

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

Strathfield Municipal Council

Tuesday 5 April 2022
6:30pm

Council Chambers
65 Homebush Road, Strathfield

And

By Audio Visual Link

OPEN FORUM

Open Forum is held during each Council Meeting to enable any person to address Council without notice on any matter NOT included in the Agenda of the meeting.

Speakers must give their name and address and are permitted five minutes to address council. Members of the public are not permitted to make personal comments concerning Councillors, staff or other members of the public or engage in disorderly or offensive conduct at a meeting. Unacceptable conduct may result in rescinding speaking rights or expulsion from the meeting. All comments made in Open Forum are recorded.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Item	Page No.
1. Prayer	
2. Recognition of Traditional Custodians	
3. Apologies	
4. Declarations of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest (Nature of interest to be disclosed)	
5. Confirmation of Minutes	
Ordinary Council Meeting 7 March 2022.....	6
6. Acknowledgements	
Nil	
7. Deferred/outstanding matters awaiting report	
Nil	
8. Mayoral Minute(s) in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice	
8.1 Mayoral Minute 4/22 - Review Requirements for Managing Trees on Private Land.....	22
8.2 Mayoral Minute 5/22 - Review of Strathfield Connector Bus.....	24
9. Councillors' Questions to the Mayor (submitted in writing in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice)	
Nil	
10. Questions With Notice	
Nil	
11. Reports from Committees	
11.1 Report from Traffic Committee Meeting on 15 March 2022.....	25
12. Motions Pursuant to Notice	
12.1 Resilience NSW and Disaster Recovery Payment - Councillor Nella Hall	40
12.2 Decorative Planting on Verges - Councillor Nella Hall.....	41
12.3 Traffic - Hillcrest Avenue, South Strathfield - Councillor Benjamin Cai	42

12.4	Park Toilets - Councillor Benjamin Cai.....	43
12.5	Chain of Ponds Reserve, Cave Road, South Strathfield - Councillor Benjamin Cai	44
12.6	Insecure Jobs - Councillor Karen Pensabene.....	45
12.7	Council App for Council Services - Councillor Sandy Reddy.....	46
12.8	Enhance Coverage of Multicultural Australia in News and Media - Councillor Raj Datta	47
12.9	Diversity in the Workplace - Councillor Raj Datta.....	49
12.10	Flood and Fire Risks to be Considered Before Selecting Areas to Build New Homes - Councillor Raj Datta	51
12.11	Garbage Collection Lead Times and Illegal Dumping - Councillor Raj Datta	52
12.12	Airey Park Cricket Ground Drainage - Councillor Raj Datta.....	53
12.13	Statement of the Heart - Councillor Karen Pensabene.....	58
12.14	Report on Safety and Amenity Works End of The Crescent, Homebush West - Councillor Karen Pensabene.....	59
12.15	Consultation Process with Businesses within Shopping Precincts - Councillor Nella Hall	60
12.16	Improving the Accountability and Transparency of Council - Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran	61
12.17	Community Advocate - Clarifying Motion 12.14 of the 1 February 2022 Council Meeting - Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran.....	64
12.18	Clean-up the Strathfield South Town Centre - Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran	65

13. General Business

Office of the CEO Reports

CEO1	Council Tenders Advertised and Awarded.....	66
CEO2	Recruitment of a New General Manager.....	67
CEO3	Use of WestInvest Funding - Leisure Centre	69
CEO4	Draft Media Policy.....	71

Corporate Services Reports

CS1	Investment Report - February 2022.....	79
CS2	Current Status of Council Resolutions.....	101
CS3	Payment of Councillor Superannuation.....	106
CS4	Ordinary Council Meeting and Councillor Workshop Schedule 2022.....	128

Development Environment and Urban Services Reports

DEU1	Audit of Redundant Driveways And Kerbs With No Verges	131
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DEU2	Flyover/Overpass at Arthur Street and Centenary Drive, Homebush West	132
DEU3	Parking and Safety Improvements to Courallie Avenue, Homebush West.....	134
DEU4	Safe Pedestrian Access at Marlborough Road/Homebush Bay Drive Road to Flemington Market	136
DEU5	Public Space Legacy Program - Hudson Park Stage 2.....	138

People, Place and Civic Services Reports

Nil

14. **Matters of Urgency in Accordance with Clause 241 of the Local Government General Regulation, 2005**
15. **Closed Session**

Nil

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday 7 March 2022

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 7 March 2022, in the Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

COMMENCING: 6:00pm

PRESENT: Councillor Matthew Blackmore
Councillor Karen Pensabene
Councillor Benjamin Cai
Councillor Raj Datta
Councillor Nella Hall
Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran
Councillor Sandy Reddy

STAFF: Henry Wong, Chief Executive Officer
Anthony Hewton, Director Corporate and Human Services
Stephen Clements, Deputy CEO and General Manager Planning, Environment and Urban Services
Melinda Aitkenhead, Director – Corporate and Financial Services
Francis Mangru, Executive Manager, Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer
David McQuade, Governance Manager

1. **OPENING:** The Prayer was read.

2. **RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS:** The Recognition was read.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Nil.

4. **PECUNIARY INTEREST /CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Two submitted to CEO. Need to record details in Minutes.

5. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting meeting held on 1 February 2022, a copy of which has been furnished to each Councillor, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that

meeting and that the Chairman and General Manager be authorised to sign such minutes.

MOTION: (Pensabene / Datta)

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting meeting held on 1 February 2022, a copy of which has been furnished to each Councillor, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairman and General Manager be authorised to sign such minutes subject to the following amendment:

That Councillor Maheswaran's Conflict of Interest Declaration be amended to read:

Councillor Maheswaran declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest for *Item 12.10 Upgrade at the Junction of Underwood Road and Centenary Drive – Councillor Karen Pensabene*. Councillor Maheswaran has a professional client who owns property nearby to the intersection subject of this motion.

32/22

RESOLVED: (Pensabene / Datta)

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting meeting held on 1 February 2022, a copy of which has been furnished to each Councillor, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairman and General Manager be authorised to sign such minutes subject to the following amendment:

That Councillor Maheswaran's Conflict of Interest Declaration be amended to read:

Councillor Maheswaran declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest for *Item 12.10 Upgrade at the Junction of Underwood Road and Centenary Drive – Councillor Karen Pensabene*. Councillor Maheswaran has a professional client who owns property nearby to the intersection subject of this motion.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

6.1 NSW Flood Emergency – Councillor Matthew Blackmore

That Strathfield Council express our heartfelt concern for the people affected by the floods. Council offers technical assistance during recovery process of the crisis.

6.2 Acknowledgement to Ukraine – Councillor Karen Pensabene

On behalf of Strathfield Council to our Ukraine community that we are appalled at the situation occurring in Ukraine.

I attended a very moving service at the Ukrainian Church in Strathfield yesterday and we all prayed for strength, peace and unity for the Ukraine.

We as a community here in Strathfield will be prepared to help in any way possible. Many displaced relatives of our community will be arriving here soon, and we will need to be prepared to work with the church to show our compassion and lend a helping hand in any way possible,

If anyone would like to donate to the Save Ukraine Charity set up by the church, details can be found on their website. I would like to move Strathfield Council donate an amount of money agreeable to all Councillors to the charity.

6.3 Harmony Day – Councillor Karen Pensabene

We come together to celebrate Harmony Day on 21 March. Created in 1989 to celebrate unity and diversity, Harmony Day was originally an Australian celebration but is now marked worldwide by conscientious citizens. Whether you want to be better friends with your neighbours or stand in the shoes of another, we've got some harmonious habits and unifying ideas to make your Harmony Day a picture of peace.

The theme for 2022 Everyone Belongs.

On behalf of Strathfield Council, we wish all our residents a Happy Harmony Day and whichever way you celebrate, that we show respect to all people who have come from different cultural backgrounds, that we all have different stories to tell and to be supportive and respectful of your neighbours.

6.4 International Women's Day 2022 – Councillor Karen Pensabene

The theme for 2022 International Women's Day is Breaking the Bias.

The facts are evident as women clearly know that gender bias exists.

It is a reality and to a greater extent or lesser extent women experience gender bias every day. Women have been fighting for this change for an exceptionally long time, I have since the 70's.

There has been change, however, unequal pay, sexual harassment and even outdated interview questions are still examples of the bias against women.

We as leaders with the State and Federal leaders are responsible for that change. What we focus on is what we can create, and without the support of all levels of government taking responsibility, we will not see the changes for our daughters and granddaughters.

Time has come for change and with the new direction of this Council is taking, I can assure our residents, we will be calling for implementing changes in this sector.

6.5 International Mother Language Day – Bengali Community – Councillor Raj Datta

That Council acknowledge and commemorate those in the Bengali community that had sacrificed to protect the right to speak in the Bengali national language. International Mother Language Day held on 21 February annually is supported by UNESCO and Council wishes to thank the Bengali community and support this initiative.

6.6 Hindu Council of Australia – Councillor Raj Datta

The Hindu Council of Australia has been around for over 40 years and as we know, there have been floods and people suffering. The Hindu Council of Australia has been helping communities across NSW including Lismore.

The Hindu Council of Australia is providing a tremendous service to the Indian sub continent community but also the broader Australian community, providing help and disaster relief.

6.7 Nepalese Community – Councillor Raj Datta

Charity event for donating wheelchairs for children. Very good gesture. I commend the contribution of the community and would like to acknowledge their contribution on behalf of Council.

6.8 Holy Festival – Councillor Sandy Reddy

I would like to acknowledge the Holy Festival that is celebrated throughout India and is held on 18 March 2022. The whole Strathfield community will be celebrating this event.

6.9 Friends of India Harvest Festival – Councillor Sandy Reddy

Friends of India Harvest Festival which was scheduled to be happening on 27 February 2022 was cancelled

and today they have rescheduled the event for 26 March 2022. Invitations will be sent to Councillors tomorrow.

6.10 Friends of India and Health Professional Network – Women’s Health Seminar – Councillor Sandy Reddy

Friends of India and Health Professional Network both together are doing a seminar for women’s health which includes pregnancy, breast cancer, breast feeding, menopause and many more on 13 March 2022 which is open to the community to attend.

7. DEFERRED/OUTSTANDING MATTERS AWAITING REPORT

Nil.

8. MAYORAL MINUTE(S) IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL’S CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

8.1 Mayoral Minute 3/22 - Lions Club Celebrating 75 Years

33/22

RESOLVED: (Blackmore)

That Council:

1. Liaise with the Strathfield-Burwood Lions Club to find a suitable location within the Strathfield LGA for Council to provide a Lions Club Commemorative Garden. That the garden be installed prior to the 75-year Anniversary in September 2022.
2. That a report be prepared to an upcoming Councillor Workshop with prominent location options and any budgetary implications.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

CLOSED SESSION

34/22

RESOLVED: (Blackmore)

That in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* the following matter be considered in Closed Session for the reason stated:

8.2 Mayoral Minute 4/22 - Senior Staff Matter

This matter is being considered in Closed Session as it relates to personnel matters concerning a particular individual (other than councillors) and on balance, the public interest in preserving confidentiality of personnel information outweighs the public interest in openness and transparency in Council decision making by discussing the matter in open meeting.

The meeting commenced Closed Session at 6:21pm.

The meeting commenced Open Sessions at 6:58pm.

OPEN COUNCIL RESUMED

8.2 Mayoral Minute 4/22 – Senior Staff Matter

35/22

RESOLVED: (Blackmore)

As resolved in Closed Session.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Datta, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

9. COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR (SUBMITTED IN WRITING IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE)

Nil.

10. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil.

11. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

11.1 Report from Traffic Committee Meeting held on 15 February 2022

36/22

RESOLVED: (Pensabene / Reddy)

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on 15 February 2022 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

12. MOTIONS PURSUANT TO NOTICE

12.1 Support for Referendum to Amend Australian Constitution – Councillor Raj Datta

MOVED:

That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW by 30 April 2022, requesting it to write to the Federal Government confirming it is: *“Supportive of the proposal of the referendum to amend the Australian constitution to give the Australian Federal Government the power to fund Local Governments and to enshrine people’s rights to democratically elect their Council”*, as it promised to the Local Government and Shires Association before the 2011 State election and also request that it undertakes a state wide civil campaign to inform the public on the proposed Constitutional changes to recognise Local Government and its benefits.

MOTION: (Datta / Hall)

1. That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW by 30 April 2022, requesting it to write to the Federal Government confirming it is: *“Supportive of the proposal of the referendum to amend the Australian constitution to give the Australian Federal Government the power to fund Local Governments and to enshrine people’s rights to democratically elect their Council”*, as it promised to the Local Government and Shires Association before the 2011 State election and also request that it undertakes a state wide civil campaign to inform the public on the proposed Constitutional changes to recognise Local Government and its benefits.
2. That Council submit a Motion for the National General Assemble of Local Government by Friday 25 March 2022 “requesting that the Australian Federal Government hold a referendum to amend the Australian Constitution to give the Australian Federal Government the power to fund Local Governments and to enshrine people’s rights to democratically elect their Council” as promised at the

Local Government and Shires Association Conference before the 2011 State election.

37/22

RESOLVED: (Datta / Hall)

1. That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW by 30 April 2022, requesting it to write to the Federal Government confirming it is: *“Supportive of the proposal of the referendum to amend the Australian constitution to give the Australian Federal Government the power to fund Local Governments and to enshrine people’s rights to democratically elect their Council”*, as it promised to the Local Government and Shires Association before the 2011 State election and also request that it undertakes a state wide civil campaign to inform the public on the proposed Constitutional changes to recognise Local Government and its benefits.
2. That Council submit a Motion for the National General Assemble of Local Government by Friday 25 March 2022 “requesting that the Australian Federal Government hold a referendum to amend the Australian Constitution to give the Australian Federal Government the power to fund Local Governments and to enshrine people’s rights to democratically elect their Council” as promised at the Local Government and Shires Association Conference before the 2011 State election.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

12.2 Private Certification – Councillor Raj Datta

MOVED:

1. That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government by 30 May 2022, asking it to review its policy on private certification of residential developments as it has been causing great distress and financial sufferings to many residents across NSW.
2. That the Council Officers prepare a brief for Councillors updating Councillors of Council’s view on this issue and any limitations on Council’s abilities to inspect and enforce DA conditions of consent which are not being met and present it to the Council at its May 2022 meeting.

MOTION: (Datta / Pensabene)

1. That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government by 30 May 2022, asking it to review its policy on private certification of residential developments as it has been causing great distress and financial sufferings to many residents across NSW.

2. That the Council Officers prepare a brief for Councillors updating Councillors of Council's view on this issue and any limitations on Council's abilities to inspect and enforce DA conditions of consent which are not being met and present it to the Council at its May 2022 meeting.
3. That Council prepares a brief that includes the parliamentary brief into Private Certifiers.

38/22

RESOLVED: (Datta / Pensabene)

1. That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government by 30 May 2022, asking it to review its policy on private certification of residential developments as it has been causing great distress and financial sufferings to many residents across NSW.
2. That the Council Officers prepare a brief for Councillors updating Councillors of Council's view on this issue and any limitations on Council's abilities to inspect and enforce DA conditions of consent which are not being met and present it to the Council at its May 2022 meeting.
3. That Council prepares a brief that includes the parliamentary brief into Private Certifiers.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran

Against the Motion: Councillor Cai and Reddy

12.3 Parking Issues at Courallie Avenue – Councillor Raj Datta

MOVED:

That Council prepares a comprehensive plan for addressing the reasonable parking issues at the Courallie Avenue precinct and present it to the Council at its June 2022 meeting.

MOTION: (Datta / Hall)

That Council write to all residents in the Centenary Park precinct to notify residents that the road in this area is a private road and is controlled by Strata. That Council has no control over parking issues in the Centenary Park precinct. Residents are advised to contact the Strata Management to organise parking arrangements for the residents.

39/22

RESOLVED: (Datta / Hall)

That Council write to all residents in the Centenary Park precinct to notify residents that the road in this area

is a private road and is controlled by Strata. That Council has no control over parking issues in the Centenary Park precinct. Residents are advised to contact the Strata Management to organise parking arrangements for the residents.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

12.4 Illumination of Pathway that Connects Airey Park and Melville Reserve – Councillor Raj Datta

40/22

RESOLVED: (Datta / Hall)

That Council organise appropriate illumination of the pathway that connects Airey Park to Melville Reserve and provide a report to inform the Council by May 2022 when this task to address the residents' safety concerns might be completed.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

12.5 Fostering of the Arts to Tackle Graffiti – Councillor Sandy Reddy

MOVED:

1. That a report, including costs be provided to the April 2022 Council Meeting on tackling unwanted graffiti by fostering legitimate creative expression and art on buildings in the Strathfield Council.
2. The report should include but not limited to, details of wall2wall Mural Competition and the "Perfect Match" initiative by the Inner West Council and similar programs in other Council areas in Sydney and other capital cities as well as any programs run by any community groups.

MOTION (Reddy / Pensabene):

1. That a report, including costs be provided to the April 2022 Council Meeting on tackling unwanted graffiti by fostering legitimate creative expression and art on buildings in the Strathfield Council.
2. The report should include but not limited to, details of wall2wall Mural Competition and the "Perfect Match" initiative by the Inner West Council and similar programs in other Council areas in Sydney and other capital cities as well as any programs run by any community groups.
3. That Council officers are to report to Council on the performance of Council's graffiti removal

programme and investigate the use of graffiti proof paint in areas not designated for street art/murals in conjunction with private owners in our town centres.

41/22

RESOLVED: (Reddy / Pensabene)

1. That a report, including costs be provided to the April 2022 Council Meeting on tackling unwanted graffiti by fostering legitimate creative expression and art on buildings in the Strathfield Council.
2. The report should include but not limited to, details of wall2wall Mural Competition and the “Perfect Match” initiative by the Inner West Council and similar programs in other Council areas in Sydney and other capital cities as well as any programs run by any community groups.
3. That Council officers are to report to Council on the performance of Council’s graffiti removal programme and investigate the use of graffiti proof paint in areas not designated for street art/murals in conjunction with private owners in our town centres.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

CS1 Current Status of Council Resolutions

42/22

RESOLVED: (Pensabene / Hall)

That the report on the current status of Council resolutions be noted.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

CS2 Quarterly Budget Review as at 31 December 2021

43/22

RESOLVED: (Datta / Maheswaran)

The Budget Review Statement for quarter ending 31 December 2021 be received and adopted.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

CS3 Investment Report - January 2022

44/22

RESOLVED: (Hall / Reddy)

That the record of cash investments as at 31 January 2022 be received and noted.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU1 Strathfield Council Options For A Circular Economy

45/22

RESOLVED: (Hall / Datta)

That Council:

1. Receive and note the report;
2. Continue its extensive waste education program, and
3. Work towards zero waste by 2036.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU2 Strathfield Council Carbon Footprint

46/22

RESOLVED: (Reddy / Datta)

That;

1. Council note that is an active member of Resilient Sydney and is working with other metro councils

on a pathway toward a 46% emission reduction target by 2036.

2. No additional budget allocation is required at the moment to fund further studies.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU3 Electric Vehicles

47/22

RESOLVED: (Reddy / Pensabene)

That Council receive and note the report.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU4 Cooks River Corridor - South Strathfield: Water Sensitive Urban Design

48/22

RESOLVED: (Reddy / Pensabene)

That Council receive and note the report.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU5 Homebush West Traffic Study

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

MOTION: (Maheswaran / Reddy)

That the report be referred back to Council officers for details of quotes from engineering firms that have been sought and the Terms of Reference on which these quotes were sought.

49/22

RESOLVED: (Maheswaran / Reddy)

That the report be referred back to Council officers for details of quotes from engineering firms that have been sought and the Terms of Reference on which these quotes were sought.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU6 Safety Outdoor Dining

50/22

RESOLVED: (Hall / Datta)

That Council receive and note the report.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU7 Night Time Safety Lighting at Pedestrian Crossings

51/22

RESOLVED: (Hall / Pensabene)

That Council note the update on the provision for lighting to pedestrian crossings.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

DEU8 Flag/Banner Holders in Strathfield LGA Shopping Centres and Outside Community Buildings

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council install Flag/Banner holders at sites provided in report.
2. Funding for these banner poles to be considered in future budget for next financial year 2022/23.

MOTION: (Reddy / Pensabene)

1. That Council install Flag/Banner holders at sites provided in report.
2. Funding for these banner poles to be considered in future budget for next financial year 2022/23.
3. To review locations and pole numbers for each location and discuss installation plans and specifications (including labour and supply costs) at a future Councillor Workshop.

52/22

RESOLVED: (Reddy / Pensabene)

1. That Council install Flag/Banner holders at sites provided in report.
2. Funding for these banner poles to be considered in future budget for next financial year 2022/23.
3. To review locations and pole numbers for each location and discuss installation plans and specifications (including labour and supply costs) at a future Councillor Workshop.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene, Cai, Datta, Hall, Maheswaran and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil

14. MATTERS OF URGENCY IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLAUSE 241 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT GENERAL REGULATION, 2005

Nil.

15. CLOSED SESSION

Nil.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:14pm.

The foregoing Minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Strathfield on 5 April 2022.

Chairman _____

General Manager _____

8.1 MAYORAL MINUTE 4/22 - REVIEW REQUIREMENTS FOR MANAGING TREES ON PRIVATE LAND

AUTHOR: Matthew Blackmore, Mayor

I MOVE:

That Council:

1. Undertake a review of Part O of the Strathfield Consolidated Development Control Plan (DCP) 2005, Tree Management, to give consideration to the following factors:
 - The merits of trees that are close (e.g. within 2-4 metres) to a dwelling, related structure, garage or fence as being considered “Exempt” from the requirements of a Tree Removal or Pruning Application.
 - The merits of removing any species of tree on the “Exempt Species” list requiring a Tree Removal Development Application (DA) to remove if over 8 metres in height. (Three species of trees fall within this category currently being Celtis / Hackberry, Camphor Laurel and Silky Oak all considered weed species).
 - Assisting the many people who own pools in the Local Government Area (LGA) who have serious issues in relation to leaf litter which pruning or tree removal could assist and with new trees replanted in an alternative location to maintain canopy.
 - The requirement to replant mature trees wherever they are approved to be removed on a two to one if not greater basis.
 - The merits of providing flexibility in tree removal approvals where mature replacement trees can be specified as a mitigation measure.
 - Other best practice tree management practices adopted in LGAs with a similar urban character and tree canopy to the Strathfield LGA.
2. A report be brought back to a future Councillor Workshop prior to a report going to Council.

Rationale

Strathfield Council and its local community values its green spaces. Our street trees and private tree canopies are part of what gives the Strathfield LGA its unique urban character as a great place to live. Trees also have direct implications on property values within the LGA. With this in mind, Council has a rigorous DA process to ensure trees are not unnecessarily removed in inappropriate circumstances. However, following repeated representations from local residents I feel it is timely to review some aspects of our Tree Management DCP to ensure it reflects best practice in contemporary tree management practice.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Undertake a review of Part O of the Strathfield Consolidated Development Control Plan (DCP) 2005, Tree Management, to give consideration to the following factors:

- The merits of trees that are close (e.g. within 2-4 metres) to a dwelling, related structure, garage or fence as being considered “Exempt” from the requirements of a Tree Removal or Pruning Application.
- The merits of removing any species of tree on the “Exempt Species” list requiring a Tree Removal Development Application (DA) to remove if over 8 metres in height. (Three species of trees fall within this category currently being Celtis / Hackberry, Camphor Laurel and Silky Oak all considered weed species).
- Assisting the many people who own pools in the Local Government Area (LGA) who have serious issues in relation to leaf litter which pruning or tree removal could assist and with new trees replanted in an alternative location to maintain canopy.
- The requirement to replant mature trees wherever they are approved to be removed on a two to one if not greater basis.
- The merits of providing flexibility in tree removal approvals where mature replacement trees can be specified as a mitigation measure.
- Other best practice tree management practices adopted in LGAs with a similar urban character and tree canopy to the Strathfield LGA.

2. A report be brought back to a future Councillor Workshop prior to a report going to Council.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

8.2 MAYORAL MINUTE 5/22 - REVIEW OF STRATHFIELD CONNECTOR BUS

AUTHOR: Matthew Blackmore, Mayor

I MOVE:

That Council:

Conduct a review of the Strathfield Connector Bus Service and prepare a report for the next Ordinary Council Meeting that includes but is not limited to:

- Number of users
- The existing route and which stops are used most frequently
- Any demand or community need that is not being currently serviced
- The possibility of a simplified route with an on-demand component
- Possible promotional activities which need to be conducted to increase usage
- That a report be prepared for the next Ordinary Council Meeting in relation to total operating costs and improvements that can be made to make the service operate more efficiently

Rationale

Strathfield Council and its local community values its connectivity. The Strathfield Connector Bus Service has operated for several years and costs Council a significant amount to operate, it is an appropriate time to review the service to give our residents and bus drivers a definitive direction in relation to this service.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Conduct a review of the Strathfield Connector Bus Service and prepare a report for the next Ordinary Council Meeting that includes but is not limited to:

- Number of users
- The existing route and which stops are used most frequently
- Any demand or community need that is not being currently serviced
- The possibility of a simplified route with an on-demand component
- Possible promotional activities which need to be conducted to increase usage
- That a report be prepared for the next Ordinary Council Meeting in relation to total operating costs and improvements that can be made to make the service operate more efficiently

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

11.1 REPORT FROM TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING ON 15 MARCH 2022

AUTHOR: Gordon Malesevic, Executive Manager, Urban Services

APPROVER: Stephen Clements, Deputy CEO and General Manager Planning, Environment and Urban Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on 15 March 2022 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes - 15 March 2022

ATTACHMENT 1



MINUTES

Traffic Committee Meeting

15 March 2022



TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 15 MARCH 2022

MINUTES

Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 15 March 2022, in the Main Building Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

COMMENCING: 11:00AM

PRESENT:	Clr. Matthew Blackmore	Mayor - Chairperson
	Clr. Karen Pensabene	Deputy Chair
	Clr Nella Hall	Strathfield Council
	Clr Benjamin Cai	Strathfield Council
	Jacqui Thorburn	Rep, Member for Strathfield
	Adrian Prichard	Transit Systems
	Kristian Calcagno	TfNSW

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Gordon Malesevic	Executive Manager Urban Services Strathfield Council
Mr John Inglese	Manager, Traffic Strathfield Council

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Mayor Clr Blackmore opened the meeting then handed the chair over to Cr Karen Pensabene.

2. APOLOGIES

Sgt. Raymond Yeung	Auburn Traffic Police
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3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Clr Benjamin Cai	For item 6.1
Clr Nella Hall	For item 6.3

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved - Clr Karen Pensabene	Deputy Mayor
Seconded - Kristian Calcagno	TfNSW

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting meeting held on 15 February 2022, a copy of which has been furnished to each Councillor, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairman and General Manager be authorised to sign such minutes.

Voting on this item was unanimous

5. DEFERRED/OUTSTANDING ITEMS

Nil

6. REPORTS

6.1 Flemington Road Homebush, Proposed No Stopping restrictions to facilitate upcoming traffic signal installation at Parramatta Road, Plaza Road and Flemington Road intersection.

Background;

Council has been advised by the project manager at Truman Consulting responsible for the design and delivery of the long awaited traffic signals at the Intersection Parramatta Road, Plaza Road and Flemington Road that construction of the signals is due to commence by the end of March 2022. To assist with the operations of the signals, No Stopping restrictions on the eastern side of Flemington Road will be required.

See below Fig. 1 showing the extent of the No Stopping.



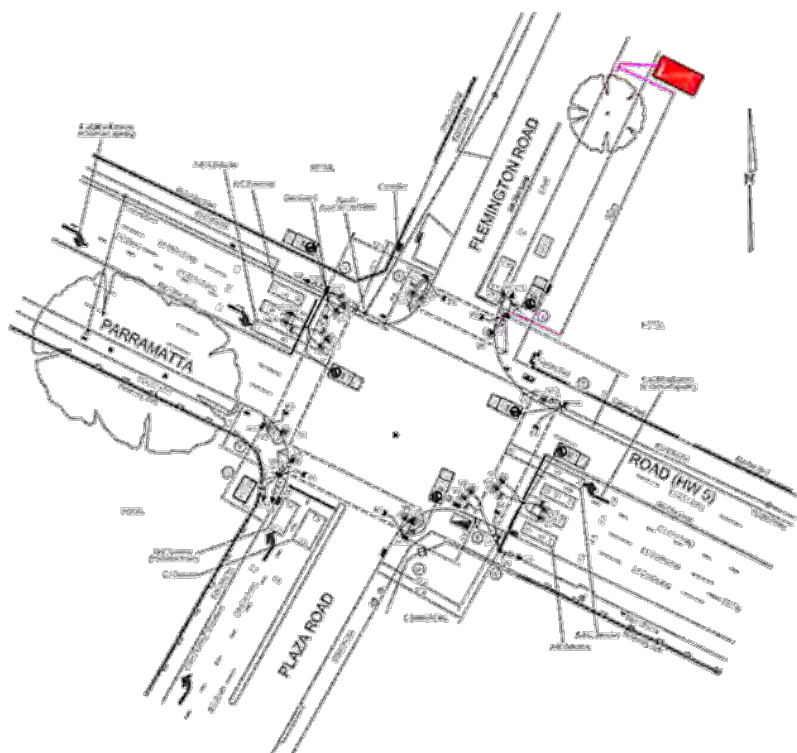
 Proposed No Stopping Zone

The consultant advised that the delay in the delivery of these traffic signals was in obtaining formal consent from Sydney Markets for the creation of an easement on part of Sydney Markets land for the traffic signal installation.

Proposal:

In order to facilitate unimpeded traffic movement on the approach to the new traffic signals from Flemington Road, No Stopping restrictions on the eastern side of the road for a length of 35.0m is a necessary requirement as part of the signal design.

See Figure 2. Excerpt from approved traffic signal plan.



Conclusion;

As there is only one southbound traffic lane in Flemington Road on the approach to the proposed new traffic signals at Parramatta Road a 35.0m section of No Stopping on the eastern side of the road is curtailed to the future operation of the intersection.

At the meeting discussion took place regarding the proposed signals and that this is a welcomed road safety improvement project along this section of Parramatta Rd. TfNSW requested additional No Stopping restrictions on the western side of Flemington road for the standard 20.0m length.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council approve the installation of the No Stopping restrictions on the east side of Flemington Road for a length of 35.0m as per Figure 2. in the report.
2. Further that; Council approve the installation of No Stopping restrictions on the western side of Flemington Road for the standard length of 20.0m (north of Parramatta Road).

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

6.2 Burlington Road Homebush – Request for additional parking spaces at the Homebush Road end.

Council has received a request for some additional parking spaces on Burlington Road between the roundabout and the start of the 90 Degree angle parking. Council officers have investigated this request and suggested two additional parallel spaces in this section of roadway.

Background;

Council Officers were requested to consider the possibility of additional parking spaces on the section of Burlington Road between the roundabout at Homebush Road and the start of the angle parking.

Assessment;

- Due to the location of the large street tree and close proximity to the corner of Homebush Road it is not recommended on safety grounds to provide any additional angle parking spaces on this section of Burlington Road with the current traffic arrangement.
- In addition carrying out a rear to kerb or front to kerb maneuver into this area is difficult and the large tree does not allow any overhang.

Proposal;

Notwithstanding the above, a compromise solution has been developed to allow two parallel parking spaces in this location with some modification to the existing traffic island.

This option would allow motorists safe access into the two spaces without the possibly of causing any comply with other motorists by pulling up to reverse park too close to the corner. Also the parallel parking gives motorist a good view of traffic turning the corner from Homebush Road into Burlington Street. See Fig 1.



Fig.1 Existing Conditions



Proposed Parallel Parking option Fig 2.

As part of the above plan it is also recommended to install a speed cushion on the entry to Burlington Road as shown above to reduce the speed of vehicles at this location.

At the meeting discussion took place regarding the proposed reconstruction of the traffic island to facilitate the parallel parking spaces and a request for a garden bed with low level planting could be incorporated into the new traffic island. This was considered a good initiative by members of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That; Council implement the two parallel parking spaces on the north side of Burlington Road west of Homebush Road as per Figure 2. in the report.
2. Further that; Council incorporate a garden bed with low level planting into the design of the new traffic island.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

6.3 Loftus Lane and Loftus Crescent, Homebush – Proposed expansion of the 2P Permit Holders Excepted (Area 20) into the unrestricted parking areas.

Council has received a request to expand the 2P Permit Holders Excepted (Area 20) into the unrestricted parking in Loftus Lane and on the southern side of Loftus Crescent.

See current 2P Permit Holders Excepted Parking restrictions and Unrestricted Parking plan for the area bounded by Loftus Cres, Subway Lane, Bridge St and Parramatta Rd. See Figure 1



Fig.1

Existing 2P Permit Holders Excepted (Area 20) approx. number of spaces,

- 24 in Crane Street
- 20 in Bridge Street and,
- 60 on north side of Loftus Crescent
- **Total 104**

Existing Unrestricted Parking, approx. number of spaces

- 70 on south side of the Loftus Crescent and,
- 14 both sides of Loftus Lane
- **Total 84**

Proposal

In order to cope with the increasing resident population demand for on street parking in this area it is proposed to extend the 2P Permit Holders Excepted (Area 20) into Loftus Lane and Loftus Crescent as per the proposed plan. See Figure 2.

It should be noted that Council realises that this will impact on the all-day parking in the area.



Fig.2

The area shown in Blue on Figure 2 is the proposed conversion from unrestricted parking to 2P Resident parking;

Proposal

Proposed Extension to 2P Permit Holders Excepted approx. No of spaces

- 70 on south side of the Loftus Crescent and,
- 14 in Loftus Lane
- Total 84

The proposal will increase the number of 2P Permit Holders Excepted spaces from 104 to 192 which equates to an increase of 45%.

The proposal is to implement the following parking restriction;

2P Permit Holders Excepted
Area 20
8:00am – 6:00pm
Mon to Sat

At the meeting discussion took place regarding the proposed expansion of the 2P Permit Holders Excepted (Area 20).

Additional No Parking restrictions were suggested for section/s of Loftus Lane.

Also, an Option 2 was also recommended that included a mix of unrestricted parking and 2P Permit Holders Excepted on the southern side of Loftus Cres.

It was also suggested that the general objectives of the 2P Permit Holders Excepted Parking Strategy should be included in the community consultation survey. These are listed below;

- Ensure parking restrictions reflect the needs of all the users
- Reduce traffic and parking congestion in these local streets
- Ensure residents are not adversely affected by all day parkers in these local streets
- Encourage parking turnover and ensure short to medium term parking is readily available

Also the area of the community consultation is to be extended to include Parramatta Road, Pott's Street, The Crescent and Subway Lane.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That; Council undertake Community Consultation to expand the 2P Permit Holders Excepted (Area 20) into the unrestricted parking areas in Loftus Lane and Loftus Crescent as per Figure 2. in the report.
2. Further that; an Option 2 is to be provided in the survey that includes a mix of No Parking, Unrestricted Parking and 2P Permit Holders Excepted Parking in Loftus Lane and along the southern side of Loftus Crescent.
3. That; the community consultation include the Parking Strategy Objectives listed in the report.
4. That; the results of the community consultation process be reported back to the May 2022 Traffic Committee Meeting for review.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

7. SPECIAL EVENTS

Nil

8. ROAD SAFETY

8.1 Road Safety Officers Report

Safety Issue	Project Name	Project Description & Update	Project Timeline
Occupant Restraints	Strathfield Occupant Restraint Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing education on age-appropriate seats & Australian standards Child Restraint fitting day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing throughout the financial year 14 & 21 December 2021 11 & 25 January 2022 8 March 2022 Cancelled due to recent rain. Rescheduled to the 15 March 2022 12 April 2022 10 May 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory registrations COVID Safe plan Chalmers Rd parking bays Available to parents & carers who live, work or study in LGA
Cycling safety (commuter, recreational & food delivery riders)	Road Safety is Everyone's Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and design targeted educational campaigns Share messaging with local stakeholders, educational institutions, healthcare organisations and small businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road is a shared space: Be extra vigilant at all times Always wear a helmet: It's the law Cyclists have same rights & responsibilities Let us share the road safely Respond to enquiries Support Centre for Road Safety & Transport for NSW with collateral & campaign rollout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing throughout the financial year
Speed	Slowdown in Strathfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-platform awareness campaigns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anywhere Anytime – Police enforcement Mobile speed cameras Speed is biggest killer on NSW roads - Slowing down just a little, can make big difference Casual Speeding? Every K counts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 X weekly reminders



TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 15 MARCH 2022

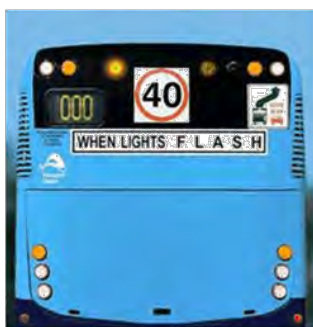
MINUTES

Safety Around Schools	Support our local schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community education & engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools resume soon School Zones currently in operation Always hold hands & Use pedestrian crossing Parents play an important role in keeping children safe Bus lights flashing (Slow down to 40) Ongoing engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School zone rules – pedestrian crossing, double parking, kiss & ride, illegal U turns Share traffic fliers & Centre for Road Safety campaigns Liaise with Road Safety Education Officer, council rangers & Auburn LAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 X Targeted messaging at start of each school term, supplemented by specific weekly campaigns during term to protect our most vulnerable road users Ongoing throughout the financial year
Younger Drivers	Slow Down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed camera enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Anywhere, Anytime</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing targeted stakeholder group education
	Driver distraction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile phones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Mobile Phones & Driving: Know the Rules</i> 	
Drink Driving	What's Your Plan B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement through Flemington Liquor Accord Targeted campaigns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Four Angel's Law</i> <i>Blood Alcohol Concentration</i> <i>Zero tolerance for L & P platers</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend monthly meetings (currently online) Weekly messaging to stakeholders through FLAC network
Other activities	Holiday Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle Health Check This Summer, Enjoys Our Roads Responsibly Double Demerits What's Your Get Home Safe Game Plan? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety messaging to coincide with increase in holiday travel The road is a shared space, let us make it safe for everyone Anywhere, Anytime – education & enforcement campaign in the lead up to long weekend New partnerships with local organisations to reduce incidence of risky drinking
	Good Sports Program		



2022 NSW Public holiday period	2022 NSW Double demerit periods
Easter	14 April to 18 April 2022 inclusive
Anzac Day	22 April to 25 April 2022 inclusive

Road safety awareness campaign: Holiday Safety



Road safety awareness campaign: School Zone Rules

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

9.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Burlington Road Homebush (West of Rochester Street) – Motor Cycle Parking and Signage Matters.

At the meeting Cllr. Pensebene raised the following concerns regarding the 90 Degree angle parking area on the north side of Burlington Road west of Rochester Street.

- Motor vehicles were parking in the area signposted for Motor Cycle parking
- Some of the signposts were being damaged by reversing vehicles.



Discussion took place regarding these issues and the following was recommended;

RECOMMENDATION

That; Council install additional linemarking to delineate the motor cycle parking area and that all the signposting behind the angle parking be adjusted/moved back to line up with the parking bays.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

Meeting Closed: 11:55AM

Next Meeting: 19 April 2022

12.1 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR HALL

SUBJECT: RESILIENCE NSW AND DISASTER RECOVERY PAYMENT

I MOVE:

1. That Council staff be acknowledged for acting promptly in registering the Strathfield Local Government Area for placement on the list of disaster declared Councils during the current NSW severe weather and flooding from late February 2022. Should Council be successful in being admitted to the “list” of declared Councils affected each adult and child would have access government funding.
2. Should Council be successful in being placed on the list of disaster affected Councils this information be disseminated as quickly as possible to residents.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council staff be acknowledged for acting promptly in registering the Strathfield Local Government Area for placement on the list of disaster declared Councils during the current NSW severe weather and flooding from late February 2022. Should Council be successful in being admitted to the “list” of declared Councils affected each adult and child would have access government funding.
2. Should Council be successful in being placed on the list of disaster affected Councils this information be disseminated as quickly as possible to residents.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.2 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR HALL

SUBJECT: DECORATIVE PLANTING ON VERGES

I MOVE:

That Council provide a report that details a scheme for a variety of suitable plants to be issued to residents wanting to place plants on their verge.

Rationale

As Council does not look after verges some residents would prefer to look after plants than grass. There are a number of planted verges already in Strathfield and Burwood Council has already adopted this concept.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council provide a report that details a scheme for a variety of suitable plants to be issued to residents wanting to place plants on their verge.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.3 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CAI

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC - HILLCREST AVENUE, SOUTH STRATHFIELD

I MOVE:

That a report be provided to the June Council Meeting outlining potential solutions to traffic volumes at school pick up and drop off times in Hillcrest Avenue, South Strathfield.

Rationale

I have received representations from residents of Hillcrest Avenue, South Strathfield and surrounding streets about the volume of traffic around school drop off and pick up times. A report is requested on potential solutions to this problem.

RECOMMENDATION

That a report be provided to the June Council Meeting outlining potential solutions to traffic volumes at school pick up and drop off times in Hillcrest Avenue, South Strathfield.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.4 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CAI

SUBJECT: PARK TOILETS

I MOVE:

That a report be provided to the June Council Meeting detailing which Council parks have toilet facilities, which don't, and the criteria used to determine whether toilets will be made available.

Rationale

I have noticed that there are a number of parks in the Strathfield Local Government Area that do not have toilet facilities.

As many young families use these facilities regularly, the absence of toilets is likely to be a significant inconvenience. I am seeking a report detailing:

All Council parks

Which parks have toilet facilities

The criteria used to assess the need for toilet facilities

I understand this information is available but requires compilation.

RECOMMENDATION

That a report be provided to the June Council Meeting detailing which Council parks have toilet facilities, which don't, and the criteria used to determine whether toilets will be made available.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.5 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CAI
SUBJECT: CHAIN OF PONDS RESERVE, CAVE ROAD, SOUTH STRATHFIELD

I MOVE:

That a report be provided to the June Council Meeting detailing why barbecue facilities were not installed at Chain of Ponds Reserve and options for considering these in the future.

Rationale

I commend officers on the significant amount of parks upgrade works completed in the Strathfield local government area.

I note that playground upgrade and recreation structure works were recently completed at Chain of Ponds Reserve.

There are no barbeque facilities at this park and advice is sought on why these were not provided, whether these could be planned, the cost to Council and whether a funding source is available to undertake the works.

RECOMMENDATION

That a report be provided to the June Council Meeting detailing why barbeque facilities were not installed at Chain of Ponds Reserve and options for considering these in the future.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.6 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PENSABENE

SUBJECT: INSECURE JOBS

I MOVE:

That Council write to all local members and candidates for the upcoming election stating:

That Strathfield Councillors; recognise and support the importance of maintaining Council services by Council workers.

Maintaining core and valued Council services using local council labour.

Support Council trainee and apprenticeships to share knowledge in the industry.

Reject the misuse of labour-hire contractors and casual employment in the Local Government space.

Avoid the privatisation of valued and reliable Council services.

Rationale

Job instability is much more prevalent among part-time casual workers. The data for August 2020 shows around 68.7% of casual part-time workers were not guaranteed a minimum number of hours per week, 43.8% per cent reported variable hours of work (i.e. they did not usually work the same number of hours each week) and 58.9% reported variable earnings in different pay periods.

Female partners and dependent students together accounted for 43.9% of all casual employees in August 2020. While men in partnered relationships are less likely to be casual employees (12.5% of all male employees) they accounted for a sizeable share of all casual employees (18.7%).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council write to all local members and candidates for the upcoming election stating:

That Strathfield Councillors; recognise and support the importance of maintaining Council services by Council workers.

Maintaining core and valued Council services using local council labour.

Support Council trainee and apprenticeships to share knowledge in the industry.

Reject the misuse of labour-hire contractors and casual employment in the Local Government space.

Avoid the privatisation of valued and reliable Council services.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.7 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR REDDY
SUBJECT: COUNCIL APP FOR COUNCIL SERVICES

I MOVE:

1. That a report, including costs be provided to the May 2022 Council Meeting on developing and launching a Council app, where local residences can access Council services, keep up to date with upcoming events and alerts.
2. If there is a pre developed app with Council, I request that this app be made available for the use of local residences.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That a report, including costs be provided to the May 2022 Council Meeting on developing and launching a Council app, where local residences can access Council services, keep up to date with upcoming events and alerts.
2. If there is a pre developed app with Council, I request that this app be made available for the use of local residences.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.8 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DATTA

SUBJECT: ENHANCE COVERAGE OF MULTICULTURAL AUSTRALIA IN NEWS AND MEDIA

I MOVE:

That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW and the Federal Government by 30 April 2022, advising them to take appropriate steps to:

- i. Enhance the coverage of News and stories of multicultural Australians on TV and other news media using the legislative process that create binding obligations for both TV and print media to provide equitable coverage of the news and stories of 'Multicultural Australia'.
- ii. Create appropriate training opportunities for people from migrant background to just not only become spokespeople for other migrants, but for all Australians with an equal claim to shape Australia's culture and national debates for the broader Australian community.

Rationale

- i. The absence of multicultural representation in Australian media is appalling.

Twenty-four per cent of the population is made up of Australians of non-European and Indigenous backgrounds. Despite this, a report by Media Diversity Australia showed they only appear on television news screens **six per cent** of the time.

Less than four per cent of all news and current affairs stories broadcast are about multicultural Australia.

Australia which call itself a multicultural country too often forgets the narratives of refugees and migrants, is not critically mindful of their hopes and aspirations, the daily struggles of their lives. These are making them an invisible population despite its large presence.

- ii. There are countless stories of tragedy and triumph, which are easily worthy of being told to all Australians, worthy of the big screen. I don't believe Australia doesn't want to hear them. I believe these stories can inspire many lives, create many role models and contribute to increasing social integration and prosperity.

There is very little **opportunity or space** for these stories to be told currently.

Australian governments at both State and Federal levels must create more space and support skills development for these stories to be told and heard.

RECOMMENDATION

That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW and the Federal Government by 30 April 2022, advising them to take appropriate steps to:

- i. Enhance the coverage of News and stories of multicultural Australians on TV and other news media using the legislative process that create binding obligations for both TV and print media to provide equitable coverage of the news and stories of 'Multicultural Australia'.
- ii. Create appropriate training opportunities for people from migrant background to just not only become spokespeople for other migrants, but for all Australians with an equal claim to shape Australia's culture and national debates for the broader Australian community.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.9 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DATTA

SUBJECT: DIVERSITY IN THE WORKPLACE

I MOVE:

That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW and the Federal Government by 30 April 2022, advising them to take appropriate legislative steps to:

Ensure both government and non-government organisations set racial diversity hiring targets and make them public to show they are seriously committed to tackling racism.

Encourage corporate leaders to be brave enough to speak directly about workplace racism instead of relying on fuzzy terms such as “harmony” and “cultural inclusion”.

Implement fitting changes to motivate hiring managers to look for “cultural add” rather than “cultural fit” when assessing candidates.

Rationale

- i. A recent survey of 1547 workers found only 27 per cent of respondents said their organisations were proactive in preventing workplace racism.
- ii. Forty-three per cent of “racially marginalised” non-white workers said racism in their workplace was very common.
- iii. About 95 per cent of the most senior positions in Australian organisations are held by people with an Anglo-Celtic or European background while only 4.7 per cent have a non-European background.
- iv. Forty-three per cent of “racially marginalised” non-white workers said racism in their workplace was very common compared to just 18 per cent of white employees.

Subconscious bias in hiring practices is locking non-white people out of jobs for which they are well-qualified and holding them back from deserved promotions.

Hiring managers often evaluate employees against a westernised notion of the “ideal employee”, preferring candidates with Western-sounding surnames and stereotypical Australian accents.

Looking for candidates who are a good “cultural or organisational fit” for the workplace. This often means being a subconscious code for “we’re looking for someone just like us”.

Managers often recognise and reward “Western-centric leadership styles” such as extroversion and self-promotion while stereotyping non-white workers as less confident and ambitious, looking at politeness as weakness.

Unfortunately, the truth is people hire others that look and are similar to them, what they’re comfortable with.

With people in leadership roles and managers being typically white (About 95 per cent of the most senior positions in Australian organisations are held by people with an Anglo-Celtic or European background), this is what they tend to hire, promote or give opportunities to.

Ref: Diversity Council Australia’s Racism at Work reports

RECOMMENDATION

That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW and the Federal Government by 30 April 2022, advising them to take appropriate legislative steps to:

Ensure both government and non-government organisations set racial diversity hiring targets and make them public to show they are seriously committed to tackling racism.

Encourage corporate leaders to be brave enough to speak directly about workplace racism instead of relying on fuzzy terms such as “harmony” and “cultural inclusion”.

Implement fitting changes to motivate hiring managers to look for “cultural add” rather than “cultural fit” when assessing candidates.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.10 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DATTA

SUBJECT: FLOOD AND FIRE RISKS TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE SELECTING AREAS TO BUILD NEW HOMES

I MOVE:

That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW that the Strathfield Council recommends that:

Risks of floods and fires of an area is taken into account for selecting areas before building new homes.

Rationale

NSW Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes The Hon. Anthony Roberts, MP has scrapped a requirement to consider the risks of floods and fires for selecting areas before building new homes only two weeks after it came into effect and while the state was reeling from a deadly environmental disaster. Mr Roberts recently revoked a ministerial directive by his predecessor Mr Robert Stokes outlining nine principles for sustainable development, including managing the risks of climate change.

This decision is difficult to understand, particularly with the recent and continuing devastating floods and with bushfires. The directives of Mr Stokes, revoked had sought to address 'Risk-management and resilience-building' in the face of such disasters.

In the midst of our current flood and housing crises, why would a government choose to remove planning principles aimed at disaster resilience? This is a short-sighted decision that could have enduring negative impacts. I can only assume the builders and their friends would love it. These should be immediately restored.

RECOMMENDATION

That Strathfield Council writes to the State Government of NSW that the Strathfield Council recommends that:

Risks of floods and fires of an area is taken into account for selecting areas before building new homes.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.11 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DATTA
SUBJECT: GARBAGE COLLECTION LEAD TIMES AND ILLEGAL DUMPING

I MOVE:

1. That Strathfield Council takes appropriate action to reduce the lead time for garbage collection/cleaning to no more than a week once a request is lodged through the on-line service
2. That camera/s be installed in some key areas to identify any illegal dumping, and catch miscreants for taking appropriate action.

Rationale

The average current lead time is over 2 months, causing residents to dump their garbage illegally in various areas of the Local Government Area. If a resident is moving out, it is always not possible for him/her to wait 2 months.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Strathfield Council takes appropriate action to reduce the lead time for garbage collection/cleaning to no more than a week once a request is lodged through the on-line service
2. That camera/s be installed in some key areas to identify any illegal dumping, and catch miscreants for taking appropriate action.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.12 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR DATTA

SUBJECT: AIREY PARK CRICKET GROUND DRAINAGE

I MOVE:

That the drainage of the Airey Park cricket ground be reviewed as a matter of urgency and appropriate action is taken to rectify the drainage of the ground and restore the future of the cricket ground as an award winning asset as it has been in the recent past.

Rationale

Over the last couple of months it has become apparent, that the existing drainage at Airey Park cricket ground, is not coping, so much so that the ground has been closed for more than 5 weeks now.

The drainage at the ground has been questionable for a number of seasons. Recent weather has only heightened the inadequacy of the existing drainage. This season, the time for the finals has come and gone, and local cricket games have been severely impacted due to the less than optimum condition of the ground. The Cricket Club has been unable to use the ground for the past 5 weekends. This includes qualifying, semi and grand final matches. The junior coaching programmes have been put on hold as the Club has not been able to conduct them in the past month or more.

Given the current situation, the ground in its current condition would not be able to be used for any sport, without considerable damage to the ground, for the foreseeable future. Airey Park is a wonderful community asset and is used by community members for various forms of exercises and by local residents for playing sports and informal community gatherings. These activities are essential for maintain good health and spirit, particularly at a time when all lives are impacted by COVID related restrictions. With the state of the ground as it is now, these activities are being denied to everyone.

Council's groundsman, James Liversidge, does a wonderful job in preparing and maintaining the ground. Last season the ground won the Shires Cricket Ground of the Year award. It is a prized asset of the Council and the community. Unfortunately this season, with the number of abandonments the local Cricket Club had, James's and Council's work would not be similarly recognised. Though some patchwork might have been done in the recent past, the drainage of the ground has not been thoroughly looked at for a long time and it now needs urgent attention.

RECOMMENDATION

That the drainage of the Airey Park cricket ground is reviewed as a matter of urgency and appropriate action is taken to rectify the drainage of the ground and restore the future of the cricket ground as an award winning asset as it has been in the recent past.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Airey Park Drainage - Pictures

ATTACHMENT 1





12.13 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PENSABENE

SUBJECT: STATEMENT OF THE HEART

I MOVE:

That the Mayor write to all elected Local, State and Federal representatives, Aboriginal Land Councils and Local Dharug organisations on behalf of Strathfield Council to express our support for a proposed national referendum.

This referendum formally recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution and the key principles of the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart'.

Rationale

There is a potential for two sovereignties to co-exist in which both western and indigenous values and identities are protected and given voice in policies and laws. We as a local voice need to urge our State and Federal Members that this referendum is overdue. All levels of government are responsible.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor write to all elected Local, State and Federal representatives, Aboriginal Land Councils and Local Dharug organisations on behalf of Strathfield Council to express our support for a proposed national referendum.

This referendum formally recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution and the key principles of the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart'.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.14 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PENSABENE
SUBJECT: REPORT ON SAFETY AND AMENITY WORKS END OF THE CRESCENT, HOMEBUSH WEST

I MOVE:

That Council provide to the May Ordinary Council Meeting a report on works to be undertaken to improve the safety and amenity of the pedestrian tunnel at the end of the Crescent, Homebush West, to Richmond Road.

Rationale

This very busy area needs an upgrade. Safety is a premium around this area.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council provide to the May Ordinary Council Meeting a report on works to be undertaken to improve the safety and amenity of the pedestrian tunnel at the end of the Crescent, Homebush West, to Richmond Road.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.15 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR HALL
SUBJECT: CONSULTATION PROCESS WITH BUSINESSES WITHIN SHOPPING PRECINCTS

I MOVE:

That Council prepare a report for a consultation process to be conducted with local business owners in the Strathfield, Strathfield South, Homebush, and Homebush West shopping precincts as part of the yearly budget process.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council prepare a report for a consultation process to be conducted with local business owners in the Strathfield, Strathfield South, Homebush, and Homebush West shopping precincts as part of the yearly budget process.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.16 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MAHESWARAN
SUBJECT: IMPROVING THE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL

I MOVE:

That Council's officers draft a policy along the following principles for consideration and adoption by Council at the next Council meeting:

Principle 1. Any person or organisation seeking to lobby Strathfield Council's employees or officers – with respect to a significant development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender, shall be listed on a public register, including the date of the approach, the purpose of the lobbying, the person undertaking the lobbying, and the details of any meeting between Council and the person.

Principle 2. A public register should be established on the Strathfield Council website and updated on a monthly basis.

Principle 3. Wherever possible, meetings with persons lobbying Council regarding a significant development application (with a value over \$5m), a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender should occur on Council's premises or at the offices or premises of the lobbyist (or their client), during ordinary business hours, and with more than one Council officer/employee present.

Principle 4. The date on which a request for a meeting with Council has been made by a lobbyist for a development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender, shall be listed on the public register, as well as the date on which any meeting in response to the request occurred.

Principle 5. A formal minute of any meeting with a lobbyist for a development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council Tender should be taken and made available online. A minute should be kept but not published for a period of time in circumstances where such a minute would prejudice the proper operation of Council, disclose commercial in confidence information, or otherwise not be appropriate.

Principle 6. Prior to a person (or a person acting on the person's behalf) approaching a Councillor in respect of a major development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender, the person should lodge an online form (prepared by Council) setting out the issues to be raised with the Councillor prior to any meeting taking place.

Principle 7. Otherwise adopt the ICAC's Guide for Councillors, constituents and other interest parties (August 2006) into practical measures to reduce any actual or perceived favourable or unfavourable treatment of persons lobbying Council.

Rationale

The intended Code of Conduct is intended to prevent real or perceived favouritism by Council's officers or employees in dealings with third parties with a significant financial interest in Council's decisions. Those third parties have been generally surmised as those with development applications (of a significant nature), those with planning proposals, and those tendering for significant Council contracts – and those acting on their behalf.

Principles 1 and 2 is designed to create public accountability around who Council is dealing with and why through the creation of a public register.

Principle 3 and 5 is designed to reduce any sense of impropriety around engagements with third parties by ensuring those meetings occur in an appropriate environment that has accountability – including by the minuting and publication of such meetings.

Principle 4 will ensure that certain parties are not treated favourably (or perceived to be treated favourably) by bringing public accountability on how Council deals with meeting requests.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council's officers draft a policy along the following principles for consideration and adoption by Council at the next Council meeting:

Principle 1. Any person or organisation seeking to lobby Strathfield Council's employees or officers – with respect to a significant development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender, shall be listed on a public register, including the date of the approach, the purpose of the lobbying, the person undertaking the lobbying, and the details of any meeting between Council and the person.

Principle 2. A public register should be established on the Strathfield Council website and updated on a monthly basis.

Principle 3. Wherever possible, meetings with persons lobbying Council regarding a significant development application (with a value over \$5m), a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender should occur on Council's premises or at the offices or premises of the lobbyist (or their client), during ordinary business hours, and with more than one Council officer/employee present.

Principle 4. The date on which a request for a meeting with Council has been made by a lobbyist for a development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender, shall be listed on the public register, as well as the date on which any meeting in response to the request occurred.

Principle 5. A formal minute of any meeting with a lobbyist for a development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council Tender should be taken and made available online. A minute should

be kept but not published for a period of time in circumstances where such a minute would prejudice the proper operation of Council, disclose commercial in confidence information, or otherwise not be appropriate.

Principle 6. Prior to a person (or a person acting on the person's behalf) approaching a Councillor in respect of a major development application, a planning proposal, or a significant Council tender, the person should lodge an online form (prepared by Council) setting out the issues to be raised with the Councillor prior to any meeting taking place.

Principle 7. Otherwise adopt the ICAC's Guide for Councillors, constituents and other interest parties (August 2006) into practical measures to reduce any actual or perceived favourable or unfavourable treatment of persons lobbying Council.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.17 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MAHESWARAN
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY ADVOCATE - CLARIFYING MOTION 12.14 OF THE 1 FEBRUARY 2022
COUNCIL MEETING

I MOVE:

That Council's officers provide a report on engaging an advocate on behalf of the community to undertake the items set out in item 2 (a) and (b) of the 11 February 2022 motion with relevant experience to represent the views of the community, undertake community consultation, and accurately reflect the communities' views in discussions about future planning.

Rationale

The future of the Strathfield area should always be defined around the expectations of its residents. There is a broad consensus that planning should support affordable, high-amenity housing (including access to transport, shops, recreation, greenspace, and services), high-quality jobs, and providing people with a sense of community and place.

Community views are often mistranslated or not accurately reflected in discussions around future planning. The planning system is complex and residents will be aided by having an advocate to translate their views into a form that is easily comprehended by both Council and the State Government.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council's officers provide a report on engaging an advocate on behalf of the community to undertake the items set out in item 2 (a) and (b) of the 11 February 2022 motion with relevant experience to represent the views of the community, undertake community consultation, and accurately reflect the communities' views in discussions about future planning.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

12.18 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR MAHESWARAN
SUBJECT: CLEAN-UP THE STRATHFIELD SOUTH TOWN CENTRE

I MOVE:

That Council undertake a report and provide Council with a cost estimate to clean up and rejuvenate the Strathfield South town centre.

Rationale

The Strathfield South town centre footpaths have become overgrown with weeds and otherwise become unclean. Council should undertake a low cost clean-up of the area by lifting and replacing pavers and undertaking general maintenance in the area.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council undertake a report and provide Council with a cost estimate to clean up and rejuvenate the Strathfield South town centre.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

CEO1 COUNCIL TENDERS ADVERTISED AND AWARDED

AUTHOR: Geoff Baker, Executive Manager Corporate Compliance and General Counsel

APPROVER: Brian Barrett, Acting General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That the monthly report of Council tenders advertised and awarded be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report details Council tenders advertised and awarded in February and March 2022.

REPORT

Tenders awarded in February and March 2022

None.

Tenders advertised in February and March 2022

Date Advertised	Date Closing/Closed	Tender Description	Status
16/02/22	10/03/22	Registration of Interest / EOI for Design & Construct a new Leisure Centre in Strathfield LGA	<i>Under Evaluation</i>
18/02/22	14/03/22	Traffic and Transport Study in Strathfield LGA	<i>Under Evaluation</i>
23/02/22	17/03/22	Design & Construct - Widening of Existing Bridge at Bridge Road, Homebush	<i>Under Evaluation</i>
28/02/22	22/03/22	Construction of New Shared Concrete Path at Hudson Park	<i>Under Evaluation</i>
28/02/22	22/03/22	Design & Construct - Bike Track at Hudson	<i>Under Evaluation</i>
28/02/22	22/03/22	Design & Construct - Misting Garden at Hudson Park	<i>Under Evaluation</i>
28/02/22	22/03/22	Design & Construct - Amphitheatre at Hudson Park	<i>Under Evaluation</i>
01/03/22	24/03/22	Community Newspaper	<i>Under Evaluation</i>

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

CEO2 RECRUITMENT OF A NEW GENERAL MANAGER

AUTHOR: Brian Barrett, Acting General Manager

APPROVER: Mary Rawlings, Director Office of the CEO

RECOMMENDATION

That Council appoints a Panel to conduct the selection of a new General Manager comprising:

- Cr Matthew Blackmore (Mayor) Chair of Panel
- Cr Karen Pensabene (Deputy Mayor)
- Either one or a limited number of other Councillors
- A suitably qualified independent person
- The selected recruitment consultant

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To enable Council to appoint a Panel to conduct the selection of a new General Manager.

REPORT

At its meeting on 7 March 2022 Council resolved that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, acting concurrently, be authorised to appoint a suitable consultant to, among other things, recruit a new General Manager.

Council is currently seeking Requests for Quotation (RFQ's) from a number of recruitment agencies in order to facilitate the selection of an appropriate consultant to support Council in the recruitment of a new General Manager. The closing date for the RFQ process is 8 April 2022. A selection will likely be made in the week beginning 11 April 2022.

The recruitment agency could be expected to:

- Engage with the Council to determine the collective expectations of current Councillors about the skills and attributes needed by a new General Manager and the immediate challenges they face in meeting community/Council expectations.
- Review the current Position Description for the General Manager role.
- Advise on an appropriate salary package based on current market forces.
- Prepare a recruitment package for potential applicants.
- Determine a marketing strategy for the role and preparation of marketing/advertising material.
- Advise on short listing of applicants.
- Organise interviews with short listed candidates and the Panel.
- Prepare questions for interviewees.
- Participate on the selection panel.
- Conduct reference checks and any testing of applicants agreed with the Panel.
- Prepare a report to Council with the Panel's recommendation.

This report seeks Council's decision on an appropriate Panel to conduct the selection process and to make a recommendation to the Council on the appointment of a new General Manager.

Council has a range of options available to it including:

1. A panel of the whole. This would involve all Councillors participating as members of the Selection Panel.
2. A selection of Councillors. This would involve the nomination of a limited number of Councillors to undertake the selection process.
3. A combination of Councillors and a well-qualified independent member.

Regardless of which option is selected, the recruitment agency will have a consultant present for all interviews and as a support to the Panel.

A large Panel can be unwieldy. With seven Councillors, a recruitment consultant and potentially an independent member it is not recommended that Council adopts a 'panel of the whole'. If all Councillors wish to meet the preferred candidate before finalising a selection such a meeting could be arranged as a final step in the process. This would not normally replicate the interview process.

The inclusion of a well-qualified independent member provides the community and Council with the assurance that the Panel has a person available to it that understands the role of a General Manager and can provide some expert advice to Panel members. An independent member would typically be an existing or recently retired General Manager.

Council should consider having a gender mix when determining panel membership.

It is recommended that Council resolves to appoint a Panel comprising:

- Cr Matthew Blackmore (Mayor) Chair of Panel
- Cr Karen Pensabene (Deputy Mayor)
- Either one or a limited number of other Councillors
- A suitably qualified independent person
- The selected recruitment consultant

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding has been provided in the current budget for recruitment. However, it is unlikely to be sufficient to meet the cost of this recruitment. Additional funds can be considered as part of the March Quarterly Budget review.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

CEO3 USE OF WESTINVEST FUNDING - LEISURE CENTRE

AUTHOR: Mary Rawlings, Director Office of the CEO

APPROVER: Brian Barrett, Acting General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council supports an application to the State Government for the \$21,185,000 million funding granted to Strathfield Council under the WestInvest scheme, to be applied to the construction of the Leisure Centre at Hudson Park.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

On 24 February 2022 the NSW Government announced its intention to make funding available to Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Local Councils for projects involving open space, community infrastructure, school modernisation, arts and cultural facilities, high street activation and local traffic programs. The WestInvest grant funding consists of two tranches, the first is allocated funding and is only provided to fifteen Councils. The balance is a much larger amount which is contestable funding. The purpose of this report is to determine the project/projects to be proposed to the NSW Government for funding from the first tranche, the amount allocated to Strathfield Council.

REPORT

Construction of a Leisure Centre in the Strathfield LGA was first raised with the community in 2017 and has been included in Council's Community Strategic Plans since 2018.

Based on the Concept Plan, in 2018 Council employed a consultant to develop a Business Case for the project. The Business Case has just been updated, and a copy is included in the confidential attachments. The revised estimated cost of construction is \$45 million, which includes the construction of the centre and the associated parking area and access.

Recent community consultations with various community groups evidence continuing strong support for a Leisure Centre. The WestInvest funding is a "one off" opportunity to deliver this project. Were the WestInvest grant allocated to the Leisure Centre, it would represent 48.5% of the cost of construction.

Presently, Council has no other projects at the stage of readiness to respond to the WestInvest grant. Therefore, should Council decide not to support the Leisure Centre for this funding, nominations of other community infrastructure projects are required immediately.

Nominations of other projects are in any case needed for the second tranche of the WestInvest grant funding. In order for these applications to be prepared for submission, Council needs to identify its priority

projects as soon as possible. A further report will then be provided to Council regarding nominations for the second tranche funding.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Proposed total Expenditure: \$45,000,000

If the recommendation of the report is adopted by Council, loan funding of \$23,150,000 would need to be secured. Servicing of the loan would be provided from projected S711 contributions.

A Benefit/Cost Analysis for the project is included in the Business Case.

ATTACHMENTS

1. AEC Draft Report - Business Case for a New Leisure Centre - ***CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT - for the information of Councillors*** - Circulated in Attachments document

CEO4 DRAFT MEDIA POLICY

AUTHOR: Brian Barrett, Acting General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That;

1. Council endorse the Draft Media Policy for public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.
2. The outcomes of the public exhibition of the draft Strathfield Council Media Policy (draft) be reported to Council.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

That Council endorse the Draft Media Policy for public exhibition.

REPORT

Council does not currently have a Media Policy and it is considered good practice for Council to have such a Policy, therefore a new Media Policy has been drafted for consideration and public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.

The Draft Media Policy aims to clearly identify Council's authorised spokespersons, promote a positive media relations and support a coordinated, professional and consistent approach to media liaison.

The Draft Policy applies to all media comment and activity on behalf of Council including social media.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Strathfield Council Media Policy (Draft)


ATTACHMENT 1

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

DRAFT MEDIA POLICY

5 APRIL 2022

DRAFT MEDIA POLICY

	DRAFT MEDIA POLICY		
RESPONSIBILITY	Communications and Events Section		
AUTHOR	Naomi Searle, Executive Manager Communications, Events and Engagement. Ext 292		
DATE ADOPTED	XX	MINUTE	
REVISED	NA - New	REVIEW	2023
CM10 NO			
ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)</i> • <i>Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)</i> • <i>Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act);</i> • <i>Local Government Act 1993;</i> • <i>Independent Commission Against Corruption Act;</i> • <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 NSW;</i> • <i>Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 2009 NSW;</i> • <i>State Records Act 1998;</i> • <i>Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011;</i> • <i>Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW 2015;</i> • <i>Copyright Act 1968 Cth; and</i> • <i>Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Act 2000 Cth.</i> 		
ASSOCIATED POLICIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strathfield Council Privacy Management Plan • Strathfield Council Community Consultation Policy • Strathfield Council Style Guide • Strathfield Council Customer Charter • Strathfield Council Service Standards • Strathfield Council Access to Information Policy • Strathfield Council Code of Meeting Practice • Strathfield Council Complaint Handling policy • Local Government Guidelines on Investigations • Strathfield Council Code of Conduct 		



DRAFT MEDIA POLICY

1. Introduction

1.1. Background

Strathfield Council strives to maintain a positive image in the community. Our public image is influenced by the way we communicate and all media relations should support Council in achieving our strategic objectives.

Strathfield Council welcomes enquiries from the media, and works proactively with media outlets to inform the public about Council's activities and advocacy. A mutually beneficial and trusting relationship between Council and the media is essential in maintaining and protecting Council's reputation. All media representatives are to be treated in the same manner as any other customer of Council, with promptness, transparency and respect.

Any media comment made by Council staff and contractors must abide by Council's Code of Conduct.

1.2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure all communication with the media is consistent, timely, accurate and appropriate;
- Protect and enhance the reputation of Council;
- Maintain and maximise positive relations with media;
- Establish consistent protocols, guidelines and an approvals process for managing communication to the media;
- Clearly indicate Council's authorised spokespeople; and
- Minimise miscommunication and potential adverse consequences.

1.3. Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all Strathfield Council staff, contractors and Councillors in relation to communication with the media. This Policy applies to all media comment and activity on behalf of Council.

2. Processes and approvals

Responding to media enquiries

The Executive Manager, Communications, Events and Engagement is responsible for the coordination of responses to all enquiries and will inform and liaise with the General Manager, the Mayor and relevant Council staff as required.



DRAFT MEDIA POLICY

Council staff are required to promptly assist the Media and Communications Coordinator with any media enquiries to ensure media deadlines are met.

Media Releases

The Executive Manager, Communications, Events and Engagement is responsible for preparing and issuing media releases about Council's activities, decisions and plans. All staff are required to proactively pass on information to the Executive Manager, Communications, Events and Engagement which could be used as the basis for a media release, such as public Council events and positive initiatives.

Event Notifications

All notifications in relation to Council events will come from the Office of the Mayor.

3. Council's authorised spokespeople

The Mayor is the official spokesperson for Strathfield Council. If the Mayor is not available, the Deputy Mayor will substitute or another Councillor nominated by the Mayor.

The General Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day management of Council is the spokesperson on operational matters. No Council staff or contractors are permitted to speak to media without the express written authorisation of the General Manager.

Comments to the media should only be made through authorised spokespeople.

4. Guidelines for Staff

All media requests should be directed to the Executive Manager, Communications, Events and Engagement in the Communications and Events team. If staff are approached by journalists, photographers or camera operators, they should politely direct all enquiries to the Executive Manager Communications, Events and Engagement.

Council staff and contractors may access media outlets in their personal capacity as residents or ratepayers but they should be mindful of their obligations under Council's Code of Conduct.

When acting in a personal capacity, Council staff and contractors should be aware of their association with Strathfield Council and ensure that their actions are consistent with our values of integrity, accountability, teamwork and wellbeing and safety. They must not imply that they are speaking on behalf of Strathfield Council or discuss their work or any matter relating to Council.



DRAFT MEDIA POLICY

Staff are not to provide background information, discuss Council matters, Council staff or Councillors, make a comment as a Council representative or issue official statements without prior approval from the General Manager.

The General Manager or the Executive Manager Communications, Events and Engagement must approve requests for interviews or media permission to film Council owned assets or Council staff.

5. Role of Councillors

It is common practice for the media to ask Councillors to comment on Council policy or decisions. Only the Mayor, Executive Manager of Communications, Events and Engagement or in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor or the Mayor's nominee, are permitted to speak on behalf of Council.

Individual Councillors remain free to provide personal comments to the media, but not to speak on Council's behalf. Individual Councillors speaking to the media on their own behalf must clearly convey this to the media and avoid any perception that their views are necessarily those of Council.

The Mayor and Councillors may inform the Executive Manager, Communications, Events and Engagement of any media contact relating to Council business and may copy them on any personal media releases.

Defamation law extends to Councillors and Council Officers. It could be considered defamatory to harm another person's reputation verbally or through written word.

Councillors are reminded of this policy at their Councillor Induction Program shortly after they are elected and this is included in the Councillors' Manual for ongoing reference.

6. Social Media

Strathfield Council staff, contractors and Councillors must not use social media to speak against a Council staff member, the Mayor, a Councillor or Strathfield Council.

7. Breaches of this policy

Breaches of this policy by Council staff, contractors and Councillors may result in an investigation of the alleged breach in line with Council's complaint handling policy and the Local Government Guidelines on Investigations, which may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

Any alleged criminal offence or allegation of corrupt conduct will be referred to the relevant external agency.

DRAFT MEDIA POLICY

8. Version Control

Date	Type	Minute
5 April 2022	Draft policy to be adopted at Council Meeting 5 April 2022	

CS1 INVESTMENT REPORT - FEBRUARY 2022

AUTHOR: Deo Narayan, Manager Finance, Operations

APPROVER: Francis Mangru, Executive Manager, Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That the record of cash investments as at 28 February 2022 be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To submit Council's record of cash investments as at 28 February 2022 pursuant to Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

Investment Allocation & Performance

Investment Portfolio as at 28 February 2022:

Call Accounts	Allocation (%)	Amount (\$)
Term Deposits	77.31	41,000,000
Cash At Bank and At Call Investment	22.69	12,035,194
Total Investments		53,035,194

* Investment Portfolio details are listed in the attachment.

As at the end of February 2022, the portfolio was mainly directed to fixed term deposits (77.31%). The remaining portfolio is directed to various cash accounts (22.69%). Although some of these cash accounts are currently paying a higher rate than most short-dated term deposits, there is ongoing risk that the bank can significantly reduce their overnight rate at any time. This will be monitored to ensure that actions are taken prior to this occurring.

Council's performance for the month ending 28 February 2022 is summarised as follows:

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.01%	0.02%	0.05%	0.07%	0.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%
Council's T/D Portfolio[^]	0.08%	0.22%	0.37%	0.46%	0.62%
Outperformance	0.07%	0.20%	0.36%	0.43%	0.59%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings. Overall returns would be lower if cash was included.

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.07%	0.06%	0.04%	0.03%	0.03%
Council's T/D Portfolio[^]	1.00%	0.89%	0.76%	0.69%	0.62%
Outperformance	0.93%	0.83%	0.72%	0.65%	0.59%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings. Overall returns would be lower if cash was included.

For the month of February, the investment portfolio (excluding cash) provided a solid return of +0.08% (actual) or +1.00% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.01% (actual) or +0.07% p.a. (annualised). Over the past year, it has returned +0.62% p.a., outperforming bank bills by 0.59% p.a.

The Reserve Bank of Australia's official cash rate remained at 0.10% for the month of February 2022. Council's investment portfolio has returned a weighted average yield of 0.77% as at end of February 2022, which is 0.71% above the 90 days Bloomberg benchmark of 0.06%.

Council has earned interest revenue totaling \$184,871 as at 28 February 2022, being 72.22% of the original full year projected budget.

Below is a table showing the restrictions placed on the cash and investments held:

Investments Represented by	28 February 2022 (\$)
Externally Restricted Reserves	
Domestic Waste Management	2,830,741
Unexpended Grants	4,897,747
Developer Contributions	12,158,127
Stormwater Management	837,163
Total Externally Restricted Reserves	20,723,778
Internally Restricted Reserves	
Plant Replacement	1,129,614
Employee Leave Entitlement	1,285,159
Deposits/Retentions and Bonds	10,220,119
Adshel (Bus Shelters)	270,000
Technology	165,084
Carry Forwards	37,621
Future Major Expenditure	2,452,570
Parkscape Improvements	29,000
Risk Management	195,362
Election	260,000
Total Internally Restricted Reserves	16,044,529
Total Restricted Reserves	36,768,307
Unrestricted	16,266,887
Total Investments	53,035,194

* Unrestricted funds, whilst not subject to a restriction for a specific purpose, are fully committed via Council's adopted Operational Plan.

Impact of COVID-19 to Council's Portfolio

COVID-19 has adversely impacted financial markets, which in turn, has also affected Council's investment portfolio.

The RBA cut rates to record lows on 3 November 2020 to 0.10%, consistent with most global central banks resetting their official rates back to emergency levels. As global markets start to recover, inflationary pressures have emerged. This has resulted in longer-term bond yields to rise in recent months as central banks start to withdraw some of their other stimulatory policy measures (such as quantitative easing), whilst some have already started increasing official interest rates. Markets are now bracing an environment where central banks will move from their excessively loose policy measures to a tightening cycle.

Domestically, RBA Governor Philip Lowe has commented that interest rate rises starting later in 2022 were deemed “a plausible scenario”, but he also stated “it’s still quite plausible that the first increase is a year or longer away”.

Council’s term deposit portfolio was yielding just 0.92% p.a. at month-end, with a weighted average duration of around 579 days (around 1.6 years). This will provide some income protection against the low rate environment over the coming year.

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

The Chief Finance Officer hereby certifies that the investments listed above have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and Council’s Investment Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Investment Performance - February 2022

ATTACHMENT 1



Investment Report

01/02/2022 to 28/02/2022








Portfolio Valuation as at 28/02/2022

Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Interest	Purchase	Maturity	Rate	Capital Value	Accrued	Accrued MTD
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/06/2021	04/03/2022	0.3700	2,000,000.00	5,413.15	567.67
Members Equity Bank	BBB+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	30/09/2021	01/04/2022	0.4000	2,000,000.00	3,331.51	613.70
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	24/05/2021	24/05/2022	0.3800	2,000,000.00	5,850.96	583.01
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/06/2021	07/06/2022	0.4000	2,000,000.00	5,852.05	613.70
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	23/07/2021	22/07/2022	0.3800	2,000,000.00	4,601.64	583.01
Auswide Bank	BBB-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	30/11/2021	01/09/2022	0.6500	2,000,000.00	3,241.10	997.26
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	27/10/2022	0.5100	2,000,000.00	922.19	782.47
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	01/11/2021	01/11/2022	0.7000	2,000,000.00	4,602.74	1,073.97
Members Equity Bank	BBB+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/12/2021	07/12/2022	0.7000	1,000,000.00	1,610.96	536.99
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/02/2022	07/02/2023	0.8700	1,000,000.00	524.38	524.38
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	18/05/2023	0.6000	2,000,000.00	9,435.62	920.55
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	23/07/2021	24/07/2023	0.6500	1,000,000.00	3,935.62	498.63
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	26/10/2023	0.9600	4,000,000.00	3,471.78	2,945.75
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	TD	GENERAL	Annual	09/12/2021	13/12/2023	1.4300	2,000,000.00	6,425.21	2,193.97
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	TD	GENERAL	Annual	07/02/2022	07/02/2024	1.7200	2,000,000.00	2,073.42	2,073.42
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	20/05/2024	0.7500	1,000,000.00	5,897.26	575.34
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	30/10/2024	1.3500	5,000,000.00	6,102.74	5,178.08
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	19/05/2025	1.0000	1,000,000.00	7,863.01	767.12

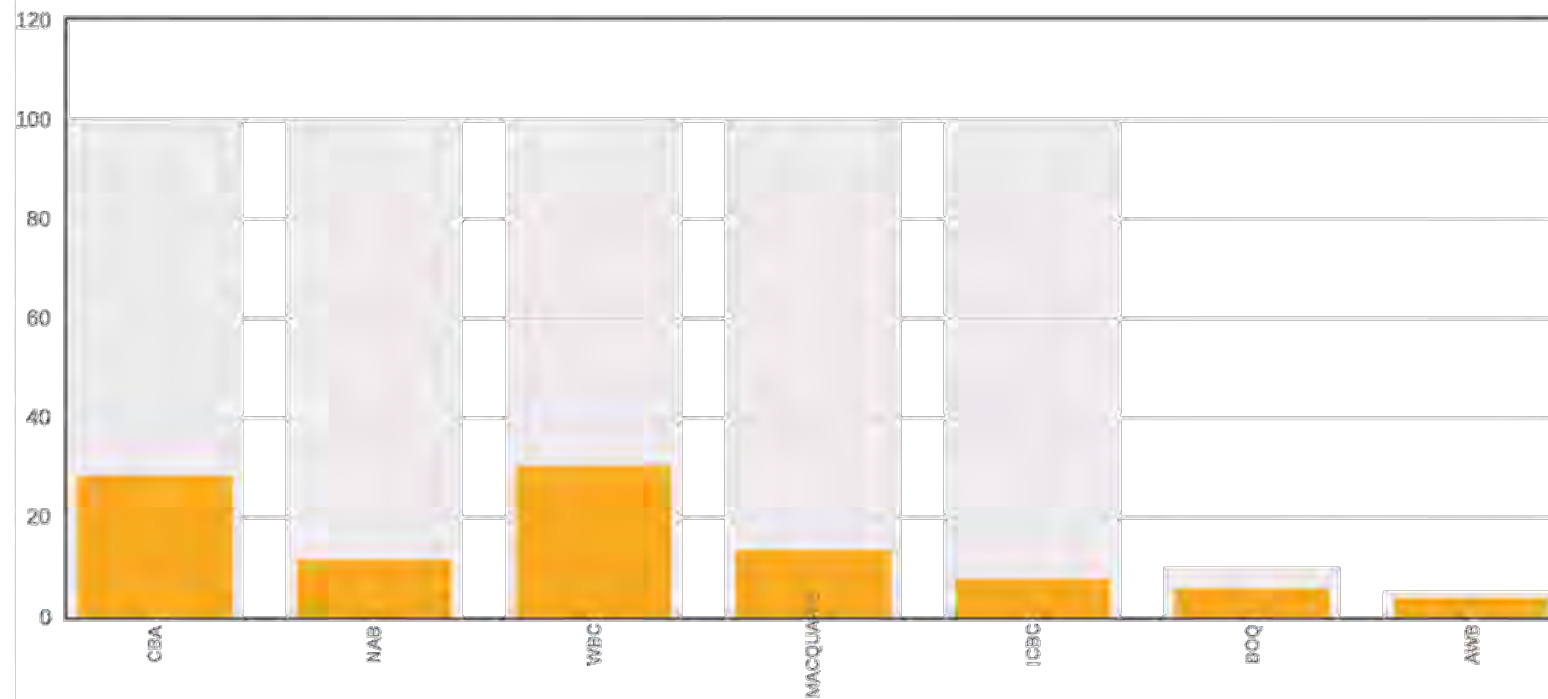
Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Interest	Purchase	Maturity	Rate	Capital Value	Accrued	Accrued MTD
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	29/10/2025	1.5900	2,000,000.00	2,875.07	2,439.45
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	15/05/2026	1.3000	1,000,000.00	10,221.92	997.26
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	28/10/2026	1.8200	2,000,000.00	3,290.96	2,792.33
Macquarie Bank	A+	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	28/02/2022	28/02/2022	0.4000	7,052,850.80	2,163.52	2,163.52
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	28/02/2022	28/02/2022	0.0000	2,036,584.34	-	-
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	28/02/2022	28/02/2022	0.1000	2,945,758.48	126.11	126.11
TOTALS								53,035,193.62	99,832.92	30,547.72

Counterparty Compliance as at 28/02/2022

Long Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available
	Commonwealth Bank	Long	AA-	14,982,342.82	28.25	100.00	-	38,052,850.80
	NAB	Long	AA-	6,000,000.00	11.31	100.00	-	47,035,193.62
	Westpac	Long	AA-	16,000,000.00	30.17	100.00	-	37,035,193.62
	Macquarie Bank	Long	A+	7,052,850.80	13.30	100.00	-	45,982,342.82
	ICBC Sydney Branch	Long	A	4,000,000.00	7.54	100.00	-	49,035,193.62
	BOQ	Long	BBB+	3,000,000.00	5.66	10.00	-	2,303,519.36
	Auswide Bank	Long	BBB	2,000,000.00	3.77	5.00	-	651,759.68
TOTALS				53,035,193.62	100.00			

Counterparty Compliance - Long Term Investments

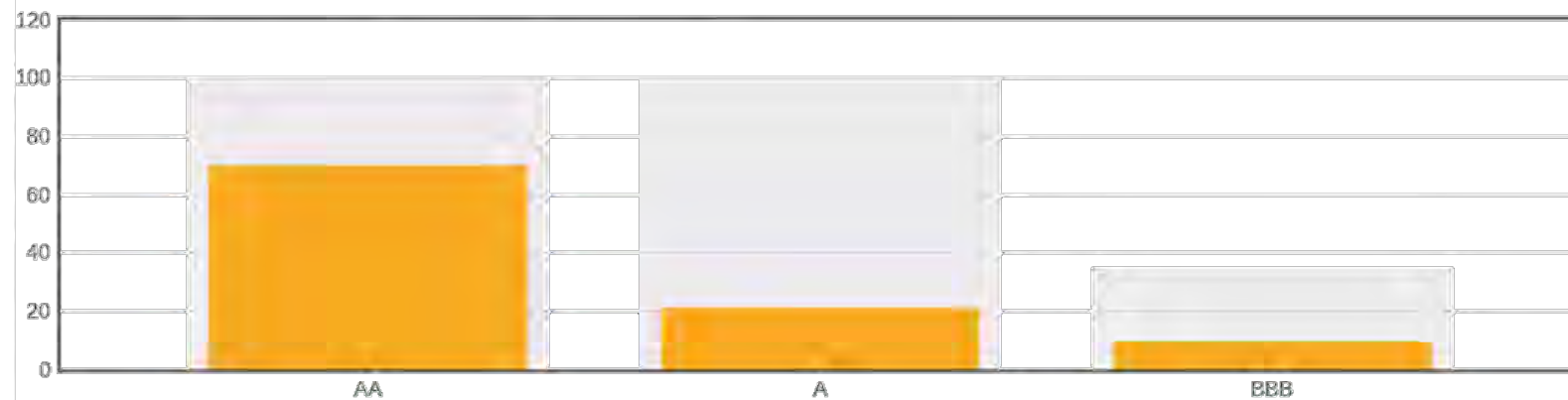


Credit Quality Compliance as at 28/02/2022

Long Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available
	AA	36,982,342.82	69.73	100.00	16,052,850.80
	A	11,052,850.80	20.84	100.00	41,982,342.82
	BBB	5,000,000.00	9.43	35.00	13,562,317.77
TOTALS		53,035,193.62	100.00		

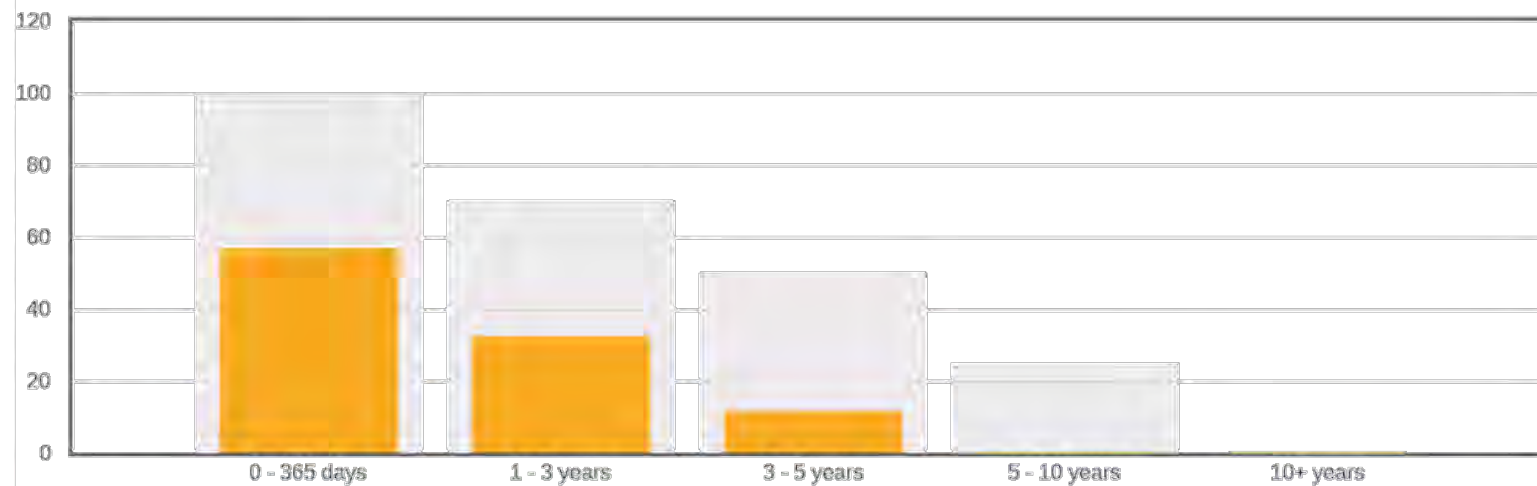
Credit Quality Compliance - Long Term Investments



Maturity Compliance as at 28/02/2022

Compliant	Term	Invested	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available
✓	0 - 365 days	30,035,193.62	56.63	0.00	100.00	23,000,000.00
✓	1 - 3 years	17,000,000.00	32.05	0.00	70.00	20,124,635.53
✓	3 - 5 years	6,000,000.00	11.31	0.00	50.00	20,517,596.81
✓	5 - 10 years	-	0.00	0.00	25.00	13,258,798.41
✓	10+ years	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
TOTALS		53,035,193.62	100.00			

Maturity Compliance



Portfolio Comparison

From: 31/01/2022 To: 28/02/2022

Issuer	Rating	Type	Rate	Purchase	Maturity	Interest	31/01/2022	28/02/2022	Difference
AMP Bank	BBB	TD	0.5500	10/05/2021	04/02/2022	At Maturity	3,000,000.00	-	-3,000,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	0.3700	07/06/2021	04/03/2022	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Members Equity Bank	BBB+	TD	0.4000	30/09/2021	01/04/2022	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	0.3800	24/05/2021	24/05/2022	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	0.4000	07/06/2021	07/06/2022	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	0.3800	23/07/2021	22/07/2022	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Auswide Bank	BBB	TD	0.6500	30/11/2021	01/09/2022	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Westpac	AA-	TD	0.5100	27/10/2021	27/10/2022	Quarterly	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	0.7000	01/11/2021	01/11/2022	At Maturity	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Members Equity Bank	BBB+	TD	0.7000	07/12/2021	07/12/2022	At Maturity	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Westpac	AA-	TD	0.8700	07/02/2022	07/02/2023	At Maturity	-	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	TD	0.6000	18/05/2021	18/05/2023	Annual	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
NAB	AA-	TD	0.6500	23/07/2021	24/07/2023	Annual	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Westpac	AA-	TD	0.9600	27/10/2021	26/10/2023	Quarterly	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	-
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	TD	1.4300	09/12/2021	13/12/2023	Annual	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
ICBC Sydney Branch	A-	TD	1.7200	07/02/2022	07/02/2024	Annual	-	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	TD	0.7500	18/05/2021	20/05/2024	Annual	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-

Issuer	Rating	Type	Rate	Purchase	Maturity	Interest	31/01/2022	28/02/2022	Difference
Westpac	AA-	TD	1.3500	27/10/2021	30/10/2024	Quarterly	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	-
NAB	AA-	TD	1.0000	18/05/2021	19/05/2025	Annual	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Westpac	AA-	TD	1.5900	27/10/2021	29/10/2025	Quarterly	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
NAB	AA-	TD	1.3000	18/05/2021	15/05/2026	Annual	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	-
Westpac	AA-	TD	1.8200	27/10/2021	28/10/2025	Quarterly	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	-
Macquarie Bank	A+	CASH	0.4000	31/01/2022	31/01/2022	Monthly	7,050,687.28	7,052,850.80	2,163.52
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	0.0000	31/01/2022	31/01/2022	Monthly	812,752.44	2,036,584.34	1,223,831.90
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	0.1000	31/01/2022	31/01/2022	Monthly	1,595,758.48	2,945,758.48	1,350,000.00
AMP Bank	BBB	CASH	0.5000	31/01/2022	31/01/2022	Monthly	-30.96	-	-30.96
TOTALS							50,459,229.16	53,035,193.62	2,575,964.46

Trades in Period

From: 01/02/2022 To: 28/02/2022

New Trades

Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Interest	Purchase	Maturity	Rate	Value	Ref
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	TD	GENERAL	Annual	07/02/2022	07/02/2024	1.7200	2,000,000.00	
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/02/2022	07/02/2023	0.8700	1,000,000.00	
TOTALS								3,000,000.00	

Sell Trades

Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Interest	Purchase	Maturity	Sell	Rate	Value	Ref
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No entries for this Item

Matured Trades

Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Interest	Purchase	Maturity	Rate	Value	Ref
AMP Bank	BBB	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	10/05/2021	04/02/2022	0.5500	3,000,000.00	
TOTALS								3,000,000.00	

Interest Received in Period

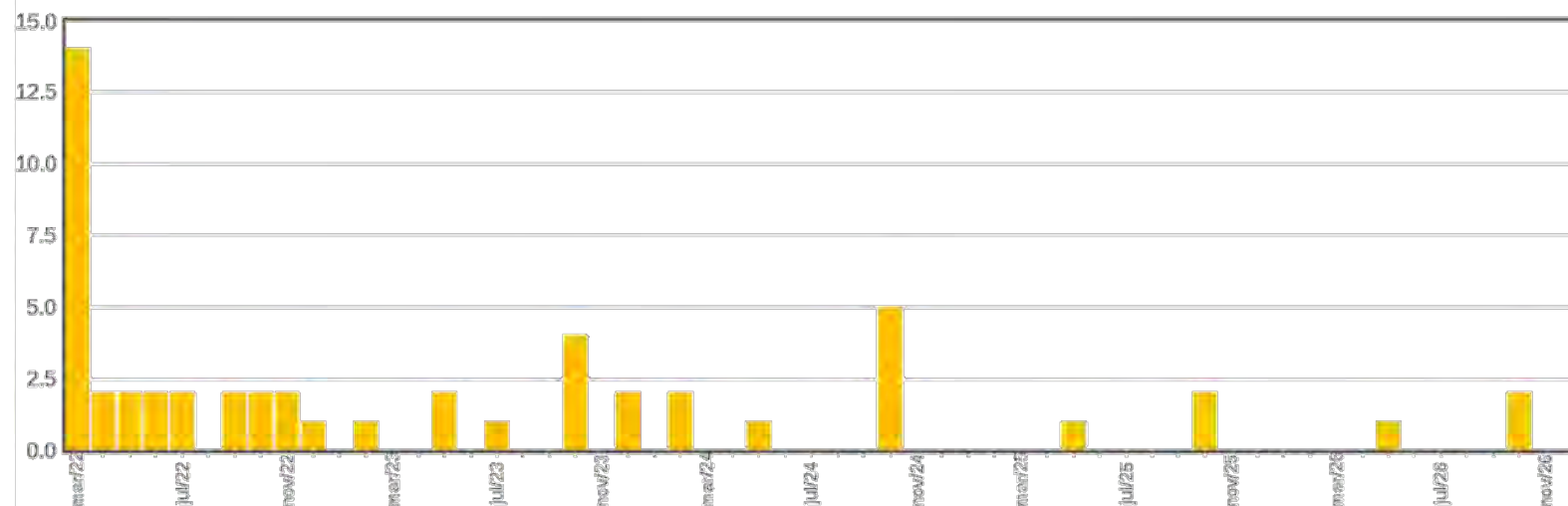
From: 01/02/2022 To: 28/02/2022

Periodic Interest

Issuer	Rating	Type	Alloc	Frequency	Value	Purchase	Maturity	Coupon Date	Type	Rate	Received
AMP Bank	BBB	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	3,000,000.00	10/05/2021	04/02/2022	04/02/2022	Maturity	0.5500	12,205.48
TOTALS					3,000,000.00						12,205.48

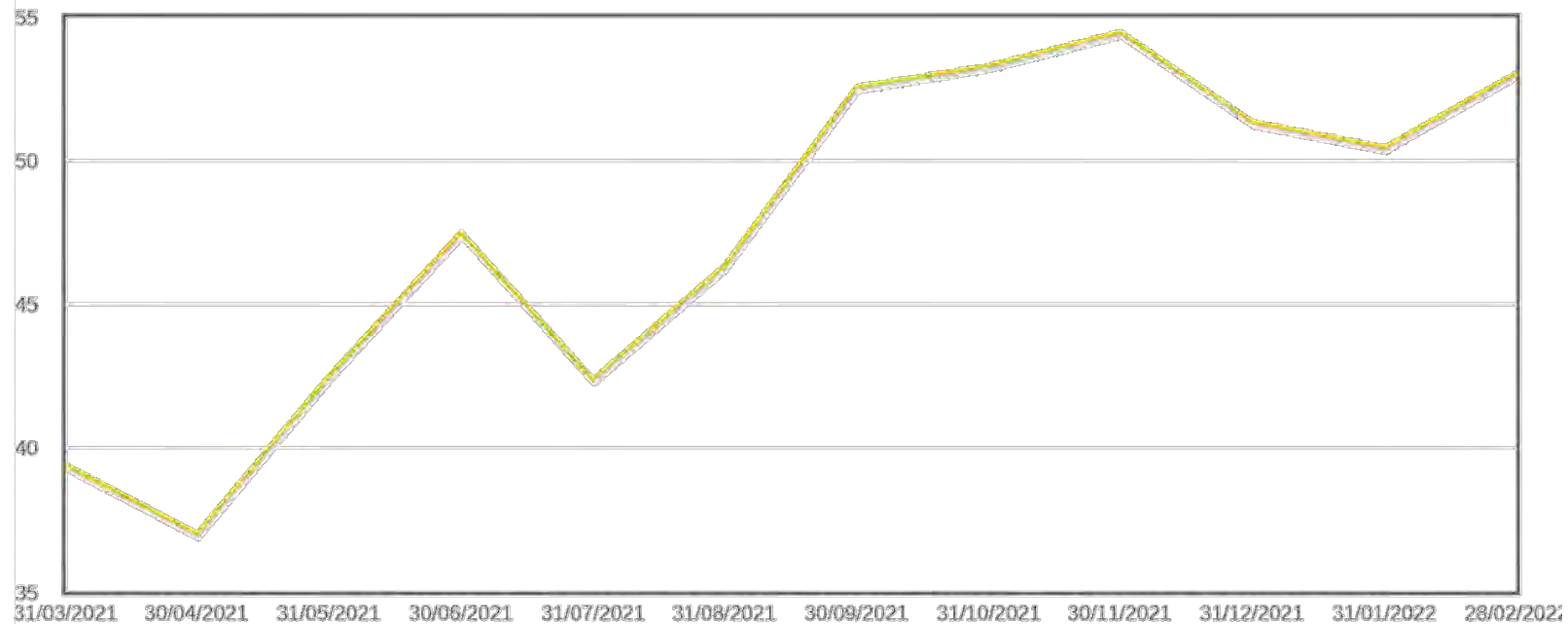
Maturity Cashflow as at 28/02/2022

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2022	-	-	14,035,193	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,000,000	29,035,193.62
2023	-	1,000,000	-	-	2,000,000	-	1,000,000	-	-	4,000,000	-	2,000,000	10,000,000.00
2024	-	2,000,000	-	-	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	5,000,000	-	-	8,000,000.00
2025	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	2,000,000	-	-	3,000,000.00
2026	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	2,000,000	-	-	3,000,000.00
TOTALS													53,035,193.62



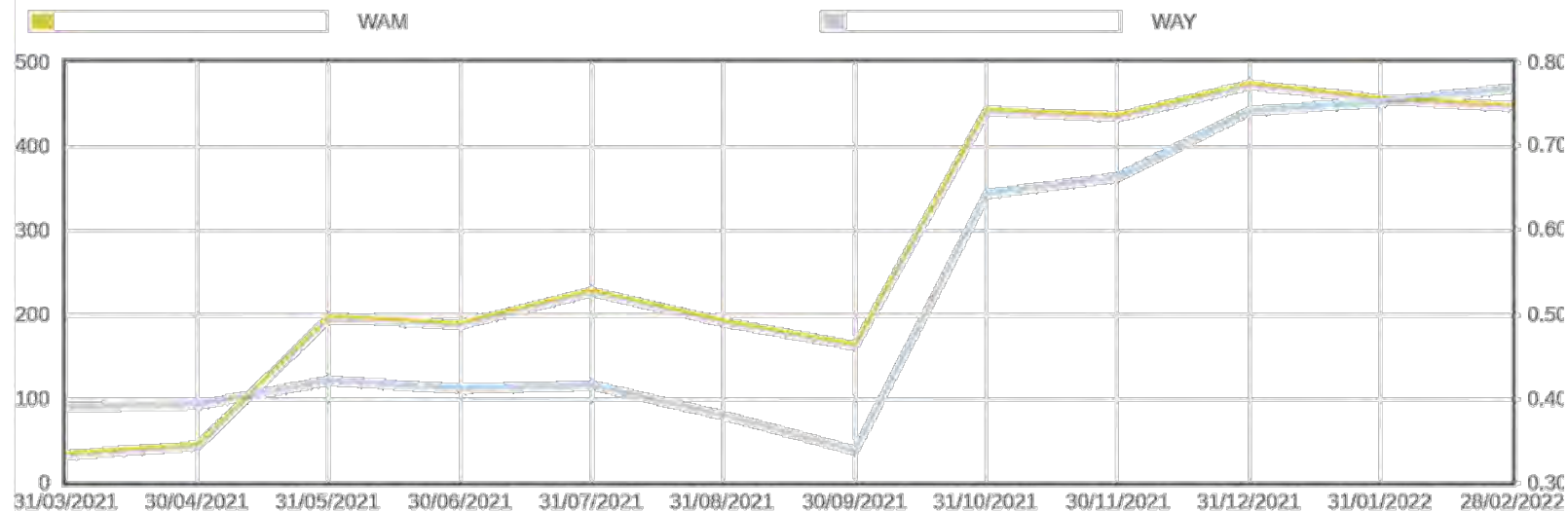
Historical Portfolio Balances (in MM) as at 28/02/2022

31/03/2021	30/04/2021	31/05/2021	30/06/2021	31/07/2021	31/08/2021	30/09/2021	31/10/2021	30/11/2021	31/12/2021	31/01/2022	28/02/2022
39.42	37.02	42.50	47.50	42.39	46.35	52.56	53.30	54.47	51.34	50.46	53.04



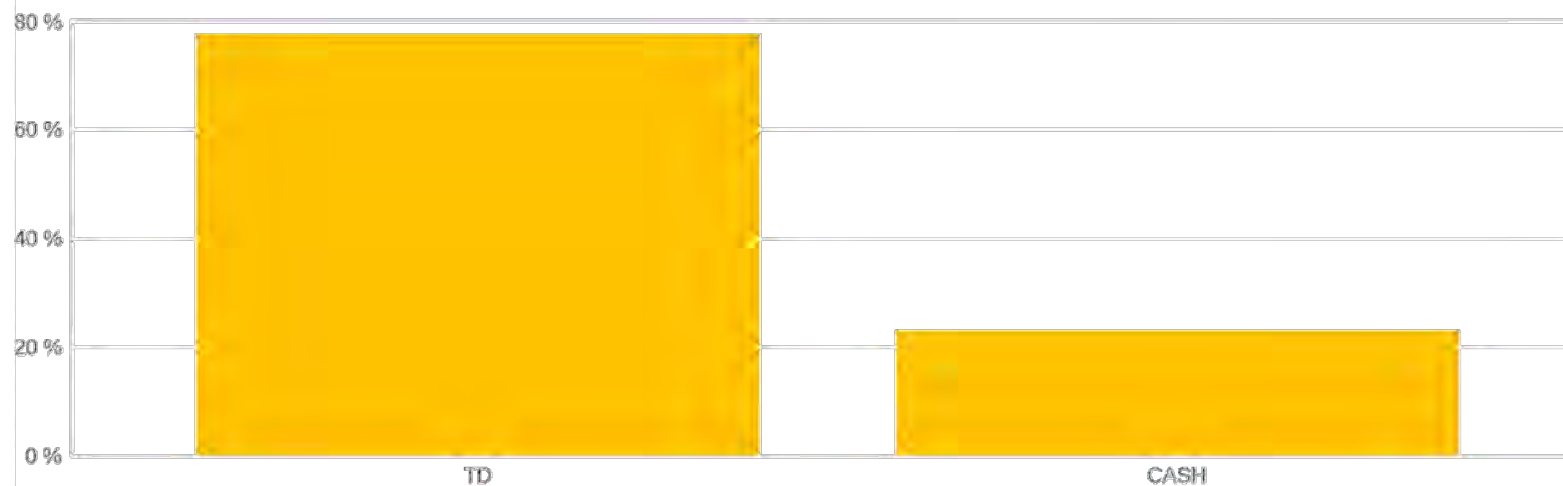
Historical Ratios as at 28/02/2022

	31/03/2021	30/04/2021	31/05/2021	30/06/2021	31/07/2021	31/08/2021	30/09/2021	31/10/2021	30/11/2021	31/12/2021	31/01/2022	28/02/2022
WAM	35	46	198	190	229	193	165	444	437	475	458	4
WAY	0.3919	0.3947	0.4236	0.4138	0.4180	0.3822	0.3404	0.6454	0.6654	0.7440	0.7547	0.77



Asset Class as at 28/02/2022

Code	Number of Trades	Invested	Invested (%)
TD	21	41,000,000.00	77.31
CASH	3	12,035,193.62	22.69
TOTALS	24	53,035,193.62	100.0



CS2 CURRENT STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

AUTHOR: David McQuade, Governance Manager

APPROVER: Melinda Aitkenhead, Director Corporate & Financial Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the report on the current status of Council resolutions be noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Council on the status of previous Council resolutions.

REPORT

Attached is a summary of the outstanding and acquitted Council resolutions.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Outstanding and Acquitted Council Resolutions

ATTACHMENT 1

Outstanding Council Resolution Actions

Meeting Date	Subject	Comments
7 March 2022	Homebush West Traffic Study	Report to go to May 2022 Council Meeting
7 March 2022	Mayoral Minute 3/22 – Lions Club Celebrating 75 Years	Investigating suitable location
7 March 2022	Fostering of the Arts to Tackle Graffiti	Report to go to May 2022 Council Meeting
7 March 2022	Parking Issues at Courallie Avenue	Letters being prepared
7 March 2022	Illumination of Pathway that Connects Airey Park and Melville Reserve	Report to go to May 2022 Council Meeting
7 March 2022	Support for Referendum to Amend Australian Constitution	Letters sent and Motion submitted 25 March 2022
7 March 2022	Private Certification	Letters sent and matter to be discussed at April 2022 Councillor Workshop
1 February 2022	2022 National General Assembly of Local Government	Registrations completed and accommodation booked
1 February 2022	Community Newspaper	Ongoing
1 February 2022	Mayoral Minute 2/22 - Comprehensive Tree Maintenance Program	Budget bid being prepared
3 November 2021	FIFA Women's World Cup	Ongoing
1 June 2021	Hidden Treasures of Strathfield	Rewriting storyboards as per Councillors requests
1 June 2021	Mayoral Minute 7/21 - Proposed Renaming of Belfield section in Strathfield Local Government Area to Strathfield South	Awaiting advice from Geographical Names Board
6 October 2020	Marlene Doran	Ongoing
3 July 2018	Pomeroy Street – Former Bowling Club Site	No response from Education Department

Acquitted Council Resolutions

Meeting Date	Subject	Comments
7 March 2022	Strathfield Council Options for a Circular Economy	Report presented to March 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Audit of Council Property and Utilisation	Audit of Council properties complete
1 February 2022	Strathfield Council Depot	Letter sent to Crown Lands on 8 March 2022. Council no longer considering relocation
1 February 2022	Traffic Light Installation at Flemington Road and Parramatta Road Intersection	Letters sent to The Hon. Anthony Roberts, MP, Minister for Planning and Minister for Housing, Mr Rob Sharp, Secretary Transport NSW and Mr Lucas Earl, Truman Corp Pty Ltd on 19 February 2022
1 February 2022	Flag/Banner Holders in Strathfield LGA Shopping Centres and Outside Community Buildings	Report presented to March 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Open Space in Courallie Avenue Precinct	Report presented to March 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Mayoral Minute 1/22 - Operational Committees	Presented to Councillor Workshop in March 2022
1 February 2022	Voting Delegates for Special Local Government NSW Conference	Councillors nominated and registered
1 February 2022	Night Time Safety Lighting at Pedestrian Crossings	Report presented to March 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Safety Outdoor Dining	Report presented to March 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Local Environmental Plan 2021	Letter sent. Meeting with NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to take place week commencing 4 April 2022
1 February 2022	Homebush West Traffic Study	Report presented to March 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Naturalisation of the Cooks River	Letters sent to The Hon. Dominic Perrottet, MP, Premier of NSW, The Hon. Kevin Anderson, MP, Minister for Lands and Water and The Hon. James Griffin, MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage on 18 February 2022

1 February 2022	Upgrade at the Junction of Underwood Road and Centenary Drive	Letters sent to Mr Rob Sharp, Secretary Transport NSW and Dr Fiona Martin MP on 17 February 2022
1 February 2022	Parking and Safety Improvement to Courallie Avenue, Homebush West	Report presented to March 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Planning Controls for Homebush West	Presented to Councillor Workshop February 2022
1 February 2022	Flyover/Overpass at Arthur Street and Centenary Drive, Homebush West	Letters sent to Mr Rob Sharp, Secretary Transport NSW and Dr Fiona Martin MP on 17 February 2022. Report to go to April 2022 Council Meeting
1 February 2022	Safe Pedestrian Access at Marlborough Road/Homebush Bay Drive to Flemington Markets	Report to go to April 2022 Council Meeting
14 September 2021	Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Infrastructure Contributions Bill) 2021	New legislation before parliament. No timeline provided for finalisation
4 May 2021	Local Environment Plan 2021 Community Consultation	Included in LEP
4 May 2021	Mayoral Minute 4/21 Strathfield ANZAC Day Ceremony	Committee held in March 2022. Future meeting to be held in May 2022

CS3 PAYMENT OF COUNCILLOR SUPERANNUATION

AUTHOR: Chris Nascimento, Corporate Compliance Manager

APPROVER: Melinda Aitkenhead, Director Corporate & Financial Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council;

1. IResolve to pay superannuation contribution payments to all Councillors as per s254B of the Local Government Act 1993, commencing 1 July 2022;
2. That the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy be amended to include superannuation contributions (clause 4.1.5) and a mayoral vehicle (clause 3.2.6) as per draft contained in attachment 1.
3. Amend the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy be endorsed for public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days;
4. The outcomes of the public exhibition of the Draft Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy be reported to Council.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council's approval for the payment of Councillor Superannuation in accordance with s254B of the *Local Government Act, 1993* (the Act).

REPORT

Under the *Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1993*, Councils across Australia are not required to make superannuation contributions in relation to the fees they pay to Mayors and Councillors as Mayors and Councillors are elected to a civic office in a Council and are therefore not employees of the Council.

As a result of an amendment to the Act in 2021, s254B now provides for a contribution to a superannuation account nominated by a Councillor to be made, starting from the financial year commencing on 1 July 2022.

The amount to be paid is equivalent to that which a Council would have been required to make under the *Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1993* if the Councillor were an employee of Council. As of 1 July 2022, the superannuation guarantee rate will be 10.5% and will increase by half a percent each year until 1 July 2025 when it reaches 12%.

The payment of a superannuation contribution is on-top of Councillors annual fees, does not constitute salary for any purposes of any Act and is at each Council's discretion. This change is designed to address long-standing inequity issues and encourage wider participation in local government by encouraging the broadest cross-section of the community to participate in local government.

To receive the superannuation payment Councils must pass a resolution at an open meeting of the Council and payments must be made into an eligible superannuation account and be paid at the same intervals as the annual fee paid to Councillors.

Council must not make any contribution payments during any period that a Councillor is suspended from civic office or their right to any form of payment is suspended under the Act, they are also not entitled to any payment of fees under s254A of the Act as a result of their absence.

Individual Councillors may opt out of receiving payments or receive reduced payments by putting this request forward in writing.

Council's Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy has been amended to include the payment of superannuation after 1 July 2022 (clause 4.1.5). In amending the Policy it was noted that an administrative oversight had occurred in the current version of the Policy in respect to the provision of a motor vehicle from Council's fleet for the Mayor. The provision of motor vehicle for the Mayor has been a long standing practice for Strathfield Council and therefore this oversight has been correct by the re-insertion of this clause (clause 3.26) into the Policy. Amendments to the Policy are marked in [blue text](#) in attachment 1.

After this report is adopted by Council, the Policy should be placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The payment of these contributions has been provided for in the draft 2022/2023 budget. The total amount payable for 2022/2023 is calculated to be approximately \$19,943.70 (calculated as per current fees for 2022 and a superannuation rate of 10.5%), as shown below:

Council Member	Proposed Superannuation Payment at 10.5% per Councillor
Mayoral allowance	\$2,172.45
Councillor Allowance (x 7 councillors*)	\$4,736.55
TOTAL	\$19,940.70

Note: The Mayor receives the Mayoral Allowance plus the Councillor payment.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy

ATTACHMENT 1

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

April 2022
(draft)

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

RESPONSIBILITY	Executive Manager Corporate Services Administration		
DATE ADOPTED	7 August 2018	MINUTE	178/18
REVISED	5 April 2022	REVIEW	2022
ECM No			
ASSOCIATED POLICIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strathfield Council Code of Conduct 		
ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Government Act 1993, Sections 252 and 253</i> • <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Clauses 217 and 403</i> • <i>Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Mayors and Councillors in NSW, 2009</i> • <i>Local Government Circular 09-36 Guidelines for Payment of Expenses and Facilities</i> • <i>Local Government Circular 05-08 legal assistance for Councillors and Council Employees.</i> • <i>Local Government Circular 17-17 Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy Better Practice Template</i> 		

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Policy Summary

This policy enables the reasonable and appropriate reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to councillors to help them undertake their civic duties.

It ensures accountability and transparency, and seeks to align councillor expenses and facilities with community expectations. Councillors must not obtain private or political benefit from any expense or facility provided under this policy.

The policy has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (the Regulation), and complies with the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the payment of expenses and provision of facilities to Mayors and Councillors in NSW.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

The term general manager where referenced in this document refers to the statutory general manager under section 334 of Local Government Act 1993, which in Strathfield Council's case is known as the chief executive officer.

The policy sets out the maximum amounts council will pay for specific expenses and facilities. Expenses not explicitly addressed in this policy will not be paid or reimbursed.

The main expenses and facilities are summarised in the table below. All monetary amounts are exclusive of GST.

Expense or facility	Maximum amount	Frequency
Travel expenses including general, interstate, overseas and long distance intrastate travel expenses	\$2,000 per councillor \$3,000 for the Mayor	Per year
Accommodation and meals	As per the NSW Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Reviewed Award 2009, adjusted annually	Per meal/night
Professional development	\$2,000 per councillor	Per year
Conferences and seminars	\$4,000 total for all councillors	Per year
ICT expenses		
Tablet, mobile phones, notebook/laptop (including software)	\$3,000 per councillor	Per council term
Communication expenses	\$220 per councillor	Per month
International roaming services (on Council overseas trips approved under this Policy)	\$50 per councillor	Per day
Carer expenses	\$2,000 per councillor	Per year
Home office expenses	\$1,500 per councillor	Per year
Business cards	500 per councillor 1,000 for the mayor	Per year Per year
Access to facilities in a Councillor common room	Provided to all councillors	Not relevant
Superannuation Contribution	10.5% as at 1 July 2021 rising half a percent each year until 1 July 2025 when it reaches 12%	Monthly
Reserved parking space at Council offices	Provided to all councillors	Not relevant
Furnish office	Provided to the mayor	Not relevant
Motor Vehicle	Provided to the mayor	Not relevant

Additional costs incurred by a councillor in excess of these limits are considered a personal expense that is the responsibility of the councillor.

Councillors must provide claims for reimbursement within three months of an expense being incurred. Claims made after this time cannot be approved.

Detailed reports on the provision of expenses and facilities to councillors will be publicly tabled at a council meeting every six months and published in full on council's website. These reports will include expenditure summarised by individual councillor and as a total for all councillors.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

1.2 Title and Commencement

This policy is titled *Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy* and was adopted on 7 August 2018 by approval of the Chief Executive Officer. The following amendments have been made:

Revision	Date	Version	Ref
1	25 July 2018	Strathfield Policy Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy – draft for consultation	
1	7 August 2018	Council adopted Draft Policy for consultation	Resolution 178/18
2	9 August to 6 September 2018	Policy Exhibition – no submissions received	PN180908
3	19 September 2018	Policy Effective	
4	23 September 2020	Policy review	
5	June 2021	Policy review	CEO / Mayor
6	5 April 2022	Clauses 3.2.6 and 4.1.5 added to Policy. Removal of term CEO and refer back to General Manager title.	

1.3 Background and Purpose of Policy

The provision of expenses and facilities enables councillors to fulfil their civic duties as the elected representatives of Strathfield Council.

The community is entitled to know the extent of expenses paid to councillors, as well as the facilities provided.

The purpose of this policy is to clearly state the facilities and support that are available to councillors to assist them in fulfilling their civic duties.

Council staff are empowered to question or refuse a request for payment from a councillor when it does not accord with this policy.



COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

Expenses and facilities provided by this policy are in addition to fees paid to councillors. The minimum and maximum fees a council may pay each councillor are set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal as per Section 241 of the Act and reviewed annually. Council must adopt its annual fees within this set range.

1.4 Objectives of the Policy

The objectives of the policy are to:

- enable the reasonable and appropriate reimbursement of expenses incurred by councillors while undertaking their civic duties
- enable facilities of a reasonable and appropriate standard to be provided to councillors to support them in undertaking their civic duties
- ensure accountability and transparency in reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to councillors
- ensure facilities and expenses provided to councillors meet community expectations
- support a diversity of representation
- fulfil the council's statutory responsibilities.

1.5 Policy Principles

Council commits to the following principles:

- **Proper conduct:** councillors and staff acting lawfully and honestly, exercising care and diligence in carrying out their functions
- **Reasonable expenses:** providing for councillors to be reimbursed for expenses reasonably incurred as part of their role as councillor
- **Participation and access:** enabling people from diverse backgrounds, underrepresented groups, those in carer roles and those with special needs to serve as a Councillor
- **Equity:** there must be equitable access to expenses and facilities for all councillors
- **Appropriate use of resources:** providing clear direction on the appropriate use of council resources in accordance with legal requirements and community expectations
- **Accountability and transparency:** clearly stating and reporting on the expenses and facilities provided to councillors

1.6 Private or Political Benefit

1.6.1 Councillors must not obtain private or political benefit from any expense or facility provided under this policy.

1.6.2 Private use of council equipment and facilities by councillors may occur from time to time. For example, telephoning home to advise that a council meeting will run later than expected.

1.6.3 Such incidental private use does not require a compensatory payment back to council.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

1.6.4 Councillors should avoid obtaining any greater private benefit from Council than an incidental benefit. Where there are unavoidable circumstances and more substantial private use of council facilities does occur, councillors must reimburse the council.

1.6.5 Campaigns for re-election are considered to be a political benefit. The following are examples of what is considered to be a political interest during a re-election campaign:

- production of election material
- use of council resources and equipment for campaigning
- use of official council letterhead, publications, websites or services for political benefit
- fundraising activities of political parties or individuals, including political fundraising events.

1.7 Definitions

The following definitions apply throughout this policy.

Term	Definition
accompanying person	Means a spouse, partner or de facto or other person who has a close personal relationship with or provides carer support to a councillor
appropriate refreshments	Means food and beverages, excluding alcohol, provided by council to support councillors undertaking official business
Act	Means the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> (NSW)
clause	Unless stated otherwise, a reference to a clause is a reference to a clause of this policy
Code of Conduct	Means the Code of Conduct adopted by Council or the Model Code if none is adopted
Councillor	Means a person elected or appointed to civic office as a member of the governing body of council who is not suspended, including the mayor
General Manager (CEO)	Means the general manager (CEO) of Council and includes their delegate or authorised representative
incidental personal use	Means use that is infrequent and brief and use that does not breach this policy or the Code of Conduct
long distance intrastate travel	Means travel to other parts of NSW of more than three hours duration by private vehicle
maximum limit	Means the maximum limit for an expense or facility provided in the text and summarised in Appendix 1
NSW	New South Wales

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

official business	Means functions that the mayor or councillors are required or invited to attend to fulfil their legislated role and responsibilities for council or result in a direct benefit for council and/or for the local government area, and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meetings of council and committees of the whole meetings of committees facilitated by council civic receptions hosted or sponsored by council meetings, functions, workshops and other events to which attendance by a councillor has been requested or approved by council
professional development	Means a seminar, conference, training course or other development opportunity relevant to the role of a councillor or the mayor
Regulation	Means the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW)
year	Means the financial year, that is the 12 month period commencing on 1 July each year

2.0 Expenses

2.1 General Expenses

All expenses provided under this policy will be for a purpose specific to the functions of holding civic office. Allowances for general expenses are not permitted under this policy.

Expenses not explicitly addressed in this policy will not be paid or reimbursed.

2.2 Specific Expenses

General travel arrangements and expenses

2.2.1 All travel by councillors should be undertaken using the most direct route and the most practicable and economical mode of transport.

2.2.2 Each councillor may be reimbursed up to a total of \$2,000 per year, and the mayor may be reimbursed up to a total of \$3,000 per year, for travel expenses, including interstate, overseas and long distance intrastate travel, incurred while undertaking official business or professional development or attending approved conferences and seminars within NSW. This includes reimbursement:

- for public transport fares
- for the use of a private vehicle or hire car
- for parking costs for Council and other meetings
- for tolls
- by Cabcharge card or equivalent

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

- for documented ride-share programs, such as Uber, where tax invoices can be issued.
- 2.2.3** Allowances for the use of a private vehicle will be reimbursed by kilometre at the rate contained in the Local Government (State) Award.

- 2.2.4** Councillors seeking to be reimbursed for use of a private vehicle must keep a log book recording the date, distance and purpose of travel being claimed. Copies of the relevant log book contents must be provided with the claim.

Interstate, overseas and long distance intrastate travel expenses

- 2.2.5** In accordance with Section 4, Council will scrutinise the value and need for councillors to undertake overseas travel. Councils should avoid interstate, overseas and long distance intrastate trips unless direct and tangible benefits can be established for the council and the local community. This includes travel to sister and friendship cities.

- 2.2.6** Councillors seeking approval for any interstate and long distance intrastate travel must submit a case to, and obtain the approval of, the general manager prior to travel. In relation to all Sister City visitations, Councillors will self-fund airfares.

- 2.2.7** Councillors seeking approval for any overseas travel must submit a case to, and obtain the approval of, a full council meeting prior to travel.

- 2.2.8** The case should include:

- objectives to be achieved in travel, including an explanation of how the travel aligns with current council priorities and business, the community benefits which will accrue as a result, and its relevance to the exercise of the councillor's civic duties
- who is to take part in the travel
- duration and itinerary of travel
- a detailed budget including a statement of any amounts expected to be reimbursed by the participant/s.

- 2.2.9** After returning from overseas Councillors should provide a detailed report back to council on the aspects of the trip relevant to council business and/or the local community.

- 2.2.10** Any Council-funded airfares will be funded to economy level only.

- 2.2.11** Bookings for approved air travel are to be made through the General Manager's office.

- 2.2.12** For air travel that is reimbursed as council business, councillors will not accrue points from the airline's frequent flyer program. This is considered a private benefit.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

Travel expenses not paid by Council

- 2.2.13** Council will not pay any traffic or parking fines or administrative charges for road toll accounts.

Accommodation and meals

- 2.2.14** In circumstances where it would introduce undue risk for a councillor to travel to or from official business in the late evening or early morning, reimbursement of costs for accommodation and meals on the night before or after the meeting may be approved by the general manager. This includes where a meeting finishes later than 9.00pm or starts earlier than 7.00am and the councillor lives more than 50 kilometres from the meeting location.

- 2.2.15** Council will reimburse costs for accommodation and meals while councillors are undertaking prior approved travel or professional development outside the Sydney Metropolitan Area. Council will not pay for accommodation within the Sydney Metropolitan Area.

- 2.2.16** Delegates will be accommodated in the hotel where the conference, seminar or training session is being held or the nearest hotel to the conference, seminar or training session of a similar session.

- 2.2.17** The daily limits for accommodation and meal expenses within Australia are to be consistent with those set out in Part B Monetary Rates of the NSW Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Reviewed Award 2009, as adjusted annually.

- 2.2.18** The daily limits for accommodation and meal expenses outside Australia are to be determined in advance by the General Manager, being mindful of Clause 6.19[2.2.19 or 2.2.31].

- 2.2.19** Councillors will not be reimbursed for alcoholic beverages.

Refreshments for council related meetings

- 2.2.20** Appropriate refreshments will be available for council meetings, council committee meetings, councillor briefings, approved meetings and engagements, and official council functions as approved by the General Manager. No alcohol will be provided at any Council function apart from when external dignitaries are invited.

- 2.2.21** As an indicative guide for the standard of refreshments to be provided at council related meetings, the general manager must be mindful of Part B Monetary Rates of the NSW Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Reviewed Award 2009, as adjusted annually.

Professional development

2.2.22 Council will set aside \$2,000 per councillor annually in its budget to facilitate professional development of councillors through programs, training, education courses and membership of professional bodies.

2.2.23 In the first year of a new council term, Council will provide a comprehensive induction program for all councillors which considers any guidelines issued by the Office of Local Government (OLG). The cost of the induction program will be in addition to the ongoing professional development funding.

2.2.24 Annual membership of professional bodies will only be covered where the membership is relevant to the exercise of the councillor's civic duties, the councillor actively participates in the body and the cost of membership is likely to be fully offset by savings from attending events as a member.

2.2.25 Approval for professional development activities is subject to a prior written request to the general manager outlining the:

- details of the proposed professional development
- relevance to council priorities and business
- relevance to the exercise of the councillor's civic duties.

2.2.26 In assessing a councillor request for a professional development activity, the general manager must consider the factors set out in Clause 6.27 [2.2.27], as well as the cost of the professional development in relation to the councillor's remaining budget.

Conferences and seminars

2.2.27 Council is committed to ensuring its councillors are up to date with contemporary issues facing council and the community, and local government in NSW.

2.2.28 Council will set aside a total amount of \$4,000 annually in its budget to facilitate councillor attendance at conferences and seminars. This allocation is for all councillors. The general manager will ensure that access to expenses relating to conferences and seminars is distributed equitably.

2.2.29 Approval to attend a conference or seminar is subject to a written request to the general manager. In assessing a councillor request, the general manager must consider factors including the:

- relevance of the topics and presenters to current council priorities and business and the exercise of the councillor's civic duties
- cost of the conference or seminar in relation to the total remaining budget.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

2.2.30 Council will meet the reasonable cost of registration fees, transportation and accommodation associated with attendance at conferences approved by the general manager. Council will also meet the reasonable cost of meals when they are not included in the conference fees. Reimbursement for accommodation and meals not included in the conference fees will be subject to Clauses 6.18-6.21 [2.2.18-21].

2.2.31 Council will not meet registration fees for a partner accompanying a delegate on conferences, training sessions or seminars. The councillor, including any expenses incurred in an accompanying person's program, will meet all expenses.

Information and communications technology (ICT) expenses

2.2.32 Council will provide councillors with appropriate ICT devices and services up to a limit of \$3,000 per annum for each councillor, at the commencement of each term. This may include tablets, mobile phones and a notebook / laptop (including appropriate software). The determination as to what equipment will be provided will be made by the General Manager based upon Council's general ICT program and identifiable business needs. Council will replace or update equipment where required and as appropriate.

2.2.33 Council may from time to time provide Councillors with upgraded equipment of new facilities where doing so will result in efficiencies and aligns with Council's general ICT program.

2.2.34 Council will reimburse to the limit of \$220 per month for council related communication expenses such as phone, data or internet charges for councillors (including Mayor and Deputy Mayor).

2.2.35 Reimbursements will be made only for communications devices and services used for councillors to undertake their civic duties, such as:

- receiving and reading council business papers
- relevant phone calls and correspondence
- diary and appointment management.

2.2.36 To claim reimbursement, the Councillor must:

- make his/her contact details available to the public to ensure that he/she is accessible to the residents and ratepayers of Strathfield Local Government Area
- identify the calls and uses associated with his/her duties as councillor and meet the cost of any private usage (eg calls not relating to official functions of Council)
- reimburse Council for any charges in excess of \$220 per month (including GST) within 30 days of request.
- ensure claims for reimbursement are accompanied by sufficient documentation (eg copy of account or charges etc) to clearly support the claim for reimbursement.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

- claims for calls on non-Council allocated phones or internet connections must provide documentation which clearly indicates the costs which are council-related eg phone bill in the name of the Councillor.

2.2.37 Councillors may seek reimbursement for applications on their mobile electronic communication device that are directly related to their duties as a councillor, within the maximum limit.

2.2.38 International roaming on Council provided communication devices will be disabled by default. To enable roaming services, a Councillor must make a written request to Council.

If an overseas trip is approved in accordance with this policy for Councillors, use of any available free wireless internet services is encouraged. Council will cover the cost of the provision of international roaming services and Council business related calls to a limit of \$50 per day. Councillors will be required to identify business and personal calls and reimburse Council for any personal use.

If a Councillor travels overseas on personal business and takes their Council provided communications devices with them, then the Councillor must reimburse Council for all international roaming charges, internet access and call costs.

2.2.39 Councillors may purchase their own SIM card to place in their Council provided communications devices for the time they are away and cover all costs associated with or incurred on this personal SIM card during their travel.

2.2.40 All equipment provided to Councillors by Council shall remain in the possession of the Councillor during their term of office, and shall remain the property of Council and be returned in good operational order and condition upon ceasing to be an elected member of Strathfield Council.

Special requirement and carer expenses

2.2.41 Council encourages wide participation and interest in civic office. It will seek to ensure council premises and associated facilities are accessible, including provision for sight or hearing impaired councillors and those with other disabilities.

2.2.42 Transportation provisions outlined in this policy will also assist councillors who may be unable to drive a vehicle.

2.2.43 In addition to the provisions above, the general manager may authorise the provision of reasonable additional facilities and expenses in order to allow a councillor with a disability to perform their civic duties.

2.2.44 Councillors who are the principal carer of a child or other elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family member will be entitled to reimbursement of carer's expenses up to a

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

maximum of \$2,000 per councillor, per annum for attendance at official business, plus reasonable travel from the principal place of residence.

2.2.45 Child care expenses may be claimed for children up to and including the age of 16 years where the carer is not a relative.

2.2.46 In the event of caring for an adult person, councillors will need to provide suitable evidence to the general manager that reimbursement is applicable. This may take the form of advice from a medical practitioner.

Home office expenses

2.2.47 Each councillor may be reimbursed up to \$1,500 per year for costs associated with the maintenance of a home office, such as minor items of consumable stationery and printer ink cartridges.

2.3 Insurances

2.3.1 In accordance with Section 382 of the Local Government Act, Council is insured against public liability and professional indemnity claims. Councillors are included as a named insured on this Policy.

2.3.2 Insurance protection is only provided if a claim arises out of or in connection with the councillor's performance of his or her civic duties, or exercise of his or her functions as a councillor. All insurances are subject to any limitations or conditions set out in the policies of insurance.

2.3.3 Council shall pay the insurance policy excess in respect of any claim accepted by council's insurers, whether defended or not.

2.3.4 Appropriate travel insurances will be provided for any councillors travelling on approved interstate and overseas travel on council business.

2.4 Legal Assistance

2.4.1 Council may, if requested, indemnify or reimburse the reasonable legal expenses of:

- a councillor defending an action arising from the performance in good faith of a function under the Local Government Act provided that the outcome of the legal proceedings is favourable to the councillor
- a councillor defending an action in defamation, provided the statements complained of were made in good faith in the course of exercising a function under the Act and the outcome of the legal proceedings is favourable to the councillor
- a councillor for proceedings before an appropriate investigative or review body, provided the subject of the proceedings arises from the performance in good faith of a

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

function under the Act and the matter has proceeded past any initial assessment phase to a formal investigation or review and the investigative or review body makes a finding substantially favourable to the councillor.

2.4.2 In the case of a code of conduct complaint made against a councillor, legal costs will only be made available where the matter has been referred by the general manager to a conduct reviewer and the conduct reviewer has commenced a formal investigation of the matter and makes a finding substantially favourable to the councillor.

2.4.3 Legal expenses incurred in relation to proceedings arising out of the performance by a councillor of his or her functions under the Act are distinguished from expenses incurred in relation to proceedings arising merely from something that a councillor has done during his or her term in office. For example, expenses arising from an investigation as to whether a councillor acted corruptly would not be covered by this section.

2.4.4 Council will not meet the legal costs:

- of legal proceedings initiated by a councillor under any circumstances
- of a councillor seeking advice in respect of possible defamation, or in seeking a non-litigious remedy for possible defamation
- for legal proceedings that do not involve a councillor performing their role as a councillor.

2.4.5 Reimbursement of expenses for reasonable legal expenses must have Council approval by way of a resolution at a council meeting prior to costs being incurred.

3.0 Facilities

3.1 General Facilities for all Councillors

Facilities

3.1.1 Council will provide the following facilities to councillors to assist them to effectively discharge their civic duties:

- a councillor common room appropriately furnished including a printer, pigeon holes and appropriate refreshments (excluding alcohol)
- Parking for Councillors is available in the Council staff parking area at Council's office after 6pm and at times when Council and Committee meetings or official events are scheduled.
- personal protective equipment for use during site visits
- a name badge which may be worn at official functions, indicating that the wearer holds the office of a councillor and/or mayor or deputy mayor.

3.1.2 Councillors may book meeting rooms for official business in a specified council building at no cost. Rooms may be booked through the Office Manager, Office of the General Manager and Mayor. Use of Council Chambers is restricted to Civic occasions only

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

(hosted by the Mayor or the Mayor's representative), or as otherwise authorised by the General Manager.

- 3.1.3** The provision of facilities will be of a standard deemed by the general manager as appropriate for the purpose.

Stationery

- 3.1.4** Council will provide the following stationery to councillors each year:

- Electronic letterhead, to be used only for correspondence associated with civic duties
- 500 councillor business cards replenish yearly in accordance with Council's corporate standards. The content of business cards must not contain political statements or advertising.
- Council will pay for postage of official correspondence provided that all mail is directed through Council's mailing system and a copy of correspondence is maintained on relevant council records.

- 3.1.5** As per Section 4, postage shall only be provided to support a councillor's civic duties.

Administrative support

- 3.1.6** Council will provide administrative support to councillors to assist them with their civic duties only. Administrative support may be provided by staff in the mayor's office or by a member of council's administrative staff as arranged by the general manager or their delegate.

- 3.1.7** As per Section 4, council staff are expected to assist councillors with civic duties only, and not assist with matters of personal or political interest, including campaigning.

3.2 Additional Facilities for the Mayor

- 3.2.1** Use of ceremonial clothing such as the Mayoral robes and Mayor Chains for official, civic or ceremonial use.

- 3.2.2** Council will provide the mayor with a furnished office incorporating a computer configured to council's standard operating environment, telephone and meeting space. The above key remains the property of the Council and must be returned to Council upon the person ceasing to hold office.

- 3.2.3** 1,000 mayor business cards replenish yearly in accordance with Council's corporate standards. The content of business cards must not contain political statements or advertising.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

3.2.4 In performing his or her civic duties, the mayor will be assisted by a small number of staff providing administrative and secretarial support, as determined by the general manager. will not exceed one full time equivalents.

3.2.5 As per Section 4, staff in the Mayor and General Manager's Office are expected to work on official business only, and not for matters of personal or political interest, including campaigning.

3.2.6 Council will allocate a fully maintained vehicle from Council's motor vehicle fleet for use of the Mayor for official business. The vehicle type and model may change from time to time as vehicles are changed over in accordance with Council's motor vehicle policies and procedures. The estimated maximum operating cost of a fully maintained vehicle (including insurance, registration and fuel) is \$10,000 (including GST).

The vehicle is for the use of the Mayor attending official business of the Council, which includes driving the vehicle to the Mayor's home or place of work. In the event that the vehicle is used for private purposes, reimbursement of costs associated with private use will be the responsibility of the Mayor (refer to Private Use of Facilities clause).

The upper cost of Council's fleet vehicles is limited by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) luxury car determination and managed in accordance with Council's Sustainable Motor Fleet Policy.

The Mayor and authorised Council staff members are entitled to drive the Mayoral vehicle.

Council will meet the cost of parking fees and road tolls for the Mayoral vehicle associated with business use of the vehicle. However, the driver of the vehicle is personally responsible for all traffic or parking fines incurred while travelling in private or Council vehicles on Council business.

The Mayoral vehicle will be allocated a dedicated parking space at Council's offices.

4.0 Processes

4.1 Approval, Payment and Reimbursement Arrangements

4.1.1 Expenses should only be incurred by councillors in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

4.1.2 Approval for incurring expenses, or for the reimbursement of such expenses, should be obtained before the expense is incurred.

4.1.3 Up to the maximum limits specified in this policy, approval for the following may be sought after the expense is incurred:

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

- local travel relating to the conduct of official business
- carer costs

4.1.4 Final approval for payments made under this policy will be granted by the general manager or their delegate.

4.1.5 All Councillors are to be paid superannuation contribution payments as per section 254B of the *Local Government Act 1993* from 1 July 2022. The contribution is on top of Councillor annual fees. Councillors who wish to opt out receiving payments must do so by requesting in writing.

Direct payment

4.1.6 Council may approve and directly pay expenses. Requests for direct payment must be submitted to the Executive Manager Corporate Services & Administration for assessment against this policy using the prescribed form, with sufficient information and time to allow for the claim to be assessed and processed.

Reimbursement

4.1.7 All claims for reimbursement of expenses incurred must be made no later than three weeks after the expense was incurred. Each claim must be made on the prescribed form, supported by appropriate receipts and/or tax invoices and be submitted to the Executive Manager Corporate Services & Administration. Reimbursement of travelling expenses shall state the following:

- Time and place of departure
- Time and place of arrival
- Distance travelled
- Fares and parking fees paid, attaching receipts where possible
- Number of days and hours occupied in travelling to and from the conference/seminar/training courses and attending Council meetings or on the authorised business of Council
- Total amount of claim.

Advance payment

4.1.8 Council may pay a cash advance for councillors attending approved conferences, seminars or professional development. Requests for advance payment must be submitted to the Executive Manager Corporate Services & Administration for assessment against this policy using the prescribed form with sufficient information and time to allow for the claim to be assessed and processed.

4.1.9 Councillors must fully reconcile all expenses against the cost of the advance within one month of incurring the cost and/or returning home. This includes providing to council:



COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

- a full reconciliation of all expenses including appropriate receipts and/or tax invoices
- reimbursement of any amount of the advance payment not spent in attending to official business or professional development.

Notification

- 4.1.10** If a claim is approved, council will make payment directly or reimburse the councillor through accounts payable.
- 4.1.11** If a claim is refused, council will inform the councillor in writing that the claim has been refused and the reason for the refusal.

Reimbursement to council

- 4.1.12** If council has incurred an expense on behalf of a councillor that exceeds a maximum limit, exceeds reasonable incidental private use or is not provided for in this policy:
- council will invoice the councillor for the expense
 - the councillor will reimburse council for that expense within 14 days of the invoice date.
- 4.1.13** If the councillor cannot reimburse council within 14 days of the invoice date, they are to submit a written explanation to the general manager. The general manager may elect to deduct the amount from the councillor's allowance.

Timeframe for reimbursement

- 4.1.14** Unless otherwise specified in this policy, councillors must provide all claims for reimbursement within one month of an expense being incurred. Claims made after this time cannot be approved.

4.2 Disputes

- 4.2.6** If a councillor disputes a determination under this policy, the councillor should discuss the matter with the general manager.
- 4.2.7** If the councillor and the general manager cannot resolve the dispute, the councillor may submit a notice of motion to a council meeting seeking to have the dispute resolved.

4.3 Return or Retention of Facilities

- 4.3.6** All unexpended facilities or equipment supplied under this policy are to be relinquished immediately upon a councillor or mayor ceasing to hold office or at the cessation of their civic duties.

COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

4.3.7 Should a councillor desire to keep any equipment allocated by council, then this policy enables the councillor to make application to the general manager to purchase any such equipment. The general manager will determine an agreed fair market price or written down value for the item of equipment.

4.3.8 The prices for all equipment purchased by councillors will be recorded in Council's annual report.

4.4 Publication

4.4.6 This policy will be published on council's website.

4.5 Reporting

4.5.6 Council will report on the provision of expenses and facilities to councillors as required in the Act and Regulations.

4.5.7 Detailed reports on the provision of expenses and facilities to councillors will be publicly tabled at a council meeting every six months and published in full on council's website.

These reports will include expenditure summarised by individual councillor and as a total for all councillors.

4.6 Auditing

4.6.6 The operation of this policy, including claims made under the policy, will be included in council's audit program and an audit undertaken at least every two years.

4.7 Breaches

4.7.6 Suspected breaches of this policy are to be reported to the general manager.

4.7.7 Alleged breaches of this policy shall be dealt with by following the processes outlined for breaches of the Code of Conduct, as detailed in the Code and in the Procedures for the Administration of the Code.

CS4 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AND COUNCILLOR WORKSHOP SCHEDULE 2022

AUTHOR: David McQuade, Governance Manager

APPROVER: Melinda Aitkenhead, Director Corporate & Financial Services

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Ordinary Council Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield in accordance with clause 3.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice and section 365 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
2. That Councillor Workshops are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 4pm in the Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to confirm the 2022 Council Meeting and Councillor Workshop schedule.

REPORT

Councils across NSW under section 365 of the *Local Government Act 1993* are required to meet at least ten times each year, each time in a different month. Under clause 3.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Ordinary Council Meetings are to be held on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

Councillor Workshops are held for the purpose of conducting in-depth discussions on certain topics and developing Councillor knowledge and expertise. Councillor Workshops are not used for debate or advanced discussions where an agreement or preliminary decision is reached. Any debate or decision making must be left to a formal Council or Committee Meeting.

It is proposed that Councillor Workshops are to be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 4pm in the Community Meeting Room at 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ordinary Council Meeting and Councillor Workshop Schedule 2022

ATTACHMENT 1

Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule 2022

Meeting	Date/Time	Location
Ordinary Council Meeting	3 May 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Ordinary Council Meeting	7 June 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Ordinary Council Meeting	5 July 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Ordinary Council Meeting	2 August 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Ordinary Council Meeting	6 September 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Ordinary Council Meeting	4 October 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Ordinary Council Meeting	1 November 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Ordinary Council Meeting	6 December 2022 at 6:30pm	Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield

Councillor Workshop Schedule 2022

Meeting	Date/Time	Location
Councillor Workshop	19 April 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	17 May 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	21 June 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	19 July 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	16 August 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	20 September 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	18 October 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	15 November 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
Councillor Workshop	20 December 2022 at 4pm	Community Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield

DEU1 AUDIT OF REDUNDANT DRIVEWAYS AND KERBS WITH NO VERGES

AUTHOR: Gordon Malesevic, Executive Manager, Urban Services

APPROVER: Stephen Clements, Deputy CEO and General Manager Planning, Environment and Urban Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Council Meeting of 11 October 2021, Council resolved:

"138/21

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Doueihi)

- 1. An audit is undertaken of the redundant driveways and footpaths where there is no grass verges.*
- 2. The result of the audit is to be presented at the April 2022 Council Meeting and to include, but not limited to, the cost of replacing the redundant driveways with kerbs and gutters, the cost of removing the section of cement footpaths, and installing grass verges.*
- 3. That Council consult with property owners if there is any change suggested."*

This report has been prepared in response to the above Resolution.

REPORT

An audit was carried out of redundant driveways and kerbs with no verges. A total of fourteen (14) were found located in Bridge Road, The Crescent, Cross Street, Excelsior Avenue, Myee Avenue, Marion Street, Barton Street, Wilson Street, Yarrawee Street, Gould Street and Cosgrove Road.

The adjoining property owner is the beneficiary of any driveway and it is their responsibility to have it maintained as per the *Roads Act 1993*. It is proposed that Council write to each of the property owners requesting they arrange to remove their surplus driveway at their cost.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

DEU2 FLYOVER/OVERPASS AT ARTHUR STREET AND CENTENARY DRIVE, HOMEBUSH WEST
AUTHOR: Gordon Malesevic, Executive Manager, Urban Services
APPROVER: Brian Barrett, Acting General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report of Arthur Street and Homebush Bay Drive in Homebush West.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 February 2022, Council resolved:

"12/22

RESOLVED: (Datta / Maheswaran)

- 1. That Council prepares a report including possible options and funding needed for building a tunnel/ flyover/overpass across the intersection of Arthur Street and Homebush Bay Drive in Homebush West.*
- 2. That the report be presented before the Council for review and consideration in the April 2022 Council Meeting for further progress through identified agencies and key stakeholders.*
- 3. That Council write to relevant State Government agencies to request an update on plans to upgrade the junction at Arthur Street and Centenary Drive."*

This report has been prepared in response to the above Resolution.

REPORT

In response to Council's resolution, two options have been considered by Council's Traffic Team being:

Option 1

Create a fly over at Arthur Street similar to the fly over at the Hume Highway. This structure is stand alone and requires minimal excavation and earth works to construct. Precast concrete sections would be lifted into position on concrete posts and an asphalt surface provided for the trafficable two lanes south and two lanes north bound.

The estimated cost would be \$35 million.

Option 2

Excavate Arthur Street to go under Centenary Drive. This option involves large volumes of excavation, concrete shoring of the side walls, relocation of services, traffic disruptions in all directions.

The estimated cost would be \$50 million.

Implementation of either option would require traffic modelling to be undertaken and would need to be externally funded to be financially viable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding has not been provided in the current budget for this purpose. Should Council approve the expenditure, the source of funding will need to be identified in the budget.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

DEU3 **PARKING AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS TO COURALLIE AVENUE, HOMEBUSH WEST**
AUTHOR: Gordon Malesevic, Executive Manager, Urban Services
APPROVER: Stephen Clements, Deputy CEO and General Manager Planning, Environment and Urban Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 February 2022, Council resolved:

"18/22

RESOLVED: (Cai / Hall)

That an options report, with cost estimates, be provided to the April Council Meeting on the possibility of realigning/widening the full length of Courallie Avenue, Homebush West."

This report has been prepared in response to the above Resolution.

REPORT

Courallie Avenue extends from Parramatta Road to Courallie Avenue at the south over a length of 660 meters and an average width between the kerbs of 8m. It is a two way street with kerbside parking on both sides. Trees are in abundance and they line both the east and west sides. Electricity is provided to the residents by overhead power lines and it would seem most of the utilities are located on the western side of the street by the number of third party lids and service boxes.

Council's Urban Services staff have developed three (3) possible option being:

Option 1

Create off street parking between the trees on both sides using a mountable kerb. This would create an estimated 12 Extra spaces but would not eliminate the existing pinch points.

The estimated cost is \$100,000.

Option 2

Remove all the 44 trees on the eastern side and formally widen the road.

The estimated cost of approximately \$400,000.

Option 3

Convert Courallie Avenue into one way heading south from Parramatta Road. This retains all the trees and retains all the kerb side parking that currently exists.

The estimated cost is \$50,000.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding has not been provided in the current budget for this purpose. Should Council approve the expenditure the source of funding will need to be identified in the budget.

A Traffic Study would also need to be undertaken at a cost of \$80,000. If Council wished to pursue any of the options presented above it is recommended that a community engagement process with local residents be undertaken first as each option will impact the current character of the street.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

DEU4	SAFE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AT MARLBOROUGH ROAD/HOMEBUSH BAY DRIVE ROAD TO FLEMINGTON MARKET
AUTHOR:	Gordon Malesevic, Executive Manager, Urban Services
APPROVER:	Stephen Clements, Deputy CEO and General Manager Planning, Environment and Urban Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 1 February 2022, Council resolved:

"11/22

RESOLVED: (Datta / Hall)

- 1. That Council prepares a report including possible options and funding needs for building a safe pedestrian access through the Marlborough Road/Homebush Bay Drive for the residents of the Courallie Avenue precinct for their safe access to the Flemington Market.*
- 2. That the report be presented before the Council for review and consideration at the April 2022 Council Meeting with a view to progressing it through appropriate identified key stakeholders and agencies."*

This report has been prepared in response to the above Resolution.

REPORT

Marlborough Road, Homebush Bay Drive and the existing concrete tunnel leading into and from the Flemington Markets are assets under the care and control of Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

In assessing the area, Council's Traffic Team are proposing that a signalised pedestrian crossing be installed on Marlborough Road and be phased with the traffic light on Parramatta Road.

The estimated cost for such an installation would be in the vicinity of \$200,000.

Traffic modelling and State Government approval and funding would be required to implement this project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding for the installation and ongoing maintenance of the Traffic Lights to be borne by TfNSW.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

DEU5 PUBLIC SPACE LEGACY PROGRAM - HUDSON PARK STAGE 2

AUTHOR: Stephen Clements, Deputy CEO and General Manager Planning, Environment and Urban Services

APPROVER: Brian Barrett, Acting General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes and approves the current plan (attachment 3) for the upgrade of Hudson District Park Phase 2.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To provide Council with details of funding and approved project.
- To inform Council on the scope of works and current project plan.
- To advise Council details of the budget for this project.

REPORT

5 August, 2020 – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment wrote to Council inviting it to participate in the NSW Public Spaces Legacy program. This program linked the acceleration of assessments of local Development Applications and Zoning Applications to financial support for Council to deliver new and improved public spaces.

Funding was available to the 68 (sixty eight) NSW Councils that were at that time using the NSW Government's e-Planning Digital Services for DA Lodgement.

In order to participate, Council was required to demonstrate how it would:

- Accelerate median D.A. assessment timeframes.
- Demonstrate how it would complete assessment of any re-zoning proposals that had been in the system for more than 4 (four) years.
- Meet an expectation of 20% improvement in median assessment time of Development.

Target deadlines were established for Development Applications processing times with the participation benchmarks based on the previous times for the prior 2-3 years. In the case of Strathfield Council the assessment processing time target of 69 (sixty-nine) days was set. There were also requirements in regard to the exhibition of the LEP.

In order to participate, Council agreed to the above and signed a Participation Agreement on 30 November 2020 and was paid \$712K.

Council's performance against the participation benchmarks was monitored over six months and at the conclusion, having met an acceptable number of the required KPIs, Council was invited to put forward an Open Space project. Hudson District Park was nominated on the basis that Stage 1 was completed and funding for Stage 2 had not at that time been identified. It was also nominated because of community need in that area. Effectively, the argument put to Department of Planning Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE) was that by re-aligning the Golf Driving Range, Council would be in a position to return 5.3 hectares of recreational space for community use.

The initial concept plan was submitted on 30 June, 2021 and approved with a cost estimate of \$4,791,164. A copy of the initial concept plan is attached (*Refer Attachment 1 – Hudson District Park Plan submitted to DPIE 30 June 2021*).

Detailed design drawings and project specifications were required to be submitted for the Department by 30 November, 2021 (these drawings are attached – *Refer Attachment 2 – Hudson District Park Plan Detailed Design and Drawings – submitted to DPIE 30 November 2021*). The intent of the funding was to provide additional open space, so only those elements considered “passive” were approved. All hardcourts were removed from consideration for funding as they were not considered to be provided for passive recreation. The DPIE agreed for the partial funding to realign the Golf Driving Range in order to provide connection between Phase 1 & 2, increasing available recreational space.

On 10 November, 2021 Council lodged the Community Consultation Report to DPIE (*Refer Attachment 4 – Hudson District Park Stage 2 – Consultation Report*) which had been prepared and exhibited for a period of 5 (five) weeks for community feedback. A “Have Your Say” page was established on Council's webpage and exhibited through social media and e-news. Council also provided a letterbox drop to adjoining residential areas. There were 189 (one hundred and eighty nine) responses provided to Council with only 5 (five) responses objecting to the upgrade. A copy of the Community Consultation report is provided.

In December 2021 the final plan was provided to DPIE and monthly reports have been provided to DPIE in accordance with the agreement. A copy of the final plan is attached (*Refer Attachment 3 – Hudson District Park Current Plan*).

It should be noted that there was no inclusion of a “Misting Garden” on the concept plan. Council has received one cost estimate for this valued at \$860K and a Council funding source would need to be identified were Council to determine that this element should remain part of the plan. The minor water feature included on the original plan is adequately funded by the Grant funding. Due to the cost of the “Misting Garden” and the fact that this element would not be provided within the budget I would recommend this element be deleted. A copy of the current budget including current expenditure is provided. A total of \$1.438 million has been spent out of the \$4.2 million dollar Grant funding.

Discussions have been held with DPIE in regard to changes within the Masterplan. Council has been advised that:

Provided the elements that were approved remain, a variation is not required.

The hardcourt changes are not of interest to DPIE.

We have been advised to lodge an updated Masterplan for DPIE's files.

A short explanation of changes and reasons for making them should also be provided. This will be completed as soon as the Council approves the final Masterplan.

The costs of construction and delivery of park elements not met by the Public Space Legacy Project are to be funded by S7.11 reserves. The allocation for this project is \$1.4 million. These include:

- The deficit funds to re-align the Golf Driving Range.
- Construction costs for the equipment shed.
- Construction costs for the hardcourts to be included in the park. These have reduced from five courts to three.
- The costs for the Outdoor Gym.
- The Dog Off Leash area (responding to consultation feedback).

Council anticipates that all elements planned in the Concept Plan and Final Plan if approved by Council can be adequately funded from the Grant.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Proposed Expenditure: \$6,191,000

Funding has been provided in the current budget for this purpose as set out below:

Budget Item	Approved Budget	Expenditure To Date
Public Space Legacy Program	\$4,791,000	\$1,438,490
S7.11	\$1,400,000	\$347,720

ATTACHMENTS

1. Hudson Park District Park Plan Submitted to DPIE 30 June 2021
2. Hudson Park District Plan Detailed Design and Drawings - Submitted to DPIE 30 November 2021
3. Hudson District Park Current Plan
4. Hudson District Park Stage 2 - Consultation Report

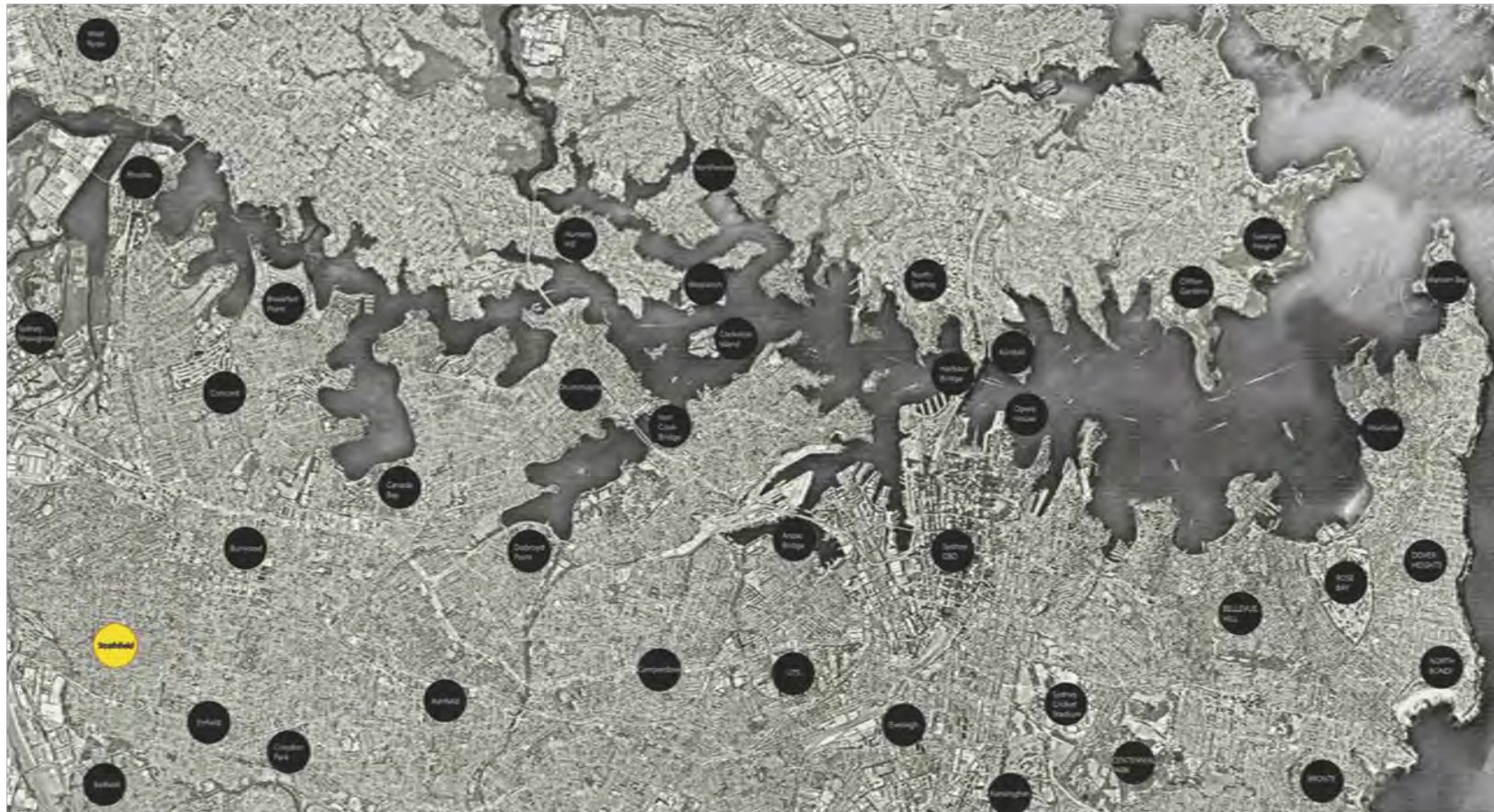
ATTACHMENT 1

Attachment 1 - Original Concept Plan - submitted to DPIE 30 June 2021

HUDSON DISTRICT PARK IMPROVEMENTS (STAGE -2)



REGIONAL CONTEXT



HUDSON DISTRICT PARK IMPROVEMENTS



HUDSON PARK . AERIAL VIEW



HUDSON PARK . NORTHERN VIEW



HUDSON PARK . EASTERN VIEW

HUDSON DISTRICT PARK IMPROVEMENTS



[illegible]





PRECEDENT REFERENCE IMAGES



PRECEDENT REFERENCE IMAGES



ATTACHMENT 2



ATTACHMENT 3



ATTACHMENT 4

Attachment 4 - Hudson District Park Stage 2 Consultation Report

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

HUDSON PARK STAGE 2 CONSULTATION REPORT

OVERVIEW

Consultation was conducted for 5 weeks with residents invited to provide feedback on the plans of Hudson Park Stage 2. A 'Have Your Say' page was established on the Council website and featured the current plans, key dates, project overview, and a digital form which interested parties could fill in with their feedback, including their name and email address.



The development of Hudson Park Stage 2 aims to provide welcoming spaces for everyone.
Hudson Park Stage 2 is being developed to cater for the local community's needs and to provide a high-quality public space for the community to enjoy and use.
As part of Council's commitment to provide a high-quality public space for the community, Hudson Park Stage 2 is being developed to cater for the local community's needs and to provide a high-quality public space for the community to enjoy and use.
Key features include:
• A large green field
• A paved walking track
• A paved cycling track
• A paved playground
• A paved picnic area
• A paved BBQ area
• A paved seating area
• A paved parking area
• A paved bus stop
• A paved waste bin area
• A paved water feature
• A paved tree shelter
• A paved tree shelter

Have Your Say!

Your input and feedback are important to help make Hudson Park Stage 2 the best it can be. Your views can be made by completing the form below and email on Monday 15 August 2021.



Hudson Park Stage 2 Feedback

Full Name *

Email Address *

Contact Number

Timeline
Commencement Date
August 2021
Completion Date
December 2021

Funding
This project is funded by Strathfield Council
as part of the Government's Public Space
Legacy Program.



Documents
Hudson Park Stage 2

Contact Details

Should you have questions regarding this
project, please contact: Hudson Park
Executive Manager, Community and External
Affairs

Phone: 02 9748 3113

Email: community@strathfield.nsw.gov.au



RECRUITMENT

The consultation was advertised via social media, the Council's weekly eNews (c. 30,000) and with a letter box drop to residents local to the park.

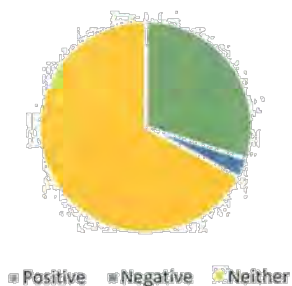
RESPONSES

187 Responses were recorded, with 15 double-ups, leaving 171 unique responses.

GENERAL FEEDBACK

Most respondents expressed neither positive nor negative feelings about the upgrade, instead just simply stating items they would like to see in the park. 50 respondents provided positive comments, 5 respondents were not in favour of the upgrade.

General Feedback



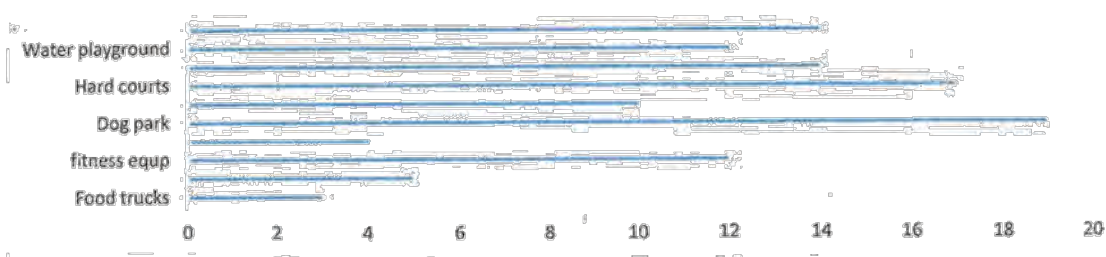
General Feedback	
Positive	
Negative	
Neither	

REQUESTED ELEMENTS

An off-leash dog park was the most requested item with 19 requests, which equates to 11% of all responses (bearing in mind some responses requested several different items). Hard courts were also in demand, primarily basketball, netball and tennis (17, 10%), shaded seating (14, 8%) and a skate park (14, 8%).

It should be noted that a number of people requested items that were already in the plan, including fitness equipment and bathrooms.

Requested Elements



Requested Elements	
Food trucks	3
bathrooms	5
fitness equip	12
BBQ	4
Dog park	19
Mt Bike Track	10
Hard courts	17
Skate park	14
Water playground	12
shaded seating	14

NEGATIVE COMMENTS

Two themes were discovered in the negative comments, which were people concerned there was too much development at Hudson Park and requesting more passive recreation space. Additionally, concerns were raised about the playground and that there is already a lot of play equipment for children, but nothing catering adults or teens. These comments were most often coupled with requests for a BMX track, skate park and hard courts.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- 14 queries were raised regarding Hudson Park Driving Range with visitors concerned it will be closed for good or lost in the new upgrade. Additionally, feedback was provided on netting and safety for the area.
- 12 responses included items to improve the environment at the park, including more trees, compost bins, animal houses and planting that will attract native wildlife.
- 19 responses were received regarding security, traffic and peace, with participants concerned the traffic on Centenary Drive would be too noisy in the park and that the park would become a destination, increasing traffic and security concerns, and disturbing the peace of residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide an off-leash dog park. There are **XX** dog owners in the immediate area with the nearest Strathfield Council off-leash area at Bressington Park, Homebush.
- Provide additional shaded seating, including some near the edge of the park which will increase accessibility for residents who experience difficulty walking.
- Ensure security of the park and that peace of the neighbourhood is maintained.
- Advertise the planned hard courts for Hudson Park. Hard courts have been planned for the Park, but were not included in the plans provided for this consultation, as they are not part of the items under the NSW Government Grant.
- Advertise the amenities building and exercise equipment, noting that people requested these items, despite their already being included in the plans.
- Advertise plans for the upgrade of Hudson Park Driving Range.

Stephen Clements

From: Yvonne Yun
Sent: Tuesday, 22 March 2022 4:17 PM
To: Stephen Clements
Subject: FW: Hudson Park Stage 2 Consultation REPORT
Attachments: Hudson Park Stage 2 Consultation REPORT.docx

Importance: High

Hi Stephen,

This is the Consultation Report prepared by Naomi for DPIE. The mailout was to 12000 residents.

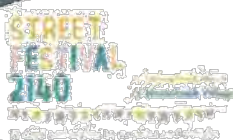
DPIE accepted this document.



Yvonne Yun | Executive Manager, Corporate and External Affairs
 P 02 940 8166
 65 Homebush Rd, Strathfield NSW 2135
yvonne.yun@strathfield.nsw.gov.au

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 COVID-19 Health Updates |  [Health Update](#) or  24/7 Coronavirus Hotline 1800 020 080