

Minutes of the Environment and Climate Change Committee - 16 June 2025

Members Lord Mayor - Councillor Clover Moore AO (Chair), Deputy Lord Mayor - Councillor Zann Maxwell, Councillor Olly Arkins, Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, Councillor Lyndon Gannon, Councillor Robert Kok, Councillor Jess Miller, Councillor Matthew Thompson, Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM and Councillor Adam Worling (Deputy Chair).

At the commencement of business at 3:40pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Maxwell, Miller, Thompson, Weldon and Worling.

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee concluded at 4:30pm.

Item 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 5 May 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that residents of:

- Strata Plan no 49302 – David Connah
- Strata Plan no 53204 – Maree O'Halloran
- Strata Plan 62976 – Jonathan Hiley

gave a non-reportable political donation to the City of Sydney Labor campaign in 2024. They did not contact Councillor Arkins on this matter. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances as they have had no contact with them about this item.

Councillor Adam Worling disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that he has a community relationship with David Meagher, who is a resident at 136 Darlinghurst Road. Councillor Worling considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because neither the green building grant or any other item associated with the building has been discussed with David Meagher.

No other 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 recommended the following:

Item 3

Project Scope - Ward Park Renewal, Surry Hills

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the project scope for the Ward Park, Surry Hills renewal, as described in the subject report and shown in the revised Concept Plan as shown at Attachment B to the subject report, for progression to relevant approvals, preparation of construction documentation tender and construction; and
- (B) note the estimated financial implications as outlined in Confidential Attachment D to the subject report.

(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.)

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Item 4**Grants and Sponsorship - Environmental Grants**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash recommendations for the Green Building Grant program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant for the Green Building Grant program as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (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 agreements with any organisation approved for a grant or sponsorship under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; and
- (E) 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.

(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 on the following show of hands –

Ayes (8) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Arkins, Gannon, Kok, Maxwell, Miller, Weldon and Worling

Noes (2) Councillors Ellsmore* and Thompson*.

Carried.

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

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Item 5**Post Exhibition - Environmental Strategy 2025-2030**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council adopt the Environmental Strategy 2025-2030 (the Strategy) as shown in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the engagement report summarising consultation for the development of the draft Environmental Strategy 2025-2035, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Environmental Strategy 2025-2030 to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication; and
- (D) Council rescind the Building Finance Upgrade Policy as shown at Attachment C to the subject report and confirm that no further Environmental Upgrade Agreements will be entered into.

(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.)

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Item 6**Post Exhibition - Weed Management Policy and Pesticide Use Notification Plan**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received from the community on the exhibited draft Weed Management Policy and draft Pesticide Use Notification Plan, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council rescind the existing Pesticide Use Notification Plan 2013, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council adopt the Weed Management Policy, as shown at Attachment C to the subject report;
- (D) Council adopt the Pesticide Use Notification Plan, as shown at Attachment D to the subject report; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Weed Management Policy and the Pesticide Use Notification Plan in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

(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.)

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