Report by David Backhouse, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That the Delivery Program progress report for Responsible Leadership for July to December 2012 be noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with the Delivery Program progress report for Responsible Leadership for the period July to December 2012.

REPORT

Background

In accordance with the requirements of the NSW Division of Local Government’s Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines and Section 404 of the Local Government Act 1993, a six monthly progress report is presented to Council on the principal activities in the Delivery Program.

In 2012, Council adopted its Community Strategic Plan ‘Strathfield 2025’. This plan and the supporting Delivery Program and Operational Plan are based on extensive community engagement and consultation. The themes of Strathfield 2025, which frame all subordinate plans, are Connectivity, Community Wellbeing, Prosperity and Opportunities, Liveable Neighbourhoods and Responsible Leadership.

The Delivery Program 2012-2016 and Operational Plan 2012-2013 were endorsed by Council on the 29 June 2012, with commencement from 1 July 2012. The Delivery Program contains four year objectives against each of the five principal themes and the Operational Plan conveys yearly actions and key performance indicators to detail what Council intends on doing and how progress will be measured.

In October 2012, Council adopted a Standing Committee structure which aligns with the five strategic themes set out in Council’s Community Strategic Plan ‘Strathfield 2025’. Progress reports will be presented to the relevant Council standing committee for review.

Strategic Theme: Responsible Leadership

The Responsible Leadership strategic theme has three major strategies, in which Council’s programs, activities and services are aligned. These strategies are:

- The Strathfield community trusts Council and is informed, valued and heard
- Council is ethically and responsibly managed
- Council is efficient, sustainable and delivers value for money services
The development of these strategies was based on extensive community consultation to identify the community’s short-term to long-term views and aspirations for Strathfield. The focus of the Responsible Leadership Theme in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan includes:

- **Responsible leadership is providing strong leadership and community representation, supported by effective and accountable governance and management to ensure sound financial management, ethical conduct, integrity, public accountability and transparency.**

- **Council will provide efficient and value for money services to the community whilst managing increased financial pressures and demands for services and maintaining financial sustainability.**

- **Council has a key role in ensuring that all members of the community have an opportunity to take part in Council’s decision making processes and are supported in accessing information and services.**

The attached progress report covers the period July to December 2012. The report indicates that Council is progressing well against most of its objectives and meeting targets and service standards. There are some delays reported in delivery of projects, however it is anticipated that these programs will be finalised by the end of the next reporting period in June 2013.

**REFERRAL FROM OTHER DEPARTMENT**

All Council departments, Directors and Managers were consulted in the production of this progress report.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Responsible Leadership Delivery Program and Operational Plan progress report – July to December 2012