

Minutes of the Equity and Housing Committee - 15 September 2025

Members Lord Mayor - Councillor Clover Moore AO (Chair), Deputy Lord Mayor - Councillor Zann Maxwell (Deputy Chair), 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.

At the commencement of business at 2:48pm, those present were –

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

Councillor Weldon left the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee at 2:50pm, prior to discussion on Item 3, and returned at 2:57pm, after the vote on Item 3. Councillor Weldon was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting during discussion or voting on Item 3.

The meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee concluded at 3:17pm.

Item 1**Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee of Monday 18 August 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

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

Councillor Yvonne Weldon disclosed a pecuniary interest in Item 3 on the agenda, in that she is a Board member of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, the recipient of the proposed grant.

Councillor Weldon stated that she would not be voting on this matter.

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 4 on the agenda, in that last Council term, she had 2 meetings with Dominic Sullivan, co-chair of the End Street Sleeping Collaboration, once with then Councillor, Jess Scully. On these occasions, he mentioned the potential development of an app to connect homelessness services with owners of vacant properties. One of the speakers at committee, Mendel Kastel, is also a board member of the End Street Sleeping Collaboration.

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 that there had been progress on the development of this application, that this work was being supported by the Property Industry Foundation, or that the Property Industry Foundation had applied for a grant from the City of Sydney for these purposes.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee.

The Equity and Housing Committee recommended the following:

Item 3**Grants and Sponsorship - Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund - Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a cash grant to Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council for \$3 million to support the preparation of a development application and construction to develop 36-38 George Street, Redfern for residential accommodation for members of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council as determined by the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council;
- (B) Council note the request from Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council is at Attachment A to the subject report and financial details are at Confidential Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council note that the grant may be withdrawn if the project materially changes from the current proposal as outlined in Attachment A to the subject report, or if a development application is not lodged within 12 months; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - (i) finalise negotiations, execute and administer the grant agreement with the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council in accordance with clauses (A) and (B); and
 - (ii) otherwise administer all matters relating to this grant.

(Note – at the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

X105028.013

Speakers

Nathan Moran (CEO, Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council) addressed the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee on Item 3.

Item 4

Grants and Sponsorship - Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund - Property Industry Foundation Meanwhile Use Housing

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a cash grant to the Property Industry Foundation for \$140,000 over 2 years (\$70,000 per annum) to support their meanwhile use housing project; and
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - (i) finalise negotiations, execute and administer the grant agreement with the Property Industry Foundation in accordance with clause (A); and
 - (ii) otherwise make decisions and administer the other conditions relating to this grant.

(Note – at the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee, this recommendation was moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and carried unanimously.)

X105028.024

Speakers

Mendel Kastel (CEO, Jewish House), Jeanne-Vida Douglas (Property Industry Foundation) and Terry Petry (CFO, Property Industry Foundation) addressed the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee on Item 4.