

Item 14.9**Notices of Motion****Bilingual Library Program Cuts in Darling Square**

By Councillor Scott

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Rhymetime is an interactive library program that involves singing and rhymes, promoting early literacy development for children aged 0-2;
- (ii) Storytime is an interactive library program that involves storytelling, promoting social interaction and 'readiness' for school for children aged 3-5;
- (iii) the City of Sydney provides Mandarin bilingual Rhymetime and Storytime sessions at the Darling Square and Green Square libraries;
- (iv) the City of Sydney previously hosted both library programs at the Darling Square library. However, cuts were made to this program, changing sessions to monthly prior to the term starting on 7 February 2024; and
- (v) following the beginning of the term, changes noted on the City of Sydney website reinstated bilingual Rhymetime and Storytime at the Darling Square library back to weekly with no explanation; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) allocate full funding for bilingual library sessions in the 2023/24 budget;
- (ii) guarantee no future cuts to current and future bilingual library programs; and
- (iii) provide advice to Councillors through investigating and preparing a report to Council in the CEO Update as to why the library cuts were made to the Mandarin bilingual library programs.

X086655