

Item 12.2

Notices of Motion

Securing The Legacy of The Bookshop Darlinghurst

By Councillor Thompson

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) The Bookshop Darlinghurst is closing down after more than 4 decades of providing Sydney's queer community with a safe, welcoming, cultural landmark on Oxford Street;
- (ii) originally opening in 1982, The Bookshop served the queer community through decriminalisation, the AIDS epidemic, marriage equality and has continued to stand at the forefront for trans rights and liberation; and
- (iii) in the words of the current owner, Charles Gregory, "The Bookshop Darlinghurst has been more than a store. It has been a meeting place, a refuge, and a beacon for queer literature." Its closure will be sorely felt across the queer community in Sydney; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate ways in which the City of Sydney can recognise the historic contributions of The Bookshop Darlinghurst to the queer community, including, but not limited to, a commemorative plaque on Oxford Street;
- (ii) ensure the collection currently held within The Bookshop Darlinghurst is reflected and made available in the City's public libraries;
- (iii) assess whether the queer cultural programming currently provided at our libraries and community centres meets community need and report back to Council; and
- (iv) investigate the potential establishment of a queer library hub in one of the City's libraries to ensure the legacy of the Darlinghurst Bookshop is maintained.

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