Item 8

Report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee - 31 March 2025

Item 8.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Worling –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee of Monday 10 March 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.3 on the agenda, in that they previously worked with the Chief Executive Officer of City Recital Hall, Kate Wickett, at Sydney WorldPride. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances as they are former colleagues and it has no bearing on the item before Committees.

Councillor Adam Worling disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.3 on the agenda, in that he represented the Lord Mayor by speaking at the City Recital Hall Amplification Renewal Project in July 2023. Since then, he has attended the venue to meet with former Chief Executive Officer, Justin Boschetti, current Chief Executive Officer, Kate Wickett, and has accepted the City's Protocol tickets to attend performances at the venue. Councillor Worling considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances as he did not discuss the ongoing operational funding with anyone from City Recital Hall and it has not influenced his consideration of the matter.

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

Item 8.3

Grants and Sponsorship - City Recital Hall Ongoing Operational Funding and Sublease

The Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 7 April 2025.

Staff Recommendation

The staff recommendation to the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee was as follows -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council approve a cash grant of $1,000,000 per year for 5 years from 2025/26 to 2029/30 to City Recital Hall Limited for ongoing operational funding;

(B) Council note that the grant amount is exclusive of GST;

(C) Council approve the grant of a new sublease to City Recital Hall Limited for City Recital Hall, 1 Angel Place, Sydney with no annual rent payments for a term of 5 years with a commencement date of 1 July 2025;

(D) Council approve changing the name of the City Recital Hall and City Recital Hall Limited seeking broader sponsorship and philanthropy to support its ongoing feasibility, which may incorporate sponsored naming rights in consultation with Council, and which will be included in the terms of the sublease;

(E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer the agreement with City Recital Hall Limited under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; and

(F) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer the sublease with City Recital Hall Limited in relation to the sublease as detailed in (C) and (D) above.

Staff Report

The staff report on this matter can be found at Item 3 on the agenda of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee on 31 March 2025.

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Speakers

Helen Lindsay (CFO, City Recital Hall) and Kate Wickett (CEO, City Recital Hall) addressed the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee on Item 8.3.