

Item 8

Report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee - 22 June 2026

Item 8.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Arkins, seconded by Councillor Miller –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee of Monday 16 February 2026, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Olly Arkins made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.4 on the agenda, in that the Gadigal Information Service (GIS) is a member of the Australian Festival Association, of which Councillor Arkins is the CEO, and is listed in the report but is not being recommended for funding. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because GIS has not been in touch with her about this item and they have not been recommended for funding.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.4 on the agenda, in that Finely Tuned Productions, Fuzzy Operations, Gadigal Information Service and Sydney Comedy Festival are members of the Australian Festival Association, of which Councillor Arkins is the CEO. They are listed in the report but have not been recommended for funding in the festival and events sponsorships. Councillor Arkins considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because they did not contact her about this item and have not been recommended for funding.

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.4 on the agenda, in that she has met with a number of organisations who have applied for grants under this program, including the Glebe Youth Service and the Refugee Council. Councillor Ellsmore considers that these are non-pecuniary conflicts of interest that are not significant and do not require further action in the circumstances because:

- she is not a member of any of the organisations
- she does not stand to financially benefit from any decision made
- she was not aware that the organisations had applied for these grants, and
- she has not discussed the applications with them.

Councillor Jess Miller disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.4 on the agenda, in that she:

- is familiar with members of the Board of the Arts Fairs
- is familiar with Pastor Jon Owen of the Wayside Chapel, and
- is familiar with the CEO of the Biennale, Barbara Moore.

Councillor Miller considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she has not discussed or spoken to any of the above about these grants.

Councillor Yvonne Weldon disclosed a pecuniary interest in Item 8.4 on the agenda, in that she is a board member of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, who was 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 the Cultura, Creative and Nightlife Committee.

The Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee recommends the following:

Item 8.3

Post Exhibition - Amended Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy and Sydney Busking Code

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the feedback outlined in the Engagement Report, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council adopt the Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy (the Policy), as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council note the Sydney Busking Code (the Code), as shown at Attachment C to the subject report, a guidance document to be published alongside the Policy; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments to the Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Policy and Sydney Busking Code in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

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

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Speakers

Elizabeth Hylton and Lachlan Robinson addressed the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee on Item 8.4.

The Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee recommends the following:

Item 8.4

Grants - Cultural Grants

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash recommendations for the Creative grant program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant or value-in-kind for the Creative grant program as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Festival and events sponsorship program as shown at Attachment C to the subject report;
- (D) Council note the applicants who were not recommended in obtaining a cash grant or value-in-kind for the Festival and events sponsorship program as shown at Attachment D to the subject report;
- (E) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendation for the Major grants program as shown at Attachment E to the subject report;
- (F) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (G) 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 the resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; and
- (H) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipient will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided.

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

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