CITY OF SYDNEY

Council

Meeting No 4

Monday 18 May 2026

Notice No 4/1684

Notice Date 14 May 2026

minutes

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ITEM **PAGE NO**

Present

The Right 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 5:01pm, those present were:

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

The Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Executive Director Finance and Procurement, A/Executive Director City Services, Executive Manager Strategic Planning & Urban Design, 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.

Order of Business

Council agreed that the order of business be altered such that Item 13.4 be brought forward and considered prior to Item 4.

Councillor Arkins left the meeting of Council at 7:07pm during the adjournment, after the vote on Item 8.3. Councillor Arkins did not return to the meeting of Council.

Councillor Weldon left the meeting of Council at 7:23pm prior to discussion on Item 9.4, and returned at 7:24pm, after the vote on Item 9.4. Councillor Weldon was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting of Council during discussion or voting on Item 9.4.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of Council of Tuesday, 28 April 2026, 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 6.6 on the agenda, in that in her capacity as CEO of the Australian Festival Association (AFA), she regularly meets with and has a professional relationship with Jenny Morris, Chair of APRA AMCOS and Dean Ormston, CEO of AMRA AMCOS, which administer the OneMusic licencing scheme. They work together on advocacy issues facing the Australian live music industry.

Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances as she has not discussed this item with them.

- a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.4 on the agenda, in that Gadigal Information Service Aboriginal Corporation is recommended to receive a grant and is currently a member organisation of AFA. She is the CEO of the Association.

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

Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM disclosed a pecuniary interest in Item 9.4 on the agenda, in that she is a board member of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, which was not recommended for funding.

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

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

Item 3 Minutes by the Lord Mayor

Item 3.1 Vale Elisabeth Kirkby OAM

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

I was saddened to recently learn of the death of a former Parliamentary colleague, Elisabeth (Lis) Wilma Burton Kirkby on 20 April 2026 at the age of 105.

I first met Lis, then a Member of the Legislative Council, when I was elected to Parliament in March 1988. We worked closely together over the next 10 years, most significantly on my Anti-Discrimination (Homosexual Vilification) Amendment Bill. This Bill had easily passed the Legislative Assembly on 13 May,1993, 49 votes to 17, with Labor and my Independent colleagues supporting it and several Liberal MPs abstaining. The then Liberal Government had opposed my Bill, claiming they would introduce their own. It then attempted to prevent it being considered by the Legislative Council. Lis' courage and persistence ensured it was debated, voted on and became law, with the support of former Liberal Minister, the late Ted Pickering AM. The following year, Lis was cheered when she joined me in the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade.

Before she was a Member of Parliament, Lis had a distinguished career as an actor, radio broadcaster, producer, director and screenwriter.

She was born in Lancashire, UK on 26 January 1921, and grew up during the dark years of the Great Depression. She commenced her theatre career in 1939 as an assistant stage manager and actor working in English repertory theatre. During World War II she spent 3 years working with the women's branch of the British Army as an entertainer, writer and producer.

In the 1950s, she moved to Malaysia with her then husband, Derek Llewellyn-Jones, when he took up a medical posting. Lis moved into broadcasting, eventually becoming head of Radio Malaysia's Talks and Features Unit.

In 1965, Lis, Derek and their 3 children moved to Australia. Derek took a position at the University of Sydney and Lis continued her radio work with the then Australian Broadcasting Commission. This included producing and presenting Fact and Opinion, a series of radio documentaries which focused on social issues. She also supported other women in broadcasting, becoming active in the International Association of Women in Radio & Television, serving on its international board from 1972 and as its President from 1976-1980.

By this time, she had resumed her acting career on stage and in television. In 1972, she was cast in the role for which she was best known, the much-loved Lancashire immigrant Lucy Sutcliffe in the ground-breaking TV series, *Number 96*. She remained with it until shortly before it ended in 1977.

While appearing in *Number 96*, she bought and moved to a farm near Martinsville, a small village south-west of Newcastle. She was already politically active, having marched against Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War and against the export of uranium, being involved in the Women's Electoral Lobby and serving as Vice-President of Actors Equity.

In 1977, Lis joined the recently formed Australian Democrats and was directly elected to the NSW Legislative Council in 1981. As the sole Democrat member of the NSW Parliament until 1988, Lis contributed to debates on most legislation. She advocated for the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community and for decriminalising homosexuality, improving workers' rights, improving conditions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and establishing equal rights and opportunities for women. She did much of this by moving amendments to Government legislation, introducing private members bills and through her work on Parliamentary Committees. On her final day in Parliament, she introduced a bill to amend the De Facto Relationships Act to recognise same-sex relationships.

Lis resigned from Parliament on 25 June 1998. In her valedictory speech, she expressed concern about “the emergence in Australian politics of a force that is not only simplistic but totally divisive.” She was referring to the then new political party, One Nation. She continued, “regrettably, it is appealing to the frightened and the helpless and those with the least understanding of the political process and of world events”.

Her speech was followed by tributes from colleagues from across the political spectrum, who spoke about her cogent, well-researched and original speeches and her enormous energy, commitment and capacity to consult and to express the views of myriad people.

Lis did not retire. She bought a wheat and sheep farm in the Riverina and served on Temora Shire Council from 1999 to 2004. She also began an Arts Degree by distance education at Charles Sturt University, graduating with first class honours in history. Her honours thesis was on the impact of the great depression in Britain as demonstrated through the books, films and popular music of the era, a period she lived through and remembered.

Returning to Sydney, she commenced a Masters degree at Sydney University which soon evolved into a Doctorate of Philosophy. She completed it at the age of 93, the oldest Australian to be ever awarded a PhD. It was entitled “Will we ever learn from history? The impact of Economic Orthodoxy on Unemployment during the Great Depression in Australia” and drew comparisons with the global financial crisis. In speaking about her thesis she explained:

> "The importance of linking the 1930s to the GFC is to ensure that past mistakes are not repeated. It is now more important than ever for people to realise that the economy cannot be run to suit the needs of the most privileged at the expense of the least privileged", she says.
>
> "As long as you have a financial system that only looks at how banking interests can make profit without any consideration of how this affects ordinary people, or even other countries, the world is going to get in a worse and worse state."

In 2012, Lis was awarded the national Medal of the Order of Australia, for “…service to the Parliament of New South Wales, to the community of Temora, and to the performing arts.”

In one of her last speeches to Parliament, Lis quoted T. E. Lawrence:

> "All men dream, but not equally. For the dreamers of the night awaken to find it was merely their vanity. But the dreamers of the day are the dangerous ones, for they dream with their eyes open and they make things happen."

Lis certainly dreamt with her eyes open and made things happen.

Recommendation

It is resolved that all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of Elisabeth (Lis) Kirkby and her contribution to social justice, civic life and the communities of New South Wales.

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 Elisabeth (Lis) Kirkby OAM.

Item 3.2 Vale David Malouf AO

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

Australia's reading public and our arts and cultural communities are the poorer with the death of novelist, poet, playwright and essayist David George Joseph Malouf AO on 22 April 2026.

Born on 20 March 1934 in Brisbane to a Lebanese Christian father and an English-born mother of Sephardi Jewish descent, David began his literary career at an early age, reading classic English children's books when he was 4. He first read Shakespeare aged 8, and by the time he was 12 was reading *Wuthering Heights*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Vanity Fair* and *Moby Dick*, his favourite novel. As a child, he wrote for the neighbourhood newspaper, and after reading Kenneth Slessor at age 16, wrote his first poetry. He widened his cultural interests, learning to play the violin and piano and retained a lifelong interest in music.

His first 24 years were spent in Brisbane, as a student at Brisbane Grammar School and the University of Queensland. After graduating with honours in Arts in 1955, he lectured at the University.

In 1959, he moved to England, teaching in secondary schools for much of the next decade. In 1962, he published his first work, a collection of poetry in an anthology with 3 other Australian poets.

In 1968, he returned to Australia to lecture in English at the University of Sydney but continued writing. His collection, *Neighbours in a Thicket: Poems* was published in 1974. It featured childhood memories of his mother, his sister, travelling in Europe and war. The following year he published his first novel, the semi-autobiographical *Johnno*, about a young man growing up in Brisbane during the Second World War.

In 1978, he became a full-time writer. He moved to an isolated Italian village, where he spent 10 months each year writing without distraction. He would return to Sydney in the other months, often staying in Newtown with the late Bill Hunt, who served with me as an Alderman on Sydney City Council between 1984 and 1987, and Bill's partner, the linguistic historian Dr Gary Simes. The time spent in Italy was highly productive, resulting in the novels, *An Imaginary Life, Fly Away Peter, Child's Play* and *Harland's Half Acre* and the short story collection, *Antipodes*.

He returned to Australia in the 1980s, settling in a terrace house in Chippendale, close to Sydney University. I had the fortune of meeting him a number of times when I was doorknocking in the area.

His prolific literary output continued, with more novels and poetry collections, but expanding to include essays, theatre criticism, lectures, opera libretti including *Voss*, based on the Patrick White novel, and a play, *Blood Relations*, jointly presented by the Sydney Theatre Company and State Theatre Company of South Australia at Sydney Opera House in 1987.

In 1998, he delivered the Boyer lectures, *A Spirit of Play: The Making of Australian Consciousness*. The following year, he and Jackie Huggins co-wrote the draft *Declaration for Reconciliation*, intended for consultation with the Australian people.

Beyond his own writing, David actively involved himself in Australia’s literary community, and broader cultural matters. He advocated for the freedom of writers around the world through his long involvement in PEN Sydney. He was a member of the Australia Council’s Literature Board and the Opera Australia board. He took a pivotal role in in the campaign to prevent the State Library of NSW from removing researchers and books from the Mitchell Library's Reading Room. He made regular visits to literature classes for disadvantaged and homeless students organised by Mission Australia and Australian Catholic University’s Clemente Program and was a lifetime ambassador of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. Many younger writers remember him for the encouragement, support and mentoring he gave them.

His Chippendale home welcomed other writers, opera singers, musicians, sculptors, photographers and poets. Bob Carr would phone asking where to start with Balzac as he had finally finished Proust. Thomas Keneally was another caller, talking to him about novel writing. In his later years, he returned to his home state of Queensland, living in a Gold Coast apartment with wraparound views of the Pacific. It overlooked the beach where he often took walks, setting a cracking pace for those with him.

During his long career, David received many awards and was shortlisted for several others. In 1987 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for services to literature. These awards were matched by the many tributes which followed his death. The cultural critic Peter Craven said he was "arguably the most accomplished Australian writer of his generation" adding "He was, in various ways, a modest man, but a man of immense culture. He was more cultivated than any of us."

Sarah Holland-Batt, head of creative writing at the University of Technology Sydney, observed: “David has been a lodestar for so many writers, not only because of his brilliance but also because he was profoundly humane, decent, modest, kind to a fault and always remained keenly interested in new writing. This enormous, unparalleled generosity is a significant piece of his legacy as he leaves behind scores of writers whose lives he has touched through a genuine interest and engagement with their work.”

Recommendation

It is resolved that all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute’s silence to commemorate the life of David Malouf AO and his contribution to world literature and Australia’s cultural and civic life.

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 David Malouf AO.

Procedural Motion

At this stage of the meeting, at 5:17pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Arkins -

That the Order of Business be altered such that Item 13.4 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 Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2026 - Nomination of Delegates

Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer

To Council:

This memorandum seeks Council's consideration of the nomination of Councillors as voting delegates to the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference, to be held from 22 to 24 November 2026 at the WIN Sports & Entertainment Centres, Wollongong.

The Annual Conference is the supreme policy-making body of LGNSW and an opportunity for councillors to come together to share ideas and debate issues that shape the way LGNSW is governed and advocates on behalf of the local government sector.

Councillors will receive email notifications directly from LGNSW, but should direct all questions and requests to Secretariat, who will coordinate and manage all arrangements with LGNSW on behalf of Councillors, including conference and voting registrations.

Registration as a Voting Delegate

The City of Sydney will be entitled to register up to 10 voting delegates for motions. It is proposed that Council nominates the Lord Mayor and all Councillors as voting delegates. Voting delegates may not appoint a proxy to attend or vote at formal business sessions on their behalf. Registrations for voting on motions will be managed by Secretariat.

Conference Program / Motions

The conference will include discussion and debate on a range of motions from councils relating to current and emerging policy issues facing local government in NSW.

The Local Government NSW Policy Platform consolidates the numerous policies and positions of Local Government NSW, as determined by members, into a single document for ease of reference for members and stakeholders.

The full conference business paper is generally available one week prior to the conference.

Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy

Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Maxwell, Thompson, Weldon and Worling were the City of Sydney delegates at the 2025 LGNSW conference held in Penrith.

Expenditure incurred for the conference totalled $11,497 (GST inclusive). The Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy provides for Councillors to attend the LGNSW conference at the City's expense.

Funds are available in the 2026/27 operating budget to cover registration fees, travel and other reasonable expenses incurred by Councillors.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

(A) Council appoint the Lord Mayor and all Councillors as its voting delegates at the Local Government NSW Annual Conference, to be held at the WIN Sports & Entertainment Centres, Wollongong from 22 to 24 November 2026;

(B) Council note all registration fees, travel costs and other reasonable expenses associated with the attendance of Councillors at the Local Government NSW Annual Conference will be met by the City in accordance with the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy; and

(C) Council note that a spouse, partner or other person may accompany a Councillor at the conference, and the City will meet any associated ticket costs.

MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council appoint the Lord Mayor and all Councillors as its voting delegates at the Local Government NSW Annual Conference, to be held at the WIN Sports & Entertainment Centres, Wollongong from 22 to 24 November 2026;

(B) Council note all registration fees, travel costs and other reasonable expenses associated with the attendance of Councillors at the Local Government NSW Annual Conference will be met by the City in accordance with the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy; and

(C) Council note that a spouse, partner or other person may accompany a Councillor at the conference, and the City will meet any associated ticket costs.

Carried unanimously.

X130503

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.

5.2 Petition

(a) Building Our Future: A Public High School for Green Square

The following petition was tabled by Councillor Miller.

To the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly, the community, the Green Square Primary School P&C and in collaboration with the Deputy Lord Mayor of Sydney, Jess Miller, wishes to draw the attention of the House that:

- Green Square is one of Australia's fastest-growing urban areas, with over 1,900 primary and 1,000 secondary-aged students in 2021. The population is expected to rise further as new developments include more apartments than planned.
- Alexandria Park Community School enrolments are growing 5–7% per year, with the high school expected to reach capacity by 2027–2028.
- Nearly 48% of families leave when children reach high school age, disrupting community stability. Local secondary education is essential for the long-term success of Green Square's redevelopment.
- Sending children to schools outside Green Square is unsustainable, increases traffic congestion, and conflicts with the City of Sydney's environmental and transport policies.
- Green Square sits in the "Innovation Corridor," at the heart of Australia's future economy. A high school here could be Innovation High, linking with Tech Central and UNSW.
- A vertical STEM campus could be integrated with Green Square Library and Gunyama Park, making efficient use of space.
- School planning is multi-year; starting now ensures readiness, and petitions show strong community commitment.

The undersigned petitioners, therefore, ask the Legislative Assembly to call on the Government to:

- Undertake feasibility research on building a new public high school in Green Square.
- Commission and publish a report assessing the impact of increasing student numbers on surrounding local high schools.

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

It is resolved that the petition be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

S044250

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)

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

At the commencement of business at 3:01pm those present were -

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

Apologies

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

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

That the apology of Councillor Miller be accepted and leave of absence from the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee be granted.

Carried unanimously.

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Ellsmore was attending the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 5.18 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

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

That the request by Councillor Ellsmore to attend the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee via audio visual link due to ill-health be granted.

Carried unanimously.

Order of Business

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee agreed, in order to enable confidential discussion of Item 6.7, that the Order of Business be altered such that Item 6.7 be deferred and dealt with at the end of the Committee meetings.

Closed Meeting

At 5:19pm, following the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Maxwell, that the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee meeting be reconvened and closed to the public in accordance with the provisions of sections 10A and 10B of the Local Government Act 1993, to enable discussion of the Confidential Attachment to Item 6.7 on the agenda.

Carried unanimously.

Open Meeting

At 5:21pm, the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee was reopened to the public.

The meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee concluded at 5:22pm.

Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of its meeting of 11 May 2026 be received, with Items 6.1 and 6.2 being noted, the recommendations set out below for Items 6.3, and 6.5 to 6.8 inclusive being adopted in globo, and Item 6.4 being dealt with as shown immediately following that item.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of Monday 20 April 2026, 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 in her capacity as the CEO of the Australian Festival Association, she regularly meets with and has a professional relationship with Jenny Morris, Chair of APRA AMCOS and Dean Ormston, CEO of APRA AMCOS, which administer the OneMusic licencing scheme. They have worked together on advocacy issues facing the Australian live music industry. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances as she has not discussed this item with them.

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

2025/26 Quarter 3 Review - Delivery Program 2025-2029

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note the financial performance of Council for the third quarter, ending 31 March 2026, including a Quarter 3 Operating Result (before depreciation, interest, capital related costs and income) of $84.8M and the full year forecast of $117.1M and a Net Operating Result of $76.6M and a full year forecast of $109.3M as outlined in the subject report and summarised in Attachment A to the subject report;

(B) Council note the Quarter 3 Capital Works expenditure of $175.4M and a revised full year forecast of $278.0M, and approve the proposed adjustments to the adopted budget, including bringing forward $0.3M and utilise $5.7M in contingency, and reallocate the funds within relevant programs as outlined in attachment B, budget adjustments section;

(C) Council note the Technology and Digital Services Capital Works expenditure of $21.1M, and a full year forecast of $28.7M and approve the reallocation of $0.19M funds within relevant programs within capital budget as detailed in Attachment B, budget adjustments section;

(D) Council note the Quarter 3 Plant and Equipment expenditure of $10.4M, net of disposals, and a full year forecast of $21.9M;

(E) Council note the net Property Divestments of $7.9M as at quarter 3, and the full year forecast of $169.9M;

(F) Council note the supplementary reports, which detail the quick response and venue hire support grants and street banner sponsorship programs, major legal issues and international travel in Quarter 3, as detailed in Attachment C to the subject report;

(G) Council note the Office of Local Government (OLG) Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) in Attachment D to the subject report; and

(H) Council approve the write-off of commercial property debts totalling $284,666.87 (including GST), for Fotolab Pty Ltd and Harbour City International Pty Ltd.

Carried unanimously.

X115821

Item 6.4

Public Exhibition - Integrated Planning and Reporting Program and Budget 2026/27

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council endorse the suite of integrated planning and reporting documents for public exhibition for a period of 28 days, including:

(i) the draft Operational Plan 2026/27 as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, subject to the following amendments:

- *Page 51: include measure “Average processing time for construction certificate with target 15 days” which was removed in error. This measure is in the current 2025/26 plan and ongoing.*
- *Page 70: revise target for measure “City of Sydney spend with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses” from $2.4m to $3.0m to align with the Stretch Reconciliation Plan 2025-2028.*

(ii) the draft Resourcing Strategy 2026 as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;

(B) Council endorse the draft operating and capital budget, and future years' forward estimates, as reflected in the Operational Plan 2026/27 and draft Resourcing Strategy 2026 including:

(i) Operating income of $776.4M, operating expenditure before depreciation of $671.1M for an operating result of $105.3M, and a net result of $95.7M after allowing for interest, depreciation and capital contributions;

(ii) Capital works expenditure of $265.2M and a capital works contingency of $8.0M;

(iii) Plant and assets net expenditure of $18.0M;

(iv) Capital works (Technology and digital services) of $25.5M; and

(v) Net property divestments of $46.4M;

(C) Council endorse the draft rates, domestic waste management charges, stormwater charges and user fees and charges discussed within the subject report and included within the draft Operational Plan 2026/27; and

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors, and to finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication prior to exhibition.

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council endorse the suite of integrated planning and reporting documents for public exhibition for a period of 28 days, including:

(i) the draft Operational Plan 2026/27 as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, subject to the following amendments:

- *Page 51: include measure "Average processing time for construction certificate with target 15 days" which was removed in error. This measure is in the current 2025/26 plan and ongoing.*

- *Page 70: revise target for measure "City of Sydney spend with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses" from $2.4m to $3.0m to align with the Stretch Reconciliation Plan 2025-2028.*

- *Revenue Policy (Community fee waivers section):*

Community fee waivers

Since 2022 Council has waived venue hire fees and offered free public liability insurance under Council's Community Engagement Liability Policy, for eligible local community groups hiring community venues. The fee waiver is in place until June 2029. To be eligible for this fee waiver any group of people must:

– be located in, or predominantly provide services to residents of the City of Sydney local government area

– have a membership base and purpose within the City of Sydney local government area.

This fee waiver is not available to:

– individuals/sole traders

– for-profit organisations

– government agencies, political parties*, and community groups that don't reflect the inclusion and equity principles in the City of Sydney's community strategic plan and our other plans including the reconciliation action plan and inclusion (disability) action plan

– community groups whose events, activities and services are not predominantly provided for residents of the City of Sydney. You may be eligible to apply for a venue hire support grant.

There are limitations as to the types of groups and activities that can be covered under Council's Community Engagement Liability public liability insurance policy:

Meetings of local branch political parties that are registered with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) can apply for the fee waiver. Political parties that are not registered with the AEC, political party rallies or other political party activities such as campaign launches, conferences, policy announcements or fund-raising activities are not eligible for the fee waiver.

Political parties are not eligible for cover under the City of Sydney's public liability insurance whether they pay a fee or the fee is waived and must provide their own public liability insurance cover in line with the requirements of the hire agreement.

(ii) the draft Resourcing Strategy 2026 as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;

(B) Council endorse the draft operating and capital budget, and future years' forward estimates, as reflected in the Operational Plan 2026/27 and draft Resourcing Strategy 2026 including:

(i) Operating income of $776.4M, operating expenditure before depreciation of $671.1M for an operating result of $105.3M, and a net result of $95.7M after allowing for interest, depreciation and capital contributions;

(ii) Capital works expenditure of $265.2M and a capital works contingency of $8.0M;

(iii) Plant and assets net expenditure of $18.0M;

(iv) Capital works (Technology and digital services) of $25.5M; and

(v) Net property divestments of $46.4M;

(C) Council endorse the draft rates, domestic waste management charges, stormwater charges and user fees and charges discussed within the subject report and included within the draft Operational Plan 2026/27; and

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments for clarity or correction of drafting errors, and to finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication prior to exhibition.

A show of hands on the amendment resulted in an equality of voting as follows -

Ayes (5) Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Maxwell, Thompson and Weldon

Noes (5) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Gannon, Kok, Miller, Worling.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 11.3 of the Code of Meeting Practice, the amendment was declared lost.

Amendment lost.

Substantive motion carried unanimously.

X127618

Misrepresentation

During discussion of Item 6.4, Councillor Maxwell stated that he had been misrepresented in respect to comments made by Councillor Worling, and clarified his position accordingly.

Speaker at Public Forum

Judith Quirk addressed the public forum on Item 6.4 of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee.

Item 6.5

Investments Held as at 30 April 2026

It is resolved that the Investment Report as at 30 April 2026 be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

X127618

Item 6.6

Exemption from Tender - OneMusic Licence for City of Sydney

It is resolved that:

(A) Council approve an exemption from tender in accordance with section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the provision of music licencing through the OneMusic Council Scheme, for a period of up to 5 years until 30 June 2031;

(B) Council note that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders for this work because only one supplier can provide the City with ‘blanket’ public performance music licences for the purpose of playing in public the vast majority of the world’s repertoire of music;

(C) Council enter into the OneMusic Council Scheme licence with Australasian Performing Right Association Ltd trading as OneMusic Australia annually, for a period of up to 5 years until 30 June 2031; and

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute, administer and vary arrangements relating to the music licence, as required.

Carried unanimously.

X132266.005

Item 6.7

Tender - T-2025-1440 - Construction Contractor - Goulburn Street Parking Station - Whole of Structure Remediation

It is resolved that:

(A) Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer M for the Goulburn Street Parking Station - Whole of Structure Remediation for the price and contingency outlined in Confidential Attachment A;

(B) Council note that the total contract sum and contingency for the Goulburn Street Parking Station - Whole of Structure Remediation is outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and

(C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise, execute and administer the contracts relating to the tender.

Carried unanimously.

X117943

Item 6.8

Tender - T-2025-1570 - Microsoft Enterprise Services

It is resolved that:

(A) Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer B for the provision of Microsoft Enterprise services for the schedule of rates outlined in Confidential Attachment B to the subject report, for a period of 3 years;

(B) Council note that the total contract sum and contingency for Microsoft Enterprise services is outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and

(C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise, execute and administer the contracts relating to the tender.

Carried unanimously.

X130978

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)

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

At the commencement of business at 3:33pm those present were -

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

Apologies

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

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

That the apology of Councillor Miller be accepted and leave of absence from the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee be granted.

Carried unanimously.

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Ellsmore was attending the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 5.18 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

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

That the request by Councillor Ellsmore to attend the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee via audio visual link due to ill-health be granted.

Carried unanimously.

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee concluded at 3:55pm.

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 11 May 2026 be received, with Items 7.1 and 7.2 being noted, the recommendation set out below for Item 7.4 being adopted in globo, and Item 7.3 being dealt with as shown immediately following that item.

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 20 April 2026, 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

Project Scope - Belmore Park Renewal

Moved by Councillor Worling, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that Council endorse the project scope for the renewal of Belmore Park, Haymarket, as described in the subject report and shown in the Concept Plan at Attachment B to the subject report, for progression to relevant approvals, preparation of construction documentation, tender and construction.

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

It is resolved that Council

(A) endorse the project scope for the renewal of Belmore Park, Haymarket, as described in the subject report and shown in the Concept Plan in Attachment B to the subject report, for progression to relevant approvals, preparation of construction documentation, tender and construction;

(B) note the established rough sleeper community living in and around Belmore Park; and

(C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to outline the strategies that will be undertaken to mitigate the disruption to the homeless population and provide regular reports via the CEO Update during construction.

The motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

X113032

Speaker at Public Forum

Catherine Chung (Chinatown Action Committee) addressed the public forum on Item 7.3 of the Environment and Climate Change Committee.

Item 7.4

Revised Project Scope - Surry Hills to Central Quietway

It is resolved that Council:

(A) endorse the revised project scope for the Surry Hills to Central Quietway, as described in the subject report for the purpose of proceeding to community consultation (for works at Holt Street and Adelaide Place), design development, documentation and construction; and

(B) note the financial implications detailed in the subject report.

Carried unanimously.

X102084

Item 8 Report of the Equity and Housing Committee

PRESENT

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

Councillor Zann Maxwell
(Deputy Chair)

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

At the commencement of business at 3:56pm those present were -

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

Apologies

Councillor Miller extended her apologies for her inability to attend the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee.

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

That the apology of Councillor Miller be accepted and leave of absence from the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee be granted.

Carried unanimously.

Hybrid Meeting Arrangements

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that Councillor Ellsmore was attending the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee remotely, via audio visual link, pursuant to the provisions of clause 5.18 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Thompson.

That the request by Councillor Ellsmore to attend the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee via audio visual link due to ill-health be granted.

Carried unanimously.

The meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee concluded at 5:10pm.

Report of the Equity and Housing Committee

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

That the report of the Equity and Housing Committee of its meeting of 11 May 2026 be received, with Items 8.1 and 8.2 being noted, and Item 8.3 being dealt with as shown immediately following that item.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee of Monday 16 March 2026, 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 matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Equity and Housing Committee.

Item 8.3

Post Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Affordable Housing Contributions Review - Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012, Sydney Local Environmental Plan (Green Square Town Centre) 2013, Sydney Local Environmental Plan (Green Square Town Centre - Stage 2) 2013 and Draft City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program 2024

Note - The Equity and Housing Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 18 May 2026.

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 issues raised during the public exhibition of Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review as provided in the Summary of Submissions, shown at Attachment A to the subject report;

(B) Council approve the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment B to the subject report, to be sent to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to be made as a local environmental plan under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;

(C) Council approve the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment C to the subject report;

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review and the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024 to correct any minor errors prior to finalisation by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure;

(E) Council note the response to matters raised in the Resolution of Council regarding prevention of discrimination against affordable housing tenants in new housing developments, shown at Attachment H to the subject report; and

(F) separate from this proposal, the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide advice to Councillors on the opportunities and implications of applying affordable housing contributions to a single dwelling, dual occupancy, attached dwelling and dwelling alterations and additions, where and how such contributions may be considered reasonable under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note the issues raised during the public exhibition of Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review as provided in the Summary of Submissions, shown at Attachment A to the subject report;

(B) Council approve the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment B to the subject report, to be sent to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to be made as a local environmental plan under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, subject to the following amendment:

(i) refine the proposed exclusion from the requirement to make an affordable housing contribution for a new dwelling house, attached dwelling or dual occupancy or alterations and additions to an existing dwelling house, attached dwelling or dual occupancy, to allow for an exemption where reasonable, including in the case of hardship;

(C) Council approve the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment C to the subject report, subject to the following amendment:

(i) refine the proposed exclusion from the requirement to make an affordable housing contribution for a new dwelling house, attached dwelling or dual occupancy or alterations and additions to an existing dwelling house, attached dwelling or dual occupancy, to allow for an exemption where reasonable, including in the case of hardship;

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review and the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024 to correct any minor errors prior to finalisation by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure;

(E) Council note the response to matters raised in the Resolution of Council regarding prevention of discrimination against affordable housing tenants in new housing developments, shown at Attachment H to the subject report; and

(F) separate from this proposal, the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide advice to Councillors on the opportunities and implications of applying affordable housing contributions to a single dwelling, dual occupancy, attached dwelling and dwelling alterations and additions, where and how such contributions may be considered reasonable under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

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

Ayes (5) Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Maxwell, Thompson and Weldon

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

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 11.3 of the Code of Meeting Practice, the amendment was declared lost.

Amendment lost.

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note the issues raised during the public exhibition of Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review as provided in the Summary of Submissions, shown at Attachment A to the subject report;

(B) Council approve the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment B to the subject report, to be sent to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to be made as a local environmental plan under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, subject to the following amendments:

  (i) revert to the proposed approach set out in the publicly exhibited Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review that, for development subject to Clause 7.13B, allow the consent authority to require the affordable housing requirement be satisfied by dedication of built affordable housing dwellings (in favour of a monetary contribution). Where dedication is not required, the requirement must be satisfied by making a monetary contribution; and

  (ii) noting the feedback provided through the exhibition period regarding the practical issues to be considered when requiring affordable housing dwellings (in favour of a monetary contribution) if needed make further amendments to:

    (a) clarify that the consent authority's power to require the affordable housing requirement in the form of dwellings would be exercised only where appropriate, and only in line with clear criteria and processed outlined in Council's Affordable Housing Program and/or other relevant documents; and

    (b) clarify that the change does not exclude arrangements to deliver affordable housing dwellings through a Voluntary Planning Agreement;

(C) Council approve the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment C to the subject report, subject to the following amendments:

  (i) revert to the approach set out in the publicly exhibited Draft City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024 and reinclude information about the operation and administration of Clause 7.13B, that allows the consent authority to require the affordable housing requirement be satisfied by dedication of built affordable housing dwellings (in favour of a monetary contribution); and

(D) where needed, and where not inconsistent with (B) and (C) (above), make further amendments to the Affordable Housing Program, Voluntary Planning Agreement guidance, and other relevant documents to update processes and approaches to the delivery of dedicated affordable housing, as recommended by staff in the papers for this item;

(E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review and the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024 to correct any minor errors prior to finalisation by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure;

(F) Council note the response to matters raised in the Resolution of Council regarding prevention of discrimination against affordable housing tenants in new housing developments, shown at Attachment H to the subject report; and

(G) separate from this proposal, the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide advice to Councillors on the opportunities and implications of applying affordable housing contributions to a single dwelling, dual occupancy, attached dwelling and dwelling alterations and additions, where and how such contributions may be considered reasonable under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

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

Ayes (5) Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Maxwell, Thompson and Weldon

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

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 11.3 of the Code of Meeting Practice, the amendment was declared lost.

Amendment lost.

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note the issues raised during the public exhibition of Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review as provided in the Summary of Submissions, shown at Attachment A to the subject report;

(B) Council approve the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment B to the subject report, to be sent to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to be made as a local environmental plan under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, subject to an amendment to revert to the timeframes set out in the publicly exhibited Planning Proposal – City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review for the phased-in introduction of the increased equivalent monetary contribution rate;

(C) Council approve the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024, as amended following public exhibition, shown at Attachment C to the subject report, subject to an amendment to revert to the timeframes set out in the publicly exhibited Planning Proposal – City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review for the phased-in introduction of the increased equivalent monetary contribution rate;

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Planning Proposal - City of Sydney Affordable Housing Contributions Review and the City of Sydney Affordable Housing Program Amendment 2024 to correct any minor errors prior to finalisation by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure;

(E) Council note the response to matters raised in the Resolution of Council regarding prevention of discrimination against affordable housing tenants in new housing developments, shown at Attachment H to the subject report; and

(F) separate from this proposal, the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide advice to Councillors on the opportunities and implications of applying affordable housing contributions to a single dwelling, dual occupancy, attached dwelling and dwelling alterations and additions, where and how such contributions may be considered reasonable under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

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

Ayes (5) Councillors Arkins, Ellsmore, Maxwell, Thompson and Weldon

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

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 11.3 of the Code of Meeting Practice, the amendment was declared lost.

Amendment lost.

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

That the motion be amended by the addition of a clause (G), to read as follows –

(G) Council note the inclusion in this proposal that entrances for affordable housing should not be segregated in future developments and the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide further advice about opportunities to embed principles or best practice guidance about ensuring equitable and non-discriminatory access to common spaces or core services in mixed tenure buildings. This could be in the form of amendments to the Development Control Plan (DCP), or other Council documents, pending advice from staff.

The amendment was carried unanimously.

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

That the motion be further amended by the addition of a clause (H), to read as follows –

(H) Council note that changes will not come into effect until they are made by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide regular updates to Council about the status of the changes, potentially through quarterly reports.

The amendment was carried unanimously.

The amended motion was carried unanimously.

X099241

Misrepresentation

During discussion of Item 8.3, Councillor Miller stated that comments made by Councillor Arkins constituted misrepresentation and clarified her position accordingly.

Speakers at Public Forum

Leonie King (City West Housing), Drew Beacom (Shelter NSW) and Daniel Khong (Fern Group) addressed the public forum on Item 8.3 of the Equity and Housing Committee.

Adjournment

At this stage of the meeting, at 7:07pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Gannon –

That the meeting be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

At the resumption of Council at 7:20pm, the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and Councillors Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Maxwell, Miller, Thompson, Weldon and Worling were present.

Councillor Arkins did not return to the meeting of Council.

Item 9 Report of the Community Services and Facilities Committee

PRESENT

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

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

At the commencement of business at 5:11pm those present were -

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

Apologies

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

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

Moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Maxwell –

That the apologies of Councillors Miller and Ellsmore be accepted and leave of absence from the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee be granted.

Carried unanimously.

Councillor Arkins left the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee at 5:17pm, prior to discussion on Item 9.4, and returned at 5:18pm, after the vote on Item 9.4. Councillor Arkins was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting during discussion or voting on Item 9.4.

Councillor Weldon left the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee at 5:17pm, prior to discussion on Item 9.4, and returned at 5:18pm, after the vote on Item 9.4. Councillor Weldon was not present at, or in sight of, the meeting during discussion or voting on Item 9.4.

The meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee concluded at 5:18pm.

Report of the Community Services and Facilities Committee

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Gannon –

That the report of the Community Services and Facilities Committee of its meeting of 11 May 2026 be received, with Items 9.1 and 9.2 being noted, the recommendation set out below for Item 9.3 being adopted in globo, and Item 9.4 being dealt with as shown immediately following that item.

Carried unanimously.

Item 9.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee of Monday 20 April 2026, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 9.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.4 on the agenda, in that Gadigal Information Service Aboriginal Corporation is recommended to receive a grant and is currently a member of Australian Festival Association. She is the CEO of the Association.

Councillor Arkins stated that she will not be voting on this matter.

Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM disclosed a pecuniary interest in Item 9.4 on the agenda, in that she is a board member of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, which was not recommended for funding.

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

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

The Community Services and Facilities Committee recommended the following:

Item 9.3

Joint Operation of Paddington Library

It is resolved that Council:

(A) Council endorse extending the existing agreement with Woollahra Municipal Council to jointly run a library from Paddington Town Hall from 1 July 2026 until capital works commence;

(B) Council endorse entering into an agreement with Woollahra Municipal Council to jointly run a library from EJ Ward Community Centre at 189 Underwood Street, Paddington for the duration of the capital works on the terms set out in the subject report;

(C) Council endorse the payment of a maximum of $50,800 to Woollahra Municipal Council for relocation costs for Paddington Library; and

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and enter into agreements with Woollahra Municipal Council to give effect to the approvals outlined in (A) and (B) above.

Carried unanimously.

X088718

Item 9.4

Grants and Sponsorship - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Miller –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council approve the cash recommendations for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;

(B) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund program, as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;

(C) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;

(D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise, execute and administer agreements with any organisation approved for a grant or sponsorship under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; and

(E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipient will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

Carried unanimously.

S117676

Item 10 Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee

PRESENT

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

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

At the commencement of business at 5:18pm those present were -

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

Apologies

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

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

Moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Maxwell –

That the apologies of Councillors Miller and Ellsmore be accepted and leave of absence from the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee be granted.

Carried unanimously.

The meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee concluded at 5:19pm.

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 11 May 2026 be received, with Items 10.1 and 10.2 being noted, and the recommendation set out below for Item 10.3 being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 10.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee of Monday 20 April 2026, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 10.2

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 Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee.

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommended the following:

Item 10.3

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 G 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 782 Bourke Street, Waterloo at this time;

(D) note the contents of Attachment C and that staff have issued a Fire Safety Order under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 at 1 Taylor Street, Glebe;

(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 12 Primrose Street, Rosebery at this time;

(F) note the contents of Attachment E and that staff have issued a Fire Safety Order under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 at 25 Bligh Street, Sydney;

(G) note the contents of Attachment F and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 37-43 Bay Street, Glebe at this time; and

(H) note the contents of Attachment G and exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 199 Cleveland Street, Redfern.

Carried unanimously.

S105001.002

Item 11 Questions on Notice

There were no Questions on Notice for this meeting of Council.

Item 12 Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions

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

Item 13 Notices of Motion

Item 13.1 Adaptive Reuse of the Newtown Tram Depot

Moved by Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Thompson –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

(i) the Newtown Tram Depot is a heritage-listed transport asset of State significance, forming part of the electrification of the New South Wales tramway system from 1899;

(ii) it is one of the oldest and rare surviving tramway depot buildings in New South Wales, retaining much of its original industrial form;

(iii) following its closure in the 1960s, the site has been used for a range of purposes, including bus storage and rail uses, with part of the forecourt redeveloped and opened to the public in 2012 as an entrance to Newtown Station;

(iv) the main depot building has remained largely unused and is currently in poor condition, with significant deterioration to structural elements including roofing and steel framing;

(v) the site is owned by the Transport Asset Manager (TAM), a NSW Government agency, which has commenced stabilisation works on the building estimated at $9 million, with site works forecast to be complete in the second half of 2027;

(vi) TAM has advised that a decision on a strategy for the future use of the site, and associated funding, is planned to be in place prior to the completion of stabilisation works, creating an imminent window in which the City's position must be established;

(vii) the site occupies a prominent location adjacent to Newtown Station within a dense inner-city area, with strong potential to support community, cultural and economic activity;

(viii) there is strong and growing community interest in the future of the site, including calls for it to be transformed into a community, cultural or creative hub;

(ix) a range of public proposals have been put forward for the site, demonstrating both the opportunity and the need for a clear and coordinated approach;

(x) the long-term conservation and activation of large heritage assets often requires a mix of uses, and in some cases limited, well-integrated development can play a role in supporting their viability and ongoing public access;

(xi) without a City-led framework established ahead of the State's process, there is a risk that the future of the site is shaped by others rather than by a cohesive, community-informed vision; and

(xii) the City is well-placed to develop a community-informed position ahead of TAM's process, given that planning controls are already in place, the site is identified in Sustainable Sydney 2030 as a potential Newtown Activity Hub, and existing City strategies provide a strong foundation;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to develop Guiding Principles for the adaptive reuse of the Newtown Tram Depot, through a tailored process that:

(i) draws on existing City strategies, including the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Study, the Cultural Strategy and Sustainable Sydney 2030;

(ii) includes a focused community engagement process to collect and reflect the views of local residents;

(iii) draws on TAM's structural and heritage investigations already underway; and

(iv) results in a Council-endorsed Guiding Principles document, reported back to Council ahead of the NSW Government's plan to consult the City; and

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

(i) a briefing on the status of stabilisation works and future planning for the Newtown Tram Depot site;

(ii) early and meaningful consultation with the City of Sydney on the future use of the site, before any strategy decision is made; and

(iii) that the outcomes of TAM's strategy process for the site be consistent with the City's Guiding Principles once developed.

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

(i) the Newtown Tram Depot is a heritage-listed transport asset of State significance, forming part of the electrification of the New South Wales tramway system which commenced from 1899;

(ii) it is one of the oldest and rare surviving tramway depot buildings in New South Wales, retaining much of its original industrial form;

(iii) following its closure in the 1960s, the site has been used for a range of purposes, including bus storage and rail uses, with part of the forecourt redeveloped and opened to the public in 2012 as an entrance to Newtown Station;

(iv) in 2023, Alfalfa House was granted permission from Transport Asset Manager (TAM) to operate a community garden with a more than 20 dedicated volunteers managing over 20 raised beds, yet it is currently unclear as to whether this remains functional;

(v) the main depot building has remained largely unused and is currently in poor condition, with significant deterioration to structural elements including roofing and steel framing;

(vi) the site is owned by the TAM, a NSW Government agency, which has commenced stabilisation works on the building estimated at $9 million, with site works forecast to be complete in the second half of 2027;

(vii) TAM has advised that a decision on a strategy for the future use of the site, and associated funding, is planned to be in place prior to the completion of stabilisation works, creating an imminent window in which the City's position must be established;

(viii) the site occupies a prominent location adjacent to Newtown Station within a dense inner-city area, with strong potential to support community, cultural and economic activity;

(ix) there is strong and growing community interest in the future of the site, including calls for it to be transformed into a community, cultural or creative hub;

(x) a range of public proposals have been put forward for the site, demonstrating both the opportunity and the need for a clear and coordinated approach by Transport NSW;

(xi) the long-term conservation and activation of large heritage assets often requires a mix of uses, and in some cases limited, well-integrated development can play a role in supporting their viability and ongoing public access;

(xii) existing planning controls across the site already permit various *Zone E1 - Local Centre* uses on the site such as residential, commercial, hotel, education and entertainment, subject to approval;

(xiii) it is important that the future of the site is shaped by a cohesive, community-informed vision; and

(xiv) the City is well-placed to prepare a community-informed submission to TAM's consultation process, given that planning controls are already in place, the site is identified in Sustainable Sydney 2030 as a potential Newtown Activity Hub, and existing City strategies provide a strong foundation;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to prepare a submission to any future consultation process by Transport for NSW on the adaptive reuse of the Newtown Tram Depot that:

(i) draws on existing City strategies, including the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Study, the Cultural Strategy and Sustainable Sydney 2030;

(ii) draws on TAM's structural and heritage investigations already underway; and

(iii) requests that they continue to engage the City of Sydney as the project progresses; and

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

(i) a briefing on the status of stabilisation works and future planning for the Newtown Tram Depot site; and

(ii) early and meaningful consultation with the City of Sydney on the future use of the site, before any strategy decision is made.

The amendment was carried on the following show of hands –

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

Noes (2) Councillors Maxwell and Weldon.

Amendment carried.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Thompson, and by consent, the motion was varied such that it include an additional clause (A)(xi) as follows –

(xi) that Greens MP for Newtown, Jenny Leong, has supported adaptive reuse of the site as far back as 2015, working with local community groups, hosting a public forum and advocating within NSW Parliament for state government to better utilise the site in line with community sentiment;

and by the addition of words in clause (C)(ii), such that it read as follows –

(ii) early and meaningful consultation with the City of Sydney and the MP for Newtown, Jenny Leong, on the future use of the site, before any strategy decision is made;

The amended motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

X113762

Item 13.2 A Stronger Signal for the South - Improving Mobile Internet Connectivity in the Southern Part of the City of Sydney

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note that:

(i) the southern part of the City of Sydney encompassing Waterloo, Alexandria, Rosebery, Zetland and Redfern, is experiencing rapid population and employment growth, with the City of Sydney population and housing figures projecting a population of 64,961 residents by 2046, a density that places exceptional and growing demand on mobile telecommunications infrastructure;

(ii) Australian Competition and Consumer Commission internet activity data shows a consistent upward trend in Australian household data consumption, with remote and hybrid work requirements, video streaming and the proliferation of connected devices continuing to drive demand, trends that disproportionately affect high-density residential precincts such as those in the southern Local Government Area (LGA) where home-based data usage is concentrated;

(iii) residents report a deficit in high-density mobile coverage and wireless broadband capacity in Waterloo, Alexandria, Rosebery, Zetland and Redfern, resulting in “dark zones” where mobile connectivity is unreliable or unavailable, caused by 3 distinct factors that are common to high-density urban environments emerging in many major cities around the world:

(a) cell breathing, where mobile towers shrink their effective range during peak periods as large numbers of devices compete for access to finite bandwidth;

(b) vegetation, which absorbs high-frequency 5G signals; and

(c) high-density concrete apartment construction, which degrades signals as they pass through multiple walls;

(iv) the City of Sydney has invested significantly in Smart pole multi-function street poles across the LGA, with the capacity to host a range of urban data infrastructure, with the view to minimising visual clutter on the streetscape by combining many digital services through a single street pole;

(v) under the Telecommunications Act 1997 (Cth) telecommunications infrastructure does not require a City of Sydney Development Application; this means that while Council prefer that the City’s protocol be followed, telcos can install infrastructure on private dwellings which can lead to uncoordinated infrastructure and clutter in the public domain;

(vi) according to research from the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network Consumer Sentiment Tracker (July 2025), almost 9 in 10 Australians need constant home internet, and 3 in 4 need constant mobile access to participate in society, making connectivity as critical as water or electricity; and

(vii) ensuring equitable connectivity and avoiding ‘dark spots’ - especially in the southern part of the City - requires a long-term commitment to existing protocols and collaboration with telcos, Ausgrid, utilities and Council to maximise the usage of existing infrastructure where it exists;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to write to Telecommunication providers operating in our area, requesting:

(i) information about their level of coverage in our area to identify connectivity challenges including any ‘dark zones’ in the south of the city, and what plan they have to roll out more mobile and 5G telecommunications infrastructure to meet future demand; and

(ii) that they work with the City of Sydney to maximise use of existing street Smart poles to improve mobile signal and internet connectivity in the community, particularly the southern parts of the City, while minimising the public space amenity and visual impact of declining to use Council assets; and

(C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to prepare a report to Council via the CEO Update outlining what smart infrastructure already exists; an explanation of options and opportunities to maximise usage; and how to best deliver reliable, strong signals to residents, businesses and visitors – especially in the southern part of the City.

Carried unanimously.

X113761

Item 13.3 A High School for Green Square

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Gannon -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note that:

(i) across Sydney, housing density is increasing in line with NSW Government policies and targets. We are concerned our resident population will increase beyond the capacity of our existing schools, especially in high-growth areas such as Waterloo, Redfern, Green Square, Ultimo-Pyrmont and Bays West. The community has specifically raised concerns about the future capacity of schools in our area, particularly around Green Square;

(ii) however, there is limited information about school capacity publicly available, and in places we know new schools are needed, the Department of Education has not committed the land or funding to provide this;

(iii) the Green Square urban renewal area is Australia’s most densely populated urban precinct at scale, with a projected population of ~64,000 residents by 2046, and demographic forecasts indicate that the number of high school-aged children in the precinct will reach approximately 1,200 to 1,300 students by 2030, effectively doubling the 2021 secondary school-age population;

(iv) the City of Sydney’s Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment confirms that this population density requires at least one additional dedicated government high school to prevent an education gap for students graduating from the Green Square Public School (K–6), which opened in October 2025 as a joint venture between the City of Sydney and the NSW Government;

(v) under the Education Act 1990, the NSW Government is responsible for the provision of public education, and the 2025–26 NSW State Budget committed $9 billion to public school infrastructure with a specific focus on co-educational high schools and vertical urban campuses in a commitment that creates a direct opportunity to address the secondary education gap in Green Square;

(vi) significant state-owned landholdings exist (inclusive of a site owned by the Department of Education) within Green Square and Waterloo, managed by agencies including Sydney Water, Transport for NSW and Landcom, which could be suitable for a new public high school, following the necessary planning processes and approvals;

(vii) the Green Square Primary School P&C, in collaboration with Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Jess Miller, has lodged an ePetition to the NSW Legislative Assembly titled “Building Our Future: A Public High School for Green Square”, drawing the attention of the House to the precinct’s rapidly growing secondary school-age population, noting that Alexandria Park Community School is growing at 5–7% per annum and is projected to reach capacity by 2027–2028, that nearly 48% of families leave the Green Square precinct when their children reach high school age, and calling on the NSW Government to undertake feasibility research on a new public high school in Green Square and commission a report assessing the impact of increasing student numbers on surrounding secondary schools;

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to identify ways in which the City of Sydney can support the petition through promotion across Council-owned and run channels such as community notice boards, newsletters etc; and

(C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Premier, the Minister for Education and Early Learning, and the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces to request:

(i) a public high school needs analysis for the City of Sydney, including the Green Square and Waterloo areas, to account for the projected 2026–2046 population surge there, and report the findings as soon as possible; and

(ii) that the NSW Government prioritise the delivery of a secondary school in Green Square, potentially utilising a state-owned site in the area.

Carried unanimously.

X113761

Item 13.4 Vale Aunty Norma Sides

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

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

(i) the recent passing of Norma Sides, known by many as Aunty Norma:

(a) Aunty Norma was a Ngambaa woman, growing up in Western NSW as one of 14 children;

(b) a dedicated Aboriginal Education Officer, Aunty Norma served for 35 years at Darlington Public School in Redfern, retiring in 2016;

(c) Aunty Norma had a significant impact on the lives of Darlington Public School students, in particular Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Her tireless commitment inspired many generations of young people and families across Redfern and the broader community;

(d) with Aunty Norma's support, First Nations students were given the space and opportunity to connect with their culture at school. Many of these students had never had a First Nations teacher or support officer. Aunty Norma was someone they could identify with – someone who understood them and advocated strongly on their behalf. Many staff members were also influenced by Aunty Norma's guidance, wisdom and unwavering support;

(e) Aunty Norma supported First Nations culture at school through cultural programs and the collection of cultural artefacts to educate students. Her work not only supported First Nations students, but all students to learn about and connect with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Aunty Norma also established a breakfast program to ensure all students' education was supported through reliable access to food;

(f) Aunty Norma's extraordinary legacy touched many generations of the Redfern community. She led with strength, honesty and compassion; and

(g) a great leader, a caring mentor and a fierce advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, Aunty Norma will be remembered with great respect, appreciation and love;

(B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the family of Aunty Norma Sides expressing Council's condolences; and

(C) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of Aunty Norma Sides and her commitment and contribution to the Redfern community.

Carried unanimously.

X113759

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

At 7.42 pm the meeting concluded.

Chair of a meeting of the Council of the City of Sydney held on Monday 29 June 2026 at which meeting the signature herein was subscribed.