

Minutes of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee - 16 June 2025

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

At the commencement of business at 4:31pm those present were -

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

Councillor Arkins left the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee at 4:35pm, prior to discussion on Item 4, and returned at 4:38pm, after the vote on Item 4. Councillor Arkins was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting during discussion or voting on Item 4.

Councillor Maxwell left the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee at 4:35pm, prior to discussion on Item 4, and returned at 4:38pm, after the vote on Item 4. Councillor Maxwell was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting during discussion or voting on Item 4.

The meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee concluded at 4:38pm.

Item 1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife 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 made the following disclosures:

- a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that Fuzzy Events are recommended for funding. Adelle Robinson, their Managing Director, is also Chair of the Australian Festival Association (AFA), of which Councillor Arkins is Managing Director.

Councillor Arkins stated they will not be voting on this matter.

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that:
 - they have worked with Jane Slingo from Electronic Music Conference Pty Ltd campaigning for a better policy agenda in nightlife and creative industries for a number of year;
 - they have worked closely with Music NSW Inc in their role running the AFA as fellow music industry peak bodies;
 - Holly Rebeiro is an active member of Sydney Labor and ran on the Sydney Labor 2024 Council ticket as a Candidate. She is an active member of the Older Women's Network and has an interest in their long term sustainability;
 - Jo Holder is an active member of Sydney Labor and volunteered on the 2024 Sydney Labor Council Campaign applied for grant funding in this round of grants. She is the founder and owner of Cross Arts Projects;
 - Finely Tuned Productions is a member of the AFA of which they are Managing Director. Through the festival they run Lost Paradise.

Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because they have had no contact with any of the above about this item.

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that she was a former Board member and current member of the Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development Incorporated. Councillor Ellsmore considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she was not aware of this grant and have not discussed it with anyone.

Councillor Zann Maxwell disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda in that:

- Jo Holder, an active member of member of Sydney Labor and volunteer on the 2024 Sydney Labor Council campaign, applied for grant funding in this round of grants. She is the founder and owner of Cross Arts Projects. Jo did not contact Councillor Maxwell in relation to this grant funding and was unaware it was coming to Committees.
- Elizabeth Elenius is a member of Sydney Labor and regularly contributes to Christmas in Pyrmont as a part of the Pyrmont Residents Action Group who succeeded in funding. Elizabeth has not contacted Councillor Maxwell about this item and was unaware it was coming to Committees.

- Holly Rebeiro is an active member of Sydney Labor and ran on the Sydney Labor 2024 Council ticket as a Candidate. She is an active member of the Older Women's Network and has an interest in their long term sustainability. Holly has not contacted Councillor Maxwell in relation to this matter and was unaware this was coming to Committees.

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

Councillor Adam Worling made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that he has a community relationship with Matt Akersten, ACON Marketing and Communications manager. Councillor Worling considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because he has not discussed the grant with Matt Akersten or anyone at ACON.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that he has a community relationship with Katie Green, CEO Inner City legal Centre. Councillor Worling considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because he has not discussed this or any other grant with Katie Green.

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.

The Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee recommended the following:

Item 3

Public Exhibition - Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Local Approvals Policy

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve for public exhibition the draft Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy (the Policy), as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the amended Sydney Busking Code, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report, to be published as a guidance document to accompany the Policy;
- (C) Council note that the draft Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy, including any recommended changes, will be reported to Council for consideration following the exhibition period; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial corrections prior to the exhibition of the draft Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy.

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

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Item 4**Grants and Sponsorship - Cultural Grants**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Creative 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 or value-in-kind for the Creative Grant program as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Festivals and Events Sponsorship program as shown at Attachment C to the subject report;
- (D) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant or value-in-kind for the Festivals and Events Sponsorship program as shown at Attachment D to the subject report;
- (E) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (F) 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
- (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.

(Note – at the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee, this recommendation was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Worling, and carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (6) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Gannon, Kok, 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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