Item 8

Report of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee - 9 November 2026

Item 8.1

Confirmation of Minutes

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

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee of Monday 22 June 2026, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Olly Arkins disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.3 on the agenda, in that she knows:

- Timothy (Tay) Blunt, who has not been recommended to receive a grant under the Artist Support Fund Program, through her former work in the music industry
- Austin Buckett, who has not been recommended to receive a grant under the Artist Support Fund Program, is the son of Councillor Mary Lyons-Bucket on Hawkesbury Council, who she has known for many years
- Free Broadcast Inc (as auspice for All The Best), who has been recommended to receive a grant, as she has a close working relationship with the fbi team and have worked with them recently on another matter
- Thomas Melick, who has been recommended to receive a grant under the Artist Support Fund Program, is a brother to one of her team members at Council. This member was not working for Councillor Arkins at the time when the application was made, and she was unaware that he had applied
- Music NSW Incorporated, who has not been recommended for funding. She has worked with them closely during her time working in the music industry
- the general manager of Sydney Comedy Festival, a close friend of hers and who are not recommended for funding in the grants program
- Isabella Manfredi, who has not been recommended for funding, through her time working in the music industry
- Katie-Louise Nicol Ford, who has not been recommended for funding, as an active community member in Sydney's fashion 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 was not contacted by them about this item.

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore disclosed a significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.3 on the agenda, in that one of the applicants for the Artist Support Fund is a friend, and close relative of someone who she works with at the City of Sydney.

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

Councillor Jess Miller disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.3 on the agenda, in that she and Riana Head-Toussant have served on the City's Inclusion Panel together. She also has personal relationships with Deborah Kelly and Ruby Teys, who are applicants for artist grants. Councillor Miller considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she had no involvement in, or discussion about, the outcomes of the above grant rounds.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee.

The Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee recommends the following:

Item 8.3

Grants - Creative Grants

It is resolved that:

(A) Council approve the cash and value-in-kind recommendations for the Creative projects, Artist support fund and Cultural infrastructure grant programs as shown at Attachments A, C and E to the subject report

(B) Council note the applicants not recommended for the Creative projects, Artist support fund and Cultural infrastructure grant funding as shown at Attachments B, D and F to the subject report

(C) Council note that all amounts to be paid to grant recipients under the Creative grants program are exclusive of GST

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

(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.

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

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Speaker

Tam Cao addressed the meeting of the Cultural, Creative and Nightlife Committee on Item 8.3.