

Council

Meeting No 10

Monday 15 December 2025

Notice No 10/1680

Notice Date 11 December 2025

minutes

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Present

The Rt Hon Clover Moore AO - Lord Mayor of Sydney (Chair)

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

At the commencement of business at 5.00pm, those present were:

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

The Chief Executive Officer, Acting 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, Executive Director People, Performance and Technology and Executive Director Strategic Development and Engagement 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.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of Council of Monday, 17 November 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 made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 6.5 on the agenda, in that there are residents in 59-99 Belmont Street, Alexandria, who are members of the Labor Party. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because they have not been contacted by them on this matter.
- a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.7 on the agenda, in that there are residents in 299 Forbes Street, Darlinghurst, who are members of the Labor Party. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because they have not been contacted by them 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 Commander Marcia Chalmers RN (Retd)****Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

I inform Council of the passing of Commander Marcia Chalmers RN (Retd), former secretary of Millers Point Resident Action Group, on Thursday 6 November 2025.

Marcia was born on 25 June 1939 in Bangalow to Maisie and Victor Chalmers.

After leaving Hornsby High School with an Intermediate Certificate, Marcia began what she would later call her “tour of duty through dullness.” Her early jobs included being a trainee teller at the Commonwealth Bank, a clerk at the T&G Insurance Company and as a dental nurse. She worked at a little company called Myart, which sold embroidery materials - their products now treasured as “vintage.” Apart from keeping the office running, Marcia stitched her own pieces at home, which gave a glimpse into her creativity and care.

In 1958, Marcia joined the Women’s Royal Australian Naval Service (WRANS) as a telegraphist, inspired by her grandfather, Captain James Henderson Chalmers, and encouraged by her growing interest in communications.

This marked the beginning of a distinguished career spanning more than three decades. Her postings included HMAS Harman, Lonsdale, Melville, Cerberus, and Kuttabul, among others. In 1962 she was selected for Officer Training, and in April 1963 she was commissioned as a Probationary Third Officer WRANS.

Marcia served in numerous capacities, including Communications Officer, Senior Training Officer, and Director of Individual Training in Defence. Her roles encompassed training, communications, personnel management, and family welfare programs. As Senior Training Officer at HMAS Cerberus, work involved developing support systems for Defence families - initiatives which continue to this day. She also completed the Joint Services Staff Course in 1983 and attained the rank of Commander in 1983.

After 32 years of service, Marcia retired from the Navy in July 1989 leaving the Service with enormous pride in all that she had achieved, and a deep gratitude for the opportunities and friendships it had given her.

Following her retirement, Marcia joined St John Ambulance (NSW), where she managed the office supporting First Aid volunteers. Later, as Manager of Community Care, she oversaw programs in literacy and public health, including the School Immunisation Program. These roles reflected her lifelong commitment to service and the welfare of others.

Marcia and her sister, Millicent later shared a heritage-listed terrace in Millers Point, in the shadow of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Their home became a place of friendship, community, and conversation filled with books, lively debate, and the occasional rearrangement of furniture. Both sisters were active in the Millers Point Residents’ Action Group, with Marcia serving as its secretary from 2005 to 2016, assisting Millicent who was chair from 2013.

Marcia and Millicent were heavily involved in the original Save the Rocks campaign and the first “whole suburb” heritage listing of Millers Point in 2003. Marcia was also a leader in the acquisition, restoration and management of Darling House, Trinity Avenue, originally for aged local residents but now privatised. They were also actively involved in the Darling House Aged care board, and the Sydney Mechanics’ School of Arts.

After the former State Government sold the social housing in Millers Point, Marcia and Millicent moved to another terrace in Glebe. After Millicent’s passing, Marcia continued to fill that home with life, tending her garden, reading, studying Italian and Latin, and maintaining close connections with family and friends.

Marcia is well remembered by family, friends and colleagues, with one former colleague observing: “I remember her well – she was a formidable role model in the mid-80s and has always been something of a legend for those of us who were junior female officers at the time.”

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of Commander Marcia Chalmers RN (Retd) and her significant contribution to the Royal Australian Navy, St John Ambulance and the communities of Millers Point and The Rocks;
- (B) Council express its condolences to Marcia's family, friends and colleagues; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Marcia's family to convey Council's condolences.

THE RT HON CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor of Sydney

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 Marcia Chalmers RN (Retd).

Item 3.2 Housing For All Into The Future

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

Since 2004, the City has approved over 33,750 development applications (DAs) worth over \$50 Billion. These DAs have contributed to over 66,000 new homes.

The City is a leader in new housing, delivering the second highest number of new dwellings for any council area in NSW over the last 20 years. Our population has grown from 180,000 in 2011 to 235,000 in 2024 and is projected to exceed 300,000 by 2046.

The City remains at the forefront of delivering Australia's highest density residential areas, with half of the nation's most densely populated suburbs located here. This density is matched by diversity, reflected in a mix of traditional multi-storey terrace houses to newly planned medium and high-density urban renewal areas like Green Square and the Ashmore precinct. More than 97% of dwellings in our area are classed as medium or high density, compared to just 46% across Greater Sydney.

Increased density and height can be supported if they achieve public benefits like design excellence, high-quality public domain, well positioned open space, affordable housing, sustainability, public art, heritage conservation and infrastructure. By 2036 we expect 80% of the population to be living in an apartment. To support this high-density inner city living, we will continue to invest in high quality public domain, open space, and community facilities that are so vital.

We help deliver affordable rental housing alongside market housing, enabling people on low to moderate incomes to remain in our community, using every lever available to us to maximise delivery. We now have over 1,500 affordable and diverse rental dwellings in our local area - double what we had in 2015 - and we're expecting to reach more than 5,000 affordable homes by 2036.

Our existing planning controls have capacity for over 50,000 new homes, if they were all to be taken up. However, as we have highlighted many times, the construction industry has faced rising costs and shortage of labour and materials, financial constraints, and higher interest rates hampering housing delivery.

Regardless, we stand ready to enable the delivery of more housing by reviewing our planning controls, but it must be done with responsible planning and infrastructure delivery, in consultation with the community, as we have always done.

Local Strategic Planning Statement and Housing for All Strategy

In 2018, the former NSW Government introduced changes to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act) to embed strategic planning into the NSW planning framework, which I strongly support in lieu of ad-hoc planning decisions to increase density.

Under the legislation, the NSW Government is responsible for preparing region and district plans, while local councils must develop Local Strategic Planning Statements (LSPS). The LSPS must be reviewed at least once every 7 years – by March 2027.

Our [City Plan 2036: City of Sydney Local Strategic Planning Statement](#) sets the City's vision on how it will change and grow, including 56,000 homes and 200,000 jobs by 2036. It aligns with Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050, our Central Sydney Planning Strategy and our planning controls.

Our [Housing for All: City of Sydney Local Housing Strategy](#) (Housing Strategy) accompanies the LSPS. It sets out the number of homes expected to be developed over 5, 10 and 20 years from 2016 to 2036 as well as planning priorities and actions to guide diverse, sustainable and well-designed housing to meet community needs at appropriate price points.

The Housing Strategy also sets a target that 7.5% of all private housing will be subsidised affordable rental housing for very low to moderate income households – an ambitious target that requires action from all levels of government.

Impressively, we have met 77% of our long-term housing target within just 9 years of our 20-year goal, with almost 25,000 dwellings built and almost 18,000 in the pipeline.

We have achieved many of the actions and projects identified in the LSPS including:

- Oxford Street Cultural and Creative Precinct planning controls
- A strategy for our Southern Employment Lands
- New planning controls in North Alexandria and Botany Road
- Net Zero planning controls
- Pyrmont and Ultimo planning controls, unlocking capacity for over 4,000 new homes
- Expanding our Affordable Housing contributions scheme across the whole City
- Finalising and implementing the Central Sydney Planning Strategy with nine planning proposals already approved, for buildings up to 300 metres high.

New Region Plan for Sydney

The NSW Government recently released the following documents without any warning just before the holiday period:

- The [draft Sydney Plan](#) (Region Plan)
- [A New Approach to Strategic Planning: Discussion Paper](#)
- [Statewide Policy for Industrial Lands](#)

Instead of long-term housing targets, the documents reiterate the 5-year short-term Housing Accord targets and repeat threats to councils who do not meet them.

The documents are focused on delivering more housing next to existing infrastructure in Sydney, with plans for other regions to be developed in future. I am concerned that the capacity of existing community infrastructure is inadequate to service the thousands of new residents councils are expected to accommodate in the short-term.

Positively, after years of our advocacy, the NSW Government is mandating that every council must have an affordable housing contribution scheme in place by 2027.

Planning for the future

The NSW Government's draft Sydney Plan sets out a clear expectation that councils should be reviewing their planning controls to ensure there is sufficient capacity for housing growth, and that the NSW Government will step in where councils fail to meet expectations.

Before the NSW Government released its draft Sydney Plan, the City has been busy proactively reviewing our LSPS to meet our statutory obligations. If we don't proceed with master planning for more housing in our area, we risk more ad-hoc planning decisions and approvals through alternative pathways such as the Housing Delivery Authority.

The City must remain in control of this planning process to ensure that additional housing is delivered in the most appropriate areas with consideration of amenity, infrastructure and local community needs, and not on a developer led basis.

We will continue to press the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure as the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces said he would do in Parliament, to further strengthen the affordable housing criteria by supporting our program, and to respect new criteria relating to master planned precincts. Whether a proposal should be declared State Significant Development must consider whether a recent master planning process has already taken place.

It is critical that alongside this process, the NSW Government looks at its own sites suitable for housing in our area, which we estimate could accommodate up to 14,320 new homes based on existing and new planning controls, approvals and site capacity, including on vacant Transport for NSW land. The NSW Government must also set Sydney Metropolitan or statewide affordable housing targets on private and public land, not just general housing targets.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City Plan 2036: City of Sydney Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) was made in 2020 and sets the City of Sydney's vision on how it will change and grow including targets for 56,000 new homes and 200,000 jobs between 2016 and 2036;
- (ii) the Housing for All: City of Sydney Local Housing Strategy (Housing Strategy) accompanies the LSPS and sets a 20-year vision to help guide diverse, sustainable and well-designed housing in our area, including Affordable Housing, to meet community needs at appropriate price points;
- (iii) the City of Sydney is a leader in housing delivery, meeting 77% of our long-term housing target within just 9 years of our 20-year goal, with almost 25,000 dwellings built and almost 18,000 in the pipeline;
- (iv) the City is required to update our LSPS by March 2027 and staff have already begun preparing to review and revise the plans to meet its statutory obligations; and
- (v) the NSW Government released a draft Sydney Plan, A New Approach to Strategic Planning: Discussion Paper and the Statewide Policy for Industrial Lands which will be on public exhibition over the holiday period. These plans suggest the requirements and timeframe for councils to update their LSPS could change;

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) review the draft Sydney Plan, A New Approach to Strategic Planning: Discussion Paper and the Statewide Policy for Industrial Lands and prepare a submission to be circulated to Councillors for feedback before finalisation;
 - (ii) prepare a discussion paper to seek feedback on ideas and proposed changes to the LSPS and Housing Strategy, for Council's consideration; and
 - (iii) as part of that work, develop an engagement plan for consultation on the discussion paper with the community, the Housing for All Advisory Panel and other relevant stakeholders; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Premier and the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces to:
- (i) welcome the requirement in the draft Sydney Plan that every council must have an affordable housing contribution scheme in place by 2027 and ask that these schemes must deliver income-based affordable rental housing in perpetuity;
 - (ii) advise them of the City's plans to update the LSPS and our willingness to work with them to enable the delivery of more housing in our area through careful planning in consultation with the community;
 - (iii) ensure that adequate new and upgraded infrastructure is delivered alongside new residential development;
 - (iv) request that the NSW Government does not proceed with the declaration of State Significant Development for residential development in areas the City has already master planned or proposes to investigate for additional housing;
 - (v) ask that the NSW Government investigates their own sites in our area for the delivery of more social, affordable and diverse housing; and
 - (vi) again, ask that the NSW Government sets Sydney Metropolitan or statewide Affordable Housing targets including on NSW Government-owned land.

THE RT HON CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor of Sydney

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 3.3 Solidarity With Our Jewish Community

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

Last night, a violent attack during the Chanukah by the Sea celebration at Bondi Beach claimed the lives of 16 people (at the time of publishing), while dozens more remain injured. The attack targeted Sydney's Jewish community as they gathered to mark the first night of Chanukah.

The scenes from Bondi Beach were shocking and devastatingly sad, and our thoughts are with the families who lost loved ones, the injured who now face recovery, and the many caught in the trauma of this senseless act of terror.

Our thoughts are especially with Sydney's Jewish community, who gathered in joy and peace to light the first candle of Chanukah, a festival that celebrates light over darkness and the triumph of good over evil. What should have been a night of unity and hope was shattered by violence. I was about to speak at Chanukah in the Park in Newtown when the call came advising details of the shooting, and we were advised to leave immediately, to return home safely and check in on loved ones.

Everyone has the right to gather in safety. These acts of violence have no place in our society, and those responsible must face the full force of the law.

Yet amid the horror, we witnessed the best of humanity. Ordinary people courageously rushed to help each other, guiding strangers to safety, administering first aid, and comforting those in shock. Our police and emergency responders were once again heroic, responding swiftly, neutralising the threat, and risking their own lives to protect ours.

There are no words that can make this moment easier, nor explain the evil we have seen. But in the coming days, I urge all of us to show each other great care and compassion. We cannot allow this hateful act to divide us.

People from all cultures, nationalities and faiths should feel safe, included and respected in our city. Especially now, when world events are demonstrating how fragile human rights can be. We must hold tightly to everything that makes Sydney a diverse, peaceful, and harmonious city.

Hold your loved ones close. Stand together. Let us help each other through this with resilience and unity.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the lives tragically lost in the Bondi Beach terrorist attack;
- (B) Council expresses its sincere condolences to the families and friends of all those affected by the attack and everyone in the community, to express our solidarity with all Jewish Australians, and commend the bravery of first responders and members of the community who rushed to help those in need; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Mayor of Waverley on behalf of the City of Sydney offering our sincere condolences and assistance if needed.

THE RT HON CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor of Sydney

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 those who lost their lives in the Bondi Beach terrorist attack.

Procedural Motion

At this stage of the meeting, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Maxwell -

That the Order of Business be altered such that Item 12.1 be brought forward and considered before Item 4 for the convenience of the public present.

Carried unanimously.

Item 4 Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer**Item 4.1 Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2026 Annual Review****Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer**

To Council:

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) is required to make an annual determination, on the fees payable to Councillors and Mayors in accordance with section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act).

Under the Act, the Tribunal's role is to determine the categories of councils and mayoral offices in NSW, place each council and mayoral office into one of the categories it has determined (at least once every 3 years), and on an annual basis set the minimum and maximum fees payable to councillors and mayors in each category.

The City of Sydney is currently the only council in NSW categorised as a Principal CBD (the highest category) by the Tribunal. As a matter of standing policy, Council has resolved that having regard to the Tribunal's determination of a fee range for Councillors and the Lord Mayor, Council shall always pay the maximum fees as determined by the Tribunal.

Note that the Tribunal has advised that submissions are to be endorsed by their respective council.

Submissions are due by Thursday 18 December 2025.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council endorse the submission to the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal as shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum.

MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer

Attachment A. Attachment A. Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2026 Annual Review

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

It is resolved that Council endorse the submission to the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal as shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum.

Carried unanimously.

S095194.009

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 Rt Hon Clover Moore AO - Lord Mayor of Sydney
(Chair)

Councillor Robert Kok
(Deputy Chair)

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

At the commencement of business at 2:05pm those present were -

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

Councillor Weldon arrived at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee at 2:09pm during discussion and before the vote on Item 6.4.

The meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee concluded at 3:02pm.

Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Gannon –

That the report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of its meeting of 8 December 2025 be received, with Items 6.1 and 6.2 being noted, the recommendations set out below for Items 6.3, 6.4, 6.6 and 6.8 to 6.10 inclusive being adopted in globo, and Items 6.5 and 6.7 being dealt with as shown immediately following those items.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.1**Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of Monday 10 November 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 6.6 on the agenda, in that there are residents in 59-99 Belmont Street, Alexandria who are members of the Labor Party (NSW Branch). Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because they have not been contacted by them on this matter.

No other 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**Investments Held as at 30 November 2025**

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

Carried unanimously.

X020701

Item 6.4**Public Exhibition - Grants Policy and Guidelines**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve for public exhibition the draft Grants Policy and Guidelines, as shown at Attachments A and B to the subject report, subject to the following amendments to the Grants Guidelines:
 - (i) insertion of the below clause into the 'General exclusions and ineligibility' section:
 - appear to be associated with a previous Recipient of grants project that didn't comply with their contractual obligations or complete the grants project satisfactorily, and

(ii) replace the table of eligible entities with the following:

	Quick response grants	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collaboration fund	Economic grants	Social and community grants	Creative grants – projects and infrastructure	Creative grants – artist support	Environmental grants	Major grants	Affordable and diverse housing fund	Accommodation grants	Creative live and work spaces grants	Short term empty properties grants	Street banner support	Venue hire support	Dixon Street improvement grant
Eligible Not-For-Profit Organisation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Incorporated Association	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual	✓														
Unincorporated Community Group auspiced by an Eligible Not-For-Profit Organisation	✓	✓		✓ ¹	✓						✓	✓			
Unincorporated Community Group Note an Individual or Eligible Not-For-Profit Organisation will need to enter into the contract on your behalf													*		
Individual auspiced by an Eligible Not-For-Profit Organisation		✓		✓ ²	✓ ³	✓									
Government Entity							✓		✓						
Government cultural institution				✓ ⁴			✓					✓			
Community Housing Provider								✓							
Co-operative		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
Corporation		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
Partnership	✓			✓			✓		✓		✓				✓
Sole Trader	✓	✓	✓	✓ ⁵	✓				✓	✓	✓				✓
Owners Corporation						✓									
Trustee of a Trust		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
Business Advocacy Organisation			✓												

¹ Social and community projects and small scale food support projects only

² Social and community projects and small scale food support projects only

³ Creative projects only

⁴ Creative projects only

⁵ Creative projects only

* Community venues only

- (B) Council approve that the Ethics Framework included in the Grants Policy and detailed in the subject report be adopted as the Ethics Framework across the Council and be posted on the City of Sydney website;
- (C) Council note that the Grants Policy and Guidelines, including any recommended changes, will be reported to Council for adoption following the exhibition period; and
- (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 Grants Policy and Guidelines.

Carried unanimously.

X119718

Item 6.5**Post Exhibition - Code of Meeting Practice**

Note – The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 15 December 2025.

At the meeting of Council, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received from the community on the draft Code of Meeting Practice as outlined in the engagement report shown at Attachment A to the subject report and at Attachment A to the subject Information Relevant To Memorandum (for submissions received between 27 November 2025 to 10 December 2025);
- (B) Council adopt the revised City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice as shown at Attachment B to the subject report, subject to any amendment of section 422 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 to defer the time of commencement of the new Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils;
- (C) Council endorse that if section 422 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 is amended to defer the mandating of the new Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Council, Council's current Code of Meeting Practice remain in force until further resolution of Council;
- (D) Council fix the order of business of meetings of council as the following
 - (i) opening of the meeting;
 - (ii) acknowledgement of country;
 - (iii) prayer at the discretion of the Chair;
 - (iv) apologies and applications for a leave of absence by councillors;
 - (v) confirmation of minutes;
 - (vi) statement of ethical obligations and disclosures of interest;
 - (vii) minutes by the Lord Mayor;
 - (viii) memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer;
 - (ix) matters for tabling;
 - (x) reports of committees;
 - (xi) reports to council;
 - (xii) questions on notice;
 - (xiii) supplementary answers to previous questions;
 - (xiv) notices of motion; and
 - (xv) conclusion of the meeting;

- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Code of Meeting Practice in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication;
- (F) Council endorse the City of Sydney Public Forum Guidelines as shown at Attachment C to the subject report subject to the following amendment:

Guidelines for City of Sydney Public Forums

Public forums will be held from 2pm for up to one hour, with meetings of committees of the council to commence at 3pm.

- (G) Council note that the Public Forum Guidelines can be amended from time to time by Council;
- (H) Council endorse and adopt the revised Functions, Delegations, Policies and Procedures of Council Committees, as shown at Attachment B to the subject Information Relevant To Memorandum;
- (I) Council note that public notification and communications will be undertaken in early 2026 (unless deferred) to advise members of the public of the Public Forum Guidelines and how they can address Council going forward; and
- (J) if however, section 422 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 is amended to defer the mandating of the new Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils:
 - (i) meetings of the Committees of Council will commence at 2pm; and
 - (ii) public forums will not be held prior to meetings of the Committees of Council, as speakers will be heard during Committees.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Weldon, seconded by Councillor Thompson -

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

- (F) Council endorse the City of Sydney Public Forum Guidelines as shown at Attachment C to the subject report, subject to the following amendment:
 - (i) the City of Sydney Council will also hold a public forum prior to all meetings of council for the purpose of hearing oral submissions from members of the public on items of business to be considered at the meeting of council that have not already been considered at the preceding meetings of committees of the council; and
 - (ii) these public forums will be held for up to one hour, immediately preceding meetings of council.

The amendment was lost on the following show of hands –

Ayes (3) Councillors Ellsmore, Thompson and Weldon

Noes (6) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Maxwell and Miller.

Amendment lost.

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*.

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.)

Speakers

Zena Vaassen addressed the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on Item 6.5.

Item 6.6

Land Classification - 99A Belmont Street, Alexandria

It is resolved that Council endorse the classification of 99A Belmont Street, Alexandria (being Lot 101 in Deposited Plan 1314191) as operational land in accordance with section 31 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Carried unanimously.

2025/654437

Item 6.7

Tender - T-2024-1383 - City Structures Works

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Worling –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer E for the City Structures Works contract for:
 - (i) the price outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
 - (ii) the Schedule of Rates outlined in Confidential Attachment B to this report, for a contract term of 4 years, with the option for 2 two-year extensions, subject to satisfactory performance and other relevant considerations;
- (B) Council note that the total contract value for City Structures Works Contract is outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject Information Relevant To memorandum;
- (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.

A show of hands on the motion resulted in an equality of voting as follows –

Ayes (5) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Gannon, Kok, Miller and Worling

Noes (5) Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Maxwell, Thompson and Weldon.

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) exercised her casting vote in favour of the motion.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.2 of the Code of Meeting Practice, the motion was declared carried.

Carried.

X118015.003

Item 6.8

Tender - T-2025-1492 - Barges and Tugs for Sydney New Year's Eve

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer A for the provision of Barges and Tugs for Sydney New Year's Eve for:
 - (i) the price and contingency outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
 - (ii) the schedule of rates outlined in Confidential Attachment B to the subject report,
 - (iii) for a period of 2 years (2026 and 2027), with the option of an extension of 2 years (2028 and 2029) if appropriate;
- (B) Council note that the total contract sum and contingency for Barges and Tugs for Sydney New Year's Eve 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 option referred to in clause (A), if appropriate.

Carried unanimously.

X117678.003

Item 6.9**Tender - Reject and Negotiate - T-2025-1437 - Board Meeting Management Solution**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council decline to accept the tender offers for the Board Meeting Management Solution for the reasons set out in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council does not invite fresh tenders, as it is considered that inviting fresh tenders would not attract additional suitable vendors over and above those that have responded to this tender;
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into negotiations with any person with a view to entering into a contract on terms that are appropriate in relation to the subject matter of the tender;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer the contracts relating to the tender; and
- (E) Council be informed of the successful vendor via the CEO Update.

Carried unanimously.

X111683

Item 6.10**Exemption from Tender - Water Feature Maintenance Services**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve an exemption from tender in accordance with section 55(3)(i) of the local Government Act 1993 to extend the existing contract for water features maintenance services for 8 months, noting that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders at this time;
- (B) Council note that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders for this work because there is insufficient time to conduct a tender process for the services and execute a new contract before the expiry of the existing contract for water feature maintenance services;
- (C) Council note that the tender documents for the procurement are near completion and will be issued in early 2026;
- (D) Council approve a variation to the existing contract with Water Features Australia Pty Ltd (ABN: 66 076 262 809) to extend the contract term, with a revised expiry date of 31 August 2026;
- (E) Council note the revised contract sum for the extended term is set out in the Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (F) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and vary the contract relating to water feature maintenance services.

Carried unanimously.

X018336

Item 7 Report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee**PRESENT**

The Rt Hon Clover Moore AO - Lord Mayor of Sydney
(Chair)

Councillor Adam Worling
(Deputy Chair)

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

At the commencement of business at 3:03pm those present were -

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

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee concluded at 3:08pm.

Report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee

Moved by Councillor Worling, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the report of the Environment and Climate Change Committee of its meeting of 8 December 2025 be received, with Items 7.1 and 7.2 being noted, 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 the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee of Monday 10 November 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

Post Exhibition – Register of Significant Trees

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council adopt the Register of Significant Trees 2025 as shown in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the engagement report summarising consultation for the development of the Register of Significant Trees 2025, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Register of Significant Trees 2025 to correct minor drafting errors, update tree photographs, and to update a tree's status following its physical removal to ensure Register remains accurate.

Carried unanimously.

X117628.003

Item 8 Report of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee**PRESENT**

The Rt Hon Clover Moore AO - Lord Mayor of Sydney
(Chair)

Councillor Lyndon Gannon
(Deputy Chair)

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

At the commencement of business at 3:09pm those present were -

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

The meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee concluded at 3:13pm.

Report of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee

Moved by Councillor Gannon, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee of its meeting of 8 December 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 Gannon, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Innovation, Business and Economy Committee of Monday 10 November 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.2**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 Innovation, Business and Economy Committee.

The Innovation, Business and Economy Committee recommended the following:

Item 8.3

Grants and Sponsorship - Dixon Street Improvement Grant

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash recommendations for the Dixon Street Improvement grant program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (C) 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
- (D) 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.

Carried unanimously.

S117676

Item 9 Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee**PRESENT**

The Rt Hon Clover Moore AO - Lord Mayor of Sydney

(Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Jess Miller

(Deputy Chair)

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

At the commencement of business at 3:14pm those present were -

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

Adjournment

At 3:43pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

At the resumption of the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee at 3:58pm, all Councillors were present.

The meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee concluded at 4:23pm.

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 8 December 2025 be received, with Items 9.1 and 9.2 being noted and the recommendations set out below for Items 9.3 to 9.7 being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 9.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Worling –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee of Monday 10 November 2025, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 9.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.7 on the agenda, in that there are residents in 299 Forbes Street, Darlinghurst who are members of the Labor Party (NSW Branch).

Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because they have not been contacted by them on this matter.

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 9.3

Public Exhibition - Draft Outdoor Dining Guidelines

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the updated draft Outdoor Dining Guidelines shown at Attachments B and C to the subject report, for public exhibition;
- (B) Council note that following engagement, a subsequent report to Council will set out an implementation plan including costs for the roll-out of footpath extensions; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments, corrections or design improvements to the updated draft Outdoor Dining Guidelines, to prepare them for public exhibition.

Carried unanimously.

X037861

Item 9.4**Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - 580 George Street, Sydney - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 and Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 Amendment**

Note – The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 15 December 2025.

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

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve Planning Proposal - 580 George Street, Sydney, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, to be submitted to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces with a request for Gateway Determination;
- (B) Council approve Planning Proposal - 580 George Street, Sydney, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, for public authority consultation and public exhibition in accordance with any conditions imposed under the Gateway Determination;
- (C) Council seek authority from the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces 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 Planning Proposal - 580 George Street, Sydney;
- (D) Council approve the Draft Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 - 580 George Street, Sydney, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report, for public authority consultation and public exhibition concurrent with the Planning Proposal;
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any variations to Planning Proposal - 580 George Street, Sydney, to correct any drafting errors or to ensure consistency with the Gateway Determination; and
- (F) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any variations to Draft Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 - 580 George Street, Sydney, to correct any drafting errors or ensure it is consistent with the Planning Proposal following the Gateway Determination.

Carried unanimously.

X124325

Speaker

Sophy Purton (Urbis) addressed the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee on Item 9.4.

Item 9.5

Post Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQ+ Heritage Items (Stage 1) - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 Amendment

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received during the public exhibition of the Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQ+ Heritage Items (Stage 1), shown at Attachment F to the subject report;
- (B) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQ+ Heritage Items (Stage 1), shown at Attachment A to the subject report to be made as a local environmental plan under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor variations to the Planning Proposal - Oxford Street LGBTIQ+ Heritage Items (Stage 1) shown at Attachment A to the subject report, to correct any drafting errors prior to finalisation of the local environmental plan.

Carried unanimously.

X091578

Item 9.6

Post Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Chinatown Heritage Items - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 Amendment

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received during the public exhibition of the Planning Proposal - Chinatown Heritage Items, Haymarket, shown at Attachment H to the subject report
- (B) Council approve the Planning Proposal - Chinatown Heritage Items, Haymarket, shown at Attachment A to the subject report, to be made as a local environmental plan under section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make any minor variations to the Planning Proposal - Chinatown Heritage Items, Haymarket shown at Attachment A to the subject report, to correct any drafting errors prior to finalisation of the local environmental plan.

Carried unanimously.

X099927

Item 9.7**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 E 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 6 Central Park Avenue, Chippendale 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 299 Forbes Street and 63-69 Burton Street, Darlinghurst at this time;
- (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 10-14 Oxford Square, Darlinghurst at this time; and
- (F) note the contents of Attachment E and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 48-50 Stanley Street, Darlinghurst at this time.

Carried unanimously.

S105001.002

Item 10 Questions on Notice**1. Public Housing Redevelopment in the City of Sydney Council**

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What State public housing (that is, housing owned by Homes NSW or another NSW agency) within the City of Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) is currently:
 - (a) Under development?
 - (b) Proposed for development?
2. Since July 2025, has Homes NSW, or another NSW agency or their representative, made any applications to council for the development of additional public housing in the LGA? If yes, please provide details.
3. Since July 2025 has Homes NSW, or another NSW agency or their representative, made any inquiries about potential redevelopment of additional public housing sites in the LGA, including pre-DA inquiries? If yes, please provide details.
4. Is the City of Sydney aware of any other proposed redevelopments of public housing in the LGA, other than those noted above? If yes, please provide details.

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1.
 - (a) D/2023/21: 82 Wentworth Park Road, Glebe. Landowner is Homes NSW. Approved development comprises 43 social housing units.
 - (b) SSD-93222706: Rezoning and concept State Significant Development Application (SSDA) for Waterloo Estate (South). Landowner is Homes NSW. The draft proposal to include at least 30% social housing. The applicant is currently preparing the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposal and has undertaken consultation with the City.

SSD-51274973: 600-660 Elizabeth Street, Redfern. Landowner is Homes NSW. Development comprises 4 new buildings for market housing, social (147 units), affordable (197 units) and specialist disability accommodation (11 including 1 carers unit), a community facility and commercial uses. The SSDA was approved by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in October 2025.

D/2024-935: 10-18 Raper Street, Newtown. Landowner is Homes NSW. Consent for construction of an 8-room boarding house (social housing) was approved on 9 April 2025.
2. No.
3. No.
4. No.

2. Free Wi-Fi in Council Buildings and Public Places

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Please provide details of the public buildings where Council currently provides Wi-Fi for free to the public
2. For which other public places - including parks - does Council currently provide free Wi-Fi?
3. What contracts does Council currently have to provide free Wi-Fi to the public? Who is/are the contract/s with?
4. Approximately what is the cost of free Wi-Fi provided by Council to the public this financial year?
5. Is Council planning to provide free Wi-Fi in any additional buildings or public places in the next 12 months? If yes, please provide details.
6. Has Council undertaken any recent investigations to consider the cost of expanding free Wi-Fi to more Council buildings or public places? If yes, please provide details.

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. All City of Sydney libraries, community centres and community venues for hire have free Wi-Fi available to the community. The table below shows the current locations where free community Wi-Fi is available. It should be noted that there is significant access "bleed" that makes access to the free Wi-Fi possible outside the facilities noted below. This area of "bleed" differs for each location.

Location	Supplier
180 George Street, Sydney	OneWiFi
Abraham Mott Hall, Millers Point	OneWiFi
Alexandria Town Hall	OneWiFi
Benledi House, Glebe	OneWiFi
Booler Centre, Glebe	OneWiFi
Brown Street Community Hall, Newtown	OneWiFi
Cliff Noble Community Centre, Alexandria	OneWiFi
Customs House Library	Hi-Tech Solutions
Darling Square Library	Hi-Tech Solutions

Location	Supplier
Darlinghurst Community Space	OneWiFi
Darlington Activity Centre	OneWiFi
East Sydney Community and Arts Centre	OneWiFi
Erskineville Town Hall	OneWiFi
Foley Park, Glebe	Easyweb
Glebe Town Hall	OneWiFi
Glebe Library	Hi-Tech Solutions
Green Square Library	Hi-Tech Solutions
Green Square Public School and Community Spaces	OneWiFi
Harold Park Community Space	OneWiFi
Joseph Sargeant Centre, Erskineville	OneWiFi
Juanita Nielsen Community Centre, Woolloomooloo	OneWiFi
Kings Cross Library	Hi-Tech Solutions
King George V Recreation Centre, The Rocks	OneWiFi
Maybanke Centre, Pyrmont	OneWiFi
Newtown Library	Hi-Tech Solutions
Paddington Reservoir Gardens	Easyweb
Perry Park Recreation Centre	OneWiFi
Peter Forsyth Auditorium, Glebe	OneWiFi
Pyrmont Community Centre	OneWiFi
Redfern Community Centre	OneWiFi
Redfern Oval Community Room	OneWiFi

Location	Supplier
119 Redfern Street	OneWiFi
Redfern Town Hall	OneWiFi
Reginald Murphy Community Centre, Potts Point	OneWiFi
Rex Centre, Potts Point	OneWiFi
Robyn Kemmis Community Space, Glebe	OneWiFi
Ron Williams Community Centre, Redfern	OneWiFi
St Helens Community Centre	OneWiFi
Surry Hills Library	Hi-Tech Solutions
Sydney Park Cycling Centre	OneWiFi
Sydney Park Pavilion	OneWiFi
Tote Building, Zetland	OneWiFi
Ultimo Community Centre	OneWiFi
Waterloo Library	Hi-Tech Solutions

2. The City of Sydney has free Wi-Fi available across additional public places including Paddington Reservoir Gardens and Foley Park, Glebe.
3. The City of Sydney currently has 3 contracts to provide free community Wi-Fi. These contracts are with OneWiFi for our community centres and venues for hire, with Hi-Tech solutions for the City of Sydney's libraries, and Easyweb for Paddington Reservoir Gardens and Foyle Park. The service in our libraries is subsidised by the NSW State Library.
4. The approximate cost for the operational provision of free community Wi-Fi this financial year is approximately \$340,000.
5. The City of Sydney is planning to provide free Wi-Fi at the Huntley Street Recreation Centre.
6. Costings for free Wi-Fi in the public domain is impacted by many factors including provision of fibre, poles, power supply and so on. A review in around 2022 that looked at potential coverage along George Street from Haymarket to Circular Quay, in Martin Place and some areas near Chinatown had an estimated cost of \$5 to 6M. At this time free community Wi-Fi was available in only 23 community facilities. Following the review, we expanded our public Wi-Fi provision in community facilities and it is now available in over 40 facilities and parks, with faster download speeds and increased "bleed" into the public domain.

3. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Strategy

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Does the City of Sydney currently have an Aboriginal cultural heritage strategy? If yes, please provide details.
2. Is the City of Sydney planning to develop an Aboriginal cultural heritage strategy? If yes, please provide details.
3. Since 2021, has the City of Sydney undertaken any major Aboriginal cultural heritage studies or similar? If yes, please provide details.

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. No.
2. We are currently considering an approach to developing an Aboriginal cultural heritage strategy for the City of Sydney Local Government Area (LGA), noting that this is a complex area. The Chief Executive Officer and the Executive Manager First Nations Leadership have had a number of meetings with the NSW Office of Aboriginal Affairs to understand the progress being made on the statewide Aboriginal cultural heritage legislation. Staff consider that it is premature to develop a local strategy until we have clarity about the broader framework that such a strategy would respond to. We are also in discussions with Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council about appropriate timing and engagement.
3. Where relevant we have undertaken a number of studies and First Nations engagement for specific projects. We are also aware of studies that have been conducted by other government agencies and the private sector for their projects in the area.

4. Friends of Chippendale Community Action Plan

By Councillor Thompson

Question

Council considered a proposed Chippendale Community Sustainability Precinct and the Friends of Chippendale Community Action Plan at its June 2025 Council meeting. Council unanimously agreed to consider the measures proposed and report back to Council with relevant advice.

Can an update be provided on the investigation into the Friends of Chippendale Community Action Plan and what measures proposed could be incorporated into the overall precinct development?

X113778

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

City staff have considered the measures proposed and the advice will be available shortly. A CEO Update will be provided as per the resolution of Council.

5. Fee Waivers for Use of Sporting Fields

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

The City's sporting fields are in high demand. The City of Sydney's annual report of the implementation of Council's Delivery Program indicates 96.5% usage versus capacity of sports fields (booked use) in 2024/25 financial year.

In the 2024/25 financial year:

1. Which sporting clubs, schools or other organisations hired Council's sporting fields? If Council has a breakdown of who hired which sporting fields, and for how many hours, please provide this.
2. What fees or costs does Council charge for hire of its sporting fields?
3. Who can access fee waivers or discounts for hire of Council's sporting fields?
4. Which schools and secondary colleges (if any) accessed fee reductions or waivers for the use of Council's sporting fields?
5. Which sporting clubs (if any) accessed fee reductions or waivers for the use of Council's sporting fields?
6. What was the monetary value (if any) of fee reductions and waivers provided to:
 - (a) Schools?
 - (b) Sporting clubs? If a breakdown by type of club is known, please provide

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. 152 unique hirers booked one of our 17 sports fields in FY2024/25. Zero or Partial rate hirers used 15,201 hours – 92% of overall utilisation. Market rate hirers used 1,379 hours or 8% of overall utilisation.

The category of the applicant making the booking determines the fee that will apply.

- Zero rate hirers: Public schools in the City's Local Government Area (LGA)
 - Partial rate hirers (percentage of market rate): Registered not-for-profit organisations, charities, and other school applicants (including schools not in the LGA)
 - Market rate hirers: Commercial and private users.
2. Council charges the hire fees set out in the City's adopted Fees and Charges. Field fees range from \$0 to \$176 per hour, the rates are based on the field, applicant category and day of the week.
 3. Fee waivers or discounted hire rates for Council's sporting fields are available to groups that meet an approved category including not for profit, charity, hardship or any other eligibility category that Council has formally adopted in its Revenue Policy.
 4. FY 2024/25: Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Primary School.

5. FY 2024/25: Sydney All Blacks Rugby League Football Club, The Redfern All Blacks Rugby League Football Club, Deadly Connections Community Justice Services, Gadigal Warriors Sporting Youth Services Club Inc. and Waterloo Storm Rugby League Club
6.
 - (a) Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Primary School - \$1,489.
 - (b) Sydney All Blacks Rugby League Football Club - \$1,895
Redfern All Blacks Rugby League Football Club - \$235
Deadly Connections Community Justice Services - \$559
Gadigal Warriors Sporting Youth Services Club Inc. - \$6,659
Waterloo Storm Rugby League Club - \$909

Item 11 Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions

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

Item 12 Notices of Motion

Item 12.1 Vale David Carey

Moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Arkins -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) with sadness the passing of long-time Labor activist, trade unionist and community advocate David Carey, and records its appreciation for his lifetime of service to the people of Sydney and the Australian labour movement;
- (ii) David Carey was a true gentleman and a tireless champion for fairness, equality and workers' rights. A totally committed member of the Australian Labor Party, David's work as a union official and later as a union secretary placed him at the heart of the movement's efforts to improve the lives of working people;
- (iii) over many decades, David held numerous offices within the Labor Party - including Vice President of the Kings Cross Branch, President of the Sydney State Electorate Council, and Secretary of the Wentworth Federal Electorate Committee. He was active in every campaign that the Kings Cross Branch participated in over more than thirty years — from local government contests for the City of Sydney and the former South Sydney Council, to campaigns for the State and Federal seats of Sydney and Wentworth;
- (iv) he supported countless Labor candidates during that time, including Tanya Plibersek, Tim Murray, George Newhouse, Evan Hughes, Steven Lewis and Savanna Peake in federal campaigns; Linda Scott in her campaigns for both the State seat of Sydney and as Labor's Lord Mayoral candidate; and many others including Barri Phatarfod, Sacha Blumen, Eddie Lloyd, Jo Holder and Skye Tito for the State seat of Sydney. At local government level, he worked alongside Greg Shaw, Michael Lee, Tony Pooley, Verity Firth, Meredith Burgmann, and more recently Zann Maxwell and Olly Arkins;
- (v) David was tireless during campaigning - taking the lead at the Kings Cross stall at the Fitzroy Gardens fountain, pressing how-to-vote cards into the hands of voters at the Rex Centre pre-poll booth through all kinds of weather, and serving faithfully as Booth Captain at the Reg Murphy Centre polling booth in Elizabeth Bay from dawn until close on polling day;
- (vi) beyond party politics, David brought the same energy and conviction to national causes. He campaigned passionately for the 1999 Australian Republic Referendum, the 2017 Marriage Equality Postal Survey, and the 2023 referendum to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution and establish a Voice to Parliament;
- (vii) David was known for speaking with sense and reason in debate, always on the side of the underdog. He was respected by all who knew him for his kindness, decency and thoughtfulness, and for his enduring belief in fairness for all; and
- (viii) he was a friend to many in our area, and his passing leaves a great void in Sydney's civic and political community. His memory is fresh in the minds of all who worked alongside him, and his example will continue to inspire;

- (B) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of David Carey and his significant contribution to Sydney's civic, political and community life;
- (C) Council express its condolences to David's family and friends, and to the members of the Kings Cross, City and Haymarket Branches of the Australian Labor Party; and
- (D) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to David's family to convey Council's condolences.

Carried unanimously.

X113762

Note – all Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to David Carey.

Item 12.2 Securing The Legacy of The Bookshop Darlinghurst

By Councillor Thompson

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) The Bookshop Darlinghurst is closing down after more than 4 decades of providing Sydney's queer community with a safe, welcoming, cultural landmark on Oxford Street;
- (ii) originally opening in 1982, The Bookshop served the queer community through decriminalisation, the AIDS epidemic, marriage equality and has continued to stand at the forefront for trans rights and liberation; and
- (iii) in the words of the current owner, Charles Gregory, "The Bookshop Darlinghurst has been more than a store. It has been a meeting place, a refuge, and a beacon for queer literature." Its closure will be sorely felt across the queer community in Sydney; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate ways in which the City of Sydney can recognise the historic contributions of The Bookshop Darlinghurst to the queer community, including, but not limited to, a commemorative plaque on Oxford Street;
- (ii) ensure the collection currently held within The Bookshop Darlinghurst is reflected and made available in the City's public libraries;
- (iii) assess whether the queer cultural programming currently provided at our libraries and community centres meets community need and report back to Council; and
- (iv) investigate the potential establishment of a queer library hub in one of the City's libraries to ensure the legacy of the Darlinghurst Bookshop is maintained.

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

Moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Worling –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) The Bookshop Darlinghurst is closing down after more than 4 decades of providing Sydney's queer community with a safe, welcoming, cultural landmark on Oxford Street;
- (ii) originally opening in 1982, The Bookshop served the queer community through decriminalisation, the AIDS epidemic, marriage equality and has continued to stand at the forefront for trans rights and liberation; and
- (iii) in the words of the current owner, Charles Gregory, "The Bookshop Darlinghurst has been more than a store. It has been a meeting place, a refuge, and a beacon for queer literature." Its closure will be sorely felt across the queer community in Sydney;
- (iv) in September 2025, Council endorsed the proposal to locally heritage list 3 buildings as part of a Stage 2 Oxford Street LGBTIQA+ Heritage Items including the site of The Bookshop at 207 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst. This proposal will be publicly exhibited soon;

- (v) the site of The Bookshop is proposed to be locally heritage listed for its historical, aesthetic, social and representative significance. This significance could be recognised in many ways including by conserving the building's appearance, by continuing the retail use, by recognising the historical significance such a commemorative plaque and by reinterpreting the LGBTIQ+ significance;
- (vi) the City established a LGBTIQ+ collection with State Library funding support in 2007 and continues to grow this collection annually, with the collection based at the Kings Cross, Surry Hills and Newtown branch libraries, however, the City's collection is available across the entire network;
- (vii) while items in the LGBTIQ+ collection are catalogued and shelved according to standard library practice, they are clearly identified with distinctive markings;
- (viii) City staff have reviewed The Darlinghurst Bookshop's holdings and found that most titles are already within the City's collection or on order;
- (ix) the collection is actively maintained with new titles added throughout the year, including transgender titles;
- (x) all City of Sydney libraries are accredited under the ACON Welcome Here program which promotes a safe and welcoming environment for people of diverse sexualities and genders; and
- (xi) the City's libraries also support the LGBTIQ+ communities through:
 - (a) a regular LGBTIQ+ discussion group at Kings Cross library afterhours and occasionally led by facilitators/storytellers which provides a welcoming and supportive environment for the community to share stories and connect;
 - (b) monthly Rainbow Storytime as part of an early literacy offering across all branches; and
 - (c) regular LGBTIQ+ programming including exhibitions, talks, creative programs across all branches throughout the year; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate ways in which the City of Sydney can recognise the historic contributions of The Bookshop Darlinghurst to the queer community, should the proposed local heritage listing not proceed;
- (ii) ensure the stock currently held within The Bookshop Darlinghurst is reflected and made available across the City's library network in far as possible;
- (iii) assess whether the queer cultural programming currently provided at our libraries and community centres is meeting community need and report back to Council by the CEO Update; and
- (iv) investigate ways in which library users may be informed about and assisted in accessing the City's LGBTIQ+ collection.

Carried unanimously.

X113760

Item 12.3 Synthetic Turf Policy Review

Procedural Motion

Moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That Item 12.3 be deferred to the next ordinary meeting of Council.

Carried unanimously.

Procedural Motion

At this stage of the meeting, it was moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That Notices of Motion 12.4, 12.5 (varied by Councillor Arkins) and 12.6 (varied by consent at the request of Councillor Kok) be adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 12.4 Coordination of the King Street, Newtown Special Entertainment Precinct with Inner West Council

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney is progressing plans to introduce Special Entertainment Precincts to support live music, performance, streamlined approvals, and a stronger night time economy;
- (ii) the proposed Special Entertainment Precinct in King Street, Newtown spans both the City of Sydney and Inner West Council local government areas;
- (iii) residents, businesses and visitors experience King Street as one continuous precinct and do not distinguish between local government boundaries;
- (iv) a consistent policy approach between the City of Sydney and Inner West Council will provide clarity and certainty for local residents and businesses;
- (v) alignment between both councils will strengthen the delivery of the precinct, improve outcomes for live performance, and support shared objectives for a safe, inclusive, and sustainable night time economy;
- (vi) City staff have been investigating upgrading the late-night trading tier of King Street, Newtown alongside the introduction of Special Entertainment Precincts;
- (vii) the City's late night trading and Special Entertainment Precinct model, which includes a long standing tiered approach to areas and venues, incentives for live music and trial periods, differs from that of Inner West Council;
- (viii) Inner West Council recently passed an equivalent motion moved by Deputy Mayor Chloe Smith expressing support for this coordinated approach to implementation of the Precinct; and
- (ix) a unique approach for King Street is worth investigating given it is the boundary between the two council areas and the shared objectives to support late night trading and entertainment along the street;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) work collaboratively with the Inner West Council staff on a generally aligned approach to trading hours and sound levels for the King Street, Newtown Special Entertainment Precinct;
- (ii) continue to incentivise live music and performance, good business operations and a diversity of venues;
- (iii) coordinate joint community and stakeholder engagement processes with Inner West Council to ensure consistent messaging and a shared understanding of the precinct objectives; and
- (iv) ensure that public consultation on the Special Entertainment Precinct in Newtown is conducted concurrently with Inner West Council's process wherever practicable; and

- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Mayor Darcy Byrne of Inner West Council noting the City of Sydney's commitment to a coordinated and smooth rollout of the King Street, Newtown Special Entertainment Precinct and requesting both Councils work collaboratively together in the interest of our communities and local businesses.

Carried unanimously, as part of an in globo motion.

X113758

Item 12.5 The City of Sydney Welcomes New and Additional Public Housing in Glebe

By Councillor Arkins

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the NSW Labor Government's \$6.6 Billion Building Homes for NSW package is delivering the first new public housing stock in over a decade;
- (ii) this is the largest investment by the NSW Government into social housing in the state's history, delivering over 8,000 new public homes;
- (iii) the funding is delivering new social housing properties, improving maintenance of existing public housing and boosts homelessness support services;
- (iv) it invests in new homes for women and children escaping domestic violence, Aboriginal people and their families, older Australians, those living with disability and young people without family support; and
- (v) construction has started on new public housing at 82 Wentworth Park Road in Glebe;

(B) Council support:

- (i) the delivery of 43 new public homes at 82 Wentworth Park Road, Glebe, up from 17, an increase of 26 new public homes; and
- (ii) the NSW Government's plans for brand new public housing in the City of Sydney at Glebe, Waterloo, Eveleigh and across NSW; and

(C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Premier Chris Minns and Minister for Housing Rose Jackson welcoming this investment in new public housing in our City and the delivery of more public housing in Glebe.

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

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the NSW Labor Government's \$6.6 Billion Building Homes for NSW package is delivering the first new public housing stock in over a decade;
- (ii) this is the largest investment by the NSW Government into social housing in the state's history, delivering over 8,000 new public homes;
- (iii) the funding is delivering new social housing properties, improving maintenance of existing public housing and boosts homelessness support services;
- (iv) it invests in new homes for women and children escaping domestic violence, Aboriginal people and their families, older Australians, those living with disability and young people without family support; and

- (v) construction has started on new public housing at 82 Wentworth Park Road in Glebe;
- (B) Council support:
 - (i) increased investment in public housing by the NSW Labor Government in the City of Sydney Local Government Area; and
 - (ii) the first increase in the total number of public housing dwellings in a decade; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Premier Chris Minns and Minister for Housing Rose Jackson welcoming increased investment in new public housing in our City and the delivery of more public housing in Glebe.

Carried unanimously, as part of an in globo motion.

X113758

Item 12.6 Easing the Impact of High Speed E-Bikes Around Rope Walk Park in Waterloo

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the significant increase in the delivery rider workforce across our City, particularly in the Waterloo, Green Square and Zetland areas;
- (ii) there are 2 paths running through Rope Walk Park which have become popular for cyclists travelling between Joynton Avenue, Waterloo and suburbs to the north; and
- (iii) residents in surrounding buildings have raised concerns about the path along the western side of the park, including:
 - (a) safety risks, citing poor sight lines when stepping out of their properties and the speed of approaching e-bikes; and
 - (b) noise disturbances at night, as this path is a timber boardwalk and rattles when ridden over;

(B) Council further note:

- (i) City staff implemented measures to help manage rider volume and speed on paths in Rope Walk Park, including:
 - (a) in 2024, the City installed sandstone blocks to slow down high speed e-bike riders on the gravel path on the eastern side of the park; and
 - (b) in 2025, signage requesting cyclists to dismount was installed on the western boardwalk path;
- (ii) following a recent site assessment, City staff are investigating other ways to reduce rider volumes and speed along the western side of the park; and
- (iii) construction of the O'Dea Avenue cycleway will commence in 2026, providing an alternative north/south route including the Gadigal Avenue cycleway, which staff anticipate will provide a safe and fast alternative to riding in Rope Walk Park; and

(C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate issues relating to bike delivery workers riding through Rope Walk Park to:
 - (a) make deliveries to properties fronting the park; and
 - (b) as through trips to destinations beyond the park;
- (iv) investigate the installation of additional sandstone bollards at both ends of the wooden boardwalk path on the western side of Rope Walk Park between Archibald Avenue near the Rope Walk Park Playground and O'Dea Avenue near Joynton Avenue; and
- (v) report back to Council via CEO Update as soon as possible.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Kok, and by consent, the motion was varied such that it read as follows –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the significant increase in the delivery rider workforce across our City, particularly in the Waterloo, Green Square and Zetland areas;
- (ii) there are 2 paths running through Rope Walk Park which have become popular for cyclists travelling between Joynton Avenue, Waterloo and suburbs to the north; and
- (iii) residents in surrounding buildings have raised concerns about the path along the western side of the park, including:
 - (a) safety risks, citing poor sight lines when stepping out of their properties and the speed of approaching e-bikes; and
 - (b) noise disturbances at night, as this path is a timber boardwalk and rattles when ridden over;

(B) Council further note:

- (i) City staff implemented measures to help manage rider volume and speed on paths in Rope Walk Park, including:
 - (a) in 2024, the City installed sandstone blocks to slow down high speed e-bike riders on the gravel path on the eastern side of the park;
 - (b) in mid-2025, signage requesting cyclists to dismount was installed on the western boardwalk path; and
 - (c) in December 2025, City staff began trialling sandstone blocks as a deterrent at one end of the western boardwalk path;
- (ii) following a recent site assessment, City staff are investigating other ways to reduce rider volumes and speed along the western side of the park; and
- (iii) construction of the O'Dea Avenue cycleway will commence in 2026, providing an alternative north/south route including the Gadigal Avenue cycleway, which staff anticipate will provide a safe and fast alternative to riding in Rope Walk Park; and

- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) investigate issues relating to bike delivery workers riding through Rope Walk Park to:
 - (a) make deliveries to properties fronting the park; and
 - (b) as through trips to destinations beyond the park;
 - (ii) inform affected residents of the City's findings of this investigation and further measures that will be taken to manage rider volumes and speeds on the western boardwalk path, including their consideration of the installation of additional sandstone bollards at both ends of the wooden boardwalk path on the western side of Rope Walk Park between Archibald Avenue near the Rope Walk Park Playground and O'Dea Avenue near Joynton Avenue; and
 - (iii) report back to Council via CEO Update as soon as possible.

The motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously as part of an in globo motion.

X113758

Item 12.7 City of Sydney Supports Rising Tide

Moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney has a proud history of supporting the right to peaceful protest as a fundamental cornerstone of democracy;
- (ii) the 2025 People's Blockade, organised by Rising Tide, took place from 27 November to 2 December 2025. This event saw over 8,000 people, from all over the country, come together in Newcastle to peacefully protest the climate emergency; and
- (iii) Rising Tide organise around 3 key demands: ending the expansion of new fossil fuel projects, significantly increasing funding for the community and industrial green transition – funded by increased taxes on fossil fuel exports, and end all coal exports from the Port of Newcastle – the world's largest coal port – by 2030;

(C) Council further note:

- (i) in 2019, the City of Sydney declared a climate emergency, calling for urgent, and comprehensive action to decarbonise the Australian economy, and fund a just transition for effected industries and communities;
- (ii) last year, following the 2024 People's Blockade, the City of Sydney voted in support of the principles of the event, condemned the NSW Government's criminalisation of protest and inaction on climate change, and provided a donation of \$22,000 to Rising Tide;
- (iii) at this year's November 2025 Council meeting, Council called for bold action to phase out fossil fuel exports, tax concessions for coal and gas companies and redirect these funds towards net zero and climate adaptation;
- (iv) Rising Tide has a history of advocating for these principles and policy outcomes through peaceful, non-violent direct action;
- (v) nevertheless, in recent years the NSW Labor Government has consistently legislated new, and increasingly punitive, laws to encroach on the democratic right to protest in response to peaceful action from organisations like Rising Tide;
- (vi) the 2025 People's Blockade saw over 141 people arrested for non-violent, civil disobedience in pursuit of a just transition and meaningful action on the climate crisis, including local activist Wendy Bacon;
- (vii) from the suffragettes to land rights, the labour movement and beyond, non-violent, peaceful protest has been a cornerstone of Australian democracy and a fundamental part of delivering lasting, progressive change in this country; and
- (viii) it is beholden on all who believe, both in the fundamental right to democracy, and in protecting a safe, sustainable future for this planet and its people, to stand with movements like Rising Tide;

(D) Council acknowledge and support the commitment of Rising Tide, and the People's Blockade, in peacefully advocating for urgent action in line with overwhelming climate science;

- (E) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Premier of NSW, Chris Minns, and the Prime Minister of Australia, Anthony Albanese, noting Council's support of Rising Tide and reiterating the City's support for the demands of the People's Blockade; and
- (F) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to meet with the organisers of Rising Tide, before the February 2026 Council meeting, to discuss how the City may provide support to the organisation, including, but not limited to, access to a City venue for a public event, as it plans the 2026 People's Blockade.

The motion was carried on the following show of hands –

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

Noes (1) Councillor Gannon.

Carried.

X113760

Item 12.8 Pill Testing Not Sniffer Dogs

Moved by Councillor Worling, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the NSW Government released the [Drug Summit 2024 Co-Chair Report](#) in October 2025, acknowledging the significant impact of drug use on individuals, families, and communities;
- (ii) of the 56 recommendations outlined in the Report, Recommendation 12.10, which relates to ending the use of sniffer dogs and strip searching for suspected drug possession during the current trial of drug-checking services, was entirely unsupported by the NSW Government in their formal response to the summit recommendations; and
- (iii) several recommendations, including those relating to integrated health services, mental health, custodial drug programs, increased funding for treatment and prevention, Aboriginal-led initiatives, and reforms to diversion programs, were only supported in principle. Others, such as expanding medically supervised injecting centres and youth diversion programs, were merely noted, while legislation for medical cannabis driving defence requires further consideration;

(B) Council further note that:

- (i) while the NSW Government's commitment to reducing drug-related harm is commendable, further reforms are needed to protect the dignity and integrity of all individuals;
- (ii) the current 12-month trial of drug checking services is limited to a maximum of 12 selected music festivals, excluding other major events, such as the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras; one of Australasia's largest LGBTQIA+ events;
- (iii) pill testing saves lives: studies show 10 to 20% of people discard drugs after testing reveals harmful substances;
- (iv) the use of sniffer dogs at music festivals and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras undermines safety and generates mistrust within an already marginalised community, while failing to prevent health risks; and
- (v) drug detection dogs have a poor success rate: Data from 2013 to mid-2023, of 94,000 interactions between event goers and sniffer dogs nearly 71,000 found no drugs on the person searched;

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

- (i) the NSW Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism and the Minister for Health requesting the removal of sniffer dogs and strip searches at all music festivals and at the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, based on evidence that shows their ineffectiveness and the loss of personal dignity;
- (ii) the NSW Minister of Health urging the expansion of the pill testing trials to include the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, as part of a community health and harm-reduction strategy; and

- (iii) the NSW Premier advocating for urgent action on the recommendations marked as noted, for further consideration, and not supported in the Drug Summit 2024 Co-Chair Report, in particular Recommendation 12.10; and
- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to liaise with relevant organisations such as ACON and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras about opportunities for the City of Sydney to support harm reduction initiatives by appropriate organisations with suitable expertise and experience, at major events in our area.

Carried unanimously.

X113756

Item 12.9 Maximising Community Benefits from Tech Infrastructure in the City of Sydney

By Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Miller

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note that:

- (i) data centres facilitate the secure storage and transmission of vast amounts of data on which much of modern life now depends, including banking, travel, entertainment, communications, and secure digital operations for government and defence clients handling classified and sensitive encrypted data;
- (ii) recently, at the C40 World Mayor's Summit, Mayors from 10 cities including Athens, Paris, Milan, Johannesburg, Melbourne, and Sydney signed an agreement to address the environmental impact of data centres;
- (iii) already there are 9 major data centre facilities either operational, under construction, or in the advanced planning stages within the City of Sydney Local Government Area. Currently there are no mandated requirements for data centres to:
 - (a) use recycled water; or
 - (b) use renewable energy;
- (iv) according to the Knight Frank Data Centre Report, direct investment in physical data centre infrastructure in Australia totalled \$AU10 billion in 2024/25;
- (v) data centres of 20-megawatt power consumption, like the Equinix centre in Alexandria, consume power equivalent to that of at least 10,000 homes;
- (vi) the Australian Market Energy Regulator predicts that data centres in Sydney will consume 11% of grid-supplied electricity by 2030;
- (vii) the Sydney Morning Herald reported that Labor's federal cabinet is looking to apply pressure to tech firms including Amazon and Microsoft to tie local investment in data centres with corresponding investment in renewables;
- (viii) Sydney Water projects that data centre usage will account for 20% of Sydney's drinking water by 2030;
- (ix) the City's Net Zero planning controls do not apply to data centres, so instead they have to work to a "best practice" voluntary NABERS rating;
- (x) the City of Sydney successfully adopted its "All-Electric" planning controls this year. The City's strictest sustainability rules apply specifically to offices, hotels, and shopping centres. Data centres, classified as "High Technology Industry", are subject to a more generalised set of rules under the Sydney Development Control Plan (DCP) 2012;

- (xi) outlined in the City of Sydney's recently adopted Environmental Strategy 2025-2030 is the ambition to:
 - (a) reduce potable water use to 204 litres per person per day by 2030; and
 - (b) reduce emissions by 70% (from 2006 levels) across our entire area by 2030; and reach Net Zero emissions across our entire area by 2035;
 - (xii) Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision outlines the ambition to revitalize the Alexandra Canal, located in the Southern Enterprise Area within the southern part of the City, site to existing data centres, to include setback from the canal for new developments to contribute to greenspace;
- (E) Council further note that:
- (i) the City of Sydney has the authority to assess data centres as local development;
 - (ii) the approval of new digital infrastructure and data centres within the City of Sydney requires that:
 - (a) they be located with Zones E3 and E4 of Employment Zones; and
 - (b) with R1/R2 (Residential) or E1 (Local Centre/Village) Zones excluded due to excessive noise posed to residents from facilities that run 24/7;
 - (iii) the City of Sydney's Design Excellence process enables increased floorspace and benefits to developers as well as the community; and
 - (iv) the Southern Enterprise Area has a potential rooftop solar area of ~1,500,000sqm (or 150 hectares), according to modelling from the Australian Photovoltaic Institute, capable of meeting significant amounts of the Local Government Area's local electricity demand. This could be harnessed and used to power the data centres and other industrial buildings within the Southern Employment Lands by using rooftop solar and batteries on site, in a local renewable energy zone;
- (F) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) work with data centre operators, the NSW Government and Sydney Water to identify best practice landscape design, architecture and engineering models for data centre design that ensures water and energy efficiency, demand/loading flexibility and to minimise the use of drinking water, harness renewable energy, and enhance visual impact and amenity;
 - (ii) investigate the potential for developer contributions to fund water and energy sustainability programs for the wider City of Sydney area, particularly for the sites of data centres to recycle water and install solar power on-site;
 - (iii) consider how existing mechanisms such as design excellence, planning agreements, and increased financial contributions might be used to deliver co-benefits, such as the ability to locally power the Southern Enterprise Area with solar power from the vast available rooftop space in the area, via on-site batteries; and
 - (iv) report back to Council.

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

Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Worling –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note that:

- (i) data centres facilitate the secure storage and transmission of vast amounts of data on which much of modern life now depends, including banking, travel, entertainment, communications, and secure digital operations for government and defence clients handling classified and sensitive encrypted data;
- (ii) recently, at the C40 World Mayor's Summit, Mayors from 10 cities including Athens, Paris, Milan, Johannesburg, Melbourne, and Sydney signed an agreement to address the environmental impact of data centres;
- (iii) already there are 9 major data centre facilities either operational, under construction, or in the advanced planning stages within the City of Sydney Local Government Area. Currently there are no mandated requirements for data centres to:
 - (a) use recycled water; or
 - (b) use renewable energy;
- (iv) according to the Knight Frank Data Centre Report, direct investment in physical data centre infrastructure in Australia totalled \$AU10 billion in 2024/25;
- (v) data centres of 100-megawatt power consumption, like the Equinix centre in Alexandria, consume power equivalent to that of at least 150,000 homes;
- (vi) the Australian Market Energy Regulator predicts that data centres in Sydney will consume 11% of grid-supplied electricity by 2030;
- (vii) the Sydney Morning Herald reported that Labor's federal cabinet is looking to apply pressure to tech firms including Amazon and Microsoft to tie local investment in data centres with corresponding investment in renewables;
- (viii) Sydney Water projects that data centre usage will account for 20% of Sydney's drinking water by 2030;
- (ix) the City's Net Zero planning controls do not apply to data centres, so instead they have to work to a "best practice" voluntary NABERS rating;
- (x) the City of Sydney successfully adopted its "All-Electric" planning controls this year. The City's strictest sustainability rules apply specifically to offices, hotels, and shopping centres. Data centres, classified as "High Technology Industry", are subject to a more generalised set of rules under the Sydney Development Control Plan (DCP) 2012;
- (xi) outlined in the City of Sydney's recently adopted Environmental Strategy 2025-2030 is the ambition to:
 - (a) reduce residential potable (drinking) water use to 204 litres per person per day by 2030;
 - (b) reduce non-residential potable (drinking) water use by 10% for each square metre based on a 2019 baseline; and

- (c) reduce emissions by 70% (from 2006 levels) across our entire area by 2030; and reach Net Zero emissions across our entire area by 2035;

(B) Council further note that:

- (i) the City of Sydney has the authority to assess data centres as local development;
- (ii) the approval of new digital infrastructure and data centres within the City of Sydney requires that:
 - (a) they be located with Zones E3 and E4 of Employment Zones; and
 - (b) with R1/R2 (Residential) or E1 (Local Centre/Village) Zones excluded due to excessive noise posed to residents from facilities that run 24/7;
- (iii) the City of Sydney's Design Excellence process enables increased floorspace and benefits to developers as well as the community; and
- (iv) the Southern Enterprise Area has a potential rooftop solar area of ~1,500,000sqm (or 150 hectares), according to modelling from the Australian Photovoltaic Institute, capable of meeting significant amounts of the Local Government Area's local electricity demand. This could be harnessed and used to power the data centres and other industrial buildings within the Southern Employment Lands by using rooftop solar and batteries on site, in a local renewable energy zone;

(C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) work with data centre operators, the NSW Government and Sydney Water to identify best practice landscape design, architecture and engineering models for data centre design that ensures water and energy efficiency, demand/loading flexibility and to minimise the use of drinking water, harness renewable energy, and enhance visual impact and amenity;
- (ii) investigate the potential for developer contributions to fund water and energy sustainability programs for the wider City of Sydney area, particularly for the sites of data centres to recycle water and install solar power on-site;
- (iii) consider how existing mechanisms such as design excellence, planning agreements, and increased financial contributions might be used to deliver co-benefits, such as the ability to locally power the Southern Enterprise Area with solar power from the vast available rooftop space in the area, via on-site batteries; and
- (iv) report back to Council.

Carried unanimously.

X113761

Item 12.10 Access to All Ability Playgrounds in the Inner City**Procedural Motion**

At this stage of the meeting, it was moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

That Notices of Motion 12.10, 12.11 (varied by Councillor Ellsmore) and 12.13 be adopted in globo.
Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) playgrounds play a vital role in the wellbeing of children and communities. They are a vital support for children's development, social interaction, creativity and imagination, emotional and cognitive growth, and the development of risk-taking and problem-solving skills. They also provide opportunities for intergenerational play and offer adults stress relief, improved brain function and physical health, stronger social bonds and enhanced creativity;
- (ii) many standard playgrounds include equipment and design features that are not suitable or safe for people with disability;
- (iii) the City of Sydney is committed to ensuring playgrounds and public spaces are accessible for everyone. The City of Sydney is increasingly including inclusive design features and play equipment in council playgrounds, recreation areas and other public spaces;
- (iv) playgrounds which are designed as "all-abilities playgrounds" are purposefully designed so that people with a wide range of needs can play together, with minimal barriers. Well-designed "all ability playgrounds" are developed with feedback from local families and disability support organisations, and prioritise meeting the diversity need of people living with a disability;
- (v) all-abilities playgrounds prioritise disability inclusion and the inclusion of diverse spaces that might not otherwise be available in smaller playgrounds. This can include: diverse equipment at different levels for a range of age, size and challenge levels, swings and other play equipment that can accommodate a wheelchair or participation of a person and their carer together; step free entry to equipment, gentle ramps, ground-level platforms and wheelchair-friendly carousels; sensory-rich zones and safe retreat spaces; clear lighting and accessible pathways between transport to the park and the playgrounds to encourage people from across the Local Government Area (LGA) or the region to visit; and
- (vi) several other councils across NSW - including the Inner West, Sutherland Shire, and Wollongong - have recently adopted strategies to prioritise delivering, or have delivered, all abilities" playgrounds which is designed to be fully inclusive, ensuring people of all abilities can play, learn and participate equally;

(C) Council further note:

- (i) with 5,812 residents living with a disability in the City of Sydney, and 1.3 million people with disability across NSW, ensuring play spaces reflect this diversity and are accessible to everyone is a priority for the community;
- (ii) the City of Sydney's Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan 2025–2029 commits the City to “continue to improve the accessibility of streets, footpaths, parks and open places through renewal programs, upgrades and new capital works projects, in line with the inclusive and accessible public domain policy and guidelines” and to “explore opportunities to provide designated quiet spaces and quiet times, places for sensory seeking and places for respite in City of Sydney facilities, including parks and playgrounds”; and
- (iii) Council is currently updating its Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study, which will help identify and guide the development of future playgrounds, parks and other public spaces in the City of Sydney LGA. The study will consider accessibility, and is likely to be tabled at the March 2026 Council meeting; and

(D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) assess and consider the inclusion of all-abilities spaces or playgrounds in the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Study 2026; and
- (ii) include consideration of:
 - (a) existing and planned accessible playgrounds in the City of Sydney LGA and nearby LGAs;
 - (b) accessible transport connections to and from play spaces, including continuous accessible paths of travel and appropriate parking;
 - (c) best-practice models from other NSW councils, including Wollongong City Council, which have delivered high-quality all-abilities playgrounds or otherwise expanded recreational opportunities for children with disabilities; and
 - (d) feedback from local families about the need for accessible play spaces for people living with disability.

Carried unanimously, as part of an in globo motion.

X113765

Item 12.11 Council Review for MacDonald Street, Erskineville

By Councillor Ellsmore

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Councillors have received significant feedback from concerned community members objecting to the proposal to develop a new road between MacDonald Street, Mitchell Road and Maddox Street in Erskineville;
- (ii) residents are concerned that traffic changes may increase traffic on existing quiet local streets, and reduce pedestrian safety;
- (iii) at a recent event celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Erskineville 'Road Wars' and local Green Bans - where the community successfully fought to pedestrianise and green local Erskineville streets - a campaign was launched calling for Council to review current plans for MacDonald Street;
- (iv) Councillors have received over 500 submissions from residents concerned about the potential impact of this development on local traffic, as well as noise and air pollution; and
- (v) that the Lord Mayor has written to the petition organiser responding to the issues raised and is also preparing responses to others who have made submissions through the petition;

(C) Council further note:

- (i) the plan for the road was first established in the 2013 planning proposal for the precinct and forms part of the redevelopment plans of the Ashmore Precinct including 155 Mitchell Road in Erskineville;
- (ii) the Local Planning Panel approved the development application for the redevelopment (D/2023/962) on 5 February 2025; and
- (iii) staff have advised that:
 - (a) the proposed new section of Macdonald Street would have 2 travel lanes (one in each direction) and some on-street parking on each side of the street, interspersed with in-road street tree planting and low level greenery, a two-way cycleway along the northern side and footpaths on each side; and
 - (b) the extension has been designed to allow people who need to access the Ashmore precinct by car to do so, particularly residents who live in the area, and includes traffic calming measures, such as raised pedestrian crossings and a low traffic speed environment, to discourage through traffic from using this route (rat running); and

- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide urgent advice to the community about the stage of planning for the road, including existing traffic modelling and traffic calming plans.

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 Thompson –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Councillors have received significant feedback from concerned community members objecting to the proposal to develop a new road between Macdonald Street, Mitchell Road and Maddox Street in Erskineville;
- (ii) residents are concerned that traffic changes may increase traffic on existing quiet local streets, and reduce pedestrian safety;
- (iii) at a recent event celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Erskineville ‘Road Wars’ and local Green Bans - where the community successfully fought to pedestrianise and green local Erskineville streets - a campaign was launched calling for Council to review current plans for Macdonald Street;
- (iv) Councillors have received over 500 submissions from residents concerned about the potential impact of this development on local traffic, as well as noise and air pollution; and
- (v) that the Lord Mayor has written to the petition organiser responding to the issues raised and is also preparing responses to others who have made submissions through the petition;

(B) Council further note:

- (i) the plan for the road was first established in the 2013 planning proposal for the precinct and forms part of the redevelopment plans of the Ashmore Precinct including 155 Mitchell Road in Erskineville;
- (ii) the Local Planning Panel approved the development application for the redevelopment (D/2023/962) on 5 February 2025; and
- (iii) staff have advised that:
 - (a) the planned new section of Macdonald Street will have 2 travel lanes (one in each direction) and some on-street parking on each side of the street, interspersed with in-road street tree planting and low level greenery, a two-way cycleway along the northern side and footpaths on each side; and
 - (b) the extension has been designed to allow people who need to access the Ashmore precinct by car to do so, particularly residents who live in the area, and includes traffic calming measures, such as raised pedestrian crossings and a low traffic speed environment, to discourage through traffic from using this route (rat running);
- (iv) a [traffic and transport study](#) underpinning the planning proposal for the precinct modelled the traffic impact west of the railway line (the established areas of Erskineville) when the development is complete in 2027 and found there would be ‘minimal impact’ on traffic;

- (v) the planning application (D/2023/962) for the redevelopment was notified in 2023 and renotified in 2024 to 3,303 properties; Submissions indicated a range of views about Macdonald Street, with one submission suggesting vehicles should be restricted from entering the street and others calling for more on-street parking; and
 - (vi) City staff are planning to meet with Friends of Erskineville and other concerned community members early next year so they can answer questions and provide further information about the new street; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to update the City's webpage about the Ashmore precinct with relevant information for the community about the Macdonald Street extension, including traffic calming design and function to access the precinct.

Carried unanimously, as part of an in globo motion.

X113765

Item 12.12 Pedestrian Safety Audit - Glebe Markets

Moved by Councillor Gannon, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Glebe Public School has a Crossing Supervisor for the Glebe Point Road pedestrian crossing for its 318 students. This arrangement is in place during school days;
- (ii) the Glebe Markets attracts many thousands of visitors each Saturday, with many more children attending the markets than regularly attend the school;
- (iii) to improve pedestrian safety, the City previously installed 3 raised pedestrian crossings near the entrance to the markets on Glebe Point Road, and 2 crossings near the Derwent Street entrance; and
- (iv) as the markets are held at Glebe Public School, the operating requirements are determined by the Department of Education; and

(B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Minister for Education:

- (i) requesting that pedestrian safety and traffic management on Glebe Point Road during the weekend markets be investigated;
- (ii) asking her to confirm if a Crossing Supervisor is employed during the markets operation as part of the operating requirements / traffic management plan determined by the Department of Education; and
- (iii) asking her to ensure operating requirements include a comprehensive and appropriate traffic management plan.

Carried unanimously.

X113764

Item 12.13 Affordable Housing in Perpetuity in Waterloo South

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the NSW Government's "Waterloo South Renewal Project" involves the redevelopment of one of Australia's largest and most significant public housing estates;
- (ii) of the proposed homes, 50% is to be allocated for social and affordable housing, to be managed by Community Housing Providers;
- (iii) the social housing is to be managed by Link Wentworth and Birribee Housing, with the NSW Government retaining ownership of the buildings. The affordable housing is to be managed by City West Housing. It has not been confirmed whether this housing will be affordable in the long term (i.e. in perpetuity); and
- (iv) the City of Sydney Council have consistently and strongly advocated that any affordable housing delivered must be genuinely affordable and must be in perpetuity; and

(B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Minister for Housing Rose Jackson, and the NSW Minister of Planning and Public Spaces Paul Scully, seeking confirmation that both the social and affordable housing in Waterloo South will be maintained in perpetuity.

Carried unanimously, as part of an in globo motion.

X113765

Item 12.14 Artificial Intelligence in Council Operations and Strategy

Procedural Motion

At this stage of the meeting, it was moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That Notices of Motion 12.14 and 12.15 be adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Miller -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the recent presentation at the Local Government NSW Conference on the opportunities, limitations and governance risks associated with the growing use of artificial intelligence (AI), including generative AI, in local government;
- (ii) that councils across Australia and internationally are deploying specific AI applications to improve service delivery, including in:
 - customer service chatbots and request triage;
 - asset inspections using computer vision;
 - traffic and parking management;
 - planning and development assessment workflows;
 - community consultation and large-scale submission analysis;
 - infrastructure maintenance prioritisation; and
 - disaster preparedness and response;
- (iii) that the City of Sydney:
 - has operated a public-facing customer chatbot since 2020;
 - provides staff access to Microsoft Copilot as its approved enterprise AI platform;
 - has adopted a Generative AI Procedure to guide safe and appropriate staff use;
 - provides regular staff training on safe AI use; and
 - has an internal governance process for staff proposing AI-driven projects;
- (iv) that unions including the Australian Services Union have identified AI as a major workplace transition, with members reporting:
 - increasing use of AI tools in daily work;
 - uneven access to structured training and support; and
 - the importance of clear guardrails around privacy, bias and job quality;

- (v) that AI offers significant opportunities to improve productivity and service delivery, but also presents material risks relating to privacy, bias, automated decision-making, records management, workforce impacts and public trust if not governed appropriately;
- (B) Council further note that:
- (i) AI should be used to support and augment staff, not remove human accountability for decisions affecting residents, workers or businesses;
 - (ii) automated or semi-automated systems must retain clear human oversight, particularly where rights, safety, access to services or regulatory outcomes are affected;
 - (iii) the City's use of AI should align with its commitments to equity, accessibility, transparency, privacy and public trust;
 - (iv) where AI delivers productivity gains, those gains should primarily be directed toward improving public services and job quality, not solely headcount reduction;
 - (v) AI should, wherever practicable, be used to reduce low-value, repetitive tasks and enhance the quality of work, rather than displacing workers; and
 - (vi) meaningful staff and union consultation should be a core principle where AI may affect work design, workloads or job content; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested, as part of the forthcoming review of the Information and Technology Strategy within the Resourcing Strategy, to consider and report to Council on whether the City should develop a dedicated Artificial Intelligence Strategy or AI governance framework to maximise opportunities and mitigate risks, and in doing so, have regard to:
- (i) the principles in (B) above;
 - (ii) the City's existing Generative AI Procedure and governance arrangements;
 - (iii) emerging best-practice approaches across local government and the public sector;
 - (iv) the City's existing and potential future use of applied AI in areas such as customer service, asset management, infrastructure, planning, consultation and emergency response; and
 - (v) workforce, training, change-management, privacy, bias and transparency considerations.

Carried unanimously, as part of an in globo motion.

X113762

Item 12.15 Stop the EV Public Charging Bay Hack

Moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the recent rollout of public electric vehicle (EV) charging bays across the City of Sydney, providing essential infrastructure to support the transition to zero emissions transport;
- (ii) that the conversion of public parking spaces into dedicated EV charging bays represents a significant investment that contributes to the City's and the nation's emissions reduction goals;
- (iii) that under current policy, only EVs that are actively charging may lawfully occupy these bays without incurring a penalty;
- (iv) that it appears possible for some EV drivers to plug their vehicle into a charging unit without initiating a charging session, allowing them to avoid both parking and charging fees while occupying a bay and preventing its use by others; and
- (v) that improving compliance is necessary to ensure fair and efficient use of the City's limited public charging infrastructure; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) work with EV charging providers to explore developing solutions to address non-initiated charging behaviour, including clearer activation indicators, stronger app-based authentication and automated alerts when a vehicle is connected but not drawing power; and the introduction of an idle fee or similar mechanism;
- (ii) improve signage and user information to make clear that bays are for active charging only; and
- (iii) report back to Council via the CEO Update on practical measures to strengthen compliance and improve access to public EV charging infrastructure.

Carried unanimously, as part of an in globo motion.

X113762

Item 12.16 Urban Billabongs and Additional Water Play Areas

Procedural Motion

Moved by Councillor Weldon, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore -

That Item 12.16 be deferred to the next ordinary meeting of Council.

Carried unanimously.

Item 12.17 Retaining Business Services Access on Wilson Street in Newtown

By Councillor Weldon

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is planning a new 2-way separated cycleway connecting Eliza Street to the existing cycleway on Wilson Street (north of Erskineville Road;
- (ii) the proposed cycleway on this section of Wilson Street is intended to connect established cycling routes in the Inner West with the City of Sydney's cycling network, forming a safer cycling connection between Newtown, Redfern, Central and beyond;
- (iii) TfNSW has recently published a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the proposed design and is currently assessing community and stakeholder feedback;
- (iv) the current proposed design requires the removal of a 12-metre loading zone and 13 parking spaces on Wilson Street, which provide essential access for local business services requirements;
- (v) in particular, the proposal will significantly impact the operations of Thai Pothong which relies on Wilson Street as a goods entrance for essential daily operations, including for high-volume deliveries, daily waste and recycling collection, grease-trap servicing, safe forklift access and service-vehicle access;
- (vi) Thai Pothong is a beloved Newtown institution. With 500+ seating capacity, and employing 70-odd staff, it is one of the largest restaurants in the City of Sydney;
- (vii) TfNSW is proposing to relocate the Wilson Street loading zone to a timed access area on Erskineville Road. Local businesses, including Thai Pothong, do not consider this to be a feasible or adequate replacement for services access;
- (viii) the City of Sydney's practice is to make sure we take into consideration the operation of adjacent businesses and incorporate their needs into the design as much as is possible; and
- (ix) similarly, TfNSW's Movement and Place Framework and associated design manuals guide practitioners to design streets that accommodate the needs of all road users, including freight and deliveries;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) contact Thai Pothong to discuss the critical operational impacts resulting from the proposed cycleway design; and
- (ii) engage with appropriate TfNSW staff regarding the operational impacts resulting from the proposed cycleway; and

(C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Minister for Transport and Minister for Roads calling on them to further consider operational impacts resulting from the proposed cycleway design.

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

Moved by Councillor Weldon, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is planning a new 2-way separated cycleway connecting Eliza Street to the existing cycleway on Wilson Street (north of Erskineville Road;
- (ii) the proposed cycleway on this section of Wilson Street is intended to connect established cycling routes in the Inner West with the City of Sydney's cycling network, forming a safer cycling connection between Newtown, Redfern, Central and beyond;
- (iii) TfNSW has recently published a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the proposed design and is currently assessing community and stakeholder feedback;
- (iv) the current proposed design requires the removal of a 12-metre loading zone and 13 parking spaces on Wilson Street, which provide loading for local business services requirements;
- (v) the proposal will significantly impact the operations of Thai Pothong which relies on Wilson Street as a goods entrance for essential daily operations, including for high-volume deliveries, daily waste and recycling collection, grease-trap servicing, safe forklift access and service-vehicle access;
- (vi) Thai Pothong is a beloved Newtown institution. With 500+ seating capacity, and employing 70-odd staff, it is one of the largest restaurants in the City of Sydney;
- (vii) TfNSW is proposing to relocate the Wilson Street loading zone 60 metres away to a timed access area on Erskineville Road. Local businesses, including Thai Pothong, do not consider this to be a feasible or adequate replacement for services access;
- (viii) the City of Sydney's practice is to make sure we take into consideration the operation of adjacent businesses and incorporate their needs into the design as much as is possible; and
- (ix) TfNSW's Movement and Place Framework and associated design manuals guide practitioners to design streets to consider both movement functions, such as freight deliveries and cyclist, with place-based activities such as outdoor dining and seating, in different settings;
- (x) the proposed cycleway is an important connection and the City supports TfNSW addressing this missing link;
- (xi) in responding to the REF the City made a submission asking TfNSW to change kerbside parking restrictions near Thai Pothong in King Street, to facilitate loading; and
- (xii) the City has encouraged Thai Pothong to contact TfNSW about their concerns, as it is a NSW Government project;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to contact Thai Pothong to check they have been able to meet with TfNSW to discuss the operational impacts resulting from the proposed cycleway design; and

- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Minister for Transport calling on him to further consider efficient access routes to loading which would reduce the operational impacts to Thai Pothong resulting from the proposed cycleway design.

Carried unanimously.

X113759

At 6.10 pm the meeting concluded.

Chair of a meeting of the Council of the City
of Sydney held on Monday 23 February 2026 at which
meeting the signature herein was subscribed.