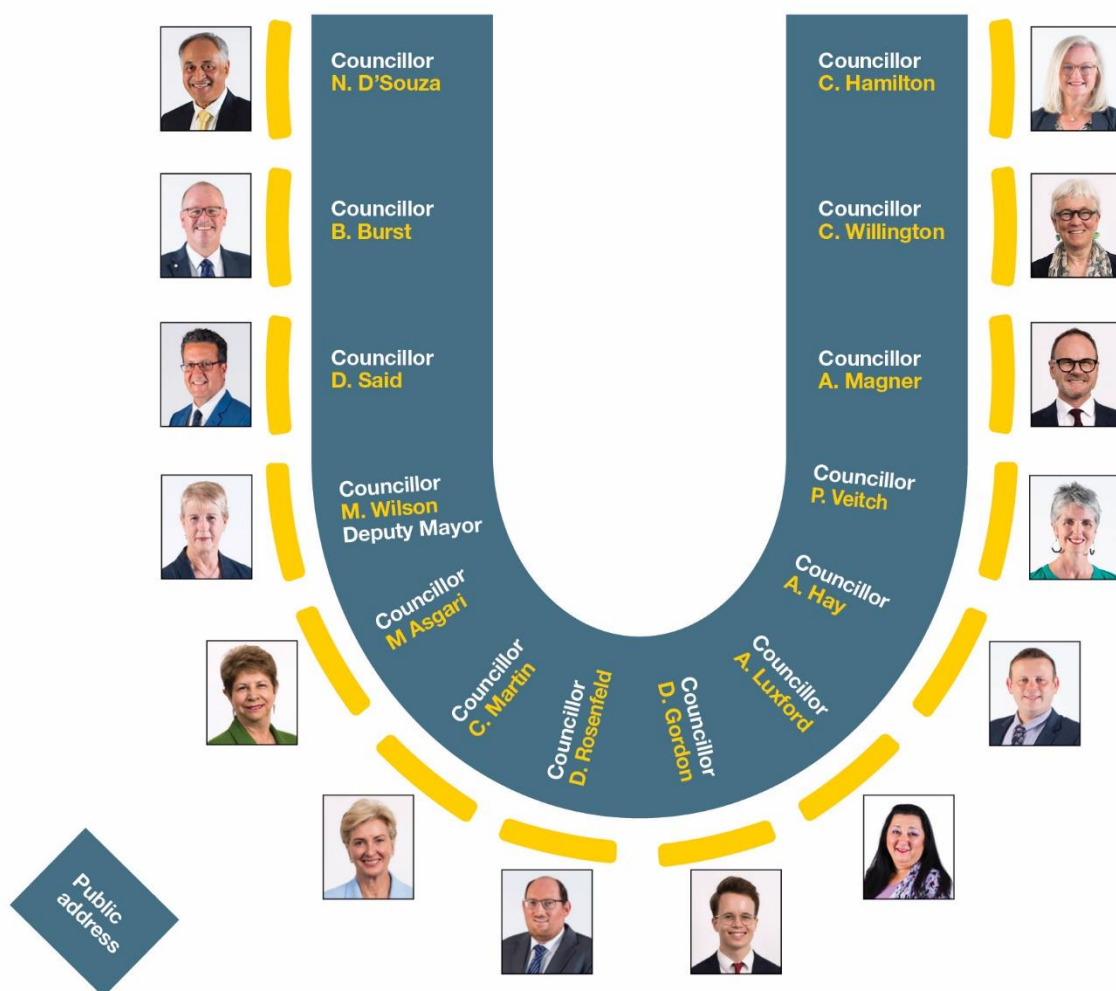


Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 25 February 2025

Seating plan for Council meetings



Statement of ethical obligations

Obligations	
Oath [Affirmation] of Office by Councillors	I swear [solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm] that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Randwick City and the Randwick City Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.
Code of Conduct conflict of interests	
Pecuniary interests	<p>A Councillor who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting.</p> <p>The Councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed, orb) at any time during which the council is voting on any question in relation to the matter.
Non-pecuniary conflict of interests	A Councillor who has a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter, must disclose the relevant private interest in relation to the matter fully and on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to the matter.
Significant non-pecuniary interests	A Councillor who has a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in relation to a matter under consideration at a council meeting, must manage the conflict of interest as if they had a pecuniary interest in the matter.
Non-significant non-pecuniary interests	A Councillor who determines that they have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is not significant and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest must also explain why conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.



Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Council meeting of Randwick City Council will be held in the Council Chamber, 1st floor Town Hall building, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick on Tuesday, 25 February 2025 at 7pm

Welcome to Country – Aunty Maxine Ryan

Acknowledgement of Country

"I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on the land of the Bidjigal and the Gadigal peoples who occupied the Sydney Coast, being the traditional owners. On behalf of Randwick City Council, I acknowledge and pay my respects to the Elders past and present, and to Aboriginal people in attendance today."

Prayer

*"Almighty God,
We humbly beseech you to bestow your blessings upon this Council and to direct and prosper our deliberations to the advancement of your glory and the true welfare of the people of Randwick and Australia.
Amen"*

Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences

Requests to attend meeting by audio-visual link

Confirmation of the Minutes

Ordinary Council - 10 December 2024

Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Address of Council by Members of the Public

Privacy warning;

In respect to Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act, members of the public are advised that the proceedings of this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of clause 5.20-5.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Audio/video recording of meetings prohibited without permission;

A person may be expelled from a meeting for using, or having used, an audio/video recorder without the express authority of the Council.

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CO12/25	Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Minutes - December 2024 <i>This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (f) Of the Local Government Act, as it deals with matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property.</i>
CC4/25	Introducing a Reformer Pilates Studio at Des Renford Leisure Centre <i>This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (d) Of the Local Government Act, as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; or (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council; or (iii) reveal a trade secret.</i>

Notice of Rescission Motions

Nil

Ray Brownlee, PSM
GENERAL MANAGER

Mayoral Minute No. MM1/25

Subject: Financial Assistance and Donations - December 2024 - January 2025

Motion:

That Council:

- a) approve the purchase of tickets for a table of 10 at the Windgap Gala Ball being held on Saturday, 24 May 2025, at a total cost of \$2,400 for interested Councillors to attend in support of the cause;
- b) note Council waived the hire fees of \$160 for the Grant Reserve for the Chanukah Event on 29 December 2024.
- c) note Council donated an amount of \$990 to Murph's Derwent River Big Swim in Tasmania in January 2025.
- d) donate seedlings to the value of \$500 to Clovelly Childcare Centre for their 40th Anniversary Green Fair on 4 May 2025
- e) approve the purchase of 8 tickets totalling \$1600 to the Randwick Rugby's 2025 Annual Lunch to be held on 21 March 2025 for interested Councillors to attend the fundraising lunch in support of the Club
- f) Approve a donation of \$3000 to the La Perouse Mardi Gras float

Background:

a) **Windgap Gala Ball – 25 May 2024**

The Windgap Foundation has requested Council's support for its biggest fundraising event of the year, the Windgap Gala Ball, being held on Saturday, 24 May 2025 at The Sheraton Grand, Sydney Hyde Park, Grand Ballroom, 161 Elizabeth Street, Hyde Park.

Supporting over 250 young and older adults, Windgap is a well-respected and trusted charity in Sydney's eastern suburbs, dedicated to improving the lives of people living with a disability.

The 14th Annual Gala Ball, not only celebrates our vibrant community but also plays a crucial role in raising funds for the services and programs that help participants to live an active and inclusive life.

Council has purchased tickets in support of this worthy cause for a number of years. I propose purchasing a table of 10 tickets, at a total cost of \$2,400, to this year's Windgap Foundation Gala Ball for interested Councillors to attend in support.

b) **Chanukah Event at Grant Reserve**

Coogee Synagogue had a Chanukah menorah lighting at Grant reserve on Sunday 29 Dec from 5.30 with approximately 100 people in attendance. A request was put in for Council to waive the fees for the ground hire.

c) **Murph's Derwent River Big Swim for Rainbow Club**

Michael Renford, known by all as Murph, is attempting his first Derwent River Big Swim, a massive 34km challenge in honour of his father, Des Renford, on the 50th anniversary of Des's first successful Derwent River swim. Murph is taking on this incredible feat to raise awareness and vital funds for Rainbow Club Australia, a charity close to his heart that helps young people with disabilities experience the joy of swimming.

As a long-time supporter of Rainbow Club, Murph is a familiar face at the Malabar Magic Ocean Swim, where he energises the crowd every year as the beach announcer and helps champion the cause. His dedication to Rainbow Club and its mission to make swimming accessible to children with disabilities shines through in this ambitious effort.

Rainbow Club operates a network of social swimming clubs, including one of its oldest locations at the Des Renford Leisure Centre, continuing the Renford family's rich legacy of inspiring and supporting swimmers.

- d) **Clovelly Childcare Centre 40th Anniversary Green Fair**
Clovelly Childcare Centre will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary on 4 May 2025. The childcare centre is dedicated to providing early education to children for 40 consecutive years. The centre has requested for a donation of native seedlings from Council's nursery for their Green Fair.
- e) **Randwick Rugby's 2025 Annual Lunch**
The Randwick Rugby Club's Annual Lunch will be held on 21 March 2025, supporting player scholarship, education, injury, and social welfare programs. The annual fundraising event makes a huge difference to all the players both male and female, senior and junior.
- f) **La Perouse Mardi Gras float**
The Lapa Legends represent the local LGBTIQA+ Aboriginal community of La Perouse. For the first time, the Lapa Legends will participate in the Mardi Gras Parade this year. The Lapa Legends have engaged community to design costumes that represent the local Aboriginal community of La Perouse. The community building initiative aims to enhance cultural expression that showcases Aboriginal culture in a significant and iconic Sydney festival, as well as foster inclusive dialogue about gender and sexual diversity.

Source of funding:

The financial implications to Council will be funded from the 2024-25 Contingency Fund.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: The Mayor, Cr Dylan Parker

File Reference: F2025/06574

Mayoral Minute No. MM2/25

Subject: Randwick City Tourism - Commemorative Seating

Motion:

That Council:

- a) thank Randwick City Tourism for the wonderful work it undertook to promote tourism in Randwick City over a 30 year period.
- b) endorse Randwick City Tourism's proposal to install 2 commemorative seats to be located at the start and end of the coastal walk.
- c) provide funding support of \$3,100 to supplement Randwick City Tourism's funding for the proposed commemorative seats.

Background:

Randwick City Tourism (Randwick City Leisure and Tourism Association) was formed on 5 December 1990 with a committee comprising:

- Councillor Paul Bayutti (Randwick City Council)
- Terry McGuinness (Maroubra Chamber of Commerce)
- Margaret Millett (Coogee Backpackers)
- Margot Claringbold
- David Mynott (State Transit Authority)
- Malin Blazejowski (National Parks and Wildlife)
- Max Sproule (Randwick and District Historical Society)
- Dana Marey (Kon-Tiki Tours)
- Graham Vogels (Coogee Bay Hotel).

Others who attended were George Antonas (Randwick Chamber of Commerce); John Langford (Randwick Residents' Action Group); Sandra Alexander; Noelene Hall; Greg Bond, Evelyn Hopkins, Charles Abela and Carol Abela (La Perouse and Peninsula Society); Councillors Charles Matthews and Ken Finn; N. Cerny; Joy Riddell (Randwick & District Historical Society); Michael Keefe (Maroubra Chamber of Commerce); Edward Perks (Maroubra Bay Hotel); Ian Turner and Geoff Luscombe (National Parks and Wildlife); Beverley Doylend-Ward; Col Blake; Susie Rosenstrauss (YES Business Development & Marketing); Fouzie Corban (Trade Winds Travel Inn); Warren Millett (Coogee Beach Backpackers); Tassanee Bhanthumnaun; Sam Kumar and Sam Papallo (Coogee Sands Motor Inn).

Randwick City Tourism operated between 1990 and 2020. Run by volunteers, Randwick City Tourism undertook initiatives and promotions to support and increase tourism to Randwick City including enhancing the experience for tourists. Randwick City Tourism achieved this by:

- Liaison with key tourism organisations such as Destination NSW
- Developing brochures
- Holding events
- Breakfasts with keynote speakers
- Stalls at The Spot Festival and Eco Living Fair
- Information signs
- Advocating for improved infrastructure to move people around including access.

The Executive Committee in 2018 comprised:

- President – Julian Good (Good Liaisons)
- Vice-President – David Morgan (Owner Arden House and President Coogee Lions)
- Secretary & Public Officer – Jann Barry (Secretary Gordon's Bay Scuba Club)
- Treasurer – Lynda Newnam (La Perouse Coastcare/Bikes Botany Bay)
- Ambassadors Greeters Program – Terry McGuinness & Peter Smith
- Dr David Beirman (Senior Lecturer UTS Tourism)
- Chris Coudounaris (Sydney Lodges)
- Anthony Dunsford (Director Visitor Experience, Royal Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands)
- Brenda Miley (Let's Go Surfing)
- Antonia Sherry (Marketing & Brand Manager RBG & Centennial Parklands)
- Sara Jones (Community & Event Coordinator, Coogee Pavilion)
- Dr Madan Kandara (President Randwick Golf Club)
- Steve Keir (Hotelesque)
- Mal Nicolson (President Cook Society Australian Branch & Chair Cook250 sub-committee)
- Kathrine O'Hagan (Director Sales, Marketing, Revenue, IHG)
- Gail Parsonage (President at IIPT-International Institute for Peace through Tourism Aust. Inc)
- Ted Plummer (Head of Government and Community Relations, Sydney Airport)
- Natalie Young (Tourism and Incentive Manager, Australian Turf Club)
- Randwick City Council Representative – Councillor Brendan Roberts
- Randwick City Council Economic Development Officer – Suzanne Williamson.

Randwick City Tourism has informed Randwick Council that it is formally closing down as a registered association. The Treasurer, Lynda Newnam has written to council proposing to use the remaining funds to install commemorative seats at the beginning and at the end of the coastal walk, to celebrate 30 years of Randwick City Tourism.

Randwick City Tourism's funds will cover the cost of 1 seat and partially fund a second seat. The proposal seeks council's support to assist with funding of the second seat.

Based on the wonderful work undertaken by Randwick City Tourism, it is fitting to honour 30 years of volunteer contribution to support Randwick City's visitor economy.

Source of funding:

The cost of a commemorative seat is \$5,058. Council's funding support is estimated to be \$3,100. Funding is available in the current capital works program.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: The Mayor, Cr Dylan Parker

File Reference: F2006/00422

Mayoral Minute No. MM3/25

Subject: Vale Dr William Victor Simms

Motion:

That Council express its deepest condolences to the family of Dr William Victor Simms who passed away peacefully on 8 February 2025, acknowledge his passing with a minute's silence and consider an appropriate recognition in consultation with the family and community.

Background:

Local Bidjigal Elder, Vale William Victor Simms, known as Uncle Vic and nicknamed Bunno, died of natural causes on Saturday 8 February 2025 at the age of 78 years.

Uncle Vic was born at the Mission in La Perouse in 1946. He was one of ten children, and is survived by wife Joan, four children, fifteen grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and nine siblings.

Uncle Vic devoted his life to music and serving community, focusing on improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

His musical career began at age 11, and he released his first single *Yo-Yo Heart* at age 15. With the 1973 release of his debut album, *The Loner*, he became an icon in Australia's music industry with a powerful socio-political message. Uncle Vic toured Australian and Canadian prisons for 12 years and was the first Aboriginal artist to appear on commercial television.

Alongside his music career, Uncle Vic worked with UNSW to deliver cultural support, guidance and education sessions in schools and Universities. He worked closely with the UNSW Department of Medicine and Health to deliver On Country truth telling and cultural education sessions for first year students.

In 1992, Uncle Vic instigated the first *Survival Day Concert* at the La Perouse Headland to celebrate the survival, resistance and resilience of First Nations communities. While the event has subsequently grown and moved to other locations in Sydney, Uncle Vic continued to mark 26 January at La Perouse with the *Culture on Country* live music event. The 2025 event proudly headlined Vic Simms and the All Star Band.

Throughout his lifetime, Uncle Vic received numerous prestigious awards for his musical achievements and dedication to community. He was acknowledged with the Outstanding Contribution to Aboriginal Music Award at the Deadlys in 2001. His debut album *The Loner* was inducted into the National Film and Sound Archive registry in 2009, and included in The 110 Best Australian Albums: The Ultimate List of Australia's Best and Most Influential Music of All Time. In 2024, Uncle Vic Simms was awarded an honorary doctorate from UNSW in recognition of his service to his community.

Council expresses its sincere condolences to the Simms family and community on the passing of Uncle Vic Simms.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: The Mayor, Cr Dylan Parker

File Reference: F2025/06574

MM3/25

Mayoral Minute No. MM4/25

Subject: In-Street Planting

Motion:

That Council:

- a) officers develop and report to Council prior to the 2026-27 financial year, either as an appendix to the technical guidelines for urban planting or as a standalone document, a manual for in-street tree planting to provide additional canopy cover in areas where on verge, median strip or footpath tree planting is impractical or obstructed by power lines, shop awnings or a general lack of space. That suitable species be identified which provide reasonable canopy cover and height with a preference for mature planting where possible;
- b) staff, as part of this work, identify a list of priority locations for implementation; and
- c) staff prepare a 5-year resourcing strategy commencing in the 2026-27 financial year, to implement priority locations.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: The Mayor, Cr Dylan Parker

File Reference: F2025/06574

MM4/25

General Manager's Report No. GM1/25

Subject: Randwick Council coordinated response to eastern suburbs antisemitic incidents

Executive Summary

- This report provides a response to a Notice of Motion from Cr Rosenfeld that was resolved by Council (Cr Rosenfeld / Cr Magner) in regarding a security assessment in relation to antisemitic graffiti attacks in the Randwick LGA.
- This report also provides Councillors with a consolidated summary of Council's response to the rise in antisemitic incidents across Sydney including in the Randwick LGA.
- Randwick Council, led by the Mayor, has been a strong voice providing leadership in the community, media and with neighbouring councils in deploring the attacks and standing in solidarity with our Jewish community.
- In January 2025, the Mayor authorised the installation of the CCTV infrastructure at identified sites. The cost of these works is estimated at \$150,000.
- Council is requested to give consideration to funding additional security measures in public places around sensitive sites including hostile vehicle mitigation measures such as impact-rated bollards.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) notes the coordinated and comprehensive response to the antisemitic incidents by Randwick City Council; and
- b) allocates funding to enhance public safety, deter criminal activity and support NSW Police through:
 - i. additional CCTV infrastructure at identified sites estimated to cost approximately \$150,000; and
 - additional fixed and retractable bollards at identified sites estimated cost approximately \$90,000.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Purpose

At its ordinary meeting on 26 November 2024 Council resolved:

(Rosenfeld/Magner) that Council:

- a) notes:
 - a. that antisemitic graffiti is occurring in the Randwick local government area specifically targeted at the Jewish community;
 - b. that graffiti is a criminal act of vandalism;
 - c. incidents of this occurrence have increased substantially in the last 13 months;
- b) continues to immediately remove the graffiti upon notification;
- c) provides a copy of Council's register of antisemitic graffiti (which includes the date, time, location of each incident) every six months to the NSW Police, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies and the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism in Australia;
- d) in conjunction with the police and other agencies, undertakes an immediate security assessment that includes but is not limited to:
 - identifying locations of vulnerability;
 - examining the suitability of installing additional and/or higher specification CCTV cameras in specific locations;
 - other security measures as identified within the security assessment; and
- e) officers prepare a report to Council with options to implement the recommendations of the security assessment, a budget and a time frame.

Since this time the incidents of antisemitic graffiti and attacks on Jewish sites have continued and intensified across greater Sydney including in the Randwick LGA.

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update on Council's response to the issue.

The report also outlines a proposal for additional CCTV and hostile vehicle mitigation measures at sensitive sites identified by Council's security assessment.

Discussion

The Randwick LGA has witnessed a concerning rise in antisemitic acts, including graffiti, vandalism, and arson targeting Jewish institutions and properties as well as locations nearby. These acts have raised significant concerns regarding public safety, social cohesion, and the need for enhanced security measures. Similar incidents have occurred in other areas across Sydney as well as neighbouring Waverley Council.

On 21 January 2025 a childcare centre on Storey Street in Maroubra was set alight and defaced with antisemitic graffiti. The building sustained extensive damage, though it was unoccupied at the time. The centre has no religious affiliations but is located close to Maroubra Synagogue. The Mayor, Councillor Dylan Parker, attended the site alongside Prime Minister Albanese and Premier Minns, visited Maroubra Synagogue to express solidarity on behalf of the whole community and met with the childcare centre's management to discuss how Council can provide support to local parents.

A week later on 30 January antisemitic graffiti was found on Mount Sinai College and an adjacent property in Maroubra. Council worked closely with police and removed the graffiti as soon as authorised to do so by police.

On 3 February more graffiti was found in See Lane, Kingsford and King Lane Randwick with multiple vehicles, garages and homes found spray-painted with offensive messages targeting the Jewish community. Again, Council worked closely with police offering our assistance and

Council's graffiti removal team removed the graffiti from the public and private property as soon as authorised to do so by police.

Support for community and public messaging

Randwick Council has been proactive in publicly deploring these attacks on our community and standing in solidarity with our Jewish community.

Led by the Mayor, Council has actively published a number of news stories and media releases as well as undertaking media interviews intended to provide some reassurance to our community who are understandably shaken by the attacks. Public media statements were issued by the Mayor on [21 January](#), [22 January](#), [30 January](#) and [5 February](#). These messages were communicated through Council's communications channels including our website, social media channels and weekly eNewsletter. The messages reinforced the diversity of the Randwick City community, Council's actions to address the issue and Council's rejection of antisemitism.

Stakeholder engagement

The General Manager has been regularly meeting with the General Managers of Waverley and Woollahra Councils to discuss a joint approach to the issue including investigating the feasibility of a joint security assessment approach.

Council has participated in weekly NSW police briefings providing updates on their ongoing investigations.

Council has met with the CEO of Multicultural NSW to provide input into the Premiers Prevention Panel and to jointly seek funding for CCTV installation and security assessment from the NSW government.

The Mayor has directly reached out to a number local Jewish institutions and organisations to listen and understand their concerns as well as offering Council's ongoing support.

Support for Only About Children Preschool

Following the fire at the Only About Children Preschool & Early Learning Childcare Centre on Storey Street, Maroubra, Council staff have been in ongoing discussions with centre management. The arson attack has severely damaged the building and forced the temporary closure of the childcare centre while repair works are undertaken. Parents of children at the centre have been forced to find alternative care arrangements. Council has assisted with an alternative temporary location at a Council-run community centre for the childcare centre to operate while they rebuild the Storey Street site. The offer has been well-received by management from the childcare centre and they are currently in the process of moving in.

Mayoral Roundtable

On the 6 February 2025 the mayors of 21 Sydney councils met at the Bondi Pavilion to call out violence, hatred and extremism.



The meeting was organised by the mayors of Randwick, Inner West, Liverpool, Waverley and Woollahra Councils.

The mayors condemned the brazen and cowardly attacks in the strongest of terms and called for prosecution of offenders with the full force of the law.

A joint statement issued by the mayors said:

"We call on our communities to stand together, as we are standing together, to support one another during these challenging times. We unequivocally condemn the alarming rise in antisemitic attacks as well acknowledge the broader escalation of racism and violence against racial and faith-based communities including Muslims, Christians, Jews, Hindus and Buddhists. There is no place for hate in our society."

The mayors called on the New South Wales and Federal Governments to take urgent action by:

- *Recognising Local Government as a vital tier of Government in creating and maintaining social cohesion;*
- *Partnering with Councils to combat the scourge of antisemitism, and protect all communities from vilification, intimidation, and violence;*
- *Investing in multicultural and interfaith education programs to strengthen understanding and unity between communities;*
- *Enhancing legislation to combat hate crimes and discrimination and ensure stronger protections for all;*
- *Supporting Local Government to develop anti-racism, inclusion and social cohesion strategies and policies; and*
- *Providing security infrastructure and resources where needed to safeguard at-risk communities including robust and effective policing, to find and charge perpetrators of hate crimes.*

Security assessment

Following Council's ordinary meeting dated 26 November 2024, Council staff engaged with NSW Police to conduct a security assessment of potential vulnerable sites that may benefit from enhanced security measures such as the installation of CCTV surveillance. The assessment focused on identifying locations with a heightened risk of targeted vandalism, harassment, or security threats. As a result, five priority sites were identified across the LGA. These sites were identified as particularly vulnerable due to their community profile, frequent public access, and crime pattern analysis of previous incidents of targeted attacks.

The locations of these sites has been provided to Councillors in a separate confidential memo.

Councillor Rosenfield assisted Council officers with the identification a further site, bringing the total identified sites to six.

Additional CCTV proposal

Site security assessments confirmed that all identified locations had existing CCTV infrastructure. However, it was determined that additional CCTV cameras, positioned in public facing areas would significantly enhance overall coverage.

Expanding surveillance in these areas will help address blind spots. Importantly, an existing MoU between Randwick Council and NSW Police allows police to monitor and access live footage as needed as well as access to recorded data. This capability provides greater situational awareness, improves emergency response and enhances crime prevention efforts.

Each identified site was independently assessed by a security firm engaged by Council officers. A detailed site evaluation was conducted to determine the most effective CCTV coverage based on location-specific risks and vulnerabilities. As part of this process, the contractors developed a scope of works, outlining optimal camera placement, technical specifications, and integration requirements with Council's existing systems to enhance security outcomes. A cost estimate was provided for each site with the total cost estimate for additional CCTV being approximately \$150,000.

The placement of CCTV cameras has been strategically designed to ensure broad coverage and situational awareness of public areas surrounding the identified vulnerable sites. The installation of multi-lens cameras, supported by rugged industrial components, allows advanced video analytic features, such as automated loitering detection, to provide enhanced surveillance reliability and operational effectiveness to NSW Police.

Council officers have undertaken consultation through engagement with key community stakeholders, NSW Police, and security service providers to ensure the proposed CCTV infrastructure aligns with public safety priorities. Additionally, Council engaged with local community representatives and affected organisations, including religious institutions and service providers, to address safety concerns, and the intended benefits of the project. If the proposal is endorsed, further consultation will be undertaken to ensure that the CCTV installation plan is targeted, effective, and responsive to the needs of the community.

Hostile vehicle mitigation measures

Requests have been made from local Jewish leaders, regarding the installation of Hostile Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) measures, specifically for the installation of static and removable bollards engineered specifically to withstand vehicle impact at identified sites within the Randwick LGA

The installation of HVM bollards will significantly improve the safety of people and property at the identified locations. The proposed locations of these bollards have been supplied separately to Councillors in a confidential memo. The estimated cost for the works is \$90,000.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety
Function	Public Safety
Delivery program commitment	Implement measures to maintain the physical safety and wellbeing of the community, including lifeguard and ranger.
Service area	Information Management and Technology Services
Function	Technology Management
Delivery program commitment	Develop, implement and maintain integration and technology management solutions that support Council's operations.

Risk

- Privacy and Legal Compliance – Ensure with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (NSW) and the *Surveillance Devices Act 2007* (NSW) to prevent breaches of personal privacy.
- Public Perception and Community Concerns – Engage in community consultation to explain objectives and address concerns.
- Effectiveness and Operational Risks – Monitor and evaluate effectiveness. Regularly review camera placements, crime statistics and stakeholder feedback to assess project success.
- Cybersecurity and Data Security Risks- Ensure design and operations comply with Council’s Cyber and information security policies and procedures.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The total estimated cost for installing additional CCTV infrastructure, along with fixed and retractable bollards at locations identified through Council’s risk assessment is \$240,000.

Additional resource requirements include ongoing maintenance and data storage, will be managed by Council’s Information Management and Technology (IMT) Department.

At present, there is no dedicated funding source for this project within the current 2024-25 Operational Plan and Delivery Program Capital Works Program.

Council will address this funding requirement through capital amendments as part of the March Quarterly Budget Review Cycle.

Additionally, Council will seek reimbursement from the NSW and Federal Governments for any funds used and consider appropriate grant opportunities.

Policy and legislative requirements

- Local Government Act 1993
- Surveillance Devices Act 2007
- Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998
- NSW Government’s “CCTV Guidelines for Council” (2014)
- Randwick City Council CCTV Code of Practice.

Conclusion

The recent increase in antisemitic incidents within the Randwick LGA has highlighted the need for a comprehensive response to support our community through this period and enhanced security measures to improve public safety and deter criminal activity.

Council's support has included proactive public messages of support, media and communication, direct assistance providing alternative accommodation for the affected childcare centre, partnering with neighbouring councils, attending a Mayoral roundtable with 21 councils, investigating additional CCTV and additional safety measures such as fixed and retractable bollards.

A security assessment was undertaken in collaboration with NSW Police and neighbouring councils has identified a range of vulnerable sites where additional CCTV infrastructure would provide significant security benefits.

Although some security infrastructure is in place at these sites, the assessment confirmed that additional public-facing facilities would enhance coverage, reduce blind spots, and strengthen crime prevention efforts. Furthermore, Councils Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NSW Police allows direct access to CCTV feeds, providing greater situational awareness and a more effective law enforcement response.

Responsible officer: Joshua Hay, Manager Communications; Duncan Scott, Manager Ranger Services; Ryan Zammit, Manager Infrastructure Services

File Reference: F2009/00498

Director City Planning Report No. CP1/25

Subject: Recycling of Used Clothes and Textiles

Executive Summary

- This report responds to the resolution of Council (NM 85/24 - D'Souza/Magner) at the 26 November 2024 meeting that requested an investigation on opportunities to partner with local charities to develop a program of additional ways to collect and divert used clothes and textiles from landfill.
- Council currently supports circular economy practices for clothing and textiles through initiatives such as:
 - monthly clothing swaps and mending groups within the Saturday Circle program;
 - collection at the Randwick Recycle Centre and through the Recycle Smart home pick-up service; and
 - the 'Recycle Your Clothes' webpage.

These will continue to be delivered and promoted to the community.

- Staff have undertaken research into additional local and national charities supporting clothing and textile reuse and recovery, inclusive of Blocktexx, Upparel, Vinnies, Diva Charity, Homeless not Nameless and Thread Together.
- The research found that a dedicated drive-through textile and clothing drop-off day, delivered in partnership with an organisation like BlockTexx, Upparel, or Vinnies, would be the most effective way for Council to expand its current textile recovery efforts. This initiative could divert up to 5 tonnes of textiles from landfill per event, with an estimated cost of up to \$15,000.
- Some of the smaller local charity initiatives supporting textile reuse are not able to support such a program as they either collect brand new industry rejected clothing and accessories, or have very small volumes of men's clothing. This would not significantly support Council in pursuing additional ways to collect and divert used clothes and textiles from landfill.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) continue to support its current textile waste avoidance and recovery initiatives;
- b) approve the allocation of \$15,000 from the 2024-25 Domestic Waste Charges budget to engage an organisation to partner with Council to deliver a dedicated drop-off event for textiles and clothing.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Purpose

At its ordinary meeting on the 26 November 2024 (NM 85/24), Council resolved:

(D'Souza/Magner) that:

- a) *Council acknowledges the actions currently undertaken to reduce used clothing and textiles going into landfill including:*
 - *collecting clothing from households through Recycle Smart;*
 - *accepting clothing items at the Randwick Recycle Centre;*
 - *Saturday Circle and the community clothes swap; and*
 - *publishing local clothing charity stores on the RCC website.*
- b) *Council staff investigate and report back to Council on opportunities to partner with local charities to develop a program of additional ways to collect and divert used clothes and textiles from landfill.*

This purpose of this report is to respond to part b) of the resolution.

Discussion

Textile waste in Australia

According to the Australian Institute's 'Textiles Waste in Australia' report Australians buy an average of 56 items of new clothing yearly. This places Australia as the second highest consumer of textiles in the world, after the USA.

The '2022 National Waste Report' prepared for The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water by Blue Environment notes that of the approximately 300 kilotons of clothing discarded each year in Australia, about 100 kilotons is sent to landfill, while about 200 kilotons is given to clothing donation or collection services.

Council has a target to increase landfill diversion to 80% by 2030 and the NSW Government has the same target in its Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy. Landfill diversion is also a national priority with an 80% diversion target also included within the 2024 Australian Circular Economy Framework and clothing textiles placed on the Federal Minister's 2021 Priority List for product stewardship to reduce clothing sent to landfill.

With a significant portion of textiles and clothing still making its way into landfill it is important Council continues to support action towards these targets and circular economy practices through the delivery of a range of programs that assist the community to divert textiles and clothing from landfill.

Council's current textiles waste avoidance and recycling programs

Randwick Council currently supports our community to participate in textile reuse and recycling through a number of programs and initiatives. These include:

- **Saturday Circle**
 - Clothes Swap – each year over 1,000 people are attending and swapping approximately 5,000 items.
 - Textile Mending Group – each year over 100 people attend this group to improve their repair skills, mending approximately 200 items.
- **Randwick Recycling Centre** – a textile, clothing, and accessory donation point is available at the Randwick Recycling Centre (RRC) through a partnership with U-turn (previously known as King Cotton). U-turn collects over 23 tonnes of items per year from our recycling centre.
- **Recycle Smart** – to support community members access the recycling center services Council engages Recycle Smart to collect textiles and clothing from people's homes and the Resource Recovery Hubs that are installed in some unit blocks and Council's facilities. The textiles are delivered to the RRC. The service is free on an approximately 6-week rotation or more frequent pickups are available for a fee.

- [Remote Opshop Project](#) – in 2024 Council made a one-time donation of 145 items of high-quality baby and toddler's clothes, these were donations from the Saturday Circle Clothes Swap. The clothes were sent to the Remote Opshop Project to support indigenous communities living remotely.
- ['Recycle Your Clothes' webpage](#) – this page on Randwick Council's website has had over 140 views since May 2024 and outlines ways to swap, sell or donate clothes and provides a listing of local op shops.

Research on local charities

In response to the Council resolution staff have undertaken research into additional opportunities with local and national charities that could expand our support for clothing and textile reuse. The findings are as follows:

- **Dedicated drop-off days**
Several organisations, including BlockTexx, Upparel and Vinnies, support dedicated textile and clothing drop-off days, providing Council with an opportunity to expand textile collection and increase landfill diversion. The drop-off day would involve Council partnering with one of these organisations to run a community drive-through drop-off in one of Council's open spaces. These events operate similarly to the Chemical Clean-Up days that Council delivers regularly in partnership with the NSW Environmental Protection Agency.

Each organisation differs in its approach, accepted materials, costs, and processing methods. Some accept unwearable items, while others only take good-quality textiles. Certain programs focus primarily on manchester, including bathroom, bedroom, and kitchen linens, while others also accept shoes, handbags, belts, and clothing. Some organisations process textiles within Australia, while others export them overseas. These factors would be assessed as part of a procurement process. The cost varies between suppliers and it has been estimated that it would cost up to \$15,000 to cover event costs, transport, and processing of collected materials. Staff costs would be additional.
- **Small local initiatives**
 - [Thread Together](#): collects brand-new unsold fashion and accessory stock from the fashion industry destined for landfill and provide these items for free to people in need through their shops, community outreach programs and partnerships with organisations like Diva Charity.
 - [Diva Charity Incorporated](#): provides food, toys and clothing to members of the Randwick community through new clothing donations from Thread Together.
 - [Homeless not Nameless](#): provides men's clothing, sleeping and personal hygiene items sourced from public donation, partnerships with large industry or the lost property of various organisations. They accept small amounts of donations from the community, but only via booking in advance.

Considering the above, our existing programs and community needs, there is an opportunity for Randwick Council to increase textile and clothing landfill diversion rates by engaging a partner to deliver a dedicated textile and clothing drop-off day within the LGA. This would be done through a procurement process.

Partnerships with Diva Charity, Thread Together and Homeless not Nameless are not relevant to undertake such a program as they primarily cater to businesses recycling new clothes rather than used household clothing, and have a smaller impact.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:

Strategy	Environment
Outcome	A city that protects and conserves our limited natural resources
Objective	Increase residential recycling to 70% across Randwick City and divert 75% waste from landfill by 2025, from a 2017 baseline
Delivery program commitment	Reduce waste generation per capita across the LGA by 10% by 2030, from a 2017 baseline, through tailored education campaigns including but not limited to tours of our Randwick Recycling Centre, partnerships with other organisations, e.g. Compost Revolution, the Bower, Recycle SMART, and new programs targeting specific waste streams e.g. single-use plastics.

Delivering services and regulatory functions:

Service area	Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety
Function	Waste and Recycling Services
Delivery program commitment	Manage the collection and processing of residential, commercial and public place waste.
Service area	Communications
Function	Community engagement
Delivery program commitment	Communicate with our local communities about Council's projects, strategies, goals, events and facilities, and value and make use of their knowledge and experience to make better decisions.

Risks

Risks	Mitigation
Risk to the environment and Council's reputation by not doing more to avoid textile waste.	Continue to deliver and promote current opportunities as well as undertake further activities and programs, such as community drop-off days, to avoid textile and fashion waste going to landfill.
Traceability issues with the donated textiles and clothing in Australia getting transported overseas for processing.	Council's programs continue to support higher order activities, such as reuse and repair, for example through the Saturday Circle initiative. This issue will be considered in the evaluation process during procurement of a partner to deliver the dedicated drop-off days.
People dumping waste that is not clean/reusable at a dedicated drop-off day event.	Risk mitigated by Randwick or partner organisation staff inspection of items being donated at the collection point.
Dedicated drop-off day event is an outdoor drive-through initiative and has risks for traffic and weather.	Risks mitigated by traffic management plan and WHS risk assessment and appropriate staff inductions, similar to that undertaken for the Chemical Clean-Up days.

Resourcing Strategy implications

Estimated resource requirements for one dedicated drive-through textile and clothing drop-off event held on a Saturday or Sunday at one of Council's open spaces would include:

Financial Resources

- Up to \$15,000 is the estimated cost for the partnership with an organisation to facilitate one dedicated drop-off event for the collection of up to 5 tonnes of clothing and textiles. This includes promotional materials, collection, transport and processing costs.

Staff Resources

- 4 x Council staff for traffic management
- 1 x Waste and Circular Economy Project Officer
- 5 x staff sourced from Council.

Financial and staff resources for one dedicated drive-through textile and clothing drop-off event are available under the current work program and from funds allocated within the 2024/25 Domestic Waste Charges budget.

Policy and legislative requirements

- [Australia's Circular Economy Framework - 2024](#)
- [National Waste Policy Action Plan 2024](#)
- [NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041.](#)

The above National Framework and Policy and NSW Strategy have similar targets inclusive of:

- reducing the total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person by 2030.
- achieving an 80% average recovery rate from all waste streams by 2030.
- significantly increasing the use of recycled content by governments and industry.

Conclusion

The current actions that Randwick Council takes to support circular economy practices for clothing and textiles are enabled through the Saturday Circle program, Randwick Recycle Centre, Recycle Smart home pick-up service and the 'Recycle Your Clothes' webpage. These will continue to be delivered and promoted to the community.

In order to expand Council's support for circular options to divert textiles and clothing from landfill it is proposed staff undertake a procurement process to engage a partner organisation to deliver one dedicated drive-through textile and clothing drop-off event in 2025. This would require up to \$15,000 investment which can be sourced from the existing allocated Domestic Waste Charges Budget and staffed from the existing Sustainability and Resilience team.

Some of the smaller local charity initiatives researched that support textile reuse, including Diva Charity, Homeless not Nameless and Thread Together are not able to support such a program as they either collect brand new industry rejected clothing and accessories, or very small volumes of men's clothing. This would not significantly support Council in pursuing additional ways to collect and divert used clothes and textiles from landfill.

Responsible officer: Alexandra Bastos, Coordinator Waste & Circular Economy

File Reference: F2023/00744

Director City Planning Report No. CP2/25

Subject: **Equitable Briefing Policy on Legal Matters**

Executive Summary

- This report responds to Council resolution (NM66/24-Wilson/Chapple) at the 23 July 2024 Ordinary Council meeting that requested Council officers bring a report regarding Council's adoption of the Law Council of Australia's Equitable Briefing Policy (the Policy).
- In 2016 the Policy was developed by the Law Council of Australia to "support measures to improve the retention within the profession of women barristers". The Policy, updated in late 2022 aims to:
 - Promote the progression of women in the law, judiciary, and wider community.
 - Redress the underrepresentation of women barristers in NSW and support a consistent approach to equitable briefing practices.
 - Promote the provision of role models for women in the legal profession generally.
 - Enhance the legal profession's credibility by making it more representative of the community which it serves.
- Randwick Council could adopt the Law Council Policy; however, as this Policy only relates to barristers, it is suggested that Council follow a similar approach but expand the policy to promote women solicitors and barristers in undertaking legal work commissioned by Council. This would be a positive step in encouraging equity in the legal profession.
- This report recommends that Council develop and implement a policy that encourages the use of women barristers and solicitors in dealing with Council's legal matters.

Recommendation

That:

- a) Council endorse the development of an Equitable Briefing Policy that encourages the use of women barristers and solicitors in dealing with Council's legal matters.
- b) the draft Equitable Briefing Policy is reported to Council for consideration.

Attachment/s:

1.  Law Council of Australia Equitable Briefing Policy

Purpose

This report responds to Council resolution (NM66/24-Wilson/Chapple) at the 23 July 2024 Ordinary Council meeting, being

That Council officers bring back a report regarding Council's adoption of the Law Council of Australia's Equitable Briefing Policy.

Discussion

In 2016 The Equitable Briefing Policy was developed by The Law Council of Australia to "support measures to improve the retention within the profession of women barristers".

The Policy, which was updated in November 2022, supports measures to improve retention of women barristers in the legal profession and introduces consistency to ensure the equitable briefing practices. The Policy aims to:

- Promote the progression of women in the law, judiciary, and wider community.
- Redress the underrepresentation of women barristers in NSW and support a consistent approach to equitable briefing practices.
- Promote the provision of role models for women in the legal profession generally.
- Enhance the legal profession's credibility by making it more representative of the community which it serves.

Based on the Law Council's Policy, NSW Government in July 2018 introduced *The Equitable Briefing Policy for Women Barristers*. The Government's Policy applies to all NSW Government sector agencies and has aspirational targets for briefing women barristers.

Since 2016, The Law Council has sought the adoption of the Policy by any organisation and persons who brief or select barristers in order:

- to make all reasonable endeavours to brief or select women barristers with relevant seniority and expertise, experience, or interest in the relevant practice area.
- to brief or select women barristers for at least 30% of all briefs and at least 30% of the value of all brief fees, in accordance with international benchmarks.

The provisions of the Policy are outlined below.

Selection of barristers

- In selecting barristers, all reasonable and genuine endeavours should be made to:
 - a) Identify women barristers in the relevant practice area.
 - b) Engage women barristers.

Briefing Targets

- In selecting barristers, all reasonable efforts are considered by the agency to:
 - a) Brief or select women barristers accounting for at least 30 per cent of all briefs and at least 30 per cent of the value of all brief fees paid to senior barristers.

Monitoring and Reporting

- An agency or organisation that briefs and engages barristers should regularly monitor and review its progress towards meeting the above targets.
- At the end of September each year, each agency or organisation is requested to report to the Law Council on the following.
 - a) the number of barristers briefed during the year,
 - b) the number of those barristers who are senior barristers,
 - c) the number of those barristers who were junior barristers,
 - d) the number of those junior barristers who were briefed without a leader,

- e) the monetary value of the briefs.

These terms are defined as:

- A barrister - a member of an independent state or territory bar,
- A senior barrister - a barrister who has been appointed as a King's Counsel or Senior Counsel,
- A junior barrister - any barrister who is not a senior barrister.

Council is to note that the Law Council Policy has been formulated for adoption by any briefing entity and by clients of briefing entities operating in Australia.

The Law Council, in the Policy, states that the selection of counsel is ultimately the decision of the client, and in-house counsel and the Council encourages these groups to adopt and apply the Policy when instructing briefing entities and making their selections of barristers.

Developing a Similar Policy for Randwick City Council

Randwick Council could adopt the Law Council Policy; however, this Policy only relates to barristers. It is suggested that consideration be given to developing a similar approach and policy for Council that aims of promoting women (solicitors and barristers) in the legal profession.

The development of a policy for Council that promotes the use of women solicitors is based on the grounds that the majority of legal work, in particular in the planning area, is undertaken by solicitors.

It is worthwhile understanding the use of women in dealing with some of the legal matters at Council over the last 12 months. This information, which only relate to planning matters is outlined in the table below:

Matter	Total Number of DA appeal matters which were determined by either discontinuance, s34 agreement or by the Court	Matters dealt with by Women	Matters dealt with by Men
Barristers representing Council in Court	15 (including one matter where both senior and junior barristers were briefed)	1	14
Solicitors representing Council in Court	16	11	15
ADVICE			
Barristers and Solicitors providing advice or dealing with legal documents matters such as VPAs	40	25 (inhouse)	15

From the data above it is evident that women barristers are underrepresented when dealing with legal matters, but overall Council has a reasonable representation of women lawyers in Court matters. This is assisted by the fact that Council's Special Counsel plays a significant role in undertaking court work. However, it is considered that the development and implementation of policy that encourages the use of women barristers and solicitors in dealing with Council's legal matters would be a positive step in ensuring equity in the legal profession.

It is suggested that the policy for Council be developed based on the Equitable Briefing Policy developed by the Law Council and the NSW Government and cover the following:

1. In selecting barristers, and solicitors - requesting that legal agencies or practices used by Council, where appropriate and suitable, endeavour to allocated work/ briefs to women.
2. Development of targets for the use of women barristers and solicitors in:
 - a. representing Council in Court.
 - b. undertaking negotiation or mediation on behalf of Council.
 - c. providing advice or dealing with legal matters for Council.
3. Monitoring and annual reporting on targets based on a template developed by Council.

The staff would consult with the Law Council and legal agencies used by Council in the development of the policy including the targets and reporting requirements.

If the Policy was adopted Council, Council would be seeking the legal firms engaged to undertake Council's legal matters, such as Marsdens Law Group, HWL Ebworth Lawyers and Lindsay Taylor Lawyers, to endorse the policy, commit to achieving the targets and reporting requirements.

Strategic alignment

The recommendation of this report supports the following outcome of our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:	
Strategy	Inclusive Randwick
Outcome	A resilient city where people are engaged, informed, connected and feel a sense of community and belonging
Objective	The percentage of residents who feel a part of their community will remain above the metro benchmark through to 2031
Delivery program commitment	Develop a diversity framework by 2024, which will include community plans to address the needs of our diverse population, including First Nations, aged, disabled, youth, families, and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.

Risks

The risks associated with this recommendation is low. Once the Policy is in place, legal firms that are contracted by Council will be encouraged to adopt the Policy. In implementing the Policy, the firm would consider allocating a women barrister or solicitor to Council related matters based on their experience and expertise.

Resourcing Strategy implications

There are no financial implications arising from the recommendation of this report as the development of the Policy will be prepared by the staff within the City Planning Directorate in consultation with the range of legal firms used by Council.

Policy and legislative requirements

The development of the Policy will be guided by:

- The Equitable Briefing Policy 2016-22 - The Law Council of Australia.
- The Equitable Briefing Policy for Women Barristers 2018 - NSW Government.

Conclusion

The Equitable Briefing Policy was developed by The Law Council of Australia to support measures to improve the retention within the profession of women barristers. The Policy, updated in late 2022 aims to promote the progression of women in the law and the judicial system.

This report outlines that Council could develop a similar policy for Council that aims of promoting women (solicitors and barristers) in legal work that is undertaken for Council. This would be a positive step in encouraging equity in the legal profession.

This report recommends that Council develop and implement a policy that encourages the use of women barristers and solicitors in dealing with Council's legal matters.

Responsible officer: Meryl Bishop, Director City Planning

File Reference: F2023/00603

CP2/25

Law Council of Australia

Equitable Briefing Policy

Updated November 2022



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EQUITABLE BRIEFING POLICY

The Australian legal profession is committed to promoting diversity, equality, respect and inclusion consistent with the principles of justice, integrity, equity and the pursuit of excellence upon which the profession is founded.

The Law Council of Australia (the **Law Council**) supports measures to improve the retention within the profession of women barristers. Since 2016, the Law Council's Equitable Briefing Policy has included measurable targets relating to the percentage of women barristers briefed and the value of those briefs and reporting mechanisms on measures to implement those targets.

The Policy

The Law Council of Australia and its constituent members encourage all persons or entities who brief or select barristers:¹

1. to make all reasonable endeavours to brief or select women barristers with relevant seniority and expertise, experience or interest in the relevant practice area;
2. to brief or select women barristers for at least 30% of all briefs and at least 30% of the value of all brief fees, in accordance with international benchmarks concerning the retention and promotion of women;
3. to provide a confidential report to the Law Council by 30 September each year with respect to the measures taken to implement these targets; and
4. to ensure that the Law Council is notified within a reasonable time of any changes to the status or contact details provided to the Law Council.

An adoptee would not be expected to meet the targets in clause 2 if local conditions preclude them from doing so.² In such cases, adoptees of the Policy should include in the 'Comments' section of their annual confidential report the nature of the local conditions affecting the data.

What is the aim of the Policy?

The Law Council's aim is to achieve a nationally consistent approach towards bringing about cultural and attitudinal change within the legal profession with respect to gender briefing practices.

¹ See below for Definitions and Expressions used in this Policy

² For example, in some areas, particularly rural, regional and remote areas, there may be only one woman barrister. It may be unreasonable for that woman barrister to be expected to accept 30% of an adoptee's briefs, particularly if there are other Policy adoptees in that local area who are also looking to brief that woman barrister.

Equitable briefing practices maximise choices for legal practitioners and their clients, promote the full use of the independent bar and optimise opportunities for practice development of all barristers.

Why is the Policy necessary?

The Law Council is committed to taking measures that ensure a level playing field for all members of the Australian legal profession.

In 2004, the Law Council vigorously supported the creation of a Model Briefing Policy because it was convinced that equitable briefing practices open up access to suitably qualified barristers and advocates, maximising choices for legal practitioners and their clients.

The Law Council recognises that it is now appropriate to revise the Model Briefing Policy that was adopted in 2004 in order to ensure there is transparency and accountability in the implementation of that Policy.

The objectives of the Policy are that it will (continue to):

- play an important role in the progression of women in the law, the judiciary and the wider community;
- redress the underrepresentation of women as barristers in Australia;
- acknowledge that diverse groups bring a greater variety of experience and enhance decision making;
- promote the provision of role models for women in the legal profession generally;
- reflect community expectations of fairness in all aspects of the administration of the law; and
- enhance the profession's credibility by making it more representative of the composition of the community which it serves.

Who can adopt the Policy?

The Policy is formulated for adoption by any briefing entity.

The Policy may also be adopted by clients of briefing entities operating in Australia.

The selection of counsel is ultimately the decision of the client, and in-house counsel are encouraged to adopt and apply the Policy when instructing briefing entities and making their selections of barristers.

Barristers' clerks and barristers can play a significant role in the effective operation of the Policy. When they are consulted by clients and briefing entities with a view to engaging barristers, all barristers' clerks and barristers adopting the Policy will include women barristers in the relevant practice area among the names of barristers whom they suggest.

How is the policy adopted

Adoption of the Policy should be accompanied by notification or publication of its adoption internally and externally, including to the Law Council. The Law Council will publish on its website the names of those who have adopted the Policy.

What needs to be done when the Policy is adopted?

The Policy should be distributed widely within the briefing entity, client or other organisation.

The Law Council recommends that each briefing entity, client and organisation review their current briefing practices, having regard to the following questions:

- Do your briefing practices reflect the objectives of the Policy?
- How do you maintain a record of your briefing practices?
- Do you regularly review the panel of barristers whom you brief (if any)?
- How do your partners/staff receive ongoing training in 'best briefing' practices, including practices that will promote achievement of the targets?
- How do you foster and encourage women barristers?

Periodically there should be internal publication of reminders and refreshers about the adoption of the Policy and its requirements.

Briefing entities which have adopted the Policy are requested to provide the Law Council with updated contact details if their contact details change, by sending an email to 'mail@lawcouncil.asn.au' with 'Equitable Briefing Policy contact update' in the subject line.

What are the benefits to clients, briefing entities and barristers who adopt the Policy?

The benefits of the Policy include:

- expanding the existing and prospective pool of talent for barristers available for court appearance and advice work;
- meeting client expectations with respect to genuine participation and inclusion of women; and
- giving effect to gender equity in supply chains for the provision of legal services.

How to identify women barristers?

The Policy encourages genuine consideration of women barristers based on their skill, experience, expertise and interest. It encourages all practitioners (barristers, solicitors, in-house counsel etc) and barristers' clerks/practice managers to seek out women barristers appropriate for the relevant matter.

For example:

- briefing entities are encouraged to prepare and maintain an internal referral list/database of women barristers, which is regularly updated;
- briefing entities should liaise with local bar associations and chambers to obtain relevant information about women barristers, such as up to date contact details, qualifications, seniority, practice areas and experience;
- briefing entities should invite women barristers to provide them with statements of their relevant experience and areas of interest;
- if a recommendation is sought from a barrister, they should be asked whether there are appropriate women barristers to be considered; and
- if the client requests a list of barristers who might be engaged, women barristers should be included in that list.

Are the targets mandatory?

The targets are not mandatory.

The targets are not intended to be quotas or to undermine clients' right to select the barrister(s) to advise and appear on their behalf.

Can the targets be modified to address local conditions?

Briefing above the targets

The Law Council recognises that, in some practice areas, women barristers may be briefed to advise and appear in numbers higher than these targets.

The targets are not intended to limit the number of women barristers briefed. It is open to any briefing entity to adopt targets higher than those recommended in this Policy.

Where the proportion of available women barristers is low, briefing entities are encouraged to increase the proportion of briefs they provide to junior women barristers in excess of the targets in the Policy in order to nurture and develop expertise.

Briefing below the targets

The targets are intended to increase the number of women briefed in practice areas where women barristers are not briefed, infrequently briefed or where the pool of women briefed is small.

The Law Council also recognises that some briefing entities may need to set their own incremental annual targets and to extend the time to meet the targets in order to reflect the proportion of women barristers who are available to appear in small jurisdictions, remote and rural areas or in particular areas of practice.

Exceptions can be made where these targets are not achievable due to the gender make up in particular areas of practice or geographical locations, provided this is stated in the annual confidential report (see below).

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What happens if the targets are not achieved?

Where a briefing entity does not meet a target in the Policy, consideration should be given by that entity as to the reasons why a target was not achieved.

What are the reporting obligations?

The reporting obligations for individuals and entities, such as sole practitioners and law firms, adopting the Policy are different from the reporting obligations for barristers adopting the Policy.

Reporting obligations for individuals and entities adopting the Policy

Individuals and entities adopting this policy are asked to provide an annual confidential report on their briefing practices and measures taken to implement the Policy.

The confidential report will assist the briefing entity to achieve the targets and to assess how it might improve its briefing policies with respect to selection practices, costs and means to identify a pool of talented, experienced and skilled barristers of all genders.

The confidential report should address separately the figures for men and women barristers in respect of:

- a. the number of barristers briefed during the year;
- b. the number of those barristers who are senior barristers;
- c. the number of those barristers who were junior barristers;
- d. the number of those junior barristers who were briefed without a leader; and
- e. the monetary value of the briefs.

Confidential reports should be provided to the Law Council, by 30 September each year.

The Law Council will subsequently publish the figures on state-by-state and national bases each year. The material published will be in a format that does not identify any individual barrister or briefing entity.

What is the role and commitment of in-house counsel and clients who adopt the Policy?

Where they do not already do so, clients and in-house counsel may consider:

- requiring that the firms they engage confirm their adoption of the Policy; and
- requesting regular reporting from firms as to their performance against the targets, both overall and on matters for that client; and if women barristers are not recommended or targets are not met, asking “why not?”.

What is the role and commitment of barristers who adopt the Policy?

In addition to targets identified in this Policy, barristers who adopt the Policy will make all reasonable endeavours to ensure that all recommendations they make of other barristers include at least one woman, unless there is no qualified woman.

Reporting obligations for barristers adopting the policy

Barristers should provide a confidential annual report to the Law Council. A barrister's report should address the following information, by reference to gender:

- a. the number of barristers briefed as their junior or as their leader during the year;
- b. number of barristers who were briefed as junior barristers as a result of a recommendation by senior barristers (if known);
- c. the number of barristers who were briefed as senior barristers as a result of recommendations by junior barristers (if known); and
- d. the number of barristers recommended to briefing entities in new matters.

Barristers' clerks should work with barristers who adopt the Policy to develop practices and protocols to assist with their reporting obligations.

Are there resources to assist implementing the Policy?

Many Bar Associations and Law Societies have online resources which are publicly available. Likewise, Australian Women Lawyers and State Women Lawyers' Associations have publicly available resources.

Local Bar Associations and Law Societies will assist with the implementation of the Policy by adopting appropriate strategies, including education, information and resources. Barristers' clerks and practice managers can assist with information, recommendations and introductions.

The Law Council will assist its constituent bodies to provide templates for reporting, regular information and education seminars and workshops directed to implementing the Policy as required.

Review and development of the Policy

The Law Council recognises the need to continue to review the Policy from time to time to ensure the Policy is appropriate and adapted to achieve its purpose.

The targets set out in clause 2 will be reviewed in the report on the 2023-2024 reporting year. The Law Council will continue ongoing discussions with its constituent bodies to monitor the impact of the Policy and consider its broader application beyond gender.

Other areas of diversity

The Law Council is committed to improving inclusion and diversity across the legal profession by reference to a broader range of considerations. It recognises that enhancing inclusion must also extend to persons:

- from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- living with disability; and
- who identify as LGBTIQ+.

The Law Council supports the application of equitable briefing practices to broader areas of diversity. At this stage, lack of consistency in data collection precludes the Policy's application across these broader areas, as it is not possible for the Law Council to set

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targets for equitable briefing in these additional areas of diversity, nor monitor progress against them. Going forward, the Law Council will continue to consider whether this Policy can be so expanded, aided by consultation with members of the profession who identify as being from those and potentially other diverse groups.

Even though the Policy does not currently encompass other areas of diversity, the Law Council encourages briefing entities to brief or select barristers from other diverse groups.

Definitions and expressions used in the Policy

For the purpose of the Policy:

barrister means a member of an independent State or Territory Bar.

brief means the engagement of legal services provided by barristers and includes barristers' work in judicial (before Courts and tribunals), non-judicial (through commissions of inquiry, investigations, negotiation, mediation or arbitration) and advisory work. A brief may count towards the targets in this Policy by reference either to the retention of a barrister or to the provision on behalf of a barrister of an invoice for fees, depending upon the length and scope of the matter.

briefing entity is a person, corporation, entity, firm, partnership, government or body who recommends or briefs Australian barristers to advise or to appear in Australia or overseas.

senior barrister is a barrister of 10 or more years standing at the independent bar or who is King's Counsel or Senior Counsel, and **junior barrister** means all other barristers.

[Version approved November 2022]

Director City Planning Report No. CP3/25

**Subject: Variations to Development Standards under Clause 4.6 - 1
November 2024 to 31 January 2025**


Executive Summary

- On 15 September 2023, the NSW Government published amendments in relation to the operation and reporting requirements of Clause 4.6 of the Standard Instrument (including Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012) to commence on 1 November 2023, in which it is no longer necessary to report determined variations to Council on a quarterly basis.
- Notwithstanding the above, a monthly report providing details of applications subject to a variation of a development standard under clause 4.6 of Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012 has been submitted to the Ordinary Council meeting since February 2009.
- This report provides Council with details of Development Applications (DA) that were determined within the period from 1 November 2024 through to 31 January 2025 in which a variation to a development standard under Clause 4.6 of the Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012 was approved, in accordance with Council's internal reporting requirements.

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Attachment/s:

1.  Clause 4.6 Register - November 2024-January 2025

Background

Changes to Legislation

On 15 September 2023, the NSW Government published amendments in relation to the operation and reporting requirements of Clause 4.6 of the Standard Instrument (including Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012) to commence on 1 November 2023.

Under Department's Planning Circular PS 20-002, Councils were required to provide quarterly reports to the DPE for all variations to development standards that were approved. Furthermore, the Circular required a report of all variations approved under delegation from a Council to be provided to a meeting of the Council meeting at least once each quarter. As part of the Clause 4.6 reform, Planning Circular PS 20-002 has been repealed as of 1 November 2023 and the amendments have introduced a new provision under Section 90A of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation) which requires the following:

"As soon as practicable after the development application is determined, the Council of the area in which the development is proposed to be carried out must notify the Planning Secretary of the Council's or panel's reasons for approving or refusing the contravention of the development standard."

The notice must be given to the Planning Secretary through the NSW planning portal."

As of 1 November 2023, any variations approved by Council/Planning Panel will be made publicly available via a variation register published on the NSW Planning Portal. As such, in accordance with Section 90A of the EP&A Regulation, Councils are no longer required to submit quarterly reports to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, as this information will be extracted from the NSW Planning Portal. Furthermore, as Planning Circular PS 20-002 has been repealed and the variation register shall be publicly available, it is no longer necessary to report determined variations to Council on a quarterly basis.

Notwithstanding the above, a monthly report provides Council with details of the relevant applications subject to a variation to a development standard pursuant to Clause 4.6 of RLEP 2012 for the period specified in accordance with Council's internal reporting requirements.

Discussion

Clause 4.6 – Exceptions to Development Standards

Clause 4.6 is required to be addressed if a development application seeks to vary a development standard in the Local Environmental Plan. The consent authority (i.e. Council, Randwick Local Planning Panel, Sydney Eastern Planning Panel or NSW Land and Environment Court) must not grant consent for development that contravenes a development standard unless, a written request has been provided by the applicant addressing Clause 4.6 of the LEP. If Council (or the relevant consent authority) is satisfied that the Clause 4.6 request is adequately justified, it may grant consent to the development even though the proposal does not comply with the relevant standard.

Details of Variations

A table is attached to the report detailing all Clause 4.6 exceptions approved in the period between 1 November 2024 through to 31 January 2025. Further analysis of the largest numerical variations for each month is detailed below. It should be noted that a detailed assessment report is prepared for each DA with a Clause 4.6 exception and is publicly available through Council's website.

November 2024

Three (3) Clause 4.6 variations were approved in the November period (being 1 November through to 30 November 2024), with two (2) applications determined under delegation (less than 10%) and one (1) determined by Randwick Local Planning Panel (RLPP) due to variations greater than 10%.

Of the variations approved, the greatest extent of variation related to DA/565/2024 at 23 Torrington Road, Maroubra, in which a 10% variation to the Height of Buildings development standard and a 23.61% variation to the Floor Space Ratio (FSR) development standard was approved. The RLPP supported the variation to the Height of Buildings and FSR standards for the following reasons:

- The application sought consent for alterations and additions to the existing dwelling house including a new attic level with balcony and driveway gate.
- The attic addition is located centrally within the existing built form. The existing ridgeline is maintained, and the rear roof extension would not impact the streetscape. Much of the additional floor space is accommodated within the internal portion of the built form, and would not be visible from public domain.
- The building height non-compliance is a consequence of the existing building height. The proposed maximum building height does not exceed the existing building height.
- The bulk and scale of the proposed development is comparable to the existing dwelling on the south-western side of Torrington Road, ensuring compatibility with the existing and desired future character of the locality.
- The detailed assessment demonstrated that the resultant development would not result in any unreasonable impacts upon the amenity of adjoining and surrounding properties with regard to visual bulk, privacy, view loss, or overshadowing.
- In view of the above, the proposal was found to be consistent with the objectives of the Building Height and FSR development standards, and the R2 zone, and it was considered that the site-specific circumstances warranted the variation in this instance.

December 2024

Eight (8) Clause 4.6 variations were approved in the December period (being 1 December through to 31 December 2024), with two (2) applications determined under delegation (less than 10%), four (4) applications determined by Randwick Local Planning Panel (RLPP) due to variations greater than 10%, and two (2) applications determined by the Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel (SECPP).

Of the variations approved, the greatest extent of variation related to DA/535/2024 at 173-177 Coogee Bay Road, Coogee, in which a 25% variation to the Height of Buildings development standard, a 56.81% variation to the Floor Space Ratio (FSR) development standard, and a 16.7% variation to the Ceiling Height development standard (*under State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021*) was approved. The RLPP supported the variation to the Height of Buildings, FSR, and Ceiling Height standards for the following reasons:

- The application sought consent for alterations and additions to an existing shop top housing development, including removal of Shop 2 to facilitate new lobby and lift, waste storage area and bicycle parking, changes to upper ground floor, internal re-configuration and rear expansion of Levels 1-3 to provide 2 x 1-bedroom units and 6 x 2-bedroom units, new first stairs and rear balconies, installation of business identification signage.
- The building height non-compliance is a consequence of the existing building height. The proposed maximum building height (15m) does not exceed the existing maximum building height (16m).
- The additional floor space seeks to increase the internal area of Apartments 1 and 2, which currently do not meet Apartment Design Guide (ADG) requirements. The FSR variation will provide better internal amenity for the dwellings and does not contribute to significant additional building bulk.
- The ceiling height non-compliance relates only to a portion of the kitchens of all apartments and the dining rooms of Apartments 1 and 2. Notwithstanding, the development achieves sufficient natural ventilation and sunlight, which meets the relevant ADG objectives. A non-standard condition is included in the consent to increase the ceiling height of the dining room to Apartments 1 and 2, to effectively reduce the extent of non-compliance.
- The bulk and scale of the proposed development is comparable to the existing building on the southern side of Coogee Bay Road, ensuring compatibility with the existing and desired future character of the locality.
- The detailed assessment demonstrated that the resultant development would not result in any unreasonable impacts upon the amenity of adjoining and surrounding properties with regard to visual bulk, privacy, view loss, or overshadowing.
- In view of the above, the proposal was found to be consistent with the objectives of the Building Height, FSR, and Ceiling Height development standards, and the R3 zone, and it was considered that the site-specific circumstances warranted the variation in this instance.

January 2025

Three (3) Clause 4.6 variations were approved in the January period (being 1 January through to 31 January 2025), with two (2) applications determined under delegation (less than 10%), and one (1) application determined by the Land and Environment Court (LEC).

Of the variations approved, the greatest extent of variation related to DA/208/2024 at 6 Bowral Street, Kensington, in which a 9.1% variation to the Height of Buildings development standard was approved. The LEC supported the variation to the Height of Buildings standard for the following reasons:

- The application sought consent for demolition of existing structures and construction of a 5 and 9 storey shop top housing development separated by a central through site link with ground floor commercial tenancies/Small Office Home Office (SOHO) units and residential dwellings on floors above, two basement levels accommodating 41 car parking spaces, communal open spaces, removal of trees, amalgamation of existing lots, and associated site and landscape works.
- The application was subject of a Class 1 appeal against the deemed refusal of the application. The LEC arranged a conciliation conference between the parties (the Applicant and Council) under s34(1) of the *Land and Environment Court Act 1979* ('the Court Act'). The conference was held on 17 October and 12 December 2024. Through the conciliation process, the parties reached an agreement to grant development consent to the application. As the presiding Commissioner, Thorpe AC was satisfied, pursuant to s34(3) of the Court Act that the appeal be upheld.
- The building height non-compliance is resultant of the lift overrun and services, which are centrally located at roof level. The non-compliant portion of the development does not give rise to any significant adverse impacts, particularly when compared to a fully compliant development scheme.
- The detailed assessment demonstrated that the resultant development would not result in any unreasonable impacts upon the amenity of adjoining and surrounding properties with regard to visual bulk, privacy, view loss, or overshadowing.
- In view of the above, the proposal was found to be consistent with the objectives of the Building Height development standard, and the E2 zone, and it was considered that the site-specific circumstances warranted the variation in this instance.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Development Assessment
Function	Assessment of Development Applications
Delivery program commitment	Assess and determine Development Applications, Modification Applications and Review Applications under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Resourcing Strategy implications

There is no direct financial impact for this matter.

Conclusion

This report provides details of the relevant applications subject to a variation to a development standard pursuant to Clause 4.6 of RLEP 2012 for the period specified in accordance with Councils internal reporting requirements.

Responsible officer: Ferdinando Macri, Senior Environmental Planning Officer

File Reference: F2008/00122

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CLAUSE 4.6 REGISTER – NOVEMBER 2024 - JANUARY 2025														
DA number	Street No.	Street name	Suburb/Town	Postcode	Category of development	Zoning of land	Development standard to be varied	Justification of variation	Extent of variation	Concurring authority	Date DA determined dd/mm/yyyy	Approved by	Submissions	
													Objection	Support
DA/922/2024	2/162	Brook Street	COOGEE	2034	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R3 – Medium Density Residential	Clause 4.4 – FSR = 0.9:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	FSR = 0.94:1 or 4%	DPHI	13-Nov-24	DEL	1	0
DA/565/2024	23	Torrington Road	MAROUBRA	2035	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R2 – Low Density Residential	Clause 4.3 – Building Height = 9.5m Clause 4.4A – FSR = 0.65:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building height = 10.45m or 10% FSR = 0.8:1 or 23.61%	DPHI	14-Nov-24	RLPP	0	0
DA/949/2024	42	Paine Street	MAROUBRA	2035	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R2 – Low Density Residential	Clause 4.4A – FSR = 0.75:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	FSR = 0.8:1 or 7.04%	DPHI	28-Nov-24	DEL	0	0
DA/734/2024	100	Marine Parade	MAROUBRA	2035	4: Residential – New multi-unit < 20 units	R3 – Medium Density Residential	Clause 4.3 – Building Height = 12m	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building height = 12.39m or 3.25%	DPHI	03-Dec-24	DEL	4	0
DA/489/2024	11	Jennifer Street	LITTLE BAY	2036	14: Other	R3 – Medium Density Residential	Clause 4.3 of RLEP and Section 18 of Housing SEPP – Building Height = 12.2m Clause 4.4 of RLEP and Section 16 of Housing SEPP – FSR = 0.9639:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building height = 16.8m or 37.7% FSR = 0.975:1 or 1.15%	DPHI	06-Dec-24	SECPP	20	0
DA/487/2024	11	Jennifer Street	LITTLE BAY	2036	14: Other	R3 – Medium Density Residential	Clause 4.3 of RLEP and Section 18 of Housing SEPP – Building Height = 12.2m Clause 4.4 of RLEP and	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building height = 16.8m or 37.7% FSR = 0.975:1 or 1.15%	DPHI	06-Dec-24	SECPP	14	0

							Section 16 of Housing SEPP – FSR = 0.9639:1							
DA/535/2024	173-177	Coogee Bay Road	COOGEE	2034	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R3 – Medium Density Residential	Clause 4.3 – Building height = 12m Clause 4.4 – FSR = 0.9:1 Section 148(2)(c) of Housing SEPP – Ceiling Height = 2.7m	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building height = 15m or 25% FSR = 1.41:1 or 56.81% Ceiling Height = 2.25m or 16.7%	DPHI	12-Dec-24	RLPP	1	0
DA/561/2024	3A	Gordon Avenue	COOGEE	2034	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R2 – Low Density Residential	Clause 4.3 – Building Height = 9.5m	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building height = 12.3m or 29.47%	DPHI	12-Dec-24	RLPP	1	0
DA/1138/2024	5/10-18	Bay Street	COOGEE	2034	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R3 – Medium Density Residential	Clause 4.4 – FSR = 0.9:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	FSR = 0.94:1 or 4.44%	DPHI	17-Dec-24	DEL	0	0
DA/511/2024	171	Darley Road	RANDWICK	2031	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R2 – Low Density Residential	Clause 4.4 – FSR = 0.5:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	FSR = 0.715:1 or 42.9%	DPHI	17-Dec-24	RLPP	0	0
DA/555/2024	99	Fairsky Street	SOUTH COOGEE	2034	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R1– General Residential	Clause 4.4 – FSR = 0.7:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	FSR = 0.81:1 or 15.7%	DPHI	17-Dec-24	RLPP	0	0
DA/924/2024	16	Woodland Street	COOGEE	2034	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R2 – Low Density Residential	Clause 4.3 – Building Height = 9.5m	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building Height = 10.08m or 6.1%	DPHI	14-Jan-25	DEL	0	0
DA/1026/2024	13	Araluen Street	KINGSFORD	2032	1: Residential – Alterations & additions	R2 – Low Density Residential	Clause 4.4A – FSR = 0.75:1	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	FSR = 0.77:1 or 2.5%	DPHI	20-Jan-25	DEL	0	0

DA/208/2024	6	Bowral Street	KENSINGTON	2033	10: Mixed	E2 – Commercial Centre	Clauses 4.3 and 6.17 – Building Height = 19m and 31m	Maintains compatible scale with neighbouring buildings and does not adversely impact in terms of overshadowing, privacy, and views.	Building Height = 20.73m (or 9.1%) and 31.39m (or 1.2%)	DPHI	29-Jan-25	LEC	4	0
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Director City Planning Report No. CP4/25

Subject: Report from Fire and Rescue NSW - 256-274 Alison Road
Randwick (Also known as 67-69 St Marks Road, Randwick)

Executive Summary

- The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, contains provisions which enable authorised Council and Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) officers to undertake inspections of existing buildings to review the levels of fire safety.
- An inspection of the residential apartment building located at the subject premises was recently undertaken by FRNSW.
- Council recently received a report from FRNSW in accordance with section 9.32 and Schedule 5, Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* relating to fire safety of the subject premises and indicating actions required to be implemented to address any fire safety issues.
- Council's fire safety officers have reviewed the report, carried out an inspection of the building and have issued a Notice of Intention dated 6 January 2025 to serve an Order to provide a report to Council in response to the matters and recommendations outlined in the FRNSW report.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the report from Fire & Rescue NSW relating to premises at 256-274 Alison Road, Randwick (also known as 67-69 St Marks Road, Randwick).

Attachment/s:

1.  Fire and Rescue NSW - 256-274 Alison Road aka 67 St Marks Road Randwick - Inspection Report 29/11/2024

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the receipt of an inspection report received from Fire and Rescue NSW in accordance with Schedule 5, Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and to inform Council of the proposed action taken in response to the report. The report relates to three related apartment buildings located at 256-274 Alison Road, Randwick (also known as 67-69 St Marks Road, Randwick).

Discussion

Background

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, contains provisions which enable authorised Council and Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) officers to undertake inspections and investigate concerns relating to the existing levels of fire safety in buildings.

In the case of an investigation and inspection of a premises by a FRNSW officer, a report is forwarded to the Council, to determine if a Fire Safety Order should be issued by Council's authorised officer.

The correspondence received from Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) usually recommends that Council officers carry out an inspection and assessment to address the recommended actions in their report.

The referral of these matters to Council is required, as Council is the appropriate regulatory authority for these matters under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and only Council officers are authorised to issue Fire Safety building upgrading Orders.

The Act under *Schedule 5, Part 8 Special Provisions Relating to Fire Safety Orders - Clause 17 Inspection reports by fire brigades* requires the correspondence from FRNSW and the outcomes of Council's investigations and actions to be tabled at a meeting of Council.

The items raised in FRNSW Inspection Reports are limited to observations of the building accessed during their inspection at the time, which may not be exhaustive and does not include an assessment of previous development consents, approvals or consideration of the age of the building.

Council's Coordinator Building Certification & Fire Safety has assessed the inspection report from FRNSW and undertaken an inspection of the subject buildings. In early January 2025 a Notice of Intention to serve a Fire Safety Order has also been issued to address the recommendations in the FRNSW report.

Council's officers are also currently liaising with the managing agent and their representatives in relation to the matters raised by FRNSW.

Issues

A summary of the report received from FRNSW dated 29 November 2024, together with comments by Council officers is provided below.

Premises Inspected	Reason for Investigation	Items Raised	Actions
256-274 Alison Road, Randwick (also known as 67-69 St Marks Road, Randwick).	An inspection of the subject building was conducted by officers from FRNSW on 10 September 2024 and 24 February 2024.	Deficiencies and faults within the fire detection, alarm and signaling system, fire hydrant compliance, obstruction of exit stairs, provision/display of a fire safety statement and provision of a sprinkler	Council's fire safety officers have reviewed the report from FRNSW, carried out a site inspection and issued a Notice of Intention on 6 January 2025 to obtain a report which addresses the matters raised to achieve an

Premises Inspected	Reason for Investigation	Items Raised	Actions
		system in Westbourne Tower.	adequate level of fire safety fire the building occupants. Council officers have also met with officers from FRNSW and representatives of the owners of the building. Matters to be addressed in the Notice of Intention include, provision of a suitable fire detection and alarm system, fire hydrant compliance, ensuring exits are not obstructed, provision/display of a fire safety statement and assessment of the provision of a sprinkler system in Westbourne Tower.

CP4/25

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Health, Building & Regulatory Services
Function	Regulation and Compliance
Delivery program commitment	Implement Council's key regulatory functions, responsibilities and services relating to public health, environmental protection and building and development compliance.

Resourcing Strategy implications

There are no financial implications arising from this matter.

Policy and legislative requirements

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
Council's Compliance and Enforcement Policy.

Conclusion

FRNSW and Council work together to protect the occupants of buildings and support community safety.

FRNSW are required to refer any identified 'building-related' fire safety matters to Council for further investigation and any appropriate regulatory action, in accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

In relation to the subject premises at 256-274 Alison Road, Randwick (also known as 67-69 St Marks Road, Randwick), Council officers have commenced regulatory action to ensure that adequate levels of fire safety are provided to the occupants of the building.

Responsible officer: Greg Hynes, Coordinator Building Certification and Fire Safety

File Reference: F2025/06103

CP4/25

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File Ref. No: FRN23/3798 – BFS23/6912 (SRID 8000032257) - BFS24/3665 (SRID 800036222)
TRIM Ref. No: D24/119616
Contact: John Bruscino

29 November 2024

General Manager
Randwick City Council
Administration Building & Customer Service Centre
30 Frances Street
RANDWICK NSW 2031

Email: council@randwick.nsw.gov.au

Attention: Manager Compliance/Fire Safety

Dear Sir / Madam

**Re: INSPECTION REPORT
256-274 ALISON ROAD, RANDWICK ("the premises")
(AKA 67-69 ST MARKS ROAD, RANDWICK)
'CORYULE GARDENS'**

Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) received correspondence on 25 November 2023 and 20 June 2024 concerning the adequacy of the provision for fire safety in connection with 'the premises'.

The correspondence on 25 November 2023 stated that:

- Randwick, Woollahra and City of Sydney Fire Stations attended these premises no fewer than 4 times today (25/11/2023) before 1400hrs as a result of an apparent fault in the Installed Fire System. The FIP indicated various activations on various Levels of the Fire Stairs (LH). These included Levels 13,10, 6 and 2 and several others. The Caretaker (John) was called by the Reporting Officer via mobile phone and alerted to the above situation. He assured me that the Fire Servicing Company contracted to service this building would be notified to attend and investigate/rectify immediately. I understand that he called the Servicing Coy. and a Tech. (Yuan) from Total Concept Electrical attended approx. 1515hrs to investigate. Yuan contacted me at approx. 1800hrs and stated that the premises had several issues apparently related to faulty wiring within the Installed System and that the company that he contracts to had recommended, back in February of 2023, new wiring and associated equipment be installed as A MATTER OF URGENCY. This, apparently, has not been started*

Fire and Rescue NSW

ABN 12 593 473 110

www.fire.nsw.gov.au

Community Safety Directorate
Fire Safety Compliance Unit

1 Amarina Ave
Greenacre NSW 2190

T (02) 9742 7434
F (02) 9742 7483

www.fire.nsw.gov.au

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for some reason. The result is that the Installed System is mostly Non-Operational and that the safety of the occupants, due to smoke or fire, CAN NOT be achieved and/or maintained. I would suggest that this be addressed, by the relevant Authorities', as a MATTER OF SEVERE and LIFE THREATENING URGENCY.

The correspondence dated 20 June 2024 stated that:

- AFA PANEL COMPLETE TECHNICAL BREAKDOWN, WESTBOURNE TOWER

Pursuant to Section 9.32(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), Authorised Fire Officers from the Fire Safety Compliance Unit of FRNSW inspected 'the premises' on 24 January 2024 with subsequent follow up inspections on 9 and 26 February 2024, 12 July 2024 (meeting on site with Council), 10 September 2024 (following the receipt of a second fire safety concern) and 21 November 2024 (meeting on site with Council).

On behalf of the Commissioner of FRNSW, the comments in this report are provided under Section 9.32(4) and Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17(1) of the EP&A Act.

The items listed in the comments of this report are based on the following limitations:

- A general overview of the buildings (known as 'Westbourne Tower', 'Northbourne Tower' and 'Eastbourne Tower') was obtained without using the development consent conditions or approved floor plans as a reference.
- Details of the Provisions for Fire Safety and Fire Fighting Equipment are limited to a visual inspection of the parts in the building accessed and the fire safety measures observed at the time.

COMMENTS

Please be advised that the items in this report are limited to observations of the building accessed during the inspection and identify possible nonconformities with the National Construction Code 2022, Volume 1 Building Code of Australia (NCC) and provisions for fire safety. The items are not an exhaustive list of non-compliances. FRNSW acknowledges that the differences observed at the time may contradict development consent approval or relate to the building's age. Therefore, it's the Council's discretion as the appropriate regulatory authority to consider the most appropriate action.

The following items were identified during the inspection on 24 February 2024:

1. Essential Fire Safety Measures
 - 1A. Fire Detection and Alarm System
 - A. The detection system did not appear to be capable of operating to the standard of performance from when it was first designed and installed, contrary to the requirements of Clause 81 of the

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Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021 (EPAR 2021). The following issues were identified as concerns at the time of inspection:

- i. Fire Brigade Panel (FBP) – The premises has three towers known as 'Westbourne Tower', 'Eastbourne Tower' and 'Northbourne Tower', each with their own FBP, all connected back to Fire Alarm Monitoring at the main FBP at 'Westbourne Tower'. The FBP for each tower were displaying the following:
 - a. Westbourne Tower':
 - 129x Sensor Faults
 - 2x Fire Loop Faults
 - 78x Sensor Isolates
 - 1x Sensor Alarm
 - 1x Sensor Pre-Alarm
 - b. 'Northbourne Tower':
 - 61x Sensor Faults
 - 3x Sensor Isolates
 - 2x Sensor Alarms
 - c. 'Eastbourne Tower':
 - 12x Sensor Faults
 - 1x Sensor Isolates
 - B. Some of the detectors throughout the public corridors of all buildings appeared to be thermal detectors in lieu of smoke detectors, contrary to the requirements of Part E2 and Specification 20 of the National Construction Code Volume One Building Code of Australia (NCC) and AS1670.1-2018.
 - C. A permanent, water and fade resistant zone block plan, depicting all the relevant information regarding the installation, was not securely mounted adjacent to the FBP at the FDCIE, contrary to the requirements of Clause 3.10 of AS1670.1-2018.
- 1B. Sound System and Intercom System for Emergency Purposes (SSISEP)
- A. The Emergency Control Panel associated with the SSISEP in 'Westbourne Tower' was displaying the following faults:
 - i. Amplifier/Speaker Fault - Level 8.
 - ii. Lift 1 and Lift 2 - Fault

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1C. Fire Hydrant System

- A. The booster assembly is located in a cabinet with garden plantings directly in front of the doors. In this regard, the doors were difficult to open and the standing surface area directly in front of the connections is unstable and overgrown with vegetation, contrary to the requirements of Clause 7.3.3 of AS 2419.1-2021.
- B. The isolation valve at the fire hydrant booster located between the feed hydrants and boost inlets was not locked in the open position, contrary to the requirements of Clause 8.7.1 of AS 2419.1-2021.
- C. The fire hydrant block plan located at the fire hydrant booster incorporated an incorrect 'You Are Here' location, contrary to the requirements of Clause 11.5 of AS 2419.1-2021.
- D. The water storage tank for the fire hydrant system did not incorporate a tank contents indicator, contrary to the requirements of Clause 5.2.3 of AS 2419.1-2021.
- E. An above ground isolating valve within the LG level of the carpark was not secured in the open position, contrary to the requirements of Clause 9.3.2 of AS 2419.1-2021.
- F. A pressure gauge was not installed adjacent to the most hydraulically disadvantaged fire hydrant in the fire hydrant system, contrary to the requirements of Clause 11.4.2 of AS 2419.1-2021.

- 1D. Emergency lighting – It did not appear that emergency lighting was extended through all areas of the buildings, including but not limited to, all paths of travel to or within exits including public corridors, the fire isolated stairways and passageways, contrary to the requirements of Clause E4D2 of the NCC.

1E. Annual Fire Safety Statement (AFSS):

- A. A copy of the current AFSS was not prominently displayed within the building in accordance with Section 89 of the EPAR 2021.

2. Generally

- 2A. Effective Height and Sprinklers – The 'Westbourne Tower' has an effective height of more than 25m and a fire sprinkler system is not provided throughout, contrary to the requirements of Clause E1D5 of the National Construction Code Volume 1 2022 (NCC). Reference is made to the FRNSW website for a FRNSW position statement on fire sprinkler system in existing buildings.
<https://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/page.php?id=9447&position=63>.

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The following items were identified during the inspection on 10 September 2024:

3. Essential Fire Safety Measures

3A. Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm System / Sound System and Intercom System for Emergency Purposes (SSISEP):

- A. At the time of the inspection, technicians were on site installing a new automatic fire detection and alarm system throughout the building. As a result, the Fire Detection Control and Indicating Equipment (FDCIE) (FBP) indicated a total of 12 faults relating to the existing automatic detection and alarm system. The SSISEP was also noted as being isolated.

The on-site technician advised that temporary battery-operated smoke alarms had been installed throughout the common areas and in Sole-Occupancy Units (SOUs) to provide protection whilst the works were being completed. FRNSW were able to confirm that battery-operated smoke alarms appeared to have been installed throughout the common areas, however, access was not available to SOUs at the time of the inspection to confirm the installation of smoke alarms.

It is noted that a Fire Safety Order No. 1 has been issued by the Council dated 11 July 2024 requiring the installation of temporary smoke alarms throughout the common areas and SOUs whilst the upgrade of the automatic fire detection and alarm system / EWIS is completed.

4. Egress

- 4A. The stair landings to both exit stairs on level 17 were partially obstructed by stored objects, contrary to the requirements of Section 109 of the EPAR 2021.

FIRE SAFETY ORDER NO. 1

Authorised Fire Officers' of FRNSW issued an Order No. 1, dated 12 February 2024, under the provisions of Section 9.34 of the EP&A Act, in relation to item no. 1.1A.A and 1.1B of this report, to which FRNSW provided Council a copy on 13 February 2024 under Schedule 5, Part 6, Section 12 of the EP&A Act, a copy of the Order is attached for your information.

FRNSW conducted a re-inspection of the premises on 26 February 2024, and at the time found that the fire detection and alarm system and SSISEP was observed to be at level which FRNSW was satisfied with, with the remaining faults and isolations limited to non-critical areas of the buildings. FRNSW were however advised that the remaining issues to the detection system related to the wiring setup in the building and that an upgrade to the system was required. In this regard, it should be noted that the FRNSW Order does not cover an upgrade to the fire detection and alarm system.

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FRNSW was also advised by representatives of the owners that they had engaged Valen Project Services and Philip Chun Building Compliance for fire safety works at the premises relating to the AFSS, which included a proposed upgrade of the fire detection system to be captured by a Complying Development Certificate (CDC).

SITE MEETINGS

Council contacted FRNSW requesting attendance at a site meeting, which was held on 12 July 2024 with representatives from Jamesons Strata, Valen Projects and 2020 Fire, in relation to the detection system in the Westbourne Tower being offline and the issue of a Council Order.

FRNSW acknowledges that Council issued an Emergency Fire Safety Order dated 11 July 2024 to do, amongst other things, install battery-operated smoke alarms as a temporary measure which are to remain in place until the fire detection system and SSISEP is repaired or replaced, and full fire compliance is restored.

On the basis of Council's Order being issued, FRNSW advised Council (via email dated 17 July 2024) that FRNSW will revoke the FRNSW Order dated 12 February 2024.

In this regard, FRNSW's Order cannot be complied with, as the FRNSW Order does not cover an upgrade to the fire detection and alarm system, nor does FRNSW have the authority to issue an Order for such works. However, the Order remained open, to assist Council until such time that Council issues another Order to cover this or a possible CDC was issued for the works required to the upgrade of the detection system.

Another site meeting was held on 21 November 2024 with Council and representatives from Valen Project Servies (also as the owners representative) and 2020 Fire. At the time, 2020 Fire advised:

- 'Westbourne Tower'
 - Fire detection system has been replaced. New FBP, wiring and detectors. SSISEP fully operational. ASE offline.
- 'Eastbourne Tower' and 'Northbourne Tower':
 - Fire detection system existing and operational in common areas. Smoke alarms throughout all SOUs. BOWS operational. ASE offline.

It is noted that the ASE was isolated at the time of the meeting on 21 November 2024. FRNSW gave a direction that the ASE is to be reinstated immediately and recommended that the owners representative liaise with Council to ensure a building management plan is established and adhered to, while any works to the fire detection, SSISEP or ASE are being completed.

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REVOCATION OF ORDER

FRNSW advises that the FRNSW Fire Safety Order No. 1 issued on the subject premises on 12 February 2024 has been revoked in accordance with Part 10, s.23 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. For your records, a copy of the Order 1, dated 12 February 2024, issued on 'the premises' under the provisions of Section 9.34 of the EP&A Act, is attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS

FRNSW recommends that Council:

- a. Review items 1 to 4 of this report and conduct an inspection.
- b. Address any other deficiencies identified on "the premises".
- c. Require the owners to install an automatic fire sprinkler system throughout 'Westbourne Tower', complying with the requirements of Clause E1D5 and Specification 17 of the NCC, to address item no. 2 of this report.
- d. Require the re-connection of the ASE, immediately.
- e. Require a building management plan to be established to cover all current/temporary measures and related contingencies while any upgrade works as required are being completed.

Please be advised that Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17(2) requires any report or recommendation from the Commissioner of FRNSW to be tabled at a Council meeting. This matter is referred to Council as the appropriate regulatory authority. FRNSW awaits the Council's advice regarding its determination under Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17 (4) of the EP&A Act.

FRNSW will be available to provide any assistance to Council regarding this matter ongoing and requests that Council submit a Request for Comment on Occupied Building form (<https://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/page.php?id=9163>) for any future fire engineering report that may be submitted to Council in relation to this matter, and FRNSW will provide comment to assist Council in determining the matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact John Bruscino of FRNSW's Fire Safety Compliance Unit at FireSafety@fire.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 9742 7434 if there are any questions or concerns about the above matters. Please refer to file reference FRN23/3798 – BFS23/6912 (SRID 8000032257) - BFS24/3665 (SRID 800036222) regarding any correspondence concerning this matter.

Yours faithfully


John Bruscino
Senior Building Surveyor
Fire Safety Compliance Unit

Attachment: [Appendix 1 – Fire Safety Order No. 1 dated 12/02/24]

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Appendix 1 – Fire Safety Order No.1 dated 12/02/2024

CP4/25

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File Ref. No: BFS23/6912 (32257)
 TRIM Ref. No: D24/18354
 Contact: John Bruscino

12 February 2024

The Owners of Strata Plan No. 11378
 256-274 Alison Road
 RANDWICK NSW 2031

Dear Owners of Strata No. 11378

Re: FIRE SAFETY ORDER – ORDER NO.1
 256-274 ALISON ROAD, RANDWICK ("the premises")
 (AKA 67-69 ST MARKS ROAD, RANDWICK)

Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) has received your email dated 1 February 2024, emails from Valen Project Services (Valen) dated 9 February 2024, as well as numerous telephone conversations with both Strata and Valen in response to the Notice of Intention to give a Proposed Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 dated 24 January 2024.

FRNSW has determined to issue the Fire Safety Order – Order No.1 ('Order No.1'), in response to your representations, re-inspection on 9 February 2024 and consideration given under the provisions of Schedule 5, Part 7 (Section 14 and Section 15) of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). Accordingly, I have attached a copy of the FRNSW "Order No. 1" dated 12 February 2024, issued under Section 9.34 of the EP&A Act.

A copy of the "Order No.1" will be forwarded to Randwick City Council, under Schedule 5, Part 6, Section 12 of the EP&A Act. Authorised Fire Officers will conduct inspections to assess compliance with the "Order No.1".

Please do not hesitate to contact John Bruscino of FRNSW's Fire Safety Compliance Unit at FireSafety@fire.nsw.gov.au or call on (02) 9742 7434 if there are any questions or concerns about the above matters. Please ensure that you refer to file reference BFS23/6912 (32257) regarding any correspondence concerning this matter.

Yours faithfully,

John Bruscino
 Senior Building Surveyor
 Fire Safety Compliance Unit

CC Michael Longhurst
 Strata Manager
 Jamesons Strata Management
MichaelB@jamesons.com.au

Jamesons Strata Management
info@jamesons.com.au

Fire and Rescue NSW	ABN 12 593 473 110	www.fire.nsw.gov.au
Community Safety Directorate	1 Amarina Ave	T (02) 9742 7434
Fire Safety Compliance Unit	Greenacre NSW 2190	F (02) 9742 7843
www.fire.nsw.gov.au		Page 1 of 4

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Fire Safety Order ORDER No. 1

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)*
Part 9 Implementation and Enforcement – Division 9.3 Development Control Orders
Fire Safety Orders in accordance with the table to Part 2 - Schedule 5.
Give an Order in accordance with Section 9.34(1)(b)

I, **John Bruscano** **Senior Building Surveyor** **902873**
(name) (rank) (number)

being an authorised Fire Officer within the meaning of Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 16 of
the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and duly authorised for the
purpose, hereby order you

The Owners of Strata Plan No. 11378 **Owner**
(name of the person whom Order is served) (position, i.e. owner, building manager)

with respect to the premise

256-274 ALISON ROAD, RANDWICK ("the premises")
(AKA – 67-69 ST MARKS ROAD, RANDWICK)
(name/address of premises to which Order is served)

to do, or refrain from doing, the following things:

1. Ensure the Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm Systems installed in 'the premises' is fully operational, by:
 - a. Repairing all faults and isolations displayed on the Fire Indicator Panels (FIPs) installed in 'Westbourne Tower', 'Eastbourne Tower' and 'Northbourne Tower'.
2. Ensure the Sound System & Intercom System for Emergency Purposes installed in 'Westbourne Tower' is fully operational, by:
 - a. Repairing all Amplifier/Speaker Faults displayed on the Emergency Control Panel.

Fire and Rescue NSW	ABN 12 593 473 110	www.fire.nsw.gov.au
Community Safety Directorate	1 Amarina Ave	T (02) 9742 7434
Fire Safety Compliance Unit	Greenacre NSW 2190	F (02) 9742 7843
www.fire.nsw.gov.au		Page 2 of 4

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The reasons for the issue of this Fire Safety Order - Order No.1 are:

- a. At the time of the inspection, on 24 January 2024, the FIPs associated with the Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm System for all three (3) towers at 'the premises' were displaying multiple faults and isolations.
- b. At the time of the inspection, on 9 February 2024, the FIP associated with the Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm System was displaying the following:
 - i. 'Westbourne' Tower:
 - 129x Sensor Faults
 - 2x Fire Loop Faults
 - 78x Sensor Isolates
 - 1x Sensor Alarm
 - 1x Sensor Pre-Alarm
 - ii. 'Northbourne' Tower:
 - 61x Sensor Faults
 - 3x Sensor Isolates
 - 2x Sensor Alarms
 - iii. 'Eastbourne' Tower:
 - 12x Sensor Faults
 - 1x Sensor Isolates
- c. At the time of the inspection, on 9 February 2024, the Emergency Control Panel associated with the Sound System & Intercom System for Emergency Purposes in 'Westbourne Tower' was displaying the following:
 - i. Amplifier/Speaker Fault - Level 8.
 - ii. Lift 1 and Lift 2 - Fault
- d. To ensure that the Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm Systems are capable of operating in accordance with the standard of performance it was designed and installed to.
- e. To ensure that Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm Systems are fully operational, so that the occupants are provided with early notification of a fire within 'the premises' so that they may safely evacuate 'the premises' in the event of a fire.
- f. To ensure that the Sound System & Intercom System for Emergency Purposes in 'Westbourne Tower' is capable of operating in accordance with the standard of performance it was designed and installed to.
- g. To ensure compliance with the requirements with Section 81 and 109 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021.
- h. To do or refrain from doing such things specified in the Order to ensure or promote adequate fire safety or awareness.

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The terms of this Fire Safety Order - Order No.1 are to be complied with:

By no later than 12:00pm on the 26 February 2024.

Appeals

Pursuant to Section 8.18 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), there is no right of appeal to the Court against this Fire Safety Order - Order No.1 other than an order that prevents a person from using or entering premises.

Non-Compliance with Fire Safety Order – Order No.1

Failure to comply with this Fire Safety Order - Order No.1 may result in further Orders and/or fines being issued.

Substantial penalties may also be imposed under Section 9.37 of the EP&A Act for failure to comply with a Fire Safety Order - Order No.1.



John Bruscano
Senior Building Surveyor
Fire Safety Compliance Unit

This Fire Safety Order - Order No. 1 was mailed on 12 February 2024.

Director City Planning Report No. CP5/25

Subject: Planning Proposal: 47 - 55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford - Homes NSW

CP5/25


Executive Summary

- Homes NSW has lodged a Planning Proposal for 47-55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford under the NSW Social and Affordable Housing Program. The Planning Proposal is seeking amendments to the *Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012* (RLEP 2012) to deliver increased housing supply and renewal of social housing on the site. The proposed amendments include:
 - An increase to the maximum Floor Space Ratio (FSR) from 0.75:1 to 2.7:1;
 - An increase to the maximum building height from 12m to 28m (approximately 8 storeys); and
 - Introduction of a site-specific provision of a minimum floorspace requirement for the purposes of affordable and social housing (no rate for affordable/social housing has been specified).
- The subject site was originally included in the planning review undertaken for land located in the Kingsford South Housing Investigation Area. The site was deferred from this review upon request by Homes NSW on the basis that the Government were undertaking investigations into redevelopment options for the site.
- Council's officers have reviewed the Planning Proposal and have prepared a draft submission for consideration (**Attachment 1**). Key issues raised include:
 - a minimum rate for affordable/ social housing via an LEP provision has not been specified
 - the need to provide 100% affordable/social housing given the site's strategic location
 - proposed 28m (eight storey) height limit sought is a significant increase from the 12m to 16.5m height limit initially proposed by Council under the Comprehensive Planning Proposal
 - Request for a step down in height from eight to five storeys along the Bunnerong Road frontage
 - Strong support for the retention of significant trees
- Once the planning (rezoning) process is completed and if the proposed changes to height and FSR are gazetted, the final designs/development outcomes for the site will be submitted to the State Government as a State Significant development. Council is not the planning authority for this proposal.
- This report seeks Council's endorsement of the attached draft submission for the draft planning proposal to forward to the Department of Planning for its consideration in the assessment of the proposal.

Recommendation

- That Council endorse the submission relating to the Planning Proposal for 47-55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford for the redevelopment of the site to increase housing supply.
- That the submission on the Planning Proposal for 47-55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford be forwarded to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for consideration.

Attachment/s:

-  Draft Submission Planning Proposal 47-55 Bunnerong Road Kingsford_25 February 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of a Planning Proposal for 47-55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford lodged by Homes NSW to facilitate redevelopment of the existing social housing estate. The report provides a summary of key issues raised in Council's draft submission (attachment 1) and seeks endorsement for lodgment of the submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI).

Background

The Site

The site at 47-55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford has an area of 6,052m² and bounded by Bunnerong Road to the west, Anderson Street to the south, an Energy Australia owned open space and substation to the north-east and Jacques Street to the north. It is currently occupied by eight three-storey residential flat buildings accommodating 60 social housing dwellings that are owned and managed by the Homes NSW (formerly known as the Lands and Housing Corporation-LAHC). The existing social housing development was constructed in the late 1940s and is nearing the end of its life cycle.

The site is currently zoned R3 Medium Density Residential under the RLEP 2012 with a maximum building height of 12m and a maximum FSR of 0.75:1.



The subject site is located in the Kingsford South Housing Investigation Area (HIA) – an identified housing growth area which was included as part of Randwick City's Comprehensive Planning Proposal. As part of the preparation of the comprehensive planning proposal, the proposed controls for the site included:

- Increase in maximum building height from 12m to 16.5m (approximately 5 storeys); and
- Increase in FSR from 0.75:1 to 1.6:1.

No change to the R3 Medium Density Residential zone was proposed for the site.

At the August 2022 Council meeting following a request from LAHC, it was agreed that the rezoning of the site would be deferred to allow sufficient time for the Government to prepare a site

specific Planning Proposal for the site including investigation of heights of up to 8 storeys and an FSR of 3:1 to facilitate its redevelopment and renewal.

At that time, Council identified the following key issues to be considered in a future Planning Proposal for the site:

- The need for a detailed masterplan justifying that the increase in height (above Council's proposed 5 storeys) would be suitable on the site and surrounding context and not result in unacceptable impacts to adjoining properties;
- That any additional development and increase in height above the proposed 5 storeys would need to demonstrate an increase in social and affordable housing dwellings as part of the redevelopment; and
- That future redevelopment must facilitate the retention of existing mature canopy trees, improve integration of the site with its surroundings and consider the interface with the Daceyville Heritage Character Area (located directly opposite in the Bayside Council LGA).

Following a briefing held in September 2023 and receipt of a preliminary design package from Homes NSW for review, Council staff provided feedback on matters that should be considered as part of a future Planning Proposal for the site which are summarised as follows:

- The social/affordable housing component should exceed 50% of overall dwellings on site;
- The quantity and type of dwellings should be clarified (i.e. affordable/social and market housing);
- A clear community engagement plan, social impact assessment and details on how existing residents would be re-housed during the construction phase and returned back to new homes should be provided;
- Street level photomontages would be required to help assess visual impact should be submitted;
- Height and massing should be mitigated through setbacks and articulation;
- Shadow impacts on Anderson Street properties to the south could be reduced by setting back the top storeys of building fronting Anderson Street;
- Vehicle access should be provided from Anderson Street;
- Request for compliance with the HIA landscaped provisions under the DCP; and
- Future development should integrate sustainability measures contained under Section 20 of E7 HIA of the DCP.

The Planning Proposal

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the RLEP 2012 to increase the maximum building height and density on the subject site to facilitate redevelopment of the existing social housing estate. The requested amendments are summarised in the following table:

Table 1 - Summary of proposed changes

Component	Current	Proposed
Zone	R3 Medium Density	No change
Height of Buildings	12m and 21m	28m
Floor Space Ratio	0.75:1	2.7:1

The Planning Proposal also proposes to introduce a site-specific provision of a minimum floor space requirement for the purposes of affordable housing. It is important to note, however, that a specific rate/percentage of affordable/social housing as an LEP provision has not been stipulated as the quantum of affordable/social housing to be delivered is still subject to discussions between the DPHI and the Homes NSW.

The Planning Proposal is supplemented by a number of technical studies including:

- Draft DCP amendment
- Urban Design Report
- Landscape Report
- Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- Heritage Report

- Transport Impact Assessment
- ESD and Sustainability Report
- Acoustic Assessment
- Flooding and Stormwater Impact Assessment
- Electrical Magnetic Field Assessment
- Fire Engineering Report
- Social Impact Assessment; and
- Randwick Council Pre-Lodgment Advice

Urban Design Report

The Planning Proposal is supported by an indicative reference scheme prepared by PTW Architects with the purpose of demonstrating, at the concept level, a future development that would comply with the requested RLEP 2012 height and FSR amendments, DCP controls and meet the requirements of the NSW Apartment Design Guideline (ADG).

In summary the reference scheme indicates:

- Two x 8 storey building wings, stepping down to 5 storeys on Anderson Street, with a 7 storey podium south west on Bunnerong Road;
- 6m setbacks to the east, 5m to Anderson Street and 5m and 16.65m setbacks from the Bunnerong Road property boundary;
- Retention of significant trees along Bunnerong Road and street trees on Anderson Street
- Provision for 20% deep soil and 25% tree canopy cover;
- An indicative 185 apartments (Nb: no information has been provided on the apartment mix or number of bedrooms); and
- Basement parking accommodating 181 parking spaces.

It is important to note that the submitted reference scheme is only one iteration of the built form that may potentially be facilitated via requested RLEP 2012 amendments. Furthermore, approval of the Planning Proposal does not imply approval of the indicative reference scheme. Once the requested RLEP 2012 amendments are gazetted, any future development of the site would be subject to a separate Development Application process where matters such as design and amenity would be assessed under the state and local planning framework.





PROPOSED PLANNING SCHEME



Massing view from the south



Massing view from the north

GROUND FLOOR PLAN



Preliminary Consultation

Homes NSW has undertaken preliminary stakeholder and community engagement to inform the Planning Proposal including correspondence and meetings with identified key community groups and stakeholders. Consultation was undertaken with Randwick Council, including a pre-lodgment meeting held 11 October 2023.

Council’s Submission

Council’s submission (**attachment 1**) is generally supportive of the intent of the Planning Proposal, noting it has strategic merit by increasing housing supply (including additional affordable and social housing) on a well-located site in proximity to public transport, employment and services. The submission is particularly supportive of Homes NSW’s efforts to increase the supply of social and affordable dwellings in Randwick City given the inability for the private rental market to meet the housing needs of very low-, low- and medium-income households including key workers.

Council’s submission raises a number of planning and design issues, which are summarised as follows:

- Concern that a rate for affordable/social housing has not been confirmed/committed to via an LEP provision which creates uncertainty about the actual quantum of affordable/social housing to be delivered on site;
- Request that up to 100% of dwellings be provided as affordable/social housing given the strategic location of the site, scarcity/high cost of inner-city land, I shortage of social/affordable housing provision in Randwick City and potential funding opportunities under the Housing Australia Future Fund;
- Concerns that the 28m (eight storey) height limit sought is a significant increase from the 12m to 16.5m height limit initially proposed by Council under the Comprehensive Planning Proposal. This height limit would only be acceptable in conjunction with generous setbacks (including upper level setbacks) to help reduce the visual bulk of the development and provide a suitable scale transition with the higher building forms in Kingsford town centre and lower scaled residential dwellings south of Anderson Street;
- Request for a step down in height to five storeys along the Bunnerong Road frontage to mitigate the impacts of the scale and bulk of the building on the streetscape and the Dacey Gardens HCA;
- Strong support for the retention of significant trees which would improve environmental amenity and soften the built form. The proposed replacement ratio of 2:1 for existing trees removed is also supported;
- Support for the indicated materials, colours and finishes schedule;
- Request for inclusion of additional planning principles in the site specific DCP focusing on affordable and social housing, sustainable design, housing mix, prioritisation of walking, cycling and public transport usage, safe and inclusive design, contribution to green grid, and high amenity and livability; and
- Request that the sustainability requirements under Section 20 of E7 HIA DCP be addressed in future development.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:	
Strategy	Housing
Outcome	A city with diverse and affordable housing that responds to local needs
Objective	Increase the percentage of all households that are either social or dedicated affordable housing to a minimum of 10% by 2040

Delivery program commitment	Identify appropriate areas to apply an affordable housing contributions scheme requiring a proportion of all development to be dedicated as affordable housing and amend LEP 2012 to give effect to this by 2025.
Delivery program commitment	Work with the Land and Housing Corporation to develop a staged approach for the renewal of social housing estates, and ensure that the number of social housing dwellings is increased in any future redevelopment of public housing estates in Randwick City.
Delivery program commitment	Provide additional housing opportunities for low income and key workers to support the Randwick Collaboration Area by 2031.

Risks

Area	Risk	Mitigation
Maximum height/FSR	The proposed height and FSR is a substantial increase to the height/FSR proposed for the site under the Comprehensive Planning Proposal (12m-16.5m height and 1.6:1). Although this may be mitigated through setbacks under a future DA, the proposed height and scale may raise some concern for local residents.	<p>The interim submission is generally supportive of the Planning Proposal, noting the renewal of state housing assets, improved landscaping, new communal facilities and an increase in affordable and social dwellings in the locality.</p> <p>Council's submission requests modification to the requested height limit, including stepping down to 5 storeys along the Bunnerong Road frontage to mitigate potential visual impacts of building bulk and scale for surrounding properties and the Dacey Gardens HCA.</p> <p>It is considered that the overall net benefit of the project in delivering increases in social and affordable housing within the Randwick LGA is positive.</p>
Rate of affordable/social housing provision	The Planning Proposal does not include a rate for affordable/social housing provision on the site via an LEP provision as the proposal is still subject to discussions between DPHI and Homes NSW. The lack of clarity in this regard creates uncertainty as to the quantum and proportion of affordable/social and market housing that would be delivered on the site under a future DA.	Council's submission has requested that a provision be incorporated in the RLEP 2012 clarifying the rate and proportion of affordable/social housing to be delivered on site. Furthermore, Council's submission has requested a commitment towards 100% of affordable/social housing dwellings to be delivered on the site recognising the site's strategic location, high numbers of key workers and very low/low income households in the LGA, the current housing crisis and funding opportunities under HAFF.
Uncertainty regarding future built form	The Planning Proposal addresses only the height and FSR standards under the RLEP 2012. The actual built form outcome is yet to be determined and would be subject to a future SSD.	Council's submission has required the site specific DCP address a number of matters including affordable/social housing, ESD, landscaping, setbacks etc.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The assessment of the planning proposal has been undertaken by the planning staff of the Strategic Planning Department.

Policy and legislative requirements

Housing State Environmental Planning Policy 2021
Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012
Randwick Development Control Plan 2013
Randwick Housing Strategy

Conclusion

The Planning Proposal for 47-55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford seeks amendments to the RLEP 2012 to facilitate redevelopment of the existing social housing estate to deliver additional housing including up to 50% of total dwellings as affordable/social housing. The Planning Proposal has strategic merit by increasing housing supply (including additional affordable and social housing) on a well-located site in proximity to public transport, employment and services.

Although the Planning Proposal is supported in principle, concerns are raised that the quantity/rate of affordable/social housing on the site has not been mandated via a LEP provision. Furthermore, the site and surrounding properties would benefit from reduced heights on key road frontages, additional setbacks and sustainable design.

Responsible officer: Asanthika Kappagoda, Senior Strategic Planner; David Appleby, Coordinator Strategic Planner

File Reference: F2024/00638

Rezoning Pathways Team
Department of Planning, Housing and
Infrastructure
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

25 February 2025

Ref No: F2024/00638

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Planning Proposal – 47-55 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Planning Proposal for 45-47 Bunnerong Road, Kingsford lodged by Homes NSW under the NSW Social and Affordable Housing Program.

The Planning Proposal seeks an amendment to the *Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012* (RLEP 2012) to deliver increased housing supply and renewal of social housing on the site. The proposed RLEP 2012 amendments include:

- An increase to the maximum Floor Space Ratio (FSR) from 0.75:1 to 2.7:1;
- An increase to the maximum building height from 12m to 28m (approximately 8 storeys); and
- Introduction of a site-specific provision of a minimum floorspace requirement for the purposes of affordable and social housing.

Redevelopment of the site under the proposed RLEP amendments is anticipated to deliver 185 dwellings, including up to 50% as affordable and social housing, with the remainder as market housing. It is noted that the actual component of affordable/social housing floor space to be delivered on site is not confirmed and is currently subject to negotiations between Housing NSW and the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

Randwick City Council is supportive of Homes NSW's efforts to increase and upgrade the supply of social and affordable dwellings within the Randwick Local Government Area (LGA). We also acknowledge the engagement undertaken by the Homes NSW team with Council officers and the community prior to the lodgement of the Planning Proposal. The role of the public sector in meeting the National Housing Accord and the associated focus by the State Government of New South Wales on increasing the supply of social and affordable dwellings is also noted and appreciated.

Council Officers have reviewed the Planning Proposal and supplementary documentation and provide the following comments for consideration.

1. Strategic Merit

The Randwick Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) and Housing Strategy (HS) give effect to the Eastern City District Plan (ECDP) by implementing key economic, social and environmental directions, priorities and actions at a local level. These overarching strategic documents have been informed by the community's aspirations expressed during Council's extensive consultation process branded 'Vision 2040 – Shaping Randwick's Future'.

The HS sets a housing target of 4,300 new dwellings by 2026 and identifies housing growth opportunities in the medium to long term to meet projected population growth based on expected demographic changes and housing need. Furthermore, the DPHI have provided an updated housing target for Randwick City of 4000 dwellings to be delivered in the 2024-2029 period.

The LSPS and HS both identify the need to deliver additional housing to meet housing demand in areas that are accessible to public transport, services and employment. In relation to affordable and social housing the HS sets a target of 1,918 social housing dwellings and 1,765 affordable rental dwellings.

When considering the merits of the Planning Proposal in the context of the existing regional and local strategic planning framework, it is agreed that the proposal has strategic merit for the following reasons:

- The proposal would contribute to meeting housing targets outlined in the LSPS, the HS and by the DPHI, by increasing housing delivery and residential density in the Kingsford South HIA;
- The proposal would provide an integrated approach to land use and transport planning by concentrating new housing in an accessible area in proximity to employment, services and public transport; and
- The proposal would help deliver an increase in social and affordable housing in the LGA- two forms of housing that are in great need in the local area.

2. Affordable and Social Housing

As noted earlier, redevelopment of the site is expected to notionally deliver 'up to' 50% of its floor space as affordable and social housing. However, the actual amount of floor space for affordable/social floor space will be determined at a future stage pending negotiations between Homes NSW and the DPHI.

Concerns are raised that the Planning Proposal does not commit to a minimum floor space requirement for affordable/social housing via an LEP provision. Additionally, the split between affordable and rental housing is not specified which has implications as each housing type serves different household needs. The absence of a specified minimum percentage for affordable/ social housing floor space creates considerable uncertainty as to the quantum and proportion of affordable and social housing that would be delivered at the SSDA stage to address local housing needs effectively.

These issues are pertinent given that the inability of the private rental market to cater for very low, low and medium income households, including key workers, is one of the most critical housing challenges facing Randwick City. This is further illustrated by statistics provided by Homes NSW which has highlighted a significant undersupply of social and affordable housing in the Randwick LGA, with a current 5-10 year waiting list for a 1 or 2 bedroom home.

Access to affordable and social housing is essential for a diverse, cohesive, and economically successful city, and offers substantial benefits such as retaining key workers, allowing people to age in place within their communities and fostering inclusivity and resilience. The subject site offers a rare and unique opportunity to significantly contribute to the amount of affordable and social housing locally, given its strategic location near employment, services, and transport. Potential funding via the Federal Government's Housing Australia Future Fund Facility (HAFFF) may further support the ability of the site to deliver higher levels of affordable and social housing.

Given the scarcity and high cost of inner-city land and critical shortage of social and affordable housing provision in Randwick City, delivery of additional social and affordable housing is paramount and *must* be the primary driver of the site's redevelopment. Council accordingly seeks assurance regarding the amount and proportion of affordable housing and social housing units to be delivered on the site and this should be through a legislative mechanism via the local planning framework.

Given its strategic and locational attributes, the potential of Government's funding available under the HAFF, and examples of funded developments dedicating 100% of floor space as social/affordable housing in the local area (e.g. 195-213 Fitzgerald Avenue and 40-64 Yorktown Parade, Maroubra by Homes NSW), we consider that the site offers a unique opportunity to provide up to 100% of its total floor space as affordable/social housing.

Further, a LEP clause mandating a minimum dedication of affordable and social housing is highly desirable to provide increased design certainty against the potential in-fill affordable housing density bonuses available via the Housing SEPP. As specified by the In-fill affordable housing Practice note, any local requirements for affordable housing do not count towards the minimum required affordable housing component under the Housing SEPP in-fill affordable housing provisions. Therefore, if the LEP does not contain any minimum dedication clause, the notional 50% affordable and social housing provision expressed in the Planning Proposal that is used as strategic justification for the PP could also be utilised to access the in-fill affordable housing provisions.

3. Urban Design

As a broad comment, the overall design concept is commendable, particularly the well-considered site layout incorporating a central shared open space and reduced five-storey streetscape presentation to Anderson Street. The general building envelope indicated in the design concept reflects Council staff feedback, and would result in reduced visual bulk. Further commentary is provided below.

4. Building Height

The Planning Proposal requests a 28m height limit which is a significant increase from the originally proposed 16.5m height limit for the site under the Kingsford South HIA (now deferred). The requested height exceeds the height limits of the surrounding Kingsford South HIA, which are 16.5m to the east and north, and 9.5m for the low-density residential area south of Anderson Street. Notwithstanding this, the visual impact is somewhat mitigated through overall and upper-level building setbacks proposed in the design concept, along with a 16.65m landscape setback to Bunnerong Road and a step down to five storeys along Anderson Street, the most sensitive interface of the development.

The eight storey height is only appropriate with generous setbacks from the two primary street frontages. If the eight storey part of the building is well setback, then the proposed height would provide a suitable transition from the taller Kingsford Town Centre buildings to the north (ranging from nineteen storey node sites down to nine and seven storeys), to the Kingsford South HIA to the north and east (five storeys), and the low-density residential area south of Anderson Street (one to four storeys).

The building height and massing are also mitigated through upper-level setbacks of 2m and 6m for the top two levels, articulating the building's top and reducing its apparent scale when viewed from Anderson Street.

5. Density

The Planning Proposal proposes to increase the permitted density from the current FSR 0.75:1 to FSR 2.7:1. For context, the FSR for the Kingsford South HIA is 1.6:1 to the east and north of the site, and 0.5:1 for the low-density residential area to the south. The concept design increases the number of apartments from the current 60 social housing dwellings to 185 apartments (mix of affordable/social and market housing). If the full 50% affordable/social housing component is delivered, it would equate to 92 affordable/social housing apartments on the site (i.e. a net increase of 32 social/affordable apartments).

The proposed density increase is considered reasonable given the site's size and context, including its proximity to public transport, Kingsford Town Centre, schools, and recreational green space, and the limited impact on residents in the low-density area south of Anderson Street and the two frontage

streetscapes. The remaining urban design concerns centre around the eight storey building height and the streetscape frontage scale, particularly the eight storey frontage to Bunnerong Road.

6. Built Form

The proposed built form includes two eight-storey wings with a five-storey step down along the Anderson Street frontage and a partial 16.65m setback along Bunnerong Road to retain three mature trees. These setbacks, combined with upper-level setbacks, help mitigate the overall bulk and scale of the building when viewed from Anderson Street and the Dacey Gardens Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) to the west of Bunnerong Road in the adjoining Bayside Council LGA.

The 'U' shaped building massing effectively defines the two street frontages and creates a communal open space (COS) at the heart of the development. This design component is commendable as it provides a landscaped social meeting place for future residents with a northern aspect and a visual connection to the adjoining open space to the north. The landscaped COS offers an attractive green outlook for future apartments and is also strongly supported.

The design concept indicates a series of building parts at different heights, incorporating steps and recesses, which would assist in modulating and articulating the building envelope, reducing the visual bulk and scale. The proposed apartment/lift core planning, with four cores serving 6-7 apartments each, fosters small group socializing and a sense of ownership within the building which is a positive approach.

7. Building Setbacks

The substation (to the north and east) and the Bunnerong Road corridor (to the west) provide a setback buffer from the site to nearby residential properties and the Dacey Gardens HCA. The design concept proposes setbacks of 5m and 16.65m from the Bunnerong Road property boundary. The R2 Low Density Residential area south of Anderson Street is the most sensitive interface, with an overall 5m building setback proposed from this property boundary and a 2m and 6m upper setback for the top two levels. There is a 3m building setback to the northeast (substation and green space) and a 6m setback to the east (substation) boundary.

The north part of the Bunnerong Road frontage, that has no landscape setback, presents an eight storey building to this streetscape. It is requested to introduce a step down in height to five storeys along this frontage to mitigate the impacts of the scale and bulk of the building on the Bunnerong Road streetscape and the Dacey Gardens HCA.

The 5m and 6m ground level setbacks to the two street frontages introduce the opportunity for ground floor apartments to incorporate private court gardens, enhancing amenity for ground floor residents (particularly families) and improving passive surveillance for the streets. Clarity is requested on whether this design opportunity has been incorporated.

8. Landscaping and Tree Management

The Urban Design Report indicates the retention of four High Retention Value trees on the site:

- 3 x Eucalyptus botryoides (Bangalay along Bunnerong Road)
- 1 x Jacaranda mimosifolia (Jacaranda in the NE corner)

Council strongly supports the retention of significant trees to improve environmental amenity and soften the built form. The proposed replacement ratio of 2:1 for existing trees removed is also supported. It is further noted that an adequate setback from the root ball/drip zone of the retained trees to the proposed building structures would require detailed arboreal advice and consideration in the design development.

The following matters regarding landscape provision in terms of the RDCP 2013 requirements (HIA Section 18) and ADG requirements are noted:

- **Communal open space:** The ADG requires 25% of the site to be set aside for COS. The proposal exceeds this requirement with 32.6% COS, which is supported by Council for increased amenity for future residents.
- **Deep Soil Permeable Area:** The ADG requires 7% deep soil area, and the HIA DCP requires 35%. The proposal achieves 16.3%, exceeding the ADG but approximately half of the DCP requirement. The Deep Soil plan and calculation should be updated to include all deep soil areas for accurate assessment.
- **Gross Landscape Area (GLA):** The HIA DCP requires 60% GLA, including planting on structure and paved areas. The proposal does not include this measurement. The GLA calculation should be submitted for further consideration and review.
- **Tree Canopy Cover:** The HIA DCP requires 25% Canopy Cover. The Landscape Report indicates 41.4% canopy cover, but no map has been provided. Council requests the tree canopy cover calculation according to the HIA DCP methodology for review.

Senior Landscape Development Officer's Comments

The following targeted outcomes of the proposal are generally supported:

- 41.4% of the site covered by tree canopy (map and calculation to be provided at SSDA stage).
- 33 new trees to be planted throughout the precinct.
- 110m² of community gardens.
- 1853m² of communal open space on deep soil.

Trees

Of the 49 existing trees, 36 are nominated for removal (73%), including five High Retention Value trees conflicting with the new Basement Level footprint. Many other trees indicated for removal are exempt from the DCP due to being weed species or small size. The majority of High Retention Value trees will be retained. An AQF Level 5 Consulting Arborist should be engaged for the project duration to supervise relevant stages and ensure implementation of the Recommendations at Section 6 of the report. Certification of compliance with the Recommendations/TPP is required from the Project Arborist before, during, and upon completion of works.

Landscaping

The primary Design Objectives are:

- Re-designing the Communal Open Space to face outwards, improving interaction with the adjoining public reserve
- Embellishments of the adjoining reserve to offset tree loss (requiring further discussions with Council)
- Buffer planting of street trees along Bunnerong Road and Anderson Street (at the applicant's cost)
- Provision of generous deep soil areas for medium-large deciduous trees.
- Community/edible gardens; and
- Flexible lawn areas for active and passive recreation, and communal facilities such as BBQs, pavilions, and play equipment.

These objectives are supported for improved environmental amenity for future residents.

The following information is requested at the SSDA stage for comprehensive assessment:

- Clearly identify areas of Deep Soil and 'on podium' for accurate assessment.
- Ensure nature play/play equipment areas comply with relevant Australian Standards.

- Submit a Plant Schedule identifying quantities, densities, mature dimensions, pot size, and other standard inclusions.
- Select species suitable for the prevailing soil type, aspect, wind exposure, solar access requirements, screening/privacy, and dimensions similar to future buildings.

9. Vehicular Access

Council supports the vehicular entry from Anderson Street, which is set back from the intersection with Bunnerong Road, and the provision of basement parking. According to the development yield tables provided, 181 car parking spaces are proposed, including visitor parking. During the design development stage, a full breakdown of car spaces, motorcycle, and bicycle parking spaces is to be provided.

The HIA DCP permits reduced parking rates (by one third) for this HIA, given the proximity to public transport, green spaces, and services and amenities. EV charging infrastructure is to be provided, car share is encouraged (with reduced parking provision considered at an agreed rate), and the preparation of a Green Travel Plan is required. Reference should be made to section 19 of the Randwick DCP E7 HIAs.

10. Shadow Analysis

The shadow diagrams provided indicate that the proposed height of eight storeys will overshadow the northern gardens of residences along Anderson Street during the winter solstice (12 noon-2 pm). Further upper-level building setbacks to the top level of the eight-storey west wing along this frontage are recommended to reduce the extent of overshadowing and the resultant impact on residents along the south side of Anderson Street.

11. Materials and Finishes

The ground level photomontages and finishes palette provide useful information on the proposed streetscape appearance and architectural finishes for the building. Council supports the use of face brickwork and the articulation of the building forms, defining the base, middle, and top of the building, in alignment with the DCP E7 HIA objectives and controls. The proposed landscape palette of finishes is also supported by Council.

12. Draft Development Control Plan

The Planning Proposal is supplemented by a draft DCP containing detailed design controls for the site addressing planning principals, site specific building controls, building design, landscaping and open space, and parking and access. This draft DCP has been reviewed as it would provide the detailed design guidance for future redevelopment of the site. The following comments are accordingly made on the proposed draft DCP provisions:

Planning Principles and Objectives

The draft DCP contains a range of planning principles and objectives which provide the overarching framework for the desired future character and re-development of the site. These principles and objectives address building design, residential amenity, landscaped character and carparking.

Although the principles and objectives are a step in the right direction, they appear to be overly focused on built form with no reference to social and environmental considerations which are also necessary to improve quality of life and ensure the development is comfortable for occupants and functional for its intended use. It is therefore recommended that additional principles, objectives and controls be included addressing the following matters:

- **Affordable and social housing:** to emphasise that the main driver for redevelopment of the site is delivery of affordable and social housing needs of key workers and very low to low and medium income households in the locality
- **Sustainable design:** to encourage best practice in sustainability and resilience, focusing on climatic climate responsive design, energy efficiency and sustainable building materials
- **Housing mix:** to provide a mix of housing sizes and types to promote social inclusion and diversity within the community
- **Prioritisation of walking, cycling and using public transport:** to help facilitate a 20 minute walking city precinct for sustainability reasons and as a measure for improved accessibility and connectivity for residents
- **Safe and Inclusive design:** to ensure the development incorporates CPTED principles to enhance visibility and foster a greater sense of ownership and safety
- **Contribute to the Green Grid:** to highlight the importance of canopy cover and its contribution to the local network of green spaces, streets, plazas and laneways
- **High amenity and liveability:** to provide a living environment that exceeds the minimum standards of the Apartment Design Guide. It is recommended to include a requirement to incorporate courtyards to ground floor apartments.
- **Protection of trees on site:** including engagement of an arborist, and the replacement of removed trees at a minimum ratio of 2:1 with new trees.

To ensure that future development on the site is consistent with the proposed planning principles and objectives (including those suggested above), it is recommended that the draft DCP include a provision requiring the submission of a statement demonstrating consistency with the planning principles and objectives as part of the SSDA documentation.

Design Excellence

Design excellence should be a fundamental objective underpinning the site's future redevelopment to provide a high level of amenity for existing and new residents and elevate the standard of building design quality and sustainability.

Clause 6.11 of the RLEP 2012 requires the consideration of design excellence as part of the DA process for buildings over 15m in height or for sites that are over 10,000m², or for land where a site-specific development control plan is required. Once developed under the requested planning controls, the site would need to satisfy the RLEP 2012 design excellence requirement.

To supplement the RLEP 2012 design excellence provision and to ensure a high level of design quality, it is recommended that the HIA South Kingsford design excellence provision under the DCP be adopted for the site. This would include requiring a minimum 4-Star Building Standard certification rating (GBCA) performance and a review of the proposed design by the Randwick Design Excellence Panel (or similar for feedback) and their report be taken into consideration as part of the SSDA assessment.

13. Heritage

Council's Senior Heritage Officer Comments

The future desired character of the HIA is for new development to be consistent with the aims of the R3 Medium Density Residential zone and the Randwick DCP E7 Housing Investigation Areas, Kingsford South HIA vision, objectives and controls. The site is directly across from the Dacey Gardens HCA.

A mid-rise typology (generally 5 or 6 storey) can enhance the character of the neighbourhood and the setting for the Dacey Gardens HCA, presenting a gradual transition to the low scale residential buildings in the neighbourhood to the south and to the HCA to the west.

The new built form proposes an 8 storey presentation to Bunnerong Road which appears to be inappropriate within its context particularly at its north-west corner as illustrated in Urban Design Report p.52 and p.55. Along Anderson Street the proposed development illustrates a more appropriate built form transitioning to lower scale residential buildings with a 5 storey street presentation.

To not detract from the visual characteristics of the HCA, it is recommended that an upper level setback is introduced to provide a reasonable pedestrian scaled street wall when viewed from Bunnerong Road (as illustrated in Urban Design Report p.38 or similar to Anderson Street proposed built form). This would align better with the character of the area and mitigate visual impacts on the Dacey Gardens HCA.

14. Environmental Sustainability

Senior Sustainability Officer Comments

The Planning Proposal provides minimal details and commitments to ESD. From reviewing the ESD Report it is noted that ESD initiatives would be developed during the detailed design stage of the project. It is requested that the following matters be considered and committed to at the design/SSDA stage:

- Address the requirements of Randwick DCP E7 HIAs, section 20. Sustainability.
- Climate-resilient housing to ensure dwellings are adaptable to withstand extreme weather and environmental challenges
- Opportunities to mitigate the urban heat island effect and provision of infrastructure for a dual reticulation system for potable and non-potable water use;
- Net Zero and beyond- details of how this developed can be transitioned to be climate positive in the future i.e. infrastructure configuration and capacity, and ensuring PV inverter suitable for battery system
- Commitments to minimising refrigerant Global Warming Potential limits in air conditioning systems and hot water system heat pumps with a GWP of less than 5; and
- Commitments to minimal 4-star Green Star Buildings certification.

15. Community and social considerations

Tenant selection

Although outside the scope of the Planning Proposal, it is submitted that as part of a future SSDA for the site, an agreement be made between Homes NSW and the managing CHP to reserve a portion of the social and/or affordable portfolio specifically for Domestic and Family Violence survivors. This being an area of high priority for Council, and one where Council currently has limited dwelling stock of our own.

Ownership

Regarding ownership considerations, further detail is sought on whether the social housing dwellings are to be retained in Homes NSW (LAHC) ownership in perpetuity. Similarly further information is sought on the ownership arrangement for the affordable dwelling component, and how long they would be retained as affordable housing dwellings. Notwithstanding project feasibilities, it is strongly recommended that the affordable housing component be retained in government ownership and provided indefinitely. This would ensure continuous community benefit, transparency of government ownership of the entire site and secure tenure for residents.

We wish to reiterate Council's appreciation for Homes NSW's extensive engagement throughout the preparation of this Planning Proposal. Further, Council welcomes the opportunity to continue working collaboratively with DPHI and Homes NSW on their redevelopment of landholdings within the Randwick LGA.

Yours Sincerely,

"Double-click to insert signature image"

Meryl Bishop

Director City Planning

Meryl.bishop@randwick.nsw.gov.au

CP5/25

Director City Services Report No. CS1/25

Subject: Market Street, Angle Parking

Executive Summary

- This report is in response to a resolution of Council (NM71/23- Hamilton/Neilson) at the October 2023 meeting - regarding a six-month trial, in part of Market Street, of rear to kerb angle parking.
- The six -month trial has now concluded, and Community Consultation has been undertaken.
- As the results of the Community Consultation indicates majority support for the retention of the trialed angle parking, it is recommended that it be retained.

Recommendation

That Council approve that the 90° angle parking arrangements, on the north side of Market Street, east of Ethne Avenue, Randwick, be retained.

Attachment/s:

Nil

CS1/25

Purpose

At its Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 October 2023, Council resolved:

(Hamilton/Neilson) that:

- a) *the trial of angle street parking in Market Street be limited to six months;*
- b) *community consultation be undertaken at the conclusion of the six-month trial;*
- c) *a report be brought back to Council on the feasibility of making the Market Street angle parking permanent; and*
- d) *the proposed report to include feedback from businesses that utilise the Randwick Literary Institute and from residents within the street.*

This report informs the Council of the outcomes of the community consultation on the six-month trial of angle parking in Market Street, east of Ethne Avenue, Randwick.

Discussion

In October 2023, the Council agreed to trial 90° angle parking on the north side of Market Street, east of Ethne Avenue, Randwick, for a six-month period. The objective of this arrangement was to increase parking supply in Market Street to cater for high parking demand.

After the six months trial, the Council has undertaken a survey of the affected residents and businesses to get their views on whether to retain the angle parking arrangements or not. The survey was sent out on 5 November 2024 with responses required to be returned by 5 December 2024. Twelve responses were received, with ten responses in favour of retaining the angle parking and two responses opposed to retention of the angled parking arrangement. Opposition to the proposal was in relation to the activities of the Randwick Literary Institute and the impact on traffic in the area. Results of the Community Consultation indicates support for the retention of the trialed angle parking.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:	
Strategy	Integrated Transport
Outcome	A city with a parking system that caters to the needs of residents, freight delivery, visitors and workers
Objective	Effectively manage parking to achieve a maximum 85% peak occupancy for time limited parking.
Delivery program commitment	Review kerbside usage in each of our town and local centres and apply the principles for parking management to inform provision of space for all types of delivery vehicles and pick up/drop off of passengers from shared and private vehicles, by 2031.

Risks

Council may receive some community backlash / concerns about this angle parking arrangements due to increase in traffic movements.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The angle parking signs and associated line marking works have been implemented from within the current budget; under the 'Traffic Committee works' allocation.

Policy and legislative requirements

The Market Street Angle Parking Arrangements aligns with the intent of the following documents:

- Randwick Council on Street Parking Policy-2004
- Australian Standard-Parking Facilities, On Street Parking- AS 2890.5:2020.

Conclusion

That, given the Community Consultation results, the current 90° angle parking arrangements, on the north side of Market Street, east of Ethne Avenue, Randwick, be retained.

Responsible officer: Dilruba Akhter, Transport Engineer

File Reference: F2005/00750

Director City Services Report No. CS2/25

Subject: NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development Shark Management Program Survey

Executive Summary

- The NSW Government is responsible for the implementation of, and ongoing maintenance of the Shark Management Program in NSW.
- On 22 November 2024, NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) provided Randwick City Council with an information package relating to the performance of various shark mitigation technology currently in use by DPIRD along the RCC Coastline. The information package also provided results from a survey of community sentiment for NSW Shark Mitigation.
- In conjunction with the release of the information package DPIRD has provided a survey to Council identifying which shark mitigation technology measures, if any, Randwick City Council supports for implementation in the Randwick LGA.
- A response to the survey has been requested from the NSW Government to determine Council's support for the 4 shark mitigation measures currently used within Randwick which include Drone Surveillance, SMART drumlines, tagged shark listening stations and shark nets.
- DPIRD has advised that Councils response to the survey is critical to informing the future of shark mitigation on the NSW coast for the next five years.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) 2024 Shark Management information package 2022-24 and Council preference survey.

Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Randwick Council Shark Management information package and survey 2022-24

Purpose

To inform Council of the recently released information package to Council(s) relating to the performance of various shark mitigation technologies currently used by the Department Primary Industries and Regional development (DPIRD) along the RCC coastline. The information package also includes the results from a survey of community sentiment for NSW Shark Mitigation which was conducted between December 2022 and March 2023.

DPIRD has also released a survey to Council(s) seeking feedback on the shark mitigation strategies employed and Council’s either support or opposition to each strategy.

Discussion

The NSW Government Shark Management Strategy delivers a range of shark mitigation technologies. Options have been trialed and researched on how best to manage the safety of beach goers’ safety while also minimizing impacts on marine biodiversity. These include:

- Drones’ surveillance.
- SMART drumlines.
- Tagged shark listening stations.
- Shark nets.

The DPIRD is conducting a consultation survey (see Figure 1 below and attachment 1) to identify which of the shark mitigation measures identified above are supported or opposed by Council. The results of this consultation will contribute to the development of the NSW Shark Management Program 2025/26 – 2029/30.

Council received the survey on Friday 22 November 2024 from DPRID requesting feedback by 20 December 2024. As this constricted timeframe did not allow Council Officers the ability to report the request to Council an extension was sought and the NSW Government approved for the survey to be submitted by the 28 February 2025.

Shark mitigation measure	Randwick Council's support for the measures in their LGA	
Drones	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
SMART drumlines	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Tagged shark listening station	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Only for netted LGAs between Newcastle and Wollongong		
Nets	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

Figure 1 - DPRID Shark Management Survey

Council last position in relation to a shark management survey was resolved in 2021. At its ordinary meeting n the 27 April 2021 Council resolved:

RESOLUTION: (Matson/Hamilton) that:

- a) Council undertake a trial of SMART Drumlines, drones and VR4G Shark Listening Stations in consultation with DPI along the RCC coastline;
- b) Council retain the shark meshing at Maroubra and Coogee Beaches until there is data confirming the effectiveness of SMART Drumlines, drones and VR4G Shark Listening Stations along RCC’s coastline; and

c) *any proposed changes to RCC's/DPI's current strategy should only be considered after significant community consultation and engagement with the local community.*

In the Randwick Local Government Area (LGA), there are four shark mitigation technologies currently in place.

Shark nets were introduced in 1937 at Sydney Beaches. In Randwick, this currently involves the positioning of two separate nets at Coogee and Maroubra. The nets are 150 m long, 6 m high and sit at a depth of around 10m between September and March each year.

Since 2020, there has been regular drone surveillance undertaken by Surf Life Saving NSW of Maroubra beach from September through to April which is supported by the DPI. During this time, SMART (Shark Management Alert in Real Time) drumlines have been installed in daylight periods only at Clovelly, Coogee, Maroubra, Malabar and Little Bay.

If a target shark (white, tiger or bull shark) is caught on a SMART drumline, within 30 minutes a fishing contractor responds. The shark is removed from the drumline and taken approximately 1km out to sea where it is tagged and released.

Between 2022-24 the survival rate of all species caught by SMART drumlines along the Randwick City Council coastline has been 100%. This technology is designed to intercept sharks that come close to shore to help make beaches safer. The NSW DPIRD describe this management option 'to be the most effective tool for catching target sharks, minimizing the catch of non-target animals, and maximizing the survival of all animals caught on the gear.'

DPIRD have also deployed a tagged shark listening buoy which currently sits off Maroubra Beach. The device can detect a tagged shark within a 500m radius. When a shark is detected, an electronic alert is sent out via the SharkSmart App which is publicly available. Council Lifeguards receive these notifications and can investigate via Jet-ski or drone.

The DPIRD has provided a detailed information pack (Attachment 1) specific to Randwick City Council beaches outlining the NSW Shark Management Program and data on species caught and detected across NSW and at specific beaches and LGAs. The information pack also includes the details of community consultation undertaken by DPIRD on the shark management program between December 2022 to March 2023.

The DPIRD information pack outlines performance data on the various shark mitigation measures specific to the Randwick LGA which is summarised below.

Shark Nets

Two shark nets are in place from September to April with one at Maroubra Beach and one at Coogee Beach. Between 2022 to 2024, no (0) target species (White Shark, Bull Shark and Tiger Shark) were caught in shark nets along the Randwick Coastline. The survival rate for non-target species caught in shark nets through the same period was 43%.

SMART Drumlines

There are nine (9) SMART drumlines in place along the Randwick Coastline year-round during daylight hours. From July 2022 to June 2024 there have been 7 target shark species caught on SMART drumlines in the Randwick LGA. The survival rate of both target and non-target species was 100% through the period.

Listening Stations

The tagged shark listening station at Maroubra detected approximately 90 tagged target sharks over the 2022-24 period. These alerts are managed by the DPIRD with this data publicly available via the SharkSmart app.

Drone Surveillance

Surf Life Saving NSW operate a drone surveillance program which is launched at, and patrols Maroubra Beach supported by the NSW DPIRD.

Specific data is not available to the Randwick LGA, but across NSW and as a result of 74,000 drone flights, 636 sharks have been observed resulting in 467 counter measures such as a beach closure or siren activation.

Survey Responses to Shark Management Technologies by opt-in individuals.

The NSW DPIRD Information pack includes the results of community consultation which has community views on shark management options. The table below summarises the results of community sentiment into the various shark mitigation measures by Opt-in individuals within the Randwick LGA (n=848).

Technology	Familiarity (% Familiar)	Satisfaction Level (% Satisfied)	Perceived Safety (% very /extremely safe)	Perceived improvement of Safety (% who feel safer)
SMART Drumlines	73%	61%	30%	60%
Shark Nets	95%	28%	19%	28%
Drone Surveillance	76%	70%	39%	69%
Listening Stations	47%	63%	32%	61%

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety
Function	Public Safety
Delivery program commitment	Implement measures to maintain the physical safety and wellbeing of the community, including lifeguard and ranger.

Risks

As the NSW Government is responsible for the implementation of, and ongoing maintenance of the Shark Management Program in NSW, Randwick Council has little in the way of risk exposure. The key risk to Council in considering the NSW DPIRD's shark management report and survey is reputational. Specifically, the potential for community backlash due to existing polarised views in the community on current shark mitigation measures.

Resourcing Strategy implications

There would be no resource implication for RCC, as the installation and maintenance of all Shark Mitigation technologies is managed by the NSW Government.

Policy and legislative requirements

Randwick City Council does not have any specific legislative obligations for Shark Management, as this responsibility primarily falls under the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, which manages the NSW Shark Management Strategy under the Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW).

Conclusion

The NSW Government manages shark mitigation technologies in NSW. The NSW DPIRD's current Shark Management Strategy within the Randwick LGA consists of SMART Drumlines, drones, VR4G Listening Stations and shark nets at Coogee and Maroubra between September and March, annually.

The performance data of the various shark mitigation measures specific to the Randwick LGA between 2022 and 2024 as well as the results from a survey of community sentiment for NSW Shark Mitigation measures have been provided to Council.

In conjunction with the release of the information package DPIRD has provided a survey to Council identifying which shark mitigation technology measures, if any, Randwick City Council supports for implementation in the Randwick LGA.

It is recommended that Council receives and notes the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 2024 Shark Management information package 2022-2024 and Council preference survey.

Responsible officer: Duncan Scott, Manager Ranger Services; Mark Bush, Manager Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety

File Reference: F2005/00624

Director City Services Report No. CS3/25

**Subject: Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee -
February 2025**


Executive Summary

- The Council's Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee (CABFAC) meets quarterly to examine issues relating to bike riding and cycling facilities.
- The February 2025 meeting of this Committee was attended by Councillors, representatives of BIKEast, members of the community, and Council staff.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 February 2025, be received, and noted.

Attachment/s:

1.  CABFAC Minutes - February 2025 (Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee)

Purpose

At its ordinary meeting on 10 October 2017, Council resolved:

Mayoral Minute No. MM29/17 (The Mayor, Cr Lindsay Shurey) that a Cycleway and Bike Facilities Advisory Committee be established, consisting of Councillors Matson, Neilson and Veitch and representatives of BikeEast with the following terms of reference:

1. report to the Works Committee;
2. enhance consultation between Council and the bike riding community;
3. advance implementation of the planned and funded cycle ways in the Randwick local government area;
4. review and provide advice on proposed Council bike related capital works projects;
5. participate in the yearly draft budget process by recommending appropriate bike related projects;
6. be consulted by Council on cycle way and bike facility issues involving significant planning proposals and Development applications before Council;
7. Regularly review and propose updating of the Randwick Council bike plan in line with the strategic direction of priority cycleways as detailed within "Sydney's Cycling Future";
8. help advance a Regional Cycle Strategy with neighbouring Councils, and
9. The meetings of this Advisory Committee be open to the public with Agendas and Minutes being published on a relevant page of the Council's website.

The CABFAC, at its 5 February 2025 meeting, considered numerous matters of importance to local bicycle riders.

Discussion

Minutes of the Cycleway & Bike Facilities Advisory Committee (CABFAC) Meeting held on 5th February 2025 are attached.

The next meeting of this advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday 7th May 2025, at 7:30am.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:	
Strategy	Integrated Transport
Outcome	A city with a transport network where sustainable transport options are the preferred choice for people
Objective	Increase the active transport mode share to 35% by 2031, from a 2018-19 baseline of 26%
Delivery program commitment	Update the 2015 Bicycle Route Construction Priority List and develop an Active Transport Plan for the LGA by 2023.
Delivery program commitment	Provide an additional 30km of safe cycling routes by 2031, prioritising fully separate bicycle lanes where possible, in locations informed by our Bicycle Route Construction Priority plan and the TfNSW Principal Bicycle Network plan.
Delivery program commitment	Implement measures to increase safety for people riding bikes or walking in 5 locations each year until 2031, with priority given to identified crash sites.
Delivery program commitment	Provide 200 new bicycle parking spaces across our beaches, local centres and key destinations across the LGA by 2027.

Risks

There are no operational or strategic risks associated with the recommendation of this report.

Resourcing Strategy implications

Any proposals for expenditure arising from the CABFAC recommendations are either covered by existing funding allocations or would be the subject of separate reports to Council for funding.

Policy and legislative requirements

The CABFAC was set up to advise on bicycle infrastructure related matters. It was established from a Council Resolution on 10 October 2017.

Conclusion

The Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee is a positive forum for the consideration of matters important to bicycle riders. The Committee's recommendations are supported, and it is considered that they be endorsed by the Council.

Responsible officer: Lachlan Wood, Senior Sustainable Transport Officer

File Reference: F2018/00158



**MINUTES OF CYCLEWAYS AND BICYCLE FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 6.30PM**

Attendees:

Councillors	
Cr Aaron Magner	RCC - Councillor
Cr Dexter Gordon	RCC - Councillor
Stakeholders	
Kate Lewis	Transport for NSW
Yvonne Poon	BIKEast
Elliott Jones	BIKEast
Kristina Warton	Safe Streets for School
Owen Shepherd	Safe Streets for School
Paul Chilcott	Resident
Kristina Warton	Resident
Marta Franscisco	Resident
RCC Officers	
Tony Lehmann	RCC - Manager Integrated Transport
Lachlan Wood	RCC - Senior Sustainable Transport Officer
Jay Lee-Pieterse	RCC - Senior Sustainable Transport Officer
Renna Korn	RCC - Student Engineer
David Appleby	RCC - Coordinator Strategic Planning

1. Terms of Reference

The following information is provided so that you may be aware of the structure and operation of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee.

Randwick Council resolved to establish a Cycleway and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee with the following terms of reference:

1. Report to the Council;
2. Enhance consultation between Council and the bike riding community;
3. Advance implementation of the planned and funded cycle ways in the Randwick local government area;
4. Review and provide advice on proposed Council bike related capital works projects;
5. Participate in the yearly draft budget process by recommending appropriate bike related projects;
6. Be consulted by Council on cycle way and bike facility issues involving significant planning proposals and development applications before Council;
7. Regularly review and propose updating of the Randwick Council bike plan in line with the strategic direction of priority cycleways as detailed within "Sydney's Cycling Future"; and
8. Help advance a Regional Cycle Strategy with neighbouring Councils.

(Council resolution references 172/17 & 87/18)

This is page 1 of the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee meeting held on 5 February 2025

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Phillipa Veitch.

3. Declaration of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests

Nil.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6 November 2024

Previous minutes confirmed.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6 November 2024 (copies of which were circulated to all Councillors) be and are hereby confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5. Items for consideration

Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports

BAC1/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Advisory Committee - meeting times (F2018/00158)

The 2025 dates for this Advisory Committee have been confirmed as:

- Wednesday 5th of February 2025 at 6:30pm
- Wednesday 7th of May 2025 at 7:30am
- Wednesday 6th of August 2025 at 6:30pm
- Wednesday 5th of November 2025 at 7:30am

It is proposed that the timing of these meetings alternate between a 6:30pm and 7:30am start, as proposed above and in line with previous CABFAC meeting schedules.

Discussion

It was noted that the proposed 6:30pm August CABFAC meeting clashes with the Randwick Precinct meeting.

Recommendation

That an alternate date be determined for the August 2025 CABFAC meeting.

BAC2/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Get NSW Active Program Funding / TfNSW Walking and Cycling Program (F2018/00158)

A summary of the Council's applications for Get NSW Active Grant Funding is detailed in the table below:

Applications made 2024/25	Award Status	Funding stage requested	TfNSW Contribution
Kingsford to Centennial Park Cycleway – Section 3 (Barker Street to Sturt Street) – Design assessment	Successful	Design	100% \$411K
Paine Reserve – Shared Path (North South)	Successful	Construction	100% \$263K

This is page 2 of the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee meeting held on 5 February 2025

MINUTES OF CYCLEWAYS AND BICYCLE FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

5 FEBRUARY 2025

Maroubra Road Corridor Upgrade (Proposed Detailed Design)	Unsuccessful	Design	100%
Applications made 2023/24	Award Status	Funding stage requested	TfNSW Contribution
South Coogee to Kingsford – Stage 1 (Sturt Street)	Successful for construction of traffic signals at Avoca St / Bundock St/Sturt St	Construction	100% \$2M
Maroubra Road Walking and Cycling Improvements Project (noting Council has deleted the cycleway component)	Successful – Concept Design	Design	80% \$300K
Todman Avenue and Lenthall Street Walking and Cycling Improvements	Successful	Design	100% \$667K
Previous application made 2022/23	Award Status	Funding stage requested	TfNSW Contribution
Active Transport Plan	Successful	Strategy	100% \$140K
South Coogee to Kingsford walking and cycling streetscape (Bundock Street / Sturt Street) – Detailed design finalisation	Successful	Design	100% \$474,580
Coogee to Randwick – Concept and detailed design	Successful	Design	100% \$776K
Anzac Parade – Mid A – Fitzgerald Avenue to Sturt Street / APPP – Detailed design	Successful	Design	50% \$396K

Discussion

Nil.

Recommendation

That the information be received

BAC3/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Active Transport Plan / Transport Mode Hierarchy (F2018/00158)

At its Ordinary Meeting, held on 10 December 2024 the Council resolved:

RESOLUTION: (Magner / Veitch) that Council adopts the Active Transport Plan including the “Active Transport Plan: Analysis” and the “Active Transport Plan: Walking and Cycling”.

The Active Travel Plan establishes the vision for active transport in the City and will guide strategic decisions of Council and Council officers regarding walking, bicycle riding and public transport consistent with the Integrated Transport Strategy and the endorsed Transport Mode Hierarchy.

The Active Transport Plan is comprised of three separate but related documents:

- Active Transport Plan
- Active Transport Plan: Analysis
- Active Transport Plan: Walking and Cycling

Given adoption of the Plan, Council's Bicycle Route Construction Priority List will now be reviewed, released for community consultation and then reported back to the Council.

This is page 3 of the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee meeting held on 5 February 2025

Discussion

Nil.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC4/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Kingsford to Centennial Park Cycleway (F2018/00158)

The full Kingsford to Centennial Park Walking and Cycling Improvements (K2CP) project will deliver Route 1 of the *Randwick City Council Bicycle route construction priority list (2015)*. It includes improvements along Doncaster Avenue, Day Avenue, Houston Road, General Bridges Crescent, Sturt Street.

Sections 1 and 2 (total of 1.8km) of the K2CP project were constructed for Randwick Council by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and were opened to the public in December 2023. Sections 1 & 2 extend from Alison Road in the north through to Barker Street in the south.

Doncaster Avenue / Anzac Parade Intersection Improvements

Community consultation regarding improvements to the Doncaster Avenue / Anzac Parade intersection, to provide a continuous separated cycleway across Anzac Parade, has been completed. The submissions are currently being reviewed by TfNSW and the construction plans are being updated in accordance with feedback provided.

Section 3 – Houston Road, General Bridges Crescent and Sturt Street.

Section 3 of K2CP project includes the following remaining sections for construction:

- Houston Road, from Barker Street south to Gardeners Road,
- General Bridges Crescent, from Gardeners Road through to Bunnerong Road (Bayside Council area), and
- Sturt St, from Bunnerong Road to western side of Anzac Parade (Kingsford Junior Light Rail Station).

Section 3 also includes previously approved upgrades to the existing traffic signals at the Gardeners Road / Houston Road / General Bridges Crescent intersection and the introduction of new traffic signals at the Bunnerong Road / General Bridges Crescent / Sturt Street intersection.

Additional design considerations will be given to the Houston Road / Strachan Street and Houston Road / Borrodale Road intersections as per Council resolution to consider roundabouts with the introduction of the separated cycleway. Progress with these designs is being undertaken in parallel to the Kensington West Kingsford Local Area Traffic Management consultation processes for Houston Road, from Barker Street to Gardeners Road.

Council received funding under the Get NSW Active Program 2024/2025 for the Section 3 design assessment to consider a more effective and cost-efficient protected cycleway proposal for the rest of the project. The objective of the design assessment is to apply the lessons learned from Sections 1 and 2 to improve design. It also aims to minimise construction noise and other construction impacts upon residents and businesses. This design project is currently in the procurement process.

Council will continue to seek funding opportunities to complete construction of the Kingsford to Centennial Park Walking and Cycling Improvements project - Section 3.

Discussion

Mr Lehmann provided an update on Section 3 of the Kingsford to Centennial Park Walking and Cycling Improvements project.

Ms Lewis provided an update on the proposed amendment to the Doncaster Avenue/Anzac Parade intersection. It was noted that the recent community consultation was generally supportive of the proposed design.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

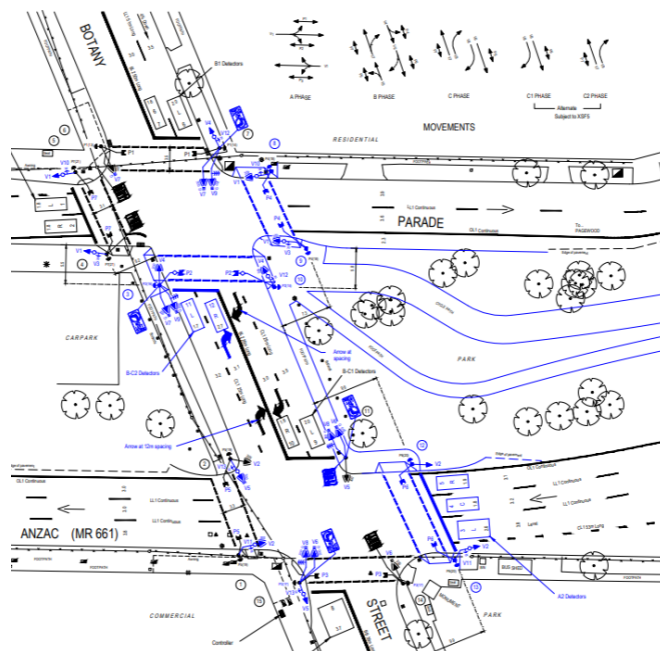
BAC5/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Anzac Parade (Walking and Cycling) Paths Project (APPP) (F2018/00158)

In 2015, following community consultation, the Council endorsed a Bicycle Route Construction Priority which identified the Anzac Parade (Mid 'A') Cycleway as the 2nd highest priority cycleway project.

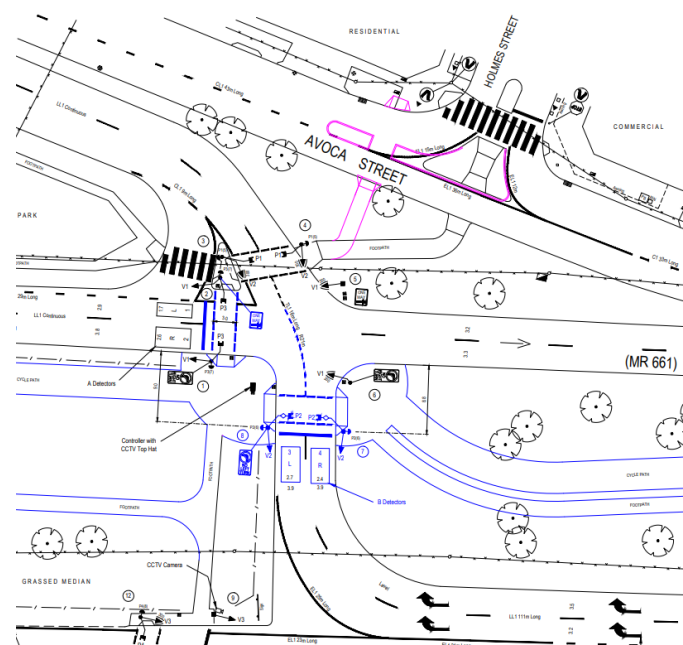
Council was successful in gaining 50% funding for developing the detailed design documentation package of the Anzac Parade Walking and Cycling Paths Project under the Get NSW Active Program. The Consultant has completed the Strategic Framework report (Stage 1) and is working on the concept design including traffic control signal (TCS) design and path alignments.

The base traffic impact assessment and modelling has been updated following technical review by TfNSW to ensure potential impacts to the operation of the State Road of Anzac Parade are fully understood. Once the traffic assessment is accepted by TfNSW the draft traffic control plans and supporting documentation will be finalized and submitted to TfNSW for Approval in Principle.

An internal workshop, with a number of Council departments, was held in November 2024 to review the emerging concept alignment and receive feedback to help inform the design. The Concept design is anticipated to be complete by mid-2025.



Traffic signal designs design at Anzac Parade and Botany Street



Traffic signal designs design at Anzac Parade and Avoca Street

Discussion

Mr Lehmann provided an update on the project. It was noted that the updated traffic impact assessment will be submitted soon and once approved by TfNSW the concept design will progress. It was confirmed that the concept design will go to community consultation once ready.

Ms Poon suggested a drop off point for the Kingsford Juniors light rail stop could be incorporated on the northbound carriageway to improve access to the station.

Ms Poon suggested the design include an additional crossing on Anzac Parade, south of Avoca Street, to improve access from Anzac Parade to Avoca Street. It was noted this can be investigated, however there are challenges in implementing additional signals on a state road.

Ms Warton suggested a priority pedestrian cyclist crossing Avoca Street to improve access to and from Holmes Street. It was noted this is challenging due to current guidance regarding uncontrolled crossing over multi-lane roads as well as safety concerns related to sight lines.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC6/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - South Coogee to Kingsford Walking and Cycling Project (F2018/00158)

In 2015, following community consultation, the Council endorsed a Bicycle Route Construction Priority which identified the South Coogee to Kingsford Cycleway as the 4th highest priority cycleway project.

Council is continuing to work with the primary consultant to complete the detailed design following the success of Council's Get NSW Active Program submission. The funding covered 100% of the finalisation of the detailed documentation package for the South Coogee to Kingsford Walking and Cycling Project (Bundock Street and Sturt Street).

Council applied under the 2023/24 Get NSW Active Program for funding to construct Stage 1 of the South Coogee to Kingsford Walking and Cycling Streetscape project. Of the applied funding, the signalisation of the Avoca Street/Bundock Street/Sturt Street intersections was approved with \$2 million allocated for this project. As such, Council has instructed the consultant to prioritise the detailed design for the Avoca Street signalised intersection and to prepare a separate construction tender package.

Avoca Street / Bundock Street / Sturt Street - Signalisation

During the detailed design of the Avoca Street signalised intersection, it was found that proposed new traffic signals would be in conflict with a water main on Avoca Street. To address this issue a specific Sydney Water major works approval and specialist input is required. Council has approved and funded the \$136,000 variation to manage this process, which is anticipated to take a minimum of 12 months to complete.

TfNSW have provided direction on the traffic signal design and the consultant is now working to update the traffic control signal design and civil design for submission to TfNSW.

The construction ready plans for the Avoca Street signalised intersection are anticipated to be complete by June 2025. Construction for the signalised intersection will commence following completion of the major works approval process, which is currently anticipated in 2026.

Avoca Street / Bundock Street / Sturt Street - Temporary Pedestrian Refuges

Community consultation on the proposed temporary pedestrian refuges is complete, with no significant concerns raised. The results will be reported to Traffic Committee and provided to TfNSW with a request that the Traffic Management Plan be endorsed. The refuges will then be installed as soon as possible.

Sturt Street and Bundock Street Cycleway

Design work on the Sturt Street and Bundock Street cycleway packages is progressing. The consultant has submitted the 95% complete design for the Bundock Street section and will submit the 95% complete design for the Sturt Street section in early 2025.

The construction ready plans for the Sturt Street and Bundock Street cycleways are anticipated to be complete by June 2025 with construction subject to approvals (from TfNSW and Ausgrid) and future successful funding applications.

Discussion

Mr Lehmann provided an update on the project.

Ms Poon requested an update on the timeline for construction of the signals for the Avoca Street intersection. The various design issues were discussed, including providing adequate vehicle movements, retaining trees and the challenges with the Sydney Water major works approvals process.

Ms Warton queried why the implementation of the temporary pedestrian refuges are taking so long. It was noted that there are requirements and TfNSW processes that need to be met but that Council is committed to installing these refuges as soon as possible.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC7/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Coogee to Randwick Walking and Cycling Improvements Project (F2018/00158)

In 2015, following community consultation, the Council endorsed a Bicycle Route Construction Priority which identified the Coogee to Randwick Cycleway as the 5th highest priority cycleway project.

The proposed Coogee to Randwick Cycleway will provide a bicycle link from Coogee Beach to the Randwick light rail terminus and UNSW. The project will also provide significant improvement to pedestrian facilities while providing an active transport link between these key destinations and provide light rail passengers an alternative to driving to the Randwick light rail stop. The introduction of the light rail corridor on High Street and the new development at the Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct have required that the route originally identified be re-examined.

The Strategic Framework and Options Assessment is now complete with the preferred route identified. A series of possible options through the Health Infrastructure Precinct have been developed to help facilitate future discussions in agreeing an acceptable proposal.

Engagement with stakeholders will take place during design development in the next stages of the project once the preferred route has been reported to Council. Community consultation will be carried out once the concept design has been prepared.

Council is currently working towards procurement of a suitable consultant to deliver the remaining design stages of the project, taking the preferred route from concept design through to detailed design.

Discussion

Nil.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC8/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Todman Avenue and Lenthall Street Walking and Cycling Improvements Project (F2018/00158)

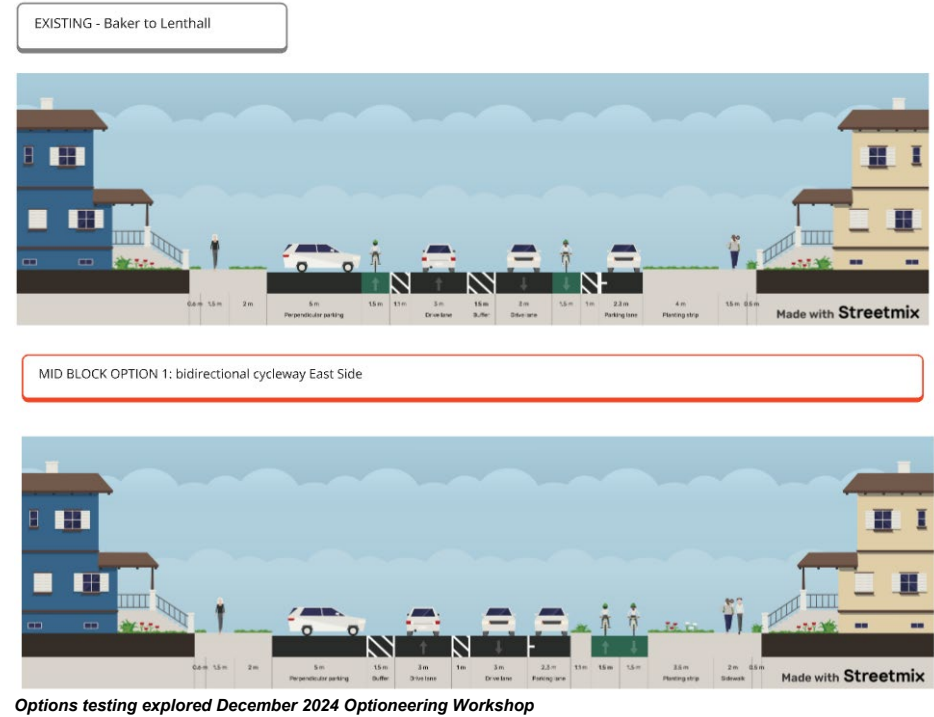
In 2015, following community consultation, the Council endorsed a Bicycle Route Construction Priority which identified the Todman Avenue and Lenthall Street Cycleways as the 3rd highest priority cycleway project.

Council was successful in securing funding from the 2023/24 Get NSW Active Program for detailed design of permanent, physically separated, walking and cycling improvements along Todman Avenue and Lenthall Street, Kensington.

The Strategic Framework report has been completed which establishes the baseline line environment and project objectives to guide the design development stages. The land survey, traffic survey and parking survey have been completed.

An optioneering workshop was held in December 2024 with Council Officers, TfNSW representatives and the consultant. The purpose of the workshop was to establish the preferred cycleway typology to be applied at concept design within the various sections of the project.

Work on the concept design has commenced with completion anticipated in early 2025. Progress with these designs is being undertaken in parallel to the Kensington West Kingsford Local Area Traffic Management consultation processes.



Discussion

Mr Lehmann provided an update on the project.

Cr Gordon queried how a safe cycleway will be provided should the roundabout at Todman Avenue and Kensington Road be retained. Mr Lehmann noted that under the current TfNSW guidance we can incorporate a separated cycleway with a roundabout (similar to the Doncaster Avenue/Ascot Road roundabout).

Cr Gordon also queried how the cycleway will navigate the roundabouts on Lenthall Street. Mr Lehmann noted this is a challenging section and the design principle here has not been decided as yet.

Cr Magner queried whether contact has been made with the City of Sydney regarding connecting with the O'Dea Avenue cycleway. It was noted that Council is working with TfNSW who are working on a design for a shared crossing over South Dowling Street to tie into the proposed cycleway on the northern side of Todman Avenue.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC9/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Alison Road - Length of shared path near Doncaster Avenue (F2018/00158)

Council officers continue to work with TfNSW on the lease arrangement to construct a shared path around the back of the bus shelter on the southern side of Alison Road, east of Doncaster Avenue. The land immediately behind the bus shelter is TfNSW's – not Council's.

Work continues on the detailed survey plans required by Transport for NSW to satisfy their lease processes.

Discussion

Nil.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC10/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Paine Reserve, Randwick - North-South Shared Path (F2018/00158)

The Paine Reserve north-south shared path will connect with the existing east-west shared path along the southern edge of Paine Reserve. Once completed this path will improve the walking and cycling facilities from Rainbow Street to Fennelly Street and it will provide an integral link in Council's proposed north / south cycle route / network.

Council officers were successful with their submission, under the 2024/25 Get NSW Active Program, to secure for \$231,000 of funding to construct the Paine Reserve north-south shared path. The licence for access over the land subject to Native Title requirements had to be negotiated to allow Council the rights to construct and maintain a path within the land subject to Native Title requirements.

At the October 2024 Traffic Committee meeting, the proposed shared path design was endorsed for implementation, provided that it be referred to the TfNSW's Active Transport team for review. Upon review, given the likely usage (including by groups of parents / school children) it was agreed that the path be modified to a 4m width.

The stakeholders / community consultation for the design was undertaken in December 2024 and construction commenced in January 2025. The concrete works and landscaping are now completed (before the start of the school year) and the line marking and pavement paint will be applied at the end of February or early March, pending weather conditions.

Below images show concrete works completed in January 2025:



Concrete path form works – facing south



Concrete path concrete pour – facing north



Concrete pour – facing south



Fennelly Street concrete path expansion – facing north



South side of Fennelly Street – facing east



Stairs to Fennelly Street footpath – facing north



Concrete path – facing north



Connection to east-west shared path – facing north

Discussion

Mr Lehmann provided an update on the project, noting that the shared path is now open.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC11/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Darley Road / Govett Street Gates (F2018/00158)

Council officers have been in discussions with Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP) regarding the possible permanent closure of the Parkes Drive gate at Darley Road and Govett Street. This gate closure would facilitate unrestricted access for pedestrians and cyclists while effectively restricting vehicular movements. By implementing this measure, substantial safety enhancements would be expected in addressing road safety concerns regarding pedestrians and bike riders crossing the road.

In order to assist with any potential gate closure, Council sought quotes for carrying out traffic surveys and traffic modelling to understand the possible impact to the Randwick Gates at Centennial Park and the local road network. Council is currently in liaison with GSP regarding potential co-funding of this study.

Discussion

Mr Lehmann provided noted that Council will fully fund the traffic impact study for the permanent closure of the Govett Street gates.

Recommendation

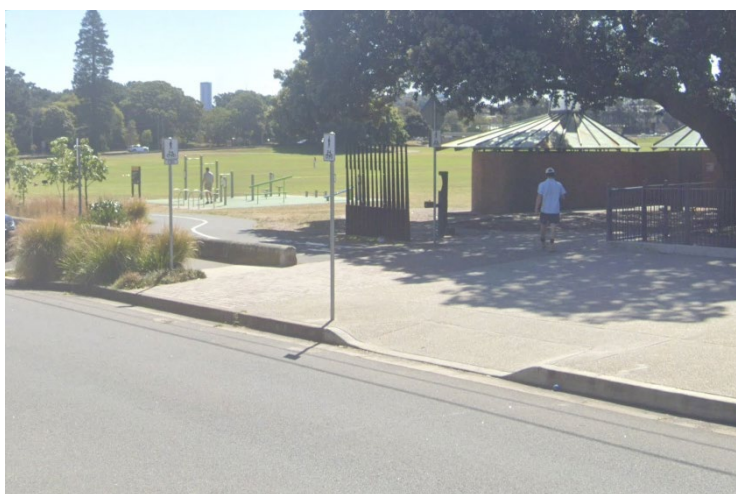
That the information be received.

BAC12/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Queens Park Cycleway (F2018/00158)

BLKEast has asked that consideration be given to implementation of a bicycle (and pedestrian) crossing at Darley Road / Market Street at Queens Park.

This intersection has already been identified as a location requiring road safety improvements. As such, Council officers have been investigating pedestrian safety improvements at this location, including a concept design for a wombat crossing. Such a proposal has been previously submitted for Safer Roads Program funding without success. This project will be reviewed and re-submitted in future funding rounds.

It is noted that currently there is a layback along the northern kerb at the intersection, directly across from Market Street, which was installed as part of the Queens Park Pedestrian and Cycle Path Project. This layback can be used by confident cyclists to ride onto the shared path from Market Street and vice versa.



Kerb layback on the northern side of Darley Road, opposite of Market Street – facing south

Council will continue to investigate appropriate designs and funding for walking and cycling improvements at this intersection.

Discussion

Mr Lehmann noted that Council is seeking funding to implement a new raised crossing to provide a safer crossing for those accessing Queens Park from the south.

Mr Shepherd noted that this crossing would benefit the numerous vulnerable road users who frequently access the park and its facilities, including the nearby kindergarten and school kids.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC13/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Bicycle Parking (F2018/00158)

Enquiries have been received regarding the roll out of bicycle parking facilities within the LGA.

Randwick Council will continue to install bike racks in 2025 in line with the Integrated Transport Strategy strategic approach no.1.8 – “Provide 200 new bicycle parking spaces across our beaches, local centres and key destinations across the LGA by 2027”.

Council officers are working through the list of bicycle parking requests to deliver within the available budget as well as through review of capital works and maintenance projects, cycleway and public space projects, and development applications to find opportunities to include additional bicycle wherever possible. The location and the type of facilities will be determined based on desire lines, type of place, type of bicycle, surrounding land uses, and duration of the bicycle parking needs. The designs are generally in accordance with, or exceed, applicable standards and guidelines and aim to reflect the needs of users.

In addition, Council's Urban Design Elements Manual is currently under review with an update expected by April 2025. As part of the review process, consideration will be given to expanding the preferred type of bicycle racks, which currently include 'U' rack and 'O' rings.

Discussion

Ms Lee-Pieterse advised that Council is on track in meeting its annual target of 40 spaces per financial year in order to meet this target. It was also noted that some racks are installed as part of other capital works projects where there are opportunities and are counted towards this quota.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC14/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - The Spot - Contra-flow bicycle traffic (F2018/00158)

The Council has received a proposal from BIKEast to provide two-way cycling on the one-way section of St Pauls Street, between Avoca Street and Perouse Road to support an east-west connection from the Health Precinct / UNSW to The Spot. This link would provide a safe crossing of Avoca Street at the signalised intersection of St Pauls Street and it would allow cyclists to avoid Soudan Street and will minimise interactions with buses on Perouse Road.

Given the request, Council officers will review the feasibility of introducing two-way cycling on St Pauls Street, including contra-flow bicycle facilities on the southern side of St Pauls Street.

The Council is currently undertaking community consultation for The Spot streetscape upgrade from 12 December 2024 to 13 February 2025, which includes a short section of the western leg of Perouse Road and St Pauls Street. If the proposal for the two-way cycling is deemed feasible, it will be considered to be incorporated into the streetscape upgrade to provide a cycling transition near to the roundabout.

Discussion

Mr Lehmann confirmed that Council is investigating options for implementing a contra-flow cycleway on St Pauls Street, and opened the discussion on any known successful examples.

Mr Shepherd noted that for contra-flow cycle lanes 45 degree angled parked (aligned towards oncoming riders) is a better outcome than 90 degree parking and cited an example at Lamrock Avenue in Bondi.

Mr Jones also noted the contra-flow cycle lane installed at Beach Street in Coogee as a successful implementation.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC15/25 Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee Reports - Malabar Road at Nymboida Street, South Coogee - Bicycle Lane (F2018/00158)

Community members have raised road safety concerns about the bicycle lane pinch point caused by the pedestrian refuge and associated kerb nibs on Malabar Road, at Nymboida Street, South Coogee. In addition, concerns have also been raised about the very wide "bell-mouthed" Nymboida Street intersection. When crossing Nymboida Street, pedestrians are exposed to moving vehicles over a distance of more than 23 metres.



Aerial photo of existing bicycle lanes on Maroubra Road at Nymboida Street, South Coogee

Council officers will investigate options for this intersection to resolve the pinch point of the bicycle lane at the intersection and to reduce pedestrians exposure to turning vehicles, including review of any previous designs that were considered.

Possible improvements could include expansion of the kerb and relocation of the pedestrian refuge / kerb nibs or reduction in kerb nibs to provide sufficient bicycle lane width. The assessment will be completed with consideration of constraints and needs of the adjacent community, including any other improvements required at the intersection.

Discussion

Mr Lehmann advised that Council will re-investigate designs to remove this unsafe pinch point on Malabar Road.

Ms Poon noted that this was an issue brought up in previous CABFAC meetings and is pleased to see that it will be reviewed again.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

6. General Business**BAC16/25 General Business – Rainbow Street Crossing at Byrd Avenue****Discussion**

Ms Warton asked for an update on the proposed new crossing over Rainbow Street and Byrd Avenue. Ms Lewis confirmed that TfNSW have allocated funding and are developing the proposals for a raised shared crossing across Rainbow Street at Byrd Avenue.

Ms Lee-Pieterse confirmed that the existing traffic island/refuge in Rainbow Street at Botany Street will be retained.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC17/25 General Business – Get NSW Active 2025/26**Discussion**

Ms Poon queried if Council had submitted any projects for funding under the 2025/26 Get NSW Active funding program. Ms Lee-Pieterse advised that Council submitted three projects for:

- A raised crossing on Hannan Street, east of Snape Street.
- A shared path running north/south through Woomera Reserve,
- A new pedestrian crossing on Marine Parade at Maroubra.

Ms Poon also asked if Council had submitted any projects under the Federal Government Active Transport Fund. Ms Lee-Pieterse advised that Council did not have any current projects that met the requirements under this program.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

BAC18/25 General Business – Paine Reserve Opening**Discussion**

Ms Poon queried if there will be an event to celebrate the opening of the new shared path in Paine Reserve. Mr Lehmann agreed this would be a good opportunity and advised that this will be discussed with Council's Communications team.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

The meeting closed at 7:52pm.

This is page 15 of the Minutes of the Cycleways and Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee meeting held on 5 February 2025

Director City Services Report No. CS4/25

Subject: 6/52 Beach Street, Coogee - Hills Weeping Fig Tree - Removal



Executive Summary

- Council has received correspondence since 2020 about impact and damage to the property at 6/52 Beach Street, Coogee caused by council's street tree.
- To manage the issues raised by the property owner, council officers arranged canopy pruning, undertook tree root investigation, performed root pruning and repaired the footpath to retain the fig tree.
- In August 2024, the owner submitted a claim for costs to repair damage to the property that is claimed to have been caused by council's fig tree roots. As part of the claim a structural report has been prepared (attached).
- Council's insurers have assessed the claim and have recommended settling the claim.
- Based on the size of this mature fig tree, the buttress roots and its proximity to the property, further root pruning is not viable without impacting the tree's structural stability and long-term health.
- This report recommends removal of the fig tree and planting of a suitable replacement street tree.
- In accordance with recommendation from the arborist about management of the remaining fig trees, pruning will be undertaken where practicable.

Recommendation

That the Council owned *Ficus var. microcarpa* (Hill's Weeping figs) growing outside 6/52 Beach Street (tree located in Quail Street), Coogee be removed and replaced with a super advanced *Waterhousia floribunda* (Weeping Lilly Pilly) as nominated in Council's Street Tree Masterplan.

Attachment/s:

1.  6 52 Beach Street - Fig Tree Photographs
2.  6 52 Beach Street - Tree Root Photos
3. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Structural Report and Scope of Works

Purpose

This report details the background and assessment relating to property damage at 6/52 Beach Street, Coogee, that has been claimed to be caused by the council owned *Ficus var. microcarpa* (Hill's Weeping figs) street tree. The tree is growing on the nature strip outside the property in Quail Street.

Discussion

Background

52 Beach Street, Coogee is located on the corner of Beach Street and Quail Street. The development comprises 6 town houses with frontages on Quail Street. Council officers have been investigating requests regarding impacts from the council fig trees outside 52 Beach Street since 2020.

Initial impacts related to overshadowing, fruit drop and leaf drop. In 2022 council received a request to repair the concrete footpath. In response to these requests, tree works have been undertaken including canopy pruning away from the roof. Council have also conducted tree root investigation involving excavation of the footpath, exposure of the tree roots and pruning of minor roots. Photographs of the tree roots are included as attachment 3.

It should be noted that root pruning for mature fig trees is limited to tree roots up to 40mm in diameter to minimise impacts on the structural stability of the tree. Due to the proximity of the tree roots to the surface, the footpath could only be replaced with asphalt rather than concrete.

In 2024, we received a claim for damage to the property at 6/52 Beach Street. The damage includes the front fence, internal walls, internal car space and the presence of tree roots at the surface of lawn areas.

As part of the claim assessment, Structability Consulting Engineers were engaged by council's insurers to assess the extent and causation of damage claimed. The report including scope of works is attached as attachment 2.

Fig Tree Description

The subject tree, located in Quail Street is a mature tree in good health and condition with little deadwood in the crown. The tree is approximately 24m in height, has a canopy spread of around 26m and is estimated to be over 60 years of age. Using the methodology in Australian Standard *ASDR99307*, fig trees of similar size and condition are estimated to have an amenity value of approximately \$20,000 - 25,000 each.

This Council owned fig tree is not listed on Randwick Council's Register of Significant Trees. As with all mature trees, they provide environmental benefits and, habitat and food source for a variety of fauna.

There is a cluster of 5 *Ficus 'Hillii'* planted at the eastern end of Quail Street and Beach Street. Due to the overlapping canopies of the fig trees at the northern end of the street, the proposed removal of this street tree will result in a moderate impact on the visual amenity of the streetscape.

Viability of Root Pruning

It is stipulated in Australian Standard AS 4970 – 2009 – *Protection of trees on development sites* that wherever any proposed tree root cutting is greater than 10% of the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) or is inside the Structural Root Zone (SRZ), it must be demonstrated that the tree will remain healthy and viable should any required root cutting take place.

The radius of the Tree Protection Zone is calculated by multiplying a tree's diameter at breast height (DBH) x 12, where DBH is measured at 1.4 metres above ground. For this tree, the radius of the TPZ has been calculated to be 13.2m from the base of the tree.

In relation to the SRZ of a tree, a general rule is that no root cutting works can be undertaken within the following recommended radial distances from any Council owned tree on public land.

Trunk Diameter (D)	Structural Root Zone (SRZ)
Up to 0.15m	1.5m
0.15 to 0.3m	2.0m
0.3m to 0.5m	2.5m
0.5m to 0.8m	3.0m
0.8m to 1.1m	3.5m
1.2m to 1.6m	4.0m

The tree’s trunk diameter above the buttress is 1.4m and therefore the calculated SRZ radius is 3.8m. The tree is located 1.6m from the property boundary. Pruning of roots at the property boundary would constitute an incursion into the Tree Protection Zone of 35% which is significantly higher than the recommended 10% that is allowed by the Australian Standard. To meet the Australian Standard, root pruning is limited to 9.1m from the tree which is behind the wall of the dwelling.

Similarly, this would constitute root pruning within the measured Structural Root Zone. On this basis, it is considered that severing roots that have entered the property to prevent further property damage will impact the health and structural stability of the tree. Therefore, further root pruning is not a viable option.

Assessment

The reported damage to the property by the owner is to the front fence, internal walls, front garden, car space and side lawn. The tree root photographs are shown in attachment 3 and the damage in attachment 2. They show that the tree roots radiate out from the tree and were deflected along and underneath the front fence and into the property.

Options to retain the tree have been explored. The root pruning at the property boundary is within the tree protection zone and structural root zone. This root pruning would require pruning of significant roots (>40mm diameter) and therefore, is not viable as it will impact the tree’s health and structural stability.

Tree Replacement

To offset the visual amenity impact created by removal of the Hill’s Weeping fig, it is proposed to plant a super advanced *Waterhousia floribunda* (Weeping Lilly Pilly) as replacement planting. These fast-growing rainforest tree species have proven to be an ideal replacement for the Hill’s Weeping figs.

Street Tree Pruning

The arborist report recommends the remaining figs in the nature strip of Beach Street and Quail Street be managed by pruning where practicable.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Infrastructure Services
Function	Tree and Plant Management
Delivery program commitment	Manage public and private trees and plants with the LGA including tree assessments and tree work implementation; as well as management of the Council Nursery

Risks

Based on our insurer's recommendation to settle the claim, any future liability arising from the street tree roots would not be covered by our policy. This creates a potential financial liability should the tree be retained, and it causes further damage.

The habitation of birdlife and other fauna within Council tree assets is a primary consideration of tree management staff whenever trees are inspected for pruning or removal works. In addition, it is a requirement for all tree contractors to inspect trees for fauna/wildlife habitation prior to any tree works being undertaken on Council trees. This on-site inspection forms part of the site-specific risk assessment all tree contractors undertake prior to works being undertaken and if any wildlife is encountered, they ensure they contact WIRES to have any such fauna removed and relocated.

Resourcing Strategy implications

It is estimated that the removal of the fig tree outside 6/52 Beach Street, Coogee, and replacement with a super-advanced *Waterhousia floribunda* (Weeping Lilly Pilly) would cost in the vicinity of \$15,000. The funds are available in Council's current annual tree management budget.

Removal of one fig tree in a row of 5 closely spaced fig trees will result in loss of tree canopy. However, due to the canopies currently overlapping, the impact to fauna for food source and habitat is negligible.

Council officers continue our tree planting program to grow our urban forest canopy. As part of this program, we recently completed the planting of an additional 2,000 street trees.

Policy and legislative requirements

- Local Government Act, 1993
- Tree Policy
- Urban Forest Policy
- Register of Significant Trees.

Conclusion

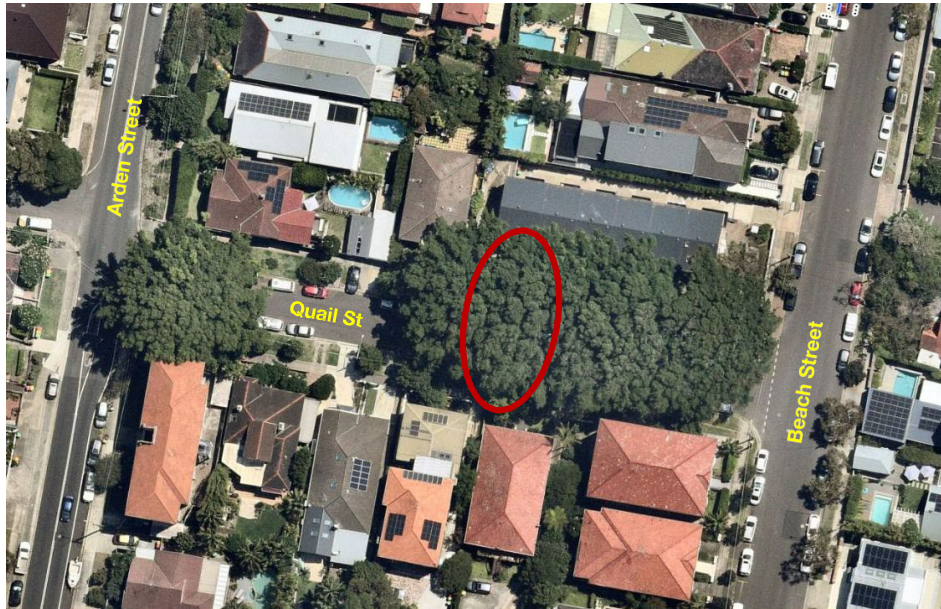
Up until this point, council officers have undertaken works to retain the mature Hill's Weeping fig tree growing in Quail Street outside 6/52 Beach Street, Coogee. These works include root pruning, canopy pruning and replacing the footpath.

Unfortunately, this fig tree has matured to an extent where damage to the property cannot be repaired without root pruning that would impact the structural stability of the tree or its health. For the reasons outlined above, there are limited physical options available to prevent ongoing structural damage that is being caused to private property.

Further, based on our insurer's recommendation to settle the claim, council would no longer be insured for damage caused by this tree and its roots. On this basis, it is recommended to remove this fig tree and plant a super advanced Weeping Lilly Pilly replacement street tree.

Responsible officer: Joe Ingegneri, Manager Technical Services

File Reference: F2007/00188

6/52 Beach Street*Fig Tree in Quail Street*

Subject Tree

CS4/25

CS4/25



52 Beach Street, Coogee**Street Tree Root Photographs****Tree roots outside of front fence**

CS4/25

Tree roots inside fence and damage



CS4/25

Tree roots in the driveway



CS4/25

Director Community & Culture Report No. CC1/25

Subject: A Cultural Vision and Public Art Plan for Randwick

Executive Summary


- This Report presents a Cultural Vision for Council's endorsement and a related draft Public Art Plan for information. It also responds to the resolution of Council (Mayor, D Said) at the 23 February 2021 meeting and the resolution of Council (Mayor, D Parker) at the 28 June 2022 meeting, that requested reports back on matters relating to public art.
- Developed collaboratively with community and key stakeholders including the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, the Cultural Vision celebrates the unique characteristics of Randwick's arts and culture sector and will provide a commitment to support and nurture the work of our creatives.
- The draft Public Art Plan is related to the intent of the Vision, with the next step being to commission a practical framework, to manage and guide significant public art in the LGA, and recognise the increasing diversity of media and genres in public art projects.
- The key focus of the draft Public Art Plan is to outline key steps that should be followed in the direct commissioning of public art, with a focus on commissions that reflect people and place.
- In order to embed both documents meaningfully into Council's services and programs, recommendations include engaging a creative design agency to develop a visual identity for the Cultural Vision.
- Further recommendations include streamlining the draft Public Art Plan to include protocols for laneways, murals and developer art. The plan and protocols will be reported back Council prior to going on public exhibition.
- Also put forward for Council's endorsement is the establishment a specialist Public Art Panel to guide public art proposals.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) receive and endorse the Cultural Vision;
- b) note the engagement of a creative design agency to develop the Cultural Vision visual identity;
- c) note the engagement of an arts policy specialist to simplify the draft Public Art Plan with protocols for Murals, Laneways and Developer Art for practical usage, to come back to Council prior to going on public exhibition; and
- d) approve the establishment of a specialist Public Art Panel via targeted EOI to guide current and future public art proposals.

Attachment/s:

1.  Arts and Culture Cultural Vision - Cultural Capital
2. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Draft Public Art Plan

Purpose

A Cultural Vision and Public Art Plan are included in the Arts and Culture Strategy as key strategic approaches, as follows:

- 1.1. *Create a whole of Randwick Local Government Area (LGA) cultural vision with a focus on our places, people and stories and our unique narrative*
- 1.5 *Update and implement the Public Art Plan by 2022.*

In addition, the following Council Resolutions relating to public art in Randwick have been resolved by Council.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 23/02/2021 Council resolved:

(Mayor, Cr D Said) *that Council bring back a report on the feasibility of a public art activation program for murals at identified locations, using Malabar as the pilot in a trial. The report should include proposed locations within Malabar and details regarding the application process and criteria for local artists to participate.*

At its Ordinary Meeting on 28/06/2022 Council resolved that:

(Mayor, Cr D Parker) *that Council*

- a) *notes the Public Art Plan is being updated and implemented this year in line with Council's Arts and Culture Strategy; and*
- b) *considers the Inner West Council's Perfect Match Street Art program model in the development of the Public Art Plan.*

The purpose of this Report is to seek Council's endorsement of a Cultural Vision, and a draft Public Art Plan for Randwick with the next steps including:

- Engagement of a creative design agency to develop a visual identity for the Cultural Vision
- Develop a synthesised Public Art Plan and protocol document with added appendices for mural art, developer art projects and laneways to come back to Council to guide current and future public art protocols, prior to public exhibition
- Establishing a Public Art Panel of invited Public Art specialists via EOI.

Discussion

Why is a Cultural Vision needed?

Council's support of the arts is continuing to strengthen and is informed by a ten year Arts and Culture Strategy, the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC), and delivered by Council officers.

A Cultural Vision is not policy or a strategy, instead it provides a mantle over the layers of policy, plans and programs. A Cultural Vision is an aspirational and reflective statement that encapsulates what makes the arts and cultural sector in Randwick unique, whilst also providing direction and inspiration. It can also be expressed visually as a symbol or visual identity.

The Cultural Vision is the "why" and "where" Council nurtures and implements arts projects and communities; and the Public Art Plan is a key element of the "how".

Consultancy and Project Brief

The development of a Cultural Vision and Public Art Plan is identified in the Arts and Culture Strategy as a key strategic approach.

In October 2022, Council engaged a curatorial agency via a competitive EOI process to develop a Cultural Vision and Public Art Plan. The consultancy was engaged to develop a Cultural Vision, which would provide the foundation and parameters for a Public Art Plan.

The extensive consultation process spanned workshops, surveys, interviews, and discussions with key stakeholders including Council's Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, local First Nations Communities, neighbouring Councils, state government authorities, local cultural organisations, businesses and individuals. It also incorporated previous work done on [Local Character statements](#).



Key questions and discussions included:

- What are your stories, memories and associations of Randwick LGA?
- What does the LGA mean to you?
- What is unique about Randwick?
- How do you usually engage with art and culture in the LGA?
- How do you want to experience art and culture within Randwick?
- What do you need more of?
- How important is representation of local Aboriginal Culture to you?
- What does Randwick need more of to contribute to the creative communities and creative industries within it?
- *Final thoughts: what is your vision for art and culture in the Randwick LGA?*

The resulting, wide-ranging feedback produced emerging themes that inform the draft Vision and Public Art. These include the importance of First Nations identity and culture, and the acknowledgement of the need to build and foster a strong arts and cultural scene in Randwick.

The consultants collated themes and responses into a draft Cultural Vision which was presented to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee 13 July 2023 and discussed at a meeting on 19 October 2023, with the Committee's support and approval.

The Cultural Vision features a statement, core pillars and suggested iconography.

A Cultural Vision for Randwick

The Cultural Vision presented to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee in October 2023 is as follows:

Vision statement:

Randwick City's cultural landscape will foster local creativity to thrive, while planting seeds for the future of arts and culture to continue to flourish.

We nurture a welcoming, innovative and sustainable arts and cultural ecology that showcases the diversity of creativity.

Together we prioritise local Aboriginal people, communities, culture and their continuous connection to Country.

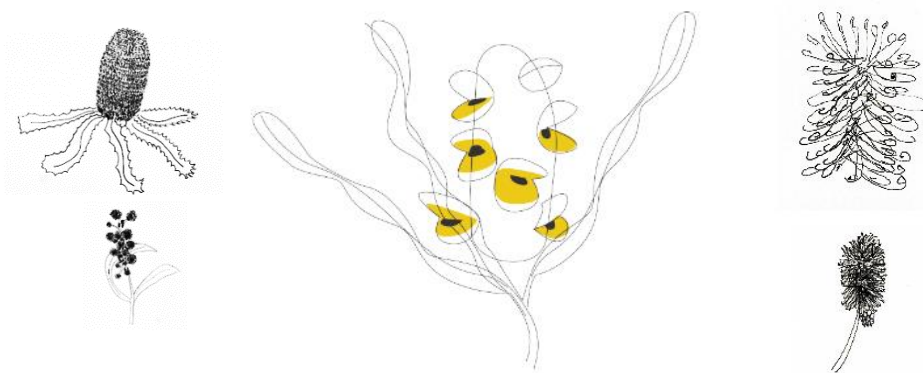
Our cultural landscape is for everyone. We support multicultural communities and visitors to grow in their access, engagement, and appreciation of arts and culture in Randwick City.

Pillars of the vision include:

- *seeding* our creative and cultural landscape
- *tending* our creative and cultural landscape
- *activating* our creative and cultural landscape

Suggested Iconography:

The proposed visual symbol presented with the Vision is the locally endemic **Eastern Suburbs Banksia Shrub**. This symbolises Randwick's arts sector as it is sturdy, ancient and yet an also fragile compositive plant, with deep connected networks of underground roots needing nurturing, tending and growth. It is made up of distinct and different species that form a complex, symbolic whole, as is Randwick's creative landscape.



How the Cultural Vision may be used:

The Cultural Vision and branding will be incorporated into the work of Arts & Culture, in strategic and promotional material including website, reporting, communications, advocacy, and as a preface to core arts and culture policies.

It is important to note that a Vision Statement is not fixed in perpetuity. The Cultural Vision should be treated as a fluid statement that reflects the dynamism and ever evolving nature of arts and culture in the City of Randwick. As our creative landscape continues to develop, and Council's increasing scope of arts and culture programming, spaces and projects are delivered, the Cultural Vision may further evolve in different iterations.

A draft Public Art Plan for Randwick

The first policy to be governed by the Cultural Vision, a Public Art Plan, was also developed by the consultancy as the suite of key foundation documents for the Arts and Culture program.

Background

A Public Art Plan was identified in the Arts and Culture Strategy as a primary objective, as the current framework - the Public Art Strategy - was released in 2010 and no longer accurately provides a framework for Council's management and oversight of public arts projects.

Moreover since the implementation of the Kensington to Kingsford strategy and other major development projects, there is an expanding coterie of new major commercial developments that feature public art on a significant scale in Randwick and that require a framework.

To date these commissions largely fall under Voluntary Planning Agreements or as part of development consents and are coordinated by Council's Planning and Arts and Culture teams through a holistic development of Developer public art guidelines. An endorsed Public Art Plan & panel will provide accountable guidelines for future commissioning for key stakeholders across Council.

Summary of the 2024 Public Art Plan

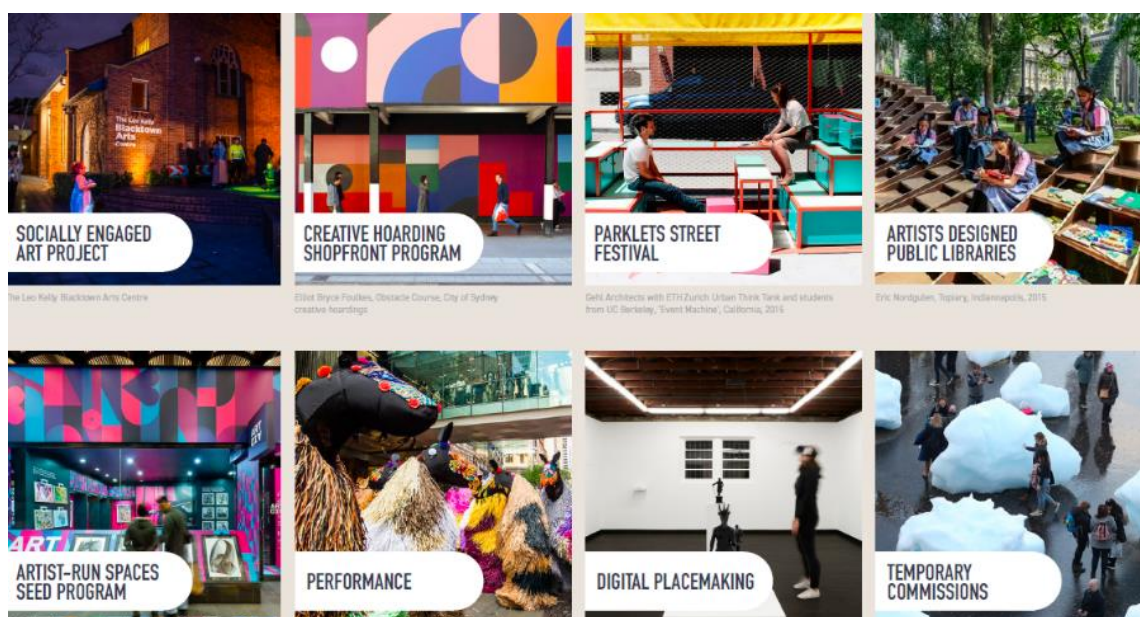
The draft Public Art Plan (PAP) attached to this Report, is the first stage in a new and more rigorous Plan & protocols to govern and direct commissioning and management of public art in the LGA.

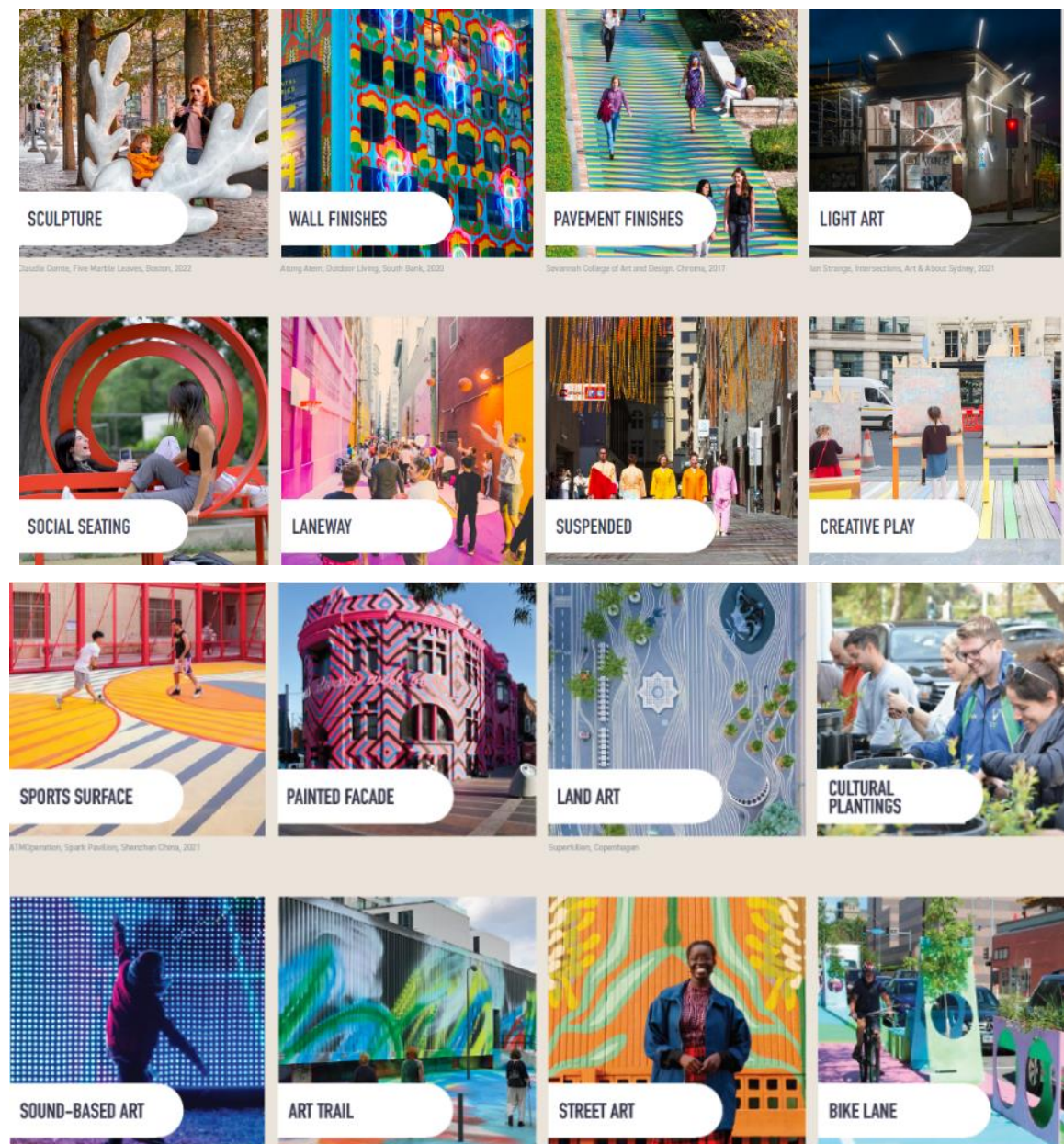
The PAP as submitted as part of this project, focuses on documenting the process and considerations **for direct commissioning of public art**.

Key sections and impacts of the draft Public Art Plan include:

- Definition of Placemaking and Public Art as applies to City of Randwick
- Types of public art (noting how the definition of public art continues to evolve)
- The importance of consultation for place-based art
- Commissioning guidelines for Council (and for external project managers)
- Guide for budgets and payments
- Place-based identities for commissions
- Opportunities for partnerships

The PAP illustrates below the now considerable range of iterations of contemporary public art:





This new framework will play an important role in reducing the advent of ad hoc and non-sustainable public art works across the LGA, and to help build a collection of significant artworks that have relevance and a positive impact on Randwick's people and places.

The draft PAP however requires further development as there is a need to append protocols for arts projects specific to Randwick Council such as:

- Public Art Projects undertaken by developers (through the DCP or via Voluntary Planning Agreements) and the internal approvals process including assessment by a Public Art Panel
- Mural requests and projects undertaken by the community or Council in public spaces including the viability of a Perfect Match model for Randwick
- Laneway activations (laneways are featured as key strategic approaches in the Open Space and Recreation, and Arts and Culture Strategies)

Proposed next steps:

Following endorsement of the attached Cultural Vision, and receipt of the draft Public Art Plan by Council, it is recommended that the following next steps are undertaken by the Arts and Culture team, as follows:

1. Engage a creative designer to develop a visual identity to represent the Cultural Vision
Estimated cost: \$5000
Funded from Arts and Culture budget
2. Develop a streamlined Public Art Plan for public and internal use with appendices on mural art, developer art and laneways prior to a report back to Council for endorsement.
Estimated cost: commission an arts policy consultant to action 3. 4. and 5. \$20,000
Funded from Arts and Culture budget
3. Place the amended Public Art Plan on public exhibition.
4. Establish a Public Art Advisory Panel via an Expression of Interest process, inviting Public Art specialists to assess public art commissions at a series of meetings throughout the year.

The EOI will be advertised on relevant art organisation websites and via Council's social media channels and will seek applications from individuals with demonstrated and significant experience in the curation and/or commissioning and/or creation of public art. The membership of the Panel will be no more than 5 members at a time and will be selected by an internal panel with an invited external industry member.

Council will be kept informed of the appointed members, which will also be accessible on the Council's Arts and Culture webpages.

Estimated cost: the Panel will be remunerated at a cost of \$750/per hour based on recommended fees by [NAVA](#).

Estimated cost: in-house – included in Arts and Culture budgets 24/25 and 25/26

5. Undertake a series of briefings with internal stakeholders i.e. Communications, Strategic Planning, Capital projects, Technical Services, Open Spaces and so on, embedding public art obligations in relevant Council services.

Estimated cost: in-house

Interim Developer Public Art Proposals: Scape Public Art via Voluntary Planning Agreements

As part of the Scape Developments voluntary planning agreements Council Officers from the Arts and Culture and Strategic Planning departments have been advising on significant public art proposals. These projects align with the K2K Strategy in the Kensington to Kingsford corridor.

The three artworks commissioned must be delivered to specific timelines which have been determined by the development approvals process.

Scape engaged a contemporary art consultant to curate and oversee the three sites. The three artists selected were leading award-winning contemporary artists whose work has been exhibited nationally and internationally.

Artists include:

- ☐ Ramesh Mario Nithiyendran – Scape Kingsford
- ☐ Reko Rennie – Scape Kensington
- ☐ Monica Rani Rudhar – Scape Lachlan

The approval process for works going forward will be governed by the draft Public Art Plan (developed by the curatorial agency and attached to this Report) with these key steps:

- a) At inception, the developer is issued with the (draft) Public Art Plan with guidelines for commissioning artists and developing site briefs. Sign-off steps are established for artwork which is informed by VPA guidelines.
- b) Public Art Briefs which includes the artist, artwork concept and outcomes of community consultation is reviewed at key stages by an external Public Art Panel and Council staff.
- c) Targeted and direct community consultation is undertaken by Developer and/or arts consultant.
- d) Artwork shared with Council's Arts and Culture Advisory Committee.
- e) Updated provided to Councillors via General Manager's Update Memo.
- f) Approval issued to Developer for fabrication dependent on compliance, risk, safety, engineering and ongoing maintenance is addressed and documented.

These key steps as above will be added to the final Public Art Plan document within the Developer Art appendix, to be reported to Council.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:	
Strategy	Arts and Culture
Outcome	A creative and culturally rich city that is innovative, inclusive and recognised nationally
Objective	Establish a strong cultural identity for the Randwick LGA by 2031 that is inclusive and founded on the contribution of First Nations people by 2031
Delivery program commitment	Create a whole of Randwick LGA cultural vision with a focus on our places, people and stories and our unique narrative by 2022.
Delivery program commitment	Update and implement the Public Art Plan by 2022.

Risks

Risk	Mitigation
Not having a guiding ethos and operational framework for public art commissions in the LGA	A Cultural Vision and Public Art Plan for Randwick
The Cultural Vision and symbol is not understood or embraced by the sector and community	The vision has been taken to the Arts and Culture Committee and endorsed. Council will undertake a communications plan and strategic roll-out in various media platforms to inform stakeholders and sector
Both current documents are too dense and unwieldy for accessible comprehension by internal and external users	Stage 2 as outlined in Recommended next steps, to engage an arts policy specialist to synthesise both documents and append Randwick specific protocols for public art commissions
Ongoing public art commissions (e.g. by developers, via the Community Creative fund, or from community) do not adhere to the Public Art Plan principles	Stage 2 synthesis of the Public Art Plan will include approved council approvals processes, to be embedded in planning requirements and to inform Council response to general public. Arts and Culture team will conduct internal briefings with relevant teams

Resourcing Strategy implications

The following table summarises related costs to the finalisation and roll-out of the Cultural Vision and Public Art Plan.

Key steps:	Action	Est. Cost	Budget
1.	Adopt Cultural Vision and engage designer to create brand	\$5000	Arts and Culture
2.	Embed the Cultural Vision in arts and culture activity	\$0	In-house
3.	Engage an arts policy specialist to synthesise the Public Art Plan for internal/external use	\$20000	Arts and Culture
4 - 5	Append protocols for Developer Art, Murals and Laneways to Plan	See 3.	Arts and Culture
6.	Present amended Plan back to Council prior to public exhibition	\$0	In-house
7.	Establish via select EOI an external Public Art Panel of up to five specialists to assess public art commissions / projects, 4 meetings per year	\$750 per person per meeting	Arts and Culture
8.	Brief internal stakeholders on public art obligations	\$0	In-house

The total expected cost for the development of the documents is \$25,000, to be funded through the 2024-25 Arts and Culture budget.

In addition, there is an annual budget allocation in the Capital budget to go towards the implementation of Public Art. In 24/25 the allocation is \$400, 000.

Policy and legislative requirements

Arts and Culture Strategy 2021.

Conclusion

The proposed draft Cultural Vision, and Public Art Plan outlined in this Report will provide Council with a cohesive ethos and delivery plan to celebrate and transform arts and culture in our LGA.

The Cultural Vision, developed collaboratively and reflective of the community and creative sectors' aspirations, celebrates what makes Randwick's arts and culture unique and provides a commitment to support and nurture the creative sector into the future.

The draft Public Art Plan is a practical framework and commitment to the Vision, and updates existing documentation to ensure Council's oversight on new public art commissions is informed and appropriate for new developments in terms of media, types of public art, and the increase in developer commissioned projects.

The proposed outcomes in this Report will embed the Cultural Vision and the Public Art plan in Council services and communications, and will ensure both key deliverables are widely embraced, understood and are effective in supporting arts and culture in the City of Randwick.

Responsible officer: Roxanne Fea, Manager Economic Development & Placemaking

File Reference: F2023/00302



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



Cultural Capital and Randwick City Council acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Australians of this land, and the Bidjigal and Gadigal clans of Dharawal Nation who have maintained an ancient and unbroken connection to the land we now call Randwick City.



Image courtesy of Gujaga Foundation
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Art has the power to transcend our thoughts and emotions; provoking our most elemental human responses. It is this quality of visceral experience that makes art a universal human language.



CONTEXT

PLACE CHARACTERISTICS

Randwick City is a melting pot of diverse cultures and communities residing in a stunning coastal setting. It represents a microcosm of present-day Australia; where all walks of life from around the world live and work between the urban city and natural landscape.

A CITY WITHIN A CITY

A UNIQUE MIX OF INFRASTRUCTURE, INSTITUTIONS & ORGANISATIONS

Randwick City houses a vast array of infrastructure, institutions and organisations that are the engine room for innovation. The City has a working port, a gaol, university campuses, hospitals, a racecourse, sporting grounds, industrial areas, cemeteries and more. This diversity of place offers a varied set of contexts to explore opportunities for arts and culture to respond to, as well as the opportunity to leverage creative partnerships.

DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

A MICROCOSM OF MULTICULTURAL AUSTRALIA

Randwick City is home to migrant communities from across the globe. The City proudly features a third of residents born overseas, coming from more than 100 countries and speaking more than 60 different languages. This cultural diversity means that a plethora of voices, perspectives and communities contribute to cultural life in Randwick City, and this should be at the forefront of the arts and culture offering.

FIRST NATIONS FIRST

THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY AT LA PEROUSE

La Perouse is home to a strong and active Aboriginal community with ongoing continuous connection to Country. This community and place is celebrated for its resilience, culture and community, not just in La Perouse but throughout the whole of Randwick City. Local Aboriginal stories and culture should be embedded in Randwick City, throughout its public domain, communications, and programming.

SUBLIME COASTLINE

CLOVELLY TO LA PEROUSE

One of the key assets that sets Randwick City apart is the beautiful coastline that runs down the entire LGA. No other LGA in Sydney has so many beaches, shores and coastal connections. Visitors and tourists from cities far and wide travel to Randwick City to experience this incredible natural wonder. The coastline sets the stage for Randwick City's unique cultural heritage and needs to be protected and cared for as a valuable cultural asset.

RESONANT HERITAGE

A PLACE OF RICH HISTORY & PROGRESSIVE VALUES

Throughout Randwick City are important heritage buildings and remnants of the past that reflect significant milestones in Australian history. For example, ANZAC Parade is rich in historical significance. It evolved from natural topography in association with Aboriginal walking tracks; to its wartime heritage where it got its name, to being used to transport a leprosy colony. This major infrastructure artery is a fertile zone for critical enquiry and interpretation. Randwick is also a forwardthinking place, home to the first beach to allow women. This progressive history should be celebrated and carried into the future commissions.

STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITY

SYDNEY'S NEW ARTS AND CULTURE HUB

Randwick City is bursting with untapped potential for a vibrant arts and culture landscape. Consultation found that most residents leave the City to experience arts and culture. Artists and creative practitioners struggle to find places to work, make and present. However, Randwick City is not short of space, people or resources. This uniquely positions Randwick City to re-invent itself as the new hub of local arts and culture in Sydney.

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04

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND MOTIF

EASTERN SUBURBS BANKSIA SCRUB

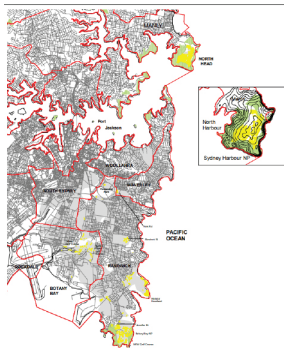
The Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS) is a conceptual framework for thinking about arts and culture within Randwick City.

Much of Randwick City is within the Botany Sands: an aeolian (wind-blown) deposit that created a hinterland consolidated by coastal grasses and sclerophyllic scrub.

ESBS was once an extensive community of small trees, shrubs, heaths and grasses specific to this place. This ecological community grew widely on about 5,300 hectares of land between North Head and Botany Bay. Its site-specificity lends itself to be employed as a cultural motif, generating an identity for the Randwick City arts and cultural vision.

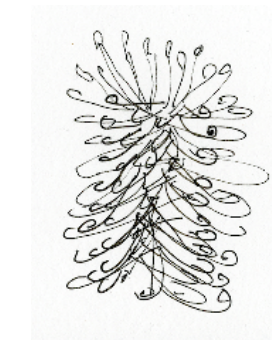
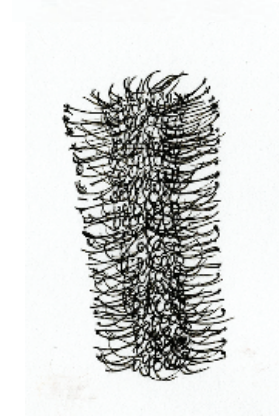
Though just 3% per cent of the endangered scrub remains today, *everyone who lives, works, studies, and visits Randwick City is connected through the landscape on which ESBS was once blanketed.*

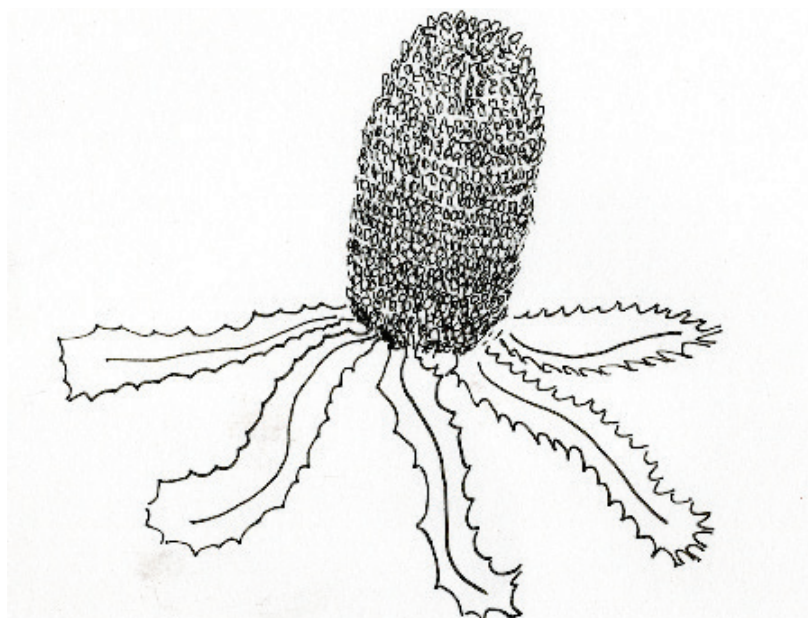
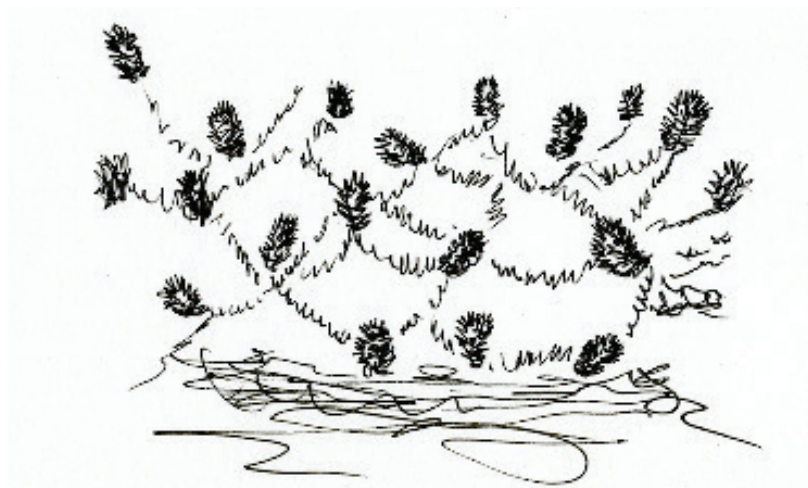
The ESBS symbolically unifies Randwick's geographically dispersed and culturally diverse communities from Clovelly to La Perouse.



KEY

- ESBS Remaining (146ha)
- ESBS Pre-1788 (5300ha)
- National Park
- Local Government Area





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06

CULTURAL VISION

RANDWICK'S CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

VISION STATEMENT

Randwick City's cultural landscape will foster local creativity to thrive, while planting seeds for the future of arts and culture to continue to flourish.

We nurture a welcoming, innovative and sustainable arts and cultural ecology that showcases the diversity of creativity.

Together we prioritise local Aboriginal people, communities, culture and their continuous connection to Country.

Our cultural landscape is for everyone. We support multicultural communities and visitors to grow in their access, engagement, and appreciation of arts and culture in Randwick City.

RANDWICK CITY: A PLACE WHERE NATURAL BEAUTY AND CREATIVITY COLLIDE

seeding our creative and cultural landscape

tending our creative and cultural landscape

activating our creative and cultural landscape





CULTURAL VISION

PILLARS OF THE VISION

SEEDING

the future of arts and cultural communities and initiatives

establishing new venues and spaces, mentoring, capacity building and professional development, facilitating growth

TENDING

to our existing arts and cultural organisations, institutions, communities and creatives

strengthening existing creative and cultural infrastructure through increased resourcing and support, growing access, engagement





ACTIVATING

*our potential through connectivity,
collaboration and partnerships*

fostering networks and relationships,
cross-stakeholder and interdisciplinary
collaborations and creative partnerships

Image: Danza Del Arte

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Image: Kobie Dëe

RANDWICK'S GROWING CULTURAL ROOTS

CONTINUING VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE VISION
ALIGNING WITH THE ARTS AND CULTURE STRATEGY



SUSTAINABILITY

environmental protection, economic growth, long-term visioning

- Randwick City is uniquely placed to leverage its leadership in sustainability to drive a contemporary cultural vision that positions sustainability at its core
- support Traditional Owners in caring for Country
- care for Randwick City's stunning coastal landscape by underpinning arts and cultural practices with environmental sustainability
- nurture a sustainable creative and cultural economy that looks towards the long-term and allows creatives living and working in Randwick City to not only survive but to thrive in their livelihood and practice



CONTINUOUS CONNECTION TO COUNTRY

Aboriginal culture, reconciliation, truth-telling

- support the unique and thriving local Aboriginal community with arts and cultural projects that centre local Aboriginal culture and stories
- La Perouse is the only Sydney suburb where Aboriginal people have kept their territory from settlement until today. Its story is one of survival and continuity in the face of European invasion. Support the La Perouse community in telling their stories



Image: Alchemy Duo

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INNOVATION

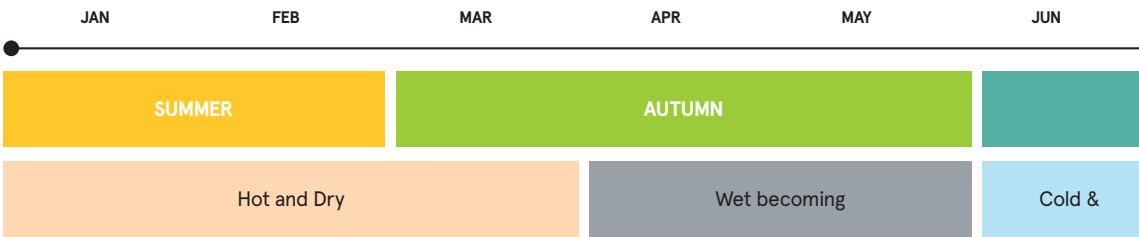
experimentation, diversity, creativity

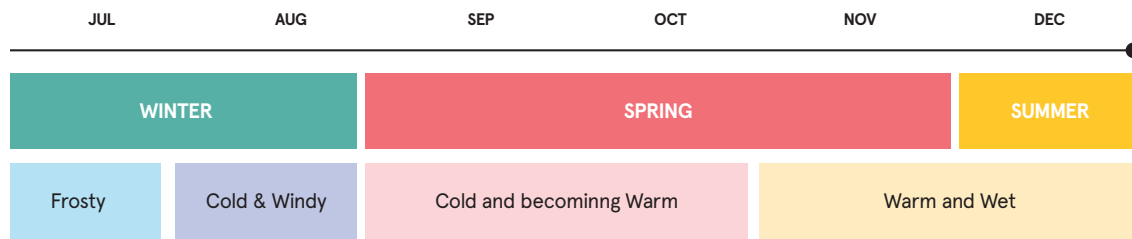
- seed cultural exchange and new ideas by looking outward and celebrating the multiculturalism of Randwick City
- harness the wide network of organisations, institutions, professionals and businesses within Randwick City to cultivate a
- blossoming cultural landscape
- the concentration of university campuses and hospitals is part of the DNA of Randwick City's identity and aligns with the ethos of creative innovation

BRANDING

ESBS SEASONAL COLOUR PALETTE

* TO DE DEVELOPED FROM FURTHER CONSULTATION





CC1/25



Director Community & Culture Report No. CC2/25

Subject: Sandgate Cottage, Belmore Road Randwick

Executive Summary

- This report responds to two resolutions of Council (Veitch/Neilson) at the 26 July 2022 meeting and (Hay/Luxford) at the 12 December 2023 meeting, that requested investigation and report back on potential future uses of the state heritage listed Sandgate Cottage in Randwick.
- Sandgate has been owned by Council since 1982 and has been commercially leased since 1992. It is currently occupied by a well-established tenant and the current lease is due for renewal in September 2025.
- Given its high-profile location with high adjacent footfall and visibility, several alternative options for use were investigated by Council staff including potential community use, occupancy by arts and cultural organisations, or repurposing as a civic art gallery in line with many other councils.
- Repurposing for community and cultural purposes would however incur significant capital costs to refit the building to purpose, including repair and upgrade, accessibility improvements, climate control and storage.
- As Council is currently committed to a significant number of cultural capital projects including Blenheim House, the La Perouse Museum, the Randwick Literary Institute and the Big Stables in Newmarket, an additional capital project for Sandgate would require additional Council funding and staff resourcing and incur loss of income.
- As such it is recommended that Council continues to operate Sandgate as a viable commercial premises and through the Arts and Culture program, explore activations in the June Moore Place courtyard for the benefit of the creative sector and community.

Recommendation

That Council;

- a) receive this Report;
- b) approve the continuation of management of Sandgate Cottage as a commercially leased property; and
- c) approve potential arts and cultural activations in June Moore Place to meet the objectives of the Arts and Culture Strategy and for the benefit of the creative sector and the community, in consultation with the tenant.

Attachment/s:

Nil

CC2/25

Purpose

At its Ordinary Meeting on 26 July 2022 Council resolved:

(Veitch/Neilson) that Council:

1. notes that the State Heritage & Randwick City Council Heritage listed property Sandgate Cottage and June Moore Place at 128 Belmore Road, Randwick are under a commercial lease arrangement until 2025;
2. receive a report exploring options to:
 - a. withdraw Sandgate Cottage and June Moore Place from the private rental market at the conclusion of the current lease, and following this;
 - b. make Sandgate Cottage and June Moore Place available for community and cultural activities and programs; and
 - c. could include small office space for council officers if this allowed for more flexible use of the property.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 12 December 2023 Council further resolved that:

(Hay/Luxford) that:

- (a) Council awaits a report that will discuss the future of Sandgate Cottage;
- (b) the report should consider the need for an additional art space, acknowledging that Barrett House and Blenheim House are already active and used, with Newmarket Stables in the process of being activated within Randwick; and
- (c) Council also acknowledge the importance of business within Randwick Junction and acknowledge the revenue generated by the rent cannot easily be replaced

This report addresses the above Resolutions and provides background information on Sandgate Cottage and June Moore Place in Belmore Road, Randwick and explores potential uses, with the recommendation that Council continue the management of the property as a commercially leased property during a period of significant cultural capital projects.

Discussion

Summary History of Sandgate Cottage and June Moore Place

Sandgate is a state heritage listed 2-storey sandstone villa, situated at 128 Belmore Road, Randwick owned and managed by Randwick City Council.

It is now surrounded by commercial businesses, with Randwick Plaza to the south and a line of commercial frontages to the north. Like many heritage properties of the time, the building has a history of private owners, name changes, enduring threat of demolition, and eventual heritage protection.

Sandgate was built circa. 1879 by the first Mayor of Randwick, Simeon Pearce, as part of a row of investment properties along Belmore Road as the town centre grew. The property saw several name changes in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and a number of residents and tenants over this period. From 1918 to 1928 it was owned by the Commonwealth Government as the 'Woodville Red Cross Home', a facility for World War I veterans.

In 1928 Sandgate passed back into private ownership until the late 1970s when it was transferred to the developers of the neighbouring Coles New World Supermarket, who planned to demolish the building. In response the Randwick District Historical Society made representations to the Heritage Branch, resulting in a redesign of the shopping centre's footprint and an eventual Permanent Conservation Order placed over the property in 1981.

As a condition of consent associated with the development of the neighbouring Randwick Plaza, Sandgate was transferred to Randwick Council in 1982. Council restored the building, and from 1987 to 1992 was occupied by the Historical Society as a museum and heritage centre, after which Council commenced leasing the building as a commercial property. This is the current status quo.

In 1999 Sandgate became a State Heritage Register listed and protected building; and is listed in the SHR as Item 00067 and in Randwick Council's LEP as Item I301. Any capital works or improvements will require Heritage approval and documentation.



June Moore Place

The small, publicly accessible courtyard in front of the villa was in 2011 via a Mayoral Minute, named June Moore Place after the founder of RDHS and who helped saved Sandgate from demolition in the 1970s.

June Moore Place also features a prominent mural "Proud of Our Elders" which was commissioned by Council in 1981 and painted by muralist Carol Ruff and Eve Glenn, Sarah McNamara and Peter Yanada Mackenzie. Local identities depicted include Mina Wylie, Doris Hyde, Harry Reid, Alice Gundry and Aunty Ollie Simms amongst others. The mural was refurbished by Carol Ruff and Peter Day in 2012.

June Moore Place provides one of the few community dwell spaces along Randwick's commercial strip together with Waratah Plaza at the northern end. At some stage the small plaza will need upgrading.

Both June Moore Place and Sandgate are mentioned in the Randwick Junction Town Centre Urban Design Report (P69) – endorsed by Council 2023 as part of the Planning Proposal currently at Gateway Determination, with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI). The excerpt is as below:

5.5.2. June Moore Place (B)

The existing public space known as June Moore Place has the potential to be reconfigured into a public plaza with a seamless transition between adjoining commercial uses and the streetscape. The interface with the Randwick Plaza Shopping Centre could be improved with a café and seating overlooking the place.

High quality landscaping of the public plaza would enhance and soften the existing qualities of the place and integrate it more effectively with the Belmore Road footpaths. Integrated paving, seating and landscaping would strengthen the setting for the State listed heritage item 'Sandgate' house and allow the community to better appreciate and interact with the space. There is also opportunity to revitalise Sandgate house and June Moore Place as a potential community/cultural use such as artists studios in line with the Randwick Arts & Culture Strategy Direction to 'create an award winning nationally and locally recognised cultural arts precinct around the Randwick Junction Town Centre by 2031'.



Figure 88: Concept perspective of June Moore Place

The current Sandgate lease allows Council to temporarily use the courtyard for community or arts purposes with reasonable notice given to the leasee, and in discussion as part of the lease agreement.

Condition of building

Sandgate retains its original 19th century Australian villa character including elaborate wrought iron verandas and columns, ornate plaster cornices and friezes and full cedar joinery. The building's heritage integrity remains largely intact visually and structurally.

The building was remodelled by Council in the 1980s and has since had minor improvements to encourage commercial occupation for lease.

A recent site visit by Council officers in 2024 indicate that the interior is relatively well maintained with some signs of water damage, loss of paint and render. Both the front and rear courtyards show root damage and uneven and broken paving. A more detailed analysis of the condition of the building and site would require the oversight of engineering and architectural specialists including heritage architects.

Use of building and site

Sandgate has been commercially leased by Council to businesses since 1992. The land is classified "operational" land under the Local Government Act 1993 and held by Council as an investment property for commercial return. It is currently leased to a real estate agency.

The current lease expiry date is 30 September 2025, with the current passing gross rent per annum being \$74,037.08 + GST.

Opportunities for Community benefit

With its central location in one of Randwick's major town centres and with close proximity to public transport services, the expanding Randwick Health Campus and UNSW, as a Council owned property Sandgate has potential to be an accessible and visible venue for community and cultural uses.

Community use:

Preliminary consultation with the Community Development team indicate that potential community uses such as childcare services or community support would be precluded due to the location of the buildings. There is a commercial childcare adjacent to Sandgate for example, and due to the high visibility from Belmore Rd and relative lack of privacy, more sensitive uses such as a domestic violence or family support centre would not be appropriate or viable. These support services are also located in close proximity at the hospital, and a baby health centre is situated at the Margaret Martin library.

There is potential for Sandgate to service the nearby Health and UNSW precincts in terms of meeting and office spaces. This would require further consultation and considerable refurbishment, and it is unknown as to whether there is community need for this.

Community Cultural use: lease to arts organisations

Given the current usage of the building as commercial offices, Sandgate could be occupied through lease agreements by external arts organisations or multiple occupancies by arts organisations with a presence in the City of Randwick, via EOI process and through a yearly lease or a booking system.

The repurposing would have the benefit of additional arts and culture services being provided by external partners to the community but would require significant capital works and the likelihood of reduced rental income. It is not recommended at this time.

Future potential for Art Gallery and Art Centre:

Randwick Council does not manage a dedicated art gallery for its creative sector and community, which stands it apart from many other councils. Council has developed in lieu a portfolio of repurposed heritage and civic spaces for arts purposes, delivered by the Arts and Culture team with each venue serving a distinct creative purpose.

Dedicated spaces for small to medium scale exhibitions are currently held at the Prince Henry Centre, Randwick Town Hall, Bowen Library or the Randwick Community Centre. The Bayview Gallery at the La Perouse Museum is also used for this purpose.

Blenheim House is located very close to Sandgate and is a similar offering in terms of space.

Considerable capital works and related resourcing would be required to transform Sandgate into a successful art gallery. Prior to a feasibility report, works may include refurbishment of the interior and exterior of the building and adjunct spaces, stabilisation of the building, best practice gallery lighting, climate control, refurbished and expanded storage, floor repair, interior and exterior signage, redesigned floor space where possible, and consideration for accessibility needs.

Operational resourcing would include additional staffing (front of house, exhibition preparation and gallery management staff) and ongoing maintenance and operational costs. This option is considered to be too costly at this stage, as well as Council already having a number of heritage buildings to utilize for arts purposes. As well as the cost, there is also the consideration of the loss of income via the lease.

Challenges:

The primary challenges in considering any of the above repurposing options is impact on Council resourcing, current cultural capital priorities, and heritage implications.

1. Current cultural capital projects

There is already a significant portfolio of extant buildings in Council's capital plan being investigated and repurposed as cultural spaces. Current capital projects include:

- **The La Perouse Museum:** Council's primary cultural facility is undergoing short-term capital upgrades and is requiring a significant capital investment to redevelop the building and site into a long-term leading cultural destination. The 1882 building and site is state heritage listed.

- **Blenheim House:** this heritage venue is included in the 2024-25 and 2025-26 capital budget and is currently being refurbished as arts studios, exhibition spaces, with an accessible studio and public garden to open in 2026. This will be managed by the Arts and Culture team.
 - **Barrett House and Garage Gallery:** has successfully been repurposed by the Arts and Culture team and now operational as a popular incubation space for artists, along with the **Randwick Town Hall:** collectively managed by Arts and Culture, and Corporate Services, with an expanding program of creative use in 2025.
 - **Randwick Literary Institute:** the RLI is managed by Venues and Arts and Culture and includes the new (*Create*) *Milk* activation space which is in development. The site comprises community hall hire alongside invited creative activations and a new performance / new media display area. The RLI and the Big Stables are the subject of a feasibility project currently managed by Major Projects.
 - **Big Stables, Newmarket:** Recently acquired by Council via a voluntary planning agreement, the iconic Big Stables is another state heritage listed site, with immense potential for usage. It is currently being evaluated for ongoing use and management options via an external consultancy, and is expected to require significant, heritage-compliant capital works accordingly.
2. *Resourcing impacts*
- A commitment to undertake the feasibility and the development of a new cultural space at this time would require additional resources in terms of budget, staffing and ongoing operational commitments to Council, along with the existing activation of 4 Council venues.
3. *Commercial revenue*
- The current commercial lease agreement has an annual revenue to Council of \$74,037.08 + GST, plus additional occupancies costs. This would cease during any proposed remodeling and may be reduced in the long-term should Sandgate be repurposed as a community cultural centre.
 - At a time when commercial occupancy of the Belmore Road precinct is showing signs of rental stress, Council has a commitment to support the retention of local businesses in the Randwick precinct.

Proposal:

1. Given the current and considerable cultural capital commitments, it is recommended that Council retain Sandgate as a commercially leased property and extend the lease to a timeframe suited to retention of a commercial tenant.
2. It is further recommended that whilst Council delivers the portfolio of cultural capital projects, Council will continue to consider suitable cultural and community activations in the courtyard of June Moore Place in consultation with the tenant and that is suitable for the location, zoning and community access.
3. Sandgate has potential to be repurposed as a vibrant civic art gallery and arts centre, or other cultural uses in the future. A feasibility study could be considered in the future to explore cultural community repurposing of the building and site.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:	
Strategy	Arts and Culture
Outcome	A city where everyone can develop, express and enjoy creativity throughout their life
Objective	Increase the number of places by 20% that are available for people to participate in art and culture by 2031, using the 2019 cultural mapping baseline
Delivery program commitment	Identify and provide a minimum of 10 new Council venues and/or open space areas for people to participate in the creative and performing arts by 2031.

CC2/25

Risks

Risk item	Mitigation
Council resources a further significant cultural capital project whilst already committed to significant upgrade and repurposing projects of a suite of cultural venues, requiring additional resources for staffing and funding	Consider capacity – funding, staffing - of the cultural capital program currently.
A repurposing of an established commercial lease will incur loss of income and further impact the commercial vitality of a town centre	Continue tenancies in the medium term.
Lost opportunity to utilise spaces for arts and culture	Council already has a number of heritage and other buildings that are being activated for the purposes of arts and culture.

Resourcing Strategy implications

There are no additional resourcing requirements to meet the above recommendations.

The current commercial lease agreement has an annual revenue to Council of \$74,037.08 + GST.

Any proposed cultural and community activations can be funded through the proposed 2025-26 Economic Development and Placemaking budget.

Policy and legislative requirements

Arts and Culture Strategy
Economic Development Strategy
Randwick Town Centre Strategy.

Conclusion

Whilst Sandgate has great potential due to its capacity, heritage profile, visibility and proximity to high footfall for a civic cultural or community space, it is also limited by the need for significant improvement works and heritage limitations.

Repurposing the building would entail a significant cultural capital project, adding to the considerable portfolio of cultural venues that Council has committed to redevelop.

Sandgate is further currently leased to a well-established commercial tenant and contributes to the commercial wellbeing of the Randwick town centre.

As such, this Report recommends continuing to operate Sandgate as a commercial premises in the medium term, while exploring potential community and creative activations in June Moore Place.

Responsible officer: Roxanne Fea, Manager Economic Development & Placemaking

File Reference: F2023/00413

Director Community & Culture Report No. CC3/25

Subject: Options for allocation of budget for free usage of Randwick venues for Arts and Culture

Executive Summary

- This report responds to the resolution of Council (Pandolfini/Olive) at the 27 August 2024 meeting that requested a report back on an allocation of budget in 2024-25 for free usage of Randwick venues for Arts and Culture.
- Council currently supports the arts in a number of different ways. These include via financial support through Council's Creative Community Investment (CIP) - Creative stream; through 'fee support', (waiving of hire of venues) and through direct programming delivered by Council's Arts team.
- Historically, most of the allocated funds in the CIP Creative stream have been requests for financial funding rather than venue usage, which is opposite to the Connect stream focused on community groups.
- Since the inception of the Arts and Culture Strategy Council has developed a range of platforms to support artists and offer cultural programming, at low or no cost events.
- Council venues are well utilised for a range of purposes – the arts, community groups, individuals, so increasing free access for arts use may have an impact on others utilising the spaces.
- Council continues to directly program in arts allocated venues such as the Randwick Town Hall, RLI, Barrett House, Bowen Library, the La Perouse Museum and the Watchtower.
- It is not recommended that there be any additional allocation to the 24/25 budget for free usage of Randwick Venues due to the existing support that is currently available.

Recommendation

That Council continues its support for the arts via the existing programs that offer free usage of Council's venues.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Purpose

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on 27 August 2024, it was resolved:

(Pandolfini/Olive) that Council:

- a) *notes the importance of arts and cultural activities for the community in Randwick;*
- b) *notes the cost of living crisis impacting the affordability of arts and cultural events for both producers and attendees;*
- c) *notes the staff report on the success of the previous program offering free space for arts and cultural activities for the community;*
- d) *notes NSW councils undertaking similar programs to encourage independent arts and cultural events and activities in their LGA; and*
- e) *requests a report on a potential budget allocation for 2024-25 for free Randwick Council venue usage including supplementing existing programs including the Community Investment program and Contingency Fund for a diverse range of groups and individuals.*

This report provides a report back on potential budget allocation in relation to part e of the resolution.

Discussion

Since the inception of the Arts & Culture Strategy, Council has implemented a range of measures to support artists & creatives, activate venues and deliver cultural activities.

These include supporting external activities via Council's Community Investment Program (CIP), waiving fees through the CIP 'fee support' option as well as direct arts programming via *Creative Spaces* and through events delivered by Council.

Community Investment Program

Council's Community Investment program streams include a 'Connect' stream and a 'Creative' stream. In 2024-25 each stream has an allocation of \$186,300. The Creative stream is targeted at a range of organisations for the purposes of delivering arts and culture activities and initiatives.

Within each stream there is a '*fee support*' option. This stream offers waived or discounted hire fees at a range of Council venues. The different streams apply pending the nature of the activity. The demand on the 'Creative' stream of the CIP is predominantly for cash support rather than fee support (less than 20%).

Creative Spaces & Arts Program

Council has a suite of venues that are designated for arts and culture use, or as a mix of Arts and Culture and community use. These include Randwick Literary Institute (RLI), Barrett House and Randwick Town Hall. Other venues such as the La Perouse Museum and the Watchtower are also creatively programmed. Blenheim House has been purposed for arts and culture use, currently being upgraded.

The *Creative Spaces* program at RLI and Barrett House provide free access to the venue as well as a small cash contribution. Access to the Randwick Town Hall for creative use has a reduced hire rate. In the last 12 months there has been significant expansion of programs and space for artists at venues such as Barrett House Studios, RLI Residency, Town Hall Takeover and Town Hall Pilot Program.

Currently access to the RLI and Barrett House is free for artists, as is Town Hall Takeover. Any other creative hires for Randwick Town Hall have a reduced hire rate.

Most Council programmed activities and external events are free or low cost to attend.

Funding for creative use of venues, arts programming and fee support through CIP exist within the current 2024-25 budget.

An additional allocation of funds for creative use of Council's venues could be facilitated by additional funding to Council's Community Investment Program in the Creative stream. However this would then mean the Creative and Connect streams are not in parity, and the Connect stream is utilised for venue usage much more over the Creative stream. Allocating the funding outside of the CIP would cause duplication of process and potential confusion for the community.

The Arts & Culture Advisory Committee is due to meet soon, and following the committee being established will have recommendations to put to Council to consider.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering the Outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan:	
Strategy	Arts and Culture
Outcome	A city where everyone can develop, express and enjoy creativity throughout their life
Objective	Increase the number of places by 20% that are available for people to participate in art and culture by 2031, using the 2019 cultural mapping baseline
Delivery program commitment	Identify and provide a minimum of 10 new Council venues and/or open space areas for people to participate in the creative and performing arts by 2031.
Delivery program commitment	Increase the utilisation of all existing Council venues and spaces by cultural arts by 10% from the 2021 baseline.

Risks

Risk item	Mitigation
Financial - having an additional budget allocation without ability to utilise	<i>not recommended to increase at this time.</i>
Governance - running a program that duplicates the CIP for fee waivers could cause confusion with community and require additional administration	<i>not recommended for the additional allocation at this time.</i>
Operational - missed opportunity to fund additional activities	<i>should Council Officers see an opportunity, a report would come to Council with request for additional funding. Arts & Culture Advisory Committee will reconvene shortly and make recommendations to Council.</i>

Resourcing Strategy implications

The Community Investment Program budget allocation for the Creative stream in 2024-25 is \$186,300. Of this currently, \$29,755 has been allocated towards fee support/venue use.

The Arts and Culture programming budget for 2024-25 is \$160,000. There are still remaining funds in this budget to expend.

The below graph shows the budget allocation for the CIP and Arts budget since 22/23, which demonstrates ongoing and increasing support for the arts.

Community Investment Program budgets

Year	Stream	Total	Funding split	
			Cash	Fee support
2022/23	CONNECT	\$120,000	\$70,588 (58%)	\$50,400 (42%)
	CREATIVE	\$170,000	\$158,100 (93%)	\$11,900 (7%)
2023/24	CONNECT	\$180,000	\$132,436 (74%)	\$47,534 (26%)
	CREATIVE	\$180,000	\$168,869 (94%)	\$11,253 (6%)
2024/25 (To date)	CONNECT	\$186,300	\$89,180 (59%)	\$62,454 (41%)
	CREATIVE	\$186,300	\$102,710 (78%) *one remaining round left	\$29,755 (22%) *one remaining round left

Arts & Culture budgets

Year	Total
2022/23	\$348 278
2023/24	\$453, 799
2024/25	\$538,278

Conclusion

Arts programming across diverse venues is important for local artists as well as for community looking for cultural activities. Council has a range of ways that it supports arts in Randwick including through the use of venues. With the commencement of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, further recommendations will come to Council for consideration.

Responsible officer: Katie Anderson, Director Community & Culture

File Reference: F2024/00143

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO1/25

Subject: Initial Disclosure of Interest Returns as at 1 October 2024

Executive Summary

- A Councillor must complete and lodge with the General Manager, within 3 months after becoming a Councillor, a return in the form prescribed by the Model Code of Conduct.
- For new Councillors elected at the 14 September 2024 Local Government elections the initial disclosure returns were due on 1 January 2025 (3 months after the declaration of the poll by the Electoral Commission on 1 October 2024).
- The General Manager is required to keep a Register of Disclosure of Interests Returns and to table the Register at the first Council meeting after the due date.
- A person need not lodge a return within the 3-month period after becoming a Councillor if the person lodged a return in that year or the previous year (this applies to all the returning Councillors).

Recommendation

That it be noted that the Register of Disclosure of Interests Returns for those Councillors elected for the first time in October 2024, has been tabled at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 25 February 2025.

Attachment/s:

Nil

CO1/25

Purpose

To table the Register of Initial Disclosure of Interests Returns in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

Discussion

The Local Government Act and Model Code of Conduct requires Councillors to lodge Disclosure of Interest Returns.

Section 440AAB of the Local Government Act requires:

- “(1) The general manager must keep a register of returns disclosing interests that are required to be lodged with the general manager under a code of conduct.*
- (2) Returns required to be lodged with the general manager must be tabled at a meeting of the council, being the first meeting held after the last day specified by the code for lodgement, or if the code does not specify a day, as soon as practicable after the return is lodged.”*

In tabling the Register of Initial Disclosure Returns as at 1 October 2024, I report that all newly elected Councillors (being Cr Asgari; Cr Gordon; Cr Magner; Cr Martin and Cr Willington) have submitted their duly completed returns within the prescribed timeframe (that is, within 3 months of becoming a Councillor). Given that the Poll was declared on 1 October 2024, returns were required to be submitted by 1 January 2025.

A printed version of the Register has been provided to the Mayor so it can be “tabled” at this Council meeting.

Redacted returns are published on Council's website in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act, the Information and Privacy Commission's Guideline 1 and the public interest test conducted by Council in relation to that Guideline.

Redacted returns have been uploaded to our website and the link to the relevant page of the website and the returns is below:

[Supplementary Register of Initial Returns - Councillors](#)

Anyone is entitled to inspect the 'Returns of the Interests of Councillors, designated persons and delegates' under Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Customer Service & Governance Management
Function	Governance Management
Delivery program commitment	Manage Council's governance framework and controls to ensure accountability, transparency, integrity, equity and ethical Council decision making.

Resourcing Strategy implications

Nil.

Policy and legislative requirements

Local Government Act 1993
Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009
Code of Conduct for Councillors.

Conclusion

It is necessary for the Register of Disclosure of Interests Returns for newly elected Councillors to be tabled at this Council Meeting for the purpose of legislative compliance, as detailed in this report.

Responsible officer: Julie Hartshorn, Coordinator Administration

File Reference: F2025/01361

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO2/25

Subject: Council submission - New Model Code of Meeting Practice



Executive Summary

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has released a consultation draft of a new Model Code of Meeting Practice to give effect to the reforms proposed in the September 2024 discussion paper “Councillor conduct and meeting practice: a new framework”.
- The due date for submissions on the new Model Code of Meeting Practice is 28 February 2025.
- The proposed changes to the Model Code of Meeting Practice are detailed in this report and a draft Council submission has been prepared for Council's consideration.

Recommendation

That the Council submission on the Office of Local Government “New Model Code of Meeting Practice – consultation draft” be endorsed.

Attachment/s:

1.  OLG Discussion Paper - A new Model Code of Meeting Practice - Consultation draft
2.  Draft Submission - Model Code of Meeting Practice

Purpose

To consider the draft Council submission on the OLG “New Model Code of Meeting Practice – consultation draft”, prior to submission to the OLG by 28 February 2025.

Discussion

The OLG’s September 2024 discussion paper (“Councillor conduct and meeting practice: a new framework”) proposed the following reforms to the way Council meetings are conducted:

- *Conferring power on Mayors to expel Councillors for acts of disorder and to remove a Councillor’s entitlement to receive a fee for the month in which they have been expelled from a meeting.*
- *Requiring Councillors to apologise for an act of disorder at the meeting at which it occurs and, if they fail to comply at that meeting, at each subsequent meeting until they comply. Each failure to apologise becomes an act of misbehaviour and may see the Councillor lose their entitlement to receive their fee for a further month.*
- *Expanding the grounds for Mayors to expel members of the public from the chamber for acts of disorder and enable the issuing of a penalty infringement notice where members of the public refuse to leave a meeting after being expelled.*
- *Promoting transparency and addressing corruption risks by banning Councillor briefing sessions. The community has the right to understand the mode of reasoning behind Council decisions without material being provided to Councillors by Council staff behind closed doors.*

The proposed amendments to the Model Code of Meeting Practice give effect to the abovementioned reforms and expand upon them. The OLG has advised that these amendments are designed to deliver the following outcomes:

- *promoting transparency, integrity and public participation*
- *promoting the dignity of the Council Chamber*
- *depoliticising the role of the General Manager*
- *simplifying the Model Code of Meeting Practice.*

The amendments to the Model Code of Meeting Practice will be given legal force through an update to the reference to the Code in the Local Government (General) Regulation (the Regulation). The amendments to the Regulation will also prescribe the restrictions on briefing sessions.

The proposed amendments to the Model Code of Meeting Practice as detailed in the “New Model Code of Meeting Practice – consultation draft” are as follows:

Amendment	Comment
Remove pre-meeting Councillor briefings. It is the Government’s expectation that any material provided to Councillors, other than the Mayor, will affect or impact or be considered by Councillors in their deliberations or decisions made on behalf of the community, must be provided to them in either a committee meeting or Council meeting. The restriction on briefing sessions will be prescribed in the Regulation.	The proposal to ban Councillor briefings is not supported. Our submission on the new Model Code of Meeting Practice reiterates our position in response to the September 2024 Discussion Paper, that we strongly believe that, used appropriately, the Councillors’ briefing process promotes a better understanding of the complex matters on which Councillors are required to make decisions and results in better decision making at Council meetings in the interest of the broader community.
Require information considered at closed meetings to be made public after it ceases to be confidential, as recommended by ICAC. The General Manager will, after consulting with the Council, be required to publish business papers for items considered in	This proposal is not practical and will require a decision in relation to each confidential matter reported to Council. Confidentiality on some matter may not cease for up to 30 years after the report has been presented to Council, then the

Amendment	Comment
closed meetings on the Council's website after the information in them ceases to be confidential.	<p>Council is required to publish a business paper for the item on its website.</p> <p>If a business paper contains more than 1 confidential item and the confidentiality for each item ceases on different dates then the business paper in question will need to be re-run periodically when each item is added. When significant timeframes are in play, changes in technology and software systems could make this proposal very time consuming, with few if any members of the public likely to be interested after such a long period of time.</p> <p>In addition, the Government Information (Public Access) Act provides an avenue for members of the public to apply for access to closed session Council reports. Council is required to consider confidentiality and other related matters when undertaking public interest tests to determine any such applications.</p>
Require recordings of meetings to be published on Council websites for longer. Recordings must be published on Council websites for the balance of the Council term, or in the case of an election year, for at least 12 months.	Noted – RCC's current practice is retain recordings permanently. Recordings on our website currently date back to July 2020.
Provide that Councils must not make final planning decisions without a staff report containing an assessment and recommendation, as recommended by ICAC.	Noted – RCC's current practices comply with this amendment.
Require Councils to give reasons where they make a decision on a planning matter that departs from the staff recommendation, as recommended by ICAC.	Noted.
Enhancing the authority of the Mayor. The Mayor will be permitted to call extraordinary meetings without a request and the restrictions on Mayoral Minutes will be removed.	Noted.
Requiring Councillors to stand when a Councillor addresses the meeting or when the Mayor enters the Chamber, as well as by mandating modes of address at meetings.	Noted.
Removing the option for Councils to reduce the duration of speeches, to ensure all Councillors may have their say on important community issues.	Noted – the consequence of this is that meetings, which in many cases are already lengthy, could be further extended.
Making clear to the community that decisions are made in Council meetings and not in other forums that the community can't access, like briefing sessions.	Noted, however, the proposal to ban Councillor briefings is not supported.
Refining the definitions of disorder to remove phrases that could be weaponised to impede debate.	<p>Noted - the changes to the disorder provisions are proposed to include, as an act of disorder, a Councillor who "uses any language, words or gestures that would be regarded as disorderly in the NSW Legislative Assembly".</p> <p>The behaviours referred to need to be specified clearly in the Code rather than referencing another forum (ie. the NSW Legislative Assembly).</p>

Amendment	Comment
Providing as a default that Councillors are to attend meetings in person. Councillors will only be permitted to attend meetings by audio visual link where they are prevented from attending a meeting in person because of ill health or another medical reason or unforeseen caring responsibilities. Councillors will not be permitted to participate in meetings at which a mayoral election is being held by audio visual link. To facilitate this, the rules governing attendance at meetings by audio visual link will be mandated.	Noted, however, this new provision does not address the diverse needs and interests of Councillors who, for example, may need to travel for their work.
Restricting the circumstances in which the Council may withhold a leave of absence. Where a Councillor gives an apology from attending a meeting, the Council will be deemed to have accepted the apology and granted a leave of absence from the meeting unless the Council resolves otherwise and gives reasons for its decision.	Noted – this reflects RCC's current practice.
Removing the option for staff to attend meetings by audio visual link.	Noted.
Strengthening the deterrence against disorder by codifying the common law position that allows Councillors to be expelled from successive meetings where they fail to apologise for an act of disorder at an earlier meeting and to withhold a Councillor's allowance for until an apology is provided. Also strengthening the provisions for public disorder and providing for the Mayor to issue fines to members of the public for disorder at meetings.	Our submission on the new Model Code of Meeting Practice reiterates our position that we: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - oppose the proposal that Mayors be given the power to remove a Councillor's allowance for a month or any length of time. - do not support the proposed ability for the Mayor to issue a fine to a member of the public. We assert that this proposal is impractical and unworkable.
Removing the requirement for General Managers to prepare reports for notices of motion. General Managers will no longer be required to prepare reports on notices of motions with financial implications or to identify sources of funding where a notice of motion proposes expenditure that has not been budgeted for. These will be matters for the Council to determine.	Noted – Council's current practice is that motions with financial implications identify sources of funding. It is proposed that this practice continue. General Managers not commenting on Motions where there are budget implications could result in unintended budget deficits or overruns. Council could commit itself to unbudgeted expenditure without proper consideration of the consequences or the long-term sustainability of such commitments. The current system does not prevent Council from making expenditure decisions, it simply provides for informed decision making.
Providing that the Mayor, not the General Manager has discretion on whether Council staff should respond to questions with notice. It will be open to the Mayor to rule a question with notice out of order at the meeting if it breaches the disorder provisions of the Council's Code of Meeting Practice.	Staff report to the General Manager. It should, therefore, be the General Manager's call as to whether staff respond to questions. Noted that the Mayor may rule a question to be out of order.
Conferring responsibility on the Council to determine staff attendance at meetings. Because Councillors are best placed to determine what support they require from staff at meetings, it will be a matter for the Council to determine which staff attend meetings.	Staff report to the General Manager and requests for staff attendance should be determined by the General Manager not Council. There are avenues for the Mayor and the Council to discuss and resolve any issues in relation to matters of this nature with the General Manager.

Where to from here

After reviewing submissions received on the consultation draft of the Model Code of Meeting Practice, the Minister's approval will be sought for the prescription of the new Model Code. If approved, it will be prescribed by Regulation.

The amendment Regulation prescribing the new Model Code will also contain provisions that will amend the Regulation to give effect to some of the proposed new measures contained in it, including:

- changes to the definitions of acts of disorder
- a requirement for recordings of meetings to be retained on Council websites for at least 12 months or for the balance of the Council term, whichever is the longer period, and
- the pathways in which Councillors can receive information and the restriction on briefing sessions.

The proposed amendments to the Model Code of Meeting Practice are the first stage of the Government's reform agenda for the regulation of Council meetings. In 2025, the Government will be introducing legislation to implement the reforms to the regulation of Councillor conduct foreshadowed in the September discussion paper. These will have a particular focus on behaviour at meetings and will complement the proposed amendments to the Model Code of Meeting Practice.

The proposed amendments to the Act will:

- empower Mayors to expel Councillors from meetings for acts of disorder
- remove a Councillor's entitlement to receive a fee for a month in which they have been expelled from a meeting
- confer a right of review on Councillors in relation to a decision to expel them from a meeting and the resulting loss of their entitlement to receive a fee.

Amendments will also be made to the Act and Regulation (as required) to empower Councils to issue penalty infringement notices to members of the public who disrupt meetings.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Customer Service & Governance Management
Function	Governance Management
Delivery program commitment	Manage Council's governance framework and controls to ensure accountability, transparency, integrity, equity and ethical Council decision making.

Risks

The consultation paper raises a number of operational risks which will be reviewed in further detail once the new framework has been released. Risks include:

- Framework around the proposed functions of the Mayor to deal with misconduct at Council meetings and issue fines;
- Framework around Councillor communication and education in relation to matters of significant strategic importance or involving significant risk.

Resourcing Strategy implications

N/A.

Policy and legislative requirements

Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW
Council's Code of Meeting Practice
Local Government Act 1993
Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Conclusion

A draft Council submission has been prepared for Council's consideration. This submission reflects our position on the September 2024 discussion paper "Councillor conduct and meeting practice: a new framework" in relation to Councillor briefings and the proposed new powers for Mayors in relation to the Council meeting misconduct provisions.

Responsible officer: Julie Hartshorn, Coordinator Administration

File Reference: F2004/06570

Office of Local Government



A new model code of meeting practice

Consultation draft

December 2024

olg.nsw.gov.au

CO2/25



Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

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Minister's foreword

Council meetings are where a council's most important decisions are made. They are where councillors, as democratically elected representatives, set the future direction of their council. For these reasons, it is important that meetings are effective, allow for robust, respectful debate and result in actionable outcomes for New South Wales communities.

Unfortunately, there has been a shift in the culture in local government. Debate in council meetings has been stifled by code of conduct complaints that aim to silence councillors from expressing contrary views. Rather than productively disagreeing, there have been too many cases where councillors have resorted to disorderly conduct, distracting from the critical work that is done in council meetings. By making changes to the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW, I hope to set a new balance between mayors, councillors and general managers and restore dignity to the council chamber.

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, mayors are responsible for presiding at meetings of the council. Under the proposed changes outlined in this paper and the consultation draft of the new Model Meeting Code, they will have greater powers to control the agenda and activities of their council and better enforce order in meetings. Mayors will have the power to take immediate action against disorderly councillors or members of the public in meetings, which I hope will lessen the need for councils to resort to the broken code of conduct process. By further providing that mayors be granted respect, by standing when they enter, councils can begin to build a culture where it is the accepted duty of the mayor to run a dignified and democratic council chamber.

The changes will also reinforce the boundaries between councillors and general managers by depoliticising the role they play in council meetings. General managers will no longer need to provide advice on motions requiring the expenditure of funds. Disputes over the future direction of a council and the spending of ratepayer money should rightfully occur between elected councillors.



The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP
Minister for Local Government

The most important of the reforms is to end private councillor briefing sessions. While well-intentioned as a means of educating councillors on matters before council, these sessions have had a corrosive effect on the transparency of council decision making. Communities are entitled to know the deliberations of their councillors and the nature of the advice given to assist them in making responsible decisions. These changes will ensure that all material given to a councillor to make a decision in a council meeting is provided in a public fashion.

Local government is the legitimate third tier of Government in New South Wales. Through these reforms, I aim to uplift the standards at council meetings so that they should, as best as possible, resemble the forthright and effective debate that occurs at the State and Federal levels. It is the duty of all councils to work together to provide outcomes that lead to better lives for the communities they are elected to serve. These outcomes are decided within the confines of the council chambers. It is critical that councillors can make these informed decisions in an environment that supports democracy, transparency and where elected representatives are given the respect they deserve.

Introduction

The Office of Local Government (OLG) is inviting feedback from the local government sector and others on proposed amendments to the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (Model Meeting Code).

A consultation draft of the new Model Meeting Code has been published on OLG's website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au. The proposed amendments to the Model Meeting Code are indicated in track changes.

The amendments are part of the Government's agenda to ensure that councillors are visibly in control of their councils, demonstrating to the community that decision making is genuinely local.

The reform of the codes and procedures governing how councillors gather, debate and make decisions was flagged by the Minister for Local Government as part of the discussion paper issued in September, "[Councillor conduct and meeting practice: a new framework](#)".

The proposed amendments to the Model Meeting Code are the first tranche of reforms to the regulation of meetings. The second tranche will be legislated in 2025 as part of the measures implemented to reform the regulation of councillor conduct and will have a particular focus on behaviour at meetings.

Information on how to make a submission together with targeted questions is provided at the end of this paper.

The feedback OLG receives will be used to inform the amendments that are ultimately made to the Model Meeting Code.

It is anticipated that the new Model Meeting Code will be prescribed in early 2025.

What is the Model Meeting Code?

The Model Meeting Code is prescribed under the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (the Regulation).

Section 360 of the Act provides that:

- The regulations may prescribe a model code of meeting practice for the conduct of meetings of councils and committees of councils of which all the members are councillors.
- The Model Meeting Code may contain both mandatory and non-mandatory provisions.
- A council must, not later than 12 months after an ordinary election of councillors, adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the model meeting code prescribed by the regulations. The adopted code may also incorporate the non-mandatory provisions and other provisions.
- A meeting code adopted or amended by the council must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions.
- A council and a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors must conduct its meetings in accordance with the code of meeting practice adopted by it.

The current version of the Model Meeting Code was prescribed in 2021.

What policy objectives inform the proposed amendments?

The proposed amendments to the Model Meeting Code have been foreshadowed in the discussion paper OLG issued in September, "[Councillor conduct and meeting practice: a new framework](#)" (the September discussion paper).

A council chamber is a chamber of democracy, and the mayor as figurehead represents the authority of that council.

A key focus of the Government's reform agenda for the regulation of council meetings, is to promote community confidence in councils' decision making by ensuring that the forum in which decisions are made is conducted in a way that is befitting to a democratic institution comprising of elected representatives.

As observed in the September discussion paper, council meetings can be conducted without the appropriate level of dignity or reverence that suggests the importance of the debate and the need for civility. Councillors are not expected to agree with each other. In fact, debate is encouraged, but the debate should be fair and respectful.

The September discussion paper proposed the following reforms to the way council meetings are conducted:

- Conferring power on mayors to expel councillors for acts of disorder and to remove a councillor's entitlement to receive a fee for the month in which they have been expelled from a meeting.
- Requiring councillors to apologise for an act of disorder at the meeting at which it occurs and, if they fail to comply at that meeting, at each subsequent meeting until they comply. Each failure to apologise becomes an act of misbehaviour and may see the councillor lose their entitlement to receive their fee for a further month.
- Expanding the grounds for mayors to expel members of the public from the chamber for acts of disorder and enable the issuing of a penalty infringement notice where members of the public refuse to leave a meeting after being expelled.
- Promoting transparency and addressing corruption risks by banning councillor briefing sessions. The community has the right to understand the mode of reasoning behind council decisions without material being provided to councillors by council staff behind closed doors.

The proposed amendments to the Model Meeting Code give effect to many of these reforms and expand upon them. They are designed to deliver the following outcomes:

- promoting transparency, integrity and public participation
- promoting the dignity of the council chamber
- depoliticising the role of the general manager
- simplifying the Model Meeting Code.

The amendments to the Model Meeting Code will be given legal force through an update to the reference to the code in the Regulation. These amendments will also prescribe the restrictions on briefing sessions.

What changes are being proposed?

A brief overview of the proposed changes is provided below. This is not a complete or detailed summary of the proposed changes.

Councils and others should review the accompanying draft Model Meeting Code for a more complete and detailed view of the proposed changes. These are made in track changes in the document.

Promoting transparency, integrity and public participation

The proposed amendments will promote greater transparency and public participation by:

- Removing pre-meeting councillor briefings. It is the Government's expectation that any material provided to councillors, other than the mayor, that will affect or impact or be considered by councillors in their deliberations or decisions made on behalf of the community must be provided to them in either a committee meeting or council meeting. The restriction on briefing sessions will be prescribed in the Regulation.
- Requiring information considered at closed meetings to be made public after it ceases to be confidential, as recommended by ICAC. The general manager will, after consulting with the council, be required to publish business papers for items considered in closed meetings on the council's website after the information in them ceases to be confidential.
- Requiring recordings of meetings to be published on council websites for longer. Recordings must be published on council websites for the balance of the council term, or, in the case of an election year, for at least 12 months.
- Providing that councils must not make final planning decisions without a staff report containing an assessment and recommendation, as recommended by ICAC.
- Requiring councils to give reasons where they make a decision on a planning matter that departs from the staff recommendation, as recommended by ICAC.

Promoting the dignity of the council chamber

The proposed amendments will promote the dignity of the council chamber by:

- Enhancing the authority of the mayor. The mayor will be permitted to call extraordinary meetings without a request and the restrictions on mayoral minutes will be removed.
- Requiring councillors to stand when a councillor addresses the meeting, or when the mayor enters the chamber, as well as by mandating modes of address at meetings.
- Removing the option for councils to reduce the duration of speeches, to ensure all councillors may have their say on important community issues.
- Making clear to the community that decisions are made in council meetings and not in other forums that the community can't access, like briefing sessions.
- Refining the definitions of disorder to remove phrases that could be weaponised to impede debate.
- Providing as a default that councillors are to attend meetings in person. Councillors will only be permitted to attend meetings by audio visual link where they are prevented from attending a meeting in person because of ill health or another medical reason or unforeseen caring responsibilities. Councillors will not be permitted to participate in meetings at which a mayoral election is being held by audio visual link. To facilitate this, the rules governing attendance at meetings by audio visual link will be mandated.
- Restricting the circumstances in which the council may withhold a leave of absence. Where a councillor gives an apology from attending a meeting, the council will be deemed to have accepted the apology and granted a leave of absence from the meeting unless the council resolves otherwise and gives reasons for its decision.
- Removing the option for staff to attend meetings by audio visual link.
- Strengthening the deterrence against disorder by codifying the common law position that allows councillors to be expelled from successive meetings where they fail to apologise for an act of disorder at an earlier meeting.

Depoliticising the role of the general manager

The proposed amendments will depoliticise the role of the general manager by:

- Removing the requirement for general managers to prepare reports for notices of motion. General managers will no longer be required to prepare reports on notices of motions with financial implications or to identify sources of funding where a notice of motion proposes expenditure that has not been budgeted for. These will be matters for the council to determine.
- Providing that the mayor, not the general manager has discretion on whether council staff should respond to questions with notice. It will be open to the mayor to rule a question with notice out of order at the meeting if it breaches the disorder provisions of the council's code of meeting practice.
- Conferring responsibility on the council to determine staff attendance at meetings. Because councillors are best placed to determine what support they require from staff at meetings, it will be a matter for the council to determine which staff attend meetings.

Simplifying the Model Meeting Code

The proposed amendments will simplify the Model Meeting Code by:

- Streamlining the code by removing unnecessary provisions.
- Removing the non-mandatory rules governing public forums. Councils will be free to determine their own rules for public forums.
- Simplifying the rules governing public representations to the council on the closure of meetings to the public.
- Simplifying the rules for dealing with urgent business without notice at meetings.
- Simplifying the rules of debate by removing the provisions allowing motions to be foreshadowed.
- Mandating some current non-mandatory provisions including those allowing meetings to be cancelled or held by audio visual link in the event of natural disasters and public health emergencies and those governing councillors' attendance at meetings by audio visual link.

Restricting councils from holding briefing sessions

Proposed amendments to the Regulation will restrict councils from holding briefing sessions. The amendments will establish the appropriate ways councillors are to make decisions and receive information based on the following principles:

- Decision making by councillors must be through a resolution adopted at a council or committee meeting.
- Information is to be provided to councillors through clear and established channels:
 - information may be provided to councillors by staff in response to a request for information or action made through the councillor request system,
 - general information to assist councillors' understanding of sector wide issues (e.g. legislative changes), should be received from the general manager (and other external sources),
 - training materials to meet learning and development requirements come through established training programs,
 - information to enable councillors to understand the function, service delivery standards, strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities of council operations should be provided in periodic workshop format (e.g. an annual strategic planning workshop), and
 - information requiring a specific decision or resolution of council is to be provided by the general manager as a part of a report prepared for the business papers of a council or committee meeting.
- The distribution of information in a meeting or format that is not consistent with the above pathways (e.g. through briefing sessions), is not permitted.
- The mayor will not be subject to these restrictions and may receive information in order to undertake their functions under the Act.

What are the next steps?

After reviewing submissions received on the consultation draft of the Model Meeting Code, the Minister's approval will be sought for the prescription of the new Model Meeting Code. If approved, it will be prescribed by Regulation.

The amendment Regulation prescribing the new Model Meeting Code will also contain provisions that will amend the Regulation to give effect to some of the proposed new measures contained in it, including:

- changes to the definitions of acts of disorder,
- a requirement for recordings of meetings to be retained on council websites for at least 12 months or for the balance of the council term, whichever is the longer period, and
- the pathways in which councillors can receive information and the restriction on briefing sessions.

As noted above, the proposed amendments to the Model Meeting Code are the first tranche of the Government's reform agenda for the regulation of council meetings.

In 2025, the Government will be introducing legislation to implement the reforms to the regulation of councillor

conduct foreshadowed in the September discussion paper. These will have a particular focus on behaviour at meetings and will complement the proposed amendments to the Model Meeting Code.

The proposed amendments to the Act will:

- empower mayors to expel councillors from meetings for acts of disorder
- remove a councillor's entitlement to receive a fee for a month in which they have been expelled from a meeting
- confer a right of review on councillors in relation to a decision to expel them from a meeting and the resulting loss of their entitlement to receive a fee.

Amendments will also be made to the Act and Regulation (as required) to empower councils to issue penalty infringement notices to members of the public who disrupt meetings.

Submissions

Have your say

We now want to hear from you.

Key questions to consider:

- Will the proposed amendments made in the consultation draft of the Model Meeting Code achieve the policy outcomes identified in this paper?
- Are there any other amendments you would suggest that will achieve these policy outcomes?
- Will the proposed amendments have any unintended consequences?
- Are there any other amendments the Government should consider?

How to make a submission

Submissions can be made using the online form available on OLG's website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.

OR

By email: olg@olg.nsw.gov.au

OR

By post: Office of Local Government
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

Submissions should be labelled "Model Meeting Code amendments" and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.

Closing date

COB Friday 28 February 2025

Privacy Notice

When you give us your feedback, OLG will be collecting some personal information about you, in particular:

- your name
- your email address
- the name of your organisation (if provided).

All feedback received through this consultation process may be made **publicly available**. Please do not include any personal information in your feedback that you do not want published.

As part of the consultation process, we may need to share your information with people outside OLG, including other public authorities and government agencies. We may also use your email contact details to send you notifications about further feedback opportunities or the outcome of the consultation.

You should also be aware there may be circumstances when OLG is required by law to release information (for example, in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*). There is also a privacy policy located on OLG's website that explains how some data is automatically collected (such as your internet protocol (IP) address) whenever you visit OLG's website. The link to that policy is <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/about-us/privacy-policy/>.

Further information

For more information, please contact OLG's Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4100 or via email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

CO2/25

Office of Local Government

olg.nsw.gov.au



Draft Submission New Model Code of Meeting Practice

28 February 2025



1300 722 542
randwick.nsw.gov.au

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Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in relation to the “New Model Code of Meeting Practice”. In making this submission Council reiterates its position, put forward in response to the September 2024 *Councillor Conduct and Meeting Practices Discussion Paper*, that we do not support:

- the proposed ban on Councillor briefings
- the proposed ability for Mayors to issue fines to members of the public.
- the proposal to give Mayors the power to remove a Councillor’s allowance, for any length of time.

1. Will the proposed amendments made in the consultation draft of the Model Meeting Code achieve the policy outcomes identified in this paper?

Proposed ban on Councillor briefings

If the proposed ban on Councillor briefings is adopted our position is that this will have little or no impact on the promotion of transparency or integrity, as the current framework requires that there can be no debate or preliminary decision making on matters in Councillor briefings. For Councils who are complying with the current framework, and it is presumed that this is the majority of Councils, the proposed ban on briefings will not improve transparency or integrity as:

- it will not change the level of detail in Council reports;
- it will not impact the debate on matters in Council meetings;
- it will not impact decision making in Council meetings (except that decision making may be less informed).

In addition, we submit that the proposed ban on Councillor briefings will not improve public participation or promote dignity of the Council Chamber as:

- background and learning information, that would normally be provided in Councillor briefings, will need to be undertaken via other channels, such as via memos, intermittent workshops, Committees etc. This is the only practical way for Councils to educate their elected representatives on matters of strategic importance or significant risk.

The briefing of all Councillors on matters proposed for the agenda of future Council meetings contributes in a positive way to Councillors’ understanding of the significant matters which they are required to make decisions on. We strongly believe that, used appropriately, the Councillors’ briefing process promotes a better understanding of the complex matters on which Councillors are required to make decisions and results in better decision making in the interests of the broader community.

The current framework is considered to be clear and concise and any Councils who are known to be not complying with these provisions should be dealt with in the same way that other non-compliance matters/complaints are dealt with by the OLG.

Proposal to provide Mayors with the power to remove a Councillor’s allowance and issue fines to members of the public will not promote dignity of the Council Chamber

Council opposes the proposal that Mayors be given the power to remove a Councillor’s allowance for any length of time. This proposal has the potential to generate disorder, based on political alignments

or perceived political alignments, and we do not believe this will promote the dignity of the Council Chamber.

The Council Chamber is a political environment, often where parties disagree, certainly where robust debate is encouraged. The Mayor's role in managing Council meetings is already demanding given the environment and the complexity of rules around Council meetings. The use of the proposed power to remove a Councillor's allowance is likely to be perceived as politically motivated, no matter what the circumstances or how apolitical the decision might be.

We reiterate our position that we do not support the proposed ability for Mayor to issue fines to members of the public. We assert that this proposal is impractical and unworkable. It will have potential negative impacts on the working relationship between Mayors and certain sectors of the local community and will do little to deter bad behaviour. Perhaps for this reason, it will be a little used provision. The current process of issuing a warning and then removing any offenders with the assistance of the local Police, if required, is considered appropriate.

Proposed requirement that the Council determines what staff should attend Council meetings + proposal that the Mayor, not the General Manager, has discretion on whether Council staff should respond to questions with notice.

We submit that neither of these provisions will serve to depoliticise the role of the General Manager. The General Manager's role by statutory definition is not a political role. The General Manager is responsible for all Council staff and for the day-to-day operation of the Council. It is, and should remain, a matter for the General Manager to determine what staff should attend Council meetings and which staff should answer questions at Council meetings.

The Council is responsible for the performance of the General Manager and any matters in dispute related to staff attendance at Council meetings or staff answering questions at Council meetings should be dealt with between the Mayor and the General Manager (outside of the Council meeting process) and, if required, at General Manager performance reviews.

These provisions have the potential to create confusion and undermine the role of the General Manager and will not assist with depoliticising the role of the General Manager.

Proposal to limit the circumstances in which Councillors can attend meetings by audio-visual link

The proposal to only allow Councillors to attend meetings by audio-visual link in very limited circumstances does not promote inclusivity for Councillors. There are many reasons why Councillors may not be able to attend meetings in person. These could be due to work commitments, travel for work, personal reasons other than illness or unplanned carer responsibilities. These provisions, if adopted, may serve to further limit an already limited pool of candidates who have the time and capacity to fulfil the role of Councillor.

This may also have a flow on effect for members of the public who are currently able to address Council via audio-visual link, as it is not equitable to say that Councillors cannot attend meetings via audio-visual link but members of the public can address via audio-visual link.

This proposal will not result in more inclusive Council meetings.

2. Are there any other amendments you would suggest that will achieve these policy outcomes?

Although we support the continuation of Councillor briefings under the existing framework, if this cannot be supported, then perhaps Councillor briefings could be required to be open to the public. While we do not believe that this is necessary or ideal, it would at least provide an option for Councils to consider. Members of the public could attend briefings (except for confidential matters) and listen to presentations and discussion but not address the briefing or be involved in the briefing in any way other than observation. This would ensure transparency and still provide for Councillors to be adequately informed.

Alternatively, address the matter of any Councils who are not complying with the current requirements or who have been subject to complaints in relation to the current requirements.

The current provisions in relation to disorder at meetings in conjunction with the proposed amendments to Code of Conduct complaints administration framework are considered adequate. We would suggest no amendments to the Code of Meeting Practice in relation to the disorder provisions.

3. Will the proposed amendments have any unintended consequences?

We submit, for consideration, the following unintended consequences of the proposed amendments:

Proposed amendment	Consequence
Removal of pre-meeting Councillor briefings	<p>The proposal to ban Councillor briefings is not supported. We reiterate our position in response to the September 2024 Discussion Paper, that we strongly believe that, used appropriately, the Councillors briefing process promotes a better understanding of the complex matters on which Councillors are required to make decisions and results in better decision making at Council meetings in the interest of the broader community.</p> <p>Banning Councillor briefings is likely to result in more lengthy meetings and less informed decision making.</p>
Proposed new disorder provisions	<p>Council opposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the proposal that Mayors be given the power to remove a Councillor's allowance for a month or any length of time.- the proposed ability for the Mayor to issue a fine to members of the public. <p>We assert that these proposals are impractical and unworkable.</p> <p>The proposed disorder provisions have the following unintended consequences for Mayors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Removing a Councillor's allowance will be politicised. There is likely to be a perception, regardless of the circumstances, that Mayors are using these provisions for political purposes

Proposed amendment	Consequence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rather than resolving disorder – these provisions are likely to create more disorder and conflict - Have potential negative impacts on the working relationship between Mayors and certain sectors of the local community and will do little to deter bad behaviour.
Providing that the Mayor, not the General Manager has discretion as to whether Council staff should respond to questions with notice	<p>The provisions of the Local Government Act and the current Code of Conduct are clear in that staff report to the General Manager and are not subject to the direction of the Council. It should, therefore, be the General Manager's call as to whether staff respond to questions.</p> <p>This proposal will blur the lines of responsibility and may lead, unintentionally, to a misunderstanding of Councillor-staff relationships.</p>
Conferring responsibility on the Council to determine staff attendance at meetings	<p>Staff report to the General Manager and, therefore, staff attendance at Council meetings should be determined by the General Manager not the Council.</p> <p>There are avenues for the Mayor and the Council to discuss and resolve any issues in relation to matters of this nature with the General Manager.</p> <p>This proposal could undermine the position of the General Manager as the leader of staff and create confusion as to the role of Councillors in relation to directing staff.</p>
Removing the requirement for General Managers to prepare reports for notices of motion with financial implications or to identify sources of funding where a notice of motion proposes expenditure that has not been budgeted for	<p>General Managers not commenting on Motions where there are budget implications could result in unintended budget deficits or overruns. Council could commit itself to unbudgeted expenditure without proper consideration of the consequences or the long-term sustainability of such commitments.</p> <p>The current system does not prevent Council from making expenditure decisions, it simply provides for informed decision making.</p>
<p>Proposed new provisions in relation to Questions with notice:</p> <p>The proposed changes to the Model Meeting Code include removing the following clause under the sub-heading "Questions with notice":</p> <p>"A Councillor is not permitted to ask a question with notice under clause 3.14 that comprises a complaint against the General Manager or a member of staff of the Council, or a question that implies wrongdoing by the General Manager or a member of staff of the Council."</p>	<p>The reporting of (or questions in relation to) matters that are breaches (or potential breaches) of the Code of Conduct or relate to the Public Interest Disclosures should not be dealt with at public Council meetings. This clause should remain in the Model Meeting Code as Council meetings are not the forum to raise matters of complaint or wrongdoing in relation to the General Manager or staff.</p> <p>An unintended consequence of the deletion of the provision in question could be a breach of legislation.</p>
Proposed changes around attendance by Councillors at meetings by audio-visual link	<p>This proposal does not address the diverse needs and interests of Councillors who, for example, may need to travel for their work.</p> <p>In addition, it could have a negative impact on residents who wish to address the Council by audio visual link as this method of conducting meetings is clearly being discouraged.</p>

Proposed amendment	Consequence
Refining the definitions of disorder to remove phrases that could be weaponised to impede debate.	<p>The changes to the disorder provisions are proposed to include, as an act of disorder, a Councillor who “uses any language, words or gestures that would be regarded as disorderly in the NSW Legislative Assembly”.</p> <p>In order to remove any ambiguity, the behaviours referred to need to be specified clearly in the Code rather than referencing another forum (ie. The NSW Legislative Assembly).</p>
Closed session provisions	<p>The proposed new closed session provisions are not practical as confidentiality on reports will expire at varying intervals. There could be a number of reports on the one confidential business paper and, therefore, business papers will need to be published and republished a number of times. This will create confusion for the public and be challenging administratively.</p> <p>In addition, there is likely to be very little interest in confidential reports once the confidentiality expires, which could be years after the matter is reported to Council</p> <p>Members of the public are currently able to apply for access to confidential reports via the Government Information (Public Access) Act. This would require Council to conduct a public interest test and make a decision about access on each matter based on the circumstances at the time.</p> <p>When significant timeframes are in play, changes in technology and software systems could also make this proposal very time consuming, with very little public benefit.</p>

CO2/25



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Director Corporate Services Report No. CO3/25

Subject: 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government

Executive Summary

- The 2025 National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from 24-27 June 2025.
- The NGA is the principal conference of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and the theme of this year's conference is 'National Priorities Need Local Solutions'.
- Any motions for the NGA must be submitted to the March 2025 Council meeting, to allow for submission to the ALGA by Monday 31 March 2025.

Recommendation

That:

- a) Council endorses the attendance of interested Councillors at the 2025 National General Assembly in Canberra;
- b) any Councillors interested in attending the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government advise the General Manager as soon as possible for registration purposes; and
- c) any motions for the 2025 National General Assembly be submitted to the March 2025 Council meeting for endorsement by Council and to enable submission to the ALGA by 31 March 2025.

Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) ALGA 2025 National General Assembly Discussion Paper and call for motions

CO3/25

Purpose

This report seeks to endorse the attendance of interested Councillors at the 2025 National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government and to advise Councillors of the deadline for the submission of motions to the NGA.

Discussion

The 2025 NGA will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from 24-27 June 2025.

Each year the ALGA holds a National General Assembly (NGA) in Canberra where Councils from around Australia discuss current and emerging challenges and opportunities. Motions passed at the NGA inform the ALGA's strategic direction and national advocacy objectives. The NGA is the principal conference of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and the theme of this year's conference is 'National Priorities Need Local Solutions'. *"The 31st NGA of Local Government will focus on opportunities for councils to work with the next Federal Government to deliver local solutions that will help them deliver on their vision for the nation."*

This conference provides Councillors with a unique opportunity to hear from the leaders in our sector and across government and provides unparalleled one on one access to the most influential decision makers in the nation.

Motions

Motions for the NGA require a clear national objective (refer to the **attached** Discussion Paper for further details), a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion and the endorsement of Council. Any motions must be submitted to the 25 March 2025 Council meeting, at the latest, to allow for submission to the ALGA by Monday 31 March 2025.

Motions should generally be in a form that seeks the NGA's support for a particular action or policy change at the Federal level which will assist local governments to meet local community needs. Motion should commence as follows: *"This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to"*

Motions for this year's NGA should consider:

- any new practical programs or policy changes that can strengthen the system of local government nationally to provide the services and infrastructure required to support and strengthen our communities; and/or
- new program ideas that would help the local government sector to deliver place-based solutions to national priorities.

Motions must address one or more of the issues identified in the discussion paper and:

1. Be relevant to the work of local government nationally.
2. Not be focused on a specific jurisdiction, location or region – unless the project or issue has national implications.
3. Be consistent with the themes of the NGA.
4. Complement or build on the policy objectives of ALGA and your state or territory local government association.
5. Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association.
6. Propose a clear action and outcome ie call on the Australian Government to act on something.
7. Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.
8. Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities.
9. Not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
10. Be supported by sufficient evidence to support the outcome being sought and demonstrate the relevance and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

If Council does submit a motion(s), the ALGA has indicated that there is an expectation that a Council representative will be present at the NGA to move and speak to that motion if required.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Customer Service & Governance Management
Function	Governance Management
Delivery program commitment	Manage Council's governance framework and controls to ensure accountability, transparency, integrity, equity and ethical Council decision making.

C03/25

Resourcing Strategy implications

Councillors' attendance at conferences (including this conference) has been allowed for in the 2024-25 Budget.

Policy and legislative requirements

Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy.

Conclusion

This is an important conference for Local Government throughout Australia as it is the only conference where the States come together to discuss Local Government specific issues.

Responsible officer: Julie Hartshorn, Coordinator Administration

File Reference: F2014/00272

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO4/25

Subject: Quarterly Budget Review - December 2024

Executive Summary

- The Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRs) are developed to support Council in meeting its financial reporting obligations under its management and operational plans.
- The QBRs for the second quarter ended 31 December 2024 has been prepared in compliance with regulatory requirements.
- As of 31 December 2024, through careful financial management and governance, Council's projected results are:
 - A Net Operating Result before Capital Items of \$498k for the 2024-25 financial year.
 - A projected budget surplus of \$1.1m for the 2024-25 financial year.
 - Projected available cash of \$11.4 million as of 30 June 2025.
- The Chief Financial Officer, as the Responsible Accounting Officer, advises that the projected financial position is sound and that adoption of the report will satisfy statutory obligations.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) receives and notes the December 2024 Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRs) Report; and
- b) adopts the proposed budget variations for December 2024, as detailed in the QBRs attachment to this report.

Attachment/s:

1.  Quarterly Budget Review Statement - December 2024

CO4/25

Purpose

This report presents the QBRs for the second quarter of the 2024-25 financial year and informs Council of any variations from the original budget.

Discussion

The Office of Local Government has issued guidelines to councils regarding the preparation of Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRs). According to clause 203(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2005, the responsible accounting officer is required to prepare and submit a QBRs to Council.

This Quarterly Budget Review outlines Council's financial performance for the second quarter of the 2024-25 financial year in relation to the current budget. It also includes recommendations for adjustments and explanations for any budget variations.

The December budget review resulted in a projected net operating result before capital items of \$498k for the 2024-25 financial year.

Operating Result - Income Statements

	2024-25 Original Budget (\$'000)	2024-25 Carryover Budget (\$000)	2024-25 Sep Budget Review (\$'000)	2024-25 Dec Budget Review (\$'000)	2024-25 Projected Budget (\$'000)
Revenue from continuing operations	203,225	2,617	9,200	18,334	233,376
Expense from continuing operations	193,607	1,916	3,539	2,846	201,908
Net Operating Result-Surplus	9,618	701	5,661	15,488	31,468
Net Operating Position Before Capital	3,828	(1,916)	16	(1,430)	498

The major proposed budget adjustments for the December 2024 Quarter are:

Income & Expenses Items	Adjustment & Impact (\$000) Favourable/ (Unfavourable)	Commentary / Highlights
User Charges and Fees Income	173	Various budget adjustments to align with year-to-date actuals including \$100k in Work Zone Permit income and \$50k in Residential Parking Permit income.
Operating Grants & Contributions Income	473	Various grants income budgets added including \$315k for Permit/Plug/Play program and \$145k for Traffic Facilities from Block Grant. Corresponding expenditure budgets have been added.
Capital Grants and Contributions Income	16,918	Various grants budgets added including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active Travel to School grant \$201k - Level Playing Field Program grant \$224k - Local Road & Community Infrastructure grant Phase 1 final payment \$308k - Local Road & Community Infrastructure grant Phase 2 final payment \$1.6m - Local Road & Community Infrastructure grant Phase 4 projects approved \$1.2m

Income & Expenses Items	Adjustment & Impact (\$000) Favourable/ (Unfavourable)	Commentary / Highlights
		Various contributions budgets added and externally restricted: - s7.12 Developer contribution \$1.2m - s7.12 Developer contribution K2K Kensington \$260k - K2K Community Infrastructure Kensington \$2m - K2K Affordable Housing Kingsford contribution \$6.5m - K2K Affordable Housing Kensington contribution \$3.4m
Interest Income	700	Investment income adjustment from an increase in the portfolio balance and prevailing interest rate.
Materials and Contracts Expense	(2,127)	Expenditure budgets added funded from operational grants: - Permit/Plug/Play program \$315k - Lines and signs Traffic Facilities program \$145k Various budget adjustments to align with year-to-date actuals including: - Coastal Pollution Incident in October 24 \$453k - Footpath maintenance \$175k - Facilities maintenance cleaning \$317k - Admin building refurbishment temporary office \$150k - Facilities maintenance contracts \$125k - Drainage inspection \$125k - Community nursery material \$150k - Horticultural maintenance \$75k - Pavement maintenance \$50k
Depreciation Expense (Non-cash item)	(700)	Depreciation budget adjustment due to 23-24FY revaluation increasing gross replacement cost resulting in increase in depreciation.

Observations and Insights

The Coastal Pollution Incident in October 2024 resulted in clean-up costs of \$453k year to date.

Unexpected events with significant costs must be covered by Council's budget surplus and/or reserves. If these funds are insufficient, the unexpected costs will negatively impact Council's financial position. Council is currently submitting a claim to the NSW Government for this incident.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Financial Management
Function	Financial Management and Control
Delivery program commitment	Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring.
Function	Accounting

Delivery program commitment	Manage and record the financial transactions arising from Council's activities, including the levy and collection of rates and charges, and the preparation of financial statements and returns.
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Resourcing Strategy implications

This report presents the December Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRS) for the 2024-25 budget. Upon adoption, the variations outlined in this review will be integrated into the current budget and, where applicable, into future revisions of the Long-Term Financial Plan.

Policy and legislative requirements

- Section 203(1) and (3) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Section 211 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Local Government Act 1993.

Conclusion

Council is projected to maintain a sound financial position, with a forecasted net operating result before capital items of \$498k and a projected budget surplus of \$1.1m for the 2024-25 financial year.

This outlook indicates that Council will be well-positioned to manage upcoming financial commitments and maintain sound financial health.

Responsible officer: Stephen Wong, Chief Financial Officer

File Reference: F2021/00364

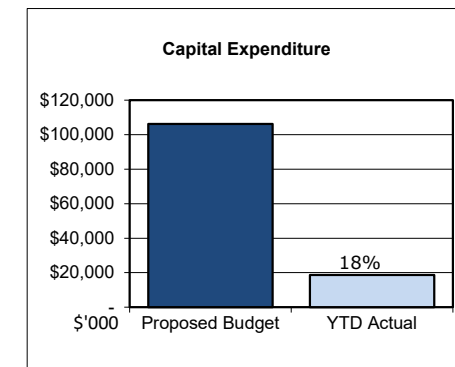
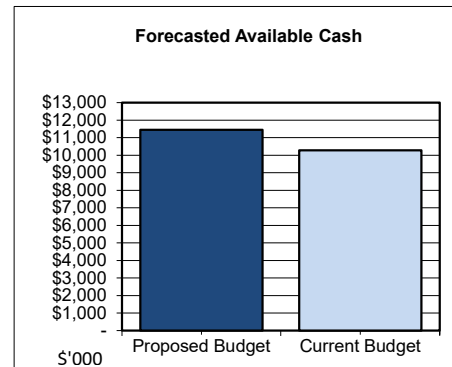
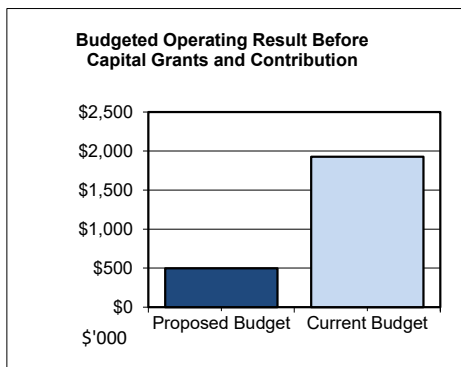
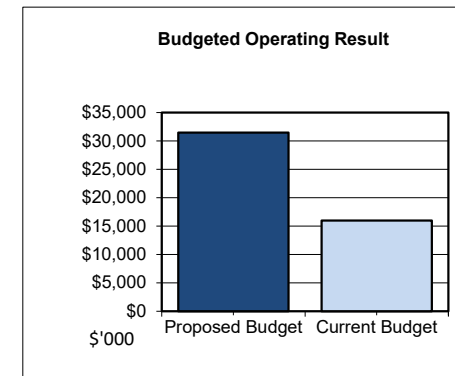
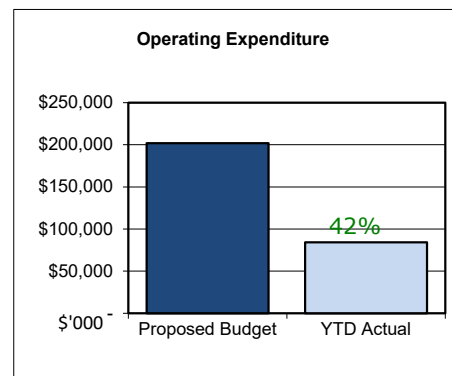
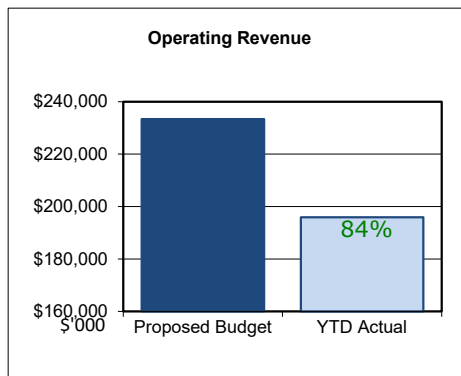



Quarterly Budget Review Statement December 2024



Quarterly Budget Review Statement
for the quarter ended 31 Dec 2024

Budget Review Key Performance Indicators



 Randwick City Council a sense of community	2024/25 - December Quarter Budget Review Budget Variations			Key: Favourable variations Unfavourable variations Budget contras (no impact)
Responsibility Centre	Account/Project	Comment	Amount (\$)	Narration (Favourable /Unfavourable /Budget contras)
Rates and Annual Charges			-	
User Fees and Charges			173,000	
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Fees Other	Annual Fire Safety Statements submission income - budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	10,000	Favourable
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Enquiry Fees	Requests for Certificates at time of property sale - budget decrease to align with year-to-date actuals	(10,000)	Unfavourable
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Construction Certificates	Budget decrease to align with year-to-date actuals	(22,000)	Unfavourable
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Building Certificates	Building Information Certificates - budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	40,000	Favourable
General Trade Waste	Recycled Cardboard Sales	Budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	5,000	Contra
Integrated Transport	Work Zone Fees	Budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	100,000	Favourable
Integrated Transport	Resident Parking Scheme/Permit	Budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	50,000	Favourable
Interest			700,000	
Financial Services	Interest on Investment	Investment income adjustment from an increase in the portfolio balance and prevailing interest rate	700,000	Favourable
Other Revenue			69,966	
Graffiti Management	Insurance Recoveries	Align budget with insurance relating to monument (corresponding expenditure budget added)	14,966	Contra
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Fines and Costs - Building	Building and fire safety penalty notices - budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	20,000	Favourable
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Operating Revenues - Other	Miscellaneous applications (requests to undertake building works outside standard hours) - budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	35,000	Favourable
Other Income			-	
Operating Grants and Contributions			473,070	
Climate Protection Strategy	Operating Grants - Environmental	Bupa Healthy Cities Landcare Projects 2024 - Rooted in Community - Milestone 1 and 2 (corresponding expenditure budget added)	25,000	Contra

Responsibility Centre	Account/Project	Comment	Amount (\$)	Narration (Favourable /Unfavourable /Budget contras)
Technical Services Management	Operating Grants - Street Lighting	Align budget with assessment notice received in December 2024 for Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme (TRLSS) FY2024-25	(13,551)	Unfavourable
Lines & Signs Maintenance	Operating Contributions - Traffic Facilities Block Grant	Traffic Facilities component, Block Grant for Regional Roads - 50% received this instalment (corresponding expenditure budget added)	144,500	Contra
Roads Construction	Operating Contributions - Bus Route	Transport for NSW - Bus Routes Subsidy (corresponding expenditure budget added)	2,121	Contra
Economic Development	Operating Grants-Other	Transport for NSW - Permit/Plug/Play program (corresponding expenditure budget added)	315,000	Contra
Capital Grants and Contributions			16,918,062	
Parks Construction	Capital Grants - Roads Bridges and Footpaths	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI) Phase 1 - final payment	170,808	Favourable
Roads Construction	Capital Grants - Roads Bridges and Footpaths	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI) Phase 3 Program - grant approved (corresponding capital expenditure budget added)	1,233,868	Contra
Roads Construction	Capital Grants - Roads Bridges and Footpaths	Adjustment to Transport NSW for Active Transport Strategy grant for Kensington and Prince Henry 40km/h Local Traffic Area (capital program reduced to offset grant reduction)	(120,209)	Contra
Roads Construction	Capital Grants - Roads Bridges and Footpaths	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI) Phase 2 - final payment	1,634,470	Favourable
Roads Construction	Capital Grants - Roads Bridges and Footpaths	Transport for NSW, Active Travel to School grant (corresponding expenditure budget added)	201,000	Contra
Roads Construction	Capital Contributions - Regional Block Grant	Block Grant Assistance to Council for Regional Roads - budget adjustment to align with actuals	(59,000)	Contra
Roads Construction	Capital Contributions - Supplement Block	Block Grant Assistance to Council for Regional Roads - budget adjustment to align with actuals	72,000	Contra
Building Construction	Capital Grants - Roads Bridges and Footpaths	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI) Phase 1 - final payment	137,659	Favourable
Building Construction	Capital Grants Specific Purpose Other	NSW Government Level Playing Field Program 2023/24 grant - Heffron Park Female Amenities (25% of total grant - corresponding capital budget added)	224,575	Contra
Development Contributions	S7.23 Affordable Housing K2K Kingsford	Additional income received - transfer to externally restricted reserve	6,450,063	Favourable
Development Contributions	S7.23 Affordable Housing K2K Kensington	Additional income received - transfer to externally restricted reserve	3,448,147	Favourable
Development Contributions	Community Infrastructure Contribution Kensington	Additional income received - transfer to externally restricted reserve	2,061,011	Favourable
Development Contributions	S7.12 Contributions - K2K Kingsford	Additional income received - transfer to externally restricted reserve	7,935	Favourable
Development Contributions	S7.12 Contributions - K2K Kensington	Additional income received - transfer to externally restricted reserve	260,068	Favourable

Responsibility Centre	Account/Project	Comment	Amount (\$)	Narration (Favourable /Unfavourable /Budget contras)
Development Contributions	S7.12 Capital Developer Contributions	Additional income received - transfer to externally restricted reserve	1,195,667	Favourable
Gain or Loss from the Disposal of the Assets			-	
Employee Costs			18,800	
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Permanent Salaries	Budget adjustment to reflect additional inspections outside business hours	18,800	Unfavourable
Materials and Contracts			2,127,466	
Climate Protection Strategy	Contracts - Other	Bupa Healthy Cities Landcare Projects 2024 - Rooted in Community - funded from grant	25,000	Contra
Administrative Services	Subscriptions Publications and Newspaper	Budget transfer from Subscriptions, Publications and Newspaper to Memberships	(20,000)	Contra
Administrative Services	Memberships	Budget transfer from Subscriptions, Publications and Newspaper to Memberships	20,000	Contra
Technical Services Management	Street Lighting	Budget transfer to consultancies	(87,850)	Contra
Engineering	Consultancies - General	Budget transfer from Street lighting	87,850	Contra
Community Nursery	Materials	Budget increase to align with year-to-date actuals	150,000	Unfavourable
State Emergency Service	Contracts - Other	Budget added for Coastal Pollution Incident in October 24	453,000	Unfavourable
Horticultural Maintenance	Contracts - Other	Budget adjusted to meet service and operational requirement	75,000	Unfavourable
Facilities Maintenance	Contracts - Other	Budget adjusted to meet service and operational requirement	125,000	Unfavourable
Facilities Maintenance	Cleaning	Budget adjusted to meet service and operational requirement	317,000	Unfavourable
Pavement Maintenance	Contracts - Other	Budget adjusted to meet service and operational requirement	50,000	Unfavourable
Footpath Maintenance	Contracts - Other	Budget adjusted to meet service and operational requirement	175,000	Unfavourable
Lines & Signs Maintenance	Contracts - Other	Budget adjusted to meet service and operational requirement	150,000	Unfavourable
Lines & Signs Maintenance	Contracts - Other	Budget increase for Traffic Facilities component, fully funded by Block Grant Assistance to Council for Regional Roads, remaining 50% will be paid in second half of the year	144,500	Contra

Responsibility Centre	Account/Project	Comment	Amount (\$)	Narration (Favourable /Unfavourable /Budget contras)
Drainage Inspection	Contracts - Other	Budget adjusted to meet service and operational requirement	125,000	Unfavourable
Graffiti Management	Materials	Budget added for restoration work to monument, offset by recovery from insurance claim	14,966	Contra
General Trade Waste	Garbage Disposal	Increase cost offset from increase in Recycled Cardboard Sales income	5,000	Contra
DWM-Green Waste (FOGO) Service	Recycling Collection	Budget transfer from Recycling collection to Green Waste (FOGO) Collection	11,167	Contra
DWM-Green Waste (FOGO) Service	Green Waste (FOGO) Collection	Budget transfer to Recycling Collection	(11,167)	Contra
Health, Building and Regulatory Services	Other Miscellaneous Expenses	Budget adjustment for office items	3,000	Unfavourable
Economic Development Strategy	Consultancies - General	Budget related to the Permit/Plug/Play Program, fully funded from Transport for NSW grant	315,000	Contra
Gain or Losses from the Disposal of Asset			-	
Other Operating Expenditure			-	
Capital Works			1,935,315	
Sustainability Strategy	Biodiversity	Budget transfer from Randwick Environmental Park (REP) project to Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service (WIRES) project	150,000	Contra
Sustainability Strategy	Biodiversity	WIRES Tender budget approved - Council resolution in March 2024 (CS12/24)	386,617	Contra
Works Depot and Stores	Storm Damage Works	Project completed, return funding to Special Purpose Unexpended Grants Reserve	(5,657)	Contra
Parks Construction	Randwick Environment Park	Budget transfer to Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service (WIRES) project	(150,000)	Contra
Roads Construction	Transport for NSW Funded Projects	Scope changed to reflect the actual grants received from Transport NSW for Kensington and Prince Henry 40km/h Local Traffic Area	(120,209)	Contra
Roads Construction	Regional Road Block Grant Program	Budget adjusted for Road and Supplementary component, fully funded by Block Grant Assistance to Council for Regional Roads	13,000	Contra
Road Construction	Bus Routes	Budget adjusted for Bus Route Subsidy	2,121	Contra
Roads Construction	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI)	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Phase 3 Program - grant approved Projects budget added	1,233,868	Contra
Roads Construction	Get NSW Active	Budget related to Active Travel to School, fully funded from Transport NSW grant	201,000	Contra

Responsibility Centre	Account/Project	Comment	Amount (\$)	Narration (Favourable /Unfavourable /Budget contras)
Drainage Construction	Environmental Levy - Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) Upgrade works	Budget transfer from Drainage Infrastructure Condition Assessment Program to Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) Upgrade Works	180,000	Contra
Drainage Construction	Drainage Infrastructure Condition Assessment Program	Budget transfer to Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) upgrade works	(180,000)	Contra
Building Construction	Heffron Park Central Amenities	Budget related to Level Playing Field Program 2023/24 (Heffron Park Female Amenities), fully funded from NSW Government grant	224,575	Contra
Reserves			14,541,931	
Development Contributions	Ext Restricted Reserve - s7.12 Contribution	Restriction of developer contributions - Transfer to s7.12 Contribution Reserve	1,195,667	Favourable
Development Contributions	Ext Restricted Reserve - s7.12 Contribution K2K Affordable Housing	Restriction of developer contributions - Transfer to s7.12 Affordable Housing - K2K	9,898,210	Favourable
Development Contributions	Ext Restricted Reserve - s7.12 Contribution K2K	Restriction of developer contributions - Transfer to s7.12 Contribution K2K	268,003	Favourable
Development Contributions	Ext Restricted Reserve - K2K Community Infrastructure Contribution	Restriction of developer contributions - Transfer to K2K Community Infrastructure Contribution	2,061,011	Favourable
IMT Projects	Int Restricted Reserve - Information & Communication Technology	Transfer to reserve to provide funding for projects in development to address legacy systems and upgrades	1,500,000	Favourable
Biodiversity Strategy	Ext Restricted Reserve - Environmental Levy	Transfer from Randwick Environment Park (REP) project to fund Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service (WIRES) project	(536,617)	Contra
Works Depot and Stores	Ext Restricted - Special Purpose Unexpended Grants	Project completed, return funding to Special Purpose Unexpended Grants Reserve	5,657	Contra
Parks Construction	Ext Restricted Reserve - Environmental Levy	Transfer from Randwick Environment Park (REP) project to fund Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service (WIRES) project	150,000	Contra
Drainage Construction	Ext Restricted Reserve - Environmental Levy	Transfer from reserve to fund Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) Upgrade works	(180,000)	Contra
Drainage Construction	Ext Restricted Reserve - Stormwater	Return to reserve as budget transfer from Drainage Infrastructure Condition Assessment Program to Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT)	180,000	Contra
IMT Projects	Int Restricted Reserve - Information & Communication Technology	Transfer from Carryover Works Reserve CRM Project funding to provide funding for projects in development to address legacy systems and upgrades	1,000,000	Contra
IMT Projects	Int Restricted Reserve - Carryover Works	CRM project funding transfer to Information & Communication Technology Reserve	(1,000,000)	Contra
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment-Contra			700,000	

Responsibility Centre	Account/ Project	Comment	Amount (\$)	Narration (Favourable /Unfavourable /Budget contras)
Asset Depreciation	Depreciation (Non-cash item)	Depreciation budget increase due to 23-24FY revaluation increasing gross replacement cost resulting in increase in depreciation.	700,000	Unfavourable
Net Surplus/(Deficit)			(289,414)	
Add Current 2024-25 Budget Surplus/(Deficit)			1,459,851	
Total Revised 2024-25 Budget Surplus/(Deficit)			1,170,437	



Budget Review for the quarter ended 31 Dec 2024 Income and Expenses

Income and Expenses								
		Approved Changes						
	Original Budget (\$'000s)	Carry Over 2023-24 (\$'000s)	Sept Review (\$'000s)	Current Budget (\$'000s)	Proposed Dec Review (\$'000)	Total Revised Budget (\$'000s)	YTD Dec Actuals (\$'000s)	Comment
REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS								
Rates And Annual Charges	148,948	-	885	149,832		149,832	148,951	Actuals reflect full year recognition of rates and annual charges per OLG Accounting Code.
User Charges And Fees	23,616	-	697	24,313	173	24,486	13,595	Various budget adjustments to align with year-to-date actuals including \$100k in Work Zone Permit Income and \$50k in Residential Parking Permit income.
Interest	5,175	-	750	5,925	700	6,625	4,252	Investment income adjustment from an increase in the portfolio balance and prevailing interest rate.
Other Revenues	6,807	-	654	7,460	70	7,530	3,863	Various budget adjustments to align with year-to-date actuals including \$40k in Building Information Certificates income, Annual Fire Safety Statements income \$10k and Building & Fire Safety Penalty Notices income \$10k.
Other Income	5,704	-	(93)	5,611		5,611	2,989	
Operating Grants and Contributions	7,185	-	663	7,847	473	8,320	2,719	Various grants income budgets added including \$315k for Permit/Plug/Play program and \$145k for Traffic Facilities from Block Grant. Corresponding expenditure budgets added.
Capital Grants and Contributions	5,790	2,617	5,646	14,052	16,918	30,971	19,547	Various grants budgets added including: - Active Travel to School grant \$201k - Level Playing Field Program grant \$224k - Local Road & Community Infrastructure grant Phase 1 final payment \$308k - Local Road & Community Infrastructure grant Phase 2 final payment \$1.6m - Local Road & Community Infrastructure grant Phase 4 projects approved \$1.2m Various contributions budgets added and externally restricted: - s7.12 Developer contribution \$1.2m - s7.12 Developer contribution K2K Kensington \$260k - K2K Community Infrastructure Kensington contribution \$2m - K2K Affordable Housing Kingsford contribution \$6.5m - K2K Affordable Housing Kensington contribution \$3.4m
Total Revenue from Continuing Operations	203,225	2,617	9,200	215,042	18,334	233,376	195,917	
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS								
Employee Costs	88,817		(120)	88,697	19	88,715	43,795	Minor budget adjustment for after hour inspections.
Borrowing Costs	547	-		547		547	283	
Materials & Contracts	71,085	1,916	3,722	76,724	2,127	78,851	37,173	Expenditure budgets added funded from operational grants: - Permit/Plug/Play program \$315k - Lines and signs Traffic Facilities program \$145k Various budget adjustments to align with year-to-date actuals including: - Coastal Pollution Incident in October 24, \$453k - Footpath maintenance \$175k - Facilities maintenance cleaning \$317k - Admin building refurbishment temporary office \$150k - Facilities maintenance contracts \$125k - Drainage inspection \$125k - Community nursery material \$150k - Horticultural maintenance \$75k - Pavement maintenance \$50k
Depreciation & Amortisation	27,351	-		27,351	700	28,051	34	Depreciation budget adjustment due to 23-24FY revaluation increasing gross replacement cost resulting in increase in depreciation.
Other Operating Expenses	5,807		(563)	5,244		5,244	2,668	
Losses from Disposal of Assets		-	500	500		500	294	
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations	193,607	1,916	3,539	199,062	2,846	201,908	84,248	
Net Operating Result -Surplus/(Deficit)	9,618	701	5,661	15,980	15,488	31,468	111,669	
Net Operating Result Before Capital Items	3,828	(1,916)	16	1,927	(1,430)	498	92,121	

ORIGINAL Budget +/- approved budget changes in previous quarters = Current Budget
Current Budget +/- recommended changes this quarter = Total Revised Budget

CO4/25



Budget Review for the quarter ended 31 Dec 2024 Capital Budget

	Approved Changes					Total Revised Budget (\$'000s)	YTD Dec Actuals (\$'000s)
	Original Budget (\$'000s)	Carry Over 2023-24 (\$'000s)	Sept Review (\$'000s)	Current Budget (\$'000s)	Proposed Dec Review (\$'000)		
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE							
Parks Construction Projects	8,661	7,396	106	16,163	387	16,550	3,814
Roads Construction Projects	11,626	7,221	7,601	26,448	1,330	27,778	6,023
Drainage Construction Projects	2,230	1,263		3,493		3,493	496
Building Construction Projects	11,555	26,679	5,796	44,030	219	44,249	6,285
Library Resources	310			310		310	127
Plant & Equipment Purchases	6,838	3,599	1,778	12,215		12,215	1,008
ICT Equipment	932	524	160	1,616		1,616	911
Total Capital Expenditure	42,153	46,682	15,440	104,275	1,935	106,210	18,664

Notes:

ORIGINAL Budget +/- approved budget changes in previous quarters = Current Budget

Current Budget +/- recommended changes this quarter = Total Revised Budget

	Approved Changes					Total Revised Budget (\$'000s)	YTD Dec Actuals (\$'000s)
	Original Budget (\$'000s)	Carry Over 2023-24 (\$'000s)	Sept Review (\$'000s)	Current Budget (\$'000s)	Proposed Dec Review (\$'000)		
CAPITAL FUNDING							
Rates and Other Untied Funding	16,194		219	16,413	(136)	16,277	9,613
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,926	2,617	5,646	10,189	1,690	11,879	809
Proceeds on Asset Disposal Plant and Equipment	1,138	763	408	2,308		2,308	454
External Restrictions							
Domestic Waste	5,636	737		6,374		6,374	363
Specific Purpose Unexpended Grants		107		107	(6)	102	5
Section 94	7,051	2,462	100	9,613		9,613	1,344
S7.12 Contributions - K2K		500	574	1,074		1,074	509
Community Infrastructure Contribution-K2K			270	270		270	270
Affordable Housing			238	238		238	
Stormwater Management	1,930	694		2,624	(180)	2,444	482
Environmental Levy	1,040	1,315	5,515	7,870	567	8,436	757
Internal Restrictions							
Plant Replacement	2,565	2,558	1,370	6,493		6,493	667
Information & Communication Technology		48		48		48	48
Works Incomplete/Future Works Reserve		21,672	8	21,664		21,664	1,426
Our Community Our Future	4,300	6,306	(19)	10,587		10,587	1,069
Building Levy		659		659		659	
Infrastructure Reserve	373	1,969	1,128	3,470		3,470	590
Infrastructure Loan		4,275		4,275		4,275	258
Total Capital Funding	42,153	46,682	15,440	104,275	1,935	106,210	18,664



Budget Review for the quarter ended 31 Dec 2024 Cash and Investments

ORIGINAL Budget +/- approved budget changes in previous quarters = CURRENT Budget

CURRENT Budget +/- recommended changes this quarter = REVISED Budget

(\$'000s)	Approved Changes				Proposed Dec Review	Total Proposed Budget	Projected Closing Balance 30 June 2025	Actuals Closing Balance 31 Dec 2024	
	Opening Balance as at 1 July 2024	Original Budget	Carry Over 2023-24	Sep Review					Current Budget
Externally Restricted									
Domestic Waste	11,936	(5,184)	(737)	(2,357)	(8,278)		(8,278)	3,658	17,408
Specific Purpose Unexpended Grants	3,203		(736)		(736)	6	(730)	2,473	2,725
S7.12 Contributions (formerly Section 94)	12,450	(4,567)	(2,462)	(100)	(7,129)	1,196	(5,933)	6,517	14,644
Affordable Housing	1,064	32		(238)	(206)		(206)	858	1,080
Stormwater Management	1,950	(1,005)	(694)		(1,698)	180	(1,518)	432	2,488
Environment Levy	7,567	921	(1,809)	(4,170)	(5,058)	(567)	(5,625)	1,942	8,309
S7.12 Contributions - Affordable Housing - K2K	5,679	2,000			2,000	9,898	11,898	17,578	17,578
S7.12 Contributions - K2K	3,049	900	(500)	(574)	(174)	268	94	3,143	3,708
Community Infrastructure Contribution-K2K	1,661			(270)	(270)	2,061	1,791	3,452	3,452
Total Externally Restricted	48,559	(6,902)	(6,938)	(7,709)	(21,549)	13,042	(8,507)	40,052	71,391
Internally Restricted									
Des Renford Leisure Centre	285	-	-		-		-	285	285
Election of Councillors	710	(700)	-		(700)		(700)	10	710
Employee Leave Entitlements	9,292	500	-		500		500	9,792	9,542
Information & Communication Technology	4,457	-	(48)		(48)	2,500	2,452	6,909	4,408
Infrastructure Reserves	6,374	(373)	(1,969)	(1,128)	(3,470)		(3,470)	2,904	5,783
Insurance Claims /Risk Management	2,414	-	-		-		-	2,414	2,414
Plant Replacement	10,235	64	(2,558)	(1,520)	(4,015)		(4,015)	6,220	10,882
Property Development Reserves	1,404	-	-		-		-	1,404	1,404
Refundable Bonds & Deposits	3,266	-	-		-		-	3,266	3,266
Carry Over Works	30,208	-	(22,466)	8	(22,457)	(1,000)	(23,457)	6,751	28,698
Our Community Our Future	12,087	(279)	(6,306)	19	(6,566)		(6,566)	5,520	14,619
Light Rail Support Plan	89	-	-		-		-	89	89
Prince Henry Centre	62	-	-		-		-	62	62
Randwick Environmental Park	764	(160)	-		(160)		(160)	604	711
Affordable Housing Rental Scheme	1,069	-	-		-		-	1,069	1,069
Economic Development	465	-	-		-		-	465	465
Randwick Literary Institute	35	-	-		-		-	35	35
Building Levy	708	-	(659)		(659)		(659)	49	708
Lionel Bowen Library	111	-	-		-		-	111	111
La Perouse Museum	774	-	-		-		-	774	774
Community Connect	20	-	-		-		-	20	20
Community Creative	52	-	-		-		-	52	52
Community Partnerships	17	-	-		-		-	17	17
Education and Training	88	-	-		-		-	88	88
Strategic Planning	23	-	-		-		-	23	23
Kingsford&KensingtonTownCentres(Public Domain)	1,645	-	-		-		-	1,645	1,645
Infrastructure Loan	4,414	-	(4,275)		(4,275)		(4,275)	138	4,156
Financial Assistance Grant Advance Payment	4,088							4,088	4,088
Total Internally Restricted	95,154	(948)	(38,281)	(2,621)	(41,850)	1,500	(40,350)	54,804	96,124
Total Restricted	143,713	(7,850)	(45,219)	(10,330)	(63,399)	14,542	(48,857)	94,855	167,515
Total Cash and Investments	153,992	(7,849)	(45,219)	(8,871)	(61,940)	14,253	(47,687)	106,305	180,223
Unrestricted Cash*	10,279	1	-	1,459	1,460	(289)	1,170	11,449	12,707

*The Unrestricted Cash figure from the September 2024 Review was adjusted for non-cash items. The Unrestricted Cash YTD Actuals Balance of \$12.7m as at 31 December 2024 included funds that have been committed through Council's capital works program and/or normal operations. The balance of unrestricted cash will decrease as the financial year progresses and capital works projects are completed. The projected closing balance of unrestricted cash remains at \$11.4m.

Budget Review
for the quarter ended 31 Dec 2024
Consultancy and Legal Expenses

Expense	Expenditure YTD \$	Budgeted (Y/N)
Consultancies	921,356	Y
Legal Fees	798,043	Y

Definition of consultant:

A consultant is a person or organisation engaged under contract on a temporary basis to provide recommendations or high level specialist or professional advice to assist decision-management. Generally it is the advisory nature of the work that differentiates a consultant from other contractors.

Randwick City Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statements

for the period ending 31 December 2024

Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

made pursuant to Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Randwick City Council for the quarter ended 31 December 2024 indicates that Council's projected financial position at year end will be satisfactory, having regard to the projected estimates.

The restricted funds of Council have been invested in accordance with Council's current Investment Policy (adopted February 2024).

Council's bank account in the general ledger and the cashbook has been reconciled with bank statements as at 31/12/2024.



RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

CO4/25

Randwick City Council
30 Frances Street
Randwick NSW 2031

Hours of operation:
8:30am - 5:00pm, Monday to Friday

Call centre: 1300 722 542

www.randwick.nsw.gov.au

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO5/25

Subject: 2024-25 Quarterly Progress Report

Executive Summary

- Progress Reports provide an update on the progress towards the implementation of the four-year Delivery Program 2022-26 and one-year Operational Plan 2024-25.
- The Randwick City Council Operational Plan 2024-25 contains 178 activities reported in Table A relating to the Community Strategic Plan and Informing Strategies and 164 activities relating to the provision of services required by our community and complying with regulatory functions.
- This report provides Council's progress results for the period from 1 October 2024 – 31 December 2024 (Q2).
- Of the total 342 indicators, **94%** have been achieved or are on track to be completed in the financial year or have not yet commenced this quarter.
- Of the Table A (progress in delivering outcomes from 2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan and the seven Informing Strategies activities), **98%** have been achieved or are on track to be completed in the financial year or have not yet commenced this quarter.
- **90%** of Table B (performance in providing the ongoing regulatory and council services) have been achieved or are on track to be completed in the financial year or have not yet commenced this quarter.

Recommendation

That the information contained in the attached Quarterly Progress Report for the 2024-25 Operational Plan be received and noted.

Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Oct to Dec 2024 Quarterly Progress Report - Table A & B results

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present 2024-25 Quarterly Progress to the Council.

The Quarterly Progress Report is a report on progress of the implementation of the Delivery Program 2022-26 and Operational Plan 2024-25.

This Report covers the progress over the second quarter of the 2024-25 financial year.

Discussion

The 2022-26 Delivery Program was adopted in June 2022 and covers the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2026.

The Delivery Program is a four-year program outlining how Council will work towards:

- a. Delivering the outcomes of the 2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan (CSP); and
- b. Providing the ongoing services required by our community and comply with regulatory functions.

The Operational Plan details the individual projects and actions that will be undertaken each financial year to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program. Each Operational Plan activity has at least one indicator to track performance against identified targets. The 2024-25 Operational Plan was adopted in June 2024 and is for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Projects, programs, and services are categorised into Table A for Informing Strategy activities and Table B for regulatory and regular services provided by Council.

What we measure

2024-25 Progress Reports include two types of performance indicators:

- 1. Indicators which show progress towards an objective or deliverable, for example an agreed work plan
- 2. Indicators which measure success in achieving a goal such as resolving 95% of service requests within the service level agreement period.

How we measure progress

The progress report is presented in two tables:

Table A: Tracks progress in delivering the outcomes of the 2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan and the seven Informing Strategies.

Table B: Tracks performance in providing the ongoing regulatory and council services required by our community.

Performance is measured against the target value for each indicator. A progress indicator for each activity is provided for easy reference. This table provides examples of performance results and the corresponding progress indicators:

Performance Result	Example	Progress Indicator
Target achieved for year	Completed an amenity block upgrade project	●
Target achieved for quarter	SLA of 90% for requests in quarter	●
Partially completed project	25% of nominated bushland regenerated	●
Target partially achieved	Completed 34 of 100 bookings	●
Maximum not exceeded	Serviced 20 litter bins of a maximum 500 service requests in year	●

Performance Result	Example	Progress Indicator
Project not started	Construction of new park	●
Not achieved by target date	Complete 100% of review of draft policy in Q1	●
Not achieved in the quarter	Inspected only 10 of 15 nominated drains	●

Below is the summary of progress indicators in the Progress Report:

● Achieved ● On track ● Not started ● Not achieved

Summary of Performance

In Quarter 2, there were 342 indicators tracking progress of the Operational Plan activities scheduled in the quarter:

- 178 indicators measured progress in delivering the outcomes of the 2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan and seven informing strategies (Table A)
- 164 indicators measured progress in providing the ongoing services required by our community and complying with regulatory obligations (Table B)

Of the total 342 indicators, **94%** have been achieved or are on track to be completed in the financial year or have not yet commenced this quarter.

2024-25 Q2 Highlights in delivering outcomes from the Informing Strategies

- Grow it Local has continued to show strong engagement, with 1,119 people engaging with the program in the second quarter.
- The Saturday Circle events saw strong participation, with 544 attendees over the last quarter. Participants successfully reused, repaired, and repurposed clothing and toys and have gained valuable skills in repairing bikes and phones.
- The Arts & Culture team reached out to different staff across NIDA to promote the upcoming Barrett House Studios callout. This outreach resulted in applications and appointment of both current students and alumni.
- Active Transport Plan (ATP) has been adopted by the Council in December 2024, which includes high level cycling network plan. Council will undertake community consultation on the Bicycle Route Construction Priority List based on the ATP. Once consultation is completed a report will be brought back to Council.
- A Draft Mobile Food Vending Vehicles Policy was endorsed by Council 10 December 2024, for public exhibition in January 2025. Key recommendations include an itinerant model, fixed sites with fees, a food truck market and increased events and participants.
- Domestic violence awareness activities including Step out Speak out, 16 days of Activism and Allies Against Violence events were held.
- The Business Awards were held 11 November 2024 at the Randwick Racecourse; with over 500 attendees and were highly successful, including a large number of new businesses and new awards for First Nations and Sustainability.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Change and Performance Service
Function	Performance Management

Delivery program commitment	Identify, measure and develop the performance of Council.
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Resourcing Strategy implications

There are no direct financial implications for this report. The 2024-25 Annual Budget has been developed to ensure that Council maintains financial sustainability, adequate liquidity, and sound asset performance.

Policy and legislative requirements

In accordance with Section 404(5) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to make at least two progress reports with respect to the principal activities detailed in its delivery program each year. Randwick Council currently provides these reports on a quarterly basis in addition to the Annual Report.

Conclusion

The purpose of the attached Quarterly Progress Report is to inform and update the Council and community on the Q2 progress of all projects, programs, and services as set out in the adopted 2024-25 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Responsible officer: Edel Dickson, Coordinator Corporate Planning and Performance

File Reference: F2024/03001

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO6/25

Subject: Monthly Financial Report for 30 November 2024, 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025




Executive Summary

- Monthly Financial Reports are produced as a means of monitoring the financial performance of the Council and ensuring that all appropriate financial controls are being adhered to.
- Council's liquidity remains sound as at 30 November 2024, 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025, with capacity to meet short term obligations as they fall due.
- Council's Chief Financial Officer, as the Responsible Accounting Officer, advises that the projected financial position is sound.

Recommendation

That the Monthly Financial Report for 30 November 2024, 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025 be received and noted.

Attachment/s:

1.  Monthly Financial Statements - Income Statement - 30 November 2024, 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025
2.  Monthly Financial Statements - Balance Sheet Statement - 30 November 2024, 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025
3.  Monthly Financial Statements - Cash Flow Statement - November 2024, December 2024 and January 2025

CO6/25

Purpose

Section 202 of Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 requires that the Responsible Accounting Officer of a council must:

- a) establish and maintain a system of budgetary control that will enable the council's actual income and expenditure to be monitored each month and to be compared with the estimate of the council's income and expenditure, and
- b) if any instance arises where the actual income or expenditure of the council is materially different from its estimated income or expenditure, report the instance to the next meeting of the council.

Discussion

This report provides the financial results of the Council for 30 November 2024, 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025.

Income Statement (Attachment 1):

The Income Statement summarises the Council's financial performance year to date (YTD) and presents the financial results for a stated period. The statement quantifies the amount of revenue generated and the expenses incurred by the Council as well as any resulting net surplus or deficit.

- o Interest income received to date has surpassed budget expectations, driven by a higher portfolio balance and prevailing interest rates. As a result, it is proposed that the budget be adjusted upward in the December 2024 Quarterly Budget Review to reflect this positive variance.
- o Other revenues consisting of DRLC merchandise and kiosk sales exceed benchmark budget for January YTD by \$280k.
- o User charges and fees consisting of work zone fees exceed benchmark budget for January YTD by \$800k, adjusted in December Quarter Budget Review.
- o Capital grants and contributions received included \$9.9m in Affordable Housing K2K, \$1.2m in s7.12 Developer Contribution, \$2m Community Infrastructure Contribution K2K and final payments of \$1.9m for Local Road & Community Infrastructure Grants Phase 1 & 2. These items have been added to the December Quarter Budget Review and developer contributions have been restricted to reserves.

2024-25 Financial Performance Summary

	Original Budget (\$'000)	Current Budget (\$'000)	2024-25 November YTD (\$'000)	2024-25 December YTD (\$'000)	2024-25 January YTD (\$'000)
Income from continuing operations	\$203,225	\$215,042	\$97,567	\$122,258	\$140,324
Expenses from continuing operations	\$193,607	\$199,062	\$79,313	\$98,269	\$110,483
Net operating result	\$9,618	\$15,980	\$18,254	\$23,989	\$29,841
Net operating result before Capital Grants and Contributions	\$3,828	\$1,928	\$5,636	\$4,442	\$8,124

- **Balance Sheet Statement (Attachment 2):**
A Balance Sheet is a statement of the financial position of the Council that lists the assets, liabilities, and equity at a particular point in time. In other words, the balance sheet illustrates a Council's net worth. The balance sheet provides a snapshot of the finances (what it owns and owes) as of a specific date.
 - Prepayments have decreased due to ordinary rates income being recognised in the current period.
- **Cash Flow Statement (Attachment 3):**
The Cash Flow Statement is a financial statement that shows how cash moves in and out of a Council's accounts via three main channels: operating, investing, and financing activities. The sum of these three segments is called net cash flow. The cash flow statement measures how well the Council manages its cash position, meaning how well the Council generates cash to pay its debt obligations and fund its operating expenses.
 - On 10 November 2024, the Council made principal and interest payments of \$1,590,603 and \$286,437 to the NSW Treasury Corporation. The total loan amount, which was \$33.5 million, has a semi-annual repayment schedule and a fixed rate of 2.22% over 10 years. The next repayment is due in May 2025 with the final loan repayment being in November 2031.

The current ratio is a liquidity ratio that measures Council's ability to pay short-term obligations or those due within one year. The current ratio as at 31 January 2025 is 3.71. The Council's target is a ratio equal to or greater than 1.5 based on the Office of Local Government benchmarks. Our current ratio meets this target and indicates Council's liquidity remains sound at the end of November, December and January 2025.

The YTD Net Operating Result as of January is \$29.8m, with a surplus of \$8.1m in the Net Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Financial Management
Function	Financial Management and Control
Delivery program commitment	Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring.
Function	Accounting
Delivery program commitment	Manage and record the financial transactions arising from Council's activities, including the levy and collection of rates and charges, and the preparation of financial statements and returns.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The Current Budget for 2024-25 is balanced and sustainable with an operating result before capital contributions of \$1.9m as of the September 2024 budget review. Council's current financial position remains sound. Council continues to have a strong balance sheet demonstrated through the robust working capital and adequate liquidity.

Policy and legislative requirements

Section 202 of Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Conclusion

Council's Chief Financial Officer, as the Responsible Accounting Officer, advises that the projected financial position is sound.

Responsible officer: Stephen Wong, Chief Financial Officer

File Reference: F2021/00364

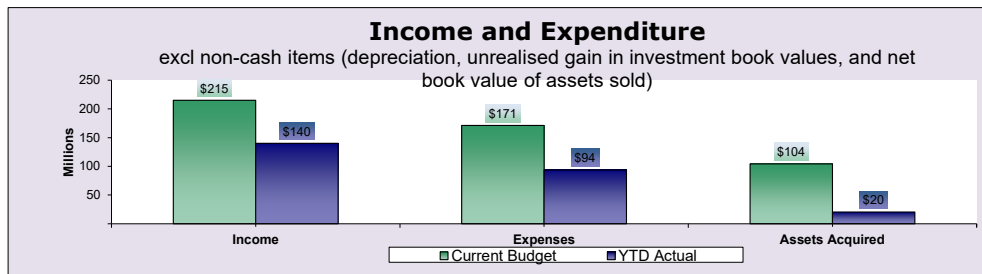
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INCOME STATEMENT

For the period ended 30 November 2024, 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025*

	Original Budget (\$'000s)	Current Budget (\$'000s)	Nov YTD Actuals (\$'000s)	Dec YTD Actuals (\$'000s)	Jan YTD Actuals (\$'000s)	Jan % Spent or Earned
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS						
Employee Costs	88,817	88,697	33,732	43,795	47,027	53.0%
Borrowing Costs	547	547	237	283	283	51.7%
Materials and Contracts	71,085	76,724	31,023	37,173	43,708	57.0%
Depreciation and Amortisation	27,351	27,351	11,396	13,675	15,955	58.3%
Other Operating Expenses	5,807	5,244	2,250	2,668	2,729	52.0%
Loss on Disposal of Infrastructure Assets	-	500	675	675	782	156.4%
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations	193,607	199,062	79,313	98,269	110,483	55.5%
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS						
Rates and Annual Charges	148,948	149,832	61,858	74,749	87,116	58.1%
User Charges and Fees	23,616	24,330	11,765	13,595	15,794	64.9%
Interest	5,175	5,925	3,449	4,252	4,294	72.5%
Other Revenues	6,807	7,460	3,146	3,863	4,638	62.2%
Other Income	5,704	5,595	2,272	2,989	2,990	53.4%
Operating Grants and Contributions	7,185	7,847	1,952	2,719	3,198	40.8%
Capital Grants and Contributions	5,790	14,052	12,618	19,547	21,717	154.5%
Gain on Disposal of Plant & Fleet Assets	-	-	507	542	576	0.0%
Total Income from Continuing Operations	203,225	215,042	97,567	122,258	140,324	65.3%
Net Operating Result - Surplus/(Deficit)	9,618	15,980	18,254	23,989	29,841	
FUNDING STATEMENT						
SOURCE OF FUNDS						
Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations - Accrual	9,618	15,980	18,254	23,989	29,841	186.7%
Add Back Non-Cash Items						
included in Income & Expenses Items above						
- Depreciation	27,351	27,351	11,396	13,675	15,955	
- Sales of Assets (Book Value)	1,138	2,808	1,059	1,059	1,191	
- Unrealised (Gain)/Loss on Market Value of Investments	-	-	(115)	(208)	(207)	
Reserve Movements						
- Transfer from Internal Reserves	5,084	46,013	6,534	8,080	9,715	
- Transfer from External Reserves	12,629	27,276	2,503	6,832	6,832	
Net Funds Available	55,819	119,428	39,631	53,428	63,327	53.0%
APPLICATION OF FUNDS						
Assets Acquired	42,153	104,275	17,034	18,664	20,478	
Loan Principal and Lease Repayment	3,803	3,803	1,591	1,591	1,591	
Transfer to Internal Reserves	4,136	4,163	7,148	9,051	10,946	
Transfer to External Reserves	5,727	5,727	17,625	28,229	31,769	
Total Funds Applied	55,819	117,968	43,397	57,533	64,784	54.9%
Total Funds Surplus/(Deficit)	1	1,460	(3,767)	(4,105)	(1,457)	



*Estimate as at 28th January 2025 due to early close-off.



BALANCE SHEET

	Actual as at 30 November 2024 (\$'000s)	Actual as at 31 December 2024 (\$'000s)	Actual as at 31 January 2025* (\$'000s)	Actual as at 30 June 2024 (\$'000s)
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments	159,893	164,223	159,448	137,991
Receivables	3,831	3,940	3,567	11,819
Inventories and Other	2,702	2,685	2,564	2,008
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	166,426	170,848	165,578	151,818
NON-CURRENT ASSETS				
Investments	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
Receivables	653	653	653	653
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	2,037,277	2,036,626	2,036,007	2,032,839
Right of Use Asset	224	224	224	224
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	2,054,153	2,053,503	2,052,884	2,049,716
TOTAL ASSETS	2,220,580	2,224,351	2,218,463	2,201,534
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Payables & Prepayments	28,827	27,183	14,784	24,152
Income received in advance	1,273	1,106	1,401	3,005
Contract liabilities	3,596	3,596	4,213	3,716
Lease liabilities	3	3	3	3
Borrowings	1,609	1,609	1,609	3,199
Provisions	22,992	22,840	22,587	23,434
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	58,300	56,337	44,596	57,509
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Income received in advance	19,835	19,835	19,835	19,835
Borrowings	22,606	22,606	22,606	22,606
Lease Liabilities	234	234	234	234
Provisions	782	782	782	782
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	43,457	43,457	43,457	43,457
TOTAL LIABILITIES	101,757	99,794	88,053	100,966
NET ASSETS	2,118,822	2,124,557	2,130,409	2,100,568
EQUITY				
Retained Earnings	941,463	947,198	953,050	923,209
Revaluation Reserves	1,177,359	1,177,359	1,177,359	1,177,359
TOTAL EQUITY	2,118,822	2,124,557	2,130,409	2,100,568

*Estimate as at 28th January 2025 due to early close-off.

CO6/25



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

	For the period ended 30 November 2024 (\$'000)	For the period ended 31 December 2024 (\$'000)	For the period ended 31 January 2025* (\$'000)	Actual for the year ended 30 June 2024 (\$'000)
Cash Flows from Operating Activities				
Receipts:				
Rates and annual charges	77,770	88,184	89,421	141,271
User charges and fees	11,937	13,781	16,102	27,225
Interest received	3,396	4,063	4,729	7,289
Grants and contributions	14,845	22,240	24,889	27,553
Bonds, deposits and retentions received	1,372	1,553	1,701	3,269
Other	7,982	9,360	9,151	24,639
Payments:				
Payments to employees	(36,086)	(46,196)	(49,791)	(76,601)
Payments for materials and services	(38,571)	(43,966)	(50,354)	(84,796)
Borrowing Costs	(237)	(283)	(283)	(615)
Bonds, Deposits & retentions refunded	(1,331)	(1,437)	(1,682)	(2,808)
Other	(1,699)	(2,092)	(1,739)	(9,500)
Net cash flows from (or used in) Operating Activities	39,377	45,208	42,144	56,926
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
Receipts:				
Sale of investments	45,292	53,292	52,000	82,500
Proceeds from sale of IPPE	(168)	(132)	(166)	972
Distribution received from joint ventures and associates	-	-	-	-
Payments:				
Purchase of investments	(64,792)	(85,292)	(75,497)	(82,832)
Payments for IPPE	(15,832)	(17,462)	(19,138)	(52,184)
Net cash flows from (or used in) Investing Activities	(35,500)	(49,594)	(42,801)	(51,544)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities				
Receipts:				
Proceeds from borrowings	-	-	-	-
Payments:				
Repayment of borrowings	(1,591)	(1,591)	(1,591)	(3,129)
Net cash flows from (used in) Financing Activities	(1,591)	(1,591)	(1,591)	(3,129)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,286	(5,976)	(2,248)	2,253
plus: Cash and cash Equivalents - beginning of year	10,260	10,260	10,260	8,007
Cash and cash Equivalents - end of the year	12,546	4,284	8,012	10,260
Additional Information:				
plus: Investments on hand at end of year	163,347	175,939	167,435	143,731
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	175,893	180,223	175,447	153,991

*Estimate as at 28th January 2025 due to early close-off.

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO7/25

Subject: Monthly Investment Report - November 2024

Executive Summary

- This report provides an overview of Council's investment portfolio and performance as of 30 November 2024.
- All investments have been managed in accordance with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements, as well as Council's Investment Policy.
- As of 30 November 2024, Council's total investment and cash portfolio stood at \$175.9M. The portfolio generated \$0.7M in interest for the month.
- The investment portfolio provided a solid return of +0.42% (actual) or +5.18% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.36% (actual) or +4.48% p.a. (annualised).
- The investment return remains sound. Investment income for the year to date, 30 November 2024, is \$3.3M, exceeding original budget expectations by \$1M and representing 58.28% of the current annual budget.
- Council's cash and investments portfolio is substantially restricted in both internal (\$95.8M) and external (\$65.3M) reserves, to satisfy Council's legislative responsibilities and to set aside specific funds for major initiatives outlined within the 2022-2026 Delivery Program. The remaining unrestricted fund balance stands at \$14.8M, providing for ongoing operational needs.
- Cash flow will continue to be closely monitored to meet sufficient liquidity for operational needs.

Recommendation

That the Investment Report for November 2024 be received and noted.

Attachment/s:

Nil

CO7/25

Purpose

The Local Government (General) Regulation requires a written report to be provided to the Ordinary meeting of the Council giving details of all monies invested and a certificate as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the regulations, and the Council's Investment Policy.

Background

In line with sound financial management principles, surplus cash not required for Council's immediate operational needs is strategically invested within defined risk parameters. The primary objective is to optimise interest income while ensuring the security and liquidity of these funds.

All surplus cash is invested in authorised investments that comply with relevant legislative requirements and Council's Investment Policy.

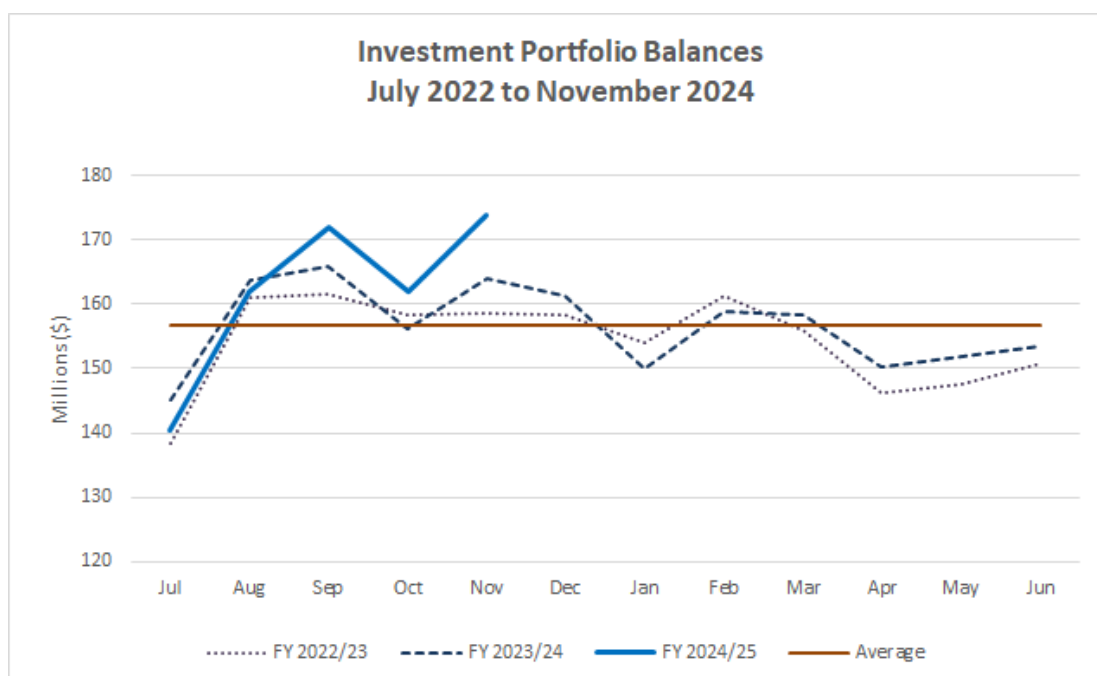
Cash flow is continuously monitored to ensure sufficient liquidity for day-to-day operations, enabling Council to:

- Maintain a balanced operating result;
- Meet payment obligations on time to manage debtor balances effectively; and
- Support the financing of capital projects.

Portfolio Overview

As of 30 November 2024, the Council's investment portfolio had a market value of \$173.7M. The portfolio increased by \$11.8M during the month. The value of the investment portfolio can fluctuate significantly from month to month, primarily due to cyclical cash inflows. These inflows are primarily driven by the timing of rates instalment due dates and the receipt of various grants, including Financial Assistance Grants.

The variances in the portfolio value from July 2022 to November 2024 are shown in the chart below.



The majority of Council's investment portfolio is allocated to term deposits, comprising 63.90% of the total portfolio. The remainder of the portfolio is held in the overnight cash accounts with CBA (5.96%), senior floating rate notes (FRNs) (29.16%) and a "AAA" rated fixed covered bond with ING (0.98%).

The FRNs provide added liquidity, with most being accessible within 2-3 business days. These FRNs are predominantly issued by higher-rated Australian Deposit-taking Institutions, enabling Council to maintain a focus on more secure and high-quality investments.

The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed to optimise performance and minimise risk. Ongoing comparisons are made between current investments and alternative products not yet included in the portfolio. Independent advice is also sought to identify and assess new investment opportunities.

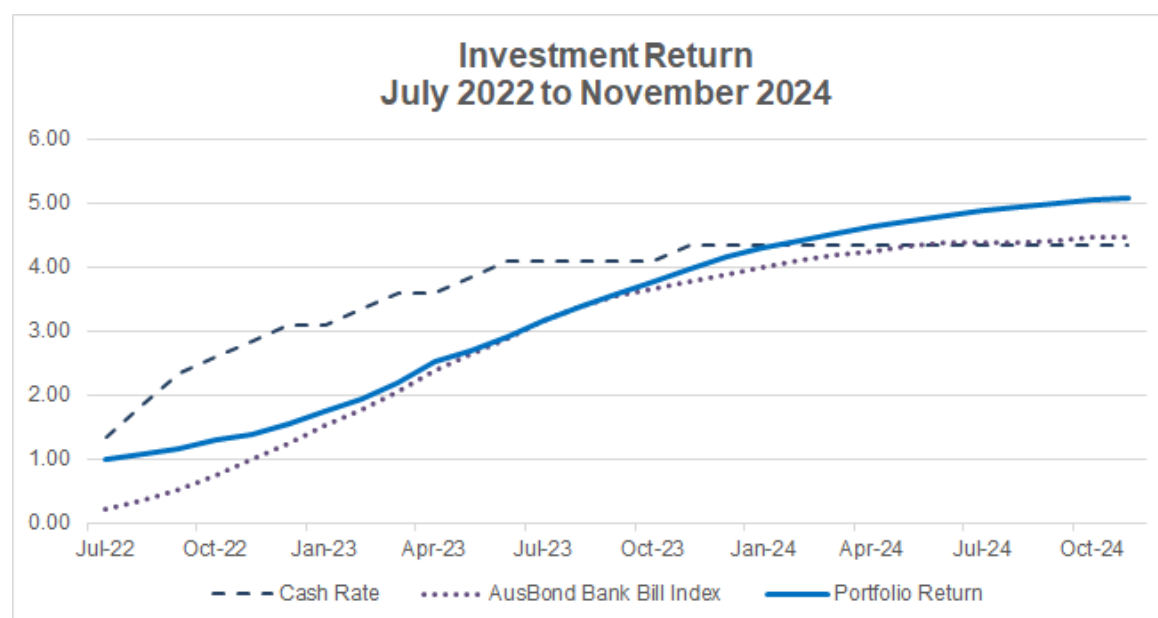
Investment Performance

For November 2024, the portfolio generated \$0.7M in interest, yielding a solid return of +0.42% (actual) or +5.18% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.36% (actual) or +4.48% p.a. (annualised).

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year	2 years	3 years
Official Cash Rate	0.35%	1.07%	2.16%	1.80%	4.36%	4.07%	3.06%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.36%	1.10%	2.22%	1.86%	4.46%	4.11%	3.07%
Council's T/D Portfolio	0.41%	1.25%	2.52%	2.11%	5.00%	4.43%	3.38%
Council's FRN Portfolio	0.44%	1.35%	2.71%	2.26%	5.46%	5.03%	3.98%
Council's Bond Portfolio	0.09%	0.27%	0.55%	0.46%	1.10%	1.10%	1.10%
Council's Portfolio[^]	0.42%	1.27%	2.55%	2.13%	5.07%	4.52%	3.47%
Outperformance	0.05%	0.17%	0.33%	0.27%	0.61%	0.41%	0.41%

^{*}Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

The following graph compares the portfolio's investment returns with the AusBond Bank Bill Index and the official RBA cash interest rate for the period from July 2022 to November 2024.



Investment income for the year to date, as of 30 November 2024, totals \$3.3M, surpassing budget by \$1.0M and representing 58.28% of the original annual budget.

Market Condition and Economic Overview

The RBA kept rates on hold in its final meeting for 2024. However, of more importance is the growing confidence that the RBA has in its November inflation track.

The first RBA Board meeting of 2025 will be held on the two days of February 17th -18th, with markets anticipating potential rate cuts in early to mid-2025. In response, Council is allocating any surplus cash to longer-term deposits to lock in current rates and benefit from higher returns before any potential rate cuts.

Investment Breakdown by Asset Type

On-Call Funds

- On-call funds are maintained to meet Council's immediate cash flow requirements. As of the end of November 2024, the on-call balance stands at \$10.4M, representing 5.96% of the total investment portfolio.

Counterparty	Rating	Balance 31 Oct 2024	Movement	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Interest Rate
CBA	AA-	\$9,429,054	\$927,475	\$10,356,529	4.35%

Term Deposits

- At month's end the portfolio included \$111.0M in term deposits, making up 63.90% of the total investment portfolio.
- One deposit valued at \$2M matured in November 2024.
- Three new term deposits were placed in November 2024 for \$6M.
- As at the end of November 2024, the term deposit portfolio yielded 4.95% p.a. (unchanged from the previous month).

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 31 Oct 2024	Movement	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	10/11/2021	3/12/2025	1.70%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	10/11/2021	9/12/2026	1.88%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	22/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	15/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	8/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	31/12/2024	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	23/12/2024	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	28/02/2023	12/03/2025	4.98%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	28/02/2023	18/06/2025	4.94%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	28/02/2023	25/06/2025	4.94%
NAB	AA-	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	2/03/2023	9/04/2025	4.95%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	6/06/2023	29/01/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	6/06/2023	5/02/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/08/2023	19/03/2025	5.20%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/08/2023	16/04/2025	5.16%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/09/2023	26/03/2025	5.05%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	5/09/2023	18/12/2024	5.13%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	3/11/2023	5/11/2025	5.52%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	30/11/2023	6/11/2024	5.37%

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 31 Oct 2024	Movement	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/12/2023	23/04/2025	5.38%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	5/12/2023	2/04/2025	5.35%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/01/2024	15/01/2025	5.17%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/01/2024	30/04/2025	5.13%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/02/2024	7/05/2025	5.09%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/02/2024	17/09/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/02/2024	2/07/2025	4.99%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	29/02/2024	9/04/2025	5.01%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,500,000	-	\$2,500,000	7/03/2024	22/01/2025	5.12%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	29/04/2024	18/06/2025	5.35%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	20/05/2024	9/07/2025	5.15%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	4/06/2024	16/07/2025	5.31%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	4/06/2024	23/07/2025	5.31%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	6/06/2024	18/12/2024	5.19%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	13/06/2024	17/12/2025	5.15%
BOQ	A-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/07/2024	12/02/2025	5.35%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	25/07/2024	30/07/2025	5.35%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/07/2024	24/09/2025	5.26%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	7/08/2024	1/10/2025	4.98%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	15/08/2024	8/10/2025	5.01%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/08/2024	15/10/2025	4.93%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	26/08/2024	22/10/2025	4.92%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	27/08/2024	29/10/2025	4.95%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	27/08/2024	28/01/2026	4.75%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	24/12/2025	4.84%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	25/03/2026	4.71%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	15/07/2026	4.55%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	25/06/2025	4.98%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	7/01/2026	4.85%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	15/04/2026	4.75%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	24/06/2026	4.70%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/09/2024	21/01/2026	4.77%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	10/09/2024	14/01/2026	4.78%
NAB	AA-	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	16/09/2024	15/10/2025	4.85%
ING	A	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	16/09/2024	1/10/2025	4.89%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	16/09/2024	11/06/2025	4.97%

C07/25

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 31 Oct 2024	Movement	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	18/09/2024	9/07/2025	4.90%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	4/10/2024	07/10/2026	4.55%
ING	A	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	19/11/2024	8/11/2027	5.07%
ING	A	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	19/11/2024	7/05/2029	5.19%
ING	A	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	20/11/2024	15/12/2027	5.07%
Total		107,000,000	4,000,000	111,000,000			

Floating Rate Notes

- The portfolio includes \$50.7M in FRNs (indicative value), making up 29.16% of the total portfolio.
- Council acquired three new FRNs during the month, totalling \$6.9M.
- FRNs are classified as “held for trading” and are required to be reported at the latest indicative market valuations at month end.
- The indicative market value of the FRNs as at 30 November 2024 decreased by ~\$24K compared to the previous month.
- Council will continue to look at opportunities and new issuances as they become available, and switch if viable.

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 30 Nov 2024	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
UBS AG	A+	\$3,000,000	\$2,997,717	26/02/2021	26/02/2026	3m BBSW + 50 bps
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	\$1,700,000	\$1,699,145	18/06/2021	18/06/2026	3m BBSW + 58 bps
NAB	AA-	\$3,100,000	\$3,093,661	24/08/2021	24/08/2026	3m BBSW + 41bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$1,750,000	\$1,746,729	15/09/2021	15/09/2026	3m BBSW + 48 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$1,800,000	\$1,803,013	25/01/2022	25/01/2027	3m BBSW + 78 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,000,000	\$2,002,026	27/01/2022	27/01/2027	3m BBSW + 73 bps
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$1,750,000	\$1,760,640	17/08/2023	17/08/2028	3m BBSW + 95 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$2,800,000	\$2,815,053	11/09/2023	11/09/2028	3m BBSW + 93 bps
NAB	AA-	\$3,200,000	\$3,228,077	16/11/2023	16/11/2028	3m BBSW + 103 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,250,000	\$2,273,771	21/11/2023	21/11/2028	3m BBSW + 115 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$750,000	\$754,820	5/02/2024	5/02/2029	3m BBSW + 96 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,000,000	\$2,010,912	26/02/2024	26/02/2029	3m BBSW + 103 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,500,000	\$2,512,683	19/03/2024	19/03/2029	3m BBSW + 98 bps
ING	A	\$500,000	\$502,454	22/03/2024	22/03/2027	3m BBSW + 95 bps
NAB	AA-	\$1,800,000	\$1,807,069	22/03/2024	22/03/2029	3m BBSW + 90 bps
BOQ	A-	\$2,500,000	\$2,521,475	30/04/2024	30/04/2029	3m BBSW + 128 bps

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 30 Nov 2024	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	\$800,000	\$804,150	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	3m BBSW + 105 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$1,500,000	\$1,503,455	18/06/2024	18/06/2029	3m BBSW + 86 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$1,900,000	\$1,900,713	17/07/2024	17/07/2029	3m BBSW + 87.6 bps
ING	A	\$2,700,000	\$2,709,053	20/08/2024	20/08/2029	3m BBSW + 91 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$3,300,000	\$3,304,844	27/09/2024	27/09/2029	3m BBSW + 92 bps
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,430	14/11/2024	14/11/2029	3m BBSW + 82 bps
ING	AAA	\$1,400,000	\$1,401,148	20/11/2024	20/11/2029	3m BBSW + 80 bps
Bendigo and Adelaide	AAA	\$3,500,000	\$3,498,348	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	3m BBSW + 83 bps
Total		\$50,500,000	\$50,651,384			

Fixed Bonds

- In August 2021, Council purchased \$1.8 million (face value) of AAA-rated fixed covered bonds from ING Bank Australia at a discount. The bonds carry a fixed coupon rate of 1.10%, payable semi-annually on the \$1.8 million face value.
- The indicative value reflects the amount Council would receive on 30 November 2024 if it were to sell the bonds before their maturity date. However, selling prior to maturity would only be considered if it results in a capital gain. Holding the bonds to maturity guarantees the return of the full principal, along with semi-annual interest payments over the life of the investment.

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 30 Nov 2024	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
ING Covered Bond	AAA	\$1,794,762	\$1,695,280	19/08/2021	19/08/2026	1.10%
Total		\$1,794,762	\$1,695,280			

Investment Compliance

Term to Maturity

The portfolio remains well-diversified in terms of maturity, with investments spread across maturities of up to 5 years, in alignment with Council's strategic objectives. Short-term holdings ensure liquidity, while longer-term investments capture favourable returns. The maturity profile is structured to maximise returns while maintaining an appropriate balance of liquidity and risk.

Compliant	Horizon	Invested	%	Min Limit	Max Limit
✓	0-90 days	\$34,856,529	20.07%	15%	100%
✓	91-365 days	\$57,500,000	33.10%	15%	100%
✓	1-2 years	\$33,232,531	19.13%	0%	70%
✓	2-5 years	\$48,114,133	27.70%	0%	50%
✓	5-10 years	-	-	0%	25%

Credit Quality

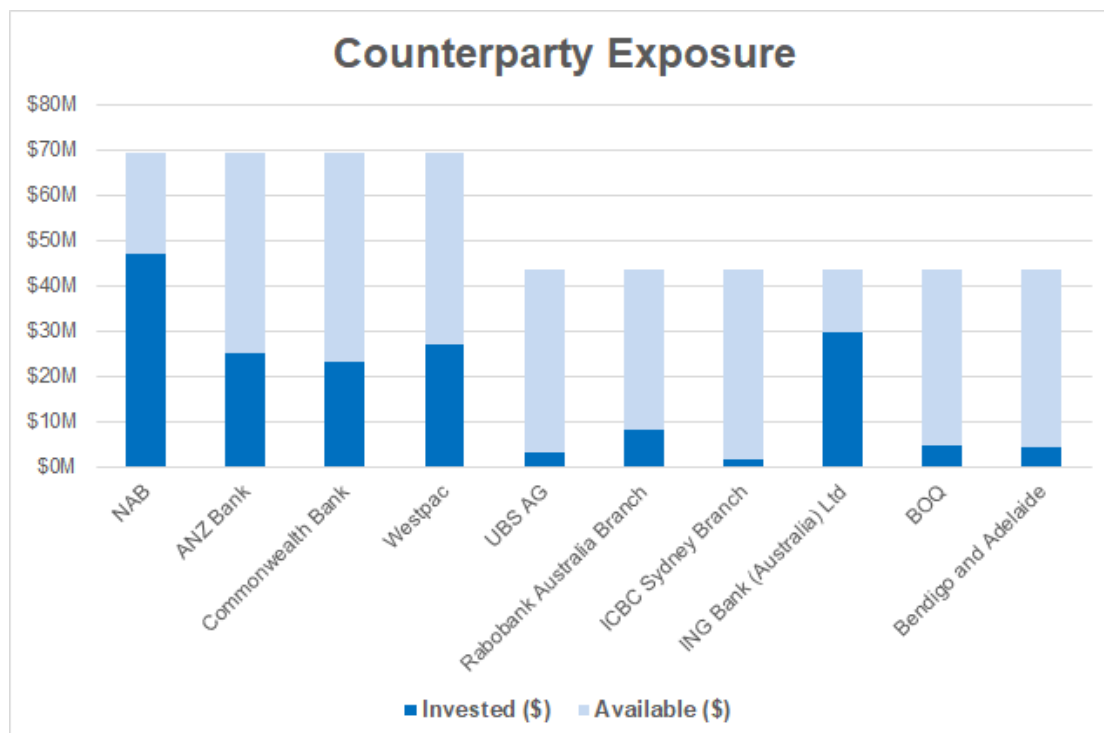
As of the end of November 2024, and based on long-term S&P ratings, Council remains compliant with its policy across all individual counterparties. The investment portfolio is entirely allocated to assets rated "A" or higher, in line with Council's adopted policy framework.

Compliant	Rating	Invested	Invested	Max. Limit	Available
✓	AAA Category	\$6,594,776	3.80%	100%	\$167,108,417
✓	AA Category	\$122,187,002	70.34%	100%	\$51,516,191
✓	A Category	\$44,921,416	25.86%	80%	\$94,041,139
✓	Unrated ADIs	-	-	0%	-

Counterparty

The table below outlines the individual counterparty exposures in relation to Council's current investment policy, based on long-term S&P ratings.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested	%	Max. Limit	Available
✓	NAB	AA-	47,129,235.90	27.13%	40%	\$19,622,087
✓	ANZ Bank	AA-	24,940,596.90	14.36%	40%	\$39,811,730
✓	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	23,117,168.92	13.31%	40%	\$42,565,611
✓	Westpac	AA-	27,000,000.00	15.54%	40%	\$37,757,383
✓	UBS AG	A+	2,997,717.00	1.73%	25%	\$37,474,900
✓	Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	8,187,421.75	4.71%	25%	\$32,277,610
✓	ICBC Sydney Branch	A	1,699,144.90	0.98%	25%	\$38,774,223
✓	ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	29,807,934.20	17.16%	25%	\$16,072,932
✓	BOQ	A-	4,521,475.00	2.6%	25%	\$35,950,877
✓	Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	4,302,498.40	2.48%	25%	\$39,668,908



Green Investment

Council's investment policy includes guidelines that give preference to placing funds with institutions identified as not dealing with fossil fuel companies, where financial institutions offer equivalent investment returns with the same credit rating. The big four banks and other institutions rated A- and above have some exposure to fossil fuels. The banks with little or no exposure to fossil fuels are the lower-rated institutions. The current policy does not permit investments in these BBB-rated institutions.

Council's exposure to fossil fuel funds is shown below:

Counterparty	Funding fossil fuel	Position
ANZ Bank	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Commonwealth Bank	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
NAB	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Westpac	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Rabobank Australia Branch	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
UBS AG	Not yet determined	No position provided.
ICBC Sydney Branch	Not yet determined	No position provided.
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Bank of Queensland	No	Do not loan to fossil fuels.
Bendigo and Adelaide	No	Do not loan to fossil fuels.

As of 30 November 2024, green initiatives investments totalled \$8.8M (5.08% of the \$173.7M portfolio), up from \$5.3M (3.29%) the previous month. Funding with banks that have exposure to fossil fuels constitutes 92.22%, or \$160.2M. The remaining 2.70% are not yet determined as no position has been provided by the financial institutions.

Institutions	Invested	Invested %
No exposure to fossil fuels	\$8,823,973	5.08%
Exposure to fossil fuels	\$160,182,358	92.22%
Not yet determined	\$4,696,862	2.70%

Restricted Funds (Local Government Act 1993 s409)

The Council has significant restricted cash set aside for future purposes. Council's restricted and unrestricted funds as of 30 November 2024 are shown below.

Restricted cash are funds set aside by Council for a purpose to meet future expenses and falls into three categories based on their use.

- External cash restrictions - These are funds received by Council where there is a legal obligation to use the funds for the purpose for which they were paid to Council such as a special rate variation, developer contribution or tied grants.
- Internal cash restrictions - These are funds set aside by resolution of Council for a particular purpose and these funds may be reapplied for a different purpose by resolution of Council.
- Unrestricted cash is funds that support daily operational requirements and can be used to cover unbudgeted expenses that cannot be funded from one of the reserves.

Balance as at 30 Nov 2024	
Restricted Cash & Investments	
External restricted	\$65,345,918
Internal restricted	\$95,767,834
Total Restricted Cash & Investments	\$161,113,752
Unrestricted Cash & Investments	\$14,779,190
Total Cash & Investments	\$175,892,942

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Financial Management
Function	Accounting
Delivery program commitment	Manage and record the financial transactions arising from Council's activities, including the levy and collection of rates and charges, and the preparation of financial statements and returns.
Function	Financial Management and Control
Delivery program commitment	Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The 2024-25 investment income budget is set at \$5.7M, including \$4.975M from the original budget and an additional \$0.75M from the September quarterly review. As of 30 November 2024, income earned to date totals \$3.3M, representing 58.28% of the budgeted amount for the year. The consistent portfolio balance, high cash rate, and strategic investment management have contributed to improved returns.

Policy and legislative requirements

Council is authorised by Section 625 of the Local Government Act to invest its surplus funds. Funds will only be invested in the form of investment notified by Order of the Minister dated 12 January 2011. The Local Government (General) Regulation prescribes the records that must be maintained in relation to Council's Investment Policy.

Conclusion

Funds are invested with the primary objective of capital preservation, while also seeking to maximise returns, in alignment with the Investment Policy for the 2024-25 financial year. As of 30 November 2024, the investment return remains sound, with investment income totalling \$3.3M, which is \$1M above the budgeted expectations.

All investments as of 30 November 2024 have been made in full compliance with the Local Government Act, relevant regulations, and the Council's Investment Policy.

Responsible officer: Jasmine Hoang, Financial Accountant
File Reference: F2016/06527

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO8/25

Subject: Monthly Investment Report - December 2024

Executive Summary

- This report provides an overview of Council's investment portfolio and performance as of 31 December 2024.
- All investments have been managed in accordance with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements, as well as Council's Investment Policy.
- As of 31 December 2024, Council's total investment and cash portfolio stood at \$180.2M. The portfolio generated \$0.8M in interest for the month.
- The investment portfolio provided a solid return of +0.43% (actual) or +5.17% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.38% (actual) or +4.53% p.a. (annualised).
- The investment return remains sound. Investment income for the year to date, 31 December 2024, is \$4.1M, exceeding original budget expectations by \$1.2M and representing 71.64% of the current annual budget.
- Council's cash and investments portfolio is substantially restricted in both internal (\$96.1M) and external (\$71.4M) reserves, to satisfy Council's legislative responsibilities and to set aside specific funds for major initiatives outlined within the 2022-2026 Delivery Program. The remaining unrestricted fund balance stands at \$12.7M, providing for ongoing operational needs.
- Cash flow will continue to be closely monitored to meet sufficient liquidity for operational needs.

Recommendation

That the Investment Report for December 2024 be received and noted.

Attachment/s:

Nil

CO8/25

Purpose

The Local Government (General) Regulation requires a written report to be provided to the Ordinary meeting of the Council giving details of all monies invested and a certificate as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the regulations, and the Council's Investment Policy.

Background

In line with sound financial management principles, surplus cash not required for Council's immediate operational needs is strategically invested within defined risk parameters. The primary objective is to optimise interest income while ensuring the security and liquidity of these funds.

All surplus cash is invested in authorised investments that comply with relevant legislative requirements and Council's Investment Policy.

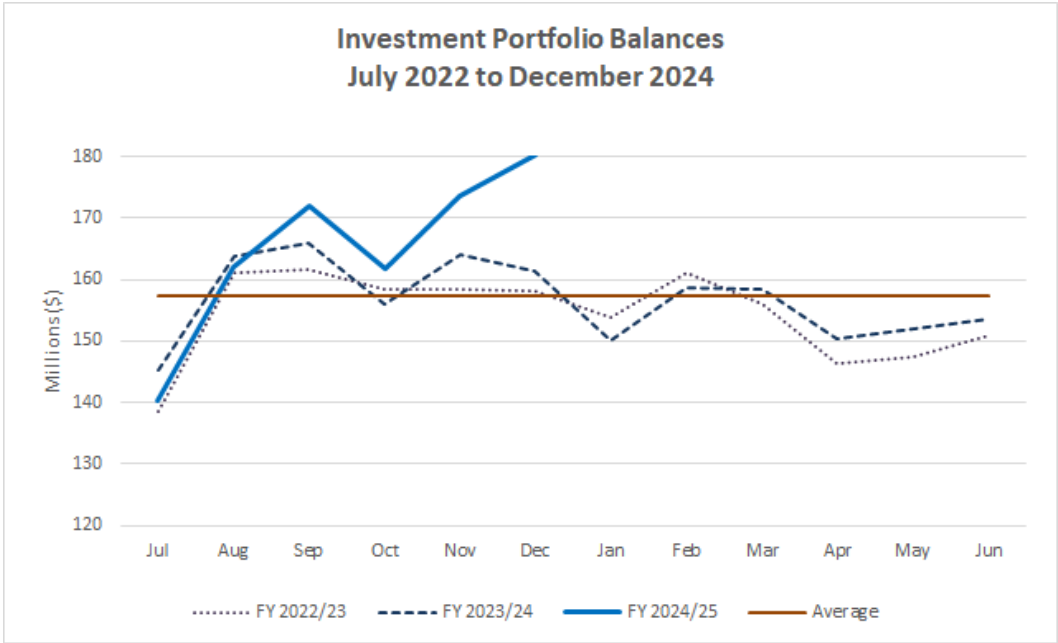
Cash flow is continuously monitored to ensure sufficient liquidity for day-to-day operations, enabling Council to:

- Maintain a balanced operating result;
- Meet payment obligations on time to manage debtor balances effectively; and
- Support the financing of capital projects.

Portfolio Overview

As of 31 December 2024, the Council's investment portfolio had a market value of \$180.3M. The portfolio increased by \$6.6M during the month. The value of the investment portfolio can fluctuate significantly from month to month, primarily due to cyclical cash inflows. These inflows are primarily driven by the timing of rates instalment due dates and the receipt of various grants, including Financial Assistance Grants.

The variances in the portfolio value from July 2022 to December 2024 are shown in the chart below.



The majority of Council's investment portfolio is allocated to term deposits, comprising 68.51% of the total portfolio. The remainder of the portfolio is held in the overnight cash accounts with CBA (2.4%), senior floating rate notes (FRNs) (28.14%) and a "AAA" rated fixed covered bond with ING (0.95%).

The FRNs provide added liquidity, with most being accessible within 2-3 business days. These FRNs are predominantly issued by higher-rated Australian Deposit-taking Institutions, enabling Council to maintain a focus on more secure and high-quality investments.

The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed to optimise performance and minimise risk. Ongoing comparisons are made between current investments and alternative products not yet included in the portfolio. Independent advice is also sought to identify and assess new investment opportunities.

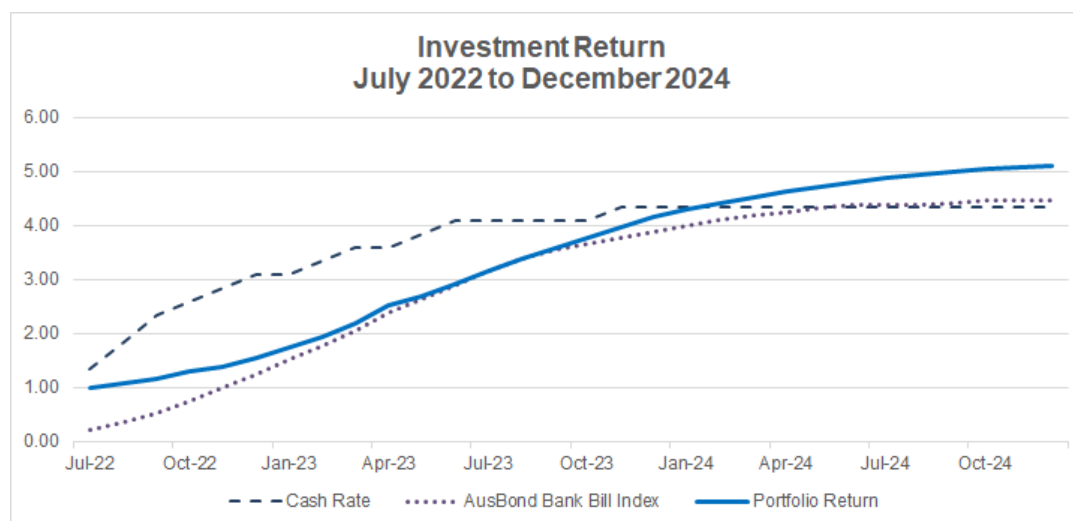
Investment Performance

For the month of December, the total portfolio (T/Ds, FRNs and Bonds) provided a solid return of +0.43% (actual) or +5.17% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.38% (actual) or +4.53% p.a. (annualised).

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year	2 years	3 years
Official Cash Rate	0.36%	1.08%	2.17%	2.17%	4.36%	4.13%	3.18%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.38%	1.12%	2.24%	2.24%	4.47%	4.18%	3.19%
Council's T/D Portfolio	0.42%	1.27%	2.54%	2.54%	5.03%	4.55%	3.51%
Council's FRN Portfolio	0.45%	1.35%	2.73%	2.73%	5.48%	5.10%	4.11%
Council's Bond Portfolio	0.09%	0.28%	0.55%	0.55%	1.10%	1.10%	1.10%
Council's Portfolio^	0.43%	1.28%	2.57%	2.57%	5.10%	4.63%	3.60%
Outperformance	0.05%	0.16%	0.33%	0.33%	0.63%	0.45%	0.40%

*Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

The following graph compares the portfolio's investment returns with the AusBond Bank Bill Index and the official RBA cash interest rate for the period from July 2022 to December 2024.



Investment income for the year to date, as of 31 December 2024, totals \$4.1M, surpassing budget by \$1.2M and representing 71.64% of the original annual budget.

Market Condition and Economic Overview

The RBA kept rates on hold in its final meeting for 2024. However, of more importance is the growing confidence that the RBA has in its December inflation track.

The first RBA Board meeting of 2025 will be held on the two days of February 17th -18th, with markets anticipating potential rate cuts in early to mid-2025. In response, Council is allocating any

surplus cash to longer-term deposits to lock in current rates and benefit from higher returns before any potential rate cuts.

Investment Breakdown by Asset Type

On-Call Funds

- On-call funds are maintained to meet Council's immediate cash flow requirements. As of the end of December 2024, the on-call balance stands at \$4.3M, representing 2.40% of the total investment portfolio.

Counterparty	Rating	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Interest Rate
CBA	AA-	\$10,356,529	(6,030,947)	\$4,325,582	4.35%

Term Deposits

- At month's end the portfolio included \$123.5M in term deposits, making up 68.51% of the total investment portfolio.
- Four deposits valued at \$8M matured in December 2024.
- Thirteen new term deposits were placed in December 2024 for \$20.5M.
- As at the end of December 2024, the term deposit portfolio yielded 4.94% p.a. (down 1bp from the previous month), with a weighted average duration of 369 days or ~12 months. Council aims to maintain its weighted average duration around 12 months to optimise returns in the long run.

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	10/11/2021	3/12/2025	1.70%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	10/11/2021	9/12/2026	1.88%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	22/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	15/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/01/2023	8/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	9/01/2023	31/12/2024	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	9/01/2023	23/12/2024	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	28/02/2023	12/03/2025	4.98%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	28/02/2023	18/06/2025	4.94%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	28/02/2023	25/06/2025	4.94%
NAB	AA-	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	2/03/2023	9/04/2025	4.95%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	6/06/2023	29/01/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	6/06/2023	5/02/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/08/2023	19/03/2025	5.20%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/08/2023	16/04/2025	5.16%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/09/2023	26/03/2025	5.05%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	5/09/2023	18/12/2024	5.13%

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	3/11/2023	5/11/2025	5.52%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/12/2023	23/04/2025	5.38%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	5/12/2023	2/04/2025	5.35%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/01/2024	15/01/2025	5.17%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/01/2024	30/04/2025	5.13%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/02/2024	7/05/2025	5.09%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/02/2024	17/09/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/02/2024	2/07/2025	4.99%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	29/02/2024	9/04/2025	5.01%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,500,000	-	\$2,500,000	7/03/2024	22/01/2025	5.12%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	29/04/2024	18/06/2025	5.35%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	20/05/2024	9/07/2025	5.15%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	4/06/2024	16/07/2025	5.31%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	4/06/2024	23/07/2025	5.31%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	6/06/2024	18/12/2024	5.19%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	13/06/2024	17/12/2025	5.15%
BOQ	A-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/07/2024	12/02/2025	5.35%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	25/07/2024	30/07/2025	5.35%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/07/2024	24/09/2025	5.26%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	7/08/2024	1/10/2025	4.98%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	15/08/2024	8/10/2025	5.01%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/08/2024	15/10/2025	4.93%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	26/08/2024	22/10/2025	4.92%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	27/08/2024	29/10/2025	4.95%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	27/08/2024	28/01/2026	4.75%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	24/12/2025	4.84%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	25/03/2026	4.71%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	15/07/2026	4.55%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	25/06/2025	4.98%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	7/01/2026	4.85%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	15/04/2026	4.75%

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Counter-party	Rating	Balance 30 Nov 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	24/06/2026	4.70%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/09/2024	21/01/2026	4.77%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	10/09/2024	14/01/2026	4.78%
NAB	AA-	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	16/09/2024	15/10/2025	4.85%
ING	A	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	16/09/2024	1/10/2025	4.89%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	16/09/2024	11/06/2025	4.97%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	18/09/2024	9/07/2025	4.90%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	4/10/2024	07/10/2026	4.55%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/11/2024	8/11/2027	5.07%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/11/2024	7/05/2029	5.19%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	20/11/2024	15/12/2027	5.07%
BOQ	A-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	2/12/2024	13/12/2028	4.95%
NAB	AA-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	3/12/2024	17/12/2025	5.05%
BOQ	A-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4/12/2024	11/03/2026	4.90%
BOQ	A-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	5/12/2024	10/01/2029	4.75%
SUNCORP	AA-	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	11/12/2024	10/12/2025	4.94%
Westpac	AA-	-	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	12/12/2024	18/03/2026	4.76%
ING	A	-	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	12/12/2024	16/12/2026	4.72%
ING	A	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	19/12/2024	12/12/2029	4.89%
ING	A	-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	19/12/2024	20/12/2028	4.81%
NAB	AA-	-	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	19/12/2024	26/03/2025	5.00%
NAB	AA-	-	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	19/12/2024	12/03/2025	4.86%
SUNCORP	AA-	-	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	20/12/2024	17/12/2025	4.94%
BOQ	A+	-	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	20/12/2024	10/09/2025	5.05%
Total		\$111,000,000	\$12,500,000	\$123,500,000			

Floating Rate Notes

- The portfolio includes \$50.7M in FRNs (indicative value), making up 28.14% of the total portfolio.
- FRNs are classified as “held for trading” and are required to be reported at the latest indicative market valuations at month end.
- The indicative market value of the FRNs as at 31 December 2024 increased by ~\$82K compared to the previous month.

- Council will continue to look at opportunities and new issuances as they become available, and switch if viable.

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 31 Dec 2024	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
UBS AG	A+	\$3,000,000	\$2,997,309	26/02/2021	26/02/2026	3m BBSW + 50 bps
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	\$1,700,000	\$1,706,625	18/06/2021	18/06/2026	3m BBSW + 58 bps
NAB	AA-	\$3,100,000	\$3,094,172	24/08/2021	24/08/2026	3m BBSW + 41bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$1,750,000	\$1,753,782	15/09/2021	15/09/2026	3m BBSW + 48 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$1,800,000	\$1,803,371	25/01/2022	25/01/2027	3m BBSW + 78 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,000,000	\$2,002,216	27/01/2022	27/01/2027	3m BBSW + 73 bps
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$1,750,000	\$1,760,910	17/08/2023	17/08/2028	3m BBSW + 95 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$2,800,000	\$2,820,966	11/09/2023	11/09/2028	3m BBSW + 93 bps
NAB	AA-	\$3,200,000	\$3,228,829	16/11/2023	16/11/2028	3m BBSW + 103 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,250,000	\$2,273,024	21/11/2023	21/11/2028	3m BBSW + 115 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$750,000	\$754,838	5/02/2024	5/02/2029	3m BBSW + 96 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,000,000	\$2,010,770	26/02/2024	26/02/2029	3m BBSW + 103 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,500,000	\$2,524,778	19/03/2024	19/03/2029	3m BBSW + 98 bps
ING	A	\$500,000	\$505,616	22/03/2024	22/03/2027	3m BBSW + 95 bps
NAB	AA-	\$1,800,000	\$1,819,579	22/03/2024	22/03/2029	3m BBSW + 90 bps
BOQ	A-	\$2,500,000	\$2,522,560	30/04/2024	30/04/2029	3m BBSW + 128 bps
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	\$800,000	\$804,246	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	3m BBSW + 105 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$1,500,000	\$1,510,421	18/06/2024	18/06/2029	3m BBSW + 86 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$1,900,000	\$1,901,005	17/07/2024	17/07/2029	3m BBSW + 87.6 bps
ING	A	\$2,700,000	\$2,710,155	20/08/2024	20/08/2029	3m BBSW + 91 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$3,300,000	\$3,330,518	27/09/2024	27/09/2029	3m BBSW + 92 bps
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,640	14/11/2024	14/11/2029	3m BBSW + 82 bps
ING	AAA	\$1,400,000	\$1,398,622	20/11/2024	20/11/2029	3m BBSW + 80 bps
Bendigo and Adelaide	AAA	\$3,500,000	\$3,498,663	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	3m BBSW + 83 bps
TOTAL		\$50,500,000	\$50,733,614			

Fixed Bonds

- In August 2021, Council purchased \$1.8 million (face value) of AAA-rated fixed covered bonds from ING Bank Australia at a discount. The bonds carry a fixed coupon rate of 1.10%, payable semi-annually on the \$1.8 million face value.
- The indicative value reflects the amount Council would receive on 31 December 2024 if it were to sell the bonds before their maturity date. However, selling prior to maturity would

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only be considered if it results in a capital gain. Holding the bonds to maturity guarantees the return of the full principal, along with semi-annual interest payments over the life of the investment.

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 31 Dec 2024	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
ING Covered Bond	AAA	\$1,794,762	\$1,705,439	19/08/2021	19/08/2026	1.10%
Total		\$1,794,762	\$1,705,439			

Investment Compliance

Term to Maturity

The portfolio remains well-diversified in terms of maturity, with investments spread across maturities of up to 5 years, in alignment with Council's strategic objectives. Short-term holdings ensure liquidity, while longer-term investments capture favourable returns. The maturity profile is structured to maximise returns while maintaining an appropriate balance of liquidity and risk.

Compliant	Horizon	Invested	%	Min Limit	Max Limit
✓	0-90 days	\$28,325,582	15.71%	15%	100%
✓	91-365 days	\$63,500,000	35.23%	15%	100%
✓	1-2 years	\$33,257,326	18.45%	0%	70%
✓	2-5 years	\$55,181,726	30.61%	0%	50%
✓	5-10 years	-	-	0%	25%

Credit Quality

As of the end of December 2024, and based on long-term S&P ratings, Council remains compliant with its policy across all individual counterparties. The investment portfolio is entirely allocated to assets rated "A" or higher, in line with Council's adopted policy framework.

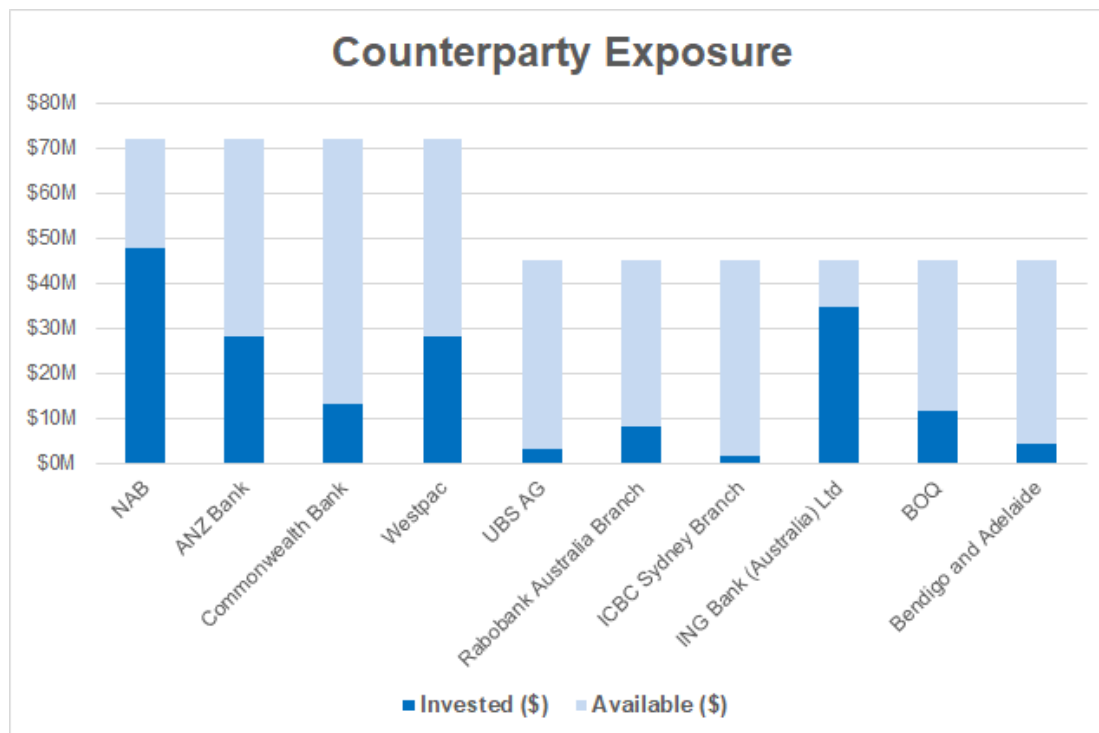
Compliant	Rating	Invested	Invested	Max. Limit	Available
✓	AAA Category	\$6,602,724	3.66%	100%	\$173,661,910
✓	AA Category	\$116,728,385	64.75%	100%	\$63,536,250
✓	A Category	\$56,933,526	31.59%	80%	\$87,278,182
✓	Unrated ADIs	-	-	0%	-

Counterparty

The table below outlines the individual counterparty exposures in relation to Council's current investment policy, based on long-term S&P ratings.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested	%	Max. Limit	Available
✓	NAB	AA-	\$47,643,219	26.43%	40%	\$24,462,634
✓	ANZ Bank	AA-	\$27,998,674	15.53%	40%	\$44,107,180
✓	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$13,086,491	7.26%	40%	\$59,019,363
✓	Westpac	AA-	\$28,000,000	15.53%	40%	\$44,105,854
✓	UBS AG	A+	\$2,997,309	1.66%	25%	\$42,068,850

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested	%	Max. Limit	Available
✓	Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$8,187,015	4.54%	25%	\$36,879,143
✓	ICBC Sydney Branch	A	\$1,706,625	0.95%	25%	\$43,359,534
✓	ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	\$34,819,832	19.32%	25%	\$10,246,327
✓	BOQ	A-	\$11,522,560	6.39%	25%	\$33,543,599
✓	Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	\$4,302,909	2.39%	25%	\$40,763,250



Green Investment

Council's investment policy includes guidelines that give preference to placing funds with institutions identified as not dealing with fossil fuel companies, where financial institutions offer equivalent investment returns with the same credit rating. The big four banks and other institutions rated A- and above have some exposure to fossil fuels. The banks with little or no exposure to fossil fuels are the lower-rated institutions. The current policy does not permit investments in these BBB-rated institutions.

Council's exposure to fossil fuel funds is shown below:

Counterparty	Funding fossil fuel	Position
ANZ Bank	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Commonwealth Bank	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
NAB	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Westpac	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Rabobank Australia Branch	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
UBS AG	Not yet determined	No position provided.
ICBC Sydney Branch	Not yet determined	No position provided.

Counterparty	Funding fossil fuel	Position
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Bank of Queensland	No	Do not loan to fossil fuels.
Bendigo and Adelaide	No	Do not loan to fossil fuels.

As of 31 December 2024, green initiatives investments totalled \$15.8M (8.78% of the total portfolio), up from \$8.8M (5.08%) the previous month. Funding with banks that have exposure to fossil fuels reduced to 88.61% (from 92.22% in the previous month), or \$159.7M. The remaining 2.61% are not yet determined as no position has been provided by the financial institutions.

Institutions	Invested	Invested %
No exposure to fossil fuels	\$15,825,469	8.78%
Exposure to fossil fuels	\$159,735,232	88.61%
Not yet determined	\$4,703,934	2.61%

Restricted Funds (Local Government Act 1993 s409)

The Council has significant restricted cash set aside for future purposes. Council's restricted and unrestricted funds as of 31 December 2024 are shown below.

Restricted cash are funds set aside by Council for a purpose to meet future expenses and falls into three categories based on their use.

- External cash restrictions - These are funds received by Council where there is a legal obligation to use the funds for the purpose for which they were paid to Council such as a special rate variation, developer contribution or tied grants.
- Internal cash restrictions - These are funds set aside by resolution of Council for a particular purpose and these funds may be reapplied for a different purpose by resolution of Council.
- Unrestricted cash is funds that support daily operational requirements and can be used to cover unbudgeted expenses that cannot be funded from one of the reserves.

Balance as at 31 Dec 2024	
Restricted Cash & Investments	
External restricted	\$71,391,280
Internal restricted	\$96,124,422
Total Restricted	\$167,515,702
Unrestricted Cash & Investments	\$12,707,210
Total Cash & Investments	\$180,222,912

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Financial Management
Function	Accounting

Delivery program commitment	Manage and record the financial transactions arising from Council's activities, including the levy and collection of rates and charges, and the preparation of financial statements and returns.
Function	Financial Management and Control
Delivery program commitment	Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The 2024-25 investment income budget is set at \$5.7M, including \$4.975M from the original budget and an additional \$0.75M from the September quarterly review. As of 31 December 2024, income earned to date totals \$4.1M, representing 71.64% of the budgeted amount for the year. The consistent portfolio balance, high cash rate, and strategic investment management have contributed to improved returns.

Policy and legislative requirements

Council is authorised by Section 625 of the Local Government Act to invest its surplus funds. Funds will only be invested in the form of investment notified by Order of the Minister dated 12 January 2011. The Local Government (General) Regulation prescribes the records that must be maintained in relation to Council's Investment Policy.

Conclusion

Funds are invested with the primary objective of capital preservation, while also seeking to maximise returns, in alignment with the Investment Policy for the 2024-25 financial year. As of 31 December 2024, the investment return remains sound, with investment income totalling \$4.1M, which is \$1.2M above the budgeted expectations.

All investments as of 31 December 2024 have been made in full compliance with the Local Government Act, relevant regulations, and the Council's Investment Policy.

Responsible officer: Jasmine Hoang, Financial Accountant

File Reference: F2016/06527

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO9/25

Subject: Monthly Investment Report - January 2025

Executive Summary

- This report provides an overview of Council's investment portfolio and performance as of 31 January 2025.
- All investments have been managed in accordance with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements, as well as Council's Investment Policy.
- As of 31 January 2025, Council's total investment and cash portfolio stood at \$173.6M. The portfolio generated \$0.7M in interest for the month.
- The investment portfolio provided a solid return of +0.43% (actual) or +5.18% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.38% (actual) or +4.59% p.a. (annualised).
- The investment return remains sound. Investment income for the year to date, 31 January 2025, is \$4.9M, exceeding original budget expectations by \$1.5M and representing 84.72% of the current annual budget.
- Council's cash and investments portfolio is substantially restricted in both internal (\$96.1M) and external (\$69.3M) reserves, to satisfy Council's legislative responsibilities and to set aside specific funds for major initiatives outlined within the 2022-2026 Delivery Program. The remaining unrestricted fund balance stands at \$8.2M, providing for ongoing operational needs.
- Cash flow will continue to be closely monitored to meet sufficient liquidity for operational needs.

Recommendation

That the Investment Report for January 2025 be received and noted.

Attachment/s:

Nil

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Purpose

The Local Government (General) Regulation requires a written report to be provided to the Ordinary meeting of the Council giving details of all monies invested and a certificate as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the regulations, and the Council's Investment Policy.

Background

In line with sound financial management principles, surplus cash not required for Council's immediate operational needs is strategically invested within defined risk parameters. The primary objective is to optimise interest income while ensuring the security and liquidity of these funds.

All surplus cash is invested in authorised investments that comply with relevant legislative requirements and Council's Investment Policy.

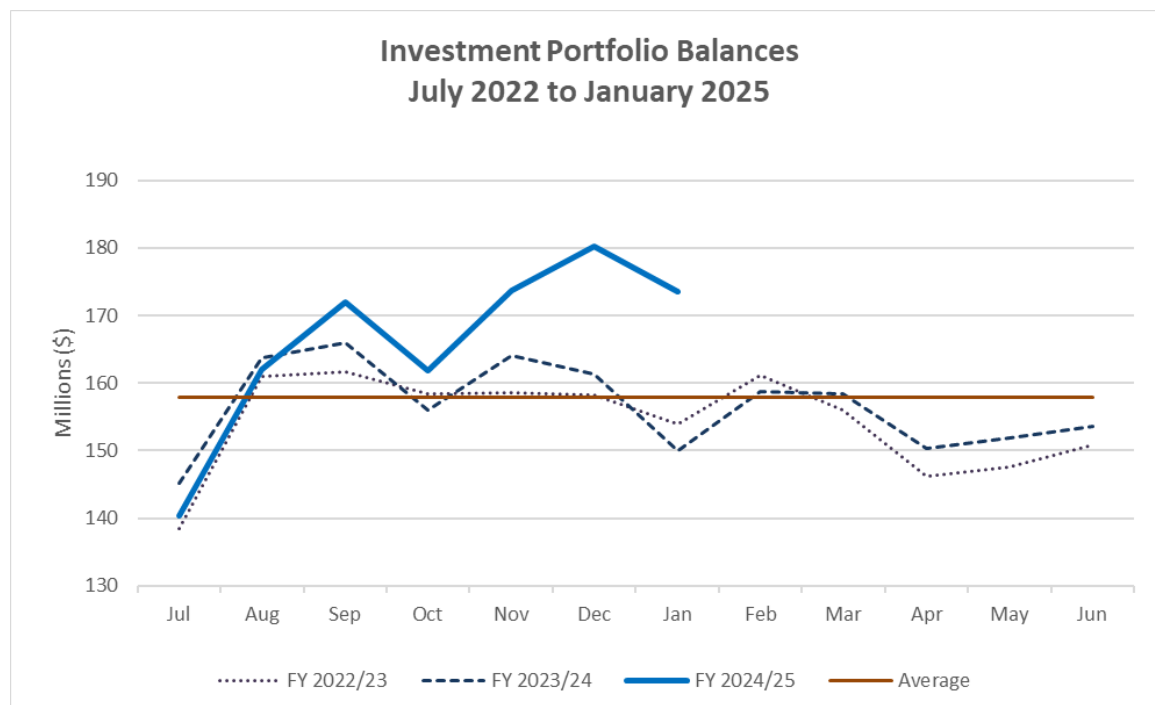
Cash flow is continuously monitored to ensure sufficient liquidity for day-to-day operations, enabling Council to:

- Maintain a balanced operating result.
- Meet payment obligations on time to manage debtor balances effectively; and
- Support the financing of capital projects.

Portfolio Overview

As of 31 January 2025, the Council's investment portfolio had a market value of \$173.6M. The portfolio decreased by \$6.7M during the month. The value of the investment portfolio can fluctuate significantly from month to month, primarily due to cyclical cash inflows. These inflows are primarily driven by the timing of rates instalment due dates and the receipt of various grants, including Financial Assistance Grants.

The variances in the portfolio value from July 2022 to January 2025 are shown in the chart below.



The majority of Council's investment portfolio is allocated to term deposits, comprising 63.95% of the total portfolio. The remainder of the portfolio is held in the overnight cash accounts with CBA (3.49%), senior floating rate notes (FRNs) (29.48%) and senior and covered fixed bonds (3.07%). The FRNs provide added liquidity, with most being accessible within 2-3 business days. These FRNs are predominantly issued by higher-rated Australian Deposit-taking Institutions, enabling Council to maintain a focus on more secure and high-quality investments.

The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed to optimise performance and minimise risk. Ongoing comparisons are made between current investments and alternative products not yet included in the portfolio. Independent advice is also sought to identify and assess new investment opportunities.

Investment Performance

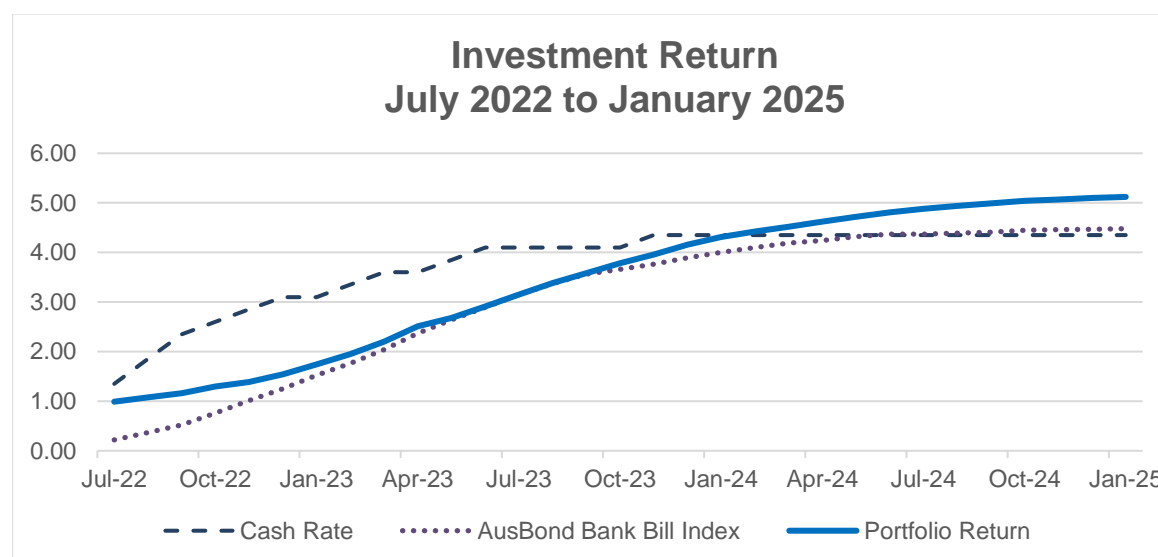
For the month of January 2025, the total portfolio (T/Ds, FRNs and Bonds) provided a solid return of +0.43% (actual) or +5.18% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.38% (actual) or +4.59% p.a. (annualised).

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year*	2 years	3 years
Official Cash Rate	0.36%	1.08%	2.17%	2.54%	4.36%	4.18%	3.30%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.38%	1.12%	2.25%	2.63%	4.48%	4.24%	3.32%
Council's T/D Portfolio	0.42%	1.26%	2.54%	2.97%	5.06%	4.64%	3.63%
Council's FRN Portfolio	0.45%	1.35%	2.73%	3.19%	5.46%	5.17%	4.25%
Council's Bond Portfolio	0.23%	0.41%	0.69%	0.78%	1.24%	1.17%	1.14%
Council's Portfolio^	0.43%	1.28%	2.57%	3.01%	5.12%	4.71%	3.72%
Outperformance	0.05%	0.16%	0.32%	0.38%	0.64%	0.47%	0.40%

Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

*1 year represents the actual return over the previous 12 months.

The following graph compares the portfolio's investment returns with the AusBond Bank Bill Index and the official RBA cash interest rate for the period from July 2022 to January 2025.



Investment income for the year to date, as of 31 January 2025, totals \$4.9M, surpassing budget by \$1.5M and representing 84.72% of the original annual budget.

Market Condition and Economic Overview

The RBA kept rates on hold in its final meeting for 2024. However, of more importance is the growing confidence that the RBA has in its December inflation track.

The first RBA Board meeting of 2025 will be held on the two days of February 17th -18th, with markets anticipating potential rate cuts in early to mid-2025. In response, Council is allocating any surplus cash to longer-term deposits to lock in current rates and benefit from higher returns before any potential rate cuts.

Investment Breakdown by Asset Type

On-Call Funds

- On-call funds are maintained to meet Council's immediate cash flow requirements. As of the end of January 2025, the on-call balance stands at \$6.1M, representing 3.49% of the total investment portfolio.

Counterparty	Rating	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Jan 2025	Interest Rate
CBA	AA-	\$4,325,582	\$1,739,487	\$6,065,069	4.35%

Term Deposits

- At month's end the portfolio included \$111.0M in term deposits, making up 63.95% of the total investment portfolio.
- Six deposits matured in January 2025 totaling \$12.5M.
- No new term deposits were placed in January 2025.
- As at the end of January 2025, the term deposit portfolio yielded 4.94% p.a. (unchanged from the previous month) with a weighted average duration of 482 days or ~16 months. Council aims to maintain its weighted average duration between 12-24 months to optimise returns in the long run.

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Jan 2025	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	10/11/2021	3/12/2025	1.70%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	10/11/2021	9/12/2026	1.88%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	9/01/2023	22/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	9/01/2023	15/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	9/01/2023	8/01/2025	4.80%
CBA	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	28/02/2023	12/03/2025	4.98%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	28/02/2023	18/06/2025	4.94%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	28/02/2023	25/06/2025	4.94%
NAB	AA-	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	2/03/2023	9/04/2025	4.95%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	6/06/2023	29/01/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	6/06/2023	5/02/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/08/2023	19/03/2025	5.20%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/08/2023	16/04/2025	5.16%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/09/2023	26/03/2025	5.05%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	3/11/2023	5/11/2025	5.52%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/12/2023	23/04/2025	5.38%

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Jan 2025	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	5/12/2023	2/04/2025	5.35%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-\$2,000,000	-	30/01/2024	15/01/2025	5.17%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/01/2024	30/04/2025	5.13%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/02/2024	7/05/2025	5.09%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	8/02/2024	17/09/2025	5.00%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/02/2024	2/07/2025	4.99%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	29/02/2024	9/04/2025	5.01%
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,500,000	-\$2,500,000	-	7/03/2024	22/01/2025	5.12%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	29/04/2024	18/06/2025	5.35%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	20/05/2024	9/07/2025	5.15%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	4/06/2024	16/07/2025	5.31%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	4/06/2024	23/07/2025	5.31%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	13/06/2024	17/12/2025	5.15%
BOQ	A-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	1/07/2024	12/02/2025	5.35%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	25/07/2024	30/07/2025	5.35%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	30/07/2024	24/09/2025	5.26%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	7/08/2024	1/10/2025	4.98%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	15/08/2024	8/10/2025	5.01%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/08/2024	15/10/2025	4.93%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	26/08/2024	22/10/2025	4.92%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	27/08/2024	29/10/2025	4.95%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	27/08/2024	28/01/2026	4.75%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	24/12/2025	4.84%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	25/03/2026	4.71%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	29/08/2024	15/07/2026	4.55%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	25/06/2025	4.98%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	7/01/2026	4.85%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	15/04/2026	4.75%
Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/09/2024	24/06/2026	4.70%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	9/09/2024	21/01/2026	4.77%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	10/09/2024	14/01/2026	4.78%
NAB	AA-	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	16/09/2024	15/10/2025	4.85%
ING	A	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	16/09/2024	1/10/2025	4.89%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	16/09/2024	11/06/2025	4.97%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	18/09/2024	9/07/2025	4.90%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	4/10/2024	7/10/2026	4.55%

C09/25

C09/25

Counter-party	Rating	Balance 31 Dec 2024	Movement	Balance 31 Jan 2025	Date Invested	Date Maturity	Interest Rate
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/11/2024	8/11/2027	5.07%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/11/2024	7/05/2029	5.19%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	20/11/2024	15/12/2027	5.07%
BOQ	A-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	2/12/2024	13/12/2028	4.95%
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	3/12/2024	17/12/2025	5.05%
BOQ	A-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	4/12/2024	11/03/2026	4.90%
BOQ	A-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	5/12/2024	10/01/2029	4.75%
SUNCORP	AA-	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	11/12/2024	10/12/2025	4.94%
Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	12/12/2024	18/03/2026	4.76%
ING	A	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	12/12/2024	16/12/2026	4.72%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/12/2024	12/12/2029	4.89%
ING	A	\$2,000,000	-	\$2,000,000	19/12/2024	20/12/2028	4.81%
NAB	AA-	\$1,500,000	-	\$1,500,000	19/12/2024	26/03/2025	5.00%
NAB	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	19/12/2024	12/03/2025	4.86%
SUNCORP	AA-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	20/12/2024	17/12/2025	4.94%
BOQ	A-	\$1,000,000	-	\$1,000,000	20/12/2024	10/09/2025	5.05%
Total		\$123,500,000	-\$12,500,000	\$111,000,000			

Floating Rate Notes (FRNs)

- The portfolio includes \$51.2M in FRNs (indicative value), making up 29.48% of the total portfolio.
- Council acquired one new FRN with CBA during the month for \$1.5M
- Council sold half (\$1.0M) of a \$2.0M Rabobank FRN during the month.
- FRNs are classified as "held for trading" and are required to be reported at the latest indicative market valuations at month end.
- The indicative market value of the FRNs as at 31 January 2025 decreased by ~\$56K compared to the previous month.
- Council will continue to look at opportunities and new issuances as they become available, and switch if viable.

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 31 Jan 2025	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
UBS AG	A+	\$3,000,000	\$2,997,852	26/02/2021	26/02/2026	3m BBSW + 50 bps
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	\$1,700,000	\$1,699,650	18/06/2021	18/06/2026	3m BBSW + 58 bps
NAB	AA-	\$3,100,000	\$3,094,693	24/08/2021	24/08/2026	3m BBSW + 41bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$1,750,000	\$1,747,247	15/09/2021	15/09/2026	3m BBSW + 48 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$1,800,000	\$1,804,482	25/01/2022	25/01/2027	3m BBSW + 78 bps
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$1,750,000	\$1,762,058	17/08/2023	17/08/2028	3m BBSW + 95 bps

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 31 Jan 2025	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$2,800,000	\$2,816,582	11/09/2023	11/09/2028	3m BBSW + 93 bps
NAB	AA-	\$3,200,000	\$3,229,523	16/11/2023	16/11/2028	3m BBSW + 103 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,250,000	\$2,274,388	21/11/2023	21/11/2028	3m BBSW + 115 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$750,000	\$754,796	5/02/2024	5/02/2029	3m BBSW + 96 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$2,000,000	\$2,012,608	26/02/2024	26/02/2029	3m BBSW + 103 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$2,500,000	\$2,514,318	19/03/2024	19/03/2029	3m BBSW + 98 bps
ING	A	\$500,000	\$502,531	22/03/2024	22/03/2027	3m BBSW + 95 bps
NAB	AA-	\$1,800,000	\$1,808,282	22/03/2024	22/03/2029	3m BBSW + 90 bps
BOQ	A-	\$2,500,000	\$2,522,463	30/04/2024	30/04/2029	3m BBSW + 128 bps
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	\$800,000	\$804,124	14/05/2024	14/05/2027	3m BBSW + 105 bps
ANZ Bank	AA-	\$1,500,000	\$1,504,185	18/06/2024	18/06/2029	3m BBSW + 86 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$1,900,000	\$1,903,739	17/07/2024	17/07/2029	3m BBSW + 87.6 bps
ING	A	\$2,700,000	\$2,711,324	20/08/2024	20/08/2029	3m BBSW + 91 bps
Suncorp (ANZ)	AA-	\$3,300,000	\$3,307,108	27/09/2024	27/09/2029	3m BBSW + 92 bps
NAB	AA-	\$2,000,000	\$2,001,636	14/11/2024	14/11/2029	3m BBSW + 82 bps
ING	AAA	\$1,400,000	\$1,399,959	20/11/2024	20/11/2029	3m BBSW + 80 bps
Bendigo and Adelaide	AAA	\$3,500,000	\$3,497,967	28/11/2024	28/11/2029	3m BBSW + 83 bps
CBA	AA-	\$1,500,000	\$1,503,096	9/01/2025	9/01/2030	3m BBSW + 84 bps
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$1,000,000	\$1,001,371	27/01/2022	27/01/2027	3m BBSW + 73 bps
Total		\$51,000,000	\$51,175,980			

Fixed Bonds

- In August 2021, Council purchased \$1.8M (face value) of AAA-rated fixed covered bonds from ING Bank Australia at a discount. The bonds carry a fixed coupon rate of 1.10%, payable semi-annually on the \$1.8M face value.
- In January 2025, Council purchased \$1.5M (face value) of AA- rated fixed covered bonds from CBA at a discount. The bonds carry a fixed coupon rate of 4.75%, payable semi-annually on the \$1.5M face value.
- In January 2025, Council purchased \$2.1M (face value) of AA- rated fixed covered bonds from Westpac at a discount. The bonds carry a fixed coupon rate of 4.95%, payable semi-annually on the \$2.1M face value.
- The indicative value reflects the amount Council would receive on 31 January 2025 if it were to sell the bonds before their maturity date. However, selling prior to maturity would only be considered if it results in a capital gain. Holding the bonds to maturity guarantees the return of the full principal, along with semi-annual interest payments over the life of the investment.

Investment	Rating	Purchase Price	Indicative Value 31 Jan 2025	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
ING Covered Bond	AAA	\$1,794,762	\$1,711,107	19/08/2021	19/08/2026	1.10%
CBA Bond	AA-	\$1,497,090	\$1,502,762	9/01/2025	9/01/2030	4.75%
Westpac Bond	AA-	\$2,098,446	\$2,119,769	21/01/2025	21/01/2030	4.95%
Total		\$5,390,298	\$5,333,638			

Investment Compliance

Term to Maturity

The portfolio remains well-diversified in terms of maturity, with investments spread across maturities of up to 5 years, in alignment with Council's strategic objectives. Short-term holdings ensure liquidity, while longer-term investments capture favourable returns. The maturity profile is structured to maximise returns while maintaining an appropriate balance of liquidity and risk.

Compliant	Horizon	Invested	%	Min Limit	Max Limit
✓	0-90 days	\$28,065,069	16.17%	15%	100%
✓	91-365 days	\$61,000,000	35.14%	15%	100%
✓	1-2 years	\$28,056,402	16.16%	0%	70%
✓	2-5 years	\$56,453,216	32.52%	0%	50%
✓	5-10 years	-	-	0%	25%

Credit Quality

As of the end of January 2025, and based on long-term S&P ratings, Council remains compliant with its policy across all individual counterparties. The investment portfolio is entirely allocated to assets rated "A" or higher, in line with Council's adopted policy framework.

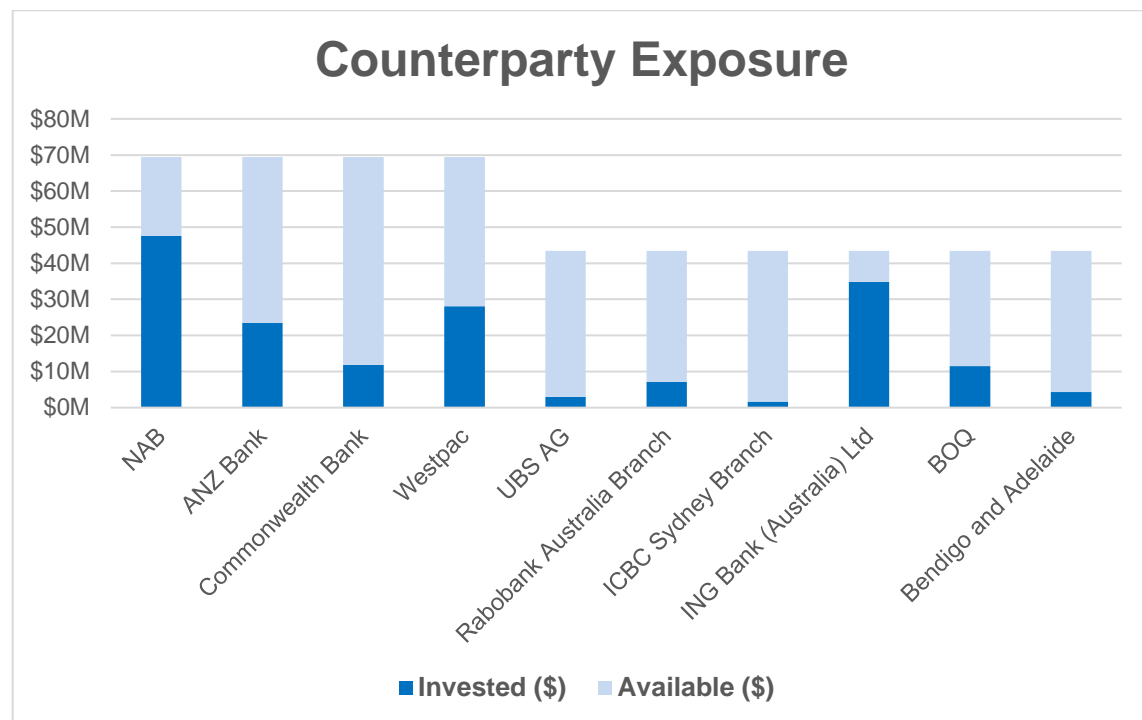
Compliant	Rating	Invested	Invested	Max. Limit	Available
✓	AAA Category	\$6,609,033	3.81%	100%	\$166,965,654
✓	AA Category	\$111,035,605	63.97%	100%	\$62,539,081
✓	A Category	\$55,930,049	32.22%	80%	\$82,929,701
✓	Unrated ADIs	-	-	0%	-

Counterparty

The table below outlines the individual counterparty exposures in relation to Council's current investment policy, based on long-term S&P ratings.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested	%	Max. Limit	Available
✓	NAB	AA-	\$47,634,134	27.44%	40%	\$21,795,741
✓	ANZ Bank	AA-	\$23,448,718	13.51%	40%	\$45,981,157
✓	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$11,832,984	6.82%	40%	\$57,596,890
✓	Westpac	AA-	\$28,119,769	16.20%	40%	\$41,310,105
✓	UBS AG	A+	\$2,997,852	1.73%	25%	\$40,395,820

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested	%	Max. Limit	Available
✓	Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	\$7,192,106	4.14%	25%	\$36,201,566
✓	ICBC Sydney Branch	A	\$1,699,650	0.98%	25%	\$41,694,022
✓	ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	\$34,824,921	20.06%	25%	\$8,568,751
✓	BOQ	A-	\$11,522,463	6.64%	25%	\$31,871,209
✓	Bendigo and Adelaide	A-	\$4,302,091	2.48%	25%	\$39,091,581



Green Investment

Council's investment policy includes guidelines that give preference to placing funds with institutions identified as not dealing with fossil fuel companies, where financial institutions offer equivalent investment returns with the same credit rating. The big four banks and other institutions rated A- and above have some exposure to fossil fuels. The banks with little or no exposure to fossil fuels are the lower-rated institutions. The current policy does not permit investments in these BBB-rated institutions.

Council's exposure to fossil fuel funds is shown below:

Counterparty	Funding fossil fuel	Position
ANZ Bank	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Commonwealth Bank	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
NAB	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Westpac	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Rabobank Australia Branch	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
UBS AG	Not yet determined	No position provided.
ICBC Sydney Branch	Not yet determined	No position provided.

Counterparty	Funding fossil fuel	Position
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	Yes	Loaned to fossil fuels since 2016.
Bank of Queensland	No	Do not loan to fossil fuels.
Bendigo and Adelaide	No	Do not loan to fossil fuels.

As of 31 January 2025, green initiatives investments totalled \$15.8M (9.12% of the total portfolio). Funding with banks that have exposure to fossil fuels reduced to 88.18% (from 88.61% in the previous month). The remaining 2.71% are not yet determined as no position has been provided by the financial institutions.

Institutions	Invested	Invested %
No exposure to fossil fuels	\$15,824,553	9.12%
Exposure to fossil fuels	\$153,052,632	88.18%
Not yet determined	\$4,697,502	2.71%

Restricted Funds (Local Government Act 1993 s409)

The Council has significant restricted cash set aside for future purposes. Council's restricted and unrestricted funds as of 31 January 2025 are shown below.

Restricted cash are funds set aside by Council for a purpose to meet future expenses and falls into three categories based on their use.

- External cash restrictions - These are funds received by Council where there is a legal obligation to use the funds for the purpose for which they were paid to Council such as a special rate variation, developer contribution or tied grants.
- Internal cash restrictions - These are funds set aside by resolution of Council for a particular purpose and these funds may be reapplied for a different purpose by resolution of Council.
- Unrestricted cash are funds that support daily operational requirements and can be used to cover unbudgeted expenses that cannot be funded from one of the reserves.

Balance as at 31 Jan 2025	
Restricted Cash & Investments	
External restricted	\$69,314,067
Internal restricted	\$96,133,202
Total Restricted Cash & Investments	\$165,447,269
Unrestricted Cash & Investments	\$8,235,156
Total Cash & Investments	\$173,682,425

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Financial Management
Function	Accounting

Delivery program commitment	Manage and record the financial transactions arising from Council's activities, including the levy and collection of rates and charges, and the preparation of financial statements and returns.
Function	Financial Management and Control
Delivery program commitment	Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The 2024-25 investment income budget is set at \$5.7M, including \$4.975M from the original budget and an additional \$0.75M from the September quarterly review. As of 31 January 2025, income earned to date totals \$4.9M, representing 84.72% of the budgeted amount for the year. The consistent portfolio balance, high cash rate, and strategic investment management have contributed to improved returns.

Policy and legislative requirements

Council is authorised by Section 625 of the Local Government Act to invest its surplus funds. Funds will only be invested in the form of investment notified by Order of the Minister dated 12 January 2011. The Local Government (General) Regulation prescribes the records that must be maintained in relation to Council's Investment Policy.

Conclusion

Funds are invested with the primary objective of capital preservation, while also seeking to maximise returns, in alignment with the Investment Policy for the 2024-25 financial year. As of 31 January 2025, the investment return remains sound, with investment income totalling \$4.9M, which is \$1.5M above the budgeted expectations.

All investments as of 31 January 2025 have been made in full compliance with the Local Government Act, relevant regulations, and the Council's Investment Policy.

Responsible officer: Jannise Witt, Assistant Accountant Revenue

File Reference: F2016/06527

Director Corporate Services Report No. CO10/25

Subject: Investment Policy Review

Executive Summary

- This report responds to the notice of motion NM92/24 (Willington/D'Souza) at the 26 November 2024 Ordinary Council, that
 - a) *notes that the Investment Policy Version 5, is due for review 28 February 2025.*
 - b) *notes that corporate investment best practice recognises that environmental, social and governance factors (ESG) can and do have a material impact on financial investment outcomes.*
 - c) *acknowledges that leading public sector investment authorities (such as the NSW Treasury Corporation, T Corp) explicitly recognise “managing material environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities, including climate change, will result in better long-term investment outcomes”; and*
 - d) *reviews its Investment Policy to ensure it incorporates the identification, evaluation, management, and monitoring of material ESG risks to deliver optimal investments for Council, consistent with investment best practice and Council’s values and strategic goals.*
- In accordance with the Office of Local Government’s Code of Accounting Practice, Council is required to review its Investment Policy annually. The Investment Policy outlines its investment objectives and provides a framework to safeguard the investment portfolio adhering to the Ministerial Investment Order 2011, the OLG Investment Policy Guidelines and s625 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- The revised policy presented for Council adoption includes amendments to reflect the motion incorporating ESG considerations.

Recommendation

That the reviewed Investment Policy be adopted with the proposed amendments.

Attachment/s:

1. [LINK TO VIEW](#) Draft Investment Policy 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to review and present the amended Investment Policy to Council incorporating the ESG considerations as per motion NM92/24(Willington/D'Souza) . The Office of Local Government investment policy guidelines prescribed that the investment policy be reviewed annually and be amended as required to ensure the Policy remains appropriate and responds to legislative changes or because of significant change in economic conditions.

Discussion

At its meeting on 26 November 2024, Council passed motion NM92/24, resolving as follows:

- a) notes that the Investment Policy Version 5, is due for review 28 February 2025.
- b) notes that corporate investment best practice recognises that environmental, social and governance factors (ESG) can and do have a material impact on financial investment outcomes.
- c) acknowledges that leading public sector investment authorities (such as the NSW Treasury Corporation, T Corp) explicitly recognise “managing material environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities, including climate change, will result in better long-term investment outcomes”; and
- d) reviews its Investment Policy to ensure it incorporates the identification, evaluation, management, and monitoring of material ESG risks to deliver optimal investments for Council, consistent with investment best practice and Council's values and strategic goals.

The current policy adheres to the Ministerial Investment Order 2011, the OLG Investment Policy Guidelines and s625 of the Local Government Act 1993 by minimising risk to preserve capital while achieving the best possible returns in the current economic and interest rate environment.

The preservation of capital is the principal objective of the investment policy, with investments placed in a manner that ensures the security and safeguarding of the portfolio. Investments are expected to achieve the best market rate of return in line with the Ministerial Investment Order.

Council's risk appetite is the amount and type of risk that Council has determined it is willing to take on in order to pursue strategic outcomes and objectives – it is the willingness of Council to assume risk or seize an opportunity. The risk appetite for financial sustainability, featured in the broader Risk Appetite Statement, was assessed as "open." In this context, "open" means that "Council's appetite is to take a low degree of risk together with a reasonable certainty that there is a reward to gain by taking on the risk".

Additionally, the specific Risk Appetite Statement (7) relating to financial sustainability states that "Council has an open risk appetite for financial risks and will manage risks that have the potential to adversely impact on its long-term sustainable future."

The revised policy is presented for adoption with proposed amendments to encourage and expand ESG investment activity but also enable Council to meet its liquidity requirements and objectives for investment performance and risk management.

Proposed Amendments to Section 7: Ethical Investments

1. Deletion of Current Fossil Fuel Companies Clause

Remove the following paragraph:

"Fossil Fuel Companies - Where financial institutions are offering equivalent investment returns with the same credit rating, and the investment fits within the provisions of this Investment Policy, preference will be given to placing funds with institutions identified as not dealing with fossil fuel companies."

2. Addition of New ESG Governance Clause

Replace the deleted clause with the following (*refer draft policy, Section 7, page 9-10*)

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Considerations

In compliance with relevant legislation and in alignment with the objectives outlined in the Investment Policy, the following principles will guide the Council's ESG-focused investment decisions:

1. Prioritisation of ESG Investments

Council will prioritise investments and financial institutions that align with its ESG criteria, provided they offer a return on investment equal to or better than other available options and adhere to the legal, risk management, and performance objectives outlined in the Investment Policy.

2. Alignment with Broader Investment Objectives

ESG investment opportunities will be assessed using the same rigorous criteria as all other investments. Council will select options that best support its broader strategy of optimising returns on surplus funds while prudently managing risk.

3. ESG Criteria

Investments will be directed toward opportunities that:

- Promote positive social, environmental, and ethical governance outcomes.
- Avoid activities that are socially or environmentally harmful or exhibit poor ethical governance.

Rationale for the Proposed Amendments

These amendments encourage sustainable and ethical investment practices by expanding the scope of Council's ESG activities while maintaining flexibility to meet critical liquidity requirements, ongoing capital works needs, and investment performance targets. By adopting this revised approach, Council ensures prudent credit risk management and reinforces its commitment to measurable, impactful financial stewardship.

Council's adoption of this policy amendment underscores its leadership in fostering sustainable investment practices and promoting responsible governance in alignment with its strategic goals.

Strategic alignment

The relationship with our 2022-26 Delivery Program is as follows:

Delivering services and regulatory functions:	
Service area	Financial Management
Function	Financial Management and Control
Delivery program commitment	Support Council's sustainable delivery of projects and services through sound Financial Management and Control, including long term financial planning, budget preparation, and financial performance monitoring.

Risks

The policy aims to minimise risk while allowing for appropriate returns in accordance with adopted budget. The preservation of capital is the principal objective of the investment portfolio, with investments placed in a manner that ensures the security and safeguarding of the portfolio. Investments are expected to achieve an above market average rate of return in line with the Council's risk appetite.

Resourcing Strategy implications

The investment policy provides the framework under which all investments are made. The policy aims to minimise risk while allowing for appropriate returns in accordance with the adopted budget.

Policy and legislative requirements

Council has an approved investment policy complying with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW). Investments are placed and managed in accordance with that policy, having regard to the authorised investments prescribed under the Ministerial Local Government Investment Order.

Conclusion

The annual investment policy review has been reviewed and updated taking into consideration the ESG factors contained in the motion adopted by Council on 26th November 2024, NM92/24 (Willington/D'Souza). The amended policy is attached for adoption.

Responsible officer: Gail Johnston, Coordinator Revenue

File Reference: F2016/06527

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM1/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr D'Souza - Increased storage facilities for Heffron Hawks Football Club

Motion:

That Council:

- a) investigate and create an opportunity for the Heffron Hawks Football Club, which proudly calls Heffron Park home since the early 80s, increased storage space at Heffron Park or an alternative facility that can accommodate our growing equipment needs; and
- b) Note Council Officers are meeting with the club to discuss this matter further and explore potential solutions.

Background:

The Heffron Hawks Football Club has grown impacting their ability to effectively manage and support their teams. The small lockable cage (shed) allocated to them for storing their equipment has proven to be significantly inadequate for their needs. The club has grown considerably, and now caters to over 40 children aged 6-12 years old and four senior teams comprising nearly 80 players. The range of equipment required, including various sizes of balls, goals, kits, and training aids, has outgrown the current storage space.

The limited storage capacity poses several challenges:

- **Accessibility:** The cramped conditions make it difficult to organise and access equipment efficiently, leading to delays and disruptions during training sessions and matches.
- **Safety:** Overcrowding the shed increases the risk of damage to equipment and potential safety hazards for our volunteers and members when retrieving items.
- **Growth and Development:** Adequate storage is crucial for maintaining the quality of our training and match preparation, which in turn supports the development and enthusiasm of our players.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor D'Souza, South Ward

File Reference: F2023/00731

NM1/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM2/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr D'Souza - Investigate ways to improve work opportunities for people with disability in Council

Motion:

That Council:

- a) review its policy with regards to people with disability in its workforce and offer more work opportunities for people with disability in Council: and
- b) investigate more ways to improve and support people with disability and by its actions help build a more inclusive and accepting community.

Background:

Disability affects 20 percent of the Australian population. That's one in five people.

Many disabled people do not have opportunities, and others are fighting for human rights and equity for all disabled people.

Stigma and shame around disability stops many from identifying as disabled. Some people don't want to be disabled like those other people, disability isn't a bad thing.

We must now recognise that disability is not created as the result of various medical impairments, but is in fact, created by society's collective failure to adapt to and embrace and celebrate the varying levels of ability which we all have.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor D'Souza, South Ward

File Reference: F2004/07679

NM2/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM3/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Said & Cr Burst - Parking of various types of vehicles on Anzac Parade median

Motion:

That Council

- a) include in the proposal to TfNSW the option of defined parking area on Anzac Parade median off Budd Ave, Little Bay for 60 spaces, a defined parking area on Anzac Parade median off Bilga Crescent, Malabar for 24 spaces, and parallel parking on the Anzac Parade median between Kain Avenue and Hillary Parade for 16 spaces for passenger vehicles only; and
- b) all other works be put on hold until Council receives feedback from TfNSW on this proposal.

Background:

Council resolved on 17 December 2024 to install arris rail fence along Anzac Parade median strip in various locations between Beauchamp Road, Matraville and Bunnerong Road, Phillip Bay, to deter uncontrolled parking of various types of vehicles, trailers and boats on Anzac parade median strip. Council seeks TfNSW technical approval, prior to commencing community consultation on the proposal.

Members of the community have raised their concerns with the proposal and have requested that Council include a specific option of a combination of parallel and defined parking areas on Anzac Parade, to be presented to Transport for NSW for their technical approval.

Source of funding:

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Burst, South Ward; Councillor Said, South Ward

File Reference: F2004/07232

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM4/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Wilson - 128 Mount Street, Coogee

Motion:

That Council endorse undertaking an investigation into the heritage value of the property at 128 Mount Street, Coogee and then a report is submitted to Council, as to the possibility of obtaining heritage listing of the property.

Background:

The property at 128 Mount Street was sold on 15 February. Many residents are concerned that the property has been acquired by a developer and will be demolished. The heritage value of the property has never been investigated. The motion calls for an investigation into the heritage value of the property with a view to obtaining heritage listing of the property if it is suitable.



Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Wilson, East Ward

File Reference: F2019/01523

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM5/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Burst - 125th Anniversary of the Federation of Australia - January 2026

Motion:

That Council:

- a) lead celebrations within Randwick LGA throughout the month of January 2026 as part of the 125th anniversary of the Federation of Australia;
- b) use the Arts and Culture budget but also include potential Federal Grant funding to be included as part of the 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget;
- c) note that a program of cultural activities would contribute to Randwick Council Community Strategic Plan objective A9 "Increase attendance at Council's arts and cultural programmes, events and venues by 10% by 2031" and the 2022-26 Delivery Program Commitment A9.4, "Ensure inclusivity is included in the planning and design of all cultural events and activities run by Council by 2031";
- d) additionally, considering potential changes to referenced documents, ensure that these activities align with relevant Community Strategic Plan objectives and 2022-26 Delivery Program Commitment/s; and
- e) report back to Councillors via a briefing by May 2025 on progress and potential activities to be included as part of the anniversary.

Background:

125 years of Federation of Australia would refer to the 1st January 2026. This date marks the official creation of the nation of Australia. Australia becomes a nation on 1 January 1901 when the six colonies federate, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania – are united to form the Commonwealth of Australia and is proclaimed in Centennial Park, Sydney.

This process is known as Federation.

Lord Hopetoun is appointed as Australia's first Governor-General. Edmund Barton (Protectionist, Member for Hunter, NSW, 1901–03) is sworn in as Australia's first Prime Minister.

Source of funding:

Council investigate funding options, including potential federal grants, to be included as part of the proposed 2025-26 Operational Budget.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Burst, South Ward

File Reference: F2021/00020

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM6/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Burst - Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony and Community Service Awards be conducted and observed on 26th January and review of Australia Day Flag designs

Motion:

That Council:

- a) fix the date of the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony and Community Service Awards to the existing date of 26th January from 2026 onwards, indefinitely;
- b) review Randwick LGA Australia Day flag designs, which are hoisted and displayed on poles throughout the LGA for 26th January 2026 and onwards, ensuring they depict imagery that is commonly associated with the Australian Day celebrations, including the Australian National Flag and involve the use of iconic colours and animals that are synonymous and unique to our country; and
- c) investigate conducting a local art competition for school children across Randwick LGA to assist in the design of Australia Day Flags, encouraging depictions of the Australian Flag and Australian Cultural References.

Background:

During January 2025 the Australia Day flag designs were lacking reference to iconic and unique Australian cultural references as commonly known and displayed in previous years. This created a stir amongst residents who were at a loss to understand why the flags did not look like they were in celebration of our National Day. This motion seeks to implore council to rectify the situation in January 2026 and include children from the local area in a fun and inclusive art competition.

Source of funding:

Included as part of the funding in the proposed 2025-26 Events budget.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Burst, South Ward

File Reference: F2020/06225

NM6/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM7/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Veitch - Environmental and health impacts from industrial contamination in Kamay/Botany Bay

Motion:

That Council:

- a) notes the historic onsite contamination from operations including Botany Industrial Park (ICI / Orica), Caltex Kurnell and Sydney Airport / Airservices Australia has resulted in chemicals including chlorinated hydrocarbons, solvents, petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals including mercury, chromium, nickel, lead and arsenic as well as hexachlorobenzene (HCB) and PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, a group of over 4000 chemicals) leaching into the soil and ground water and then into the Botany Sands Aquifer which runs into Kamay / Botany Bay. There has also been surface water run-off into the bay from several of these sites;
- b) notes significant community concerns regarding PFAS are being investigated in the current NSW Parliament Select Committee *Inquiry into PFAS Contamination in Waterways and Drinking Water Supplies Throughout NSW* and the Senate *Select Committee on PFAS (per and polyfluoroalkyl substances)*, with sites across NSW including Dept. Defence lands, airports, drinking water catchments and neighbouring communities affected;
- c) acknowledges the devastating health and social impacts on individuals and communities revealed in these submissions and hearings;
- d) notes that PFAS investigations were conducted at Sydney Airport in 2005; 2012; 2017 and 2020 but the results of the investigations have never been publicly released. Another investigation is currently underway but Airservices are not due to report on it until 2025;
- e) notes that journalist Carrie Fellner in her Sydney Morning Herald report (24/12/18) stated that "A pool of poisonous water underneath Sydney Airport contains some of the highest levels of toxic firefighting chemicals seen on Australia's eastern seaboard... The airport at Mascot is one of the highest profile sites in the country to be polluted with the per- and poly-fluoralkyl [PFAS] chemicals...";
- f) notes that the TfNSW Kamay Ferry Wharves EIS contamination investigation was deemed "grossly inadequate" by a respected former EPA site auditor, Dr Bill Ryall, because in his opinion PFAS, TBT & other contaminants, specific to the site at La Perouse and Kurnell, were not appropriately assessed;
- g) notes that the 2009 National Assessment Guidelines for Dredging (NAGD), which are commonly used in marine contamination investigations for Environmental Impact assessments, do NOT include PFAS;
- h) notes that in the final Kamay Ferry Wharves contamination investigation of 2023, PFAS was found in sediment/water, but because PFAS is not included in the National Assessment Guidelines for Dredging (NAGD) and the NAGD was the specified document which determined the scope of the audit, the site auditor therefore dismissed the implications of the finding PFAS by stating it was not a contaminant of concern; and
- i) calls on the NSW and Federal Governments and other relevant authorities to:
 - i. significantly increase the number of PFAS and other known pollutant testing sites in Kamay / Botany Bay, including near Frenchman's, Yarra and Congwong Beaches as well as near the Kurnell De-Salination Plant;

- ii. immediately release the findings of all PFAS and other chemical investigations from the vicinity of Sydney Airport and other sites in Kamay / Botany Bay;
- iii. urgently update the 2009 National Assessment Guidelines for Dredging to specifically include PFAS in its many forms;
- iv. instigate continuous PFAS and other chemical testing and reporting of water quality at the Kurnell De-Salination Plant;
- v. commence remediation and clean-up of all affected sites, water catchments and waterways;
- vi. install appropriate filtration on all drinking water treatment plants;
- vii. offer blood screenings of these carcinogens to cancer patients from affected areas (at no cost).

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Veitch, West Ward

File Reference: F2021/01408

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM8/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Hay - Captain Cook Statue Restoration

Motion:

That Council:

- a) note the restoration of the Captain Cook statue on the corner of Avoca Street and Belmore Road to its original state is underway;
- b) affirms its current position that the statue remain at its current location; and
- c) carry out a comprehensive security audit of the area, which strikes a balance between visibility of the statue and appropriate security camera recordings.

Background:

On the morning of 24th January, as the residents of Randwick were disgusted by the brutal vandalism of the statue of an Australian hero, Captain James Cook. The timing of the attack appears to have been related to Australia Day.

Due to his status as a national hero, and the importance to Australia's history and culture, and acknowledging that it is one of the oldest artworks that we have, it is appropriate that the statue be fully restored and cared for as the artwork that it is.

A Randwick Councillor stated in The Australian on the following day their desire to have the statue moved to a museum. This motion is partially to confirm that it is Randwick's policy that the statue remain where it is.

The provision of cameras and other security could be improved, notably that efforts be made to track down and catch the despicable vandals should this ever happen again.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Hay, West Ward

File Reference: F2025/00185

NM8/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM9/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Willington - Switching to all electric domestic appliances - a partnership proposal with the federal government

Motion:

That Council:

- a) notes that the last 22 Australian studies comparing the energy running costs of all-electric versus gas-connected homes all demonstrate that all-electric homes save households anywhere between \$1,000-\$16,000 per year on their energy bills. No credible, recent study can show dual-fuel (gas-connected) homes being cheaper to run than all-electric ones;
- b) notes the decades of scientific medical research which demonstrates the alarming health impacts associated with indoor gas use, including asthma, leukemia and lymphoma;
- c) writes to the federal environment and climate change minister, Chris Bowen, expressing its support for, and interest in, the minister's proposal to accelerate the electrification of local households and communities via the Australian Renewable Energy Agency's (ARENA's) community electrification grants;
- d) writes to ARENA expressing Council's interest in the community electrification grants program seeking information and advice on developing a constructive partnership to deliver a pilot community electrification program within the City of Randwick; and
- e) seeks a report to be submitted to the May 2025 Council meeting outlining options to update its Development Control Plan to require new developments to be fully electric (without gas).
 - I. The purpose of the report is to ensure that Randwick Council is not making its own transition to all-electric households and communities more difficult and expensive by approving new developments with gas connections.
 - II. The report should consider the 13 other councils in NSW that have or are updating their Development Control Plans to ensure new buildings are all-electric.

Background:

Federal energy and climate change minister Chris Bowen recently announced a 'game changing' program to create all-electric suburbs across the country.¹ Minister Bowen has used his ministerial powers to direct the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) to accelerate solar and electrification projects in local communities.

The program would allow homeowners to apply for grants to help them replace their old, inefficient gas appliances and replace them with modern, efficient electric ones like space heaters/coolers, stoves, and hot water units. The program would also encourage families to install rooftop solar and batteries to power their homes.

The concept is modelled on the successful Electrify 2515 program in North Wollongong headed by Saul Griffiths, where 400 households, 20% of which are low-income, have received grants of up to \$10,000 to switch their outdated gas appliances for modern electric ones and to install solar and batteries.²

¹ Renew Economy and AAP. (29 January 2025). "Game changer:" Bowen pushes for electric suburbs in Labor deal with cross bench. Accessed 4 February 2025, <https://reneweconomy.com.au/bowen-wants-federal-agency-to-direct-more-funds-to-home-electrification-solar-and-batteries/>

² Fernandez, T. (28 January 2025). Funding to electrify homes expanded as Bowen slams Opposition's 'nuclear fantasy'. ABC News. Accessed 4 February 2025

The successful Electrify 2515 program has reduced many families' energy bills by up to 70%.³ This is consistent with the findings of the last 22 studies in Australia from the last seven years which all emphatically demonstrate that all-electric homes are far cheaper to run than those connected to gas. The annual energy bill savings from all-electric versus dual-fuel homes range from \$1,000-\$16,000 per home. No credible recent study from the last decade can show that gas-connected homes are cheaper to run than all-electric homes.⁴

Minister Bowen spoke about the benefits of household electrification and the federal government's leadership in this space, saying:

*"Communities across Australia are seeing the benefits of the clean energy transformation, and the Albanese Government is delivering the leadership and support they need to grasp those benefits."*⁵

Local communities and governments of all levels are getting behind electrification not just because of the huge energy bill savings it produces, but because indoor gas use presents major human health risks. Decades of scientific medical research shows that burnt and unburnt gas releases known carcinogens like benzene and nitrous oxides into the home, which are linked to increased risk of lymphomas and leukemias.⁶ The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners notes that it is estimated that 12% of childhood asthma in Australia is caused by the domestic pollution from gas stoves.

Given the federal government is now leading the charge on household electrification, councils must ensure that they are playing their role by not making the electrification transition more difficult.

Councils are involved in the electrification transition through the development approvals process. Councils must ensure that the new homes built in their LGAs are built all-electric without gas. If councils continue to allow developers to connect new homes to gas, they will be allowing for the construction of stranded assets which will land all levels of government with expensive retrofits in the future.

There is a major opportunity right now for Randwick Council to partner with the federal government in progressing the transition to all-electric households, and at the same time, doing everything in council's own power to ensure we are building neighbourhoods of the future powered by modern, efficient, electric appliances backed by solar and batteries.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Willington, North Ward

File Reference: F2022/00332

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-01-28/chris-bowen-expands-household-electrification-scheme/104868630>

³ Ibid.

⁴ 350 Australia. (2025). *Recent studies demonstrating the financial benefits of all-electric buildings*. Accessed 4 February 2025 <https://350.org.au/files/2025/02/Recent-studies-demonstrating-the-financial-benefits-of-all-electric-buildings.pdf>

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ For example Marks GB, Ezz W, Aust N, et al. Respiratory health effects of exposure to low-NOx unflued gas heaters in the classroom: A doubleblind, cluster-randomized, crossover study. *Environ Health Perspect* 2010;118(10):1476–82. doi: 10.1289/ehp.1002186 or Ewald B, Knibbs L, Marks G. Opportunity to reduce paediatric asthma in New South Wales through nitrogen dioxide control. *Aust N Z J Public Health* 2021;45(4):400–02. doi: 10.1111/1753-6405.13111.

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM10/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Rosenfeld - Making the Chanukah event a permanent fixture

Motion:

That Council:

- a) note the success of the 2024 Chanukah event;
- b) make this event a permanent fixture in the events calendar; and
- c) allow all Councillors to invite 2 guests each, up from 1.

Background:

The initial Randwick Council Chanukah event was held on 19 November 2024 and the feedback received was very positive from the attendees. As such it is fit to make this a permanent fixture. The dates vary year to year with Chanukah falling from 14-22 December this year.

Source of funding:

To be included in the proposed 25/26 Events budget.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Rosenfeld, Central Ward

File Reference: F2021/00020

NM10/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM11/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Rosenfeld - Harmony Week celebrations to include healing for the Jewish Community

Motion:

That Council:

- a) acknowledges the serious antisemitic incidents' that have taken place in Randwick LGA against the Jewish community since October 2023 and condemns them completely;
- b) notes that Harmony Week will be held from Monday 17 to Sunday 23 March 2025 to commemorate the importance of respect for all people, regardless of their background; and
- c) include in Council's Harmony Week promotions stories from the Jewish community, to help heal the divide and help embrace their culture along with all cultures that call Australia home, as diversity and tolerance plays an important role in building our countries identity.

Background:

Harmony Day is an Australian holiday that celebrates cultural diversity and respect for all. It's celebrated on 21 March, which is also the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

How it's celebrated

- Harmony Day is celebrated with activities that promote respect and cultural diversity.
- Activities include sharing stories, listening to local radio stations, and watching foreign-language films.
- People also reconnect with friends and places they miss.

Why it's celebrated

- Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity and the importance of respect for all.
- It's also a day to acknowledge issues like health care system inequities and social injustice.

History

- In 2000, the Federal Government declared 21 March as National Harmony Day.
- In 2019, the event was expanded and renamed Harmony Week to mark its 20th anniversary.

Related events

- Harmony Week is a week-long celebration that includes 21 March, Harmony Day.
- The United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination commemorates the Sharpeville massacre in South Africa in 1960.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Rosenfeld, Central Ward

File Reference: F2011/00156

NM11/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM12/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Rosenfeld - Heffron Centre
Restricted Parking

Motion:

That Council:

- a) ask for a report into the idea of limiting parking at the Heffron Centre to 4 hours with employees at the centre to be given exemptions; and
- b) the report is to involve community consultation.

Background:

Some correspondence has been received about the difficulty of finding parking at the Heffron Centre and the thought that it is being used by some for long term parking. This correspondence is from both residents and also businesses that operate in the area ie. The Burrow Café and The Heffron Park Tennis Centre.

As such it is desired to consult with the community regarding restricting parking to 4 hours however to exempt those who are employed at the Heffron Centre including the staff at the South Sydney Rabbitohs.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Rosenfeld, Central Ward

File Reference: F2012/00032

NM12/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM13/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Asgari - Consider and implement an Interim Heritage Order on 'Ariadne' 128 Mount St, Coogee

Motion:

That Council:

- a) endorse the placement of an Interim Heritage Order on 128 Mount Street Coogee if it is considered that the site and/or the buildings heritage fabric is likely to be harmed through the lodgement of a development application or complying development certificate; and
- b) make it known that No 128 Mount St is being investigated as part of the Heritage Review Program currently underway by Randwick City Council.

Background:

Concerned residents are urging council to place an interim heritage order on 'Ariadne', a beautiful and historic Coogee residence located at 128 Mount St Coogee.

The land was formed from part of the Mount Byron Estate subdivided for sale, 24 February 1912. The vacant parcel of land, Lot 25, passed through several owners before being purchased in 1919 by Constantine Soulos. The property then passed down through lines of the family for 105 years.

The Building Application to Council indicates the architects to be Robertson and Marks, the architectural firm responsible for many of Sydney's best known early twentieth-century buildings, as well as additions to Sydney's racecourses.

These architects are listed in the Dictionary of Sydney as being the architects for:

- The Bondi Pavilion in 1928
- The Schute, Bell badger and Lumley Woolstore, 1919, at 100 Harris St,
- The Bank of New South Wales building 1927 at 34 George Street near Central Railway

...and many other buildings of note.

https://dictionaryofsydney.org/organisation/robertson_marks

NM13/25



128 Mount St, Coogee, Circa 1921. Possible Soulos brothers in picture.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Asgari, East Ward

File Reference: F2019/01523

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM14/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Veitch - Snape Park Environmental and Social Impacts Report

Motion:

That Council:

- a) note community concerns regarding the social and environmental impacts of the proposed Snape Park Indoor Cricket facility;
- b) notes that Rainbow Lorikeets, Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos, Sulphur Crested Cockatoos, Crested Pigeons, Channel Billed Cuckoos, Galahs, Kookaburras, Hawks, Magpies, Currawongs, possums, flying foxes and many other species of native birds and wildlife have all been observed as regularly occupying the park;
- c) notes that more than a dozen mature habitat trees will be removed as part of the development;
- d) notes that the social and recreational use of the park will be impacted by the new facility; and
- e) conduct a wildlife survey, environmental, traffic and social impact study on the site and surrounding area as soon as practicable and prior to any further work being undertaken, with the study to be reported to council.

Source of funding:

2024 – 25 Operational Plan and Budget – Capital Works – Snape Park Project

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Veitch, West Ward

File Reference: PROJ/10959/2021/1

NM14/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM15/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Magner - Investigation of line fishing ban at Clovelly Bay

Motion:

That Council:

- a) investigate options to regulate line fishing at Clovelly Bay to improve public safety;
- b) consults with key stakeholders including Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries), local swimming groups, surf lifesaving clubs, and bay users; and
- c) present recommendations to Council including implementation and enforcement strategies.

Background:

The Clovelly Bay is primarily used for swimming and snorkelling activities. The current Plan of Management (20+ years old) permits line fishing during daylight hours.

The bay falls within the Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve. Lifeguards currently manage fishing on an ad-hoc basis for public safety. Section 633 of the *Local Government Act* provides scope for Council to regulate this activity.

Alignment with Council Plans:

This motion aligns with Council's commitment to:

- Public safety
- Environmental protection
- Recreational space management
- Community wellbeing.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Magner, North Ward

File Reference: F2012/00347

NM15/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM16/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Magner - Review and Update of Bus Stops and Shelters Policy

Motion:

That Council:

- a) review and update the "Bus Seats at Bus Stops Policy" incorporating current public transport data and accessibility requirements;
- b) prepare a report identifying priority locations for new bus shelters based on:
 1. Current passenger usage
 2. Route frequency
 3. Accessibility needs;
- c) review the JCDecaux street furniture contract and explore options for accelerated shelter installation; and
- d) present findings to Council including implementation timeline and funding strategy.

Background:

Randwick City Council's current "Bus Seats at Bus Stops Policy" is due for review as of August 2023. The existing policy establishes a minimum standard of one seat per bus stop, however evolving community needs and Council's commitment to sustainable transport require a more comprehensive approach.

Council's prioritisation of public transport aligns with broader sustainability and accessibility goals.

Quality bus stop infrastructure, particularly shelters, plays a crucial role in:

- Encouraging public transport use
- Protecting passengers from weather
- Improving accessibility for elderly and mobility-impaired residents
- Supporting Council's sustainable transport objectives

A bus stop review will enable Council to:

- Better align infrastructure with current bus usage patterns
- Maximise value from commercial contracts
- Potentially accelerate shelter installation through regional council collaboration
- Prioritise delivery planning based on data and evidence
- Plan for future tender requests and contract arrangements.

This review supports Randwick City Council's commitment to public transport while ensuring efficient use of resources through strategic planning and potential regional cooperation.

Council can also look for innovation and logistic opportunities for coinciding bus stop upgrades with Electric Vehicle charging, accessibility upgrades and innovation for wireless phone charging and way finding.

The review should also ensure that Council retains control over the prioritisation of bus shelters based on community needs.

Source of Funding:

Initial policy development and planning instrument amendments to be funded from existing Strategic Planning operational budget.

Any implementation costs to be identified in the report to Council and considered in future operational plans.

Annexure

Randwick City Council: Bus Seats at Bus Stops Policy

https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/26827/Bus-Seats-at-Bus-Stops-Policy-August-2018.pdf

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Magner, North Ward

File Reference: F2005/00282

NM16/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM17/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Magner - Implementation of Wayfinding Strategy and Design Standards for Randwick

Motion:

That Council:

- a) develop a comprehensive Wayfinding and Signage Strategy that incorporates physical and digital navigation elements;
- b) conduct community consultation, particularly with First Nations communities, accessibility groups, and local stakeholders; and
- c) present to Council a detailed implementation plan including design standards, staging priorities, and budget requirements.

Background:

Randwick City Council requires more modernised and harmonised signage and an integrated wayfinding system to help residents and visitors navigate our diverse area.

Key areas that will benefit from updated wayfinding and signage include:

- The Coastal Track network from La Perouse to Clovelly and integrating with Bronte to Bondi and Beyond
- Council beaches including Clovelly, Coogee, and Maroubra
- Retail, dining, and entertainment precincts
- Parks, sporting facilities, and recreation areas
- Public transport hubs connecting light rail and bus networks
- Healthcare precincts including Randwick Hospitals complex
- Educational institutions including UNSW and NIDA

An updated signage and wayfinding style guide and strategy will deliver multiple benefits including:

- Improve Navigation and Accessibility
 - o Promote active transport and walking
 - o Ensure universal access for all
 - o Integrate with digital platforms
- Cultural and Environmental Recognition
 - o Celebrate local Indigenous community history and storytelling
 - o Highlight our environmental heritage
 - o Raise awareness and help protect ecological significant areas
- Economic and Community Benefits
 - o Support local business visibility
 - o Boost tourism engagement
 - o Create consistent Council area branding.

This initiative will have significant benefits for community wayfinding and place activation.

Source of funding:

Initial planning and design development to be funded from the existing Strategic Planning budget. Implementation costs to be determined through the design development process and submitted for consideration in future capital works programs.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Magner, North Ward

File Reference: F2012/00347

NM17/25

Motion Pursuant to Notice No. NM18/25

Subject: Notice of Motion from Cr Hamilton - Investigate angled parking - Bishops Avenue, Clovelly

Motion:

That Council:

- a) investigate parking options including feasibility of angled or rear to kerb parking along Bishops Avenue from Clovelly Road up to the intersection of Greville Street; and
- b) bring back a report detailing parking options and include how extra EV charging stations, resulting in a loss of on street parking, can be mitigated to afford residents the same or increased parking along Bishops Avenue.

Background:

Randwick council has indicated the installation of EV stations along Bishops Avenue near the Fern Street intersection, to support patrons to the nearby small village, however this would result in less parking for residents. This Motion calls on Council staff to investigate options to mitigate the residents parking pain.

Attachment/s:

Nil

Submitted by: Councillor Hamilton, North Ward

File Reference: F2012/00347

NM18/25

Question with Notice No. QN1/25

Subject: Question with Notice from Cr Magner - Randwick Junction Town Centre - Current Status and Revitalisation Initiatives

Question:

Could Council Officers please provide:

1. A detailed update on the status of the Randwick Junction Town Centre Planning Proposal, including anticipated implementation timelines and key milestones?
2. Information regarding potential short-term initiatives that Council could implement to enhance economic activity in the precinct, specifically addressing:
 - Public domain improvements
 - Business activation programs
 - Local business support initiatives
 - Parking optimisation opportunities.
3. Recommendations for additional short to medium-term actions Council might consider implementing to revitalise the Randwick Town Centre's community vibrancy.

Background:

The Randwick Junction Town Centre requires both immediate activation initiatives and longer-term planning solutions to address current challenges.

While the Planning Proposal progresses through Gateway Determination, there is community interest in understanding Council's strategy for immediate revitalisation efforts, particularly regarding street front shop vacancy rates and evening activity.

Recent feedback from the Randwick Precinct Committee and local stakeholders highlights the need for a coordinated approach to both short-term activation and longer-term planning outcomes.

Response from Director Community & Culture:

To be distributed in a supplementary business paper.

Submitted by: Councillor Magner, North Ward

File Reference: F2015/00431