. Leon edited Art and Australia and many other publications and authored several books. The most recent was Andrew Andersons: Architecture and the Public Realm (2020) co-authored with Bernice, which reflected his longstanding interest in the relationship between the visual arts and architecture in shaping the public domain of civic experience.

In all these roles he mentored countless curators, arts administrators and others, including many City staff. Many will remember Leon for this personal support as much as his public achievements.

In a statement describing Leon’s contribution, Susan Templeman, the Australian Government’s Special Envoy for the Arts said, “Leon planted seeds from which towering trees have grown”.

We are fortunate that many of those seeds were planted in the City of Sydney.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of Leon Paroissien and his contribution to the visual arts, Australia's cultural life, and to the City of Sydney as inaugural Chair of the Public Art Advisory Panel and in other roles;
- (B) Council express its condolences to Leon's partner, Dr Bernice Murphy, his son, David and daughter, Karen and his many friends and former colleagues; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor convey Council's condolences to Leon's partner, Bernice Murphy, his son, David and daughter, Karen and their families.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

Item 3.2

Inquiry on Essential Worker Housing

Document to Follow

Item 3.3

Securing the Future of Community Justice Centres

File No: S051491

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

Established and funded by the NSW Government since 1983 under *the Community Justice Centres Act 1983*, Community Justice Centres provide free and confidential mediation by trained professionals who help people solve disagreements (or resolve disputes) without going to court.

They help resolve neighbourhood and strata issues relating to noise and privacy, overhanging trees, dogs and other pets, boundary disputes and access to properties, renovations and building work, and use of common property. They also provide mediation for tenants and landlords, partners and families, and in schools, workplaces, business, and incorporated associations like sporting groups.

An essential part of the justice system

In 2022-2023, Community Justice Centres in NSW received 8,672 inquiries and arranged 749 mediations including court referrals. Some inquiries do not proceed to mediation, and others are resolved before mediation starts. For example, 79% of neighbourhood disputes are resolved by Community Justice Centres - disagreements that may otherwise consume Council and police time.

Community Justice Centres are an essential part of NSW's legal framework. Access to free mediation services allows people to proactively and voluntarily resolve disputes and avoid time-consuming and costly formal action through the over-loaded courts and NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal systems.

Community Justice Centres must continue to ensure community cohesion, particularly as the NSW Government seeks to increase housing density with more people living in close proximity. Continuing to have free and effective ways for people to reconcile their differences is essential.

The future of Community Justice Centres

On [17 November 2024](#), the Sydney Morning Herald reported that the NSW Government intends to repeal the Community Justice Centres Act 1983 and close all Community Justice Centres in NSW by 1 July 2025. There has been no public consultation about the closure with Councils, communities or other relevant stakeholders.

Reports indicate that Community Justice Centres are proposed to be replaced by a limited mediation service administered by the Department of Communities and Justice, that will only deal with court-mandated referrals involving incorporated associations such as sporting groups. The Department of Communities and Justice have since advised the City that they will consult Community Legal Centres about how the closure of Community Justice Centres will impact them.

I support calls from Local Government NSW that access to effective and affordable dispute resolution must not be taken away from our communities – especially during a cost-of-living crisis.

Defunding Community Justice Centres will add another barrier to justice, particularly for people on low incomes and vulnerable members of our community. It will force residents into costly formal legal action, clogging the courts and putting even more strain on our stretched Community Legal Centres, delaying dispute resolution for no real benefit.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Community Justice Centres are an essential part of NSW's legal framework that provide free access to dispute resolution and mediation services avoiding time-consuming and costly formal action through the over-loaded courts and NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal systems; and
- (ii) recent media reports that the NSW Government intends to repeal the Community Justice Centres Act 1983 and close all Community Justice Centres in NSW by 1 July 2025 to be replaced with a limited mediation service administered by the Department of Communities and Justice that will only deal with certain court-mandated referrals; and

(B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Attorney General and the Minister for Local Government calling on the NSW Government to:

- (i) continue funding the full suite of services currently provided by Community Justice Centres in NSW; and
- (ii) conduct a review into Community Justice Centres in consultation with relevant stakeholders including the community to assess the benefits of Community Justice Centres including potential cost savings for NSW Court and administrative systems and identify service improvements.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

Item 3.4

Food Support for Christmas

File No: S051491

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

As part of our Covid response program the City spent \$3.1 million in funding and donations to support emergency food relief between 2020 and 2022. City Staff worked with over 60 organisations including NSW Government agencies, the food relief sector, and Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations to ensure food was getting to those who needed it.

In 2023, the demand for emergency food relief continued to grow. Many people sought food relief for the first time, having to prioritise housing, health and heating instead.

In June 2023, Council unanimously resolved to support my [Lord Mayoral Minute](#) to establish a new 3-year \$4.5 million Food Support Grants program to help organisations distribute food to struggling households as the cost-of-living soars.

Since December 2023, the City has provided \$3.9 million in funding to 29 community organisations who in turn support over 200 agencies. As a result, these organisations provided a total of just over 1 million kilograms of food and \$71,200 in vouchers for food insecure people in our city. The Food Support Grants program is currently funded until 30 June 2026.

In addition to funding, the City has a dedicated staff member working with organisations we are funding to increase their impact and reach through the Food Operations Working Group. This has improved access to fresh produce by facilitating a partnership with Sydney Markets enabling First Nations Response, a local food relief service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, to source over one tonne of fresh produce weekly.

According to [FoodBank's 2024 Hunger Report](#), food insecurity in Australia has reached a critical point. Almost half of low-income households have faced food insecurity in 2024. FoodBank estimate 3.7 million households across Australia (33%) are now considered either severely food insecure (19%) – where people are skipping meals or going entire days without eating, sometimes to protect other members of their household – or moderately food insecure (14%).

Christmas is a time when families of all kinds, communities and friends come together to share a meal. But for those struggling to afford the basics, going without a meal can be particularly isolating. Local organisations report that families are pleading for both food support and help with gifts for children over the holidays.

I recommend that Council make donation of \$10,000 each to 16 local grassroots organisations that serve a meal on Christmas day or provide food hampers and gifts to enable food insecure local families and communities in our area to celebrate the holidays.

It is also critical that we investigate opportunities to extend the City's Food Support Grants Program beyond 30 June 2026 to continue to help those in need.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) during Covid, the City spent \$3.1 million, and worked with over 60 businesses and community organisations, on food relief;
 - (ii) since the establishment of the City's Food Support Grant Program in 2023, the City has provided \$3.9 million in funding to 29 community organisations who in turn support over 200 agencies. These organisations have provided over 1 million kilograms of food, and \$71,200 in vouchers for food insecure people in our city; and
 - (iii) local food relief organisations continue to report increases in demand as the cost-of-living crisis worsens, and that families are pleading for both food support and help with gifts for children over the holidays;
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate extending the City's Food Support Grant Program when current funding ends on 30 June 2026 and report back to Council; and
- (C) Council approve a \$10,000 donation to each of the following 16 local community organisations to help with meals, food hampers and gifts over the holiday period, totalling \$160,000 to be sourced from the 2024/25 General Contingency Fund:
- (i) Aboriginal Medical Service Co-operative Limited;
 - (ii) Addison Road Centre for Arts, Culture, Community and Environment Ltd;
 - (iii) Asylum Seekers Centre Limited;
 - (iv) The Fact Tree Youth Services Inc;
 - (v) First Nations Response Limited;
 - (vi) Glebe Youth Service Inc;
 - (vii) Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation;
 - (viii) Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council;
 - (ix) Mudgin-Gal Women's Aboriginal Corporation;
 - (x) Redfern Youth Connect (Australia) Limited;

- (xi) Catholic Parish St Canice's Elizabeth Bay as the Operator of a PBI for St Canice's Kitchen;
- (xii) Sydney University Settlement for the Settlement (Darlington);
- (xiii) The Twenty-Ten Association Incorporated;
- (xiv) The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW) for Wayside Chapel;
- (xv) Weave Youth & Community Services Ltd; and
- (xvi) Wyanga Aboriginal Aged Care Program Inc.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

Item 3.5

Action Must Follow 2024 Drug Summit

Document to Follow

Item 4.1**Council Committees – Functions (Amendment to Start Time)****File No: S062388****Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer**

To Council:

In accordance with the provisions of section 360 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and clause 19.2 of the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice (the Code), the council may establish such committees as it considers necessary.

On 10 October 2024, Council resolved to resolved to adopt meeting times, functions, policies and procedures of the following Committees:

- Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee
- Environment and Climate Change Committee
- Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee
- Equity and Housing Committee
- Community Services and Facilities Committee
- Innovation, Business and Economy Committee
- Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee

Council may elect a Deputy Chairperson of each Committee in accordance with clauses 19.15 and 19.16 of the Code of Meeting Practice, and on 10 October 2024, a Deputy Chairperson was elected to each of the above Council Committees, with the Lord Mayor chairing all Committees.

Following local government elections on 14 September 2024, the Chief Executive Officer was requested to prepare Council Committee functions and a meeting schedule where Committees commenced at 1pm.

Further feedback has been received and the functions and start time have been considered in the meeting cycles to the end of 2024 (October, November and December).

It is recommended that the functions of Council Committees be revised to revert back to a 2pm commencement time.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council endorse and adopt the revised Functions, Delegations, Policies and Procedures of Council Committees, as shown at Attachment A to the subject Memorandum.

MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer

Attachments

Attachment A. Revised Functions, Delegations, Policies and Procedures of Council Committees

Attachment A

**Revised Functions, Delegations, Policies
and Procedures of Council Committees**

CORPORATE, FINANCE, PROPERTIES AND TENDERS COMMITTEE

- Meeting Time: Monday ~~4.00pm~~ **2.00pm**
- Venue: Council Chamber
- Chairperson: The Lord Mayor – Councillor Clover Moore AO
- Deputy Chairperson: Councillor Robert Kok
- Members: Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore
Councillor Lyndon Gannon
Councillor Zann Maxwell
Councillor Jess Miller
Councillor Matthew Thompson
Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM
Councillor Mitch Wilson
Councillor Adam Worling
- Quorum: A majority of the members of the Committee
- Functions: To deal with all matters relating to:
- (a) Finance
 - (b) Consideration of budgets and quarterly budget performance
 - (c) Information technology policy
 - (d) Asset management
 - (e) Internal and external audit
 - (f) Fees and charges
 - (g) Rating matters
 - (h) City operational and property investment facilities
 - (i) Industrial relations
 - (j) Organisational policy
 - (k) City property management, including management, maintenance, leasing, licensing and sale of Council property
 - (l) Tenders valued at over \$5 million

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

- Meeting Time: At the conclusion of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee
- Venue: Council Chamber
- Chairperson: The Lord Mayor – Councillor Clover Moore AO
- Deputy Chairperson: Councillor Adam Worling
- Members: Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore
Councillor Lyndon Gannon
Councillor Robert Kok
Councillor Zann Maxwell
Councillor Jess Miller
Councillor Matthew Thompson
Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM
Councillor Mitch Wilson
- Quorum: A majority of the members of the Committee
- Functions: To deal with all matters relating to:
- (a) Environmental management
 - (b) Parks, playgrounds and open spaces
 - (c) City greening
 - (d) Cleansing, waste recycling, and the circular economy
 - (e) Urban infrastructure, including roads, footpaths, lighting, stormwater and drainage
 - (f) Cycleways
 - (g) Sustainability
 - (h) Resilience
 - (i) Grants and sponsorships related to the above

CULTURAL, CREATIVE AND NIGHTLIFE COMMITTEE

Meeting Time: At the conclusion of the Environment and Climate Change Committee

Venue: Council Chamber

Chairperson: The Lord Mayor – Councillor Clover Moore AO

Deputy Chairperson: Councillor Mitch Wilson

Members: Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore
Councillor Lyndon Gannon
Councillor Robert Kok
Councillor Zann Maxwell
Councillor Jess Miller
Councillor Matthew Thompson
Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM
Councillor Adam Worling

Quorum: A majority of the members of the Committee

Functions: To deal with all matters relating to:

- (a) Arts, culture, film, creative industries and creative practice
- (b) Cultural events, programs and activities
- (c) Cultural and creative spaces and venue management
- (d) Nightlife activities, programs, and events
- (e) Night time management and safety
- (f) Nightlife industries and the night time economy
- (g) Assistance to cultural organisations
- (h) Grants and sponsorships related to the above

EQUITY AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

- Meeting Time: At the conclusion of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Economy Committee
- Venue: Council Chamber
- Chairperson: The Lord Mayor – Councillor Clover Moore AO
- Deputy Chairperson: Councillor Zann Maxwell
- Members: Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore
Councillor Lyndon Gannon
Councillor Robert Kok
Councillor Jess Miller
Councillor Matthew Thompson
Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM
Councillor Mitch Wilson
Councillor Adam Worling
- Quorum: A majority of the members of the Committee
- Functions: To deal with all matters relating to:
- (a) Affordable and diverse housing
 - (b) Social housing
 - (c) Community housing
 - (d) Homelessness
 - (e) Social, cultural and economic disadvantage
 - (f) Diversity and inclusion
 - (g) Grants and sponsorships related to the above

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Meeting Time: At the conclusion of the Equity and Housing Committee

Venue: Council Chamber

Chairperson: The Lord Mayor – Councillor Clover Moore AO

Deputy Chairperson: Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore

Members: Councillor Lyndon Gannon
Councillor Robert Kok
Councillor Zann Maxwell
Councillor Jess Miller
Councillor Matthew Thompson
Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM
Councillor Mitch Wilson
Councillor Adam Worling

Quorum: A majority of the members of the Committee

Functions: To deal with all matters relating to:

- (a) Community facilities
- (b) Community services and safety
- (c) Aquatic and Recreation services
- (d) Child care services
- (e) Library services
- (f) Assistance to community organisations
- (g) Grants and sponsorships related to the above

INNOVATION, BUSINESS AND ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Meeting Time: At the conclusion of the Community Services and Facilities Committee

Venue: Council Chamber

Chairperson: The Lord Mayor – Councillor Clover Moore AO

Deputy Chairperson: Councillor Lyndon Gannon

Members: Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore
Councillor Robert Kok
Councillor Zann Maxwell
Councillor Jess Miller
Councillor Matthew Thompson
Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM
Councillor Mitch Wilson
Councillor Adam Worling

Quorum: A majority of the members of the Committee

Functions: To deal with all matters relating to:

- (a) Innovation
- (b) Economic development and strategy
- (c) Global city relationships, trade and marketing
- (d) Local economies
- (e) Small business
- (f) Visitor economy
- (g) Grants and sponsorships related to the above

TRANSPORT, HERITAGE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Meeting Times: At the conclusion of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee
- Venue: Council Chamber
- Chairperson: The Lord Mayor – Councillor Clover Moore AO
- Deputy Chairperson: Councillor Jess Miller
- Members: Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore
Councillor Lyndon Gannon
Councillor Robert Kok
Councillor Zann Maxwell
Councillor Matthew Thompson
Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM
Councillor Mitch Wilson
Councillor Adam Worling
- Quorum: A majority of the members of the Committee
- Functions: To deal with all matters relating to:
- (a) Planning instruments (i.e. LEPs, DCPs, Policies)
 - (b) Transport, access and walkability initiatives and issues
 - (c) Parking policy
 - (d) Traffic and the Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee
 - (e) Referrals from other authorities for comment on any of the above matters
 - (f) Outdoor dining
 - (g) Grants and sponsorships related to the above

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF COMMITTEES

- (a) The structure and functions of Committees is standing policy of Council.
- (b) All correspondence from, or to, all Committees, shall be handled through normal Council processes.
- (c) All Committees shall be advisory to Council and have no independent role, except where specific authorities are delegated to them by Council.
- (d) Matters dealt with in Committees shall be submitted to Council without recommendation only when the chairperson so determines.
- (e) The chairperson of Committees shall have a casting vote in the event of an equality of voting.

Item 4.2**Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2025 Annual Review****File No: S095194.009****Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer**

To Council:

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) is required to make an annual determination, on the fees payable to Councillors and Mayors in accordance with section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act).

Under the Act, the Tribunal's role is to determine the categories of councils and mayoral offices in NSW, place each council and mayoral office into one of the categories it has determined (at least once every three years), and on an annual basis set the minimum and maximum fees payable to councillors and mayors in each category.

The City of Sydney is currently the only council in NSW categorised as a Principal CBD (the highest category) by the Tribunal. As a matter of standing policy, Council has resolved that having regard to the Tribunal's determination of a fee range for Councillors and the Lord Mayor, Council shall always pay the maximum fees as determined by the Tribunal.

Note that the Tribunal has advised that submissions are to be endorsed by their respective council.

Submissions are due by Friday 20 December 2024.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council endorse the submission to the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal as shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum.

MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer

Attachments

Attachment A. Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2025 Annual Review

Attachment A

**Council Submission – Local Government
Remuneration Tribunal – 2025 Annual
Review**

Submission by the Council of the City of Sydney to the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal



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Part 1 The Need for Structural Reform

In its 2023 Report and Determination, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal observed:

“Submissions made to the 2023 review and the Tribunal’s own conclusions from evidence it has examined, suggest that there are significant issues underlying the concerns raised about mayor and councillor remuneration. It is apparent to the Tribunal that those issues which include a lack of diversity in representation, changing nature of work required to be undertaken and changed community expectations cannot be easily resolved under the existing framework. In the Tribunal’s view, there would be merit in a comprehensive review of the framework for mayor and councillor remuneration.”¹

We agree and in doing so, we suggest that the Tribunal undertake this comprehensive review in making its next determination.

Since 2001, the Tribunal has set fees by applying a uniform percentage increase to mayoral and councillor fees for all NSW Councils. The Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) provides no criteria to guide how this percentage increase is determined. Section s242A (1) of the Act does however require the Tribunal to give effect to the same policies on increases in remuneration as those of the Industrial Relations Commission. In its 2023 and 2024 reports, the Tribunal acknowledged it considered key economic indicators, including the Consumer Price Index and Wage Price Index, in setting this percentage increase.

Mayors and Councillors may however receive a fee increase greater than the uniform percentage if the Tribunal reclassifies their councils into a higher category. In determining the categories of Councils, s240 of the Act requires the Tribunal to consider several matters which include:

- the nature and volume of business dealt with by each council
- such matters as the Remuneration Tribunal considers relevant to the provision of efficient and effective local government

Changes in the role of Councillors and Mayors have changed the “nature and volume of business” they are required to deal with under the Act.

“Efficient and effective local government” requires Councillors to not only have the attributes necessary to be a Councillor, but also reflect the diversity of their communities.

We suggest that these are common matters for all or most NSW Councils and as such should be considered in determining overall fee increases.

¹ Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal under Sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, 27 April 2023 p24

1.1 Changes in the role of Councillors and Mayors

Amendments to the Act by the Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Bill 2016 significantly changed the roles of Mayors and Councillors.

The Mayor's role was expanded to "include being a leader of the council and in the local community, being the principal member and spokesperson of the governing body and to promoting the effective and consistent implementation of strategic plans, programs and policies of the council as well as to include other matters relating to engagement with the local community and key stakeholders"².

The Councillor's role was revised to "include requirements to represent the collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community, to uphold and represent accurately the policies and decisions of the governing body and to make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of Councillor"³.

These changes have had a significant impact on the role, responsibilities and workload of Mayors and Councillors. This includes an increase in the "volume and nature of council business" they are now required to deal with by the Act. Moreover they occurred at a time when fee increases were limited due to public sector salary caps imposed by the previous government.

The Tribunal has not acknowledged let alone considered the impact of these changes. It must now do so.

An example – Strategic Planning

For example, since 2009, Councils have been required to prepare a community strategic plan which:

- addresses civic leadership, social, environmental and economic issues in an integrated manner, and
- is based on social justice principles of equity, access, participation and rights, and
- is adequately informed by relevant information relating to civic leadership, social, environmental and economic issues, and
- is developed having due regard to the State government's State Plan and other relevant State and regional plans of the State government.⁴

Councils are required to review this plan by 30 June following each Council election.

In its 2011 Report, the Tribunal acknowledged submissions that argued that this new requirement for Councils, along with other additional functions, had increased the workload of Councils. The Tribunal responded by stating that "an increase in workload does not in itself reflect a change in the roles and responsibilities of Councillors which is the test for considering whether any increase in remuneration is warranted"⁵. Previous determinations contained similar observations.

This is no longer the case. As a result of the 2016 amendments, the Mayor has a statutory role in relation to the strategic plans, programs and policies of the council, including the community strategic plan. This statutory role includes:

- ensuring the timely development and adoption of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the council

² Explanatory notes, Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Bill 2016
<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/bills/Pages/bill-details.aspx?pk=3316>

³ Ibid

⁴ Local Government Act 1993 s402 (3) (a)

⁵ Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal under Sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, 28 April 2011 p3

- promoting the effective and consistent implementation of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the council
- advising, consulting with and providing strategic direction to the general manager in relation to the implementation of the strategic plans and policies of the council⁶.

Councillors have a statutory role to represent the “collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community”. Given that the community strategic plan should reflect the aspirations, needs and “collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community”, Councillors have a statutory role relation to the community strategic plan. This statutory role requires Councillors to collectively:

- identify and prioritise key local community needs in developing the community strategic plan
- develop and endorse the community strategic plan, delivery program and other strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the council
- regularly review implementation of the community strategic plan and its delivery program
- review and if required, amend the community strategic plan following each Council election.

The 2016 amendments, combined with these and many other statutory requirements have significantly changed the roles of Councillors and Mayors. Given the associated increased workload associated with these changed roles, the Tribunal can no longer avoid considering this increased workload in determining Councillor and Mayoral remuneration.

Training and Professional Development

Since 2016, s232 (g) of the Act has required Councillors “to make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a Councillor”.

This section is reinforced by s183 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. This section requires the general manager to ensure each new and reelected Councillor receives induction training courses or refresher induction courses within six months of an election. These courses must provide Councillors with information about the functions and obligations of councils and Councillors and the administrative procedures and operations of the council. Councillors must make all reasonable efforts to participate in these inductions.

The general manager must also ensure Mayors and Councillors receive ongoing professional development during the course of their term of office. This must provide support and assistance in the development of the skills necessary to perform the role of Mayor or Councillor and ensure that these skills are maintained.

Councillors must make all reasonable efforts to participate in the induction training and ongoing professional development. The regulation requires participation by Mayors and Councillors (and implicitly non-participation) in this training and professional development to be included in the Council’s annual report.

These near mandatory requirements have imposed a significant additional time burden on Councillors and Mayors in carrying out their statutory roles. The Tribunal has yet to consider this in determining Councillor and Mayoral remuneration. It must now do so.

⁶ Local Government Act 1993 s226 (g) (h) and (j)

1.2 Ensuring efficient and effective local government

As noted above “efficient and effective local government” requires Councillors who reflect the diversity of their communities as well as having the necessary attributes of a Councillor.

Ensuring diversity

The 2023 Tribunal Report acknowledged the detailed submission by Associate Professor Tanya Jakimow of the Australian National University, which outlined the negative impacts of inadequate Councillor and Mayoral remuneration, and observed that:

“... inadequate pay has significant negative consequences: low quality local democracy, an unacceptable burden on Councillors and their families, and poor Councillor diversity.”⁷

Professor Jakimow’s submission also argued that remuneration levels did not adequately reflect the hours and complexity of the work of Councillors and Mayors.

Her submission reflected the extensive research she had undertaken in conjunction with others. This included a 2021 survey of NSW Councillors which examined whether the impact of low pay and high workloads determined who could become a Councillor. It received 389 responses. In a subsequent article⁸ she wrote:

“The complexity of the role, which requires understanding of changing legislation and knowledge of operational and strategic matters, all while being responsive to constituents, has increased the demands on Councillors, leading to workloads in excess of 40 hours a week for some. Councillors frequently described their work as ‘full-time’ for part-time pay, and outlined the financial sacrifices they bore in order to undertake their council activities to a satisfactory level. This juggling is intensified for Councillors with significant caring responsibilities. As one Councillor said, women’s underrepresentation ‘reflects the demands on women in employment and also looking after the family, which together does not leave a lot of room for council’.

“‘Role-strain’ of juggling family, paid employment and council work more accurately captures the reason for the missing cohort in councils. One answer to the enduring problem of women’s underrepresentation is then to increase Councillor pay so that women (and men) do not need to balance it with full-time employment.”

Professor Jakimow also observed that in addition to the impact on women’s underrepresentation on councils, there were also impacts for men without an independent source of income, and for cultural and ethnic diversity.

“Being a Councillor ‘is not a full-time job, and this puts a lot of people off’, as migrant families are often aspirational and want their children to have decent jobs.”

The Tribunal should consider the impact of the levels of Councillor and Mayoral remuneration on the diversity of Councillor representation, and thus effective local government.

⁷ Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal under Sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, 27 April 2023 p23

⁸ Jakimow, Tanya “Roadblocks to Diversity in Local Government in New South Wales, Australia: Changing Narratives and Confronting Absences in Diversity Strategies”, *Commonwealth Journal of Local Governance*, Issue 26 May 2022

Capacity

The Tribunal has, in the past, rejected submissions suggesting any relationship between Councillor remuneration and the willingness of “quality candidates” to seek election⁹. We note however, the following observation in the most recent report of the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal:

“Not only should Members of Parliament be fairly remunerated for their important and challenging work, within the State’s means, but it must also be remembered that such **remuneration and the other conditions and entitlements** provided by the Determination **play a real role in attracting people of high intellect, integrity and vigour to stand for election to the Parliament** (our emphasis). People who have the necessary skills to perform such work well and who are prepared to devote their time to serving the public interest, rather than only their own interests. Appropriate salary and conditions also help to ensure that such people are also prepared to continue seeking re-election in order to continue performing the important work of their offices”¹⁰.

The same must surely apply for local government Councillors. We note there is no legislation which sets out the statutory roles and responsibilities of Members of Parliament. In contrast, and has been demonstrated above, the statutory roles and responsibilities of Mayors and Councillors are extensive, as are the obligations imposed on them.

Conclusion to Part 1

This submission has set out matters which the Tribunal should consider in comprehensively reviewing the framework for Mayor and Councillor remuneration. Such a review must precede any determination being made. If the Tribunal insists that undertaking such a review is beyond its current remit, it should actively seek a referral from the Minister to do so.

⁹ See, for example, Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal under Sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, 28 April 2011 p7

¹⁰ Annual Determination Report and Determination of additional entitlements for Members of the Parliament of New South Wales pursuant to the Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1989, 24 May 2024 p12.

Part 2 Structural Reform and the City of Sydney

2.1 The City's unique category

The City of Sydney has enjoyed its own unique category since the Tribunal's first determination was published on 22 April 1994. Over time the category name has changed: Initially "S1" in 1994, changed to "Principal City" in 2009, and to "Principal CBD" in 2017.

Regardless of the category name, the Tribunal has consistently recognised the City of Sydney for "its role as the commercial, cultural, entertainment and ceremonial centre of the City and State".¹¹

This recognition reflects submissions to the Tribunal made by the City of Sydney in 1994, 1995, 1997 and 2000. As such, they reflect the City as it was between 1 January 1989 and 8 May 2003. As the map below shows, the City then covered the Sydney CBD, Haymarket, The Rocks, Millers Point, Dawes Point, Pyrmont, Ultimo and the edges of Potts Point and Darlinghurst, an area totalling 6.19km². The City's residential population at the 1991 census was 13,501, increasing to 24,883 at the 1996 census.

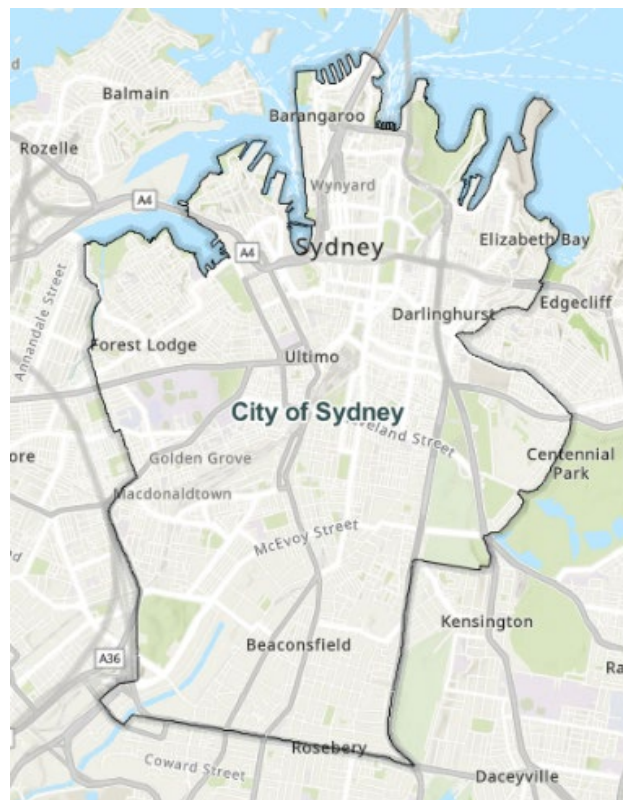


¹¹ Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal under sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, 29 April 2009 p21. Other reports have provided more detailed statements.

On 8 May 2003, the NSW Government expanded the City by transferring Darlinghurst and the 2011 Postcode area from the former South Sydney Council and Glebe and Forest Lodge from the former Leichardt Council. On 6 February 2004, the remaining areas of South Sydney were forcibly amalgamated with the City of Sydney. This increased the City's area to 25km² (see map on the following page).

In its 1994 determination the Tribunal drew on the City's submission to note that the City was:

“... the seat of Government and the focus for the judiciary of the State's Legal System; the centre for the major financial and commercial institutions of the State and the financial centre of the Pacific; the cultural and entertainment centre of the State and a mirror of Australian culture and tradition; the gateway to Australia for overseas tourists and visitors and the main centre for tourism in Australia; the focus for the major civic, ceremonial and religious activities of the City ... a principal centre of intellectual activity, media and communications ... through its Universities an educational centre of excellence; a principal centre for the provision of higher order, specialised medical services ...”¹²



City of Sydney from 2004

This continued to be the case following the 2004 amalgamation. The expanded boundaries included within them the University of Sydney, Notre Dame University, St Vincent's Hospital, Taylor Square Law Courts, the North and South Eveleigh precincts, Belvoir Theatre, Carriageworks (from 2007), the Kings Cross and Oxford Street entertainment districts and the site for major events such as Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. The City of Sydney's role as "the commercial, cultural, entertainment and ceremonial centre of the City and State" was no longer confined to the CBD.

Moreover, while the primary focus of the former City was on central Sydney business activity (as acknowledged in its submissions to the Tribunal) the expanded City includes village centres such as Glebe, Newtown, Erskineville, Darlinghurst, Surry Hills and East Sydney, along with the Green Square urban renewal area.

¹² Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal under sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, p12 22 April 1994

In addition to these village centres, the City has eight distinct economic precincts. As shown in the map below, four are in the area added to the City in 2004:



Data from the City’s most recent Floorspace and Employment Survey and presented in the following table shows that 44.8 per cent of businesses within the City of Sydney are located in the Tech Central West, Eastern Creative, Economic and Recreation and Southern Enterprise Precincts.

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE CITY OF SYDNEY							
AREAS WITHIN THE FORMER CITY OF SYDNEY 1989-2003							
	City North	City South	Harbour	Pyrmont	Total former City of Sydney	All LGA	% LGA
Total businesses							
Businesses	7,643	3,043	494	664	11,844	21,470	55.2
Employment	252,737	76,169	12,354	22,888	364,148	517,393	70.4
Internal floor area	5,163,814	2,470,860	518,625	787,297	8,940,597	16,445,137	54.4
Work space ratio (WSR)	20.4	32.4	42.0	34.4	31.8	31.8	

AREAS ADDED TO THE CITY OF SYDNEY 2004								
	Eastern Creative	Entertainment and Recreation	Southern Enterprise Area	Tech Central West	Remainder	Total area added 2004	All LGA	% LGA
Total businesses								
Businesses	2,670	228	1,435	1,656	3,636	9,625	21,470	44.8
Employment	39,347	5,775	17,821	48,000	42,302	153,245	517,393	29.6
Internal floor area	1,153,907	423,934	1,477,701	2,287,263	2,161,735	7,504,540	16,445,137	45.6
Work space ratio (WSR)	29.3	73.4	82.9	47.7	51.1	51.1	31.8	

While the amalgamation enhanced Sydney’s position as Australia’s only global city it also required Councillors to extend their focus beyond the city centre. Sydney City Councillors must also devote their attention, policy deliberation and time to the needs of the wider local government area in the interests of residents and the city, NSW and Australian economy. Thus their role is more complex and demanding than that of city Councillors in the 1990s.

Impact on representation

Between 1985 and 2003, the former City was served by a directly elected Lord Mayor and six other Councillors. After the amalgamation, the expanded city was served by a directly elected Lord Mayor and nine other Councillors. Between 1989 and 2004, the former South Sydney Council was served by nine Councillors including a Mayor elected by the council. The table below shows the dramatic effect of these changes on population and representation.

Changes in City of Sydney Population 1991-2023						
Year ¹	City of Sydney ²		South Sydney ³		City of Sydney (adj) ⁴	
	Population	Pop/Cr ⁵	Population	Pop/Cr ⁵	Population	Pop/Cr ⁵
1991	13,501	1929	77,818	8646		
1996	24,883	3555	82,960	9218	121,752	10146
2001	47,204	6743	92,249	10250	153,200	12767
2006					180,474	20053
2011					169,502	18834
2016					208,376	23153
2021					211632	23515
2023					231086	25676

Notes

- Years are census years with the exception of 2023 which is an estimate
- City of Sydney population within 1989-2003 boundaries
- Former South Sydney Council population within 1989-2003 boundaries
- 1996, 2001 ABS calculation of City of Sydney population on current boundaries
- 2006 onwards - population on current boundaries
- Number of residents divided by number of councillors

At the 2006 census, the residential population for the expanded City was 180,474. At the previous 2001 census, 47,204 residents were recorded as living within the City's then boundaries. Thus the amalgamation meant the population of the City of Sydney increased by 133,270 between 2001 and 2006.

ABS census data shows six Sydney City Councillors represented 24,883 residents in 1996, or one Councillor for every 4,147 residents. In 2021, nine Councillors represented 211,632 residents, that is one Councillor for every 23,515 residents. In 2021 each Councillor notionally represented 5.67 times as many residents as former City Councillors were required to represent in 1996.

The challenges of representing residents will only increase. Over the past decade the population has increased by 34,768 persons (17.7%) to an estimated 231,086 as at 30 June 2023. This is one Councillor for 25,676 residents, compared to six Councillors representing 24,883 residents in 1996.

Increased responsibilities and obligations

Between 1994 and 2003, the Act required former City Councillors to represent the collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community and to facilitate communication between the community and the council. This remains part of the Councillor's role. However, as set out in Part 1, Sydney City Councillors now have many additional statutory responsibilities and obligations, while actively and collectively ensuring Sydney builds on its position as Australia's only global city.

As explained in Part 1, Councillors have been required by law to be active and contributing members of council, and to make considered and well informed decisions since 2016. Part 1 gave the example of the statutory role Councillors have in strategic planning. During the last term, City Councillors collectively developed and adopted Sustainable Sydney 2030 to 2050, the successor to our initial long term strategic plan, Sustainable Sydney 2030. Current City Councillors are responsible for overseeing the implementation of this plan, along with the operational plan, delivery program and many strategies which sit under it. These include our detailed Economic Development Strategy, Environmental Strategy, Social Sustainability Strategy and Cultural Strategy.

Implementing these strategies also require our Councillors to make significant financial and budgetary decisions. The finances for which Councillors are now ultimately responsible are significantly greater than those than City Councillors in the 1990s, or indeed when the first Councillors of the expanded City took office.

(Note: All amounts referred to below have been taken from City of Sydney Annual Reports and Financial Statements for the relevant financial years and have been adjusted for inflation using the Reserve Bank of Australia's inflation calculator).

At the end of the 1998-1999 financial year the total assets of the then City of Sydney were valued at \$4.2 billion. At the end of the 2004-2005 financial year (the first complete financial year for the expanded City), the City's total assets were valued at \$5.9 billion. At the end of the 2023-2024 financial year the City's total assets were valued at \$15.4 billion. This is an increase of 162 per cent since 2005.

Included in the City's assets are infrastructure, property, plant and equipment. In 2005 their combined value was \$5.3 billion. By 2024 this value had risen to \$13.7 billion, an increase of 161 per cent.

In 1999, six Councillors and a directly elected Lord Mayor had \$284 million in operating revenue to allocate. In 2024 nine Councillors and a directly elected Lord Mayor were responsible for allocating \$894.6 million.

Impact on Councillors

In Part 1 we noted the research of Associate Professor Professor Tanya Jakimow. The City has directly experienced the issues it raises.

On 3 April, 2023 Jess Scully resigned as a City of Sydney Councillor after becoming pregnant with her second child. During her approximately five years and six months on Council. Ms Scully made a significant contribution, including serving as Deputy Lord Mayor for three years. This extensive contribution was set out in the Lord Mayoral Minute which informed Council of her resignation. The Minute also observed:

"I think that in 2023, it is appalling that Councillors aren't eligible for parental leave, sick leave, compassionate leave, or carer's leave, or even payment beyond a minor stipend when they have to make important decisions for their communities and spend serious time on their council responsibilities. Because of that, there are fundamental barriers to public service for many in our community, because it's necessary to earn a living and contribute to family needs.

"If we want diverse representation in local government -- to have younger people, people in caring stages of their lives, parents, people from diverse backgrounds, people with disabilities -- we have to ensure that structures are in place to support people like Councillor Scully with caring responsibilities."

Another Councillor discovered after being elected that their role and responsibilities effectively required a full-time commitment observing:

"In order for me to service community, ratepayers and businesses I am required to do council work seven days a week. We have 10 Committee meetings per year and 10 Council meetings per year. The papers alone for this might be anywhere between 800 and 3,000 pages; all to be read over the weekend. That's 20 weekends per year I spend reading and preparing for my 'part-time' job. My evenings are now filled with community obligations, additional briefings and inductions, the list goes on. Weekends, meanwhile, see me attending park openings and other events and one on one meetings with residents. While I love being a Councillor, I am left with little time for my actual day job, which has resulted in my experiencing significant loss of income."

As argued in Part 1, urgent structural reform is needed to address these issues for all NSW councils. The challenges faced by the City of Sydney are particularly acute and need to be addressed.

Over the past 20 years, the Tribunal has recognised the important role played by the Lord Mayor of Sydney. It has however not similarly recognised the important and increasingly demanding and complex role and responsibilities of City of Sydney Councillors. This is demonstrated by the maximum fees for City Councillors being only 18.22 per cent of the maximum Mayoral fee. For all other NSW councils, the maximum fee ranges from 30.95 per cent to 46.61 per cent.

This disparity must not be allowed to continue.

Request to the Tribunal

Accordingly, we request that the Tribunal:

1. Undertakes the comprehensive review of the remuneration framework for Councillors and Mayors, taking into account the issues raised in Part 1.
2. Give detailed consideration to the roles and responsibilities of City of Sydney Councillors as members of the governing body of Australia's only global city, taking into account the issues raised in this submission, as part of this comprehensive review.
3. Actively seek a referral from the Minister for Local Government to undertake this review if the Tribunal determines that undertaking such a review is outside its remit.
4. As an interim measure make a specific determination as to the fees for City of Sydney Councillors which appropriately recognises their roles and responsibilities as members of the governing body of Australia's only global city and which address the issues raised in this submission.
5. Revert to the term "Principal City" as the unique category for the City of Sydney, to recognise that the City's significance and contribution extends beyond the Sydney CBD.
6. Note that the City of Sydney is not seeking any increase in the fees payable to the Lord Mayor of Sydney.

Item 5

Matters for Tabling

5.1 Disclosures of Interest

Disclosure of Interest returns that have been lodged in accordance with the City of Sydney Code of Conduct will be tabled.

Recommendation

It is resolved that the Disclosures of Interest returns be received and noted.

Item 6

Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee - 9 December 2024

Item 6.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of Monday 11 November 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

No 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 Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.3

Investments Held as at 30 November 2024

It is resolved that the Investment Report as at 30 November 2024 be received and noted.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

X020701

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.4

Delegations of Authority to the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the Delegations to the Lord Mayor, as shown at Attachment C to the subject report;
- (B) Council approve the Delegations to the Chief Executive Officer, as shown at Attachment D to the subject report; and
- (C) Council revoke the existing Delegations to the Lord Mayor dated 22 August 2022 and Delegations to the Chief Executive Officer dated 22 August 2022 as shown at Attachments A and B to the subject report.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Gannon, Kok, Miller, Maxwell, Wilson and Worling

Noes (3) Councillors Ellsmore*, Thompson* and Weldon*.

Carried.

*Note – Councillors Ellsmore, Thompson and Weldon abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillors Ellsmore, Thompson and Weldon are taken to have voted against the motion.)

X109863 and X101731

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.5

Post Exhibition - Code of Meeting Practice and Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submission received from the community on the draft Code of Meeting Practice as outlined in the subject report;
- (B) Council adopt the revised City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (C) Council fix the order of business of meetings of council as the following:
 - (i) opening of the meeting;
 - (ii) prayer and acknowledgement of country;
 - (iii) apologies and applications for a leave of absence by councillors;
 - (iv) confirmation of minutes;
 - (v) disclosures of interest;
 - (vi) minutes by the Lord Mayor;
 - (vii) memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer;
 - (viii) matters for tabling;
 - (ix) reports of committees;
 - (x) reports to council;
 - (xi) questions on notice;
 - (xii) supplementary answers to previous questions;
 - (xiii) notices of motion; and
 - (xiv) conclusion of the meeting;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Code of Meeting Practice in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication;
- (E) Council note the submission received from the community on the draft Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy as outlined in the subject report;

- (F) Council adopt the revised Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy as shown at Attachment B to the subject report; and
- (G) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Gannon, Kok, Miller, Maxwell, Wilson and Worling

Noes (3) Councillors Ellsmore, Thompson and Weldon.

Carried.)

S051923

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.6

Project Scope - Bay Street Depot Upgrade

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorses the scope of works for the Bay Street Depot upgrade works as described in the subject report and as generally indicated at Attachment B to the subject report for progression to required planning approvals, detailed design, documentation and construction of works; and
- (B) note the financial implications and timeframes outlined in the subject report.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

X089172.006

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.7

Public Exhibition - Naming Proposal - Heckle Lane

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council provide in-principle approval to name this unnamed lane off Waterloo Street in Surry Hills "Heckle Lane", and that the name be placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days; and
- (B) note that a further report will be submitted to Council on the results of the public consultation process.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller, and carried unanimously.)

X102587.002

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.8

Public Exhibition - Naming Proposal - Frog Lane

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council provide in-principle approval to name this unnamed lane that borders 811 Elizabeth Street, Zetland as "Frog Lane", and that the name be placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days; and
- (B) note that a further report will be submitted to Council on the results of the public consultation process.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

X102587.002

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.9

Proposed Land Classification - 57C Ashmore Street, Erskineville

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse public notification of the proposed resolution: "It is resolved to classify 57C Ashmore Street, Erskineville NSW 2043 (being Lot 8 in DP 1262184) which is to be transferred to Council for future public purposes, as operational land in accordance with section 31 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)", on the basis that the classification is an interim measure to support operational management until the land can be re-classified as community land and included within the Generic Plan of Management; and
- (B) note that a further report to Council, to inform of the outcomes of public notification and recommendation on classification will follow the notification period.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

2024/653454

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.10

Proposed Land Classification - 895-901 Bourke Street, Waterloo

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the public notification of the proposed resolution: "It is resolved to classify proposed Lot 103 in in the Plan of Subdivision of Lot 1 in DP 1304819 at 895-901 Bourke Street, Waterloo NSW 2017 which is to be transferred to Council for future public purposes, as operational land in accordance with section 31 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)", on the basis that:
 - (i) the classification is an interim measure to support operational management of the land until works are completed and part of proposed Lot 103 can be dedicated as a road reserve; and
 - (ii) the remainder of the land comprising Lot 103 can then be reclassified as community land, incorporated into a Generic Plan of Management and categorised as 'General Community Use'; and
- (B) note that a further report to Council, to inform of the outcomes of the public notification and recommendation on classification, will follow the notification period.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

2024/652434

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.11

Contract Variation - Head Design Consultant - Ultimo Road to Campbell Street Cycleway Project

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a contract variation and an increased value for the existing Head Consultant Contract with AECOM Australia Pty Ltd for the Ultimo Road to Campbell Street Cycleway to cover additional services as described in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (B) Council note the financial implications detailed in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

X034641

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.12

Exemption from Tender and Contract Variation - AON Risk Services

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve an exemption from tender in accordance with section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993 to extend the term of the contract for insurance broking services with AON Risk Services Australia Limited by 15 months, to expire on 30 June 2026;
- (B) Council note that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders for this work because:
 - (i) an actuarial review of the City's insurance requirements was recently completed which has confirmed that the current approach of placing insurances direct to market via a broker remained the most beneficial insurance model; and
 - (ii) there is insufficient time to undertake the tender required following prior to the expiry of the existing term on 31 March 2025;
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to vary the existing contract with AON Risk Services Australia Limited to provide insurance broking services for an additional 15 months while the new tender is undertaken and until the resulting new contract commences; and
- (D) Council note that funds are available in the annual operating budget for insurance broking services which are available to cover the contract extension period.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

X096842.009

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.13

Exemption from Tender and Contract Variation - Board Meeting Management - Diligent Board Books

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve an exemption from tender in accordance with section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the provision of board meeting management platform services by Diligent Board Services Australia Pty Limited as a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders;
- (B) Council note that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders for this work because:
 - (i) a project has commenced that will undertake a full market scan of board meeting management platforms, evaluate the options and determine the procurement pathway; and
 - (ii) there is insufficient time to complete this review and undertake the procurement process required prior to the expiry of the existing term on 30 January 2025;
- (C) Council approve a variation to the existing contract with Diligent Board Services Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 97 154 472 045) to extend the contract for a further 12-months to expire on 30 January 2026;
- (D) Council note the revised contract sum for the extended term is set out in the Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise the contract extension with Diligent Board Services Australia Pty Ltd for the provision of board meeting management platform services.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried on the follow show of hands –

Ayes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Gannon, Kok, Miller, Maxwell, Wilson and Worling

Noes (3) Councillors Ellsmore, Thompson and Weldon*.

Carried.

*Note – Councillor Weldon abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Weldon is taken to have voted against the motion.)

S095194.009

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommends the following:

Item 6.14

Exemption from Tender and Contract Variation - Bulky Organics and Cleansing Waste Processing

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve an exemption from tender in accordance with section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the provision of Organics, Bulky Waste and Cleansing Waste (Non-Putrescible) Receipt and Processing services as a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders;
- (B) Council note that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders for this work because:
 - (i) the City's current supplier for bulky material processing is the only suitably licensed supplier in the Greater Sydney area that can process material that delivers high rates of diversion from landfill;
 - (ii) the City's current supplier for street sweeping processing is the only suitably licensed supplier in the Greater Sydney area that can process material that delivers high rates of diversion from landfill;
 - (iii) the market settings for food and garden waste processing are currently impacted by several pending changes that include legislation, planning approvals and construction timelines;
 - (iv) it is not anticipated that any meaningful new processing facilities will be established during the term of the proposed extension;
 - (v) the extension will allow time to test and evaluate the 12-month food organics insect processing trial due to commence in 2025; and
 - (vi) Veolia as the head contractor has confirmed that it can continue to provide capacity at its transfer stations for all existing services at an acceptable distance for our collection trucks to access;
- (C) Council approve a variation to the existing contract with Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd to extend the contract for a further 3 years, with a revised expiry date of 30 June 2028;
- (D) Council note the revised contract sum for the extended term is set out in the Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise the contract extension with Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd for the provision of Organics, Bulky Waste and Cleansing Waste (Non-Putrescible) Receipt and Processing services.

(Note – at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

X011992.001

Item 7

Report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee - 9 December 2024

Item 7.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee of Monday 11 November 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 7.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

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

The Environment and Climate Change Committee recommends the following:

Item 7.3

Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel - Terms of Reference, Membership and Appointment of Chairperson

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the establishment of the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel;
- (B) endorse and adopt the Terms of Reference of the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel, as contained in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Terms of Reference, in consultation with the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel to correct any drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication;
- (D) appoint Councillor Adam Worling as the Chairperson of the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel for a term effective immediately and ending on the day appointed for the next ordinary election of Council;
- (E) appoint Councillor Jess Miller as the alternate Chairperson of the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel, for a term effective immediately and ending on the day appointed for the next ordinary election of Council; and
- (F) appoint Lois Towart, Robert Vitale, Cheryl Hollebon and Toulia Foster as the community representatives of the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Panel, for a term effective immediately and ending on the day appointed for the next ordinary election of Council.

(Note – at the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Worling, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

S055537-02

Item 8

Report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee - 9 December 2024

Item 8.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee of Monday 11 November 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Jess Miller disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.3 on the agenda, in that she has known the co-founder and Creative Director of The Nest for a significant period of time. Councillor Miller considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she has not discussed this grant with The Nest, nor is the relationship of a financial nature.

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

The Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee recommends the following:

Item 8.3

Grants and Sponsorship - Ad Hoc Grant - The Nest

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the proposed resolution for public notification: "It is resolved to contribute \$50,000 (excluding GST) to I Made This Pty Ltd (ABN 94 165 857 483) in accordance with section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 to contribute towards the costs of relocating and setting-up the Nest at 24 and 24a Bourke Rd Alexandria";
- (B) note that the contribution will be paid from the 2024/25 General Contingency Fund or savings from the City Life 2024/25 operating budget; and
- (C) note that a further report to Council, to inform the outcomes of public notification and with a recommendation on the proposed contribution will follow the notification period.

(Note – at the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Wilson, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

X112445

Item 9

Report of the Equity and Housing Committee - 9 December 2024

Item 9.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Housing For All Committee of Monday 22 July 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 9.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

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

The Equity and Housing Committee recommends the following:

Item 9.3

Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Affordable Housing Contributions Review - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012, Sydney Local Environmental Plan (Green Square Town Centre) 2013, Sydney Local Environmental Plan (Green Square Town Centre - Stage 2) 2013 and Draft City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program 2024

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review, shown at Attachment A to the subject report, for submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with a request for a gateway determination;
- (B) Council approve Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review, for public authority consultation and public exhibition in accordance with any conditions imposed under the gateway determination;
- (C) Council approve the draft City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024, shown at Attachment B to the subject report, for public exhibition concurrently with the planning proposal;
- (D) Council seek authority from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to exercise its delegation under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to make the amending Local Environmental Plan; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any variations to Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review and the draft City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024, to correct any minor errors or inconsistencies, or to ensure consistency with any condition of the gateway determination.

(Note – at the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Wilson and carried unanimously.)

X099241

Speakers

John Engeler (CEO, Shelter NSW) and Professor Bill Randolph (UNSW) addressed the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee on Item 9.3.

Item 10

Report of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee - 9 December 2024

Item 10.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Gannon, seconded by Councillor Worling –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee of Monday 11 November 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 10.2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Lyndon Gannon disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.4 on the agenda, in that he is a close associate of Alex Schuman, CEO of Carla Zampatti through their NSW Liberal Party involvement.

Councillor Gannon stated he will not be voting on this matter.

Councillor Adam Worling disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.4 on the agenda, in that through his work as a Fashion Publicist, he has developed a long-standing relationship with both the Australian Fashion Council and Australian Fashion Week.

Councillor Worling stated that he will not be voting on this matter, out of an abundance of caution.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matters on the agenda for this meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee.

The Innovation, Business and Economy Committee recommends the following:

Item 10.3

Post Exhibition - Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council adopt the Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035 as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor editorial amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors prior to the finalisation of the Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035;
- (C) Council note the Engagement Report summarising consultation during exhibition on the draft Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report; and
- (D) Council note the Engagement Report summarising sector input that supported the development of the draft Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035, as shown at Attachment C to the subject report.

(Note – at the meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Gannon, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

X110156.001

Speakers

Jeremy Gill (Head of Policy, Committee for Sydney) and Karl Schlothauer (Vice President, YCK Laneways) addressed the meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee on Item 10.3.

The Innovation, Business and Economy Committee recommends the following:

Item 10.4

Grants and Sponsorship - Ad Hoc Grant - Australian Fashion Council

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the recommendation of up to \$100,000 in financial assistance per year for two years (2024/25 and 2025/26) to Australian Fashion Council Ltd for the final two years of the project Australian Fashion Week 2024-2026;
- (B) Council note that the grant agreement will not be signed and payment of the funding will not occur until the City is satisfied that the following pre-conditions are met:
 - (i) Australian Fashion Council Ltd provides and the City approves the detailed project plan for the 2025 and 2026 Australian Fashion Week events;
 - (ii) Australian Fashion Council Ltd provides evidence confirming it has secured other income and funding to deliver the 2025 and 2026 Australian Fashion Week events; and
 - (iii) the agreement with International Management Group of America Pty Ltd has been formally terminated and funds paid to International Management Group of America Pty Ltd for the 2025 event are repaid to the City;
- (C) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer the agreement with Australian Fashion Council Ltd under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy;
- (E) Council note that it will be advised by CEO Update when the grant agreement is signed by both parties;
- (F) Council note that if the grant agreement is not signed by both parties by 31 March 2025, the Council approval to provide the funding will be automatically rescinded; and
- (G) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipient will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

(Note – at the meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee, this recommendation was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Miller, and carried unanimously.)

S117676

Speakers

Jaana Quaintance-James (CEO, Australian Fashion Council) and Alex Schuman (CEO, Carla Zampatti) addressed the meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee on Item 10.4.

Item 11

Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee - 9 December 2024

Item 11.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee of Monday 11 November 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 11.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Lyndon Gannon disclosed a significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.3 on the agenda, in that he is a resident within 41-49 Roslyn Gardens, Elizabeth Bay (Bayview), which is one of the buildings listed in the planning proposal.

Councillor Gannon stated that he would not be voting on this matter.

Councillor Mitch Wilson disclosed a significant non-pecuniary interest in item 11.3 on the agenda, in that their former employer at Sydney WorldPride, former CEO Kate Wickett, and a close personal friend, Jess Hill, both own apartments in buildings subject to the planning proposal.

Councillor Wilson stated that they would not be voting on this matter.

Councillor Zann Maxwell made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.3 on the agenda, in that Elizabeth Elenius, a registered speaker on this item, was a supporter of the Sydney Labor Campaign and has campaigned on the issue of the Powerhouse Museum. Councillor Maxwell considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because Elizabeth was a volunteer in a general way on the campaign and he has not met with her to discuss this specific issue.
- a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.3 on the agenda, in that Skye Tito was a supporter of the Sydney Labor Campaign and lives within one of the buildings included in the Modern Residential Flat Buildings in the report. Councillor Maxwell considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because Skye did not approach him in relation to this matter and was unaware it was coming to Council, and Councillor Maxwell did not receive representations from her in relation to this issue.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee.

Item 11.3

Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Modern Residential Flat Buildings, Powerhouse Museum and Oxford Street LGBTIQA+ Heritage Items - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 Amendments

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 16 December 2024.

Officer's Recommendation

The officer's recommendation to the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee was as follows -

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Modern Residential Flat Buildings Heritage Items, shown at Attachment A to the subject report, for submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with a request for a gateway determination;
- (B) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Modern Residential Flat Buildings Heritage Items as shown at Attachment A for public authority consultation and public exhibition in accordance with any conditions imposed under the gateway determination;
- (C) Council seek authority from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to exercise the delegation of all the functions under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to make the local environmental plan and to put into effect the Planning Proposal - Modern Residential Flat Buildings Heritage Items;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor variations to the Planning Proposal - Modern Residential Flat Buildings Heritage Items to correct any drafting errors or to ensure consistency with the gateway determination;
- (E) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQA+ Heritage Items, shown at Attachment B, to the subject report, for submission to the of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with a request for a gateway determination;
- (F) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQA+ Heritage Items as shown at Attachment B for public authority consultation and public exhibition in accordance with any conditions imposed under the gateway determination;
- (G) Council seek authority from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to exercise the delegation of all the functions under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to make the local environmental plan and to put into effect the Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQA+ Heritage Items;
- (H) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor variations to the Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQA+ Heritage Items to correct any drafting errors or to ensure consistency with the gateway determination;
- (I) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment, shown at Attachment C to the subject report, for submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with a request for a gateway determination;
- (J) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment as shown at Attachment C for public authority consultation and public exhibition in accordance with any conditions imposed under the gateway determination;

- (K) Council seek authority from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to exercise the delegation of all the functions under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to make the local environmental plan and to put into effect the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment; and
- (L) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor variations to the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment to correct any drafting errors or to ensure consistency with the gateway determination.

Officer's Report

The officer's report on this matter can be found at Item 3 on the agenda for the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee on 9 December 2024.

X109515, X098649, X091578

Speakers

Elizabeth Elenius (Pyrmont Action Inc), Brenan Liston (Roslyn Gardens), Jim Carroll (Ithica Gardens) and Philip Thalys (Hill Thalys) addressed the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee on Item 11.3.

Extension of Time

During discussion on this matter, pursuant to the provisions of clause 9.29 of the Code of Meeting Practice, it was –

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

That Elizabeth Elenius be granted an extension of time to speak on this matter.

Carried unanimously.

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommends the following:

Item 11.4

Public Exhibition - Draft Local Approvals Policy for Hoisting and Construction Activities On and Above Roads

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the draft Local Approvals Policy for Hoisting and Construction Activities on and above Roads as shown at Attachment A to the subject report for public exhibition for a period of 42 days in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993;
- (B) Council note that the supporting technical controls, the draft Code of Practice for Hoisting and Construction Activities on and above Roads will be available for public comment together with the Local Approvals Policy;
- (C) Council note that the Local Approvals Policy for Hoisting and Construction Activities on and above Roads, including any recommended changes, will be reported to Council for adoption following the exhibition period; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors prior to the exhibition of the draft Local Approvals Policy for Hoisting and Construction Activities on and above Roads.

(Note – at the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

S129097

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommends the following:

Item 11.5

Public Exhibition - Draft Local Approvals Policy for Construction-Related Temporary Structures On and Above Roads

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the draft Local Approvals Policy for Construction-Related Temporary Structures On and Above Roads as shown at Attachment A to the subject report for public exhibition for a period of 42 days in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993;
- (B) Council note that the supporting technical controls, the draft Code of Practice for Construction-Related Temporary Structures On and Above Roads will be available for comment during the exhibition period;
- (C) Council note that the Draft Local Approvals Policy, including any recommended changes, will be reported to Council to seek adoption following the exhibition period; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors prior to the exhibition of the draft Local Approvals Policy for Construction-Related Temporary Structures On and Above Roads.

(Note – at the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

X102443

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommends the following:

Item 11.6

Post Exhibition - Outdoor Dining Guidelines Amendment

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the findings from the public exhibition of the draft amendment to the Outdoor Dining Guidelines as described in Attachment B to the subject report, including the City's responses;
- (B) Council adopt the Outdoor Dining Guidelines as shown at Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

(Note – at the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

S060627-02.023

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommends the following:

Item 11.7

Post Exhibition - Planning Proposal - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 and Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 Amendment

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the matters raised in response to the public exhibition of Planning Proposal - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, the draft Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, and draft Voluntary Planning Agreement, as shown in Attachment D to the subject report;
- (B) Council approve Planning Proposal - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, and request the relevant local plan making authority make the planning proposal as a Local Environmental Plan under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;
- (C) Council approve the draft Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report, noting the approved Development Control Plan will come into effect on the date of publication of the subject Local Environmental Plan;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor amendments to the Planning Proposal - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills and the draft Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 - 232-240 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, to correct any minor errors or omissions prior to finalisation; and
- (E) Council note the draft Voluntary Planning Agreement, as shown at Attachment C to the subject report, will be executed under delegation of Council in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

(Note – at the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

X094617

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommends the following:

Item 11.8

Adoption - Council-Related Development Applications Policy

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council adopt the updated Council-related development applications policy as set out at Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Council-related development applications policy to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

(Note – at the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

X112762

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommends the following:

Item 11.9

Fire Safety Reports

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note the contents of the Fire Safety Reports Summary Sheet, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) note the inspection reports by Fire and Rescue NSW, as shown at Attachments B to D to the subject report;
- (C) note the contents of Attachment B and exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 5 and 7 Potter Street and 2-4 and 6 Lachlan Street, Waterloo;
- (D) note the contents of Attachment C and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 10-14 Hunter Street, Sydney at this time; and
- (E) note the contents of Attachment D and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 2 York Street, Sydney at this time.

(Note – at the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried unanimously.)

S105001.002

Item 12

Questions on Notice

1. Paddington Town Hall Renewal Works / Community Consultation

By Councillor Thompson

Question

1. In relation to the Paddington Town Hall, and related buildings and spaces, what are the buildings and venues on site, and how are they currently utilised?
2. Who are the current tenants of each building and/or venue?
3. Which spaces are directly managed by the City of Sydney, and which spaces are managed by another organisation?
4. What current leases or other agreements are in place in relation to:
 - (a) Paddington (Chauvel Cinema)?
 - (b) Community radio station East Side Radio?
 - (c) Paddington Library?
5. Within each building or venue, which spaces are available for the public to hire or book?
6. Within each building or venue, which spaces not available for the public to hire or book? Why?
7. Is there a Plan of Management for the Paddington Town Hall or any of the spaces? If yes, where can a copy be accessed?
8. Is there a Plan of Management for the adjoining Paddington Reservoir Gardens? If yes, where can a copy be accessed?
9. Is there a site map of the Paddington Town Hall? If yes, where can a copy be accessed?
10. In the City of Sydney's current Long Term Financial Plan, there is an allocation for a 'Major Renewal' of Paddington Town Hall. What is the current funding for these works?
11. What is the breakdown of the funding for specific components of the works? If not yet determined, what is the timeline for a detailed budget to be developed?
12. What is the current timeline for the planned renewal of the site?
13. What is scope of the Major Renewal? Please include which spaces are proposed to be part of the Major Renewal, and whether upgrade or redevelopment works are proposed.

14. What is the current plan for community consultation on the Major Renewal or otherwise on the future of the site?
15. At what point in the process will community consultation begin?
16. What is the budget for the community consultation?

X113778

2. Data on Resident Queries and Complaints

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

As of July 2024, the City has a new Customer Service Charter which contains commitments to response times (generally within 10 days) and to keeping residents informed regarding progress. The City's website also states that the City has a commitment to excellence, and encourages queries and feedback which can be provided in various ways. These include on the 24-hour telephone line, on the website or by email.

1. What data does the City of Sydney keep on the type of queries and complaints that residents or other customers make to the City?
2. Does the data include the topic of the query/complaint?
3. Are there trends in the query and complaint data, from the 2021-2024 term (i.e. the term of the last Council)?
4. Is the data analysed according to the responsible area within City administration?
5. Does the data include how many queries/complaints are referred to another agency, versus how many are dealt with internally?
6. Is the data reported in any reports? Please advise where the data is available for review.

X113783

Item 13

Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions

Supplementary Answers to Questions on Notice are as follows:

Question on Notice – Council 29 July 2024

Bartlett Late Bins Update

By Councillor Jarrett

On Monday 22 April and Wednesday 24 April 2024, community pop-up sessions were held by City staff to address the ongoing systemic issues around the Bartlett Lane community bins scheme.

Question

1. Has the Council finalised their observations and community consultation on the Bartlett Lane bins scheme?
2. If not, why not?
3. If so, what is the City's final recommendation? Will the community bins scheme continue or will the City be implementing individual bins?
4. Could a CEO Update be prepared to outline this information?

X086666

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. Yes. The City ran an online survey from 30 May to 21 June 2024. We heard from 42 out of 47 households and the result was clear with 81% of households voting to keep the shared bins. We sent a letter and email to the residents on 5 July 2024, outlining the results and next steps.
2. Not applicable.
3. The City will keep the community bins scheme and make the following improvements based on resident feedback:
 - Replace the existing bins with new lighter bins that are easier to open
 - Review the positioning of bins in the lane and paint new line marking
 - Add new shared green bins at each end of the lane
 - Organise regular cleaning of all shared bins
 - Check and change the three rat bait stations every two weeks.

After replacing the bins and painting new line markings, the area will be monitored for six weeks to assess how the improvements are working and consider whether further changes are needed.

4. A CEO Update will be provided following the finalisation of new line marking, cleaning routine and delivery of new bins.

Supplementary Answer

Further information was circulated via the 6 December 2024 CEO Update as follows:

Background

Residential properties that back onto Bartlett Lane in Paddington have used shared waste and recycling bins since 2012, in an effort to reduce the number of individual bins (100+) that were commonly left on the street and were causing concerns for the local residents. The left-out bins encouraged illegal dumping and impeded resident access to properties.

At that time, 86% of residents were in favour of making the shared bin arrangement permanent.

2024 engagement

In 2023 and 2024, staff received multiple requests from residents who were requesting the removal of this shared bin arrangement and a return to individual bins.

In response, the City's Service Optimisation team conducted a 6-week monitoring period of Bartlett Lane to assess how the shared bin arrangement was performing. The review identified misplaced bins, minimal illegal dumping and bulk material incorrectly placed within bins resulting in overflow.

The team then undertook an engagement process to provide a forum for residents to share their feedback and experiences of the shared service. This comprised of 2 face-to-face popup sessions in April 2024 and letters inviting feedback via email or phone calls. Over 20 households responded with mixed responses on their preferred bin arrangement for Bartlett Lane.

In June 2024, the City conducted formal consultation with residents through a 'have your say' survey that was sent to all households requesting their feedback on retaining the existing shared service arrangement or changing to individual bins. Door knocks and follow up phone calls were conducted to raise resident awareness of the survey. Responses were received from 42 of the 47 households resulting in an 89% response rate.

The results showed an 81% preference in favour of retaining shared bins. On this basis, the shared bin arrangement was retained for Bartlett Lane and plans made to improve the existing arrangement in line with the feedback received.

Improvements included implementing new bins with lighter lids, inclusion of garden organics bins, rat bat station monitoring on regular intervals and line markings for bins. These changes were finalised by 17 September 2024.

From September to October 2024, the team monitored the area for 6 weeks to assess the improvements that had been implemented. It was identified that bins were being correctly stored within the line markings, the capacity of the rubbish bins was sufficient and increasing the collection frequency for the recycling bins to twice weekly from 28 October 2024 to meet demand has been successful. The ongoing cleaning of the communal bin infrastructure is undertaken on an as needs basis and is managed by City staff.

Staff will continue to monitor the shared bin arrangement in Barlett Lane, Paddington.

Question on Notice – Council 25 November 2024

Narrowing of Erskineville Footpaths

By Councillor Thompson

Question

In relation to the recent narrowing of footpaths in Erskineville to install garden beds and the discrimination complaint lodged against Council to the Australian Human Rights Commission:

1. What footpaths have been affected by the recent work? Could you please supply a map outlining which footpaths have been changed by the recent works?
2. Were the works compliant with Transport NSW's Walking Space Standard?
3. Where the works compliant with the City of Sydney's Disability and Inclusion Strategy?
4. What are the minimum disability access standards for footpath upgrades included in Council strategies or plans?
5. Does the City of Sydney's Disability and Inclusion Strategy include a requirement that footpath upgrades improve or maintain disability access? Is this commitment included in any other Council strategies or plans?
6. Does the City of Sydney's Disability and Inclusion Strategy include a requirement that footpath upgrades meet Transport NSW's Walking Space Standard? Is this commitment included in any other Council strategies or plans?
7. What plans are there to restore the footpaths?
8. What plans are there to otherwise respond to the recent community concerns?
9. If there are no plans to amend the footpaths, why not?
10. What steps are being taken to ensure that future footpath upgrades are not too narrow?

X113778

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The matter is the subject of a confidential conciliation process, and a confidential CEO Update will be prepared.

Supplementary Answer

A confidential CEO Update on this matter was provided to Councillors on 6 December 2024.

Item 14.1

Notices of Motion

Affordable Housing at 54-56 Erskineville Road, Erskineville

By Councillor Miller

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney owns the site at 54-56 Erskineville Road. The site is zoned R1 and is 300sqm of classified operational land with a height limit of 9 metres and 3 storeys. If developed, the site could provide up to 12 social or affordable homes;
- (ii) the site is particularly well-suited for social and/or affordable housing given its proximity to Erskineville station, Royal Prince Albert (RPA) hospital, primary schools, universities and King Street;
- (iii) currently, there are some above ground garden plots on the site. The garden is not officially endorsed by City of Sydney, meaning it does not have the required plans of management to ensure equitable access, health and safety and an effective organisational and membership model;
- (iv) in 2020, the City investigated selling the land to allow affordable housing to be built on the site. As part of this investigation alternative sites for the community garden were identified, but none of the sites were considered acceptable by the garden members;
- (v) the sale of the land for affordable housing did not proceed at that time;
- (vi) the City recognises the high demand for open green spaces for the community and the Greening Sydney Strategy along with the Community Garden Guidelines addresses how Council can support community gardeners in Erskineville to do this more effectively;
- (vii) since 2020, there is recognition from community groups within Erskineville that the housing affordability crisis has worsened, and that the delivery of local affordable housing is critical;
- (viii) the City has a target of 15% social and affordable housing by 2036, meaning we need around 12,000 additional social or affordable housing dwellings to reach our targets;
- (ix) the City is on track to deliver more than 5,388 new affordable rental homes in perpetuity by 2036;
- (x) the City has already 3,338 affordable homes either built, in the pipeline or to be expected - surpassing any other council in Australia;

- (xi) the City's priority is to maximise social and affordable housing in our area. We do this by advocating to the NSW Government to maximise social housing delivered through their developments and by effectively working with Community Housing Providers, which are regulated and must provide housing in perpetuity; and
 - (xii) Community Housing Providers can build housing for less than councils because they can access grants, cheap loans and tax concessions that councils cannot. Community Housing Providers are not bound by procurement and financial restrictions like councils; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) assess the potential of 54-56 Erskineville Road, Erskineville as a suitable location for social or affordable housing, in line with the City's current strategies and targets, including [Housing for All: City of Sydney local housing strategy](#);
 - (ii) explore possible sites for relocating the community garden, in consultation with the community and offer City of Sydney support to ensure the garden meets the requirements of the City's [Community Garden Policy and Guidelines](#); and
 - (iii) report back to Council on the outcomes of investigations and next steps.

X113761

Item 14.2

Notices of Motion

Vale Mannie De Saxe

By Councillor Worling

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) on 17 November 2024, Emanuel (Mannie) Joshua De Saxe sadly passed away at age 98. He is survived by his 2 daughters, his son and his 3 granddaughters;
- (ii) Mannie De Saxe was a passionate socialist, fierce fighter for justice, gay liberationist and comrade to many;
- (iii) from his early life in a Jewish family opposing apartheid in South Africa to his condemnation of the war in Gaza, Mannie stood proudly with the Palestinian people in their struggle for liberation as well as supporting workers' rights and the fight for socialism;
- (iv) despite knowing he was gay for some time, Mannie dutifully followed the life expected by his family and married. He and his family migrated to Australia in 1978 so his son would not have to serve in the apartheid army;
- (v) after his marriage ended, Mannie began to get more politically active and felt more confident to come out as gay, at 61 years old;
- (vi) at a demonstration in April 1988, Mannie was invited to attend a meeting of a group called Gay Solidarity (GSG, later renamed Lesbian and Gay Solidarity). Alongside Socialist Action, GSG became a home for Mannie where both his politics and his sexuality were welcomed and celebrated;
- (vii) after several years working together in GSG, Mannie formed a loving partnership with another legendary activist named Kendall (Ken) Lovett;
- (viii) when HIV/AIDS hit Australia, Mannie and Ken actively protested the homophobic backlash, fought for better care of those who were ill, and volunteered as carers to many young men who were dying from the disease;
- (ix) they worked to ensure those lost to HIV/AIDS were not forgotten. They played a key role in establishing Sydney Park AIDS (SPAIDS) memorial grove project, and other memorial gardens later in Melbourne;
- (x) Mannie remained active throughout his life on a wide range of issues. He and Ken were fixtures at rallies for refugee and migrant rights, and worked with Meals on Wheels, reaching out to isolated and aged people. They also campaigned to support marriage equality;

- (xi) in 2001, Mannie and Ken relocated from NSW to Victoria and settled in Preston. They were only separated by Ken's death in 2020, after nearly three decades together;
 - (xii) from Melbourne, Mannie set up a variety of web pages which documented cases of gay, lesbian, transgender and HIV/AIDS (GLTH) hate crimes, both in Australia and around the world. Even in his later years, he endeavoured to draw attention to the iniquities perpetrated against the GLTH and wider communities; and
 - (xiii) Mannie fought for a socialist world right to the end. He remained mentally sharp, always up for a lively—and lengthy—discussion about the world. His interests spanned politics, music, film, literature and more. May he Rest in Power;
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Mannie De Saxe's family expressing Council's condolences; and
- (C) all present in the meeting observe a minute's silence to commemorate the life of Mannie De Saxe.

X113756

Item 14.3

Notices of Motion

Prayer at Council Meetings

By Councillor Thompson

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note, as per the 2021 census, that:
 - (i) a majority, of residents living in the City of Sydney answered that they did not hold any religious beliefs; and
 - (ii) among those who did hold religious beliefs, there was wide diversity of religions represented in our diverse, multicultural city, including, but not limited to, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism;
- (B) Council note that:
 - (i) the Local Government Act 1993 provides that a Councillor must consider the diversity of interests and needs of the municipal community;
 - (ii) Council's practice of starting meetings with a prayer does not reflect the religiously diverse and secular communities we represent; and
 - (iii) many councils across the country are moving towards secular affirmations to formally open their meetings to ensure no one is excluded from proceedings; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
 - (i) undertake a process of community engagement, inviting submissions from local residents, to understand community views regarding the recitation of a prayer before Council meetings, including whether the prayer should be:
 - (a) retained as a prayer in its current or altered form; or
 - (b) abolished and replaced with a secular oath or affirmation in line with Councillors' responsibilities to the communities we represent; or
 - (c) removed without replacement; and
 - (ii) based on this community consultation, and in order to ensure Council represents the diversity of interests and needs of our municipal community, bring to Council options regarding whether to retain the prayer in its current or an altered form, replace the prayer with an alternative oath or affirmation, or remove the prayer without replacement.

X113760