

Council

Meeting No 4

Monday 12 May 2025

Notice No 4/1674

Notice Date 8 May 2025

minutes

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Present

The Right Hon The Lord Mayor - Councillor Clover Moore AO (Chair)

Members 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.

At the commencement of business at 5:12pm, those present were:

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

The Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Executive Director Finance and Procurement, Executive Director City Services, Executive Director City Planning, Development and Transport, Executive Director Legal and Governance, Executive Director City Life, and Executive Director People, Performance and Technology were also present.

Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Prayer

The Lord Mayor opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and opening prayer.

Webcasting Statement

The Chair (the Lord Mayor), advised that in accordance with the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice, Council meetings are audio visually recorded and webcast live on the City of Sydney website. The Chair (the Lord Mayor) asked that courtesy and respect be observed throughout the meeting and advised those in attendance to refrain from making defamatory statements.

Councillor Weldon left the meeting of Council at 7:05pm, prior to discussion and the vote on clause (B) of Item 10.3, which was considered in seriatum. She returned at 7:06pm, following the vote. Councillor Weldon was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting of Council during discussion or voting on clause (B) of Item 10.3.

Councillor Arkins left the meeting of Council at 7:07pm, prior to discussion on Item 11.3. They returned at 7:08pm, following the vote on that item. Councillor Arkins was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting of Council during discussion or voting on Item 11.3.

Councillor Maxwell left the meeting of Council at 7:07pm, prior to discussion on Item 11.3. He returned at 7:08pm, following the vote on that item. Councillor Maxwell was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting of Council during discussion or voting on Item 11.3.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of Council of Monday, 7 April 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the Lord Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath or Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the City of Sydney and the City of Sydney Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act, to the best of their ability and judgement.

Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.3 on the agenda, in that former Labor Councillor Linda Scott was appointed to the Board of the Powerhouse. She also gave a reportable political donation to the City of Sydney Labor campaign in 2024.

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

Councillor Zann Maxwell disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.3 on the agenda, in that former Labor Councillor Linda Scott was a supporter of the Sydney Labor campaign, is a Labor member, and Linda Scott also donated over the donation's threshold. Linda Scott was recently appointed to the Powerhouse Board and has had a long history of involvement with the Saving the Powerhouse Campaign as a City of Sydney Councillor.

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

Councillor Jess Miller disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.3 on the agenda, in that she knows Mikie Leung, Co-Creator at Digital Storytellers.

Councillor Miller considers 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 recommendation until the Committee papers were published, and she had no communication with Mikie Leung about this item.

Councillor Yvonne Weldon disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.3 on the agenda, in that a program recommended for funding, Biyanga, is under the auspice of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC), and she is on the board of MLALC.

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

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

Item 3 Minutes by the Lord Mayor**Item 3.1 Vale Nguyen Khanh Tran****Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

I inform Council of the passing of Nguyen Khanh Tran, a strong advocate for international students, disability rights and the LGBTQIA+ community, on 25 February 2025.

A law student at Sydney University, Khanh participated in the City's 2021-2022 International Student Leadership and Ambassador (ISLA) Program, raising issues and challenges faced by their fellow international students. They collaborated with the City to co-design and work on projects and events that addressed their needs and encouraged interaction between international and local students, and with the local community. As an International Student Ambassador, they spoke at international student events and forums, to increase visibility of international students in the local community and raise awareness of the challenges international students faced.

In 2022, I presented Khanh with their ISLA program completion certificate at the International Student Welcome Reception at Sydney Town Hall.

Khanh's work with the City complemented their active involvement in the Sydney University community. In September 2021 they were elected as a member of the 2022 editorial team for the Sydney University student newspaper, Honi Soit and subsequently co-edited Disabled Honi in 2023. From their very first byline in April 2020 to their final piece in March 2025, Khanh authored over 140 articles—a remarkable body of work that reflects their unwavering dedication to activism, political and investigative journalism, and their deep commitment to equity, diversity, and social justice.

During 2023-2024, they served as the Student Representative Council's Disabilities and Carers Officer. Khanh also collaborated with the Postgraduate Disability and Inclusion Network. Some of the outcomes of this collaboration included an autonomous disabilities community room on campus, a Disability Hub stall during WelcomeFests and Disability Inclusion Week and an Accessibility Handbook. They also actively worked on the campaign to remove harmful discrimination against disabled people in Australian immigration law with the 'Welcoming Disability' initiative.

During the same period, they played a pivotal role in the Fair Fares campaign, advocating for public transport concessions for international and part-time students, in New South Wales. They mobilised students and residents to sign petitions both online and in-person and stood alongside student representatives at the NSW Parliament debate in May 2024.

At a 2023 Sydney University Roundtable Discussion, 100+ Years of International Students, Khanh presented a policy paper which outlined systemic challenges such as employment barriers and the need for affordable student accommodation and offered concrete, well-researched solutions. At this Roundtable, Khanh also called for a collective effort to fund a state-level international student representative body. This directly inspired the establishment of the NSW International Student Representative Committee in 2024.

For many, Khanh was a dear friend who saw the best in people, a steadfast comrade you could always count on, and a fierce advocate who stood up for social justice.

Khanh once said, “I hope to contribute concretely to improving the lives of myself, others, and make a positive return to the Australian, Vietnamese, and global community.”

This they achieved, at Sydney University and in the broader City of Sydney community.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute’s silence to commemorate the life of Nguyen Khanh Tran and their significant contribution to the Sydney University and international student communities;
- (B) Council express its condolences to Khanh’s family and friends; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to convey Council’s condolences to Khanh’s family.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

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

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

Note – All Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to Nguyen Khanh Tran.

Item 3.2 **Vale Commander Peter Poland OAM**

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

I wish to inform Council of the passing of Commander Peter Lawrence Poland OAM, naval historian, conservationist and community advocate, in February 2025.

Peter Poland was born in 1932 into a naval family. He began his naval career at the age of 13 in the Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth where he joined 20 other members of the Poland family including his father and grandfather, who served in the Royal Navy between 1846 and 1976.

During his 30-year career Peter commanded 4 ships, including the frigate HMS Zest, which he brought into Sydney Harbour in 1968. During a 2-year tour of duty with the Royal Australian Navy in the 1950s, he met June Anderson at a Christmas party. They were married in December 1956 and moved to Britain, where they raised their 3 children. June studied Georgian architecture and collected and restored antiques, a passion Peter came to share.

Peter retired from the Royal Navy in 1971, and the family returned to Australia, settling in Rose Bay, where Peter worked for 15 years with a major retailer as General Manager Personnel and Industrial Relations.

June became active in the National Trust of Australia, assisting them in surveying Georgian houses in North Parramatta, Marrickville, Newtown and Balmain to expand the list of heritage-listed buildings. She also worked with Professor Max Kelly and Woollahra Council in surveying all terrace frontages in Paddington and Edgecliff to facilitate restoration to their original style.

In 1983, June began a campaign against the commercial development of the First Government House site on the corner of Bridge and Phillip streets. She and Peter became founding members of the Friends of First Government House Site and threatened to stand in front of the bulldozers to save the land. The campaign succeeded and the site was secured.

In 1985, Peter and June became founding members of the Woollahra History and Heritage Society, established to promote understanding and preservation of Woollahra's rich natural and cultural heritage, together with the area's impact on wider historical events. Peter subsequently served as the Society's President.

I first met Peter and June Poland after I was elected Member for Bligh in March 1988. Peter and June were then campaigning to save Strickland House and its land which I was pleased to support. The NSW Government had closed the house and was planning to sell it to developers, despite evidence which showed that a previous government had purchased the house and surrounding land in 1914 to be dedicated as foreshore parkland. With Peter's support, June sought to ensure the sandstone Victorian house and its 4.9-hectare harbour foreshore grounds were listed on the national and state heritage registers.

In recognition of their contribution to heritage preservation, Peter and June received Woollahra Council's Citizen of the Year Award in 1995 and the NSW Government Heritage Volunteer Award in 2005.

In retirement Peter carried out his own research and writing, publishing *The Right Honourable George Rose* in 1989, after whom Rose Hill and Rose Bay are named. That was followed by *The Travels of the Timekeepers* in 1991 and *The flag's up: the first 20 years of the South Head Lookout Post 1790-1809*, in 2013.

Peter transcribed his father Albert's WWII notebooks, detailing his experiences during the 8-month Siege of Tobruk, and published them in 2019 as *Tobruk and Beyond: War Notes from the Mediterranean Station 1941–1943*, including additional primary sources.

In June 2015, Peter was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to heritage preservation, and to the community of Woollahra.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of Commander Peter Lawrence Poland OAM and his significant contribution to heritage preservation and naval history;
- (B) Council express its condolences to Peter's children, David and Suzi and his 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to convey Council's condolences to Peter's family.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

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

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

Note – All Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to Commander Peter Poland OAM.

Item 3.3 2025 Federal Election**Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

I want to congratulate the Australian Labor Party on its historic re-election. I was encouraged by Prime Minister Albanese's victory speech and his optimism for Australia's future. I agree that we must all work together, show kindness to those in need and treat everyone with respect.

Australians have overwhelmingly called for bold action on climate change, renewable energy, and housing affordability.

The Federal Election result highlights the pivotal importance of capital cities, which drives 22.5% of the GDP from just 0.03% of Australia's land mass.

Capital cities are home to 73% of the nation's total population and about 69% of Australia's workforce. Capital cities are critical to the productivity of our economy, where our knowledge intensive jobs are concentrated, and attract cultural tourism and international students.

Sydney is now ranked in the world's top 10 sustainable cities, and number one in Australia, which is a drawcard for international business events, as well as tourists.

Investment in our capital cities must be a key priority in the next term, alongside increased investment in renewable energy and affordable housing, to support the engine rooms of Australia's economy.

Climate action

Climate action has been the City of Sydney's highest priority. In 2008, we adopted Sustainable Sydney 2030 and we made the commitment to reduce emissions in our own operations by 70% by 2030. We did the master plans, set the targets and took action, and met our goal 9 years early in 2021.

Since 2007, we have delivered a bike network with over 28km of safe, separated cycleways, 66km of shared paths and another 58km of other cycling infrastructure. On each weekday, more than 10,000 people now ride to work in the CBD. That is the equivalent of 10 full trains or 166 full buses. Our cycleways are taking fossil-burning vehicles off the road, cutting carbon emissions significantly. They are making cycling safer and easier, promoting healthier lifestyles, and improving our urban environment and air quality.

To date we have cut emissions across our local area by 41% from 2006 levels at the same time as our population has increased by 40%, job numbers have grown by 35% and our economy has expanded by 74%. And we are restoring our natural environment, creating new parks and planting 700 trees a year to reach 40% canopy and greening cover by 2050, and keeping our City cooler, protecting biodiversity, and creating beautiful spaces where people can gather.

We extended our targets under Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision, to meet and respond to the challenges of growth, climate change and liveability. We have now committed to net zero emissions across our area by 2035.

We continue to respond to the climate emergency by working in partnership with residents, businesses, and other levels of government to build a resilient and inclusive city. We lead by example, we influence the wider city area through advocacy, collaboration and partnerships and we report on our progress with detailed Green Reports that are published every year. Our revised draft Environmental Strategy 2025-2030, which is currently on public exhibition, drives us further to reduce emissions right across the City for residents and businesses to 70% by 2030 and to reach net zero within a decade.

As extreme weather intensifies, the City is adapting and building resilience into our infrastructure and proudly integrating 65,000 years of First Nations knowledge to guide our environmental stewardship.

Federal Government investment in renewable energy is critical to meeting our targets. I commend the Albanese Government's commitment to invest in renewable energy and low emissions technologies and modernising the energy grid.

The election result sent a clear signal; Australians want accelerated action on climate change with greater investment in renewable energy.

Renewable energy is crucial to improving reliability and resilience to our energy system and bringing down energy prices for all energy users. Australia should bid to host COP31, which would provide a significant opportunity to showcase our commitment to renewable energy.

Our world is already hotter, with more intense storms, bushfires, and floods causing serious damage to nature, communities, and infrastructure. Even as the clean-up from Cyclone Alfred continues, the rising cost of climate disasters continues to soar, and property in some parts of our country is uninsurable.

It's time for the Federal Government to stand up to the power and wealth of the fossil fuel industry and the right-wing media, and stop approving new coal and gas projects.

The Government must also progress its commitment to Nature Positive laws and set up a national Environment Protection Agency. These steps would go beyond just preventing damage to nature—they would help actively improve and restore the environment and biodiversity.

Affordable Housing

The City's Local Housing Strategy aims to ensure 15% of all private dwellings in our area are affordable and diverse housing (7.5%) and social housing (7.5%) by 2036.

Access to affordable and social housing is essential for a diverse, cohesive, and economically successful global city. However, Sydney is Australia's least affordable city. Since December 2021, rents in the City of Sydney have increased by 28% to \$987 per week for the average rental at the start of 2025.

It is critical that delivery of housing under the Housing Australia Future Fund is accelerated. Now is the time to provide significantly more social and affordable housing with adequate support for those who need it.

The Federal Government established the Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF) in its first term, which provides dedicated funding for social and affordable housing and in particular address acute housing needs of Indigenous communities, women and children impacted by family and domestic violence and people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

In our area, 3 projects have been funded by the HAFF, including 2 affordable housing projects made possible when the City sold land on Botany Road in Alexandria at a discount to City West Housing and St George Community Housing enabling 442 new affordable homes. The other project is on Bourke Street in Waterloo. This is an example of what is possible when the 3 levels of government work together.

The Housing Australia Future Fund complements the work the City has done to deliver more affordable and social housing. To date, the City has collected over \$400 million in levies, provided \$31.6 million in discounted land and awarded \$13 million in grants including to not-for-profit housing providers from our Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund such as St George Community Housing, the Salvation Army, Housing All Australians and The Haymarket Foundation.

Though we are on track to deliver over 5,338 new affordable rental homes in-perpetuity by 2036, meeting our ambitious targets requires Local, State and Federal governments all doing their bit to deliver more social, affordable and diverse housing, as well as the development industry.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the outcome of the 2025 Federal Government election and the City of Sydney's ongoing commitment to work collaboratively with all levels of government in the best interests of our communities; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Prime Minister, the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP, the Hon. Tanya Plibersek MP, Member for Sydney and Allegra Spender MP, Member for Wentworth with a copy of this Lord Mayoral Minute:
 - (i) congratulating them on their re-election; and
 - (ii) calling on them for greater investment in capital cities where the majority of people live and work, to take bold action to urgently address accelerating climate change and to significantly increase the delivery of more social, affordable and diverse housing.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

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

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

Item 3.4 10 Years of Resilient Sydney**Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

On 29 April 2025, I was proud to launch the second Resilient Sydney Strategy 2025-2030 on behalf of the 33 Councils in Greater Sydney, alongside the Hon. Janelle Saffin, NSW Minister for Recovery, Mal Lanyon, CEO of the NSW Reconstruction Authority and Melinda Dewsnap, Acting Chief Resilience Officer.

Since 2020, Greater Sydney has endured 12 declared disasters including bushfires, storms and floods. We have gone through heatwaves, infrastructure and network failures, as well as the pandemic. All have affected the security and wellbeing of communities, and all have cost our economy billions of dollars.

Now more than ever it is important that through Resilient Sydney, councils across Greater Sydney work together to build resilience and prepare our communities for the shocks and stresses expected this decade.

More than 10 years of work on resilience

Increasing resilience in a meaningful way in Sydney was not something that any one council could do alone, it requires a whole-of-city approach.

In December 2014, the City of Sydney won a place in the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities initiative and in 2015 began hosting the Resilient Sydney program and set about establishing the network of councils across Greater Sydney.

The first Resilient Sydney Strategy was released in 2018. The city-wide strategy was developed through research and collaboration across Sydney. The process involved all 33 Greater Sydney Councils in consultation with over 1,000 residents and 100 businesses, departments and agencies from the NSW Government, and community organisations.

Our Chief Executive Officer, Monica Barone PSM, has also chaired Resilient Sydney Steering Committee with representatives from Local and State Government, business and the community sector, since its inception in 2015.

Achievements

The first Resilient Sydney Strategy served us well, as we lived through all 8 of the shocks and stressors in that plan, including a global pandemic. We learnt to work beyond our boundaries and truly collaborate.

The first big shock to test our collaboration was the Covid-19 pandemic. The Resilient Sydney Office was able to quickly draw on the established network of councils to develop and share practical resources (including templates and examples of emergency management pandemic sub-plans, business continuity plans, draft communications to employees and communities and recovery plans), share knowledge and expertise, collect data on impacts and coordinate on advocacy to the NSW Government.

The 2018 strategy, which I launched in July 2018, cemented the partnership between all 33 councils in Greater Sydney and guided the work to manage economic, social and environmental of disasters and disruptions and to help our communities get through them.

Since then, including the City of Sydney:

- 21 councils have set net zero emissions targets
- 19 councils have developed local resilience plans
- 25 councils have signed a landmark \$180 million renewable energy supply agreement, resulting in 83% of our combined energy coming from renewable sources. This has reduced annual emissions by more than 187,000 tonnes – the equivalent of taking about 40,000 cars off the road every year
- 29 councils in the Ausgrid distribution area have converted their streetlights to LED resulting in a combined 69% of energy savings, compared with the peak of 2008, and cost savings of almost \$15 million a year
- 14 councils have affordable housing contribution schemes or are in the process of having them approved. The City led the way, with our strategic planning team sharing resources and knowledge to help other councils to develop their own schemes
- 16 councils have urban forest plans to increase the urban canopy and help keep our cities cool as our climate gets hotter.

In December 2024, Greater Sydney councils along with regional organisations of councils and Resilient Sydney signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the NSW Environment Protection Authority which established the Waste Leadership Forum to prioritise waste and recovery efforts to mitigate our urgent waste crisis.

Resilient Sydney is also part of the Greater Sydney Heat Taskforce which has developed the Greater Sydney Heat Smart City Plan to protect communities from our deadliest natural hazard – extreme heat.

Diversity equity and inclusion

Resilience goes beyond environmental challenges—it starts with strong, connected communities. In diverse Greater Sydney, councils are fostering social cohesion amid rising intolerance and inequity. Events like Neighbour Day, Youth Week, Seniors Week, and Harmony Week help build local connections. The City remains committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion, reflected in initiatives like our second Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2025- 2028 and sixth Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan 2025–2029, now before Council.

Resilient Sydney Strategy 2025 to 2030

The Resilient Sydney Strategy 2025-2030 ('the Strategy') builds on the achievements of the first strategy and responds to current challenges. It is an evidence-based framework for collective action that will increase the resilience of our communities to adapt, survive and thrive.

It identifies the top 15 shocks and 15 stresses most likely to impact our city, which include heatwaves, flooding, infrastructure failures, issues related to mental health and wellbeing, and access to affordable housing, health services and transport.

The Strategy draws on input from over 2,000 people and 200 organisations, including 10 community workshops, a survey with more than 1,500 responses, and targeted engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, young people and multicultural communities.

It recognises that each council faces unique challenges—Western Sydney is more vulnerable to heatwaves, the northwest to flooding. Across Sydney, communities want better connection and preparedness, as resilient communities recover faster from disasters.

This new critical 5-year Strategy focuses on greening and cooling communities, protecting nature, tackling the waste crisis, and driving the shift to a net zero economy. It also calls for climate-ready infrastructure to reduce disaster impacts. Sydney is one of only 3 cities globally to be this advanced on its resilience roadmap.

Funded through the joint Australian and NSW Government Disaster Risk Reduction Partnership, the Strategy outlines 30 actions across 5 key areas: caring for the environment, building equitable and resilient communities, strengthening social connections, improving disaster preparedness, and fostering trusted, coordinated governance.

Disasters, disruptions and chronic stresses know no boundaries, which is why this collaboration has been so effective. It is a proven network that enables us to act quickly, together. It is essential we keep it that way. Not only are we stronger together, but we are smarter together.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

(A) Council:

- (i) note the collective achievements over the past 10 years of the 33 councils of Greater Sydney that make up Resilient Sydney, a member of the global Resilient Cities Network; and
- (ii) congratulate the Resilient Sydney Office led by Chief Resilience Officer Beck Dawson and Acting Chief Resilience Officer Melinda Dewsnap and the Resilient Sydney Steering Committee led by Chair Monica Barone PSM on their achievements over the past 10 years and the development and successful launch of the new Resilient Sydney Strategy 2025-2030; and

- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Resilient Sydney Steering Committee and Mayors of the 33 member councils congratulating them on their achievements over the past 10 years, and the development and successful launch of the Resilient Sydney Strategy 2025-2030.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

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

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

Item 4 Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer

There are no Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer for this meeting of Council.

Item 5 Matters for Tabling

5.1 Disclosures of Interest

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

It is resolved that the Disclosures of Interest returns be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6 Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee**PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillor Robert Kok
(Deputy Chair)

Councillors Olly Arkins, Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Jess Miller, Matthew Thompson, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 2:02pm those present were -

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

Apologies

Councillor Maxwell extended his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee.

Adjournment

At 3:47pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) seconded by Councillor Worling –

That the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

At the resumption of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee at 4:06pm, all Councillors were present.

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

Following the adjournment, at 4:06pm, the Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Thompson was attending the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 4.20 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

The meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee concluded at 4:11pm.

Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of its meeting of 5 May 2025 be received, with Items 6.1 and 6.2 being noted, the recommendations set out below for Items 6.5, 6.6, 6.8, 6.10 to 6.13 inclusive being adopted in globo, and Items 6.3, 6.4, 6.7 and 6.9 being dealt with as shown immediately following those items.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of Monday 31 March 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

No Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matters on the agenda for this meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee.

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommended the following:

Item 6.3

2024/25 Quarter 3 Review – Delivery Program 2022-2026

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller–

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note the financial performance of Council for the third quarter, ending 31 March 2025, including a Quarter 3 Operating Result (before depreciation, interest income, capital related costs and capital grants and contributions) of \$90.6M and the full year forecast of \$119.6M and Net Operating Result of \$100.1M and a full year forecast of \$134.3M as outlined in the subject report and summarised in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) note the Quarter 3 Capital Works expenditure of \$154.5M and a revised full year forecast of \$236.0M, and approve the proposed adjustments to the adopted budget, including bringing forward \$8.13M of funds into the 2024/25 capital budget, the transfer of \$0.1M from the capital works contingency, and to reallocate funds within relevant programs within capital budget as detailed in Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) note the Technology and Digital Services Capital Works expenditure of \$10.9M, and a full year forecast of \$20.4M and approve the proposed adjustments to the adopted budget including bringing forward \$0.05M of funds into the 2024/25 capital budget, the transfer of \$0.44M from the capital works contingency, and to reallocate funds within relevant programs within capital budget as detailed in Attachment B to the subject report;
- (D) note the Quarter 3 Plant and Equipment expenditure of \$14.8M, net of disposals, and a revised full year forecast of \$23.3M;
- (E) note net Property Acquisitions of \$70.4M as at Quarter 3, and the full year forecast for net Property Acquisitions of \$65.3M; and

- (F) note the supplementary reports, which detail the quick response, street banner and venue hire support grants and sponsorship programs, major legal issues, international travel, and contracts over \$50,000 within the quarter, as detailed in Attachment C to the subject report.

Carried unanimously.

X101909

Item 6.4

Public Exhibition - Integrated Planning and Reporting Program and Budget 2025/26

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council endorse the suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents for public exhibition for a period of 28 days, including:
- (i) the draft Delivery Program 2025-2029 as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
 - (ii) the draft Operational Plan 2025/26 as shown at Attachment B to the subject report; and
 - (iii) the draft Resourcing Strategy 2025 as shown at Attachment C to the subject report;
- (B) Council endorse the draft Operating and Capital Budget, and future years' forward estimates, as reflected in the Operational Plan 2025/2026 and draft Resourcing Strategy 2025 including:
- (i) Operating income of \$748.5M, operating expenditure before depreciation of \$631.4M for an Operating Result of \$117.1M, and a Net Surplus of \$108.9M after allowing for interest, depreciation and capital contributions;
 - (ii) Capital Works expenditure of \$268.7M and a capital works contingency of \$8.0M;
 - (iii) Plant and Assets net expenditure of \$23.2M;
 - (iv) Capital Works (Technology and Digital Services) of \$24.0M; and
 - (v) Net Property Divestments of \$122.3M;
- (C) Council endorse the draft Rates, Domestic Waste Management Charges, Stormwater Charges and User Fees and Charges discussed within the subject report and included within the draft Operational Plan 2025/26;
- (D) Council approve the draft Outdoor Dining Guidelines shown at Attachment D to the subject report for public exhibition; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any minor editorial and document design corrections prior to exhibition.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

That the motion be amended to include the addition of clause (B)(vi) to read as follows –

- (vi) Retention of the Major Homelessness grant program, Community Services grant program and Quick response grant, at the same level as they were funded in 2024/5.
That is:

- (a) retention of the Major Homelessness grant program as an earmarked program for homelessness support, with an annual budget of \$1,400,000;
- (b) maintenance of the annual budget for the Community Services grant program at \$1,995,000, not reduced to \$1,248,000 as proposed;
- (c) maintenance of the annual budget for the Quick response grant, at \$380,000, not reduced to \$100,000 as proposed; and
- (d) reduction in the corresponding amounts from the \$7,277,000 budget proposed for the new Major Grants program.

The amendment was lost on the following show of hands –

Ayes (2) Councillors Ellsmore and Thompson

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

The amendment was declared lost.

*Note – Councillor Arkins abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Arkins is taken to have voted against the motion.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the motion be amended to include the addition of a new clause (C) to read as follows –

(C) Council confirm that:

- (ii) \$1.4 million funding previously available for Major Homelessness services will continue under the new Major Grants program;
- (iii) \$1,995,000 remains available for community services with the funding split between two categories; Community Services Grant (\$1,248,000) and the new Major Grants program (\$747,000); and
- (iv) changes to Quick Response grants are outlined in the Committee report to meet urgent, community needs.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

That the motion be amended to include the addition of clause (B)(vi) to read as follows –

(vi) subject to the following amendment:

Inclusion of the definition of “local community group” that is eligible to hire council’s community spaces for free in the draft budget documents, for public exhibition. The current definition of “local community group” is as stated on the City of Sydney website.

Amendment carried unanimously.

The amended motion was carried unanimously.

X115821

Item 6.5

Investments Held as at 31 March 2025

It is resolved that the Investment Report as at 31 March 2025 be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

X020701

Item 6.6

Investments Held as at 30 April 2025

It is resolved that the Investment Report as at 30 April 2025 be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

X020701

Item 6.7

Public Exhibition - Grants and Sponsorship Guidelines

Note – the recommendation of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee was not adopted. The following motion was adopted.

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve for public exhibition the draft Grants and Sponsorship Guidelines, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, subject to the following amendments:
 - (i) on page 48, section - Key Dates:

This program is open all year for applications. ~~This program is by invitation only.~~ Please contact our grants team to discuss applying to this category on 02 9265 9333 or email communitygrants@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
 - (ii) on page 49, section – Application requirements and process

~~Application for this program is by invitation only.~~

We will advise an applicant of the requirements **when they contact us before applying**, ~~as part of the invitation.~~
 - (iii) on page 50, section – Eligibility These organisations can apply, ~~when invited:~~
 - (iv) section - How to apply:

~~This program is by invitation only.~~
 - (v) on page 49 - Assessment Criteria for the Major Grants, and to other grants where it also appears, as follows:

"You may be assessed against additional criteria based on the specific strategic outcomes ~~identified in~~ **as endorsed by Council in City of Sydney Strategic Plans and Strategies** ~~sought by us~~. These will be negotiated prior to any submissions"

- (vi) on page 28 - Creative grant

Insertion of an additional funding priority that projects should **"Increase equitable access to creativity and culture for our communities"**

The intention of this amendment is to ensure that increasing equitable access to Sydney's cultural life is a priority for the grant program. The current grant guidelines for this grant included a priority which read "increase access to creativity and culture for our communities", which was removed in the updated draft.

- (vii) on pages 45 - 46 –Innovation and ideas grant

Inclusion of a requirement to the effect that that **"Research or reports funded through a City of Sydney grant should be made readily accessible to the public. Council may choose to vary this requirement as part of the grant conditions, where appropriate."**

The intention of this change is to create an expectation that, generally, research or reports supported through Council grant funding should be made readily available to the council and the public, unless there is a good reason not to.

- (B) Council note that the Grants and Sponsorship Guidelines, including any recommended changes, will be reported to Council for adoption following the exhibition period; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor editorial amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors prior to the exhibition of the draft Grants and Sponsorship Guidelines.

The motion was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Arkins, Gannon, Kok, Maxwell, Miller and Worling

Noes (3) Councillors Ellsmore*, Thompson* and Weldon*.

Motion carried.

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

S117676

Item 6.8

Adoption - Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2025-2028

Note – the recommendation of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee was not adopted. The following alternative recommendation was adopted a part of an in globo motion (as contained in the Information Relevant To Memorandum dated 8 May 2025 from the A/Executive Director Strategic Development and Engagement, circulated prior to the meeting).

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the finalisation of the City of Sydney Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for 2020–2024, outlined in the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan Annual Report 2024 as shown at Attachment C to the subject report;
- (B) Council adopt the City of Sydney Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for 2025–2028, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, subject to the following amendments:

- (i) amend Deliverable 6.1:

Support the community's aspirations for the use and governance of **107 Redfern Street and** the local Aboriginal knowledge and culture centre at 119 Redfern Street.

- (ii) amend Deliverable 9.5:

Include an Acknowledgement of Country or other appropriate protocols at the start of important meetings and at all public events, **including a Welcome to Country at all citizenship ceremonies.**

- (iii) amend Deliverable 10.3:

All staff **and Councillors** to undertake formal and structured cultural learning activities.

- 100% staff **and Councillors** undertake cultural awareness e-learning module.
- 50% of staff undertake face-to-face cultural competence learning activities.
- 50 senior leaders **and Councillors** and a select group of staff to undertake cultural immersion activities with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, educators and cultural practitioners.

- (iv) amend Key Learnings (page 17):

Clear leadership is crucial for successful implementation. All employees **and Councillors** are responsible for supporting these initiatives, not just Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff.

- (v) amend Our Plan statement (page 20)

Our work to create a more culturally safe workplace **and city** will focus on training of all employees and deeper learnings for people managers, our executive team **and Councillors.**

- (vi) amend Plan (page 13) with the addition of:

- **We facilitate opportunities for the panel to meet with our other advisory panels, such as the Housing For All Advisory Panel, on topics of mutual importance.;**

- (C) Council note that an annual meeting between Council and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel will be facilitated;
- (D) Council note the submissions received from the community on the draft Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2025-2028, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the City of Sydney Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan May 2025 - April 2028 in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

Carried unanimously.

X116837.001

Speakers

La Toya Pinner (Co-Chair, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel) and Todd Phillips (Panellist, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel) addressed the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on Item 6.8.

Item 6.9

Adoption - Investment Property Policy

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council adopt the Investment Property Policy for the management of the City's Investment Property Portfolio as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the current Investment Property Portfolio List as contained at Attachment B to the subject report; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Investment Property Policy to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

That the motion be amended such that clause (A) read as follows –

- (A) Council adopt the Investment Property Policy for the management of the City's Investment Property Portfolio as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, subject to the following amendment;

Insertion of a clause that reads: ***“Nothing in this policy limits the ability of the City of Sydney to own or invest in residential property or affordable housing.”***

Amendment carried unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

S118279.015

Item 6.10**Audit Risk and Compliance Committee - Appointment of New Chair**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council acknowledge and thank Elizabeth Crouch AM and Carolyn Walsh for their valuable service on the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee;
- (B) Council appoint Stephen Horne as the incoming chair of the Audit Risk and Compliance Committee for a 3-year term, commencing 1 July 2025, as recommended by the current Chair, and ending on 31 December 2028, when his current term will end; and
- (C) Council note that Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee members can be reappointed by Council for a further 4-year term, subject to performance appraisal. The total period of continuous membership on the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee cannot exceed 8 years in any 10-year period (i.e. 2 terms). This includes any term as Chair of the Audit Risk and Compliance Committee.

Carried unanimously.

S083523

Item 6.11**Continuing the Transformation of Central Sydney - Delivery of Town Hall Square**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note that a Town Hall Square within the block bounded by George, Pitt, Park and Bathurst Streets forms part of the continued transformation of Central Sydney and has been a long-term vision for this Council for over 40 years;
- (B) Council note that there is an allocation of a capital works budget of \$150M for the delivery of the Town Hall Square project included in the draft FY26 Long Term Financial Plan;
- (C) Council note that the financial implications associated with the delivery of the Town Hall Square project that are currently known are included in the draft FY26 Long Term Financial Plan and are detailed in the Confidential Attachment B to the subject report;
- (D) Council note that the Town Hall Square project area is as defined in the Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 which includes the properties 532-540 George Street, 542-544 George Street, part 546-552 George Street, 5-7 Park Street, 295-301 Pitt Street, 303-305 Pitt Street and 307 Pitt Street as per Attachment A to the subject report;
- (E) Council note that Council has acquired 6 of the 7 buildings required for the development of the Town Hall Square and that the remaining building to be acquired by Council is Lot 13 in Deposited Plan 80276 (Folio ID 13/80276), known as 542-544 George Street, Sydney;
- (F) Council note that the delivery of Town Hall Square is proposed to be accelerated, such that demolition works are targeted to commence by early 2028;
- (G) Council note that the proposed acceleration of the delivery of the Town Hall Square project justifies commencing a process for the compulsory acquisition of 542-544 George Street, Sydney;

- (H) Council note that the building at 307 Pitt Street houses City staff who will need to be relocated prior to demolition works commencing at Town Hall Square, and that this will be subject to a separate project;
- (I) Council note that the buildings owned by the Council within Town Hall Square contain tenancies that will need to be vacated prior to demolition works commencing;
- (J) Council endorse commencing the compulsory acquisition process with respect to the required interests in 542-544 George Street, Sydney for the purposes of the proposed Town Hall Square in accordance with the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 (NSW) (Just Terms Act) by issuing opening letters and seeking to negotiate with the relevant interest holders;
- (K) Council endorse the development of a concept design for Town Hall Square as described in the subject report for the purposes of engaging design consultants, noting a concept plan will be submitted to Council for concept design approval once developed; and
- (L) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer variations and surrender of leases, licences or other agreements and related documents as may be required to support alignment of the accelerated delivery of Town Hall Square.

Carried unanimously.

X118741

Item 6.12

Project Scope - Sydney Square Renewal

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the project scope for the renewal of Sydney Square, including proposed works on land owned by other parties, as described in the subject report for the purposes of proceeding with documentation, planning application, and tender for construction works;
- (B) note future Stage 2 works to be developed and undertaken at a later stage (currently estimated as being around 2032);
- (C) note the proposed principles for agreements to be made with Sydney Anglican Property for the development and future operation of Sydney Square as set out in Confidential Attachment C to the subject report, noting that these matters will be the subject of a future report to Council following negotiations between the parties; and
- (D) note the financial implications outlined in Confidential Attachment D to the subject report.

Carried unanimously.

X096111.001

Speakers

Tim Green (Sydney Anglican Property) and Sandy Grant (Dean, St Andrew's Cathedral) addressed the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on Item 6.12.

Item 6.13**Tender - T-2024-1323 - Comingled Recyclables Processing Service**

Note – The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 12 May 2025.

At the meeting of Council, the staff recommendation was moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller, as part of an in globo motion –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer A for Comingled Recyclables Processing Service for the Schedule of Rates outlined in Confidential Attachment B to the subject report and in accordance with the approved annual budget for a period of 5 years, with 2 options of an extension of 2 years each, if appropriate;
- (B) Council note that the total contract sum and contingency for Comingled Recyclables Processing Service is outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report;
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise, execute and administer the contracts relating to the tender; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to exercise the options referred to in clause (A), if appropriate.

Carried unanimously.

X112134

Adjournment

At this stage of the meeting, at 6:37pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Worling –

That the meeting be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

All Councillors were present at the resumption of the meeting of Council at 6:54pm.

Item 7 Report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillor Adam Worling
(Deputy Chair)

Councillors Olly Arkins, Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Robert Kok, Jess Miller, Matthew Thompson and Yvonne Weldon AM.

At the commencement of business at 4:12pm those present were -

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

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Thompson was attending the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 4.20 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

Apologies

Councillor Maxwell extended his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee.

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee concluded at 4:16pm.

Report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee

Moved by Councillor Worling, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee of its meeting of 5 May 2025 be received, with Items 7.1 and 7.2 being noted, and the recommendation set out below for Item 7.3 being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 7.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Worling, seconded by Councillor Gannon –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee of Monday 31 March 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 7.2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

No 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 7.3**Public Exhibition – Managing Waste in Public Places - Local Approvals Policy**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council endorse the draft Managing Waste in Public Places - Local Approvals Policy as shown at Attachment A to the subject report for public exhibition and community comment for a period of 42 days in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993;
- (B) Council note that the draft Managing Waste in Public Places - Local Approvals Policy, including any recommended changes, will be reported to Council for consideration following the exhibition period; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor editorial amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors prior to the exhibition of the draft Managing Waste in Public Places - Local Approvals Policy.

Carried unanimously.

X116416

Item 8 Report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillor Olly Arkins
(Deputy Chair)

Councillors Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Robert Kok, Jess Miller, Matthew Thompson, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 4:16pm those present were -

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

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Thompson was attending the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 4.20 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

Apologies

Councillor Maxwell extended his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee.

The meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee concluded at 4:19pm.

Report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee of its meeting of 5 May 2025 be received, with Items 8.1 and 8.2 being noted, and the recommendation set out below for Item 8.3 being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee of Monday 31 March 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Jess Miller disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 6.3 on the agenda, in that she knows Mikie Leung, Co-Creator at Digital Storytellers. Councillor Miller 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 recommendation until the Committee Papers were published, and has not had any communication with Mikie Leung about this item.

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 8.3

Accommodation Grants Program - 101-115 William Street, Darlinghurst

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the provision of an Accommodation Grant to Impact Policy Pty Ltd for Level 1 East, 101-115 William Street Darlinghurst to lease the space for a 5-year term (which includes an early termination clause) from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2030 on the following rental subsidy:

	Market Rental Value	Rental Subsidy	Rental Subsidy Value	Rent Payable
Year 1 1 July 2025- 30 June 2026	\$114,577	100%	\$114,577	\$0
Year 2 1 July 2026- 30 June 2027	\$118,014	100%	\$118,014	\$0
Year 3 1 July 2027- 30 June 2028	121,554	100%	121,554	\$0
Year 4 1 July 2028- 30 June 2029	\$125,201	100%	\$125,201	\$0
Year 5 1 July 2029- 30 June 2030	\$128,597	100%	\$128,597	\$0

- (B) Council note that the impact of water ingress to Level 3 of 101-115 William Street Darlinghurst has resulted in tenants not being able to occupy Level 3 of the building and approve the relocation of current accommodation grant tenant Digital Storytellers Limited from Suite 3.01 on Level 3 to Level 2 East for the remainder of its approved term;
- (C) Council note Level 1 and Level 2 101-115 William Street Darlinghurst were previously leased as commercial office spaces but will now be made available as part of the Accommodation Grants Program;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer:
 - (i) the lease agreement with Impact Policy Pty Ltd for the premises known as Level 1 East, 101-115 William Street Darlinghurst; and
 - (ii) lease documentation required to relocate Digital Storytellers Limited from Suite 3.01, Level 3, to Level 2 East 101-115 William Street, Darlinghurst for the remainder of their lease term, on terms consistent with this resolution and in accordance with 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 recipients will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

Carried unanimously.

S117676

Item 9 Report of the Equity and Housing Committee**PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillors Olly Arkins, Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Robert Kok, Jess Miller, Matthew Thompson, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 4:19pm those present were -

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

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Thompson was attending the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 4.20 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

Apologies

Councillor Maxwell extended his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee.

The meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee concluded at 4:22pm.

Report of the Equity and Housing Committee

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

That the report of the Equity and Housing Committee of its meeting of 5 May 2025 be received, with Items 9.1 and 9.2 being noted, the recommendation set out below for Item 9.3 being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 9.1**Confirmation of Minutes**

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee of Monday 9 December 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 9.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

No 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 9.3

Public Exhibition - Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan 2025-2029

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the ongoing contribution of the Inclusion (Disability) Advisory Panel in development and implementation of the City of Sydney's Inclusion (disability) action plans;
- (B) Council approve the draft Inclusion (disability) Action Plan 2025-2029, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, for public exhibition for 28 days;
- (C) Council note that the draft Inclusion (disability) Action Plan 2025-2029, including any recommended changes, will be reported to Council for consideration following the exhibition period;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor editorial amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors prior to the exhibition of the draft Inclusion (disability) Action Plan 2025-2029; and
- (E) Council note the engagement report summarising consultation for the development of the Inclusion (disability) Action Plan 2025-2029, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report.

Carried unanimously.

X109038

Item 10 Report of the Community Services and Facilities Committee**PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore
(Deputy Chair)

Councillors Olly Arkins, Lyndon Gannon, Robert Kok, Jess Miller, Matthew Thompson, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 4:23pm those present were -

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

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Thompson was attending the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 4.20 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

Apologies

Councillor Maxwell extended his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee.

Councillor Weldon left the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee at 4:25pm, prior to discussion on Item 10.3, and returned at 4:32pm, after the vote on Item 10.3. Councillor Weldon was not present at, nor in sight of, the meeting during discussion or voting on Item 10.3.

The meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee concluded at 4:32pm.

Report of the Community Services and Facilities Committee

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the report of the Community Services and Facilities Committee of its meeting of 5 May 2025 be received, with Items 10.1 and 10.2 being noted, and the recommendation set out below for Item 10.3 being dealt with as shown immediately following that item.

Carried unanimously.

Item 10.1**Confirmation of Minutes**

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee of Monday 10 February 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 10.2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Yvonne Weldon disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.3 on the agenda, as a program recommended for funding, Biyanga, is under the auspice of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC), and she is on the board of MLALC.

She stated that she would not be voting on this matter.

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

Item 10.3**Grants and Sponsorship - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund**

Note – the recommendation of the Community Services and Facilities Committee was not adopted. The following motion was adopted.

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report except for the grant to the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council as auspice for Dan Munro;
- (B) Council approve the cash recommendation for the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund program grant to the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council as auspice for Dan Munro as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (C) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant for the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund program as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (D) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (E) 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
- (F) 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 to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

Procedural Motion

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the motion be considered in seriatum, being clauses (A), and (C) to (F) inclusive, then clause (B).

Carried unanimously.

All clauses, excluding clause (B) were moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller, and carried unanimously.

Clause (B) was moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller, and carried unanimously.

S117676

Item 11 Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillor Jess Miller
(Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Zann Maxwell, Councillors Olly Arkins, Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Robert Kok, Matthew Thompson, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 4:32pm those present were -

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

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Thompson was attending the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 4.20 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

Apologies

Councillor Maxwell extended his apologies for his inability to attend the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee.

The meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee concluded at 4:43pm.

Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee of its meeting of 5 May 2025 be received, with Items 11.1 and 11.2 being noted, the recommendation set out below for Item 11.4 being adopted in globo, and Item 11.3 being dealt with as shown immediately following that items.

Carried unanimously.

Item 11.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee of Monday 31 March 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 11.2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.3 on the agenda, in that former Labor councillor Linda Scott has been appointed to the Board of the Powerhouse. She also gave a reportable political donation to the City of Sydney Labor campaign in 2024.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee.

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommended the following:

Item 11.3**Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 Amendment**

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Worling –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the 9 December 2024 report to the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the 16 December 2024 Resolution of Council as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment, shown at Attachment C to the subject report, for submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with a request for a gateway determination;
- (D) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment as shown at Attachment C to the subject report for public authority consultation and public exhibition in accordance with any conditions imposed under the gateway determination;
- (E) Council seek authority from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to exercise the delegation of all the functions under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to make the local environmental plan and to put into effect the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment; and
- (F) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor variations to the Planning Proposal - Powerhouse Museum Heritage Item Amendment to correct any drafting errors or to ensure consistency with the gateway determination.

Carried unanimously.

X098649

Item 11.4

Fire Safety Reports

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note the contents of the Fire Safety Reports Summary Sheet, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) note the inspection reports by Fire and Rescue NSW, as shown at Attachments B to D to the subject report;
- (C) note the contents of Attachment B and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 1-59 Quay Street, Haymarket at this time;
- (D) note the contents of Attachment C and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 1 Towns Place, Millers Point at this time; and
- (E) note the contents of Attachment D and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 72-76 Parramatta Road, Camperdown at this time.

Carried unanimously.

S105001.002

Item 12 Questions on Notice

1. Use of Synthetic Turf

By Councillor Thompson

Question

1. What synthetic turf fields exist in the Local Government Area
2. What new ones are planned or underway?
3. When will the community get a chance to give feedback on whether they prefer synthetic or natural turf?
4. Does the Council do any monitoring or check on fields? If yes, provide details.
5. What research has guided the City to suggest that the use of synthetic grass doubles playable hours?
6. In areas within the City's catchment that have been recognised as being prone to flooding, is there any consideration to prioritise natural turf over synthetic alternatives?
7. Is the City aware of any pollution which could be attributed to the use of synthetic turf?
8. Is the City aware of any risks associated with the play-use of synthetic turf in sporting fields which could cause harm or exacerbate pre-existing injuries?
9. Does the City refer to findings from the 'Mapping Summer Microclimates' report when it plans to develop new sporting fields? If so:
 - (a) What was the range of temperatures recorded on microclimate logger 53 and 54?
 - (b) Was the average temperature recorded from this logger distinct from than any loggers located in natural-turf sporting fields?
10. Is Martin Sheppard/Smart Connections or Sport Eng doing any consulting for Council, if yes:
 - (a) How much is his company being paid?
 - (b) How much has this company been paid over the last 3 years?
 - (c) What training days have staff been to, including workshops? If yes, at what cost?

X113778

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The City currently has four synthetic turf fields – these are located at:
 - Perry Park, Alexandria
 - Getiela, Alexandria (shared facility with the Alexandria Park Community School)
 - Gunyama Park, Zetland
 - The Crescent, Annandale (half field)

2. There is one new synthetic turf field planned
 - Mandible Street Sports Precinct, Alexandria
3. Community consultation on the draft concept plans for the new Mandible Street Sports Precinct will be undertaken early next year.
4. The City's monitoring and maintenance of synthetic turf fields includes:
 - Daily cleaning and inspection
 - Fortnightly grooming of long pile fields
 - Monthly grooming of short piles fields
 - Twice yearly deep cleans
5. Gunyama Park was opened in early 2021 and is the first synthetic field owned by the City. It is booked between 50-100% more than the City's other well maintained and managed natural turf sports fields.

The City's natural turf grass sports fields are closed due to wet weather about 10 to 45 days per year and grass renovation or replacement works are undertaken between 6 to 11 weeks per year. The synthetic fields remained open during this time for public use.

6. Most sports fields (natural turf grass or synthetic) within the Local Government Area are on flood prone sites due to limited land availability. The synthetic fields have been built above the 1 :100-year flood levels or are within levee so they are not damaged in flood events.
7. The City is not aware of any pollution attributed to the 4 City synthetic turf fields in the Local Government Area.

The synthetic turf fields have undergone site-specific design and environmental assessment processes to address the risk of synthetic field materials migrating into surrounding area and into the wider stormwater system. The strategies including:

- Installation of concrete dish drains and / or a raised edge to the field to retain any material in the field area
 - All field drains have trap pits and filters to capture any materials before it enters the stormwater system
 - High-quality and new materials are used to address leaching and fibre release
 - Regular grooming and maintenance of the field of play and surrounding area
 - Soft landscaping and shade trees around the fields, including maximising opportunities to increase tree canopy in the surrounding area
8. The City is not aware of any risks.

9.

- (a) The 'Mapping Summer Microclimates' report is a new report published on 5 March 2025 that was undertaken in collaboration with the University of Western Sydney. This report will inform the development and delivery of the City's major capital works projects.

Logger 53 in McEvoy Street and Logger 54 in Mandible Street are located within the vicinity of the future Mandible St sports precinct.

Logger 53 – McEvoy Street

- Mean temperature over the study period – 24.2C
- Maximum temperature – 40.0C
- Minimum temperature – 16.3C

Logger 54 – Mandible Street

- Mean temperature over the study period – 24.1C
- Maximum temperature – 40.8C
- Minimum temperature – 16.6C

- (b) No loggers were located directly at natural turf sporting fields to monitor temperatures.

The Mandible Street Sports Precinct project will include soft landscaping areas around the playing field and courts to increase greening and reduce heat.

10. Martin Sheppard / Smart Connections or Sport Eng are not currently doing any consulting work for the City.

Smart Connections Consultancy was engaged in 2019 to provide advice on the development of synthetic turf fields – the value of this engagement was \$48,800.

- (a) Not applicable – no current engagements.
- (b) There have been no engagements by the City over the last 3 years
- (c) City staff have attended webinar and in person industry information sessions and conferences where Smart Connection and Sport Eng have presented on various topics related to synthetic and natural turf facility development, operation and maintenance.

These events were either free or part of conferences covering a broad range of topics regarding open space and recreation.

Item 13 Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions

There are no Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions on Notice for this meeting of Council.

Item 14 Notices of Motion

Item 14.1 More Music in Our City Parks, Streets and Public Spaces

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Maxwell –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney is committed to supporting a vibrant nightlife and creative sector, recognising the vital role that events, live performance and cultural activity play in the social, cultural and economic life of our city;
- (ii) the City works hard to balance the protection of our public spaces with opportunities for community and cultural events in the City;
- (iii) climate change is accelerating severe weather events, and in recent years increased rainfall in the lead up to and during outdoor commercial events, including the Night Noodle Markets at Hyde Park and Prince Alfred Park, resulted in significant damage to large sections of the parks;
- (iv) to rehabilitate our parks after damage, considerable time and money is spent; returfing affected areas can cost up to \$250,000 and they can be fenced off for some weeks;
- (v) in October 2022 Council endorsed a Lord Mayoral Minute to stop all bookings in our public parks for any existing and future events, particularly commercial events that are for more than one day;
- (vi) in November 2022, the Lord Mayor wrote to the then Minister for Infrastructure, Cities and Active Transport about making State-controlled public spaces like Darling Harbour and The Domain more available, but acknowledge these are not suitable, accessible or affordable for smaller-scale or independent events by up and coming creatives;
- (vii) the City continues to support cultural one-day events in our public parks like Mardi Gras Fair Day, Yabun Festival and Pyrmont Food and Wine Festival;
- (viii) the City's Cultural and Economic Development strategies have a revitalised night life, including more live music, as key objectives;
- (ix) the NSW Government is currently undertaking a business case for a permanent sound shell and event-ready infrastructure in The Domain, which should significantly reduce costs for event organisers and help enable more frequent cultural use;
- (x) the City of Sydney recently purchased 22 O'Riordan Street, Alexandria, with the intention of delivering a public park for the residents of Green Square and surrounding areas, and recognises the potential for this large site to host live music and other cultural events on an interim basis before construction commences;
- (xi) currently it is financially and administratively difficult to hold small-scale events, parties and live music in the City of Sydney's laneways and streets, due to complex NSW Government and City of Sydney regulations, permits and event planning requirements; and

- (xii) the community has expressed interest in the City making it easier for music and cultural events given Sydney's great climate, including more daytime events;
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
 - (i) prepare a revised Events in Parks Policy for endorsement by Council that enables access to City parks for cultural events and for a small number of commercial events at Victoria Park, in line with the City's Cultural and Economic Development strategies;
 - (ii) investigate and report back to Council on the cost of installing a hardstand and appropriate utilities at Victoria Park to support event infrastructure, reduce production costs for organisers and reduce impacts on access to the park for local residents;
 - (iii) investigate and report back to Council on the feasibility of using 22 O'Riordan Street, Alexandria for live music and other cultural events on an interim basis before construction commences for use as a public park; and
 - (iv) identify and report to Council in August 2025 on at least 5 laneways or streets across the City of Sydney that could be suitable for hosting small-scale street parties and live music events by the community, and investigate whether Council can undertake the development applications and event plans for up to 5 events per year in each location, with the goal of streamlining access and reducing costs for communities and local organisers; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to:
 - (i) the Hon John Graham MLC, Minister for Music and the Night-Time Economy and Minister for Transport, requesting that the NSW Government:
 - (a) consider contributing 50% of the cost for the installation of event infrastructure at Victoria Park, to support the hosting of high-quality cultural and commercial events in the City of Sydney, which complements the work being done by the NSW Government in the Domain;
 - (b) encourage more frequent use of venues such as The Domain and Tumbalong Park with more affordable pricing structures and providing at reasonable cost for the necessary staging and power infrastructure that make the venues more accessible to the industry; and
 - (c) investigate the use of College Street, between William Street and Prince Albert Road, as an extension to St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt for outdoor events; and
 - (ii) the Vice Chancellor of Sydney University about investigating the potential for outdoor spaces within Sydney University Campus in the City of Sydney local area to be used for more live music and cultural events.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Worling, seconded by Councillor Miller—

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
 - (i) the City of Sydney is committed to supporting a vibrant day and nightlife and creative sector, recognising the vital role that events, live performance and cultural activity play in the social, cultural and economic life of our city;
 - (ii) the City works hard to balance the protection of our public spaces with opportunities for community and cultural events in the City;

- (iii) climate change is accelerating severe weather events, and in recent years increased rainfall in the lead up to and during outdoor commercial events, including the Night Noodle Markets at Hyde Park and Prince Alfred Park, resulted in significant damage to large sections of the parks;
 - (iv) to rehabilitate our parks after damage, considerable time and money is spent; returfing affected areas can cost up to \$250,000 and they can be fenced off for up to 13 weeks;
 - (v) in October 2022 Council endorsed a Lord Mayoral Minute to stop all bookings in our public parks for any existing and future events, particularly commercial events that are for more than one day, and work with event applicants to find alternative hard-stand locations, where possible;
 - (vi) in November 2022, the Lord Mayor wrote to the then Minister for Infrastructure, Cities and Active Transport about making State-controlled public spaces like Darling Harbour and The Domain more available and affordable for events,
 - (vii) the City continues to support cultural one-day events in our public parks like Mardi Gras Fair Day, Yabun Festival and Pyrmont Food and Wine Festival;
 - (viii) the City's Cultural and Economic Development strategies have a revitalised night life, including more live music, as key objectives;
 - (ix) the NSW Government is currently undertaking a business case for a permanent sound shell and event-ready infrastructure in The Domain, which should significantly reduce costs for event organisers and help enable more frequent cultural use;
 - (x) the City of Sydney recently purchased 22 O'Riordan Street, Alexandria, with the intention of delivering a public park for the residents of Green Square and surrounding areas, and recognises the potential for this large site to host live music and other cultural events on an interim basis before construction commences;
 - (xi) currently it is financially and administratively difficult to hold small-scale events, parties and live music in the City of Sydney's laneways and streets, due to complex NSW Government and City of Sydney regulations, permits and event planning requirements; and
 - (xii) the community has expressed interest in the City making it easier for music and Cultural events given Sydney's great climate, including more daytime events;
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) investigate and report back to Council on the feasibility of using 22 O'Riordan Street, Alexandria for live music and other cultural events on an interim basis before construction commences for use as a public park; and
 - (ii) identify and report to Council as soon as possible on at least 5 laneways or streets across the City of Sydney that could be suitable for hosting small-scale street parties and live music events by the community, and investigate whether Council can undertake the development applications and event plans for up to 5 events per year in each location, with the goal of streamlining access and reducing costs for communities and local organisers; and

(C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to:

- (i) the Hon John Graham MLC, Minister for Music and the Night-Time Economy and Minister for Transport, requesting that the NSW Government:
 - (a) encourage more frequent use of venues such as The Domain and Tumbalong Park with more affordable pricing structures and providing at reasonable cost for the necessary staging and power infrastructure that make the venues more accessible to the industry; and
 - (b) investigate the use of College Street, between William Street and Prince Albert Road, as an extension to St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt for outdoor events; and
- (ii) the Vice Chancellor of Sydney University about investigating the potential for outdoor spaces within Sydney University Campus in the City of Sydney local area to be used for more live music and cultural events.

The amendment was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Miller, Thompson and Worling

Noes (3) Councillor Arkins, Maxwell and Weldon.

Amendment carried.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

X113758

Item 14.2 Modernising Australia Post On-Street Parking

Moved by Councillor Gannon, seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Australia Post parking spaces are reserved as no stopping areas 24/7 under NSW Road Rules 2014 rule 199(1)(a), unless otherwise signposted;
- (ii) Australia Post does not collect mail from post-boxes 24/7;
- (iii) the current arrangement results in useful parking spaces in public spaces sitting empty throughout the City unnecessarily, including on weekends and after hours. 60 of the 100 Australia Post zones in the City are 24/7;
- (iv) in the first half of FY25, letter volumes dropped a further 10.6% leading to a loss of \$83.7M in Australia Post's letter service;
- (v) many residential areas have multiple Australia Post parking spaces taking up potential parking spaces, including Elizabeth Bay and Potts Point, which has 11 post boxes within close proximity of each other;
- (vi) rule 186 (2) of the NSW Road Rules 2014 mandates that a driver must not stop in an area where a mail zone parking sign applies. Rule 313 of the NSW Road Rules 2014 provides an exemption from Rule 186 for the driver of a postal vehicle;
- (vii) there is the ability to regulate the times in which these areas are reserved for postal vehicles, which would enable other drivers to stop in these areas during non-collection days and times; and
- (viii) the Council has power under the NSW Road Rules 2014, to address this issue by implementing parking control signs that apply universally to remove the mail zone parking rules during specified times; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate implementing timed mail zones to enable greater use of more of these parking spaces during non-collection days and times, and provide advice on the required process by way of a CEO Update; and
- (ii) consult with Australia Post about modernising arrangements for these parking spaces.

Carried unanimously.

X113764

Item 14.3 Growing Pollinator Corridors to Support Native Bee Species

Moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) World Bee Day will be observed on 20 May;
- (ii) Sydney is home to around 200 native bee species, including the Blue-Banded Bee, Teddy Bear Bee and the Resin Bee;
- (iii) bees play an important role in maintaining global food security, as pollination is essential to the reproduction of plants, including most food crops consumed by animals, including humans, and farm livestock;
- (iv) the Blue Banded Bee is vital to Australia's ecosystem, as these species can perform 'buzz pollination', a specific method of insect-mediated pollination that is crucial for the distribution of pollen for many native plant species, such as the hairy guinea-flower and the silver cassia; and
- (v) in recent years, bee populations in Australia have been in decline due to the use of pesticides, varroa mite outbreaks, major habitat fragmentation resulting from urban development and food insecurity driven by monocultural planting practices and changes in climate;

(B) Council further note:

- (i) in Melbourne, the community-led organisation Heartscapes, have started to transform portions of council-owned land into native gardens to support Indigenous bee species and, once complete, it will offer an 8km-long, ecology-centred, community-driven wildlife corridor for native pollinating insects;
- (ii) localised pollinator-enthusiast and natural architect Jon Hazelwood has brought public awareness to the ecological threat of monocultural planting methods by exploring innovative ways to integrate people and pollinators within urban environments;
- (iii) in response to a drop in pollinating insect numbers in the United Kingdom, Brent Council have sown 22 wildflower meadows in parks and open spaces to create an 11km long bee corridor;
- (iv) City of Sydney's sister city, Wellington City Council, raises awareness of bee population decline throughout Bee Aware Month in September by encouraging residents to plant bee-friendly plants; and
- (v) the City of Sydney supports native bees through its Indigenous beehive installation program which aims to support biodiversity and pollination within community gardens;

(C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Minister for Transport, John Graham to:

- (i) reiterate support on behalf of the Council for the Save Our Bees project which aims to restore native bee habitat by providing beehives on sites managed by Transport NSW; and
- (ii) request for any land owned by Transport for NSW that is within the City of Sydney to be assessed and, if applicable, be fitted with native beehives; and

- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate and report back to Council on the following and incorporate advice and findings into the new Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan, as to how the City can support native bees, including but not limited to:
- (i) exploring ways the City can collaborate with, and be advised by Transport NSW to review findings from the Save our Bees project and implement recommendations to effectively install native beehives in and around sites;
 - (ii) investigating ways the City can grow pollinator corridors by planting diverse bee-friendly plant species to connect habitat in supporting sites, future parks and priority sites, as outlined in Figure 17 of the Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan;
 - (iii) eliminating pesticide use in areas frequented by native bees, including community gardens, planter boxes and city parks;
 - (iv) prioritising the planting of climate-resilient and pollinator-friendly species of plant on council-owned land, including but not limited to parks, street verges and community centre gardens;
 - (v) transitioning the City away from monocultural planting methods through the implementation of diverse planting practices that prioritise function and trait over aesthetics;
 - (vi) investigating ways the city can celebrate Australian Pollinator Week that will run from 8 to 16 November 2025, to educate the public about the importance of native bees in the ecosystem; and
 - (vii) investigating ways the City can encourage its residents to support native bee species within their own gardens, including more frequent plant and seed giveaways and gardening workshops.

Carried unanimously.

X113760

Item 14.4 Anglicare Rental Affordability Snapshot

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Rental Affordability Snapshot is an annual survey conducted by Anglicare Australia and its state and territory branches, to measure the affordability of rental properties for people on low incomes;
- (ii) for the last 16 years, a 'snapshot' has been taken of current rental listings on websites like realestate.com.au, gumtree.com.au and Flatmates.com.au, for one weekend at the end of March;
- (iii) the snapshot focuses on the maximum weekly rent that would be affordable for a person or couple on minimum wage, or on income support including JobSeeker, Youth Allowance, the Disability Support Pension, the Age Pension, Parenting Payment, and relevant allowances and rent assistance;
- (iv) when assessing whether or not rental housing is "affordable" Anglicare uses a similar definition to the City of Sydney. That is, rent should not be more than 30% of household income, for a household not to be in financial stress;
- (v) Anglicare's 2025 Rental Affordability Snapshot has recently been released. The 2025 report reviewed 51,238 rental listings nationally for the weekend of 15-16 March 2025, and found:
 - (a) for a single person on JobSeeker there were only 3 rental properties across the country that would be affordable – 2 rooms in a share house, and one single unit in regional NSW, were the only affordable properties for this group. There were zero affordable rental properties in Greater Sydney and the Illawarra for a single person on Job Seeker;
 - (b) for a single person on Youth Allowance there were zero affordable rental properties nationally; and
 - (c) for a couple with two children, where there are two parents earning minimum wage, 12.8% of listings were affordable. For Greater Sydney and the Illawarra this was only 1.63% of properties;
- (vi) the reports' conclusions include that:
 - (a) rental housing that is affordable is becoming increasingly rare each year;
 - (b) the lack of access to affordable rentals is not just a supply problem. The 2025 report found an overall increase in rental listings, but this did not translate into increased affordability. Even with more properties on the market, affordability rates remain static or declined for most groups;
 - (c) the rate of Commonwealth income support is far too low to enable people to afford to rent, without housing stress; and

- (d) Commonwealth Rent Assistance has become the Federal Government's single largest recurring housing expense, up to \$5.5 billion in 2023-24. The base rate was increased by 25% between 2022 and 2024. However, only one in 10 people who are out of work are eligible for the payment, and for those who receive it there is little evidence it is helping people afford to rent;
- (vii) the report recommends that:
 - (a) an overhaul of Australia's tax system is needed, particularly in relation to negative gearing and capital gains tax concessions, as both are key drivers of housing unaffordability;
 - (b) the rate of income support payments needs to be raised, and Commonwealth Rent Assistance overhauled; and
 - (c) the Australian Government must support the construction of 25,000 new public and social home each year, for the next 20 years; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the incoming Federal Government calling on them to carefully review the findings of Anglicare's 2025 Rental Affordability Snapshot and publish a detailed response to its recommendations as well as analysis of the impacts of tax reform and raising Commonwealth Rent Assistance on housing affordability and supply.

Carried unanimously.

X113765

Item 14.5 Immunisation Action

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Gannon –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) vaccines are an essential public health measure to prevent the spread of preventable disease;
- (ii) since Covid, the rates of people getting a flu shot (i.e. influenza immunisation rates) have been dropping. Other rates of immunisation have also been dropping;
- (iii) with the percentage of Australians getting a flu vaccination dropping, Australia is experiencing higher rates of people contracting the flu. Last year (2024) a record 351,000 people contracted the flu, including with increased hospitalisations;
- (iv) Council provides or supports a range of public health and safety programs, including collaborating with NSW Health and groups who provide free or low cost vaccinations to vulnerable groups; and
- (v) Council currently offers free flu vaccinations to its staff;

(B) Council further note:

- (i) the Immunisation Coalition is a small non-government organisation which promotes awareness of vaccines and the diseases they prevent. They collaborate with public health organisations and with other groups who are working to prevent vaccine hesitancy; and
- (ii) the Immunisation Coalition runs 'National Immunisation Week' each year in April, to encourage awareness of the vaccines, but flu vaccines in particular, ahead of flu season. They collaborate with local councils to provide a day of free vaccinations. This year the Sydney free vaccination event was held near Central Station. The Melbourne event was held in Melbourne Town Hall. The Adelaide event was held in Adelaide Town Hall; and

(C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to consider opportunities to promote next year's 'National Immunisation Week', and report back to Council through the CEO Update.

Carried unanimously.

X113765

Item 14.6 Providing More Information About Including Local Businesses in Hoarding Artwork

By Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Maxwell

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) hoardings are commonly used to create a barrier between worksites and the public for safety purposes. This is commonly seen in the City of Sydney when buildings are being renovated, expanded, or under construction;
- (ii) the artwork on these hoardings has to be approved by the City of Sydney;
- (iii) currently there is the option to leave spaces in the hoarding artwork to allow local businesses who are still operating in the building to let people know they are still open and inside the building;
- (iv) many local businesses have had issues with decreased foot traffic and no visibility when hoardings are put up and they have no visibility on the street front;
- (v) while it is explicitly allowed in City of Sydney policy that there can be space in the hoardings artwork to allow for the advertisement of local businesses many applicants do not know that is an option, hurting the businesses located inside; and
- (vi) this is a knowledge gap that needs to be closed between applicants and the City of Sydney to help support the visibility of our businesses; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) make it more explicit to hoarding applicants that there is the opportunity to have visibility for the businesses in their building as a part of the hoarding artwork application process;
- (ii) ensure the City of Sydney's policy (the Local Approvals Policy for Construction Related Temporary Structures On and Above Roads) is more explicit and understandable by applicants to help promote the visibility of local businesses;
- (iii) ensure the policy is visible on the City's website and in any digital application processes; and
- (iv) ensure information about the policy is available for businesses so they can work with and have their concerns heard by hoardings applicants.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Maxwell. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Miller–

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) hoardings are commonly used to create a barrier between worksites and the public for safety purposes. This is commonly seen in the City of Sydney when buildings are being renovated, expanded, or under construction;
- (ii) the artwork on these hoardings has to be approved by the City of Sydney;
- (iii) currently there is the option to leave spaces in the hoarding artwork to allow local businesses who are still operating in the building to let people know they are still open and inside the building;
- (iv) many local businesses have had issues with decreased foot traffic and no visibility when hoardings are put up and they have no visibility on the street front;
- (v) while it is explicitly allowed in City of Sydney policy that there can be space in the hoardings artwork to allow for the advertisement of local businesses many applicants do not know that is an option, hurting the businesses located inside; and
- (vi) this is a knowledge gap that needs to be closed between applicants and the City of Sydney to help support the visibility of our businesses; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) make it more explicit to hoarding applicants that there is the opportunity to have visibility for the businesses in their building as a part of the hoarding artwork application process;
- (ii) ensure the City of Sydney's policy (the Local Approvals Policy for Construction Related Temporary Structures On and Above Roads) is more explicit and understandable by applicants to help promote the visibility of local businesses;
- (iii) ensure the policy is visible on the City's website and in any digital application processes; and
- (iv) ensure steps are taken so that the builders and owner's corporations engage with all building occupants prior to a hoarding being installed. This provides an opportunity for businesses to be included in the hoarding artwork design by having the relevant parties communicate directly.

Carried unanimously.

X113762

Item 14.7 Tracking the Impact of NSW Government “Fast Track” Planning Reforms on Housing Affordability in the City of Sydney

By Councillor Ellsmore

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the NSW Government has updated or introduced a series of planning pathways which facilitate developers bypassing council for approval of housing projects. These include:
 - (a) the Housing Delivery Authority (HDA), which can facilitate rezoning for housing developments above approximately \$60 million in Greater Sydney; and
 - (b) in-fill “affordable housing” reforms, which provide a floor space ratio (FSR) bonus of 20–30% and a height bonus of 20–30% for projects that include at least 10–15% of gross floor area (GFA) as “affordable housing”;
- (ii) the Lord Mayor has recently written to the NSW Premier and the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces raising concerns about the Housing Delivery Authority;
- (iii) the NSW Government’s reforms are presented as intended to speed up the delivery of supply, and increase delivery of affordable housing. However, Council has identified that the reforms may in fact deliver the opposite;
- (iv) the planning reforms risk slowing down the delivery of supply, and reducing the delivery of affordable housing, including because:
 - (a) the City of Sydney already has strong affordable housing provisions which capture between 16 and 21% upzoned housing. These risk being switched off, or bypassed, by NSW planning pathways which require lower or no affordable housing;
 - (b) the “affordable housing” to be delivered under a State pathway may not actually be affordable. This includes where housing is only required to be rented at 80% of market rent within the high and unaffordable inner city market, and only for 15 years. Affordable housing delivered through City of Sydney schemes is affordable based on no more than 30% of household income, and is permanent;
 - (c) developers may seek to delay projects which are already approved or under construction, in order to get a new or different approval under a NSW Government planning pathway; and
 - (d) the changes risk bypassing new local planning rules for “dwelling retention” which have been exhibited and endorsed by Council. The Council’s dwelling retention rules were introduced to prevent smaller, older, more affordable housing blocks being purchased and transformed into newer, more expensive housing that fewer people can live in. Examples of this kind of development were particularly being seen in the east of the city; and
- (v) since the NSW Government reforms have been introduced, a number of development projects in the City of Sydney which undermine supply or affordability have sought to access the pathways; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to consider and provide advice to Council about how Council can track and report on the affordability and supply impacts of the reforms.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Ellsmore. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Gannon –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the NSW Government has updated or introduced a series of planning pathways which facilitate developers bypassing council for approval of housing projects. These include:
 - (a) the Housing Delivery Authority (HDA), which can facilitate rezoning for housing developments above approximately \$60 million in Greater Sydney;
 - (b) In-fill “affordable housing” reforms, which provide a floor space ratio (FSR) bonus of 20–30% and a height bonus of 20–30% for projects that include at least 10–15% of gross floor area (GFA) as “affordable housing”;
 - (ii) the Lord Mayor has recently written to the NSW Premier and the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces raising concerns about the Housing Delivery Authority;
 - (iii) the NSW Government’s reforms are presented as intended to speed up the delivery of supply, and increase delivery of affordable housing. However, Council has identified that the reforms may in fact deliver the opposite;
 - (iv) the planning reforms risk slowing down the delivery of supply, and reducing the delivery of affordable housing, including because:
 - (a) the City of Sydney already has strong affordable housing provisions which capture between 16 and 21% upzoned housing. These risk being switched off, or bypassed, by NSW planning pathways which require lower or no affordable housing;
 - (b) the “affordable housing” to be delivered under a State pathway may not actually be affordable. This includes where housing is only required to be rented at 80% of market rent within the high and unaffordable inner city market, and only for 15 years. Affordable housing delivered through City of Sydney schemes is affordable based on no more than 30% of household income, and is permanent;
 - (c) developers may seek to delay projects which are already approved or under construction, in order to get a new or different approval under a State Government planning pathway; and
 - (d) the changes risk bypassing new local planning rules for “dwelling retention” which have been exhibited and endorsed by council. The Council’s dwelling retention rules were introduced to prevent smaller, older, more affordable housing blocks being purchased and transformed into newer, more expensive housing that fewer people can live in. Examples of this kind of development were particularly being seen in the east of the city;
 - (v) since the NSW Government reforms have been introduced, a number of development projects in the City of Sydney which undermine supply or affordability have sought to access the pathways;
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to consider and provide advice to Council through the CEO Update outlining where the public can access information about developments which are progressing through NSW Government pathways; and

- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces to request the NSW Government develops a live dashboard (continuously updated) to monitor the performance of lodgement and determination of State Significant Development applications, including Housing Delivery Authority recommended applications, by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. The dashboard should:
- (i) report on the total number of homes approved;
 - (ii) report on the number and time limit of affordable homes approved; and
 - (iii) be similar to the one introduced for councils and regionally significant development by the NSW Government in July 2024.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Arkins –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) the NSW Government has updated or introduced a series of planning pathways which facilitate developers bypassing council for approval of housing projects. These include:
 - (a) the Housing Delivery Authority (HDA), which can facilitate rezoning for housing developments above approximately \$60 million in Greater Sydney and provide a planning pathway for large residential and mixed-use developments with the target to deliver 377,000 homes across NSW in 5 years; and
 - (b) in-fill “affordable housing” reforms, which provide a floor space ratio (FSR) bonus of 20–30% and a height bonus of 20–30% for projects that include at least 10–15% of gross floor area (GFA) as “affordable housing”;
 - (ii) the Lord Mayor has recently written to the NSW Premier and the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces raising concerns about the Housing Delivery Authority;
 - (iii) the NSW Government’s reforms are intended to speed up the delivery of supply, and increase delivery of affordable housing; and
 - (iv) the City of Sydney has a key interest in the long-term growth and stability of affordable housing and the council needs statistics to track the impact of the NSW Government push for affordable housing via the HDA and other planning reforms for fair evaluation; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to consider and provide advice to Council about how Council can track and report on the affordability and supply impacts of the reforms.

The amendment was lost on the following show of hands –

Ayes (2) Councillors Arkins and Maxwell

Noes (8) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Miller, Thompson, Weldon* and Worling.

Amendment lost.

*Note – Councillor Weldon abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Weldon is taken to have voted against the motion.

The substantive motion was carried on the following show of hands -

Ayes (9) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Maxwell, Miller, Thompson and Worling.

Noes (1) Councillor Weldon*

Substantive motion carried.

*Note – Councillor Weldon abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Weldon is taken to have voted against the motion.

X113765

At 7.59 pm the meeting concluded.

Chair of a meeting of the Council of the City
of Sydney held on Monday 23 June 2025 at which
meeting the signature herein was subscribed.