STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

Tuesday 22 October 2024

6:30pm

Council Chambers

65 Homebush Road, Strathfield



Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with clause 3.23 of the Model Code of Meeting Practice, released by the NSW Office of Local Government, Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

Oath or Affirmation of Office

The Oath or Affirmation is taken by each Councillor whereby they swear or declare to undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Strathfield and Strathfield Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

Conflicts of Interest

All Councillors must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at Council Meetings in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct. All declarations of conflicts of interest and how the conflict of interest was managed will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the declaration was made.

Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct. Where a Councillor has declared a pecuniary or significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter being discussed at the meeting, the Councillor's audio-visual link to the meeting will be suspended or terminated for the time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by Council, or at any time during which Council is voting on the matter.

Councillors should ensure that they are familiar with Parts 4 and 5 of the Strathfield Council Code of Conduct in relation to their obligations to declare and manage conflicts of interests.

Recording of Council Meetings

Persons in the gallery are advised that under the *Local Government Act 1993* a person may NOT tape record the proceeding of a meeting of a Council or committee without the authority of the Council or committee. "Tape record" includes a video camera and an electronic device capable of recording speech.

Mobile phones must be turned off so as not to disrupt the meeting. Anyone, including Councillors, found using a mobile phone will be told to leave the meeting immediately and for the duration of the said meeting.

An audio recording of this meeting will be taken for minute taking purposes as authorised by the *Local Government Act 1993*.

This meeting is live streamed on Council's website to allow the community to follow Council debates and decisions without the need to attend meetings in person. Members of the public attending or speaking at a meeting agree to have their image, voice and personal information (including name and address) recorded and publicly broadcast. Strathfield Council does not accept liability for any defamatory remarks or inappropriate comments that are made during the course of a meeting. Any part of the meeting that is held in closed session will not be streamed.



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MICHAEL MAMO GENERAL MANAGER

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 8 October 2024

6:30pm

Council Chambers

65 Homebush Road, Strathfield

and

by Audio Visual Link







Minutes of the Council Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 8 October 2024, in the Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

COMMENCING: 6:32pm

PRESENT: Councillor Rory Nosworthy

Councillor Karen Pensabene (Audio Visual Link)

Councillor Esther Kim Councillor John-Paul Baladi Councillor Sandy Reddy

Councillor Matthew Blackmore

Councillor Benjamin Cai

STAFF: Michael Mamo, General Manager

Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community Clare Harley, Director Planning and Environment

Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering and Operations

Melissa Mallos, General Counsel Rodney Sanjivi, Chief Financial Officer

Amanda Rutherford, Governance and Procurement Manager

David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

Gina Nobrega, Governance and Corporate Support Officer

- 1. MOMENT OF REFLECTION: The Prayer was read.
- 2. **RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS:** The Recognition was read.
- 3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST (NATURE OF INTEREST TO BE DISCLOSED)

Nil.



5. CCS1 Oath / Affirmation of Office

216/24

RESOLVED:

- 1. That in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 it be minuted that all Councillors present at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 8 October 2024 have undertaken the Oath / Affirmation of Office at this first meeting of the Council.
- 2. That in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 it be minuted that Councillor Pensabene was unable to attend this meeting in person, and an Oath was administered to Councillor Pensabene on 8 October 2024 by the General Manager and a signed statement containing the Oath was tabled to formally note in the Minutes of Council that Councillor Pensabene has taken the Oath of Office prior to this the first meeting of Council.

Attendance by Councillor Pensabene at Council Meeting 8 October 2024 by Audio-Visual Link

Under clause 5.18 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice:

Councillors may attend and participate in meetings of the Council and committees of the Council by audio-visual link with the approval of the Council or the relevant committee should the Councillor be unable to attend in person due to a natural disaster, extenuating circumstances or other circumstance or significant health issue.

The General Manager called for a Motion to approve Councillor Pensabene's requests to participate in this meeting by audio-visual link.

MOTION: (Nosworthy / Blackmore)

That Councillor Pensabene be approved to participate in the Ordinary Council Meeting 8 October 2024 by audio-visual link due to significant health reasons.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Pensabene and Nosworthy

Against the Motion: Councillors Cai, Reddy, Baladi and Kim

The General Manager declared the Motion lost.

Councillor Pensabene left the meeting, the time being 6:48pm.





6. CCS2 Election of the Mayor – Method of Voting

217/24

RESOLVED: (Reddy / Blackmore)

That Council conduct the election of the Mayor by open voting.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Reddy, Baladi, Nosworthy and Kim

Against the Motion: Nil

7. CCS3 Election of the Deputy Mayor – Method of Voting

218/24

RESOLVED: (Reddy / Baladi)

That the Council conduct the election of the Deputy Mayor by open voting.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Reddy, Baladi, Nosworthy and Kim

Against the Motion: Nil

8. CCS4 Election of Mayor

219/24

RESOLVED: (Baladi / Reddy)

That Council elect the Mayor for the term October 2024 until September 2026.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Reddy, Baladi, Nosworthy and Kim

Against the Motion: Nil

The Returning Officer, being the General Manager advised that nominations for the position of Mayor, in the order listed below, had been received for:

Councillor Baladi – nominated by Councillor Reddy and Councillor Cai.

The Returning Officer then confirmed that the nominee accepted the nomination.





The Returning Officer asked if there were any further nominations. There were no further nominations.

As there is only one nominee for the role of Mayor, the Returning Officer declared Councillor Baladi the Mayor for the period October 2024 – September 2026.

9. CCS5 Election of the Deputy Mayor

220/24

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Baladi)

That Council elect the Deputy Mayor for the term October 2024 until September 2026.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Reddy, Baladi, Nosworthy and Kim

Against the Motion: Nil

The Returning Officer, being the General Manager advised that nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor, in the order listed below, had been received for:

Councillor Cai – nominated by Councillor Reddy and Councillor Baladi.

The Returning Officer then confirmed that the nominee accepted the nomination.

The Returning Officer asked if there were any further nominations. There were no further nominations.

As there is only one nominee for the role of Deputy Mayor, the Returning Officer declared Councillor Cai the Deputy Mayor for the period October 2024 – September 2026.

The General Manager, Mr Michael Mamo vacated the Chair.

The Mayor, Councillor Baladi assumed the Chair.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 Acknowledge and Thank You – Councillor John-Paul Baladi

Thank you for your support and trust in myself and Councillor Cai to be Mayor and Deputy Mayor. I am humbled. I would also like to acknowledge the election of our seven Councillors, it was a hard fought campaign and each of you deserve the role you have been sworn into. Congratulations.





I would also like to acknowledge all the friends and family that have come here this evening to celebrate the swearing in and join us for the first Council Meeting followed by snacks after.

In particular I'd like to thank and acknowledge the former Mayor Gulian Vaccari. Gulian has been a friend and mentor for a long time and I attended his first swearing in ceremony in 2017 for the Mayor a second time. I look forward to continuing with your tutelage, support and mentorship.

Finally an acknowledgement of the new Council and the excitement I have for the next four years working with all of you no matter what colour or creed you hail from.

10.2 Acknowledgement and Thank You – Councillor Sandy Reddy

I would like to congratulate John-Paul and Benjamin and would like to start by thanking all the residents and family members that are here, my cousins and Team Sandy, thank you for your support. I am more answerable to people who haven't voted for me and now I need to prove myself and make sure next time I will be your choice.

I would also like to thank the staff who has helped, supported and guided us and are looking for your guidance in the future. This is my second term and I am sure I will be able to deliver more things and work with a more productive team. It doesn't matter the party we come from, we all belong to Strathfield and we are Strathfield Councillors. We are here to serve our community.

10.3 Acknowledgement and Thank You – Councillor Rory Nosworthy

I would like to thank everyone who made the election process possible, volunteers and various others that help us get elected, the NSW Electoral Commission for a fair and honest election which is important as well the staff for their guidance and assistance in this event. Most of all my family for their support and time they put in to help me arrive here today.

10.4 Acknowledgement and Thank You – Councillor Esther Kim

Congratulations to John-Paul Baladi and Benjamin Cai and thank you to everyone who attended this evening to express your interest. I am very much honoured being a Councillor for Strathfield Council and am glad to work for the Strathfield community. I would like to hear from you what I need to know and work it out through cooperation with Councillors. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who worked hard during my campaign and all the supporters in many ways. I hope you wait and be patient with me until I





learn more about my role. Thank you very much.

10.5 Acknowledgement and Thank You - Councillor Matthew Blackmore

Firstly I'd like to thank all the candidates who stood in my team at the election for all their support. A big thank you to Sue McDonald and former Mayor Andrew Soulos who are here today and Robin Mah and his team for their help, I was very happy with our result. So thank you for all your hard work and there's lots of volunteers who give up their time to support us so it is really appreciated. I would also like to acknowledge and thank former Councillors for their service in the last term — Councillor Hall, Councillor Datta, Councillor Maheswaran and Councillor Pensabene, Councillor Pensabene for her term as Mayor as well. Thank you.

10.6 Acknowledgement and Thank You - Councillor Benjamin Cai

Only words I can say, thank you. Thank you for all the Strathfield residents that elect me, support me to continue to serve you in next four years. Secondly I would like to thank all my team, we have had a very hard, hard campaign and finally we win the election and the surprise of Deputy Mayor. I would like to thank in particular my very good partner Nella Hall, former Councillor. Thank you, you did a good job in the campaign and I have many supporters Patricia, Giamarco, Yakub, Sabii and Mac, thank you. Many, many other supporters, thank you all and in the next four years like Councillor Reddy has said, we have to forget who we are. We are just Councillors for this Council and we are going to work for the best interest of this Council. Thank you.

10.7 Labor and Liberal Days – Councillor John-Paul Baladi

A final acknowledgement from me that Labor Day was yesterday and Liberal Day today. Thank you very much.

11. CCS6 Ordinary Council Meeting 13 August 2024 - Minutes

221/24

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Reddy)

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 13 August 2024, 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 Chairperson and General Manager be authorised to sign such Minutes.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Reddy, Baladi, Nosworthy and Kim

Against the Motion: Nil

12. CCS7 Method to fill Casual Vacancies

222/24

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Nosworthy)

That Council declares that any casual vacancies in the office of a Councillor that occurs within 18 months after the date of the last ordinary election of Councillors for the area is to be filled by a countback of votes cast at the last election held for that office. The General Manager is required to inform the NSW Electoral Commission within seven (7) days of the Council's decision.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Reddy, Baladi, Nosworthy and Kim

Against the Motion: Nil

13. CCS8 Council Committees

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Appoint a Councillor (who is not the Mayor) to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee as a non-voting member.
- 2. Appoint a Councillor as a voting member and an alternate representative to the Cooks River Alliance Management Committee.
- 3. Appoint a Councillor as a voting member of the Parramatta River Catchment Group.
- 4. Note that the Mayor is a voting member, and the Deputy Mayor is an alternate voting member, of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC).
- 5. Note that interested Councillors can attend meetings of the local Traffic Committee and must nominate a Councillor to Chair the meetings and be voting delegate.





6. Note discussion papers will be prepared and presented to a Councillor Workshop on options for the Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee and Local Economic Development Committee.

MOTION: (Blackmore / Reddy)

That Council:

- 1. Appoint Councillor Kim to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee as a non-voting member.
- 2. Appoint Councillor Reddy as a voting member and Councillor Kim an alternate representative to the Cooks River Alliance Management Committee.
- 3. Appoint Councillor Cai as a voting member of the Parramatta River Catchment Group.
- 4. Note that the Mayor is a voting member, and the Deputy Mayor is an alternate voting member, of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC).
- 5. Note that interested Councillors can attend meetings of the local Traffic Committee and Councillor Blackmore be nominated Chair for the meetings and be voting delegate.
- 6. That Councillor Reddy be appointed Chair for the Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee and that the Local Economic Development Committee be disbanded.
- 7. That a Budget Review and Finance Committee be established, Chaired by the Mayor and Deputy Chair by Councillor Blackmore. Terms of Reference are to be brought to a future Councillor Workshop.

223/24

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Reddy)

That Council:

- 1. Appoint Councillor Kim to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee as a non-voting member.
- 2. Appoint Councillor Reddy as a voting member and Councillor Kim an alternate representative to the Cooks River Alliance Management Committee.
- 3. Appoint Councillor Cai as a voting member of the Parramatta River Catchment Group.





- 4. Note that the Mayor is a voting member, and the Deputy Mayor is an alternate voting member, of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC).
- 5. Note that interested Councillors can attend meetings of the local Traffic Committee and Councillor Blackmore be nominated Chair for the meetings and be voting delegate.
- 6. That Councillor Reddy be appointed Chair for the Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee and that the Local Economic Development Committee be disbanded.
- 7. That a Budget Review and Finance Committee be established, Chaired by the Mayor and Deputy Chair by Councillor Blackmore. Terms of Reference are to be brought to a future Councillor Workshop.

For the Motion: Councillors Blackmore, Cai, Reddy, Baladi, Nosworthy and Kim

Against the Motion: Nil

14. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7:23pm.

The foregoing Minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Strathfield on 22 October 2024.

Chairperson	General Manager



7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE 07/24 - LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING

AUTHOR: John-Paul Baladi, Councillor

I MOVE:

- 1. That Council recognises the work that has been done to publish Strathfield's comprehensive Long Term Financial Plan, which has sought to mend our previously outdated and unsustainable financial planning.
- 2. That Councillors, who have spent the past months engaging with the ideas and concerns of residents and businesses, seek to support the community by strengthening Council's long term financial planning.
- 3. That the following is to be presented in a Councillor Workshop before the end of this calendar year (2024):
 - Possible alterations to the current Special Rate Variation (SRV) to reduce or halt the planned increases for residents
 - Potential opportunities to offset planned borrowings and expected debt, noting the Land and Property Strategy will soon be published
 - Any other feasible expenditure-reducing measures which contribute to the above-mentioned objectives
 - An outline of where council can increase revenue opportunities

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council recognises the work that has been done to publish Strathfield's comprehensive Long Term Financial Plan, which has sought to mend our previously outdated and unsustainable financial planning.
- 2. That Councillors, who have spent the past months engaging with the ideas and concerns of residents and businesses, seek to support the community by strengthening Council's long term financial planning.
- 3. That the following is to be presented in a Councillor Workshop before the end of this calendar year (2024):
 - Possible alterations to the current Special Rate Variation (SRV) to reduce or halt the planned increases for residents
 - Potential opportunities to offset planned borrowings and expected debt, noting the Land and Property Strategy will soon be published
 - Any other feasible expenditure-reducing measures which contribute to the above-mentioned objectives
 - An outline of where council can increase revenue opportunities

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 7.1 Page 17



10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE

SUBJECT: STRATHFIELD CONNECTOR BUS

I MOVE:

That:

- 1. Council ceases the Connector Bus Service at its earliest possible time.
- 2. A report be presented to a 2025 Council Meeting prior to Annual Budget that includes, but is not limited to, the money raised from the sale of the buses and the estimated savings.
- 3. That a report providing the costs of maintaining one community bus which can be used or hired by local community organisations, churches, schools etc. be provided to the December 2024 Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council ceases the Connector Bus Service at its earliest possible time.
- 2. A report be presented to a 2025 Council Meeting prior to Annual Budget that includes, but is not limited to, the money raised from the sale of the buses and the estimated savings.
- 3. That a report providing the costs of maintaining one community bus which can be used or hired by local community organisations, churches, schools etc. be provided to the December 2024 Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



10.2 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE

SUBJECT: COMMITMENT TO RESIDENTS IN RELATION TO COUNCIL'S RED BIN SERVICE

I MOVE:

That Council makes a commitment to the residents to maintain the weekly Red Bin service whenever the Food Organics Waste bin is implemented.

Rationale

It has been legislated that Councils in NSW must introduce a Food Organics Bin Service by 2030. Many local Councils have disrupted existing services which residents rely on for their waste service which has resulted in unsightly and unhygienic outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council makes a commitment to the residents to maintain the weekly Red Bin service whenever the Food Organics Waste bin is implemented.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 10.2 Page 19



10.3 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE

SUBJECT: STATUS OF COUNCIL LICENSES AND LEASES

I MOVE:

That:

- 1. At the December 2024 Councillor Workshop, a presentation is provided on the status of all licenses and leases on all Council owned property.
- 2. Councillors be informed at the Councillor Workshop of Council's Licenses and Leases Policy which was endorsed in December 2022.

Rationale

An opportunity for the new Councillors to become better acquainted with all the assets of Council and the income generated for Council through the licenses and leases.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. At the December 2024 Councillor Workshop, a presentation is provided on the status of all licenses and leases on all Council owned property.
- 2. Councillors be informed at the Councillor Workshop of Council's Licenses and Leases Policy which was endorsed in December 2022.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 10.3 Page 20



10.4 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE

SUBJECT: PLAQUES, MEMORIALS AND STATUE POLICY AND REVIEW

I MOVE:

That:

- 1. Council provides a report to the February 2025 Council Meeting on the excessive number of plaques, memorials and statues across the Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA) including multiple for the same project.
- 2. The same report to include, but not limited to, the cost of finding a suitable location to put or catalogue the excess materials.
- 3. Council staff to provide a Draft Plaques, Memorials and Statue Policy that includes, but is not limited to, the justification for installation, whose names should be recorded and budgetary implications.

<u>Rationale</u>

There seems to be an unnecessary number of plaques etc. installed in the Strathfield LGA via ad hoc Motions by Councillors in the Council's past. This is an unnecessary expense for self-promotion and we should have a policy to ensure that this isn't abused in the future.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council provides a report to the February 2025 Council Meeting on the excessive number of plaques, memorials and statues across the Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA) including multiple for the same project.
- 2. The same report to include, but not limited to, the cost of finding a suitable location to put or catalogue the excess materials.
- 3. Council staff to provide a Draft Plaques, Memorials and Statue Policy that includes, but is not limited to, the justification for installation, whose names should be recorded and budgetary implications.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 10.4 Page 21



10.5 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE

SUBJECT: LOADING ZONE IN BURLINGTON ROAD, HOMEBUSH

I MOVE:

That the Traffic Committee examine the location of the loading zone in Burlington Road, Homebush with the view to re-locating the loading zone to The Crescent so as not to use so many car parking spaces.

Rationale

The current location of the Loading Zone takes up too many valuable car parking spaces and many residents get fined unnecessarily.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Traffic Committee examine the location of the loading zone in Burlington Road, Homebush with the view to re-locating the loading zone to The Crescent so as not to use so many car parking spaces.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



10.6 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE SUBJECT: STRATHFIELD OWNED AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS

I MOVE:

That:

- 1. Strathfield Council register Council owned Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) with Heart of the Nation.
- 2. A report be prepared on the cost of moving the Strathfield Council owned AEDs to the outside of Council owned buildings, so they are accessible 24/7 to the Strathfield residents.
- 3. Council investigates any grant opportunities available in relation to AEDS.

Rationale

There are three simple things that anyone can do to help save a life when a person's heart has stopped. The steps known as the Chain of Survival are CALL, PUSH, SHOCK.

Calling emergency services and getting paramedics dispatched early, combined with good CPR and early use of an AED within the first 3-5 minutes of the patient's collapse, can result in survival rates as high 65-72%.

For example, if a resident in Noble Avenue, Strathfield had a sudden cardiac arrest then the first action would be to call for an ambulance. The second action would be for one or more persons to start doing CPR while another person raced across the road to the Hight Street Community Centre to retrieve and return with the Council owned AED to use until the ambulance arrived.

If one of the Councillors or Council staff had a sudden cardiac arrest would anyone present know what to do? And does anyone know where the Council owned AED is located?

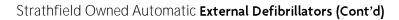
The point is all of our Council owned AEDs need to be accessible to the staff and also the nearby residents.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Strathfield Council register Council owned Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) with Heart of the Nation.
- 2. A report be prepared on the cost of moving the Strathfield Council owned AEDs to the outside of Council owned buildings so they are accessible 24/7 to the Strathfield residents.
- 3. Council investigates any grant opportunities available in relation to AEDS.

Item 10.6 Page 23





ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 10.6 Page 24



10.7 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF FENCING AND HOARDING RULES DURING BUILDING WORKS

I MOVE:

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council Meeting in relation to current rules and regulations about the erection of fences and hoardings during building works in the Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA).

The report includes but not limited to:

- Options for Council to ensure that fencing and hoardings during the construction period do not restrict the view of the building site from the street level and opportunities for any large area of "blank" areas to have images of local historic or artistic images to lessen the harsh visual impact to residents
- Current and possible restrictions to height for fencing and hoarding
- Any fees, charges or penalties which could be included in next financial year's budget in relation to fencing and hoarding which can align with any new rules if Council chooses to implement them

Rationale

In recent years there seems to be an approach of builders to erect extremely high and visually blocking fences and hoarding on building sites which makes it difficult for Councils regulatory staff and residents to see if a building site is doing illegal building works.

There have been recent examples of Complying Development Certificate builds which have exceeded Council's planning controls and examples of illegal works and demolition of local heritage and conservation items. It is in the public interest and if a builder is complying with the approval there would be no need to obstruct regulatory staff or neighbour's view.

RECOMMENDATION

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council Meeting in relation to current rules and regulations about the erection of fences and hoardings during building works in the Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA).

The report includes but not limited to:

- Options for Council to ensure that fencing and hoardings during the construction period do not
 restrict the view of the building site from the street level and opportunities for any large area of
 "blank" areas to have images of local historic or artistic images to lessen the harsh visual impact to
 residents
- Current and possible restrictions to height for fencing and hoarding
- Any fees, charges or penalties which could be included in next financial year's budget in relation to fencing and hoarding which can align with any new rules if Council chooses to implement them

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 10.7 Page 25



10.8 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BLACKMORE

SUBJECT: REPORT ON POSSIBLE GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES BOARD APPLICATION

I MOVE:

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council Meeting with a possible case for a Geographical Names Board application for the renaming of parts of Homebush (South of the Railway) to Strathfield.

The report includes but not limited to:

- The possible boundaries for a proposal
- The possible case for a change
- The process of an application
- Budgetary implications and timeframes

Rationale

With the upcoming TOD program being gazetted in the near future by the NSW Government Homebush as a Suburb is going to significantly change with an additional 16,100 dwellings being proposed North of the Railway.

As a council we need to prepare for the massive change in the area and having a few isolated streets sitting on the Southern side of the Station I believe council has a role to preserve, improve, and showcase our Heritage Conservation Village.

RECOMMENDATION

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council Meeting with a possible case for a Geographical Names Board application for the renaming of parts of Homebush (South of the Railway) to Strathfield.

The report includes but not limited to:

- The possible boundaries for a proposal
- The possible case for a change
- The process of an application
- Budgetary implications and timeframes

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 10.8 Page 26



10.9 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR KIM

SUBJECT: BUSKING IN STRATHFIELD SQUARE

I MOVE:

That:

- 1. Council prepares a report, to be presented at the December 2024 Councillor Workshop, that provides a policy to allow busking in the Strathfield Square area.
- 2. The report should include the requirements needed for Council to issue a Licence to Play permit and any other guidelines and requirements to permit busking in an urban area.

Rationale

Strathfield Square is visited by youth on a regular basis - especially the evenings. Busking as entertainment would be a welcomed attraction to Strathfield Square.

COUNCIL OFFICERS' NOTE

A policy would be placed on exhibition following a resolution of Council to do so at a Meeting. As the Christmas Period follows this workshop consultation is recommended for around February 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council prepares a report, to be presented at the December 2024 Councillor Workshop, that provides a policy to allow busking in the Strathfield Square area.
- 2. The report should include the requirements needed for Council to issue a Licence to Play permit and any other quidelines and requirements to permit busking in an urban area.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 10.9 Page 27



10.10 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR KIM SUBJECT: INSTALLATION OF GYM EQUIPMENT IN ISMAY RESERVE

I MOVE:

That:

- 1. Council prepares a report to be presented at a Councillor Workshop in December 2024 for the installation of gym equipment in Ismay Reserve.
- 2. That the report includes budget considerations for the second half of the 2024/2025 budgetary year.

Rationale

The park is widely used and has equipment for children and youth but requires equipment for adults in the area.

Simple exercise equipment will assist with urban life in a high-density residential area and enable ordinary residents who lack exercise the opportunity to do so.

The Ismay Reserve is the closest park from the Strathfield town centre.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council prepares a report to be presented at a Councillor Workshop in December 2024 for the installation of gym equipment in Ismay Reserve.
- 2. That the report includes budget considerations for the second half of the 2024/2025 budgetary year.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



10.11 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR NOSWORTHY
SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF THE INNER WEST BRIDJ ON-DEMAND BUS SERVICE

I MOVE:

That Council writes to Transport for NSW and requests that they investigate the extension of the Inner West BRIDJ on-demand bus service into the Strathfield Local Government Area.

Rationale

The Inner West BRIDJ services complement a number of public transport methods, and there are significant time savings to be gained by using On Demand services in combination with express train services.

The Newington – Lidcombe BRIDJ service provides a direct connection between Newington and Lidcombe Station. BRIDJ passengers receive real-time updates about their journey along with the convenience of free onboard WiFi and USB charging ports.



RECOMMENDATION

That Council writes to the NSW Government and requests that they investigate the extension of the Inner West BRIDJ on-demand bus service into the Strathfield Local Government Area.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



10.12 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR NOSWORTHY

SUBJECT: ALTERATION OF PARKING PROVISIONS FOR SHARED VEHICLES SUCH AS GOGET AND

UBER CARSHARE

I MOVE:

That a report be presented to a future Council Meeting on the alteration of parking provisions for shared vehicles such as GoGet and Uber CarShare which includes providing new signage for dedicated carshare parking locations across the Strathfield Local Government Area.

Rationale

GoGet currently has cars located in the Strathfield Local Government Area at the following locations:

- Burlington Road, between Meredith Street and Rochester Street, Homebush
- Lotus Lane Homebush
- Lofts Cresent near Bridge Road, West Homebush
- Homebush Road near Albiston Street, Strathfield
- Homebush Road Strathfield (near Abbotsford Road)
- Park Road near Hillcrest Street, Homebush

Our neighbouring council of Canada Bay club provides dedicated, singed, parking locations for carshare cars. This provides increased ease for carshare users when locating the cars at the start of use.

RECOMMENDATION

That a report be presented to a future Council Meeting on the alteration of parking provisions for shared vehicles such as GoGet and Uber CarShare which includes providing new signage for dedicated carshare parking locations across the Strathfield Local Government Area.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



10.13 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CAI

SUBJECT: STRATHFIELD COUNCIL EVENTS COMMITTEE

I MOVE:

That a report be provided to a future Council workshop and meeting addressing the development of an Events Committee for Strathfield Council.

Rationale

It would be valuable for Council to have an Events Committee that could work closely with our community so that are events are more community centric.

RECOMMENDATION

That a report be provided to a future Council workshop and meeting addressing the development of an Events Committee for Strathfield Council.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



10.14 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CAI

SUBJECT: A REPORT ON MARLENE CRESENT AND DAVIDSON STREET, GREENACRE

I MOVE:

That Council investigate and report back at a future Councillor Workshop and Council Meeting on the potential to adjust the postcode for Marlene Crescent and Davidson Street, Greenacre, so that it reflects a postcode exclusive to the Strathfield Local Government Area.

Rationale

Residents have provided feedback that they would like Council to investigate opportunities to adjust post code so that their post code reflects one that is only part of the Strathfield Local Government Area (rather than across two separate Local Government Areas).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council investigate and report back at a future Councillor Workshop and Council Meeting on the potential to adjust the postcode for Marlene Crescent and Davidson Street, Greenacre, so that it reflects a postcode exclusive to the Strathfield Local Government Area.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.



10.15 NOTICE OF RESCISSION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLORS BLACKMORE, BALADI AND

REDDY

SUBJECT: RESCISSION MOTION - 215/24 PE6 DRAFT PROPOSAL - STRATHFIELD MEDIUM

DENSITY HOUSING STRATEGY

WE MOVE:

That:

1. Council rescind Resolution 215/24 (PE6 Draft Planning Proposal: Strathfield Medium Density Housing Strategy) from Council Meeting 13 August 2024 that states:

"215/24

RESOL VED: (Datta / Cai)

- 1. That Council notes the advice provided by the Strathfield Local Planning Panel on 1 August 2024 regarding the drafting of a Planning Proposal in relation to the Strathfield Medium Density Housing Strategy.
- 2. That Council supports the intent of proposed amendments to the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012 to facilitate medium density housing consistent with the NSW Low and Mid-Rise Housing Policy and Council's Medium Density Housing Strategy, as outlined in the body of the report and resolves to incorporate the proposed amendments into a Planning Proposal.
- 3. That Council endorses the draft Planning Proposal Attachment 1 for lodgement with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for Gateway determination.
- 4. That Council delegates authority to the General Manager to make necessary amendments to the Planning Proposal and supporting documents arising from a Gateway Determination and prior to public exhibition.
- 5. That should a Gateway Determination be issued which enables public exhibition, a further report is to be presented to Council following the exhibition period. The report is to address any submissions received. A further update on the progress of the Planning Proposal is to be provided at that time.
- 6. That the Strathfield Development Control Plan (DCP) be reviewed and updated concurrently with the Planning Proposal to ensure consistency with the objectives and controls contained in the Planning Proposal.
- 7. That a report be presented to Council which outlines the proposed amendments to the DCP prior to public exhibition.





8. That a further report be brought back to Council to seek endorsement of the proposed amendments to the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012 and the adoption of amendments to the Strathfield Development Control Plan, following public exhibition.

For the Motion: Councillors Cai, Datta, Hall and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil"

2. If the above Rescission Motion is carried the Alternate Motion is Moved:

A Councillor Workshop be held in November 2024 to discuss finding alternative solutions which increases the Medium Density Housing Supply in Strathfield but does not destroy the Strathfield moniker of "Oasis in the West".

COUNCIL OFFICERS' NOTE

In accordance with Councils resolution (215/24) of August 2024 the Planning Proposal for the Medium Density Housing Strategy has been lodged with the Department Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for a Gateway Determination.

The Gateway Determination is expected by the end of October 2024.

- If the Gateway Determination recommends public exhibition, it is the staff recommendation that Council does progress to exhibition.
 - o Public exhibition of the Planning Proposal would allow Council to hear and consider valuable feedback from the community and other stakeholders and then make any necessary refinements before bringing the proposal back to Council for finalisation. This could include developing the concept of Strathfield being an 'oasis of the west,' which can be embedded in revised planning controls, as a strong underlying narrative. Post exhibition changes to the Planning Proposal could include an increase in the minimum lot size for dual occupancies.
 - O Under s3.35 (4) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* the Planning Proposal Authority (in this case, Council) can choose to vary or withdraw a Planning Proposal at any stage. As indicated above the Act specifically allows for Council to progress to public exhibition and still make changes to the proposed controls or, at that stage chose to withdraw the Planning Proposal.
- Not proceeding to public exhibition of the Planning Proposal and review of the existing Development Control Plan controls will negatively impact Councils' ability to manage low and midrise development effectively.
 - Withdrawing the Planning Proposal would be expected to delay timeframes for introducing new controls by around 12 months.. This is particularly relevant given the NSW Government Housing Reform and the new forms of residential development permitted under the Lowand Mid-Rise Housing State Environmental Planning Policy (the SEPP) which are anticipated to come into effect in early 2025.



Housing Strategy (Cont'd)

- The state government is progressing a planning reform agenda to increase housing supply and diversity and will be introducing controls to significantly increase low and mid-rise forms of residential development. This includes dual occupancy, town houses and residential flat buildings.
 - o Unless Council proactively introduces controls via the current Planning Proposal and amendments to the DCP, Council will have limited powers to ensure the character of the local area is managed.
- As part of the state governments reform it has recently introduced 'dual occupancy' as a permissible
 use and will soon introduce minimum lot sizes into the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan so that
 50% of lots in our local government area will be eligible for dual occupancy.
 - o Council has been asked by the state government to put forward a minimum lot size by February 2025 and if we do not provide an appropriately justified response, then the state government will automatically introduce a minimum lot size of 400sqm, whereby sites of 400sqm and above could be subdivided to create two lots (potentially two lots of 200sqm) and may be eligible under Complying Development controls. Council may have limited recourse in this scenario as Council would need to justify the introduction of significantly more onerous controls to introduce a minimum lot size higher than 400sqm. The state government may not support such changes.
- The draft Planning Proposal and amendments to the Development Control Plan gives Council the opportunity to have more control over the destiny of the local government area.
 - o The Planning Proposal and the proposed changes to the Local Environmental Plan are based on the analysis contained in the Medium Density Housing Strategy and the community feedback received via extensive survey and community engagement events. In accordance with the August 2024 Council meeting decision, staff have also been progressing the preparation of new controls for the Development Control Plan which would provide detailed guidance about building and landscape in support of local character.
- A Councillor workshop to discuss alternatives to the Medium Density Housing Strategy and the Planning Proposal is appropriate.

It is noted that a Recission Motion to the August resolution does not trigger a withdrawal of the Planning Proposal. If the Recission Motion is passed and Council seeks a withdrawal of the Planning Proposal then an Alternate Motion should pass a resolution to withdraw the Planning Proposal.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

Council rescind Resolution 215/24 (PE6 Draft Planning Proposal: Strathfield Medium Density Housing Strategy) from Council Meeting 13 August 2024 that states:

"215/24

RESOLVED: (Datta / Cai)

- Housing Strategy (Cont'd)
- 1. That Council notes the advice provided by the Strathfield Local Planning Panel on 1 August 2024 regarding the drafting of a Planning Proposal in relation to the Strathfield Medium Density Housing Strategy.
- 2. That Council supports the intent of proposed amendments to the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012 to facilitate medium density housing consistent with the NSW Low and Mid-Rise Housing Policy and Council's Medium Density Housing Strategy, as outlined in the body of the report and resolves to incorporate the proposed amendments into a Planning Proposal.
- 3. That Council endorses the draft Planning Proposal Attachment 1 for lodgement with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for Gateway determination.
- 4. That Council delegates authority to the General Manager to make necessary amendments to the Planning Proposal and supporting documents arising from a Gateway Determination and prior to public exhibition.
- 5. That should a Gateway Determination be issued which enables public exhibition, a further report is to be presented to Council following the exhibition period. The report is to address any submissions received. A further update on the progress of the Planning Proposal is to be provided at that time.
- 6. That the Strathfield Development Control Plan (DCP) be reviewed and updated concurrently with the Planning Proposal to ensure consistency with the objectives and controls contained in the Planning Proposal.
- 7. That a report be presented to Council which outlines the proposed amendments to the DCP prior to public exhibition.
- 8. That a further report be brought back to Council to seek endorsement of the proposed amendments to the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012 and the adoption of amendments to the Strathfield Development Control Plan, following public exhibition.

For the Motion: Councillors Cai, Datta, Hall and Reddy

Against the Motion: Nil"

2. If the above Rescission Motion is carried the Alternate Motion is Moved:

A Councillor Workshop be held in November 2024 to discuss finding alternative solutions which increases the Medium Density Housing Supply in Strathfield but does not destroy the Strathfield moniker of "Oasis in the West".

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report



GMU1 STATE OF THE CITY REPORT

AUTHOR: Cathy Jones, Chief Strategy Officer
APPROVER: Michael Mamo, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the State of the City Report be endorsed.

2. That it be noted the report will be edited graphically with minor editorial adjustments made in order to enhance the final report to be released to the community.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Council is required to prepare and present the State of the City report to the incoming Council after the Council election on 14 September 2024. The State of the City report replaces the former End of Term Report and is an important element of the Integrated Planning & Reporting (IPR) framework.

This Report provides an overview of our progress in implementing the Strathfield Community Strategic Plan represents a whole of community approach to addressing the priority issues of the Strathfield community. This Plan differs from the Annual Report, which is primarily focused on Council. This report is an addendum to the Council's Annual Report for 2023-2024 which covers the last financial year of the previous Council term.

This report also provides an overview of the key current and projected issues and challenges affecting the Strathfield community and those facing the Council for the upcoming term. As such, it provides the newly elected Council with information on strategic directions, challenges and opportunities.

The IPR Framework provisions require that the Community Strategic Plan address social, environmental, economic and civic leadership in an integrated way. This is known as the Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL). QBL indicates whether the community is moving to or away from a sustainable future, when compared to baseline data. This is measured by a range of performance indicators, using data collected from a variety of sources including community surveys, Council systems, statistics from government agencies including Australian Bureau of Statistics, Department of Health, Transport for NSW, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, and Resilient Sydney. It should be noted that some data and indicators were affected by the impact of COVID.

In the last Council term, significant progress was made in addressing a range of major issues and preparing the organisation to deal with significant future challenges. Council initiated a series of actions to address its declining financial sustainability, operating deficits and growing backlog of infrastructure assets. Without these remedial actions, Council would have had insufficient money to maintain current service levels and asset renewals and by 2027 have a negative cash position.

Of particular concern given the increased housing and population targets under NSW Government led planning, Council would be severely underfunded to manage expected population growth and expansion of services that the community would expect is available. In 2024, the NSW Government announced the Homebush Transport Orientated Development draft Masterplan, which is initially estimated a yield of 8,900

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new dwellings or 22,500 new residents. This and other planning initiatives affecting Strathfield LGA will result in Strathfield planning for and servicing a high growth environment.

Council has received over \$21 million in grant funding under the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants (WSIG) program for upgrades of a number of facilities and an additional \$5.9 million for active infrastructure near Parramatta Road. These projects and other capital works including renewals and maintenance of assets such as roads, footpaths and buildings will be delivered in the new term of Council.

Council has also commenced preparing strategies to identify how will we progress a range of issues including strategies such as Land & Property, Resilience and Recreation and Wellness. These are discussed in more depth in this report. Underpinning these strategies and plans, is a robust civic leadership and governance structure to ensure our operations and decision making is effective, efficient, accountable and transparent.

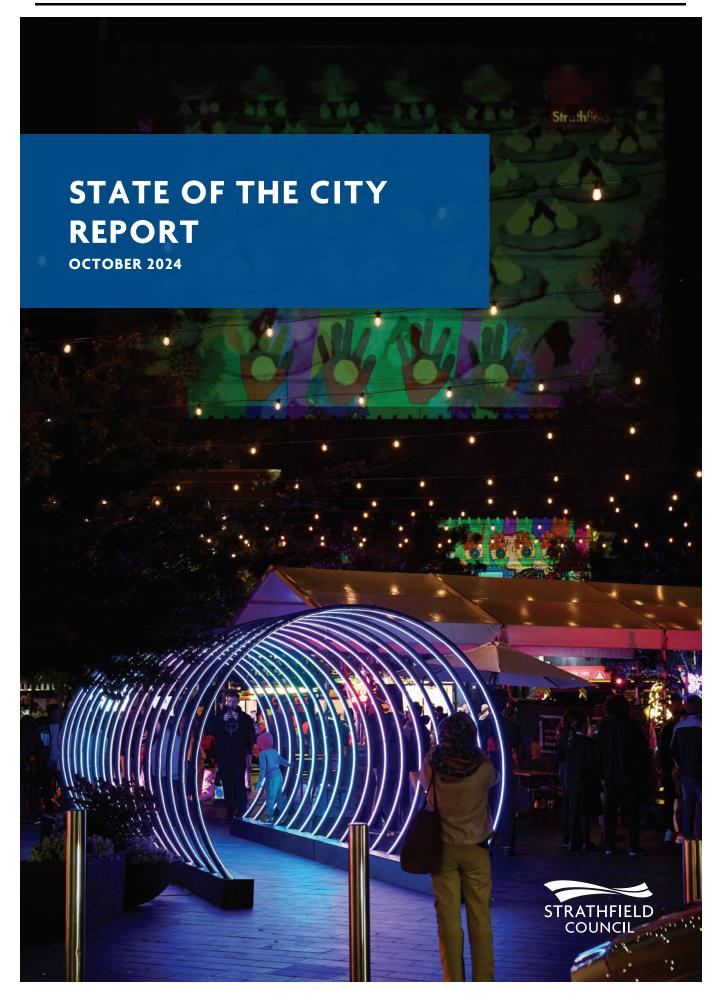
The State of the City report captures where we are currently positioned and where we are going. It is intended that this report will provide guidance to the newly elected Council for the next Council term.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

1.1 Strathfield State of the City Report



Acknowledgement of Country

This report was prepared by Strathfield Council on the traditional lands of the Wangal people of the Darug tribe. They called themselves the Eora, meaning 'the people'.

Strathfield Council acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples and Traditional Custodians of Australia, and the oldest continuing culture in human history.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders continued custodianship of Country – land, seas, and skies.

We acknowledge the historical stewardship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the important contribution they make to our communities and economies.

We reflect on the continuing impact of policies of the past and recognise our responsibility to work with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, families, and communities, towards better economic, social and cultural outcomes.

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General Manager message

The State of the City report provides an overview of our progress in implementing the Strathfield Community Strategic Plan. It also provides an overview of the strategic issues facing the Council for the upcoming term. The State of the City report is an addendum to the Council's Annual Report for 2023-2024 which covers the last financial year of the previous Council term

In the last Council term, significant progress was made in addressing a range of major issues and preparing the Council to deal with significant future challenges. Council initiated a series of actions to address its declining financial sustainability, operating deficits and growing backlog of infrastructure assets. Without these remedial actions, Council would have had insufficient funding to maintain current service levels and asset renewals and by 2027 have a negative cash position.

Of particular concern given the increased housing and population targets set by the New South Wales (NSW) Government, Council would be severely underfunded to manage expected population growth and expansion of services that the community would expect is available. In 2024, the NSW Government announced the Homebush Transport Orientated Development draft Masterplan, which is initially estimated a yield of 8,900 new dwellings or 22,500 new residents. This and other planning initiatives affecting Strathfield LGA will result in Strathfield planning for and servicing a high growth environment.

Council has received over \$21 million in grant funding under the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants (WSIG) program for upgrades of a number of facilities and an additional \$5.9 million for active transport infrastructure near Parramatta Road. These projects and other capital works including renewals and maintenance of assets such as roads, footpaths and buildings will be delivered in the new term of Council.

Council has also commenced preparing strategies to identify how will we progress a range of issues including strategies such as Land and Property, Resilience, and Recreation and Wellness. These are discussed in more depth in this report. Underpinning these strategies and plans, is a robust civic leadership and governance structure to ensure our operations and decision making are effective, efficient, accountable and transparent.

The State of the City report captures where we are currently positioned and where we are going. It is intended that this report will provide guidance to the newly elected Council for the next Council term. I look forward to continuing to work closely with our Councillors, my Executive Team and Council staff to serve our local community and continue to build for a prosperous future for Strathfield.

Michael Mamo GENERAL MANAGER

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About this report

The State of the City report is an important part of the Integrated Planning & Reporting framework. Council is required to prepare and present the State of the City report to the incoming Council after the Council election on 14 September 2024. This State of the City Report is an addendum to Council's Annual Report 2023-2024.

This report provides an overview of the progress of implementing the Strathfield Community Strategic Plan (CSP). This Plan represents a whole of community approach to addressing the priority issues of the Strathfield community. In this way, it differs from the Annual Report, which is primarily focused on Council.

This report also provides an overview of the key current and projected issues and challenges affecting the Strathfield community. As such, it provides the newly elected Council with information on strategic directions, challenges and opportunities.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R) provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* require that the Community Strategic Plan address social, environmental, economic and civic leadership in an integrated way. This is known as the Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL). QBL indicates whether the community is moving to or away from a sustainable future, when compared to baseline data.

The Strathfield Community Strategic Plan includes a range of performance indicators, which are used to track progress. Data is collected from a variety of sources including community surveys, Council systems, statistics from government agencies including Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Department of Health, Transport for NSW, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, and Resilient Sydney.

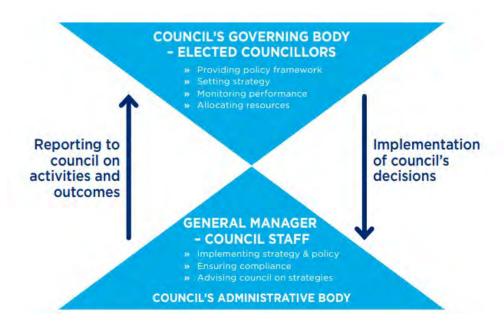
Council responsibilities

Strathfield Council is incorporated under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act). Council is an elected system of government and is directly accountable to the local community. It is an independent, statutory corporation responsible for administering a local government area (LGA) under its jurisdiction.

The LG Act gives NSW Councils broad powers to independently plan for and manage local community services and facilities in consultation with their local community.

The Council's governing body is made up of the elected Councillors. Strathfield Council is comprised of seven Councillors, who are elected by the residents and ratepayers of the Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA). The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by the Councillors. Under the LG Act, the Mayoral term is two (2) years, and the Deputy Mayor may be elected for the Mayoral term or a shorter period.

The General Manager is appointed by the Council and is responsible for the management of Council's administration.



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Role of Councillors

The role of the Councillors is to direct and control the affairs of the Council in accordance with the LG Act and other applicable legislation. The elected Councillors make the policies and decisions that drive and shape the direction and achievement of the LGA's vision into the future.

They work together with the community and Council's General Manager to set the strategic direction of the LGA.

Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) responsibilities

The IP&R Framework begins with the community's aspirations for a period of at least ten (10) years. It includes a suite of integrated plans that set out a vision and goals and strategic actions to achieve them. It involves a reporting structure to communicate progress to Council and the community as well as a structured timeline for review to ensure the goals and actions are still relevant.

Councillors and the Mayor

Councillors comprise the governing body of a Council in the same way that a Board of Directors is the governing body of a corporation. As a governing body, the Council responsibilities in relation to IP&R are:

- provide effective civic leadership to the local community
- ensure as far as possible the financial sustainability of the Council
- ensure as far as possible that the Council acts in accordance with the principles set out in Chapter three
 (3) of the Act and the plans, programs, strategies and polices of the Council
- develop and endorse the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and other strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the Council
- determine and adopt a Rating and Revenue Policy and Operational Plans that support the optimal allocation of the Council's resources to implement the strategic plans (including the Community Strategic Plan) of the Council and for the benefit of the local area
- keep under review the performance of the Council, including service delivery.

As members of the governing body, and in the interests of ensuring the organisation operates effectively to achieve the best outcomes for the community, Councillors should endeavour to work constructively with Council staff that are responsible for implementing Council decisions. This need is reflected in the Act which requires the governing bodies of Councils to consult with the General Manager in directing and controlling the affairs of the Council.

As individuals, Councillors are expected to:

• participate in the development of the documents of the IP&R framework.

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The Mayor

The Mayor's role is to:

 ensure the timely development and adoption of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the Council

- promote the effective and consistent implementation of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the Council
- promote partnerships between the Council and key stakeholders
- advise, consult with and provide strategic direction to the General Manager in relation to the implementation of the strategic plans and policies of the Council
- in conjunction with the General Manager, ensure adequate opportunities and mechanisms for engagement between the Council and the local community.

The General Manager

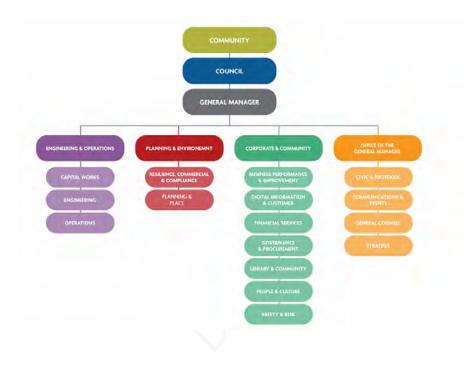
The General Manager role in relation to IP&R is to:

- conduct the day-to-day management of the Council in accordance with the strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the Council
- advise the Mayor and the governing body on the development and implementation of the strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the Council
- advise the Mayor and the governing body on the appropriate form of community consultation on the strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the Council and other matters related to the Council
- prepare, in consultation with the Mayor and the governing body, the Council's Community Strategic Plan, Community Engagement Strategy, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Annual Report
- implement the Council's Workforce Management Strategy

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Our Administration

Strathfield Council's administration is managed by the General Manager under the following organisational structure.



Each of the key areas outlined above plays a key component to Council's service delivery as follows:

- **Councillors:** Act as the voices of their constituents, championing their needs and concerns in Council meetings and engagements with other government entities.
- Engineering & Operations: Oversee the execution of the Council's infrastructure projects and asset
 management initiatives, including essential services like open space maintenance, civil works, waste
 management, and general maintenance tasks.
- Planning & Environment: Ensure community operations align with environmental sustainability goals
 and local government regulations. This department spearheads the development of planning
 strategies, conducts reviews, and offers support on planning matters, such as Development
 Applications.
- Corporate & Community: Provide crucial internal support services to facilitate the Council's service delivery, including the management of Council library and community programs.
- Office of the General Manager: Manages the overarching organisation of Council, as well as Council's
 internal legal services, integrated planning and reporting, civic engagements, including citizenship
 ceremonies, community communications, and major events.

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Our Planning Framework

All Councils in NSW are required to conduct their business based on an IP&R framework. The framework allows NSW councils to draw various plans together, understand how they interact and get the maximum leverage from their efforts by planning holistically and sustainably for the future. The framework ensures long-term planning for the future, with the community having a say in what happens in the area.

The framework requires Council to take a long-term approach to decision making which considers the Quadruple Bottom Line - social, economic, environmental and civic leadership, and the social justice principles of equity, access, participation and rights.

The diagram below shows the framework hierarchy:



Strathfield Community Strategic Plan

The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) is the highest-level plan that identifies the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and the broad strategies for achieving these. While Council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and maintaining the plan on behalf of the residents of Strathfield, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Other partners such as State and Federal Governments and community groups have a role in delivering the long-term community outcomes of this plan.

Council is committed to leading the way in areas where we have a significant role and responsibility. We advocate on behalf of the community in other areas that are not the responsibility of Council.

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Strathfield Community Strategic Plan 2035 was adopted in June 2022 with a long-term outlook to 2035. Strathfield community's long-term vision for the future of the Council area guides future strategic directions and planning for the Strathfield community that states:

"Located in the heart of Greater Sydney, Strathfield is highly connected to transport, education and employment. It's culturally diverse and socially cohesive community is proud of its heritage and residential character, safe neighbourhoods, leafy environments and parklands. Strathfield is a place that embraces learning, culture, productivity and opportunity."

The CSP is reviewed following an ordinary Council election and addresses social, environmental, economic and civic leadership matters in an integrated manner.

Council last adopted its CSP in June 2022. This Plan is the overarching strategic plan for the Strathfield Local Government Area. The CSP, titled 'Strathfield 2035' is organised under five (5) key themes, which are supported by goals and strategies:

- 1. Connectivity
- 2. Community Wellbeing
- 3. Celebrating Culture and Place
- 4. Liveable Neighbourhoods
- 5. Responsible Leadership.

Delivery Program and Resourcing Strategy

The Delivery Program is where the community's goals in the CSP are systematically translated into actions that the Council will deliver. The Delivery Program is the elected Council's statement of commitment to the community. Priorities and activities are set to the goals and strategies in the CSP, and appropriate methods to measure the success of the Delivery Program are identified.

The Operational Plan sits under the Delivery Program. It lists all the actions that the Council will undertake and the annual operating budget to be applied during a financial year to achieve its strategic goals. To carry out the activities in the Delivery Program, the Resourcing Strategy sets out how time, money, assets and people will be allocated. Council has prepared three resourcing strategies to support the delivery of the CSP. It consists of the Long-Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Strategies and Plans, and a Workforce Management Plan.

Reporting

Council reports regularly to the community on the progress of the CSP, Delivery Program and Operational Plan. This includes:

- Quarterly budget reviews presented to Council at the end of each financial quarter. Annual audited financial statements presented to Council in October annually.
- Six (6) monthly progress reports are presented to Council on the principal activities in the Delivery Program.

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Presentation of the Annual Report, which outlines Council's achievements in implementing its Delivery
Program, the performance of the annual Operational Plan and financial summaries showing key income
expenditure areas for the financial year. The audited financial statements for the prior financial year are
presented with the Annual Report.

• State of the City Report is reported to the incoming Council following the 2024 Council election.

Strategies, Plans and Policies

The CSP is overarching strategic plan of the IP&R framework. However, within the CSP framework, other strategies and studies which address specific issues, but integrate with the CSP and other plans under the IP&R framework.

The following strategies and plans are either adopted or in the planning phase:

- Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (2019)
- Growth Strategy What's on the horizon
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Strategy 2025 2030
- Land & Property Strategy
- Recreation & Wellness Strategy
- Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Waste Strategy
- Resilience Plan.

Council has also adopted plans, which are required under legislation:

- Local Environment Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP)
- Plans of Management for management of community land
- Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS).

Council also adopts policies. Policies set out clear direction provide clear guidance on an issue or set of issues to guide decision making. Some Council policies are required under legislation and apply to all Councils in NSW e.g. Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice. Other policies relate to an issue relevant to Strathfield Council such as allocation of facilities, financial grants etc.

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Partnerships and advocacy

The Strathfield CSP is a whole of community plan. Within this framework and areas of responsibilities, Strathfield Council provides services, partners with government, non-government organisations and businesses and advocates on behalf the community to State and Federal Government to achieve the community vision.

Advocacy

We frequently advocate on behalf of the Strathfield community on a range of issues including transport and traffic management, state planning and open space. As an example, Council sought support from local members of parliament to lobby for land acquired for the Westconnex expansion by Transport for NSW to be allocated for open space. In 2024, subject to a deed of agreement, this land called Ismay Reserve was dedicated in 2024 for public recreation use.

Collaborations

We collaborate with NSW Government Agencies to deliver projects in the Strathfield LGA. We collaborated with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with regards to the Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvement Plan. Some of the works finalised under this collaboration includes upgrade of Station Street and Bridge Road Homebush, installation of artwork at Bridge Road and Loftus Crescent and the construction of two (2) bridges over Powell's Creek.

We seek collaboration with Government agencies on issues which have significant impact on the Strathfield LGA. An example is the Homebush Transport Orientated Development (TOD), where the NSW Government is the lead agency. Council has engaged with the NSW Government and advocated for appropriate funding for infrastructure to support the proposed growth and new populations.

We seek grants from State and Federal Government to provide funding for programs and capital works in the Strathfield LGA. Without assistance, many projects would not be achievable given their scale and cost. An example is the \$21 million allocated to Strathfield LGA under the NSW Government's WSIG program. This will fund the upgrades to Airey Park, Hudson Park, Begnell Field, Strathfield Park and Cooke Park.

We deliver programs in collaboration with State agencies including road safety programs (with Transport for NSW). Our weeds program is partly funded by NSW Government and includes weed inspections of Sydney Markets to prevent the regional spread of weeds from wholesale traders.

Partnerships and Alliances

We worked in partnerships with other Councils on regional projects and programs or those which cross over LGA boundaries. Council is an active member of the Cooks River Alliance and Parramatta River Catchment Group and works in alliances to deliver environmental programs. Council is a member of the Southern Region of Councils (SSROC).

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We partner with government agencies, community and not for profit sector to deliver services and programs to the community. Many of our community services are delivered in partnerships with Metro Assist, Australian Catholic University, CABL and SSI. We partner with local schools and community organisations such as the Strathfield-Homebush District Historical Society in presenting exhibitions at our Ironbark Gallery.

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About Strathfield LGA

Population

Total 47,824 (ABS ERP 2023)

Density: 3,423 persons per sq km (2023)

Area

14.1 sq kms

Suburbs

Greenacre (part)

Homebush

Homebush West

Strathfield (part)

Strathfield South

Parks & Trees

Number of park trees 24,000 (estimated)

Number of street trees 12,000 (estimated)

Largest parks Hudson Park, Mason Park, Strathfield Park, Bressington Park

Public open space 9%

Number of sportsgrounds 23

Number of parks 60

Transport & Infrastructure

Number of rail stations 3

Number of streets 239

Length of Kerb and Guttering 194 km

Length of Footpaths and Cycleways 199 km

Age Groups

Median Age 33 years (2023)

0-14 years 15%

15-29 years 27%

30-44 years 26%

45-64 years 20%

Over 65 years 12%

Demographics

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People 0.4% (202 persons)

Overseas born residents 58.9%

Languages spoken at home 65% speak a language other than English including Mandarin, Nepali,

Cantonese, Korean, and Arabic

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Health & Wellbeing

Birthrate 1.21 (2022) Life expectancy males 81.3 years Life expectancy females 85.2 years SEIFA Index: 1011 (2021)

Households

Average household size 2.73 people (2021) family households 40% (2021) Lone households 19% (2021) Group households 8% (2021)

Housing

Total dwellings 16,700+ (2023) Medium-high density 67% (2021) Separate dwelling 31% (2021) Own or purchasing residence 48% (2021) Renting 44%

Education

Local schools - 18 Universities - 1 Degree or higher qualification - 44% University attendance - 9% Completed Year 12 - 77%

Economy

Gross regional product \$3.8 billion (2023)
Total jobs 23,951 (2023)
Local businesses 6,934 (2023)
Professional workers (over 15) 33%
Residents living and working in SLGA 14%
Residents in the labour force 63%
Professionals and managers 46%

Largest industries (by employment)

Transport, Postal, and Warehousing Retail Trade Education and Training Construction

Sources: Census 2021 (ABS), Regional Population (ABS), Council records, ID Profile Economy ID, NIEIR Economic Data

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Wellbeing of Strathfield LGA

Introduction

Based on the model developed by SGS economics, wellbeing is measured by seven dimensions including environment, equality, health, housing, employment, income and wealth and economy. The data is drawn primarily from sources such as ABS, which enables Strathfield LGA to compare how it performs across a range of 24 wellbeing indicators.

Strathfield LGA Strengths

The dimensions in which Strathfield LGA scores highly are:

- Health: community has higher life expectancy and absence of chronic health conditions
- Employment: community is well educated with high levels of participation and employment in the workforce.
- Equality, Community and work-life balance: community has high levels of equality e.g. higher levels of income equality, fewer working hours.

Indicators on Environment and Economy are similar to neighbouring Burwood and Canada Bay Councils (figure 3). Housing is higher than Burwood in Strathfield and Canada Bay.

The sub-index scores range from 0-10. Zero being the poorest while ten (10) indicates the strongest performance.

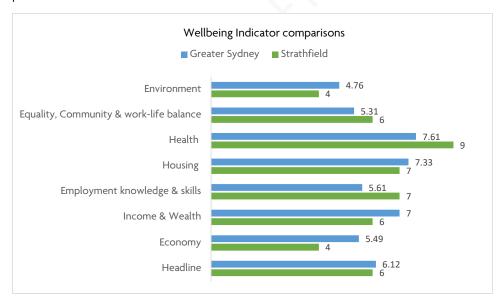


Figure 1 Headline data comparison of Strathfield LGA to Greater Sydney. Source: SGS Economics and Planning 2024

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Wellbeing Index 2024 – Strathfield LGA and Greater Sydney

Topic	Index	Strathfield LGA	Greater Sydney
Environment	Environmental Hazards index	2.3	1.1
	Environmentally protected land	>1%	12.0
Equality, Community &	Gender domestic work gap	103.66%	97.42%
Work-life balance	First Nations participation gap	103.66%	97.42%
	Gender participation gap	7.21%	4.69%
	Volunteer rate	8.81%	9.31%
	Income equality (gini coeffiency)	51%	42.88%
	Long working hours	46.61%	43.44%
	Gender pay gap	17.71%	22.91%
Health	Life expectancy	85 years	84.1
	One or fewer major health conditions	88.5%	85.8%
Housing	SGS Rental affordability index (relative to income)	102	109
	Homelessness	58 (per 100,000)	-
	Housing overcrowding incl. boarding houses, overcrowding	1591 (per 100,000)	909
Employment,	Participation rate	54.94%	48.24%
knowledge & skills	Employment rate	69.54%	61.91%
	Higher education rate	54.03%	51.62%
Income & wealth	Home equity	\$212,000	\$263,000
	House prices	\$1,048,000	\$1,048,000
	Dwellings owned outright	20%	25%
	Median household income	\$2,498 weekly	\$2484
Economy	Gross regional product	\$3710M	-
	Labour productivity (output per hour worked)	\$55.87	\$58.33
	Economic diversity (diversity of industries)	2.61	2.53

Figure 2 Comparison Strathfield LGA to Greater Sydney based on SGS Economics Wellbeing Indexes 2024

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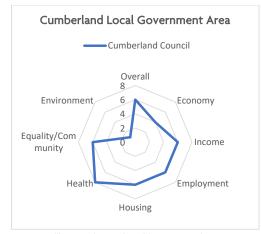




Figure 3 Wellbeing indexes of neighbouring Local Government Areas

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Community Strategic Plan (CSP) progress report

Overview

The Strathfield CSP was adopted in 2022 following the delayed December 2021 Council election, which had been postponed due to the COVID pandemic. This election resulted in a shortened Council term of less than three (3) years instead of the usual four (4).

COVID-related measures, including border closures and lockdowns, also affected the 2021 Census results, indicating a population decline and reduced interstate and overseas migration than would usually occur. Indications are that population, migration and also emissions have increased since COVID.

Post COVID economic conditions have presented new challenges. The National (and international economy) has experienced high inflation coupled with crisis in housing supply and affordability. National and state-level responses, such as the National Housing Accord and programs targeting housing and population growth in Strathfield, are significant influences on local planning.

This progress report relies on data from various sources, including government agencies such as ABS, Health, BOSCAR, and Transport for NSW. Council-specific data comes from records and independently commissioned Community Surveys conducted in 2021 and 2023.

The 2021 survey, carried out during the pandemic, showed unusually high satisfaction ratings, likely due to residents spending more time and remotely working in the Strathfield area. In contrast, many 2023 results had lower satisfaction ratings. The longer-term trend will be more apparent when the next survey is taken.

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Strategic Theme 1: Connectivity

Strathfield LGA has strong locational and transport connectivity in the Sydney metropolitan area, with access to quality transport networks and established built and social infrastructure. The high levels of connectivity of Strathfield LGA are significant attractors for residents, businesses, students, and visitors.

This theme has three (3) goals that include ensuring growth is supported by well-planned and accessible infrastructure and services across the Strathfield LGA, integrated and safe transport networks and access and delivery of service and information through effective communications and digital technology

Goal 1.1: Population and density growth is supported by well-planned and accessible infrastructure and services

- Strategy 1.1.1 Collaborate with NSW Government and agencies to plan and deliver high quality and accessible infrastructure to support population growth and increasing density
- Strategy 1.1.2 Plan and deliver high quality and strategically located local infrastructure to support current and future population needs

Since 2006, the population of Strathfield LGA has increased by about 15,000 people. Population growth is in response to increased housing supply, generally units built near town centres and transport hubs. It is primarily due to overseas migration, rather than an increase in the natural population. The COVID pandemic measures involved border closures and restricted movement, which resulted in abnormal decline in growth from 2020-2022.

State and local planning policies support increasing housing and population growth in the Strathfield LGA. Based on community engagement feedback, the community wants growth to be supported by accessible and appropriate state and local infrastructure in order to ensure infrastructure is available to accommodate growth. The CSP strategies acknowledge that planning, designing and providing quality infrastructure and services requires a collaborative, well-planned and integrated approach to ensure effective outcomes and efficient use of resources.

Council has continually collaborated and advocated with neighbouring councils to the NSW Government and key stakeholders for the delivery of regional infrastructure required to support population growth. Council progressed work on a new Masterplan for the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy (PRCUTS). An example of a successful collaboration is the Powells Creek Three Bridge project, a project involving Council and the NSW Government under the Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvement Program (PRUAIP). This project involves construction of three new pedestrian and cycleway bridge crossings across Powells Creek Homebush. These projects expand active transport and access to parks and reserves. Two (2) bridges have been completed with the third scheduled for completion in 2025.

There is significant future growth projected for the Strathfield area, particularly in the area of the Homebush Transport Orientated Development (TOD) with the entire precinct (in Strathfield and City of Canada Bay Councils) planned to have a population of 45,000 residents. The future growth will place additional pressure on infrastructure and resources. In order to fund upgrades and new infrastructure, a review of the Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan was conducted which is expected to be adopted and operational in 2025.

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An assumption underpinning the CSP goals in the 2021-2022 review was that Council's primary challenge was planning and delivering new or enhanced local infrastructure and existing infrastructure was being maintained within service levels. However, following an extensive review of Council assets including roads, footpaths and buildings, it was clear that Council had a significant funding infrastructure backlog. The backlog ratio is the cost to bring assets to satisfactory condition as a proportion of the total asset value, which was higher than the Office of Local Government ratio of less than two (2) percent. The backlog would continue to increase unless additional funding was allocated to asset renewal programs. The result of deteriorating assets would be that assets like roads, footpaths and buildings would become unfit for purpose.

Council has taken action on its long-term financial sustainability and increased funding of asset renewals to reduce backlogs and improve the safety and condition of Council's assets. In the 2023 community survey, the quality of our local assets received increased community satisfaction ratings including footpaths which received 51% excellent to good ratings, up from 41% in 2021, quality of kerbs, gutter and drainage 46% up from 35% in 2021 and quality of roads 51% up from 38% in 2021.

Some major capital works projects included:

- Continued staged development of Hudson Park, a former golf course, into a district park. Recreational
 facilities and amenities were completed in 2023 in the northern section of Hudson Park East. The
 Hudson Park driving range was also upgraded with individual hitting bays and expanded operating hours.
- Council was successful in obtaining \$21 million in grants under the WISG Program, which will be allocated
 to improvements to open space and community facilities at Airey Park, Begnell Field, Hudson District
 Park East, Strathfield Park and Cooke Park. These projects will improve access to quality sport, recreation
 and other community facilities and commence from 2024.
- Completion of capital works programs for renewal of roads, footpaths, stormwater, parks and playgrounds. During the 2023/2024 financial year, Council spent approximately \$13.5 million on infrastructure and asset renewals.
- Restoration and conservation work on the heritage listed Strathfield Town Hall were completed prior to celebration of its 100th anniversary in October 2023

Most public land in the Strathfield LGA owned or managed by Council is community land, which now includes Crown Land. All community land must be managed under a Plan of Management (PoM). The PoMs for the four (4) Crown Land parks were adopted by 2024. All plans are reviewed regularly. A Land and Property Strategy is scheduled in the 2024-2025 Operational Plan to provide guidance for the optimal management of Council's land and property assets.

Goal 1.2: Strathfield LGA is accessible and connected by integrated and safe transport networks

- Strategy 1.2.1 Ensure transport networks are integrated and connected and offer efficient and safe movement to, from and around Strathfield LGA.
- Strategy 1.2.2 Ensure local transport infrastructure, networks and services are connected, safe and wellmaintained across the Strathfield LGA

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Access and availability of transport networks are key attractors and of high value to the Strathfield community. The Strathfield LGA is situated along the Western Rail Line with three rail stations at Homebush, Flemington and Strathfield. Strathfield Station is the most central and connected node on the metropolitan network, providing connections to Sydney's CBD, the Northern corridor and the Central Coast, and to the North West and South West growth areas. The Sydney Metro West, scheduled for completion in 2032, will link Sydney CBD to Greater Parramatta. The closest Metro station at North Strathfield will particularly support expansion of population in Homebush, as set out in the draft Homebush Transport Orientated Development (TOD) Masterplan (2024).

Strathfield also has important road connections including Parramatta Road/Great Western Highway, Westconnex/M4 Western Motorway, Liverpool Road/Hume Highway, supported within the LGA with well-maintained local and regional roads and public and private bus services. Council commenced a Strathfield LGA wide transport and traffic report, which is expected to be completed in 2024.

Active transport involves travelling by physical movement such as walking and cycling. Council has been working to expand the available facilities to support active transport. In 2023, two (2) of the three (3) pedestrian and cycle bridges across Powell's Creek were completed with the third scheduled for 2025. The bridges link with parts of the Bay to Bay shared pathway, a continuous collection of cycle and pedestrian paths linking Botany Bay to Sydney Olympic Park. In 2024, the design phase of Stage one (1) of the Homebush Active Transport Network commenced which will eventually link Homebush West to the Strathfield Town Centre.

Community engagement and review of the Strathfield Connector service was undertaken in 2022-2023. Reviews indicated the service had high operational costs but low patronage and, on some routes, duplicated other bus services. However, parts of the LGA in Homebush and Homebush West have no or low access to public transport, therefore the Connector Bus service routes were reduced and modified to service these areas until 2026. Council is advocating to the State Government to provide transport services to these areas of the LGA.

Goal 1.3: Access to information and services are supported by effective communications and digital technology

- Strategy 1.3.1 Deliver effective communications using various media forms that inform and engage with diverse communities
- Strategy 1.3.2 Assess and develop digital technology frameworks and systems to improve and expand service delivery and information access

Communications and technology are essential to modern connectivity, shaping how information is shared and fostering community engagement, social inclusion, and innovation. In the Strathfield LGA, using technology and effective communications is important to enhancing information access and improving community connections. In the 2023 community survey, 46% considered the information that connects them with what is happening in the Strathfield Council area to be excellent or good. It should be noted that Council is not the only source of news and information to the Strathfield community, which are also informed and influenced by media and personal interactions.

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The communications landscape continues to change. A recent ACMA report¹ stated that 98% of Australians had internet access at home. 95% use mobile phones to connect to the internet and 86% access multiple times a day. The ABS Census in 2021 did not include questions about internet access as penetration is almost universal. 95% of Australians went online for news and information and 87% bought goods or services online.

The Strathfield LGA has significant diversity in culture and language, age, abilities and interests. To engage with its diverse community, Strathfield Council uses a variety of communication channels. Council employs a broad mix of digital and print media to inform and engage with residents about local issues, events, programs, exhibitions, and major projects, understanding that the community seeks information from multiple sources. These methods include the Council website, weekly E-News digital newsletters (reaching over 31,000 subscribers), monthly print newsletters (distributed to over 19,000 households), leaflets with rates notices, posters, banners, and social media platforms.

The primary goal of these efforts is to keep residents informed and promote interest and active involvement in community programs, events and decision-making. As community needs change, communication methods are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure their relevance and effectiveness.

Statistics indicate that visitors to the Council website are declining, likely due to the availability of alternative sources of information, particularly social media. A new website will be launched in late 2024 aimed at improving the overall communication experience for residents. This site will offer new features designed to increase accessibility and provide more effective community interaction.

Council's digital security was enhanced and improved through software upgrades, digitising records, and planning a new website and intranet. Council's IT and cyber systems were audited by the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) in 2023-2024. Work has commenced on the preparation of an ICT strategy. New Audio-Visual equipment was also installed in the Town Hall and the Council Chambers was upgraded to facilitate live streaming of meetings.

A number of programs and initiatives were implemented focusing on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of delivering high quality Customer Services to the community. Council implemented a new customer request management system and a self-service mobile apps for residents. Council's Customer Experience Strategy will be finalised in 2024 and will help guide and enhance the delivery of quality customer services.

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Connectivity QBL reporting

Outcome measure	Status
Access to information about what's happening in LGA	Stable
Council website visits	Moving away from sustainability
No of vehicle registrations in LGA	Moving away from sustainability
Overall access to transport services	Moving away from sustainability
Quality of footpaths	Moving towards sustainability
Quality of kerbs, gutters & drainage	Moving towards sustainability
Quality of roads	Moving towards sustainability
Quality/condition of community centres	Moving away from sustainability
Quality/condition of footpaths	Moving towards sustainability
Quality/condition of kerbs, gutters & drainage	Moving towards sustainability
Quality/condition of library facility	Moving towards sustainability
Quality/condition of parks and open space access	Moving towards sustainability
Quality/condition of playgrounds	Moving away from sustainability
Quality/condition of roads	Moving towards sustainability
Quality/condition of sportsgrounds	Moving towards sustainability

Source: Appendix A Performance Indicator reporting

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Strategic Theme 2: Community Wellbeing

Community wellbeing is a strategic focus of the Strathfield Community Strategic Plan and covers the various aspects of wellbeing in our community. This includes supporting our culturally diverse community and encouraging socially cohesive and safe communities, providing access to public spaces and community facilities, and opportunities to participate in programs and activities that enhance healthy active lifestyles. Council plays an important role in facilitating opportunities for participation in learning, recreation, community programs and activities, in promoting healthy and active communities through provision of facilities and collaborating with partners in delivering programs and enhancing safety and wellbeing of the community by providing safe, clean, healthy and attractive environments and working with Police on community safety and crime prevention.

Goal 2.1: Strathfield LGA has culturally diverse, connected and social cohesive communities

- Strategy 2.1.1 Provide opportunities and programs to build community capacity and resilience
- Strategy 2.1.2 Deliver programs to meet identified community needs in partnership with key stakeholders, community and government agencies

The Strathfield LGA is highly diverse, with 59% of its population born overseas and 65% speaking a language other than English at home. The experiences of migrant communities are quite diverse with some living in Strathfield for many decades while others are new settlers. The community is also diverse in its age profile, abilities, education, households, socio-economic status and life experiences. The Strathfield community rates the acceptance of community diversity as excellent to good, a rating which increased from 75% in 2021 to 78% in 2023.

Community services are provided to the Strathfield LGA through a large number of government and non-government organisations. Provision of many services such as aged care and social security is delivered through the Federal Government, while other community-based services including health are primarily State based. Council plays a role in advocacy, partnership and service delivery in the local community, however much of Council's focus is the provision of local facilities and facilitating promotions, awareness, programs and events often via partnership targeted to meet local community needs. Examples include working with Sydney Area Health District to promote health initiatives such as falls prevention for seniors or breast screening and targeting information especially to those communities with low rates of participation.

Programs hosted by Council's Community Development team have significantly increased. Council provided a range of activities and programs to support culturally and linguistically diverse communities through delivery of key programs and events such as English conversation classes, promoting health education courses in multi-languages on Dementia, Hepatitis B and gambling. A community service centre is due to open in Homebush in late 2024 to provide advisory and referral services.

Council provided a range of social, recreational and cultural programs to meet the needs of children and teens include school holiday programs, with 17% of Strathfield LGA's population aged under 18 years. Programs offered multi-sport programs, school holiday programs and Council's weekly drop-In program at Strathfield Library to include children and youth. Council held a Youth Career's Expo in 2023 in collaboration

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with the Strathfield Collaborative Youth Group which featured workshops, digital storytelling, resume writing and car maintenance.

Twelve percent of the LGA population is aged over 60 years. Initiatives to support older residents included health and fitness programs including tai chi, fitter and stronger, line dancing, ballroom dancing, aqua aerobics and yoga. Collaborating with partners such as Sydney Local Health District for health education programs including dementia/Alzheimer's preventions and Stepping On programs for older people who have had a fall or at-risk of falling, programs such as Tech Savvy Seniors and Cyber Safe awareness.

Council has adopted a Disability Inclusion Plan and provides programs particularly through partnership for residents who require assistance due to a disability or their carers, who comprise 4.3% of the Strathfield population. Council has partnered with the Physical Disability Council of NSW to promote workshops that cover post-traumatic growth, NDIS Self-management and social morning teas, easy read formats of the 'Discover Your Council' booklet were provided for people with intellectual disability or limited literacy and promoted to community. Works were implemented to upgrade footpaths in the LGA with pram ramps.

Local volunteers play a significant role in the delivery of services and programs in the Strathfield area. Volunteers contribute to various Council programs and/or support a host of community, recreation and culturally based organisations. According to the 2021 ABS Census, 9.6% of the local population are involved in volunteering activities and come from all walks of life including workers, students, professionals, young people, and retirees. Some of the Council programs supported by volunteers include Strathfield Library's Reading Buddies program, volunteer Justice of the Peace (JP) weekly service and Bushcare program. Council also provides support for local community organisations through subsidisation of Council facilities and access to grant funding programs for approved projects. Community, cultural and recreational organisations are integral to the social cohesion and community wellbeing of the Strathfield LGA.

Goal 2.2: Healthy and Active Communities

- Strategy 2.2.1 Manage open space, recreation and community facilities and programs to provide fair access and meet community, leisure and recreational needs
- Strategy 2.2.2 Promote healthy and active living programs

The majority of public open space and recreational facilities in the Strathfield LGA are owned or managed by Council. These facilities enable all members of our community, irrespective of age, to participate in activities that support physical and mental wellbeing. They include provision of sportsfields, playgrounds, hard courts, outdoor gyms and walking tracks for formal sport and informal recreation and leisure.

To meet increasing demand for access to sportsgrounds, Council adopted a Sporting Grounds Allocation Policy, to provide a transparent, equitable and consistent methodology for allocation of sporting grounds and facilities and to improve opportunities across the broader community for fairer access to facilities. Council schedules regular maintenance of open space, parks and reserves and sportsfields. This includes regular mowing, line marking, maintenance of wickets and sportsfields equipment, checks of lighting, irrigation and playgrounds.

In the 2023 community survey, the care and maintenance of parks and reserves received 76% (excellent to good ratings), 86% satisfaction with sportsgrounds (excellent-good ratings), 83% satisfaction with

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playgrounds (excellent-good ratings), 83% ssatisfaction with playgrounds (excellent-good ratings) and 87% satisfaction with access to parks and open space.

Goal 2.3: Strathfield LGA is safe, resilient and accessible local areas

- Strategy 2.3.1 Collaborate and deliver public safety programs and promote community safety awareness
- Strategy 2.3.2 Promote and build community resilience, capacity and self-reliance

Feeling safe in Strathfield is highly important to local residents. Community safety encompasses several factors that contribute to the overall sense of feeling safe in the area. Council plays a key role in this by providing services, such as regulatory health inspections and ranger services, maintaining the quality and condition of assets like footpaths, and proving clean and well-maintained public spaces. However, many aspects of safety such as law and order are outside of Council's control.

According to Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOSCAR) reports of crime in the Strathfield LGA continue to be stable in the Strathfield LGA. Violent crime has been trending down over the past decade. There is rising reported incidents of domestic violence across Sydney, though in the Strathfield LGAs reported incidents have remained stable. Theft and fraud have slightly increased. Council works in collaboration with Police and community stakeholders to target and deliver community education and awareness campaigns on identified issues of importance to the local area including engagement with target stakeholders.

The Strathfield Community Safety Plan was reviewed and updated, with the new plan adopted for the 2024-2028 period. This plan outlines actions to enhance safety across the Strathfield LGA. In response to issues like graffiti vandalism, Council also introduced a new Graffiti Management Policy to address graffiti vandalism.

The 2023 Strathfield community survey indicated a decline in community feelings of safety in the LGA. 67% rated feeling safe in their streets as excellent or good, 68% rated satisfaction with feeling safe in their suburb while moving around (excellent-good ratings). The 84% satisfaction with feeling safe on local public transport (excellent-good ratings) was unaltered from 2021.

Resilience planning is identified in the CSP to develop strategies and actions that strengthen the community's ability to survive, adapt and thrive in the face of chronic stresses and acute shocks. Chronic stresses are slow moving disasters or challenges that weaken the community on a day-to-day basis or a cyclical basis such as, food and water shortages, climate change, lack of affordable housing and pandemics. Acute shocks are sudden events that threaten a city. Examples include heatwaves, floods, disease outbreaks and cyberattacks. Work will commence in 2024-2025 on preparing a Resilience Strategy for Strathfield LGA.

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Community Wellbeing QBL reporting

Outcome measure	Status
Feeling safe in their street	Moving away from sustainability
Feeling safe in their suburb (moving around)	Moving away from sustainability
Feeling safe on local public transport	Moving away from sustainability
Major crime offences in LGA (60 month trend for major	Stable
offences)	
Control of graffiti and vandalism in LGA	Stable
Acceptance of community diversity	Moving towards sustainability
% volunteers in LGA	Moving away from sustainability
Number of residents hospitalised due to falls in the LGA	Moving away from sustainability
Decrease in smoking rates in Sydney Local Health District	Moving towards sustainability
(incl Strathfield LGA) (adult population)	
Appearance & maintenance of residential areas	Moving away from sustainability
Appearance and maintenance of public spaces	Moving away from sustainability
Care & maintenance of parks and reserves	Moving away from sustainability
Access to parks and open space	Moving towards sustainability

Source: Appendix A Performance Indicator reporting

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Strategic Theme 3: Celebrating Culture and Place

This strategic theme is focused on creating vibrant and enticing public domains, especially in local town, village and commercial centres to provide access to services as well as opportunities for social connectivity. The theme also celebrates Strathfield as a place of learning, culture and creativity supported by events, cultural programs and acknowledgement of civic and community achievements, which promote a sense of civic pride and belonging.

Goal 3.1: Strathfield has enticing, vibrant and safe centres blending services and social connectivity

- Strategy 3.1.1 Plan and deliver vibrant attractive and safe town and village centres and commercial
 areas
- Strategy 3.1.2 Support programs to promote activity and sustain local business

Town and village centres in Strathfield are essential hubs for transport, shopping, services, and social interaction, making them important to local community liveability. In the 2023 Community Survey, 52% of residents (2023) considered that the local shops and service meet their needs well or very well, which indicates there is room for improvement.

The Strathfield Town Centre, shared by the Strathfield, Canada Bay, and Burwood LGAs, has long awaited a cohesive management plan. After years of inaction, Council initiated the preparation of a comprehensive Masterplan in 2023. This process began with community consultation and the development of an options report, aimed at shaping a shared vision and guiding principles for the Town Centre's future. By 2024, Stage one (1) of the Strathfield Town Centre Masterplan had been completed, laying the foundation for further technical studies and detailed planning. In 2024-2025, the Council will also focus on developing strategies to enhance other town centres and improve public domain areas, ensuring these spaces are vibrant, clean, and meet the evolving needs of the community.

A number of new events were held in the Homebush, Homebush West and Strathfield Town Centres which provided opportunities for community participation but also to support and promote our local businesses. The Strathfield Festival was held at Strathfield Square in April 2023 and May 2024 over three (3) days attracting a combined 60,000 people to the Square featuring cultural performances, live music, roaming entertainment, various cuisines from local businesses, art projections and lighting installations. The Strathfield Winter Warmer was held at Strathfield Square in July 2024 with winter markets, live music, local treats and roller skating. Homebush Vibes was held at Rochester Street Homebush in September 2023. The event attracted approximately 5,000 people throughout the day to enjoy live music, roving entertainment, moon cakes, children's activities and local cuisines served by nearby businesses. The FIFA Women's World Cup live site involved eight (8) live screenings in the Strathfield Town Centre in 2023.

Council endorsed the major program of events annually, which is supplemented by many smaller and targeted events and programs in Council facilities such as Strathfield Library, community centres, town hall, parks and sportsgrounds. Regular events including the Strathfield Spring Fair returned in September 2022 and 2024 at Strathfield Park. Civic events including Australia Day and ANZAC Day were celebrated annually.

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The annual Christmas Carols were held at Strathfield Park in early December 2021 to 2024. This popular event attracted about 4,000 people to listen and sing along to Carols to celebrate the festive season. The popular Movies in the Park is held in Strathfield Park on various weekends during the summer season, aimed at children and young people. The films attract a solid crowd and are highly popular.

Council celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the Strathfield Town Hall on 9 October 2023. The Town Hall is an important part of the community life of the Strathfield area and has been used for the last 100 years for numerous functions including Council Meetings, Citizenship Ceremonies, weddings, parties and dances, public meetings, orchestral, singing and theatrical performances and civic functions. Following major restoration works, the Town Hall was opened with an official dinner and an exhibition, produced in collaboration with the Strathfield-Homebush District Historical Society.

Goal 3.2: Strathfield LGA is a place of creativity, culture and learning

- Strategy 3.2.1 Facilitate and support learning, community and cultural programs, events and activities
- Strategy 3.2.2 Foster and celebrate local identity

Census 2021 indicates that the Strathfield LGA has a highly educated population with 44% awarded with a bachelor or higher degree, which has increased 10% in a decade. Similarity retention of students to Year 12 has increased. Though Council is not responsible for education, the LGA is centrally located to many public and private schools and the Australian Catholic University. Education and training is the third highest industry of employment (2021 ABS Census). Council provides public library, programs and services which support and promote education, creativity, culture and learning.

The Strathfield Library service was adversely affected by COVID measures including sustained lockdowns and limited opening hours. By 2024, the patronage of the service had returned to pre-COVID levels and recorded 250,000 visitations and 160,000 loans. The host of programs managed by the Library and Community Development team has significantly increased. Many are delivered in partnerships with community organisations. The Ironbark Gallery at Strathfield Library promotes opportunities to showcase arts, culture and historical exhibitions with rotating exhibitions. Exhibitions are supported by programs such as education programs, talks and performances which cover a wide range of topics of relevance to the local Strathfield community. Over 87% reported excellent-good community rating with the library service. Sixty nine percent of Library members are residents of Strathfield LGA.

Council's Library Service and Community Development team provide a range of education, literacy and learning programs targeted to meet specific community needs such as English conversation classes for persons from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and programs such as Baby Bounce for infants 0 – 18 months to introduce babies to the wonderful world or songs and rhymes. Access and availability of programs is promoted through Council's many media channels but also through visitations by library staff to local schools, childcare centres and community meetings.

Many of our services and programs were delivered in partnerships including Justice of the Peace program, English Conversation Club with Metro Assist and ACU, Tax Help with ATO, Tech Savvy Seniors with State Library and Parenting Class, exhibitions and talks from partnerships with Strathfield School for Seniors and Strathfield-Homebush District Historical Society.

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In recognition of its established Korean community, Strathfield Council established a Sister City relationship with Gapyeong County in South Korea in 2011 to promote cultural, economic, educational and social exchanges between the two (2) Local Government Areas. This long-standing relationship was enhanced by reciprocal visits to Strathfield and Gapeyong. In October 2022, a delegation from Council visited Gapyeong. In May 2024, Council hosted delegates from Gapeyong County, who attended a welcome ceremony, tour and ceremonial dinner.

Council organised Australia Day celebrations on 26 January each year which included the presentation of annual awards for Strathfield Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year. ANZAC Day services were held annually on ANZAC Day at Davey Square Memorial, Homebush.

Australian Citizenship ceremonies were returned to an in-person format in December 2021 with the easing of COVID restrictions. From 2021-2024, Council addressed the citizen ceremony backlogs and 2058 residents were conferred with Australia citizenship at ceremonies conducted by Council and presided by the Mayor and other dignitaries, usually in the Strathfield Town Hall.

Council prepared and adopted its first Reconciliation Action Plan in 2024 and celebrates annually the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week in July to increase community awareness of the status and treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Events included dance performances, smoking ceremonies, didgeridoo performance, art exhibitions and interactive children's holiday activities, talks and guided walks along the Cooks River.

Celebrating Culture and Place QBL reporting

Measure	Status
Number of borrowings/loans of Council library	Moving towards sustainability
Number of members of Strathfield library	Moving to sustainability
Number of visitors to Council library	Moving to sustainability
Satisfaction with Council Library service	Stable
Appearance and maintenance of public spaces	Moving away from sustainability
Local shops and services meet needs	Stable
Gross Regional Product	Moving away from sustainability
Number of local Jobs in LGA	Moving away from sustainability
Number of local businesses in LGA	Moving towards sustainability

Source: Appendix A Performance Indicator reporting

Strategic Theme 4: Liveable Neighbourhoods

This theme concerns ensuring well planned urban design, protection, and maintenance of the built and natural environment of the Strathfield LGA. Liveable Neighbourhoods involve high quality, well planned, sustainable, clean, and well maintained urban and natural environments that balance new development with the retention and reflection of established local character and healthy thriving and resilient natural environments. Development, changing lifestyles and increasing population also create higher levels of waste, resource usage and pollution, creating pressure on the local area, at a regional and local level, to maintain the high standards of amenity, character, and liveability of the Strathfield LGA.

Goal 4.1: Quality, liveable and sustainable urban design and development

- Strategy 4.1.1 Urban design and development that balances growth with quality living, sustainable and aesthetic outcomes
- Strategy 4.1.2 Deliver effective and efficient planning and development processes

In response to projected housing and population growth in the Strathfield LGA and NSW Government regional planning strategies, Council has prepared a number of key strategic studies, plans and progressed work on a new Masterplan for the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy (PRCUTS). In December 2023, the NSW Government announced the Homebush TOD program and identified Homebush as a Tier one (1) TOD with a draft Masterplan released in July 2024.

Early Masterplan works identifies a yield of 8,900 new dwellings or 22,500 new residents, which is a significant change in population and housing density in the Strathfield LGA. The NSW Government is the lead agency with Council actively participating in this process to ensure the best outcomes for the Strathfield LGA.

Council adopted a new Affordable Housing Tenancy Policy and implement an Affordable Housing Contribution Plan with the Homebush TOD Masterplan. This will establish the contribution rates for affordable housing in the Homebush TOD area and mechanisms for delivery.

The Medium Density Housing study involved investigating opportunities for additional medium density housing options to improve housing diversity and choice available across the community and assist housing affordability. The Medium Density Housing Strategy is designed to initiate the planning proposal process and commence the gateway determination process with NSW Government.

Goal 4.2: Clean, attractive and well-maintained neighbourhoods and public domains

- Strategy 4.2.1 Provide high quality, efficient and sustainable waste services and education to reduce landfill and improve recycling and reuse
- Strategy 4.2.2. Maintain high standards of public health, amenity and safety.

Waste collection involves commercial and domestic waste. However, Council only provides domestic waste services and 42% of all waste in the Strathfield LGA is commercial. Waste diverted from landfill has remained around 32% over 2021-2024, which falls well short of the target 80% diversion rates. This reflects the many

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ongoing challenges for waste management in the Strathfield LGA. In future, Council aims to transition to a zero-waste strategy by 2035, address current waste management challenges and identify opportunities for improvement. 73% of the community rated the quality of Council's waste service as excellent to good, which declined since 2021.

Based on feedback from community engagement, public domain maintenance is a high priority for the Strathfield community, which is a responsibility of Council in the areas under its control e.g. local roads, parks and the public domains in town centres. Council delivered a regular cleansing and maintenance programs in public domains throughout the Strathfield LGA. Town Centres are cleansed daily with a twice weekly graffiti inspection program. Council staff serviced parks on a fortnightly cycle (weather permitting) including visual inspections and reporting of needed repairs of defects or hazards. Sixty five percent of the Strathfield community rated the appearance and maintenance of public spaces as excellent to good, which had declined since 2021.

Major parks were serviced for litter and rubbish collection three (3) times a week and on both days on the weekend. Staff also attend to customer requests within 24 hours of receipt when a safety concern is raised by residents. Quarterly inspections of Council playgrounds are undertaken by a contractor. Council also operates a regular street sweeping service across the Strathfield LGA. Seventy six percent of the Strathfield community rated the care and maintenance of parks and reserves as excellent to good, which had declined since 2021.

Goal 4.3: Healthy, thriving, sustainable and resilient environments

- Strategy 4.3.1 Conserve, restore and enhance Strathfield's biodiversity, ecological health, tree canopies and resiliency
- Strategy 4.3.2 Implement sustainable practices and efficiencies in resource use to support a healthy built environment.

Key natural environment locations in the Strathfield LGA include Mason Park Wetlands, Coxs Creek Reserve and Greenacre Frog Ponds with primary biodiversity or wildlife corridors along the Cooks River/Coxs Creek in Strathfield and Strathfield South. Works to reduce weeds were undertaken in bushland reserves such as Coxs Creek Reserve and monitoring of *W. Backhousei* species condition at Mason Park Wetlands. Adult Green and Golden Bellfrogs (GGBF) and tag poles were recorded for the first time on a decade in reestablished breeding GGBF habitat at the Greenacre Frog Ponds.

Council conducted monthly water monitoring to ascertain health of waterways and detect pollution incidences. Council collaborated with partners on education, events and projects to improve environmental sustainability such as National Tree Day, Bushcare and community planting days, regional programs to improve our region or catchment such as Cooks River Alliance and Parramatta River Catchment Group.

Strathfield LGA's urban forest is comprised of trees on public and private land areas. They contribute significantly to the liveability, natural environment and aesthetics of the Strathfield area. The urban forest is facing many challenges including urban densification, a changing climate, urban heat and canopy loss. In Strathfield LGA, tree canopies are under threat especially through removal of urban trees on private lands,

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low levels of tree canopy in industrial and commercial areas and illegal tree works and vandalism of street and public trees.

Council commenced a program to collate detailed data on its street trees, which in 2024 is over 70% complete. From the data, a management inventory and program will be prepared for maintenance and replacement street and public tree planting. Council engaged contractors to undertake maintenance of street trees including road and building clearances, crown lifting, dead wooding, tree removals, formative pruning and stump grinding and removals. Council initiated new and replacement street tree plantings as well as additional plantings along the Cooks River and parks across the Strathfield LGA.

Emissions in the Strathfield LGA generally declined during COVID, however recent results indicate that emissions are returning to pre-COVID levels as movement, especially vehicles, has increased.

Liveable Neighbourhood QBL reporting

Outcome measure	Status
Community satisfaction on how well new development blends	Stable
with neighbourhood character	
Attractiveness of buildings, streetscape and surroundings in local	Moving away from sustainability
area	
Care and protection of historic and heritage buildings and areas	Moving away from sustainability
Aboriginal heritage registered finds	Stable
No of non-Aboriginal heritage items and heritage conservation	Stable
areas	
Appearance & maintenance of residential areas	Moving away from sustainability
Appearance and maintenance of public spaces	Moving away from sustainability
Council satisfaction with waste services	Moving away from sustainability
Increase of waste diversion from landfill	Moving away from sustainability
Increase of total waste materials diverted from landfill (tonnes)	Moving away from sustainability
Maintenance of tree coverage and natural environment	Moving away from sustainability
Tree Canopy in Strathfield LGA and suburbs	Moving away from sustainability
Reduction of emissions in Strathfield LGA (tonnes CO2-e)	Moving towards sustainability
Reduction of energy consumption (Council operations)	Moving away from sustainability
Reduction of Council Greenhouse Gas emissions – total	Moving towards sustainability
Total water consumption (Council)	Moving away from sustainability
Total water consumption in Strathfield LGA	Moving towards sustainability

Source: Appendix A Performance Indicator reporting

Strategic Theme 5: Responsible leadership

The theme of Responsible Leadership is concerned with leadership and accountable Council services directed by the priorities of an engaged and connected community. Responsible leadership requires the community having confidence in the Council to make decisions based on community priorities and values reflecting meaningful and informed community engagement. Effective management of Council's operations is underpinned by transparent, effective and accountable governance which is responsive to the needs of the community.

Goal 5.1: Council's leadership and decision making reflects community priorities and values

- Strategy 5.1.1. Strathfield community is well informed, engaged and represented in Council
 policy making and advocacy
- Strategy 5.1.2 Deliver ethical, effective and responsible leadership and transparent and accountable decision making.

The Strathfield CSP is a whole of community plan. Council regularly advocated on behalf of the Strathfield community to relevant state and federal government agencies and to local members of Parliament on a wide range of issues affecting Strathfield LGA, examples include acquisition of land for recreational purpose, traffic management and planning issues. As an example, Council sought support from local members of parliament to lobby for land acquired for the Westconnex expansion by Transport for NSW to be allocated for open space. In 2024, subject to a deed of agreement, this land at Ismay Reserve has been dedicated for public recreation use.

Council has provided and improved opportunities for the community to participate in decision-making processes. Council adopted a Community Engagement Strategy, which sets out principles for engagement, stakeholder identification and an engagement assessment matrix based on IAP2 principles of inform, consult, involve, collaborate and empower. The CES is based on IAP2 principles and recognises that engagement must be tailored to circumstances, considering factors such as level of impacts, complexity, risk, significance, sensitivity, timing or opportunity. Strathfield's community is highly diverse and made up of many stakeholders with various interests, opinions, interests and experience. Council engages the community through a range of methods, including online and face to face. Engagement can be about specific projects, or ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders, such as community groups, sporting groups, business and industry, State and Federal agencies, advisory committees and partners.

In November 2022, Council launched its online 'Have Your Say' site, which facilitates engagement on draft proposals, plans or policies. The site features a range of engagement tools such as surveys and online digital maps, supported by language translation. Initially the site focused on major projects but since 2023, all engagements are included on this site. Between November 2022 and June 2024, over 20,000 visits were recorded with over 3,000 comments or submissions received.

Not all public exhibited proposals or plans receive comments or submissions, however based on numbers of views and downloads of related documents, it is evident that all engagements generate

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public interest, regardless of whether a comment is made. This was impossible to assess prior to implementing the online engagement site.

Council undertook a review of the CSP after the 2021 election and adopted 'Strathfield 2035'. The Plan sets out five (5) key strategic themes of Connectivity, Community Wellbeing, Celebrating Culture and Place, Liveable Neighbourhoods and Responsible Leadership to deliver on the.

Strathfield community's long-term vision. The Delivery Program 2022-2026, which sets out the Council priorities for the four-year period, Annual Operational Plans and Budgets, Resourcing Strategies and Annual Reports and Financial Statements and regular progress and quarterly financial reviews were all presented to Council and are published on the Council website.

A recent survey indicated that 86% of residents rated Council's overall performance at least favourably, with 54% rating Council's performance as excellent or good.

Goal 5.2: Council is effectively and responsible managed and responds to community needs

- Strategy 5.2.1 Prepare and implement plans and strategies to deliver and resource efficient and accountable services, programs, and infrastructure
- Strategy 5.2.2 Promote organisational culture of safety, best practice, and continuous quality improvement
- Strategy 5.2.3 Delivery efficient and effective customer services to the community.

To support sustainable operations, efficient and accountable services, Council has established new and robust financial, governance, and planning frameworks.

After the 2021 election, Council undertook a thorough review of its financial sustainability and found that its financial position was unsustainable at the current level of expenditure and income due to a range of issues including rate capping, inflation, cost shifting by NSW Government, long term underexpenditure in asset renewal and growing large asset backlogs. Council also was posting annual operating deficits and had cashflow issues. Without remedial action, it was forecast that Council would reach a negative cash position by 2027, continue to record increasing annual deficits, and have insufficient money to maintain the current service levels and asset renewals. Further Council would be severely underfunded for the expected growth and expansion of services.

By 2024, Council has made considerable progress on reviewing and instigating actions to secure its long-term organisational and financial sustainability and prioritising the needs of current and future communities. This was achieved by implementing a Special Rate Variation and change to a minimum rate structure (approved by IPART and commenced in 2023-2024), improving efficiencies of Council's organisation and increased funding of asset renewals to reduce backlogs and improve the safety and condition of Council's assets. The delivery of quality services and facilities and the effective and efficient management of community assets and resources are supported by establishing robust financial, governance and planning frameworks.

While the indicator measures would appear that Council's sustainability is declining, Council's Long Term Financial Plan projects that Council will return to sustainable position by 2027, if current measures continue to be implemented.

Council has implemented governance frameworks to improve accountability through audit, service review and development of a new Enterprise Risk Management program. These initiatives are oversighted by the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), an advisory committee that meets

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quarterly and provides Council with independent assurance and assistance on its compliance, risk management, financial management, governance, audit, fraud control service delivery and integrated performance and reporting responsibilities.

Council has also prepared methodology to undertake service reviews, which are monitored by the ARIC. Reviews of the street sweeping service, Civic Works section and the Golf Driving Range Operations were undertaken in 2023-2024 and further reviews are scheduled for the 2024-2025 year.

The delivery of efficient and effective customer services is a high priority and is supported by the new Customer Experience (CX) Strategy 2024, which recognises that customers perceive their entire interaction with Council as Customer Service. Council implemented a new Customer Request Management (CRM) system and IConcierge, a self-service mobile app for residents in 2024. These upgraded services provide streamlined public access to a range of services and information. The most recent community survey indicates that the satisfaction rating for Council's customer services has increased.

Responsible Leadership QBL reporting

Outcome measure	Current Status
Community satisfaction with Council's efforts to give the	Moving away from sustainability
community a say on issues that affect them	
Council's overall performance satisfaction rating	Moving away from sustainability
Council's customer services satisfaction rating (excellent-	Moving towards sustainability
good rating)	
Community satisfaction with Council's communication and	Stable
information access	
Operating performance ratio *	Moving away from sustainability
Own source operating revenue ratio	Stable
Unrestricted current ratio	Stable
Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage	Moving toward sustainability
Cash expense cover ratio	Stable
Building and infrastructure renewals ratio *	Moving away from sustainability
Infrastructure backlog ratio *	Moving away from sustainability
Asset Maintenance ratio *	Moving away from sustainability

Source: Appendix A Performance Indicator reporting

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^{*} The status of these measures is derived from the most recent audited financial statements for the fiscal year 2022-2023, which indicate a trend away from sustainability. However, following the implementation of the financial improvement plan and revenue strategy in 2023-2024, the draft figures for these measures reflect significant improvement and a trend toward sustainability. Council has successfully contained the growth in operating deficits (improving the operating performance ratio compared to prior year) and has been able to make significant investments in infrastructure renewals and maintenance as a directly result of the financial sustainability strategy.

Key Challenges for the new Council term

This section provides information on key challenges, projects and priorities for the Strathfield community over the next four (4) years and beyond. There are substantial challenges which will have significant impact on the Strathfield community, much related to NSW growth strategies. However, these challenges also present many opportunities for the future of the Strathfield LGA.

Planning and Place

The Planning and Place Team has been refocused in terms of team structure and operational effort through a service review and team restructure. There has been significant focus on forward strategy planning that will be instrumental in shaping the growth and evolution of Strathfield for the next decade. In addition, a review of the current infrastructure contributions regime has been commenced that will support financially sustainable delivery of new infrastructure into the future.

This represents a major shift in focus which previously concentrated on the day-to-day assessment of development applications with reduced efforts on strategic planning. Strathfield, along with the rest of Greater Sydney and indeed, Australia, is responding to the current housing crisis, there is a need to deploy a methodology for planning, monitoring and management. This means getting the right policy settings in place early, but also proactively monitoring their effectiveness as growth occurs, and making amendments to them when necessary. A summary of the flagship projects from the last term are below.

Department Restructure

Through a highly collaborative service review process, the Planning and Development team has been rebranded as the Planning and Place Team. Renamed to reflect the focus of the team on both traditional development assessment but also re-emphasises focus on place management and forward planning. The key shift in the team structure was the creation of dedicated Strategic Planning and Development Assessment Teams, both lead by newly appointed Executive Planners. This important change has been made to ensure the team is able to remain focused on the strategic planning tasks that are ahead of us. Concurrently, there is a team focused on the timely and efficient assessment of Development Applications, plus preparing for new development applications that are likely to grow in scale and complexity. Following a period of recruitment, the team is almost fully staffed and highly engaged.

Homebush TOD Master Plan

Through long term advocacy, Strathfield Council has been successful in securing support from the NSW Government for the delivery of the Homebush Masterplan. Delivered through the TOD Program, this Masterplan is slated for adoption by the end of 2024. Early Masterplan work identifies a yield of 8,900 new dwellings or 22,500 new residents. This is a significant growth horizon for Strathfield and signals a shift from being a low growth LGA to a high growth environment. Council is presently advocating strongly to the NSW Government to review and improve the outputs that were on public exhibition. Council's submission was endorsed by Council at the 13 August 2024 Council Meeting. A strong position has been put forward to the State Government that the present Masterplan is not sufficiently detailed and lacks a planning framework that will deliver a successful community and place for Homebush. Strathfield will continue to work proactively with the Department to review and enhance the current suite of documents.

Medium Density Housing Strategy

This strategy is a flagship piece of work and has been designed to improve the diversity of housing available within our existing low density residential communities. In response to the desire from the

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community to be able to find the 'right size' of housing in response to changing housing needs, the study seeks introduce dual occupancy dwellings, two (2) storey townhouses and two (2) storey manor houses into the low-density areas, subject to a review of our existing DCP controls to manage built form outcomes and place outcomes. The strategy has been subject to extensive public consultation but will continue post gateway determination with a further period of public exhibition. It is anticipated that the strategy will be adopted and changes to the Strathfield LEP will be brought into effect early 2025.

Strathfield Town Centre Masterplan

A new Masterplan is a topic that has been exhaustively discussed for a long period of time with an abundance of varying and strong views put forward on the direction the town centre should take. As the first step of the project, staff have focused on engaging various stakeholders in the community and have undertaken extensive and broad consultation to gain an understanding of views and attitudes towards the town centre. This has included pop up stalls, an online survey, community meetings and business meetings. The clear message from all the consultation is that there is a desire for the town centre to be greatly improved. Alongside the consultation we have conducted our own analysis of the constraints and opportunities for the town centre. Council now holds a great deal of information and knowledge about how the centre operates and community attitudes. This has been used to inform a Community Vision, which will be a foundational statement used to inform the preparation of the Masterplan. Additionally, Council has been successful in securing \$750,000 from the Federal Government Housing Support Program to deliver the Masterplan. Work will continue through 2024, with a completed Masterplan being brought forward to Council for adoption by July 2025.

Local Infrastructure Contributions Review

The future growth that Strathfield is likely to experience will place additional pressures on local infrastructure and resources. The financial contributions that Council can levy upon new development is an important source of revenue to fund upgrades and improvements to our open space, local centre, community facilities and more, which will be vital to Council's ability to support the growing population. A review of the existing Section 7.11 Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan has been conducted and it is proposed to revise this to a simpler Section 7.12 Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan but at a higher 3% contribution rate rather than the standard 1%. Whilst a seemingly small technical change, it means that Council levies a contribution based on cost of development, rather than a capped rate per unit of accommodation. It also grants Council the ability to fund a range of projects across the LGA with increased financial flexibility and sustainability. This draft plan has received endorsement to be placed on exhibition and be presented to the NSW Government for endorsement by the Minister of Planning and Open Space. It is expected that the revised plan will be operational by early 2025.

Growth Strategy

There is a considerable amount of change and growth on the horizon for Strathfield. The Homebush TOD Masterplan, once in force, will be a significant source of growth with the entire precinct planned to have a population of 45,000 residents. Whilst this growth is likely to occur overtime, it is important that Strathfield Council is prepared for this growth. The Growth Strategy is how Council, at an operational level, ensures that the correct plans, mechanisms and procedures are in place to support sustainable growth and continue to contribute to the health, wellbeing and lifestyle of the Strathfield Community.

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Waste Strategy

The Strathfield CSP 2035 outlines several key objectives and actions related to waste management:

1. **Waste Reduction:** Encouraging the community to minimise waste generation through education and awareness programs

- 2. **Recycling and Reuse:** Enhancing recycling facilities and promoting the reuse of materials to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills
- 3. **Sustainable Waste Management:** Implementing sustainable waste management practices, including the use of advanced technologies for waste processing
- 4. **Community Engagement**: Involving the community in waste management initiatives to foster a sense of responsibility and participation
- 5. **Infrastructure Improvement:** Upgrading waste management infrastructure to support efficient and effective waste collection and processing

Strathfield Council is in the process of developing a Waste Strategy and will undertake a waste audit, which is crucial for setting realistic targets and understanding the community's waste management needs.

Strathfield Council's waste strategy will be influenced by various commitments and requirements from international, national, state, and regional levels of government.

- International Commitments: Alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 12, which focuses on responsible consumption and production.
- National Policies: The National Waste Policy 2018 and the National Food Waste Strategy, will guide waste management and reduction efforts.
- State Strategies: The NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 sets long-term goals for waste reduction and sustainable material use and will inform our Waste Strategy.
- Regional Framework: The SSROC Regional Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery Strategy 2024 provides a collaborative framework for waste management across the region.

Strathfield Council aims to transition to a zero-waste strategy by 2035, addressing current waste management challenges and leveraging opportunities for improvement.

- Current Waste Management Challenges: Strathfield Council faces significant challenges in waste
 management, including a lack of a previous waste strategy, insufficient historical waste data, and
 reliance on outdated waste audits. Additionally, the Council is behind other inner-west Sydney
 Councils in waste management practices.
- Data Collection and Waste Audits: Implementing a robust data collection framework and conducting regular waste audits are essential steps for Strathfield Council to track progress and set realistic targets. The last waste audits were conducted in 2016 and 2019, highlighting the need for updated data.
- Adoption of Circular Economy Principles: Strathfield Council plans to adopt circular economy principles to transition towards zero waste. This includes promoting sustainable consumption, banning single-use plastics, and encouraging businesses to adopt waste reduction measures

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Infrastructure and Community Engagement: Investing in waste management infrastructure and
engaging the community through educational campaigns and workshops are crucial. The Council
aims to expand recycling programs, implement organic waste collection, and support innovative
recycling technologies.

- Resilience and Adaptability: Building resilience into waste management systems is vital for Strathfield Council to withstand future uncertainties and disruptions. This involves diversifying waste management practices, investing in robust infrastructure, and fostering stakeholder collaboration.
- Action Plan and Monitoring: The Council has outlined a detailed action plan with short-term, medium-term, and long-term objectives to achieve zero waste by 2035. Regular monitoring and reporting frameworks will track progress towards waste management goals

Climate Adaptation Strategy

The Strathfield Community Strategic Plan 2035 outlines several key objectives and actions related to climate adaptation as follows:

- **Risk Assessment and Management:** Conducting comprehensive climate risk assessments to identify vulnerabilities and develop strategies to mitigate these risks.
- Infrastructure Resilience: Upgrading and maintaining infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events and changing climate conditions.
- Community Education and Engagement: Raising awareness and educating the community about climate change impacts and adaptation strategies.
- Sustainable Practices: Promoting sustainable land use and development practices to reduce environmental impact and enhance resilience.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Enhancing emergency response plans and resources to better prepare for and respond to climate-related emergencies.

To progress the CSP objectives Strathfield is actively addressing climate change through various strategies focusing on emissions reduction, renewable energy, and community resilience. Preparation of a Climate Adaptation Strategy is underway and it will address:

- Climate Change Impacts: Strathfield is experiencing rising temperatures, more extreme weather events, and increased urban heat island effects, particularly in industrial and commercial areas.
- **Emission Reduction Goals:** Council is preparing a Climate Adaptation Strategy which will include emission reduction targets.
- **Energy Consumption:** Electricity accounts for most emissions in Strathfield, and the Council is transitioning to renewable energy and improving energy efficiency in its operations.
- Community Initiatives: Strathfield is engaging the community through education on energy
 efficiency, waste reduction, and sustainable practices, aiming to foster a resilient and well-connected
 community.
- Climate Resilience: The Council will enhance its capacity to respond to climate impacts through
 disaster management plans, urban greening, and improving liveability to mitigate the effects of
 extreme weather events.

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Councils Climate Adaptation Plan will be informed by commitments and requirements from global, national, and state tiers of government:

- Global Efforts: The Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to well below 2°C, with efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C. This includes targets for net zero carbon dioxide emissions around 2050 and other greenhouse gases by 2070.
- National Commitments: Australia's National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy 2021-2025 mandates states and territories to implement major adaptation initiatives. The country has committed to a 43% emissions reduction by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050.
- NSW State Initiatives: NSW aims for net zero emissions by 2050 and has introduced several initiatives like the Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030 and the Electric Vehicle Strategy. The state aims to reduce emissions by 50% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels.
- Climate Change Policy Framework: The NSW Climate Change Policy Framework and the draft
 Climate Change Policy and Action Plan aim to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and improve
 resilience to climate impacts, aligning with the Paris Agreement.

Strathfield Council faces several challenges and opportunities in addressing climate change. To improve our corporate and community adaptability to climate impacts we will focus on:

- Community Engagement: Strathfield Council aims to strengthen community resilience to climate change through education, awareness, and support for vulnerable groups like the elderly and children
- **Industry Collaboration:** Industries in Strathfield can innovate to reduce emissions by developing renewable energy projects, enhancing public transportation, and promoting sustainable practices.
- Energy Efficiency: Improving energy efficiency and transitioning to renewable energy are central to Strathfield Council's strategy, with a focus on reducing emissions from electricity and supporting community initiatives.
- Built and Natural Environments: Strathfield Council is focused on reducing emissions in the built
 environment through sustainable construction practices and improving urban resilience to climate
 hazards like flooding and heatwaves.

Resilience Plan

Council will consider a draft Resilience Plan in 2025. It will be informed by the objectives and actions outlined in the Strathfield CSP 2035 which focus on enhancing community resilience. These objectives and actions aim to build a robust and adaptable community capable of effectively responding to and recovering from various challenges:

- Risk Management and Preparedness:
 - o Conducting regular risk assessments to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities.
 - o Developing and updating emergency response plans to ensure the community is well-prepared for various emergencies.
- Infrastructure Resilience:
 - Upgrading critical infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events and other potential hazards.

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- Implementing sustainable building practices to enhance the durability and longevity of community assets.
- Community Engagement and Education:
 - o Raising awareness about resilience and emergency preparedness through community education programs.
 - o Encouraging community participation in resilience-building activities and initiatives.
- Environmental Sustainability:
 - Promoting sustainable land use and development practices to reduce environmental impact and enhance resilience.
 - o Supporting initiatives that protect and restore natural ecosystems, which play a crucial role in community resilience.

Asset Management

Council is committed to reducing its backlog of assets in a poor or very poor condition, which is higher than the benchmark for local government (<2%). Poor assets are likely to fail and not meet level of service expected by our community. Assets include buildings, roads, bridges, footpaths, kerb and gutter, stormwater, and open space and recreation. Council will deliver a range of capital works programs to meet these challenges.

Strathfield Council has approximately \$509 million of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment (IPPE), which include essential community infrastructure such as buildings, roads, bridges, footpaths, kerb and gutter, stormwater, and open space and recreation. In 2023, Council had a backlog of \$23.3 million dollars, which represents assets which are in poor or very poor condition. This is 7% of Council's assets, which is higher than the OLG benchmark of less than 2.0% of assets in poor or very poor condition. Council has been granted a Special Rate Variation which includes a key objective to enhance asset conditions and reduce the growing backlog.

Major Capital Projects

Council has a number of major capital projects which are currently in the planning and design phase. This includes the WSIG projects which are \$4.2 million for Airey Park upgrades, \$7.8 million for Begnell Field, \$8.2 million for Hudson Park and \$1.6 million for Strathfield Park. Council has also received \$5.9 million from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for active transport infrastructure near Parramatta Road. Council has recruited additional project managers to deliver these works. Further, a Project Management Framework is now being utilised to ensure appropriate governance and processes in the consistent delivery of capital projects.

Also planned is the delivery of new parking technology, an Asset Management System (Project Elevate) and advocacy with Transport for NSW.

Land and Property Strategy

Strathfield Council is the custodian of community assets which includes a significant portfolio of land and property. Council owns approximately 75 properties, with some classified operational and some classified for community use. Council has not been actively managing these properties in recent years.

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Council has engaged a consultant to prepare a Land and Property Strategy. The purpose of this Strategy is to provide an analysis relating to the current state of affairs of Council's property and land holdings and will outline Council's strategy for the continued management of these assets. Councils Property Portfolio needs to be carefully managed to:

- Maintain existing services and standards
- Enable the provision of more appropriate and/or additional community facilities
- Earn additional revenue where possible
- Increase value of existing assets where there is an opportunity to do so.

Tree Audits and Street Tree Masterplans

Strathfield Council owns approximately 12,500 street trees and 24,000 park trees. Council has not been actively managing these tree assets in recent years. Council has engaged a contractor to undertake an audit of its street trees. The purpose of this audit is to ensure all tree assets have been captured, including locations and species. Importantly, the health of the tree and any necessary maintenance requirements are also being documented and prioritised.

Once the tree audit has been completed, it is intended to develop an Urban Forest Strategy, including a Street Tree Masterplan. The purpose of a Strategy is to establish a holistic management of Strathfield's urban forest. It recognises the urban forest as an essential, living infrastructure asset and resource that provides a wide range of social, environmental and economic benefits. The Strategy will be imperative for Council to commit to maintaining and increasing the benefits provided by the Strathfield urban forest and it provides directional statements intended to guide urban forest management decisions.

Master Planning

Council has not been actively preparing master plans for parks and mainstreet areas in recent years. Masterplans identify the long-term plans for key locations. It also allows Council to engage with the community regarding their needs for these public spaces. Council has recruited a Landscape Architect to prepare these master plans. This will assist in preparing and allocating future capital works program funding. It will also assist in applying for external grants opportunities for these important public spaces.

Long Term Financial sustainability

Over the past four (4) years, Council has experienced a significant deterioration in its financial position, as evidenced by its audited operating results.

The Council's operating deficits (before capital income) have progressively increased from \$1.3 million in 2019/2020 to \$9.6 million in 2022/2023, reflecting a troubling trend that raised severe concerns about its financial sustainability.

In 2019/2020, Council's operating deficit of \$1.3 million marked the beginning of a concerning trend, which was exacerbated in 2020/2021 with an increased deficit of \$5.5 million. This escalation indicated Council's growing challenges in managing its finances. The subsequent years continued this trajectory of decline, with deficits of \$5.9 million in 2021/2022 and \$9.6 million in 2022/2023, resulting in a cumulative operating deficit of \$22.3 million over this four (4) year period.

These continued financial deficits presented a critical challenge for Council, necessitating urgent attention to develop a sustainable financial strategy. Without decisive action to address the underlying issues, the financial outlook would have further declined, impacting Council's ability to deliver essential services to the community effectively.

Addressing this situation required a comprehensive review of operational efficiencies, revenue-raising opportunities, and long-term financial planning to restore the Council's financial stability and enhance service delivery for its residents.

In March and April 2022, Council conducted a thorough review of its long-term financial sustainability alongside an organisational service review.

As part of this review, Council's Revised Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for 2022/2033 indicated that operating deficits in the General Fund would persist through 2033. The average annual operating deficit over the ten-year forecast period was estimated to be \$13.0 million.

By 2033, the annual operating deficits for Council was projected to exceed \$15 million, with a cumulative cash deficit expected to surpass \$75 million over the next decade.

Without an increase in income levels, Council would struggle to sustainably fund asset renewals or maintain existing services. In this scenario, it was projected that Council would deplete its unrestricted cash by 2026 and exhaust its total cash reserves by 2029.

This review thoroughly evaluated various functions and service delivery mechanisms, allowing Council to identify specific areas where budgetary efficiencies could be improved. Accordingly, several cost containment and savings initiatives as well as revenue improvements were identified and prioritised based on their potential impact and feasibility.

Council has already implemented some of these initiatives, leading to immediate cost reductions and improved service delivery in certain areas. For example,

Budgetary savings realised in the delivery of Councils community bus service.

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- Improvements to Councils return on its investment portfolio.
- Improvements to revenue derived from Council's golf driving range at Hudson Park.
- No increases to IT service costs and efficiencies from current IT service contracts.

In addition to the budgetary improvements already implemented, the review identified strategies for future enhancements that have been integrated into the Council's revised Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP).

These strategies will be gradually implemented and realised over the coming years. Collectively, these improvements are expected to yield an annual enhancement of approximately \$1.2 million which will result in a cumulative operational improvement of \$12 million over the next decade.

Despite the thorough review and the identification of various strategies for budgetary improvements and operational efficiencies, these measures alone are insufficient to fully address the Council's sustainability issues.

Furthermore, the Council continues to face pressures from aging infrastructure, increasing demand for services, and the need for significant investments in asset renewal.

The projected annual improvements while beneficial, represent only a fraction of the larger financial challenges facing Council.

Furthermore, Council has a significant infrastructure funding backlog for the renewal of essential community infrastructure assets such as roads, footpaths, bridges, kerbs and gutters and community buildings.

Councils' infrastructure renewal funding backlog as at 30 June 2023 stood at \$23.3 million.

The key factors that have contributed to Council's infrastructure backlog include:

- Aging Infrastructure: As assets age, they require more frequent and costly maintenance or replacement.
- Historical Underinvestment: Persistent historical underfunding over several years, due to limitation in general revenue (rates).
- Cost Increases: Inflation, higher labour costs, and rising material prices over time and (particularly in the current high inflationary economic conditions) have also contributed to escalating the costs of maintaining and renewing infrastructure.

An unfunded infrastructure backlog will negatively affect the residents of the LGA which will lead to deteriorating services, higher long-term costs, and, in severe cases, public safety concerns.

The infrastructure backlog ratio measures how much money is needed to bring all assets up to a good condition compared to the total value of those assets. The Office of Local Government (OLG) has set the benchmark for this ratio to be below 2%.

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Currently, Councils infrastructure backlog ratio stands at 4.2%, which this means that Council needs to increase its spending on asset renewals. Council is required to spend about \$12 million each year over the next 10 years to reduce the backlog to 3% and improve the safety and condition of its assets.

Consequently, Council took the decision to apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to seek their approval to implement a Special Variation (SV) to gradually increase Councils rates revenue over the next four years, commencing in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

The SV along with other operational improvements aims to provide a predictable path for revenue growth while balancing the need for additional funds with the community's financial capacity.

Council's approved IPART issued instrument sets its rate increase path over the four (4) year period commencing 2023-2024 as follows:

Year	Annual increase in general income	Cumulative increase in general income
Year 2023-24	35.1%	35.10%
Year 2024-25	14.11%	54.16%
Year 2025-26	17.5%	81.14%
Year 2026-27	7.5%	94.73%

[Source: Special Variation for Strathfield Municipal Council for 2023-24 to 2026-27 Instrument issued by IPART under section 508A of the Local Government Act 1993]

The IPART-approved Special Variation (SV) includes a total increase of 94.73% in the Council's general income, implemented over four (4) years from 2023-2024 to 2026-2027. At the same time, Council has reduced the domestic waste management charge by approximately \$4 million each year (without decreasing service levels).

Furthermore, Council has set minimum ordinary rates for the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 as part of its efforts to restructure the rate system and ensure a fairer distribution of the rate burden.

As part of the newly approved rating structure, approximately 80% of all ratepayers in the Local Government Area (LGA) are currently paying the Minimum Rate. The table below illustrates how the changes resulting from the Special Variation (SV) and Minimum Rate will affect these ratepayers.

For the fiscal year 2023/2024, the average total bill for ratepayers on the minimum rate has gone up from \$1,357.50 to \$1,602.50, which is an increase of \$245.00 or 18.0%. This rise is mainly due to the new Minimum Rate of \$1,040. However, this increase is balanced out by a decrease in the Domestic Waste Management Charge (DWMC), which drops from \$795 to \$550 in the first year.

In FY2024-2025, the minimum rate has increased from \$1,040 to \$1,200, and the DWMC has only been indexed in accordance with CPI. As a result, the total rates bill will reach \$1,787.50, an increase of \$185.00 or 11.5%.

For FY2025-2026 and FY2026-2027, both the minimum rate and the DWMC will be adjusted by the estimated rate peg of about 3.5% per year. Over the entire four-year period, the total increase in the rates bill will be \$556.00 which when spread out over four years, translates to just \$2.67 per week.

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In the first year (2023-2024), while the minimum rate sees a significant jump, it is balanced by a considerable reduction in the DWMC, which helps ease the financial impact on ratepayers. This means that for many households, the overall increase in their total rates bill is minimised.

In summary, for approximately 80% of ratepayers, the total increase in the rates bill will be approximately \$556 over the entire four (4) year SV implementation period, which amounts to just \$2.67 per week—less than the price of a small coffee.

Further to this, Council reviewed its domestic waste service and identified that the Domestic Waste Management Charge (DWMC) could be lowered without reducing the level of services provided. Thus, at the same time that Council implemented the SV, it also reduced the Domestic Waste Management Charge (DWMC) by \$245 for each residential ratepayer (approx. \$4 million per annum) commencing 2022-2023 which helped to reduce the overall impact on rates bills as a result of the SV increase to ordinary rates.

Instead of overpaying for waste management, the additional funds were redirected to general rates to offset the increase ordinary rates, enabling Council to allocate revenue in more effective and productive ways, ensuring that residents benefit overall services standards.

Due to the newly implemented revenue strategy adopted in Councils LTFP (which encompasses the SV), during 2023-2024, Council has been able to spend approx. \$13.5 million on asset renewals while delivering approx. \$20 million in overall capital works over the financial year.

The increased spending on infrastructure renewals is in accordance with Councils revised Long Term Financial Plan and Capital program to invest on average approx. \$12 million per annum over the next 10 years to improve the condition of its infrastructure assets and reduce the infrastructure backlog to a manageable level.

The Council's infrastructure renewal works over the past year have primarily concentrated on roads and footpaths, recognising that these assets are among the most utilised by the community given their significance for daily transportation and pedestrian safety.

it is essential to maintain and improve these surfaces. Regular upkeep not only enhances the quality of travel for residents but also addresses crucial public safety concerns.

This focus on infrastructure renewal reflects the Council's commitment to supporting community needs and promoting overall public safety in the LGA.

Maintaining the revenue path set by the SV is crucial for the Council to continue delivering its capital works and infrastructure renewal program in line with its adopted Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP).

The Council's infrastructure works are being forward-funded through an underlying borrowing program (as adopted in its LTFP). The borrowing is planned to be repaid using future rates revenue generated by the SV.

This approach allows Council to address urgent renewal works immediately, particularly in critical areas such as roads and footpaths, without having to delay these essential projects and further exacerbating its infrastructure backlog.

Without the revenue boost provided by the SV, the borrowing program would not be feasible, and Council would be unable to fund its required infrastructure renewal program.

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The SV along with the operational improvement strategies adopted in Councils LTFP ensures that the Council can maintain and renew key assets promptly while remaining financially sustainable in the long term.

Additionally, Council's ARIC has provided positive feedback regarding the financial sustainability strategy implemented by the Council. ARIC commended the Council for its thorough and holistic approach to addressing long-term financial challenges through careful planning and sound financial management.

The Committee highlighted the effectiveness of measures such as the SV, which has provided for a stable revenue base, and the strategic use of borrowing to forward-fund essential infrastructure works. The ARIC recognised these initiatives as critical steps toward ensuring the Council's ability to meet its service and infrastructure commitments while maintaining financial sustainability in the long term. Their endorsement underscores the importance of the strategy in supporting the Council's continued growth, operational efficiency and financial resilience.



Appendix A – Performance indicator reporting

Performance reporting relies on data from various sources, including government agencies such as ABS, NSW Health, BOSCAR. Council-specific data comes from records and independently commissioned Community Surveys conducted in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2023. The 2021 survey, carried out during the COVID pandemic, showed unusually high satisfaction ratings, likely due to residents spending more time and remotely working in the Strathfield area. In contrast, many 2023 results had lower satisfaction ratings. The longer-term trends, based on community surveys, will be more apparent when the next survey is taken and data updates is available for other indicator reporting.

Measure	Target	Baseline	Achieved	Change
% Australian citizens (Strathfield LGA) ²	Maintain or	66.1% (2016)	65.4% (2021)	▼
	improve			
% volunteers in LGA community ³	Maintain or	15.1% (2016)	9.6 (2021)	▼
	improve			
Aboriginal heritage registered finds in LGA ⁴	Maintain or	3 (2019)	3 (2023)	◆ ▶
	improve			
Acceptance of community diversity	Maintain or	75% (2019)	78% (2023)	A
(excellent-good) ⁵	improve			
Access to information about what's	Maintain or	n/a	46% (2023)	◆
happening in LGA (excellent-good) ⁶	improve			
Access to parks and open space (excellent-	Maintain or	83% (2018)	87% (2023)	A
good) ⁷	improve			
Appearance & maintenance of residential	Maintain or	73% (2021)	63% (2023)	▼
areas (excellent-good) ⁸	improve			
Appearance and maintenance of public	Maintain or	71% (2021)	65% (2023)	•
spaces (excellent-good) ⁹	improve			
Asset Maintenance ratio ¹⁰	>100%	148.95%	69.31% (2023)	▼
		(2021)		
Attractiveness of buildings, streetscape and	Maintain or	56% (2020)	49% (2023)	▼
surroundings in local area (excellent-good	improve			
rating) ¹¹				
Bachelor or higher degree (Strathfield	Maintain or	32% (2011)	44% (2021)	A
LGA) ¹²	improve			
Borrowings/loans from Council library ¹³	Maintain or	94,150	160,278 (2024)	▼
	improve	(2021)		
Building and infrastructure renewals ratio ¹⁴	>100%	114.65 (2021)	48.75% (2023)	•
Care & maintenance of parks and reserves	Maintain or	84% (2021)	76% (2023)	•
(excellent-good) 15	improve			
Care and protection of historic and heritage	Maintain or	64% (2020)	63% (2023)	•
buildings and areas (excellent-good rating) ¹⁶	improve			
Cash expense cover ratio 17	> 3.00	13.21	12.77 months	A
	months	months	(2023)	
		(2021)		

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Measure	Target	Baseline	Achieved	Change
Citizenship conferees (annual) 18	Maintain or	340 (2021)	596 (2024)	A
	improve			
Community satisfaction on how well new	Maintain or	40% (2020)	40% (2023)	◆
development blends with neighbourhood	improve			
character (excellent-good) ¹⁹				
Community satisfaction with Council's	Maintain or	55% (2021)	45% (2023)	▼
efforts to give the community a say on	increase			
issues that affect them (excellent-good) ²⁰				
Control of graffiti and vandalism in LGA	Maintain or	64% (2019)	64% (2023)	◆
(excellent-good) ²¹	improve			
Council website visits ²²	Maintain or	693,525	543,000 (2024)	▼
	improve	(2021)		
Council's customer services satisfaction	Maintain or	51% (2018)	59% (2023)	A
rating (excellent-good) ²³	increase			
Council's overall performance satisfaction	Maintain or	61% (2018)	54% (2023)	▼
rating (excellent-good)	increase	, ,		
Decrease in smoking rates in Strathfield	Maintain or	11.7% (2020)	8.8% (2022)	▼
LGA (adult population) ²⁴	improve		, ,	
Feeling safe in their street (excellent-	Maintain or	71% (2019)	67% (2023)	▼
good) ²⁵	improve			
Feeling safe in their suburb (moving around)	Maintain or	74% (2019)	68% (2023)	▼
(excellent-good) ²⁶	improve			
Feeling safe on local public transport	Maintain or	85% (2019)	84% (2023)	▼
(excellent-good) ²⁷	improve			
Gross Regional Product ²⁸	Maintain or	\$4.045B	\$3.87B (2023)	▼
	improve	(2021)		
Increase of total waste materials diverted	Maintain or	5851 tonnes	49623 tonnes	▼
from landfill (tonnes) ²⁹	improve	(2020)	(2024)	
Increase of waste diversion from landfill ³⁰	Maintain or	36% (2021)	31.4% (2024)	▼
	improve			
Infrastructure backlog ratio ³¹	<2.00%	0.39 (2021)	6.69% (2023)	lacktriangle
Local shops and services meet needs (very	Maintain or	n/a	52% (2023)	▼
well-well) ³²	improve			
Maintenance of tree coverage and natural	Maintain or	75% (2021)	74% (2023)	▼
environment (excellent-good)	improve			
Major crime offences in LGA (across a 60	Stable or	Stable	Stable (2022)	◆ ▶
month trend) ³³	decrease	(2021).		
No of local businesses ³⁴	Maintain or	6445 (2021)	6934 (2023)	A
	improve			
No of local jobs ³⁵	Maintain or	24571 (2021)	23951 (2023)	▼
	improve			

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Measure	Target	Baseline	Achieved	Change
Number of members of Strathfield library ³⁶	Maintain or	21,544 (2021)	27,419 (2024)	A
N. I. C. Al. et III is in	improve	222	2221 11	45
Number of non-Aboriginal heritage items and heritage conservation areas. ³⁷	Maintain or	232	232 heritage items and 17	*
and heritage conservation areas.	improve	heritage items and		
		17 areas	areas (2023)	
		(2017)		
Number of residents hospitalised due to	Maintain or	790 people	800 people	▼
falls in the LGA ³⁸	improve	per 100,000	per 100,000	•
Tatis in the EGA	Improve	(2017-18)	(2020-21)	
Operating performance ratio ³⁹	>0%	(8.71)%	(16.23)% (2023)	▼
operating performance ratio	2 070	(2021)	(10.23)70 (2023)	•
Overall access to transport services	Maintain or	85% (2019)	76% (2023)	▼
(excellent-good) ⁴⁰	improve			
Own source operating revenue ratio 41	>60%	83.48%	72.40% (2023)	A
		(2021)		
Quality of Council waste services	Maintain or	79% (2021)	73% (2023)	•
(excellent-good) ⁴²	improve			
Quality/condition kerbs, gutters & drainage	Maintain or	35% (2021)	46% (2023)	A
(excellent-good) ⁴³	improve			
Quality/condition of community centres	Maintain or	74% (2021)	71% (2023)	•
(excellent-good) ⁴⁴	improve			
Quality/condition of footpaths (excellent-	Maintain or	41% (2021)	51% (2023)	A
good) ⁴⁵	improve			
Quality/condition of library facility	Maintain or	88% (2021)	92% (2023)	A
(excellent-good) ⁴⁶	improve			
Quality/condition of playgrounds	Maintain or	84% (2021)	83% (2023)	•
(excellent-good) ⁴⁷	improve	020/ (2010)	0 (0 (12022)	
Quality/condition of sportsgrounds	Maintain or	82% (2019)	86% (2023)	•
(excellent-good) ⁴⁸	improve			
Quality/condition roads (excellent-good) ⁴⁹	Maintain or	38% (2021)	51% (2023)	A
	improve			
Rates and annual charges outstanding	<5.00%	5.08%	4.86% (2023)	A
percentage ⁵⁰		(2021)		
Satisfaction with Council Library service	Maintain or	87% (2021)	87% (2023)	◆ ▶
(excellent-good) ⁵¹	improve			
Tree Canopy in Strathfield LGA and	Maintain or	LGA 16.8%	LGA 16.7%	▼
suburbs ⁵²	improve			
Unrestricted current ratio ⁵³	>1.50x	3.32x (2021)	4.32x (2023)	A
Visitors to Council library ⁵⁴	Maintain or	64,008	248,855 (2024)	A
	improve	(2021)		

Legend ▲ improving ▼declining ◀▶stable

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¹ Australian Communications and Media Authority, December 2023

- ² Australian Bureau of Statistics Census 2021
- ³ Australian Bureau of Statistics Census 2021
- ⁴ Strathfield Council records
- ⁵ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ⁶ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ⁷ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2018 and 2023
- ⁸ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ⁹ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2020 and 2023
- ¹⁰ Strathfield Council Financial Statements
- $^{\rm II}$ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- 12 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census 2021
- ¹³ Strathfield Council Library Management System
- ¹⁴ Strathfield Council Financial Statements
- $^{\rm 15}$ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ¹⁶ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ¹⁷ Strathfield Council Financial Statements
- ¹⁸ Strathfield Council records
- ¹⁹ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2020 and 2023
- ²⁰ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ²¹ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2019 and 2023
- ²² Strathfield Council website analytics
- ²³ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2018 and 2023
- ²⁴ NSW Health Data Statistics
- ²⁵ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2018 and 2023
- ²⁶ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2019 and 2023
- ²⁷ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2019 and 2023
- ²⁸ National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) 2023
- ²⁹ Strathfield Council Waste Records
- 30 Strathfield Council Waste Records
- 31 Strathfield Council Financial Statements
- 32 Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2023
- 33 Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
- ³⁴ National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) 2023
- 35 National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) 2023
- ³⁶ Strathfield Council Library Management System
- 37 Strathfield Council records
- 38 NSW Health Statistics
- ³⁹ Strathfield Council Financial Statements
- ⁴⁰ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2019 and 2023
- ⁴¹ Strathfield Council Financial Statements
- $^{\rm 42}$ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ⁴³ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- ⁴⁴ Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
- 45 Strathfield Council Community Survey (Taverner Research) 2021 and 2023
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- ⁵⁴ Strathfield Council Library Management System

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CCS1 DRAFT ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

AUTHOR: Rodney Sanjivi, Chief Financial Officer

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor, a nominated Councillor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer sign the Statement by Councillors and Management on the General-Purpose Financial Statements (GPFS) of Strathfield Municipal Council and the Special Purpose Financial Statements (SPFS) for the Hudson Park Golf Driving Range for the year ended 30 June 2024.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with the Draft Annual Financial Statements (the Statements) for the year ended 30 June 2024 and for the Statement by Councillors and Management on the GPFS and SPFS, which is required to be signed prior to receiving the independent auditors reports from the NSW Audit Office.

REPORT

Council has prepared its Annual Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 ('the Statements') in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* and Regulations, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The NSW Audit Office (NSWAO) are carrying out their audit of the Financial Statements and are in the final stages of completion pending finalisation of secondary and quality reviews, clearance queries and other outstanding items.

Subject to the Council and Management signing and unmodified 'Statement by Councillor's and Management', Council expects to receive an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements before or on 31 October 2024, provided that any outstanding matters are satisfactorily resolved.

The Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) as part of their charter, have reviewed the draft annual financial statements on and received an update from the NSWAO on 18 October 2024 and have recommended for the Statement by Councillors and Management to be signed on the General Purpose Financial Statements (GPFS) of Strathfield Council as well as the Special Purpose Financial Statements (SPFS) for the Hudson Park Golf Driving Range (declared business activity).

Should there be any material changes to the Statements between now and the date of signing, this will be identified and reported back to the ARIC and Council at its November ordinary meetings respectively.

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Financial Summary

The GPFS are made up of five (5) key financial reports, namely, Income Statement, Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows.

The Statements show an overall positive net operating result of \$14.9 million, which is largely attributable to the increase in capital grants and contributions. Once capital grants and contributions are removed from the overall result, the underlying net operating result is a deficit of \$7.8 million (which is a \$1.8m (19%) improvement on prior year).

A summary of the key financial indicators relating to Council's Financial Performance are shown below:

Key Financial Performance Indicators	2024 (\$ 000s)	2023 (\$ 000s)
Total income from continuing operations	73,653	60,301
Total income (excluding capital grants and contributions)	50,990	46,777
Total expenses from continuing operations	58,769	56,403
Net surplus / (deficit) from continuing operations	14,884	3,898
Net surplus / (deficit) excluding capital grants and contributions	(7,779)	(9,626)

Employee benefits and on-costs comprised Councils largest expenditure item amounting to \$25.8 million and while employee costs are largely in line with budget estimates it does represent approx. 70% of total rates income.

The performance ratios below provide further context and understanding of Council's results which may not be evident from the raw numbers presented in the primary statements.

Key Financial Performance Indicators	Benchmark	2024	2023
Operating performance ratio	> 0%	(12.08%)	(16.23%)
Own source operating revenue ratio	> 60%	65.36%	72.40%
Unrestricted current ratio	1.5x	5.05x	4.32x
Debt Service Cover Ratio	> 2x	-	-
Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage	<5%	6.28%	4.86%
Cash expense cover ratio	> 3 months	17.51 months	12.77 months

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Draft Annual Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 (Cont'd)

Council has met four (4) out of the six (6) Key Performance Indicators set by the OLG. While the operating performance ratio continues to underperform the benchmark, the ratio has improved on prior year. In addition, rates and annual charges outstanding percentage has also deteriorated during the year.

Note: Council did not have any debt repayments during the financial year thus the debt service cover ratio is not applicable.

Council's cash position has improved by \$11 million, which is largely driven by the increase in developer contributions (an externally restricted reserve).

Cash balances	2022/2023	2021/2022		
	(\$ 000s)		(\$ 000s)	
External Restrictions	37,687	60%	29,495	57%
Internal Restrictions	24,792	40%	21,632	42%
Unrestricted Cash	65	0%	454	1%
Total Cash	62,544		51,581	

Council's external restrictions comprise developer contributions, domestic waste reserve, stormwater reserve and special purpose unexpended grants. External restrictions comprise 60% of total cash balance. Internal restrictions mainly comprise employee leave entitlement reserve and bonds, deposits and retentions.

During the financial year, a number of major asset classes have been reviewed and revalued, including Parks and Open Space Assets, Stormwater Drainage Assets, and Building Assets. A summary of the movement in Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment (IPPE) values are disclosed in note C1-6 of the draft financial statements.

The Statements by Councillors and Management to be signed on the General Purpose Financial Statements (GPFS) of Strathfield Council and the Special Purpose Financial Statements (SPFS) for the Hudson Park Golf Driving Range (declared business activity) are attached to this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1... Statement by Councillors and Management GPFS
- 2. Upper Draft General Purpose Financial Statements 30 June 2024
- 3. Statement by Councillors and Management SPFS
- 4.1 Draft Special Purpose Financial Statements 30 June 2024

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Strathfield Municipal Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Statement by Councillors and Management

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act* 1993 (NSW)

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Local Government Act 1993 and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- · present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- · accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 22 October 2024.

John-Paul Baladi

Mayor

Councillor

22 October 2024

Michael Mamo

General Manager

22 October 2024

Responsible Accounting Officer

22 October 2024

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Strathfield Municipal Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2024



Strathfield Municipal Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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Overview

Strathfield Municipal Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

65 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

Council's guiding principles are detailed in Chapter 3 of the LGA and includes:

- principles applying to the exercise of functions generally by council,
- principles to be applied when making decisions,
- · principles of community participation,
- · principles of sound financial management, and
- principles for strategic planning relating to the development of an integrated planning and reporting framework.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note B1-2.

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au.

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Strathfield Municipal Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Understanding Council's Financial Statements

Introduction

Each year NSW local governments are required to present audited financial statements ("the financial statements") to their council and community.

What you will find in the Statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB's) and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government (OLG).

About the Statement by Councillors and Management

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the Primary Financial Statements

The financial statements incorporate five "primary" financial statements:

1. The Income Statement

Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between the financial performance that was projected for the year and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income

Primarily records changes in the fair value of Council's Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position

Shows a snapshot of Council's financial position, that is, the value of its assets, liabilities and "net wealth" (or, net assets), as at the balance date (i.e. 30 June).

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year of Council's "net wealth".

5. The Statement of Cash Flows

Shows where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budgeted cashflows to provide a comparison between what was projected for the year and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater level of detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by the Audit Office of NSW.

In NSW the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

- 1. an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
- 2. their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the Financial Statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the audit report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

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Strathfield Municipal Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act* 1993 (NSW)

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Local Government Act 1993 and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- · present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- · accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 22 October 2024.

John-Paul Baladi
Mayor
22 October 2024

Michael Mamo
General Manager
22 October 2024

Rodney Sanjivi
Responsible Accounting Officer
22 October 2024

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Income Statement | for the year ended 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2024

budget			Actual	Actual
2024	\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
	lucana form continuina anantiana			
20.040	Income from continuing operations Rates and annual charges	D0 4	20.000	22 504
36,948	User charges and fees	B2-1	36,920	33,581
5,022	Other revenue	B2-2	5,225	4,712
2,924		B2-3	2,673	3,010
2,921	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	B2-4	2,849	3,122
9,762	Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	B2-4	22,663	13,524
1,714	Interest and investment income	B2-5	2,304	1,274
1,019	Other income	B2-6	1,019	1,078
625	Net gain from the disposal of assets	B4-1		
60,935	Total income from continuing operations		73,653	60,301
	Expenses from continuing operations			
25,524	Employee benefits and on-costs	B3-1	25,805	23,664
20,607	Materials and services	B3-2	19,965	20,258
179	Borrowing costs	B3-3	13,303	20,230
9.551	Depreciation and amortisation	B3-4	9,971	9,282
1,400	Other expenses	B3-5	1,354	1,294
1,400	Net loss from the disposal of assets	B3-5 B4-1	•	,
	Total expenses from continuing operations	D4-1	1,674	1,905
57,261	Total expenses from continuing operations		58,769	56,403
3,674	Operating result from continuing operations		14,884	3,898
	Net operating result attributable to Council		14,884	3,898

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Statement of Comprehensive Income | for the year ended 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement		14,884	3,898
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result			
Gain / (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	16.085	(28,078)
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating	_		(-))
result		16,085	(28,078)
Other and the base of the base of	_		
Other comprehensive income for the year		16,085	(28,078)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		20.060	(24.190)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		30,969	(24,180)

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Strathfield Municipal Council | Statement of Financial Position | as at 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	18,544	8,581
Investments	C1-2	28,000	23,000
Receivables	C1-4	5,193	3,232
Inventories	C1-5	73	65
Other assets		386	390
Total current assets		52,196	35,268
Non-current assets			
Investments	C1-2	16,000	20,000
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)	C1-6	505,605	481,730
Intangible assets	C1-7	1,347	1,870
Total non-current assets		522,952	503,600
Total assets		575,148	538,868
LIABILITIES		Ť	
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	16,846	16,427
Contract liabilities	C3-2	6,060	8,732
Borrowings	C3-3	548	
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	4,196	3,785
Total current liabilities		27,650	28,944
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	C3-3	6,452	_
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	611	458
Total non-current liabilities		7,063	458
Total liabilities		34,713	29,402
Net assets		540,435	509,466
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		232,950	218,066
IPPE revaluation reserve	C4-1	307,485	291,400
Total equity	O 1 -1	540,435	509,466
		J-10,-133	
Total equity		540,435	509,466

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Statement of Changes in Equity | for the year ended 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2024

			2024			2023	
			IPPE			IPPE	
		Accumulated	revaluation	Total	Accumulated	revaluation	Total
\$ '000	Notes	surplus	reserve	equity	surplus	reserve	equity
Opening balance at 1 July		218,066	291,400	509,466	214,168	319,478	533,646
Opening balance		218,066	291,400	509,466	214,168	319,478	533,646
Net operating result for the year		14,884	_	14,884	3,898	_	3,898
Net operating result for the period		14,884	_	14,884	3,898	_	3,898
				<u> </u>			-
Other comprehensive income							
Gain / (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	_	16,085	16,085	_	(28,078)	(28,078)
Other comprehensive income		-	16,085	16,085	_	(28,078)	(28,078)
Total comprehensive income		14,884	16,085	30,969	3,898	(28,078)	(24,180)
Closing balance at 30 June		232,950	307,485	540,435	218,066	291,400	509,466

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Strathfield Municipal Council | Statement of Cash Flows | for the year ended 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Original unaudited budget			Actual	Actual
2024	\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
	Cash flows from operating activities			
	Receipts:			
36,948	Rates and annual charges		36,224	33,309
5,022	User charges and fees		4,909	5,906
1,714	Interest received		1,486	1,007
12,683	Grants and contributions		17,618	19,011
_	Bonds, deposits and retentions received		763	1,561
3,943	Other income		6,658	7,146
	Payments:			
(25,524)	Payments to employees		(24,951)	(24,349)
(20,607)	Payments for materials and services		(23,018)	(22,923)
(179)	Borrowing costs		-	- (4.407)
(1,400)	Other expenses		(1,883)	(1,197)
12,600	Net cash flows from operating activities	F1-1	17,806	19,471
	Cash flows from investing activities			
	Receipts:			
625	Proceeds from sale of IPPE		577	581
020	Payments:		077	001
_	Acquisition of term deposits		(1,000)	(6,000)
(18,427)	Payments for IPPE		(14,420)	(12,151)
(17,802)	Net cash flows from investing activities		(14,843)	(17,570)
(17,002)			(1.1,0.10)	(11,010)
	Cash flows from financing activities			
	Payments:			
(103)	Repayment of borrowings		-	_
7,000	Proceeds from borrowings		7,000	
6,897	Net cash flows from financing activities		7,000	
1,695	Net change in cash and cash equivalents		9,963	1,901
0.504	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		0.504	0.000
8,581			8,581	6,680
10,276	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	18,544	8,581
46,000	plus: Investments on hand at end of year	C1-2	44,000	43,000
56,276	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	J. 2	62,544	51,581
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The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

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G Additional Council disclosures (unaudited)	n/a
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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

About Council and these financial statements

A1-1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 22 October 2024 . Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. Accounting policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the Local Government Act 1993 (Act) and Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation), and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Council is a not-for-profit entity.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain classes of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- (i) Fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment refer Note C1-6 and Note D2-1. (ii) Employee benefit provisions refer Note C3-4.

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

- (i) Impairment of receivables refer to Note C1-4
- (ii) Impairment of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment refer Note C1-6
- (iii) Determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific and whether the contract is within the scope of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and / or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities - refer to Notes B2-2 - B2-4

Monies and other assets received by Council

The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Council's consolidated fund is the General Fund. The Consolidated Fund has been included in the financial statements of the Council.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Volunteer services

Council has various opportunities for volunteers to be involved in various programs. These volunteer services are not recognised in these financial statements on the basis that the service would not be purchased or provided for by Council, if it had not been donated / volunteered.

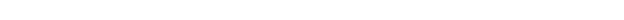
New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2024 reporting period. Council has not applied any pronouncements before its operative date in the annual reporting period beginning 1 July 2023.

As at the date of authorisation of these financial statements Council does not consider that any of these new (and still to be applied) standards and interpretations are likely to have a material impact on the Council's future financial statements, financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted all accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from the first time at 30 June 2023. None of these standards had a significant impact on the reported financial position and performance of Council.



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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

B Financial Performance

B1 Functions or activities

B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets

Income, expenses and assets have been direct	y attributed to the following functions or	activities. Details of those functions or	activities are provided in Note B1-2.	

	Income	e	Expense	es	Operating r	esult	Grants and con	tributions	Carrying amou	nt of assets
\$ '000	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Functions or activities										
Connectivity	-	3,163	-	3,796	-	(633)	-	4,220	_	205,531
Community Wellbeing	_	1,391	_	5,576	- /	(4,185)	_	2,727	_	59,667
Celebrating Culture and Place	_	264	_	1,765	-/	(1,501)	_	273	_	_
4. Liveable Neighbourhoods	_	32,511	_	20,025	-	12,486	_	9,426	_	187,539
5. Responsible Leadership	_	22,972	_	25,241	_	(2,269)	_	_	_	86,131
Other	_	_	_	-	_	_	25,512	_	575,148	_
Total functions and activities	_	60,301	_	56,403	-	3,898	25,512	16,646	575,148	538,868



Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

B1-2 Components of functions or activities

Details relating to the Council's functions or activities as reported in B1-1 are as follows:

Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP) provides long-term direction for the Strathfield Council's Local Government Area (LGA) and is Council's overarching plan in the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework.

The CSP provides guidance for the alignment of Council's resources to meet community priorities, responds to state and regional plans and in planning and delivering services in the LGA.

Therefore, all the functions and activities of Council can categorised under the themes listed below as per Council's CSP:

1. Connectivity

This theme reflects on the centrality and connectivity of the Strathfield LGA to Greater Sydney and beyond through infrastructure, transport and communications. The high levels of connectivity are significant attractors for residents, businesses, students and visitors to the Strathfield LGA. The theme is concerned with planning for and the delivery of regional, state and local infrastructure to meet the needs of increasing populations, ensuring regional and local transport networks are integrated, connected and safe, and that service delivery and information access is optimised through integration of communications and digital technology.

2. Community Wellbeing

This theme concerns supporting Strathfield's culturally diverse and socially cohesive, connected and safe communities with access to public spaces and community facilities, and opportunities to participate in programs and activities. Council plays an important role in facilitating opportunities for participation in learning, recreation, community programs and activities that enhance healthy active lifestyles. Council will enhance the safety and wellbeing of the community by providing safe, clean, healthy and attractive environments and working with Police on community safety and crime prevention.

3. Celebrating Culture and Place

This theme relates to creating vibrant and enticing public domains, especially our town, village and commercial centres, which blend access to services with opportunities for social connectivity. The theme also celebrates Strathfield as a place of learning, culture and creativity supported by events, cultural programs and acknowledgement of civic and community achievements which promote a sense of civic pride and belonging.

4. Liveable Neighbourhoods

This theme concerns ensuring well planned urban design, protection and maintenance of the built and natural environment of the Strathfield LGA. Liveable Neighbourhoods involve high quality, well planned, sustainable, clean and well maintained urban and natural environments that balance new development with the retention and reflection of established local character and healthy thriving and resilient natural environments. Development, changing lifestyles and increasing population also create higher levels of waste, resource usage and pollution, creating pressure on the local area, at a regional and local level, to maintain the high standards of amenity, character and liveability of the Strathfield LGA.

5. Responsible Leadership

The theme of Responsible Leadership is concerned with leadership and accountable Council services directed by the priorities of an engaged and connected community. Responsible leadership requires the community having confidence in the Council to make decisions based on community priorities and values reflecting meaningful and informed community engagement. Effective management of Council's operations is underpinned by transparent, effective and accountable governance which is responsive to the needs of the community.

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B2 Sources of income

B2-1 Rates and annual charges

\$ '000	2024	2023
Ordinary rates		
Residential	18,876	14,030
Business	8,338	5,864
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(94)	(86)
Less: pensioner rebates (Council policy)	(103)	(94)
Less: rates levied on council properties	(88)	(68)
Rates levied to ratepayers	26,929	19,646
Pensioner rate subsidies received	94	83
Total ordinary rates	27,023	19,729
Annual charges (pursuant to s496, 496A, 496B, 501 & 611)		
Domestic waste management services	9,522	13,457
Stormwater management services	313	309
Section 611 charges	109	142
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(44)	(54)
Less: pensioner rebates (Council policy)	(47)	(54)
Annual charges levied	9,853	13,800
Pensioner annual charges subsidies received:		
- Domestic waste management	44	52
Total annual charges	9,897	13,852
Total rates and annual charges	36,920	33,581

Council has used 2022 year valuations provided by the NSW Valuer General in calculating its rates.

Material accounting policy information
Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

Pensioner rebates relate to reductions in rates and certain annual charges for eligible pensioners' place of residence in the local government council area.

Pensioner rate subsidies are received from the NSW Government to provide a contribution towards the pensioner rebates and are recognised within the underlying revenue item based on their substance.

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B2-2 User charges and fees

\$ '000	Timing	2024	2023
Specific user charges (per s502 - specific 'actual use' charges)			
Domestic waste management services		56	49
Waste management services (non-domestic)		81	56
Total specific user charges		137	105
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s608) Planning and building regulation		812	604
Section 10.7 certificates (EP&A Act)		147	122
Section 603 certificates		103	80
Health act		201	157
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		1,263	963
(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s608))			
Credit card service fee		49	48
Library and art gallery		26	39
Park rents		681	654
Festivals and events		15	24
Restoration charges		118	53
Hoarding income		51	21
Hudson park golf course and driving range		1,983	1,801
Other property rentals		19	45
Parking fees		64	63
Privately funded works and anchor work permits		-	24
Road opening permits		19	8
Work zone parking and standing plant permits		622	593
Residential Parking Scheme		2	_
Public halls		144	75
Other		1	1
Road closure		31	195
Total fees and charges – other		3,825	3,644
Total other user charges and fees		5,088	4,607
Total user charges and fees		5,225	4,712
Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees			
User charges and fees recognised over time (1)		-	_
User charges and fees recognised at a point in time (2)		5,225	4,712
Total user charges and fees		5,225	4,712

Material accounting policy information
Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of provision of the service, or in some cases the customer is required to pay on arrival or a deposit in advance. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

Where an upfront fee is charged such as joining fees, the fee is recognised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the membership.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than over the term of the licence.

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B2-3 Other revenue

\$ '000	Timing	2024	2023
Ex gratia rates		95	180
Fines – parking		2,004	2,301
Legal fees recovery – rates and charges (extra charges)		4	35
Legal fees recovery – other		24	93
Diesel rebate		1	41
Insurance claims recoveries		262	169
Sale of abandoned vehicles		42	18
Carbon tax rebate		97	16
Insurance incentives/rebates		65	64
Other		. 18	6
Other corporate income		4	4
Recycling income (non-domestic)		57	83
Total other revenue		2,673	3,010
Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue			
Other revenue recognised over time (1)		-	_
Other revenue recognised at a point in time (2)		2,673	3,010
Total other revenue		2,673	3,010

Material accounting policy information for other revenue

Where the revenue is earned for the provision of specified goods / services under an enforceable contract, revenue is recognised when or as the obligations are satisfied.

Statutory fees and fines are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received or when the penalty has been applied, whichever occurs first.

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

B2-4 Grants and contributions

\$ '000	Timing	Operating 2024	Operating 2023	Capital 2024	Capital 2023
General purpose grants and non-developer					
contributions (untied)					
General purpose (untied)					
Current year allocation					
Financial assistance – general component		17	334	_	_
Financial assistance – local roads component		5	102	_	_
Payment in advance - future year allocation					
Financial assistance – general component		1,106	1,229	_	_
Financial assistance – local roads component		331	376	_	_
Other					
Other grants		58		181	_
Amount recognised as income during current					
year		1,517	2,041	181	
Special purpose grants and non-developer					
contributions (tied)					
Cash contributions					
Community centres		-	_	100	494
Environmental programs		-/	226	_	60
Heritage and cultural		13	_	-	_
Library – per capita		191	192	_	_
Road Safety		_	94	_	_
Noxious weeds		48	-	_	_
Parks and open space		19	_	5,309	2,648
Traffic route subsidy		10	_	_	_
Festivals and events		359	273	_	_
Street lighting		140	271	_	_
Planning		_	25	_	_
Community services		6	_	_	_
Other transport (bridges, footpaths, cycleways)		47	_	_	2,693
Other Council's Long Service Leave contributions		454	_	_	_
Transport (Block Grants)		_	_	76	295
Transport (roads to recovery)		_	_	196	179
Other grants		45	_	_	_
Total special purpose grants and					
non-developer contributions - cash		1,332	1,081	5,681	6,369
Total anasial sussess susuta and					
Total special purpose grants and		4 000	4.004	E 004	0.000
non-developer contributions (tied)		1,332	1,081_	5,681	6,369
Total grants and non-developer					
contributions		2,849	3,122	5,862	6,369
Comprising:					
- Commonwealth funding		_	2,041	_	494
- State funding		_	1,081		5,815
- Other funding		2,849	1,001	5,862	5,613
Sales failuring			2 122		
		2,849	3,122	5,862	6,369

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Developer contributions

\$ '000	lotes	Operating 2024	Operating 2023	Capital 2024	Capital 2023
Developer contributions:					
(s7.4 & s7.11 - EP&A Act, s64 of the LGA): Cash contributions	F4				
S 7.4 – contributions using planning agreements		_	_	681	_
S 7.11 – contributions towards amenities/services		_	_	9,160	5,607
S 7.12 – fixed development consent levies		_	_	1,360	1,548
Total developer contributions – cash		_		11,201	7,155
Non-cash contributions				· ·	
S 7.4 – contributions using planning agreements		_	_	5,600	_
Total developer contributions non-cash				5,600	_
Total developer contributions			_	16,801	7,155
Total contributions		_	_	16,801	7,155
Total grants and contributions		2 940	2 122		,
Total grants and contributions		2,849	3,122	22,663	13,524
Timing of revenue recognition for grants and contribution	ns				
Grants and contributions recognised over time (1)		-	499	_	6,369
Grants and contributions recognised at a point in time (2)		2,849	2,623	22,663	7,155
Total grants and contributions		2,849	3,122	22,663	13,524



Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Unspent grants and contributions

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on the condition they be spent in a specified manner or in a future period but which are not yet spent in accordance with those conditions are as follows:

\$ '000	Operating 2024	Operating 2023	Capital 2024	Capital 2023
Unspent grants and contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	327	321	8,027	5,668
Add: Funds recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions	144	327	5,536	8,027
Less: Funds received in prior year but revenue recognised and funds spent in current	144	321	3,330	0,021
year	(327)	(321)	(8,027)	(5,668)
Unspent funds at 30 June	144	327	5,536	8,027
Contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	_	_	16,996	10,730
Add: contributions recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions			44.009	7 470
Less: contributions recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent	-		11,998	7,470
during the reporting year			(192)	(1,204)
Unspent contributions at 30 June			28,802	16,996

Material accounting policy information

Grants and contributions - enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grant and contribution revenue from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred.

The performance obligations vary according to the agreement but include completion of milestone reports. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point-in-time or over-time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point-in-time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time such as the completion of a project or when a report / outcome is provided, whereas over-time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project.

Where control is transferred over-time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Capital grants

Capital grants received by Council under an enforceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to sufficiently identified specifications which will be under Council's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of progress towards the completion of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets (i.e. purchases), the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

Developer contributions

Council has obligations to provide facilities from contribution revenues levied on developers under the provisions of sections 7.4, 7.11 and 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 (EP&A Act).

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

While Council generally incorporates these amounts as part of a Development Consents Order, such developer contributions are only recognised as income upon receipt by Council, due to the possibility that individual development consents may not be acted upon by the applicant and, accordingly, would not be payable to Council.

Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required, but Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules for the contribution plan.

Other grants and contributions

Assets, including cash, received from other grants and contributions are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised, then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

B2-5 Interest and investment income

\$ '000	2024	2023
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost		
 Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates) 	150	88
 Cash and investments 	2,154	1,186
Total interest and investment income	2,304	1,274

Material accounting policy information

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

B2-6 Other income

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
Rental income			
Other lease income			
Room/Facility Hire		877	862
Leaseback fees - council vehicles		142	216
Total other lease income		1,019	1,078
Total rental income	C2-2	1,019	1,078
Total other income	_	1,019	1,078

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B3 Costs of providing services

B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs

9000	2024	2023
Salaries and wages	17,769	14,518
Employee termination costs (where material – other than vested leave paid)	1,388	1,237
Travel expenses	1	_
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	2,979	4,072
Superannuation	2,232	1,900
Workers' compensation insurance	1,167	1,471
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	163	136
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)	280	265
Recruitment costs	107	263
Other	146	122
Total employee costs	26,232	23,984
Less: Capitalised employee costs	(427)	(320)
Total employee costs expensed	25,805	23,664

Material accounting policy information

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

Retirement benefit obligations

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Superannuation plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note D3-1 for more information.

Capitalised employee costs

Employee costs that are directly attributable to the construction or acquisition of items of Infrastructure, Property Plant and Equipment (IPPE) are capitalised to the cost of the respective items of IPPE in accordance with AASB 16.

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B3-2 Materials and services

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
Raw materials and consumables		2,957	8,516
Contractor costs		6,979	1,476
Street and gutter cleaning		776	816
Audit Fees	E2-1	365	273
Infringement notice contract costs (SEINS)		174	295
Previously other expenses:			
Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	E1-2	255	257
Advertising		88	96
Bank charges		81	78
Cleaning		368	399
Electricity, heating and water		304	266
Insurance		1,043	928
Office expenses (including computer expenses)		145	131
Postage		81	97
Printing and stationery		75	94
Street lighting		453	564
Subscriptions, memberships and publications		479	316
Telephone and communications		405	504
Valuation fees		51	48
Other expenses		91	137
Security		101	56
Waste disposal – tipping fees		3,862	4,086
Legal expenses:			
 Legal expenses: planning and development 		669	756
 Legal expenses: debt recovery 		68	29
 Legal expenses: other 		87	12
Expenses from short-term leases		3	28
Other		5	_
Total materials and services		19,965	20,258
Total materials and services		19,965	20,258

Material accounting policy informationExpenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the Council receives the goods or services.

B3-3 Borrowing costs

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Material accounting policy information

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale. Other borrowing costs are expensed as incurred. Council borrowed \$7million on the 28th June 2024, therefore no borrowing costs were attributed to the 2023-24 Financial Year.

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B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
Depreciation and amortisation	C1-8,C1-7		
Plant and equipment		1,168	1,211
Office equipment		534	741
Other assets:			
– Library books		118	109
Infrastructure:			
 Buildings and other structures 		1,227	812
– Roads		2,619	2,311
- Bridges		91	123
- Footpaths		534	546
- Stormwater drainage		931	793
- Car parks		73	213
 Other open space/recreational assets 		2,153	1,975
Intangible assets		523	448
Total gross depreciation and amortisation costs		9,971	9,282
Total depreciation and amortisation costs		9,971	9,282
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for			
non-financial assets		9,971	9,282

Material accounting policy information

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives. Useful lives are included in Note C1-6 for IPPE assets.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Council assets held at fair value that are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash flow, and that are deemed to be specialised, are no longer required to be tested for impairment under AASB 136. This is because these assets are assessed on an annual basis to ensure that the carrying amount is not materially different from fair value and therefore an impairment loss would be captured during this assessment.

Other assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

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B3-5 Other expenses

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
Impairment of receivables			
User charges and fees		_	128
Other		(55)	_
Total impairment of receivables	C1-4	(55)	128
Other			
Contributions/levies to other levels of government			
- Department of planning levy		103	100
- Emergency services levy (includes FRNSW, SES, and RFS levies)		221	128
 NSW fire brigade levy 		1,015	874
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (Section 356)		70	64
Total other	_	1,409	1,166
Total other expenses		1,354	1,294

Material accounting policy information
Other expenses are recorded on an accruals basis when Council has an obligation for the expenses.

Impairment expenses are recognised when identified.



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B4 Gains or losses

Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets B4-1

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
Gain (or loss) on disposal of plant and equipment	C1-6		
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment		577	581
Less: carrying amount of plant and equipment assets sold/written off		(165)	(393)
Gain (or loss) on disposal	_	412	188
Gain (or loss) on disposal of infrastructure	C1-6		
Less: carrying amount of bridge assets sold/written off		(15)	_
Less: carrying amount of road assets written off ^a		(700)	(1,579)
Less: carrying amount of footpath assets written off ^b		(858)	(307)
Less: carrying amount of building assets sold/written off		(429)	(200)
Less: carrying amount of open space assets sold/written off		(21)	_
Less: carrying value of car park assets sold/written off		(63)	_
Less: carrying amount of stormwater assets write off			(7)
Gain (or loss) on disposal	_	(2,086)	(2,093)
Net gain (or loss) from disposal of assets ⁴		(1,674)	(1,905)

Material accounting policy information
Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer and the asset is de-recognised.

⁽⁴⁾ Net losses from disposal of assets relate to plant and equipment, roads (surface and base) and footpath assets replaced as part of the capital program.

⁽a) This includes road surface, road base and kerbs & gutters that were replaced through capital works undertaken during the financial year. The carrying amounts stated is replaced by the new asset value in Council's asset register. The works included Section 7.11, Local Area Traffic Management (LATM), kerbs and gutters replacement program, RMS block grant and stimulus funding. Council budgeted \$0.45 million in disposal of road asset.

⁽b) This includes footpaths that were replaced through capital works undertaken during the financial year. The carrying amounts stated is replaced by the new asset value in Council's asset register. There was no budget for this.

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B5 Performance against budget

B5-1 Material budget variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on dd MMMM yyyy and is not required to be audited. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include state and federal government decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors, and by decisions made by Council.

While these General Purpose Financial Statements include the original budget adopted by Council, the Act requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so it is able to manage the variation between actuals and budget that invariably occur during the year.

Material variations of more than 10% between original budget and actual results or where the variance is considered material by nature are explained below.

Variation Key: F = Favourable budget variation, U = Unfavourable budget variation.

	2024	2024	2024		
\$ '000	Budget	Actual	Varianc	e	
Revenues					
Rates and annual charges	36,948	36,920	(28)	0%	U
User charges and fees	5,022	5,225	203	4%	F
Other revenue	2,924	2,673	(251)	(9)%	U
Operating grants and contributions	2,921	2,849	(72)	(2)%	U
Capital grants and contributions	9,762	22,663	12,901	132%	F

Capital grants and contributions are higher than budgeted for the financial year due to the receipt of significant developer contributions. These contributions were triggered by several large developments receiving their Occupation Certificates (OC) during the year. When a development reaches the stage where an OC is granted, developers are required to pay infrastructure contributions, which fund essential community infrastructure like roads, parks, and utilities.

Interest and investment revenue 1,714 2,304 590 34% I

Interest income refers to the revenue earned from Council's cash investments (i.e. term deposits). These investments are made to generate additional revenue and maximise the use of surplus funds. During the 2022/2023 fiscal year, Council experienced higher-than-expected interest income due to the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) rate hikes. This resulted in a net positive impact on the Council's interest income. The higher interest rates led to increased returns on the council's investments, exceeding the forecasted income.

Net gains from disposal of assets 625 – (625) (100)% U

Council adopts a conservative approach to budgeting, which excludes any anticipation of substantial gains or losses from the disposal of assets. Instead, any gain or loss resulting from the sale of assets is recognised during the quarterly review process. This approach ensures that the budget remains realistic and avoids potential overestimation of revenue or underestimation of expenses.

Other income	1,019	1,019	-	0%	F
Expenses					
Employee benefits and on-costs	25,524	25,805	(281)	(1)%	U
Materials and services	20,607	19,965	642	3%	F
Borrowing costs Council did not incur borrowing costs during the	179 e year because the actual o	_ drawdown of borro	179 owings occurred	100% at the end o	F f the

Council did not incur borrowing costs during the year because the actual drawdown of borrowings occurred at the end of the financial year, rather than at the beginning, as originally budgeted.

Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	9,551	9,971	(420)	(4)%	U
Other expenses	1,400	1,354	46	3%	F
Net losses from disposal of assets	_	1,674	(1,674)	∞0	U

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

	2024	2024	2024
\$ '000	Budget	Actual	Variance

Statement of cash flows

Cash flows from operating activities

12,600

17,806

5,206

41%

This is attributable to higher than budgeted capital grants and contributions received during the year. Higher than budgeted capital grants and contributions for the financial year due to the receipt of significant developer contributions. These contributions were triggered by several large developments receiving their Occupation Certificates (OC) during the year. When a development reaches the stage where an OC is granted, developers are required to pay infrastructure contributions, which fund essential community infrastructure like roads, parks, and utilities.

Cash flows from investing activities

(17,802)

(14,843)

2,959

(17)% F

Cash flows from investing activities are lower than budget because several capital works projects, although commenced during the financial year, are still in progress and will continue into the following year. Since these projects have not yet been completed, the full associated capital expenditure has not been realised in the current financial year.

Cash flows from financing activities

6,897

7,000

103

1%



Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C Financial position

C1 Assets we manage

C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents

\$ '000	2024	2023
Cash assets		
Cash on hand and at bank	8,126	876
Deposits at call	10,418	7,705
Total cash and cash equivalents	18,544	8,581
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents		
Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	18,544	8,581
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows	18,544	8,581

Material accounting policy information

For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents include: cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

C1-2 Financial investments

	2024	2024	2023	2023
\$ '000	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Debt securities at amortised cost				
Term deposits	28,000	16,000	23,000	20,000
Total	28,000	16,000	23,000	20,000
Total financial investments	28,000	16,000	23,000	20,000
Total cash assets, cash equivalents and investments	46,544	16,000	31,581	20,000

Material accounting policy information

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification

On initial recognition, Council classifies its financial assets into the following categories - those measured at:

- · amortised cost
- fair value through profit and loss (FVTPL)
- fair value through other comprehensive income equity instrument (FVOCI-equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C1-2 Financial investments (continued)

Amortised cost

Council's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, term deposits and cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position. Term deposits with an initial term of more than 3 months are classified as investments rather than cash and cash equivalents.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, impairment and gains or loss on de-recognition are recognised in profit or loss.



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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments

\$ '000		2024	2023
(a)	Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments		
Total	cash, cash equivalents and investments	62,544	51,581
	Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments cash equivalents and investments not subject to external	(37,687)	(29,386)
restri	ctions	24,857	22,195
Exteri	nal restrictions nal restrictions – included in liabilities al restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above compris	e:	
Specifi	c purpose unexpended grants - general fund	5,680	8,354
Exteri	nal restrictions – included in liabilities	5,680	8,354
	nal restrictions – other al restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above se:		
Develo	oper contributions – general	28,418	16,996
Stormv	water management	589	586
	stic waste management	3,000	3,450
	nal restrictions – other	32,007	21,032
Total	external restrictions	37,687	29,386
	cash equivalents and investments subject to external restrictions are those which uncil due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contractual agreement		specific use
\$ '000		2024	2023
(b)	Internal allocations		
(D)	internal anocations		
Intern	al allocations		
At 30 .I	lune. Council has internally allocated funds to the following:		

At 30 June, Council has internally allocated funds to the following:

Plant and vehicle replacement	2,243	1,630
Employees leave entitlement	1,200	1,400
	,	,
Carry over works	3,426	810
Deposits, retentions and bonds	12,347	12,956
Adshel (bus shelters)	270	270
Council elections	350	250
Future major expenditure	2,082	2,053
Hudson Park Golf Driving Range	195	195
Parkscape improvements	_	29
Planning agreements	688	_
Risk management	400	400
Technology	134	134
Contributions towards works	20	_
Financial Assistance Grant - paid in advance	1,437	1,605
Total internal allocations	24,792	21,732

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions may be internally allocated by resolution or policy of the elected Council.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C1-4 Receivables

	2024	2024	2023	2023
\$ '000	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Rates and annual charges	2,229	_	1,566	_
Interest and extra charges	206	_	147	_
User charges and fees	322	_	438	_
Accrued revenues:				
- Interest on investments	1,141	_	382	_
 Other income accruals 	525	_	216	_
Net GST receivable	847	_	506	_
Other debtors	2	_	110	_
Total	5,272	_	3,365	_
Less: provision for impairment				
User charges and fees	(79)		(133)	
Total provision for impairment – receivables	(79)		(133)	_
Total net receivables	5,193		3,232	_
\$ '000			2024	2023
Movement in provision for impairment of	receivables			
Balance at the beginning of the year			133	29
+ new provisions recognised during the year			_	128
 amounts already provided for and written off th 	is year		(54)	(24)
Balance at the end of the year			79	133

Material accounting policy information

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Impairment

Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating ECL, the Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment, and including forward-looking information.

When considering the ECL for rates receivables, Council takes into account that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold. For non-rates receivables, Council uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

The Council uses the presentation that a financial asset is in default when:

- the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Council in full, without recourse by the Council to actions such as realising security (if any is held); or
- the financial assets (for non-rates debtors) are more than 90 days past due.

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract, and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

Council uses the simplified approach for trade receivables where the expected lifetime credit losses are recognised on day 1.

There has been no change in the estimation techniques or significant assumptions made during the current reporting period.

The Council writes off a trade receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, e.g. when the debtor has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C1-4 Receivables (continued)

Where the Council renegotiates the terms of receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

Rates and annual charges outstanding are secured against the property.

C1-5 Inventories

	2024	2024	2023	2023
\$ '000	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
(i) Inventories at cost				
Stores and materials	73	-/	65	_
Total inventories at cost	73		65	
Total inventories	73		65	

Material accounting policy information

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods
Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.
Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.



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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

By aggregated asset class		At 1 July 2023				Asset m	ovements during	g the reporti	ng period				At 30 June 2024	
	Gross carrying	Accumulated depreciation and	Net carrying	Additions	Additions		Depreciation	WIP	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation decrements to equity	Revaluation increments to equity	Gross carrying	Accumulated depreciation and	Net carrying
\$ '000	amount	impairment	amount	renewals 1	new assets	disposals	expense	transfers	(WIP to Exp)	(ARR)	(ARR)	amount	impairment	amount
Capital work in progress	9,563	_	9,563	3,372	_	_	_	(8,107)	(531)	_	_	4,297	_	4,297
Plant and equipment	10,184	(6,846)	3,338	1,674	_	(165)	(1,168)	_	_	_	_	10,819	(7,140)	3,679
Office equipment	6,697	(4,458)	2,239	_	354	_	(534)	_	_	-	_	5,350	(3,292)	2,058
Land:		,												
- Operational land	77,592	_	77,592	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	77,592	_	77,592
- Community land	49,503	_	49,503	_	_	_	-	_	_	-	_	49,503	_	49,503
Land improvements - non-depreciable	_	_	_	_	42	_	-	799	_	_	_	841	_	841
Infrastructure:														
 Buildings and other structures 	76,418	(22,346)	54,072	680	5,600	(429)	(1,227)	1,911	_	_	6,445	90,791	(23,740)	67,051
- Roads	196,494	(83,160)	113,334	3,797	110	(700)	(2,619)	_	_	_	12,564	217,935	(91,448)	126,487
- Bridges	9,458	(3,483)	5,975	268	122	(15)	(91)	1,943	_	_	443	12,366	(3,720)	8,646
- Footpaths	41,263	(16,433)	24,830	3,455		(858)	(534)	-	_	_	1,856	45,684	(16,936)	28,748
 Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable) 	36,841	_	36,841	_	-	-	-	-	_	_	1,989	38,830	_	38,830
 Stormwater drainage 	93,143	(37,503)	55,640	_	37	_	(931)	_	_	-	3,847	134,952	(76,360)	58,592
– Car parks	7,203	(1,621)	5,582	188	-	(63)	(73)	-	_	-	304	7,654	(1,716)	5,938
- Other open space / recreational														
assets	60,911	(18,026)	42,885	14	218	(21)	(2,153)	3,454	-	(11,363)	-	43,694	(10,659)	33,035
Other assets:														
 Library books 	2,272	(1,936)	336	90	_		(118)					2,362	(2,054)	308
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	677,542	(195,812)	481,730	13,538	6,483	(2,251)	(9,448)	_	(531)	(11,363)	27,448	742,670	(237,065)	505,605

⁽¹⁾ Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2022				Asset movements during the reporting period					At 30 June 2023		
\$ '000	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals 1	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	WIP transfers	Revaluation increments / (decrements) to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
Capital work in progress	6,644	-	6,644	5,175	1,104	-	_	(3,360)	-	9,563	-	9,563
Plant and equipment	9,536	(5,971)	3,565	1,378	_	(393)	(1,211)	-	-	10,184	(6,846)	3,338
Office equipment	6,658	(3,718)	2,940	_	39	-	(741)	-	-	6,697	(4,458)	2,239
Land:												
 Operational land 	68,890	_	68,890	_	_	_	_	-	8,702	77,592	_	77,592
- Community land	49,503	_	49,503	_	_	_	_	_	-	49,503	_	49,503
Infrastructure:												
 Buildings and other structures 	68,617	(21,534)	47,083	119	677	(200)	(812)	2,100	5,105	76,418	(22,346)	54,072
- Roads	195,617	(42,229)	153,388	2,246	187	(1,579)	(2,311)	69	(38,666)	196,494	(83,160)	113,334
- Bridges	14,181	(4,421)	9,760	_	_	_	(123)	_	(3,662)	9,458	(3,483)	5,975
- Footpaths	45,614	(9,453)	36,161	698	_	(307)	(546)	_	(11,176)	41,263	(16,433)	24,830
 Bulk earthworks 												
(non-depreciable)	38,641	-	38,641	_	-	-	-	-	(1,800)	36,841	-	36,841
 Stormwater drainage 	86,727	(36,710)	50,017	28	170	(7)	(793)	-	6,225	93,143	(37,503)	55,640
– Car parks	2,760	(473)	2,287	_	_	-	(213)	-	3,508	7,203	(1,621)	5,582
- Other open space / recreational												
assets	55,825	(16,051)	39,774	211	1	(2)	(1,975)	1,191	3,686	60,911	(18,026)	42,885
Other assets:												
 Library books 	2,152	(1,827)	325	119	_	_	(109)	_		2,272	(1,936)	336
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	651,365	(142,387)	508,978	9,974	2,177	(2,488)	(8,834)	-	(28,078)	677,542	(195,812)	481,730

⁽¹⁾ Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Material accounting policy information

Initial recognition of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

IPPE is measured initially at cost. Cost includes the fair value of the consideration given to acquire the asset (net of discounts and rebates) and any directly attributable cost of bringing the asset to working condition for its intended use (inclusive of import duties and taxes).

When infrastructure, property, plant and equipment is acquired by Council at significantly below fair value, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Income Statement during the financial period in which they are incurred

Useful lives of IPPE

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Class of IPPE		Useful Lives
Plant and equipment (inc. office equipment)		5 - 20 years
Buildings and other structures		20 - 100 years
Roads, bridges and footpaths		20 - 120 years
Stormwater drainage	_	80 - 100 years
Car parks		20 - 100 years
Other open space / recreational assets		5 - 20 years
Library books		5 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Revaluation model

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Comprehensive valuations are performed at least every five (5) years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the IPPE revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss relating to that asset class, the increase is first recognised as profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of assets in the same class are first charged against IPPE revaluation reserve to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the class; all other decreases are charged to the Income Statement.

Land under roads

Land under roads is land under roadways and road reserves including land under footpaths, nature strips and median strips.

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008. Land under roads acquired after 1 July 2008 is recognised in accordance with the IPPE accounting policy. Council does not have any land under road that were acquired after 1 July 2008.

Crown reserves

Crown reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council categorised within community land. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Improvements on Crown reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

1,347

1,870

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C1-7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are as follows:

\$ '000	2024	2023
Software		
Opening values at 1 July		
Gross book value	3,609	3,609
Accumulated amortisation	(1,739)	(1,292)
Net book value – opening balance	1,870	2,317
Movements for the year		

Amortisation charges	(523)	(447)
Closing values at 30 June		

Closing values at 30 June	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Gross book value		3,609	3,609
Accumulated amortisation		(2,262)	(1,739)
Total software - not book value		1 3/17	1 970

Total Software – Het book value	1,347	1,070

Material accounting policy information

Total intangible assets - net book value

IT development and software

Software development costs include only those costs directly attributable to the development phase (including external direct costs of materials and services, direct payroll, and payroll-related costs of employees' time spent on the project) and are only recognised following completion of technical feasibility, and where the Council has an intention and ability to use the asset. Amortisation is calculated on a straight-line basis over periods generally ranging from three to five years.

Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C2 Leasing activities

C2-1 Council as a lessee

(i) Council as a lessee

Council has leases over office equipment. Information relating to the leases in place and associated balances and transactions is provided below.

Terms and conditions of leases

Office and IT equipment

Leases for office and IT equipment are generally for the threshold for low value assets, except for significant items (such as photocopiers). The leases for Council's photocopiers are on a rolling 12 month basis and the payments are fixed, however certain variable payments apply based on usage.

(a) Income Statement

\$ '000			2024	2023
Expens	ses relating to short-term leases	_	3	28 28
(b)	Statement of Cash Flows			
Total c	ash outflow for leases		3	28
			3	28

(c) Leases at significantly below market value – concessionary / peppercorn leases

Council has leases at significantly below market value for land which are used for parks and open space.

The leases of these types are generally for terms between 2 and 10 years and require payments of nominal amounts not exceeding \$1,000 per annum.

The use of the right-of-use asset is restricted by the lessors to specified community services which Council must provide, these services are detailed in the leases.

None of the leases in place are individually material from a Statement of Financial Position or Performance perspective.

Material accounting policy information

At inception of a contract, Council assesses whether a lease exists – i.e. does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration?

Council has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

At the lease commencement, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where Council believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives received. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially recognised at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Council's incremental borrowing rate for a similar term with similar security is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is re-measured when there is a lease modification, or change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI).

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C2-1 Council as a lessee (continued)

Where the lease liability is re-measured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the re-measurement.

Exceptions to lease accounting

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases at significantly below market value / Concessionary leases

Council has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from the concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated lease liability at initial recognition.

C2-2 Council as a lessor

\$ '000	2024	2023
Maturity analysis of undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for all operating leases:		
Maturity analysis of future lease income receivable showing the undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for operating leases:		
< 1 year	1,030	760
1–2 years	680	662
2–3 years	552	572
3–4 years	482	501
4–5 years	435	297
> 5 years	2,828	2,472
Total undiscounted lease payments to be received ^a	6,007	5,264

⁽a) These leases relate to council owned properties that are leased to external parties and community groups.

Material accounting policy information

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either an operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risks and rewards have been transferred then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

When Council has a sub-lease over an asset and is the intermediate lessor then the head lease and sub-lease are accounted for separately. The classification of the sub-lease is based on the right-of-use asset which arises from the head lease rather than the useful life of the underlying asset.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components then the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers.

The lease income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C3 Liabilities of Council

C3-1 Payables

	2024	2024	2023	2023
\$ '000	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Payables				
Goods and services – operating expenditure	1,623	_	1,746	_
Accrued expenses:				
 Salaries and wages 	513	_	223	_
 Other expenditure accruals 	478	_	1,108	_
Security bonds, deposits and retentions	13,719	_	12,956	_
Prepaid rates	361	_	394	_
Other	152	_	_	_
Total payables	16,846	_	16,427	_
Total payables	16,846		16,427	_

Current payables not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

\$ '000			2024	2023
The following liabilities, even though classified as cur the next 12 months.	rrent, are not expected t	o be settled in		
Payables – security bonds, deposits and retentions			13,719	12,956
Total payables			13,719	12,956

Material accounting policy information

Council measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Council comprise trade payables.

Item CCS1 - Attachment 2

Payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to Council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C3-2 Contract Liabilities

2024	2024	2023	2023
Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
6,060	-	8,354	-
6,060	_	8,354	_
		378	_
	_	378	_
6,060	_	8,732	_
	6,060 6,060	6,060 – 6,060 – - – – –	Current Non-current Current 6,060 - 8,354 - - 378 - - 378

⁽¹⁾ Council receives funding to construct assets including sporting facilities, bridges, library and other infrastructure. The funds received are under an enforceable contract which require Council to construct an identified asset which will be under Council's control on completion. The revenue is recognised as Council constructs the asset and the contract liability reflects the funding received which cannot yet be recognised as revenue. The revenue is expected to be recognised in the next 12 months. The contract liability relates to grants received prior to the revenue recognition criteria being satisfied since the performance obligations are ongoing.

Material accounting policy information

Contract liabilities are recorded when consideration is received from a customer / fund provider prior to Council transferring a good or service to the customer, Council presents the funds which exceed revenue recognised as a contract liability.

C3-3 Borrowings

	2024	2024	2023	2023
\$ '000	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Loans – secured 1	548	6,452		
Total borrowings	548	6,452		

⁽¹⁾ Loans are secured over the general rating income of Council. Disclosures on liability interest rate risk exposures, fair value disclosures and security can be found in Note 20.

Current borrowings not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

The following borrowings, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.

(a) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

	2023			2024			
\$ '000	Opening Balance	Cash flows	Acquisition	Fair value changes	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy		Closing balance
Loans – secured Total liabilities from financing		7,000	_				7,000
activities		7,000	_	_	_	_	7,000

(b) Financing arrangements

\$ '000	2024 2	2023
---------	---------------	------

Total facilities

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⁽²⁾ This includes fees received in advance for development applications that were not determined as at balance date.

Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C3-3 Borrowings (continued)

\$ '000	2024	2023
Total financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:		
Credit cards/purchase cards	70	70
Total financing arrangements	70	70
Drawn facilities		
Financing facilities drawn down at the reporting date are:		
Undrawn facilities		
Undrawn financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:		
- Credit cards/purchase cards	61	13
Total undrawn financing arrangements	61	13



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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

C3-4 Employee benefit provisions

	2024	2024	2023	2023
\$ '000	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Annual leave	1,523	-	1,498	_
Sick leave	15	_	16	_
Long service leave	2,241	560	1,832	458
ELE on-costs	417	51	439	_
Total employee benefit provisions	4,196	611	3,785	458

Current employee benefit provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

\$ '000		2024	2023
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not in the next 12 months. Provisions – employees benefits	expected to be settled	2,204	1,642
		2,204	1,642

Material accounting policy information

Employee benefit provisions are presented as current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position if Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur and therefore all annual leave and vested long service leave (or that which vests within 12 months) is presented as current.

Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service) are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave and accumulating sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

On-costs

The employee benefit provisions include the aggregate on-cost liabilities that will arise when payment of current employee benefits is made in future periods.

These amounts include superannuation, payroll tax and workers compensation expenses which will be payable upon the future payment of certain leave liabilities which employees are entitled to at the reporting period.

C4 Reserves

C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves

Revaluation reserve

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE) revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements in the revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D Risks and accounting uncertainties

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital. The finance team manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors. Council has an investment policy which complies with the s 625 of the Act and the Ministerial Investment Order. The policy is regularly reviewed by Council and a monthly investment report is provided to Council setting out the make-up performance of the portfolio as required by local government regulations.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

The fair value of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amount.

(a) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise rates, annual charges, and user charges and fees.

Council manages the credit risk associated with these receivables by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures. Council also encourages ratepayers to pay their rates by the due date through certain incentives.

The credit risk for liquid funds and other short-term financial assets is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable financial institutions with high quality external credit ratings.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk to Council due to the nature of Council operations.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council periodically and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance. The balances of receivables that remain within initial trade terms are considered to be of high credit quality.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying amount of each class of receivable in the financial statements

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

Credit risk profile

Item CCS1 - Attachment 2

Receivables - rates and annual charges

Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to recover these debts as a secured charge over the land; that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages payment.

	Not yet			
\$ '000	overdue	< 5 years	≥ 5 years	Total
2024				
Gross carrying amount	623	1,606	_	2,229
2023				
Gross carrying amount	_	1,566	_	1,566

Receivables - non-rates and annual charges and contract assets

Council applies the simplified approach for non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets to provide for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision at inception. To measure the expected credit losses, non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The loss allowance provision is determined as follows. The expected credit losses incorporate forward-looking information.

	Not yet		Overdue de	bts		
\$ '000	overdue	0 - 30 days	31 - 60 days	1 - 90 days	> 91 days	Total
2024						
Gross carrying amount	2.947	14	2	3	77	3,043
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	87.50%	2.21%
	0.0070	0.0070	0.0070	0.0070		
ECL provision			<u> </u>		67	67
2023						
Gross carrying amount	1,532	42	20	53	152	1,799
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	87.50%	7.39%
ECL provision	_				133	133

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(b) Liquidity risk

Payables are subject to liquidity risk; that is, the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels, and by maintaining an adequate cash buffer. Payment terms can be extended, and overdraft facilities drawn upon in extenuating circumstances.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk: the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk through diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

\$ '000	Weighted average interest rate	Subject to no maturity	≤1 Year	payable in: 1 - 5 Years	5 Years	Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
2024							
Payables (excluding prepaid							
rates)	0.00%	_	13,719		_	13,719	16,846
Borrowings	5.24%	_	548	2,499	3,953	7,000	7,000
Total financial liabilities			14,267	2,499	3,953	20,719	23,846
2023							
Payables (excluding prepaid							
rates)	0.00%		16,033			16,033	16,033
Total financial liabilities		4	16,033	_	_	16,033	16,033



Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D2-1 Fair value measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

		Fair value measurement hierarchy										
\$ '000			Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total					
	Notes	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023					
Populating foir volue m	o o o u vom o n te	_	•									
Recurring fair value m	easurement	5										
Infrastructure, property, plant and												
equipment	C1-6											
Plant & equipment		_		3,679	3.338	3,679	3,338					
Office equipment		_	_	2,058	2,239	2,058	2,239					
Operational land		77,592	77,592			77,592	77,592					
Community land		_		49,503	49,503	49,503	49,503					
Land improvements				10,000	,	,	,					
(non-depreciable)		_	—	841	_	841	_					
Buildings		-	_	69,251	54,072	69,251	54,072					
Roads		_ /	_	126,487	113,334	126,487	113,334					
Bridges			-	8,646	5,975	8,646	5,975					
Footpaths		-		28,748	24,830	28,748	24,830					
Bulk earthworks												
(non-depreciable)		-	-	38,830	36,841	38,830	36,841					
Stormwater drainage		_	_	61,563	55,640	61,563	55,640					
Car parks			_	5,938	5,582	5,938	5,582					
Other open space /												
recreational assets		-	_	33,035	42,885	33,035	42,885					
Library books	_	_		308	336	308	336					
Total infrastructure,												
property, plant and equipment		77 502	77 500	420 007	204 575	E06 470	470 467					
equipinent		77,592	77,592	428,887	394,575	506,479	472,167					

Valuation techniques

Where Council is unable to derive fair valuations using quoted market prices of identical assets (ie. level 1 inputs) Council instead utilises a spread of both observable inputs (level 2 inputs) and unobservable inputs (level 3 inputs).

The fair valuation techniques Council has employed while utilising level 2 and level 3 inputs are as follows:

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

Plant & Equipment and Office Equipment

The purchase cost of Plant & Equipment and Office Equipment are taken as their fair value. There has been no change to the valuation techniques during the reporting period.

Operational Land

A comprehensive valuation of Council's operational land was undertaken at 30 June 2022 by an external valuer and further followed up with a desktop assesment at 30 June 2024.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Operational land has been valued at market value, having regard to the "highest and best use", after identifying all elements that would be taken into account by buyers and sellers in settling the price.

Since professional judgements were required to determine the inputs, these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 2 valuation inputs. There has been no change to the valuation techniques during the reporting period.

Community Land

Council's community land was valued based on the Land Value (LV) provided by Valuer-General valuation.

Where the Valuer-General did not provide LV an average unit rate based on the LV for similar community land was used, having regard to the highest and best use for the land.

Land Under Roads

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008 in accordance with AASB 1051.

Buildings

Council's buildings were valued utilising the current replacement cost approach by an external valuer at 30 June 2024.

The approach estimated the replacement cost of each building and componentising of significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. The unit rates could be supported by market evidence and other inputs (such as estimates of residual value, useful life and asset condition) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value.

As such, these assets have been valued using Level 2 and 3 inputs. There has been no change to the valuation techniques during the reporting period.

Roads, Bridges, Footpaths

A full external revaluation of Council's transport assets (including roads, bridges, footpaths) were undertaken by an external valuers as at 30 June 2023. An independent firm was engaged to undertake condition assessments.

Roads include carriageway, roadside shoulders, kerbs and gutters, and roadside assets such as bus shelters, round-a-bouts, signs and street furniture. The cost approach using level 3 inputs was used to value this asset class. As no market based evidence (Level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

There has been no change to the valuation methodology during the reporting period.

Stormwater Drainage

Assets within this class comprise pits, pipes, open channels, headwalls and other water quality devices. The "cost approach" estimates the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While the unit rates based on linear metres or certain daiameter pipes and prices per pit or similar could be supported from extensive professional judgement and market evidence.

A revaluation was undertaken as at 30 June 2024 by an external valuer.

Car Parks

Car parks include surface area and pavement, kerbs and gutters, layback and landscaping. The cost approach using level 3 inputs was used to value this asset class. An external revaluation was undertaken as at 30 June 2023. No market based evidence (Level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

Other Open Space and Recreational Assets

Assets within this class have been valued by an external valuer at fair value comprising of regional sporting and recreational facilities and playgrounds, park furniture, amenities and fittings (picnic tables, shelters, seats, bollards, fences, BBQ's, etc).

Extensive professional judgement has been required to determine the final fair value of assets. Valuation of Council's other open space and recreational assets was undertaken as at 30 June 2024 by an external valuer.

Library Books

Library Books are valued at cost. The carrying amounts of these assets are assumed to approximate fair value due to the nature of the items. There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

A reconciliation of the movements in recurring fair value measurements allocated to Level 3 of the hierarchy is provided below:

\$ '000	2024	2023
Opening balance	345,072	383,942
Total gains or (losses) for the period - Revaluation surplus / (decrement)	21,255	(36,780)
Other movements		, ,
Additions (Purchases) (GBV)	16,649	5,872
Disposals (WDV)	(2,251)	(2,488)
Depreciation and impairment	(9,447)	(8,834)
Other movement - Transfers from WIP	8,107	3,360
Closing balance	379,385	345,072

Highest and best use

All of Council's non-financial assets, except community land, are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

Community land is being utilised in a manner that differs from its highest and best use due to standing legal restrictions on the permissable usage of the land based on the Local Government Act 1993.



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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D3-1 Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED

1. Guarantees

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans

Council is party to an Industry Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B (the Scheme) which is a defined benefit plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for purposes of AASB119 Employee Benefits for the following reasons:

- · Assets are not segregated within the sub-group according to the employees of each sponsoring employer.
- The contribution rates have been the same for all sponsoring employers. That is, contribution rates have not varied for
 each sponsoring employer according to the experience relating to the employees of that sponsoring employer.
- Benefits for employees of all sponsoring employers are determined according to the same formulae and without regard to the sponsoring employer.
- · The same actuarial assumptions are currently used in respect of the employees of each sponsoring employer.

Given the factors above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers, and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members).

A description of the funding arrangements, including the method used to determine the entity's rate of contributions and any minimum funding requirements.

Pooled Employers are required to pay future service employer contributions and past service employer contributions to the

The future service employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current future service employer contribution rates are:

Division B	1.9 times member contributions for non-180 Point Members; Nil for 180 Point Members*
Division C	2.5% salaries
Division D	1.64 times member contributions

^{*} For 180 Point Members, Employers are required to contribute 8.5% of salaries for the year ending 30 June 2024 (increasing to 9.0% in line with the increase in the Superannuation Guarantee) to these members' accumulation accounts, which are paid in addition to members' defined benefits.

The past service contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total past service contributions of \$20.0 million per annum for 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024, apportioned according to each employer's share of the accrued liabilities as at 30 June 2023. These past service contributions are used to maintain the adequacy of the funding position for the accrued liabilities.

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each triennial actuarial investigation and monitored annually between triennials.

A description of the extent to which the entity can be liable to the plan for other entities' obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan:

As stated above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

However, there is no relief under the Fund's trust deed for employers to walk away from their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the plan when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding past service contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the entity.

(c) a description of any agreed allocation of a deficit or surplus on:

(i) wind-up of the plan

There are no specific provisions under the Fund's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

(ii) the entity's withdrawal from the plan

There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of an employer.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D3-1 Contingencies (continued)

The amount of employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Fund and recognised as an expense for the year ending 30 June 2024 was \$134,018.10. The last formal valuation of the Fund was undertaken by the Fund Actuary, Richard Boyfield FIAA as at 30 June 2023.

The amount of past service contributions in the total employer contribution advised above is \$42,835.59. The expected contributions to the Fund for the next annual reporting period are \$91,308.99.

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2024 is:

Defined Benefit Reserves Only*	\$ Millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	2,237.5	
Past Service Liabilities	2,141.9	104.5%
Vested Benefits	2,159.8	103.6%

^{*} excluding other accumulation accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities

The key economic assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment Return	6.0% per annum				
Salary Inflation	3.5% per annum	7			
Increase in CDI	3.5% for FY23/24				
Increase in CPI	2.5% per annum thereafter				

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program; however, any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group. Please note that the estimated employer reserves financial position above is a preliminary calculation, and once all the relevant information has been received by the Funds Actuary, the final end of year review will be completed by December 2024.

(ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

(iv) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

2. Other liabilities

(i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

D3-1 Contingencies (continued)

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

(ii) Potential land acquisitions due to planning restrictions imposed by Council

Council has classified a number of privately owned land parcels as local open space or bushland.

As a result, where notified in writing by the various owners, Council will be required to purchase these land parcels.

At reporting date, reliable estimates as to the value of any potential liability (and subsequent land asset) from such potential acquisitions has not been possible.

ASSETS NOT RECOGNISED

(i) Land under roads

As permitted under AASB 1051, Council has elected not to bring to account land under roads that it owned or controlled up to and including 30 June 2008.



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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

E People and relationships

E1 Related party disclosures

E1-1 Key management personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel (KMP) of the council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

\$ '000	2024	2023
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	1,157	728
Post-employment benefits	109	70
Other long-term benefits	36	24
Total	1,302	822

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Council has determined that transactions at arm's length between KMP and Council as part of KMP using Council services (e.g. access to library or Council swimming pool) will not be disclosed. There are no other transactions between the Council and the KMP's and their related parties.

E1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

\$ '000	2024	2023
The aggregate amount of Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses		
included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:		
Mayoral fee	53	53
Councillors' fees	164	157
Other Councillors' expenses (including Mayor)	38	47
Total	255	257

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

365

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E2 Other relationships

E2-1 Audit fees

Total audit fees

9'000	2024	2023
During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms		
Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:		
(i) Audit services		
Audit of financial statements	340	143
Remuneration for audit services	340	143
Total Auditor-General remuneration	340	143
Non NSW Auditor-General audit firms:		
(i) Audit and other assurance services		
Internal audit	25	130
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	25	130
		100
Total remuneration of non NSW Auditor-General audit firms	25	130



Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

F Other matters

F1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

Ø 1000	2024	2023
\$ '000	2024	2023
Net operating result from Income Statement	14,884	3,898
Add / (less) non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	9,971	9,282
(Gain) / loss on disposal of assets	1,674	1,90
Non-cash capital grants and contributions	(5,600)	-
WIP expensed (written-off)	531	-
Movements in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:		
(Increase) / decrease of receivables	(1,907)	1,167
Increase / (decrease) in provision for impairment of receivables	(54)	104
(Increase) / decrease of inventories	(8)	26
(Increase) / decrease of other current assets	4	98
Increase / (decrease) in payables	(123)	1,024
Increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	(2,672)	2,544
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefit provision	564	(577)
Net cash flows from operating activities	17,806	19,471
F2-1 Commitments		
Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)		
\$ '000	2024	2023
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Property, plant and equipment		
Road infrastructure	3,798	2,395
Buildings	219	306
Plant and equipment	813	162
Other community infrastructure	203	208

Details of capital commitments

These expenditures are payable as follows:

Total commitments

Within the next year

Total payable

Capital commitments represent the committed but unspent component of capital projects that are currently in progress.

F3-1 Events occurring after the reporting date

Council is unaware of any material or significant 'non-adjusting events' that should be disclosed.

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3,071

3,071

3,071

63

5,096

5,096

5,096

Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

F4 Statement of developer contributions

F4-1 Summary of developer contributions

	Opening	Contributio	ons received during the year		Interest and			Held as	Cumulative balance of internal
\$ '000	balance at 1 July 2023	Cash	Non-cash Land	Non-cash Other	investment income earned	Amounts expended	Internal borrowings	restricted asset at 30 June 2024	borrowings (to)/from
Parking	426	_	_	_	17	(9)	_	434	_
Community facilities	(537)	1,085	_	_	. 22	(9)	_	570	_
Roads and traffic facilities	749	315	_	_	39	(83)	_	1,020	_
Major open space	1,531	4,785	_	_	253	. 7	-	6,569	_
Local open space	4,799	2,872	_	_	307	_	-	7,978	_
Administration	341	103	_	- /	14	(100)	_	358	_
S7.11 contributions – under a plan	7,309	9,160	-	_	652	(192)	-	16,929	-
S7.12 levies – under a plan	8,797	1,360	_	_	406	_	_	10,563	_
Total S7.11 and S7.12 revenue under plans	16,106	10,520	- (-	1,058	(192)	_	27,492	-
S7.11 not under plans	890	_	_		36	_	_	926	_
Total contributions	16,996	10,520	_	-	1,094	(192)	_	28,418	_

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, Council has significant obligations to provide Section 7.11 (contributions towards provision or improvement of amenities or services) infrastructure in new release areas. It is possible that the funds contributed may be less than the cost of this infrastructure, requiring Council to borrow or use general revenue to fund the difference.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

F4-2 Developer contributions by plan

	Opening	Contribution	s received during the year		Interest and			Held as	balance of intern
	balance at	Cash	Non-cash Land	Non-cash	investment	Amounts	Internal	restricted	borrowin
3'000	1 July 2023			Other	income earned	expended	borrowings	asset at 30 June 2024	(to)/fr
CONTRIBUTION PLAN 2010 - DIRE	ECT								
Community facilities	(537)	1,085	_	_	22	-	_	570	
Administration	341	103	-	-	14	(100)	_	358	
Roads and traffic facilities	749	315	-	-	39	(83)	-	1,020	
Vlajor open space	1,531	4,785	-	-	253	_	-	6,569	
_ocal open space	4,799	2,872		_	307	_		7,978	
Total _	6,883	9,160	_	_	635	(183)	_	16,495	
CONTRIBUTION PLAN 1993									
Parking	426	_	_	_	17	(9)	_	434	
	426	_	_	_	17	(9)	_	434	
_	120					(0)			
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR	RIBUTIONS PLAN – 2010								
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR	RIBUTIONS PLAN – 2010	1 360	-		406	_	_	10.563	
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy	RIBUTIONS PLAN – 2010 8,797	1,360 1,360			406 406	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	10,563 10,563	
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy	RIBUTIONS PLAN – 2010	1,360 1,360		-		-		10,563 10,563	
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy	RIBUTIONS PLAN – 2010 8,797					<u>-</u>			
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy – Fotal –	8,797 8,797	1,360		P		<u>-</u>			
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy – Fotal –	RIBUTIONS PLAN – 2010 8,797	1,360				<u>-</u> -			
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy Fotal –	8,797 8,797 8 not under plans	1,360				<u>-</u> -	<u>-</u> _		
CONTRIBUTIONS – NOT UNDER A	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans	1,360			406	<u>-</u> -		10,563	
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy Total F4-3 Contributions CONTRIBUTIONS - NOT UNDER A Parking	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans	1,360			406	<u>-</u> -		10,563	
PARTITION OF THE PARTIT	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans	1,360		-	406	_ 	<u>-</u>	10,563	
PARTITION OF THE PARTIT	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans	1,360		-	406			10,563	
PARTITION OF THE PARTIT	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans	1,360		-	406			10,563	
F4-3 Contributions CONTRIBUTIONS - NOT UNDER A Parking Fotal	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans 8,790 8 not under plans 8,790 8,790	1,360		-	406			10,563	
F4-3 Contributions CONTRIBUTIONS - NOT UNDER A Carking Cotal	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans 8,790 8 not under plans 8,790 8,790	1,360		-	406			10,563	
F4-4 S7.4 planning	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans 8,790 8 not under plans 8,790 8,790	1,360		-	406			10,563	
NDIRECT DEVELOPMENT CONTR General levy Total F4-3 Contributions CONTRIBUTIONS – NOT UNDER A	8,797 8,797 8,797 8 not under plans 8,790 8 not under plans 8,790 8,790	1,360		5,600	406			10,563	

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

F5 Statement of performance measures

F5-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results

	Amounts	Indicator	Indic	ators	Benchmark
\$ '000	2024	2024	2023	2022	
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses 1,2	(6,160)	(12.08)%	(16.23)%	(7.87)%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹	50,990	, ,	, ,	, ,	
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding all grants and contributions ¹ Total continuing operating revenue ¹	48,141 73,653	65.36%	72.40%	76.88%	> 60.00%
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities	30,509 6,047	5.05x	4.32x	3.31x	> 1.50x
4. Debt service cover ratio					•
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹ Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	3,811	80	∞	∞	> 2.00x
5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage					
Rates and annual charges outstanding Rates and annual charges collectable	2,435 38,787	6.28%	4.86%	4.39%	< 5.00%
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	62,544	17.51	12.77	13.30	> 3.00
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	3,571	months	months	months	months

⁽¹⁾ Excludes fair value increments on investment properties, reversal of revaluation decrements, reversal of impairment losses on receivables, net gain on sale of assets and net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method and includes pensioner rate subsidies

End of the audited general purpose financial statements

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⁽²⁾ Excludes impairment/revaluation decrements of IPPE, fair value decrements on investment properties, net loss on disposal of assets and net loss on share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method

Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Independent Auditor's Reports:

On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [2])

Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (opinion) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).



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Strathfield Municipal Council | Notes to the Financial Statements 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Independent Auditor's Reports: (continued)

On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [3])

Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (commentary) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).



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Strathfield Municipal Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Statement by Councillors and Management

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the NSW Government Policy Statement, 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government',
- the Division of Local Government Guidelines, 'Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality'.
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year, and
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 22 October 2024.

John-Paul Baladi

Mayor

22 October 2024

Michael Mamo

General Manager

22 October 2024

Responsible Accounting Officer

22 October 2024

Item CCS1 - Attachment 3 Page

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Strathfield Municipal Council

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2024



Strathfield Municipal Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Contents	Page
Statement by Councillors and Management	3
Special Purpose Financial Statements:	
Income Statement of the Hudson Park Driving Range	4
Statement of Financial Position of the Hudson Park Driving Range	5
Note – Material accounting policy information	6
Auditor's Report on Special Purpose Financial Statements	8

Background

- i. These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.
- ii. The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.
 - Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.
- iii. For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.
 - These include (a) those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and (b) those activities with a turnover of more than \$2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).
- iv. In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must (a) adopt a corporatisation model and (b) apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).

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Strathfield Municipal Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- · the NSW Government Policy Statement, 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government',
- the Division of Local Government Guidelines, 'Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality'
- · the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- · present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year, and
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 22 October 2024.

John-Paul Baladi
Mayor
22 October 2024

Michael Mamo
General Manager
22 October 2024

Rodney Sanjivi
Responsible Accounting Officer
22 October 2024

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Income Statement of the Hudson Park Driving Range | for the year ended 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Income Statement of the Hudson Park Driving Range

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	2024 Category 1	2023 Category 1
Income from continuing operations		
User fees and charges	1,977	1,794
Other income	7	7
Total income from continuing operations	1,984	1,801
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	586	516
Materials and services	185	260
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	231	78
Total expenses from continuing operations	1,002	854
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	982	947
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	982	947
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	982	947
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	(246)	(237)
Surplus (deficit) after tax	736	710
Plus accumulated surplus Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:	5,578	4,631
Corporate taxation equivalent Add:	246	237
Less: – Dividend paid	(200)	
Closing accumulated surplus	(220) 6,340	5,578
Sissing assumanted outplus	0,340	5,576
Return on capital %	15.5%	17.0%



Strathfield Municipal Council | Statement of Financial Position of the Hudson Park Driving Range | as at 30 June 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Statement of Financial Position of the Hudson Park Driving Range as at 30 June 2024

\$ '000	2024 Category 1	2023 Category 1
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Inventories	7	5
Total current assets	7	5
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	6,333	5,573
Total non-current assets	6,333	5,573
Total assets	6,340	5,578
Net assets	6,340	5,578
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	6,281	5,578
Revaluation reserves	59	´ _
Total equity	6,340	5,578



Strathfield Municipal Council | Special Purpose Financial Statements 2024

Note – Material accounting policy information

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the special purpose financial statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act* 1993 (Act), the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Regulation) and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accrual basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, fair value of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government. The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'. *The Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality* issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, and returns on investments (rate of return and dividends paid).

Declared business activities

In accordance with Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

Category 1

(where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million)

Hudson Park Golf Driving Range

A business activity involves the supply of goods and services for a fee or charge for the purposes of making a profit.

Category 2

(where gross operating turnover is less than \$2 million)

Nil

Taxation equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs. However, where Council does not pay some taxes which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in Special Purpose Finanncial Statements. For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate - 25%

Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Special Purpose Financial Statements 2024

Note – Material accounting policy information (continued)

Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested.

Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level - gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the corporate income tax rate, currently 25%.

Income tax is only applied where a gain/ (loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved.

Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to Council as the 'owner' of business operations - it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council. Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS.

The rate applied of 25% is the equivalent company tax rate prevalent at reporting date. No adjustments have been made for variations that have occurred during the year.

Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges for all Category 1 businesses has been applied to all assets owned, or exclusively used by the business activity.

Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council business activities face 'true' commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors. In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council's borrowing rate for its business activities.

(i) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations. The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statements of business activities.

(ii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses 'would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field'.

Funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies. The rate of return is disclosed for each of Council's business activities on the Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

Operating result before capital income + interest expense

Written down value of I,PP&E as at 30 June

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 4.30% at 30/6/24.

(iii) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself (as owner of a range of businesses) or to any external entities.

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Strathfield Municipal Council | Special Purpose Financial Statements 2024

Strathfield Municipal Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024



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CCS2 INVESTMENT REPORTS - AUGUST 2024 & SEPTEMBER 2024

AUTHOR: Salma Tandukar, Accountant

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That the record of cash investments as at 31 August 2024 and 30 September 2024 be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To submit Council's record of cash investments as at 31 August 2024 and 30 September 2024 pursuant to Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

Investment Allocation and Performance:

Investment Portfolio as at 31 August 2024:

Call Accounts	Allocation (%)	Amount (\$)
Term Deposits	71	50,000,000
Cash At Bank and At Call Investment	29	19,586,518
Total Investments		69,586,518

Note: Investment Portfolio details are listed in the attachment

As at the end of 31 August 2024, the portfolio was mainly directed to fixed term deposits (71%). The remaining portfolio is directed to various cash accounts (29%) for current liquidity needs.

Investment Portfolio as at 30 September 2024:

Call Accounts	Allocation (%)	Amount (\$)
Term Deposits	73	50,00,0000
Cash At Bank and At Call Investment	27	18,495,879
Total Investments		68,495,879

Note: Investment Portfolio details are listed in the attachment

As at the end of 30 September 2024, the portfolio was mainly directed to fixed term deposits (73%). The remaining portfolio is directed to various cash accounts (27%) for current liquidity needs.



Council's performance for the month ending at 31 August 2024 and 30 September 2024 are summarised as follows:

August 2024

Performance

Council's performance for the month ending August 2024 is summarised as follows:

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.36%	1.08%	2.17%	0.73%	4.32%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.38%	1.11%	2.22%	0.75%	4.39%
Council's T/D Portfolio^	0.36%	1.05%	2.09%	0.71%	3.96%
Rel. Performance	-0.01%	-0.05%	-0.13%	-0.04%	-0.42%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	4.35%	4.35%	4.35%	4.35%	4.32%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	4.54%	4.46%	4.44%	4.52%	4.39%
Council's T/D Portfolio^	4.36%	4.25%	4.19%	4.27%	3.96%
Rel. Performance	-0.18%	-0.21%	-0.26%	-0.24%	-0.42%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

For the month of August, the total investment portfolio (excluding cash) provided a return of +0.36% (actual) or +4.36% p.a. (annualised), slightly underperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.38% (actual) or +4.54% p.a. (annualised). This relative underperformance is due to the aggressive rate hikes undertaken by the RBA when Council continues to hold several long-term TDs at lower interest rates. This underperformance will continue in the short-term.

Council's deposit portfolio was yielding 4.25% p.a. (up 8bp from the previous month), with a weighted average duration of 300 days (~10 months).

Council has earned interest revenue totalling \$423,646 as at 31 Aug 2024, being 16.78% of the full year projected budget of \$2,524,000.



September 2024

Performance

Council's performance for the month ending September 2024 is summarised as follows:

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.35%	1.08%	2.16%	1.08%	4.34%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.36%	1.11%	2.21%	1.11%	4.41%
Council's T/D Portfolio^	0.35%	1.06%	2.09%	1.06%	4.03%
Rel. Performance	-0.01%	-0.06%	-0.12%	-0.06%	-0.38%

ATotal portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	4.35%	4.35%	4.35%	4.35%	4.34%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	4.45%	4.50%	4.45%	4.50%	4.41%
Council's T/D Portfolio^	4.37%	4.26%	4.21%	4.26%	4.03%
Rel. Performance	-0.08%	-0.24%	-0.24%	-0.24%	-0.38%

ATotal portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

For the month of September, the total investment portfolio (excluding cash) provided a return of +0.35% (actual) or +4.37% p.a. (annualised), slightly underperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.36% (actual) or +4.45% p.a. (annualised). This relative underperformance is due to the aggressive rate hikes undertaken by the RBA when Council continues to hold several long-term TDs at lower interest rates. This underperformance will continue in the short-term.

Council's deposit portfolio was yielding 4.25% p.a. (unchanged from the previous month), with a weighted average duration of 297 days (-10 months).

Council has earned interest revenue totalling \$660,328 as at 30 Sep Aug 2024, being 26.16% of the full year projected budget of \$2,524,000.

As at the date of preparing this report, Council's financial reserves has not been finalised as the 30 June 2024 (1 July 2024) opening balances are currently undergoing audit. These figures will be included in a future Council investment report.

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

The Chief Financial Officer as the Responsible Accounting 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 2021* and Council's Investment Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.



ATTACHMENTS

- 1.1. Investment Report August 2024
- 2.1 Investment Report September 2024



Investment Report

01/08/2024 to 31/08/2024



Portfolio Valuation as at 31/08/2024

Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/05/2023	04/09/2024	4.8000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	124,142.47	8,153.42
ICBC Sydney Branch	Α	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	17/06/2024	17/09/2024	5,0100	2,000,000,00	2,000,000,00	20,863,56	8,510,14
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	30/10/2024	1.3500	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	6,287.67	5,732.88
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/11/2024	5.0000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	6,849.32	6,849.32
ICBC Sydney Branch	Α	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/08/2024	08/11/2024	5.0400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,313.97	3,313.97
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/03/2023	04/12/2024	4.9300	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	146,684.38	8,374.25
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/06/2023	15/01/2025	5.1700	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	192,069.04	13,172.88
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	29/08/2023	05/02/2025	5.1800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	104,735.34	8,798.90
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/09/2023	05/03/2025	5,1000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000,00	101,161,64	8,663,01
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/09/2023	16/04/2025	5.0800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	100,486.58	8,629.04
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	19/05/2025	1.0000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	2,849.32	849.32
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	04/06/2025	5.3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	91,681.10	9,138.63
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	16/07/2025	5.3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	91,681.10	9,138.63
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	24/07/2024	24/07/2025	5,3500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	5,716.44	4,543.84
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/08/2025	5.0500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,458.90	3,458.90
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	13/08/2025	5.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	75,506.85	8,832.88
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	10/09/2025	5,1500	2,000,000,00	2,000,000.00	74,780,82	8,747,95
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	29/10/2025	1.5900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,962.19	2,700.82



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Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	14/11/2025	4.9600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	4,892.05	4,892.05
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	21/01/2026	4.8700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	42,429.04	8,272.33
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	13/02/2026	4.8100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	4,744.11	4,744.11
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	18/03/2026	4,8000	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	62,728.77	12,230.14
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	15/05/2026	1.3000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,704.11	1,104.11
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	GENERAL	Annual	14/08/2024	14/08/2026	4.7000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	4,635.62	4,635.62
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	28/10/2026	1,8200	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	3,390,68	3,091,51
Macquarie Bank	A+	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	31/08/2024	31/08/2024	4.6500	1,257,765.93	1,257,765.93	4,967.31	4,967.31
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	31/08/2024	31/08/2024	4.1000	9,162,995.07	9,162,995.07	15,777.44	15,777.44
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	31/08/2024	31/08/2024	4,3500	9,165,758.48	9,165,758,48	37,870,68	37,870,68
TOTALS								69,586,519.48	69,586,519.48	1,340,370.51	225,194.07

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Portfolio by Asset as at 31/08/2024

Asset Type: CASH

Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Macquarie Bank	A+	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	31/08/2024	31/08/2024	4,6500	1,257,765.93	1,257,765.93	4,967,31	4,967.31
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	31/08/2024	31/08/2024	4.1000	9,162,995.07	9,162,995.07	15,777.44	15,777.44
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	31/08/2024	31/08/2024	4.3500	9,165,758.48	9,165,758.48	37,870.68	37,870.68
CASH SUBTOTALS								19,586,519.48	19,586,519.48	58,615.44	58,615.44

Asset Type: TD

Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	18/05/2023	04/09/2024	4,8000	2,000,000,00	2,000,000,00	124,142,47	8,153,42
ICBC Sydney Branch	Α	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	17/06/2024	17/09/2024	5,0100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	20,863.56	8,510.14
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	30/10/2024	1.3500	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	6,287.67	5,732.88
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/11/2024	5.0000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	6,849.32	6,849.32
ICBC Sydney Branch	Α	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/08/2024	08/11/2024	5,0400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,313.97	3,313,97
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/03/2023	04/12/2024	4.9300	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	146,684.38	8,374.25
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/06/2023	15/01/2025	5.1700	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	192,069.04	13,172.88
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	29/08/2023	05/02/2025	5,1800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	104,735,34	8,798.90
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/09/2023	05/03/2025	5.1000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	101,161.64	8,663.01

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Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/09/2023	16/04/2025	5.0800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	100,486.58	8,629.04
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	19/05/2025	1.0000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	2,849.32	849.32
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	04/06/2025	5.3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	91,681.10	9,138.63
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	16/07/2025	5,3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	91,681.10	9,138.63
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	24/07/2024	24/07/2025	5.3500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	5,716.44	4,543.84
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/08/2025	5.0500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,458.90	3,458.90
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	13/08/2025	5,2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	75,506,85	8,832,88
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	10/09/2025	5.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	74,780.82	8,747.95
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	29/10/2025	1.5900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,962.19	2,700.82
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	14/11/2025	4,9600	2,000,000,00	2,000,000.00	4,892,05	4,892,05
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	21/01/2026	4.8700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	42,429.04	8,272,33
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	13/02/2026	4.8100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	4,744.11	4,744.11
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	18/03/2026	4,8000	3,000,000,00	3,000,000.00	62,728,77	12,230,14
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annua l	18/05/2021	15/05/2026	1,3000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,704.11	1,104.11
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	GENERAL	Annual	14/08/2024	14/08/2026	4.7000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	4,635.62	4,635.62
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	28/10/2026	1.8200	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	3,390.68	3,091.51
TD SUBTOTALS								50,000,000.00	50,000,000.00	1,281,755.07	166,578.63



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Portfolio by Asset Totals as at 31/08/2024

Туре	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
CASH	19,586,519.48	19,586,519.48	58,615.44	58,615.44
TD	50,000,000,00	50,000,000,00	1,281,755,07	166,578,63
TOTALS	69,586,519.48	69,586,519.48	1,340,370.51	225,194.07



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Counterparty Compliance as at 31/08/2024

Long Term Investments

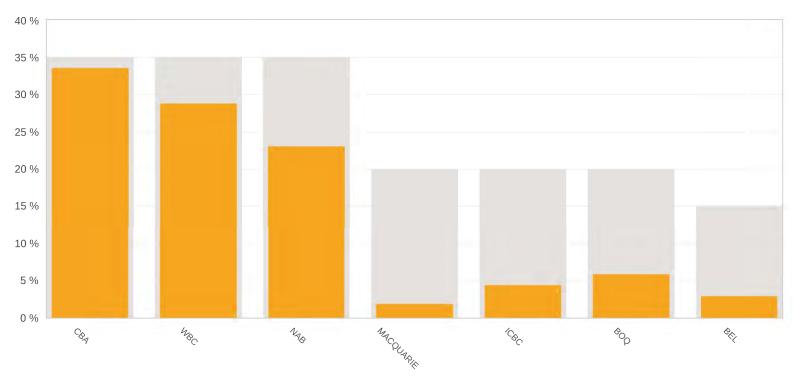
Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
4	Commonwealth Bank	Long	AA-	23,328,753.55	33.52	35.00	-	1,026,528.27
4	Westpac	Long	AA-	20,000,000,00	28,74	35,00	-	4,355,281,82
4	NAB	Long	AA-	16,000,000.00	22.99	35.00	-	8,355,281.82
4	Macquarie Bank	Long	A+	1,257,765.93	1.81	20.00	-	12,659,537.97
4	ICBC Sydney Branch	Long	А	3,000,000.00	4.31	20.00	-	10,917,303.90
4	BOQ	Long	A-	4,000,000.00	5.75	20.00	-	9,917,303.90
4	Bank of Us	Long	BBB+	2,000,000.00	2,87	15.00	-	8,437,977.92
TOTALS				69,586,519.48	100.00			



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Counterparty Compliance - Long Term Investments



✓ IMPERIUM MARKETS
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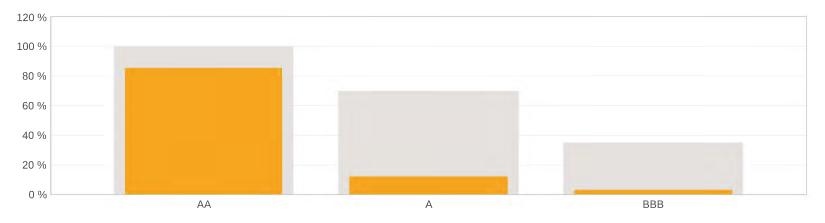


Credit Quality Compliance as at 31/08/2024

Long Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available (\$)
~	AA	59,328,753.55	85.26	100.00	10,257,765.93
*	А	8,257,765,93	11,87	70,00	40,452,797.71
~	ВВВ	2,000,000.00	2.87	35.00	22,355,281.82
TOTALS		69,586,519.48	100.00		

Credit Quality Compliance - Long Term Investments



✓ IMPERIUM MARKETS

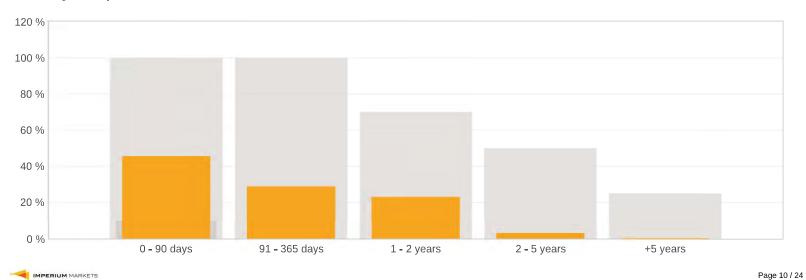
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Maturity Compliance as at 31/08/2024

Compliant	Term	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available (\$)
4	0 - 90 days	31,586,519.48	45.39	10.00	100.00	38,000,000.00
4	91 - 365 days	20,000,000.00	28,74	0,00	100,00	49,586,519.48
4	1 - 2 years	16,000,000.00	22.99	0.00	70.00	32,710,563.64
4	2 - 5 years	2,000,000.00	2.87	0.00	50.00	32,793,259.74
4	+5 years	-	0.00	0.00	25.00	17,396,629.87
TOTALS		69,586,519.48	100.00			

Maturity Compliance





Investment Report

01/09/2024 to 30/09/2024



Portfolio Valuation as at 30/09/2024

Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	30/10/2024	1.3500	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	11,835.62	5,547.95
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/11/2024	5,0000	2,000,000,00	2,000,000,00	15,068,49	8,219,18
ICBC Sydney Branch	Α	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/08/2024	08/11/2024	5.0400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,456.44	4,142.47
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/03/2023	04/12/2024	4.9300	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	154,788.49	8,104.11
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/06/2023	15/01/2025	5.1700	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	204,816.99	12,747.95
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	29/08/2023	05/02/2025	5.1800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	113,250.41	8,515.07
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/09/2023	05/03/2025	5.1000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	109,545.21	8,383.56
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/09/2023	16/04/2025	5.0800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	108,837.26	8,350.68
Suncorp Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	25/09/2024	15/05/2025	5,0000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000,00	1,643,84	1,643.84
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	19/05/2025	1.0000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,671.23	821.92
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	04/06/2025	5,3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	100,524.93	8,843.84
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	16/07/2025	5,3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	100,524.93	8,843.84
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	24/07/2024	24/07/2025	5.3500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	10,113.70	4,397.26
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/08/2025	5,0500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,609.59	4,150.68
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	13/08/2025	5.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	84,054.79	8,547.95
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	10/09/2025	5.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	83,246.58	8,465.75
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	29/10/2025	1,5900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	5,575,89	2,613,70
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	14/11/2025	4.9600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	13,045.48	8,153.42



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Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	04/09/2024	04/12/2025	4.8400	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	7,160.55	7,160.55
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	21/01/2026	4.8700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	50,434.52	8,005.48
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	13/02/2026	4.8100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	12,650.96	7,906.85
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	18/03/2026	4,8000	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	74,564.38	11,835.62
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	15/05/2026	1.3000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	4,772.60	1,068.49
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	GENERAL	Annual	14/08/2024	14/08/2026	4.7000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	12,361.64	7,726.03
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	28/10/2026	1,8200	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	6,382,47	2,991,78
Macquarie Bank	A+	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/09/2024	30/09/2024	4.6500	1,267,532.64	1,267,532.64	4,808.32	4,808.32
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/09/2024	30/09/2024	4.1000	8,062,588.27	8,062,588.27	31,915.27	31,915.27
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/09/2024	30/09/2024	4,3500	9,165,758.48	9,165,758.48	32,770,73	32,770,73
TOTALS								68,495,879.39	68,495,879.39	1,373,431.30	236,682.26

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Portfolio by Asset as at 30/09/2024

Asset Type: CASH

Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Macquarie Bank	A+	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/09/2024	30/09/2024	4,6500	1,267,532,64	1,267,532,64	4,808.32	4,808.32
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/09/2024	30/09/2024	4.1000	8,062,588.27	8,062,588.27	31,915.27	31,915.27
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	30/09/2024	30/09/2024	4.3500	9,165,758.48	9,165,758.48	32,770.73	32,770.73
CASH SUBTOTALS								18,495,879.39	18,495,879.39	69,494.32	69,494.32

Asset Type: TD

Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	30/10/2024	1,3500	5,000,000,00	5,000,000,00	11,835,62	5,547,95
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/11/2024	5,0000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	15,068.49	8,219.18
ICBC Sydney Branch	Α	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/08/2024	08/11/2024	5.0400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,456.44	4,142.47
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/03/2023	04/12/2024	4.9300	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	154,788.49	8,104.11
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/06/2023	15/01/2025	5,1700	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	204,816.99	12,747,95
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	29/08/2023	05/02/2025	5.1800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	113,250.41	8,515.07
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/09/2023	05/03/2025	5.1000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	109,545.21	8,383.56
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/09/2023	16/04/2025	5,0800	2,000,000,00	2,000,000,00	108,837,26	8,350,68
Suncorp Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	25/09/2024	15/05/2025	5.0000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	1,643.84	1,643.84

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Issuer	Rating	Туре	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	19/05/2025	1.0000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	3,671.23	821.92
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	04/06/2025	5.3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	100,524.93	8,843.84
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/10/2023	16/07/2025	5.3800	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	100,524.93	8,843.84
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	24/07/2024	24/07/2025	5,3500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	10,113.70	4,397.26
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	07/08/2024	07/08/2025	5.0500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	7,609.59	4,150.68
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	13/08/2025	5.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	84,054.79	8,547.95
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	11/12/2023	10/09/2025	5,1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	83,246,58	8,465.75
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	29/10/2025	1.5900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	5,575.89	2,613.70
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	14/11/2025	4.9600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	13,045.48	8,153.42
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	04/09/2024	04/12/2025	4,8400	2,000,000,00	2,000,000.00	7,160,55	7,160,55
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	21/01/2026	4.8700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	50,434.52	8,005.48
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/08/2024	13/02/2026	4.8100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	12,650.96	7,906.85
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	26/03/2024	18/03/2026	4,8000	3,000,000,00	3,000,000.00	74,564,38	11,835,62
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/05/2021	15/05/2026	1,3000	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	4,772.60	1,068.49
Bank of Us	BBB+	TD	GENERAL	Annual	14/08/2024	14/08/2026	4.7000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	12,361.64	7,726.03
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	27/10/2021	28/10/2026	1.8200	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	6,382.47	2,991.78
TD SUBTOTALS								50,000,000.00	50,000,000.00	1,303,936.99	167,187.95

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Portfolio by Asset Totals as at 30/09/2024

Туре	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
CASH	18,495,879.39	18,495,879.39	69,494.32	69,494.32
TD	50,000,000,00	50,000,000,00	1,303,936,99	167,187.95
TOTALS	68,495,879.39	68,495,879.39	1,373,431.30	236,682.26



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Counterparty Compliance as at 30/09/2024

Long Term Investments

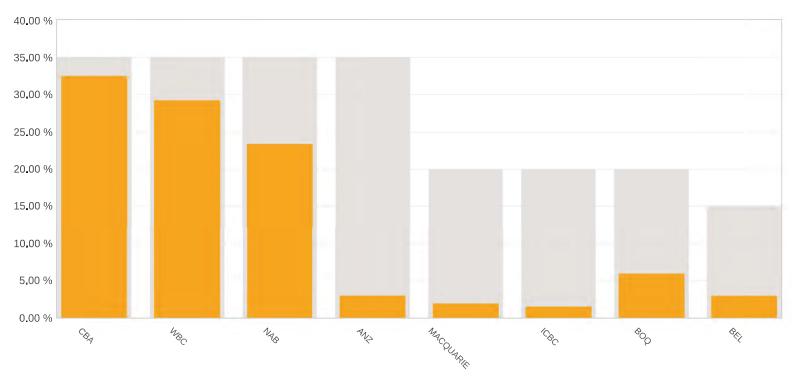
Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
4	Commonwealth Bank	Long	AA-	22,228,346.75	32.45	35.00	-	1,745,211.04
4	Westpac	Long	AA-	20,000,000,00	29,20	35,00	-	3,973,557,79
4	NAB	Long	AA-	16,000,000.00	23.36	35.00	-	7,973,557.79
4	ANZ Bank	Long	AA-	2,000,000.00	2.92	35.00	-	21,973,557.79
4	Macquarie Bank	Long	A+	1,267,532,64	1,85	20,00	-	12,431,643,24
4	ICBC Sydney Branch	Long	А	1,000,000.00	1.46	20.00	-	12,699,175.88
4	воо	Long	Α-	4,000,000.00	5,84	20.00	-	9,699,175.88
4	Bank of Us	Long	BBB+	2,000,000.00	2.92	15.00	<u>-</u>	8,274,381.91
TOTALS				68,495,879.39	100.00			



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Counterparty Compliance - Long Term Investments



TIMPERIUM MARKETS
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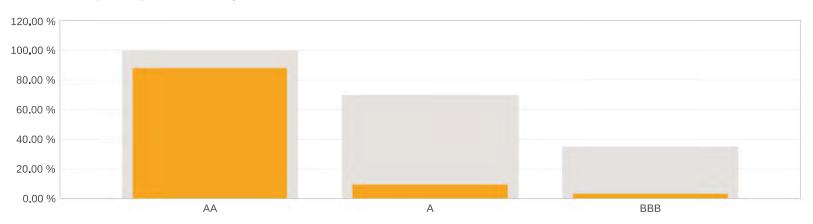


Credit Quality Compliance as at 30/09/2024

Long Term Investments

Compliant	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Available (\$)
~	AA	60,228,346.75	87.93	100.00	8,267,532.64
<	А	6,267,532,64	9,15	70,00	41,679,582,93
~	BBB	2,000,000.00	2.92	35.00	21,973,557.79
TOTALS		68,495,879.39	100.00		

Credit Quality Compliance - Long Term Investments



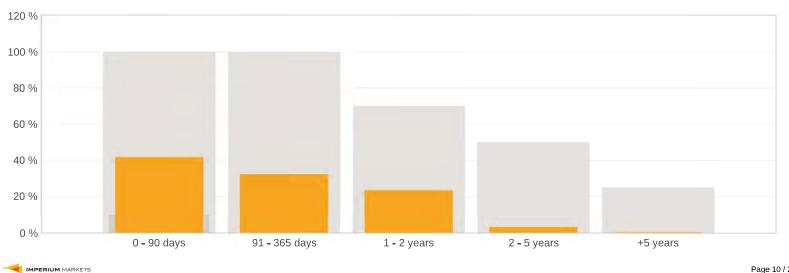
TIMPERIUM MARKETS
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Maturity Compliance as at 30/09/2024

Compliant	Term	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min Limit (%)	Max Limit (%)	Available (\$)
4	0 - 90 days	28,495,879.39	41.60	10.00	100.00	40,000,000.00
4	91 - 365 days	22,000,000.00	32,12	0,00	100,00	46,495,879.39
4	1 - 2 years	16,000,000.00	23.36	0.00	70.00	31,947,115.57
4	2 - 5 years	2,000,000.00	2.92	0.00	50.00	32,247,939.70
4	+5 years	-	0.00	0.00	25.00	17,123,969.85
TOTALS		68,495,879.39	100.00			

Maturity Compliance



Item CCS2 - Attachment 2 Page 190

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CCS3 TENDERS ADVERTISED AND AWARDED AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2024

AUTHOR: David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council tenders advertised and awarded in the months of August, September and October 2024 be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report details Council tenders advertised and awarded in in the months of August, September and October 2024.

REPORT

Tenders advertised in August, September and October 2024

Date Advertised	Date Closing/Closed	Tender Description	Status
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Nil tenders were advertised in the months of August, September and October 2024.

Tenders awarded in August, September and October 2024

Date Awarded	Tender Description	Successful Tenderer
N/A	N/A	N/A

Nil tenders were awarded in the months of August, September and October 2024.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report

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CCS4 CURRENT STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

AUTHOR: David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

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

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report on the current status of Council resolutions.

REPORT

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding will be reviewed in line with the approved budget as actions progress.

ATTACHMENTS

1... Outstanding and Acquitted Council Resolutions

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Outstanding Council Resolution Actions

Meeting Date	Resolution	Subject	Comments
13 August 2024	198/24	Naturalising the Cooks River, Improving Water Quality, and Opening New Open Space	Presented at Councillor Workshop 15 October 2024. To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
13 August 2024	195/24	Review of Tree Management Policy	Presented at Councillor Workshop 15 October 2024. Further reviews of Part of the Strathfield Consolidated DCP 2005 to be undertaken
13 August 2024	196/24	Proposal for Strathfield (Bay) Run along the Cooks River	To go to Council Meeting in February 2025
13 August 2024	197/24	Legal Advice for the Amendment of Council Minutes	To go to Councillor Workshop 12 November 2024
13 August 2024	215/24	Draft Planning Proposal Strathfield Medium Density Housing Strategy	Submitted to Department of Planning for Gateway Determination
13 August 2024	206/24	Building Certification	Report back to Council end of 2024/beginning of 2025
13 August 2024	209/24	Adequate Remuneration for Local Government Representatives	To be considered as part of a budget review process in March 2025
23 July 2024	168/24	Management of Foliage Overhanging Solar Panels	To be considered with Tree Management Policy
23 July 2024	169/24	Review of the Return & Earn in the Strathfield Town Centre	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
23 July 2024	189/24	Report on the Feasibility of Establishing a Dog Park Near Long Street	Awaiting feedback from Sydney Water
23 July 2024	191/24	Battle of Kapyong	To go to Councillor Workshop 12 November 2024

Meeting Date	Resolution	Subject	Comments
23 July 2024	183/24	Homebush, Homebush West and Strathfield South Centres - Proposed Review of Centres	To go to Councillor Workshop 3 December 2024
23 July 2024	188/24	Report on Council Resolutions that are Considered in Development Application Recommendations in the Planning Process	To go to the Council Meeting 10 December 2024
25 June 2024	152/24	Lighting Proposal for Fitzgerald Reserve	Lighting proposal sent to Sydney Water
25 June 2024	142/24	Mayoral Minute 04/24 - Provision of Additional Recycle and Waste Education Programs for 2024/2025	To go to the Council Meeting 10 December 2024
28 May 2024	109/24	Special Meeting for the Organisation of Council's ANZAC Day Celebration	Meeting to be organised in 2025
23 April 2024	101/24	Strathfield Council Land and Property Strategy (LAPS) Tender T12-2023	To go to Councillor Workshop 3 December 2024
23 April 2024	81/24	Community Energy Upgrades Grant	Awaiting decision
26 March 2024	63/24	Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Audit	Policy on exhibition
26 March 2024	62/24	Draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024

Meeting Date	Resolution	Subject	Comments
14 November 2023	287/23	Review of Part A – Dwelling Houses and Ancillary Structures Amendment of the Strathfield Consolidated Development Control Plan 2005	To go to Council Meeting February 2025
14 November 2023	289/23	Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012: Amendments Planning Proposal	To be presented to Councillor Workshop and Meeting November 2024
6 December 2022	257/22	Mayoral Minute 27/22 - Resilient Sydney Mayoral Summit on Affordable Housing	Affordable Housing and Contributions Strategies being developed
1 November 2022	237/22	Community Garden in Strathfield South	Matter to be considered as part of the Recreation and Wellness Strategy
1 November 2022	239/22	Shade Covers Over Playgrounds	Matter to be considered as part of the Recreation and Wellness Strategy
4 October 2022	245/22	DCP Environmental Changes	Part P Heritage update exhibition period complete and update presented to Councillor Workshop 15 October 2024

Acquitted Council Resolutions

Meeting Date	Resolution	Subject	Comments
13 August 2024	213/24	Draft Infrastructure Contributions Plan	Public exhibition period ended on 8 October 2024. Complete
13 August 2024	212/24	Draft Electrical Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy	General Manager to sign off if no submissions received by end of exhibition period
13 August 2024	205/204	Draft Customer Experience (CX) Strategy	Completed and published on website
13 August 2024	199/24	Rate Variation and Infrastructure Communication	Communication completed in October 2024. Communication sent via newsletter and Council's website
13 August 2024	210/24	Request for a Report to Establish new Friendship Cities with Strathfield Council	Correspondence signed by Mayor and sent
23 July 2024	110/24	Community Safety Strategy	Community Safety Strategy 2024-2028 adopted
23 July 2024	179/24	Destroy (Through Appropriate and Considered Regulation) the Pokies	To be considered as part of the Community Wellbeing Strategy
25 June 2024	155/24	Medical Room – 4/52 Redmyre Road, Strathfield	Licence executed
25 June 2024	145/24	Availability and Number of Automated External Defibrillators in Strathfield LGA	Report presented to Council Meeting 13 August 2024. Correspondence sent
25 June 2024	156/24	Invitation from Strathfield Council to Support the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank	Correspondence sent
28 May 2024	139/24	Strathfield Urban Forest - Strategies to Increase Tree Canopy	Resolution superseded by resolution 195/24

Meeting Date	Resolution	Subject	Comments
28 May 2024	138/24	Amendment of Minutes for Council Meeting on 6 December 2022	Report presented to Council Meeting 13 August 2024
23 April 2024	75/24	Request for a Report to Establish new Friendship Cities with Strathfield Council	Resolution superseded by resolution 210/24
27 February 2024	5/24	Pickleball Court in Strathfield	Design included in WSIG funded Strathfield Park Project Plan
27 February 2024	7/24	Private Certification - Planning and Development	Report presented to Council Meeting 13 August 2024. Correspondence sent
1 August 2023	206/23	Provision of Gym Equipment in Strathfield Park	Design included in WSIG funded Strathfield Park Project Plan
1 August 2023	205/23	Installation of Bollard Lighting Airey Park	To be considered as part of WestInvest Masterplan process.
4 July 2023	181/23	Hudson Park Golf Driving Range - Extension of Hours	Report presented to Council Meeting 13 August 2024



CCS5 TABLING OF ANNUAL DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER

MATTERS RETURN - CLAUSE 4.21

AUTHOR: David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report concerning tabling of Annual Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and Other Matters Returns.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To table the Annual Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and Other Matters Returns submitted by Councillors and Designated Persons in accordance with clause 4.21 and Schedule 1 of Council's Code of Conduct.

REPORT

Clause 4.21 of Council's Code of Conduct requires Councillors and Designated Persons to submit a Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and Other Matters Return within 3 months after:

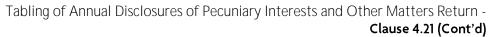
- a) Becoming a Councillor or Designated Person, and
- b) 30 June each year, and
- c) The Councillor or Designated Person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule that 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraphs (a) or (b).

A Designated Person is described under Clause 4.8 of Council's Code of Conduct as:

- a) The General Manager.
- b) Other senior staff of the Council for the purposes of section 332 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- c) A person (other than a member of the senior staff of the Council) who is a member of staff of the Council or a delegate of the Council and who holds a position identified by the Council as the position of a Designated Person because it involved the exercise of functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the person's duty as a member of staff or delegate and the person's private interest.
- d) A person (other than a member of the senior staff of the Council) who is a member of a committee of the Council identified by the Council as a committee whose members are Designated Persons because the functions of the committee involved the exercise of the Council's functions (such as a regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the member's duty as a member of the committee and the member's private interest.

Returns required to be lodged with the General Manager under clause 4.21(a) and (b) must be tabled at the next Council Meeting after the return is lodged being 22 October 2024. All returns will be publicly available on Council's website in accordance with legislation and the recently adopted policy on the "Returns Disclosing the Interest of Councillors and Designated Persons Policy" with any personal information redacted should the applicant apply due to privacy and safety concerns.

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The Councillors and Designated Persons Registers for 2023/2024 are attached to this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1.1. Councillors Register 2023/2024
- 2.1 Designated Persons Register 2023/2024

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Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and Other Matters - Code of Conduct Clause 4.21 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024

COUNCILLORS REGISTER

Councillors	Name	Date
Councillor	Karen Pensabene	8/10/2024
Councillor	Matthew Blackmore	4/10/2024
Councillor	Nella Hall	
Councillor	Raj Datta	
Councillor	Sandy Reddy	11/06/2024
Councillor	Benjamin Cai	8/10/2024
Councillor	Sharangan Maheswaran	

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests and Other Matters - Code of Conduct Clause 4.21 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

DESIGNATED PERSONS REGISTER

Division	Designated Persons	Date
Corporate and Community	Senior Payroll Officer	
Corporate and Community	Community Development Officer	27/09/2024
Corporate and Community	Chief Librarian	13/08/2024
Corporate and Community	Systems and Innovation Specialist	
Corporate and Community	Senior Rates Officer	27/05/2024
Corporate and Community	Manager, People and Culture	19/08/2024
Corporate and Community	Manager, Library & Community Services	
Corporate and Community	Community Development Officer	23/09/2024
Corporate and Community	Coordinator Finance Administration	N/A
Corporate and Community	Customer Service Team Leader	N/A
Corporate and Community	Procurement Coordinator	30/08/2024
Corporate and Community	Chief Safety and Risk Officer	20/08/2024
Corporate and Community	Manager, Governance and Procurement	30/06/2024
Corporate and Community	Chief Financial Officer	
Corporate and Community	Manager, Digital, Information and Customer	23/09/2024
Corporate and Community	Director, Corporate & Community	
Corporate and Community	Procurement Officer	4/10/2024
Engineering and Operations	Project Manager	11/10/2024
Engineering and Operations	Civil Works Coordinator	14/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Building Facilities Supervisor	15/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Civic and Open Space Coordinator	15/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Engineering & Operations Administration	12/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Development Control and Flooding Engineer	4/10/2024
Engineering and Operations	Project Manager	
Engineering and Operations	Coordinator, Waste Services	24/09/2024
Engineering and Operations	Engineering	13/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Manager, Engineering	4/10/2024
Engineering and Operations	Operations Administration	30/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Urban Forest	27/09/2024
Engineering and Operations	Depot & Store Operations	4/10/2024
Engineering and Operations	Strategic Property Officer	19/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Capital Works Administration	28/08/2024
Engineering and Operations	Project Manager	
Engineering and Operations	Principal Asset and Design Engineer	23/09/2024
Engineering and Operations	Building Facilities Supervisor	N/A
Office of the General Manager	Chief Strategy Officer	3/07/2024
Office of the General Manager	Manager, Communications & Events	
Office of the General Manager	General Counsel	23/09/2024

Office of the General Manager	General Manager	16/08/2024
Office of the General Manager	Manager, Communications & Events	19/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Ranger	
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	
Planning and Environment	Coordinator, Compliance & Regulatory Services	30/05/2024
Planning and Environment	Landuse Planning & Operations Coordinator	20/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	13/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Place Planning Coordinator	12/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Executive Planner, Development Assessment	30/05/2024
Planning and Environment	Planner	13/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Parking	17/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Ranger	10/10/2024
Planning and Environment	Senior Planner	13/06/2024
Planning and Environment	Senior Planner	
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Parking	21/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Director, Planning & Environment	4/10/2024
Planning and Environment	Urban Designer	15/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Ranger	17/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	17/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Senior Regulatory Officer	12/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	12/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Planner and Heritage Advisor	16/09/2024
Planning and Environment	Senior Regulatory Officer	21/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	21/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Parking	23/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Parking	
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	
Planning and Environment	Senior Development Assessment Planner	
Planning and Environment	Planning Portal Administrator	24/09/2024
Planning and Environment	Manager, Planning and Place	23/09/2024
Planning and Environment	Senior Development Compliance Officer	18/06/2024
Planning and Environment	Manager, Resilience and Compliance	3/09/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Ranger	18/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Regulatory Officer - Night Ranger	18/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Development Assessment Planner	16/08/2024
Planning and Environment	Senior Strategic Planner	N/A
Planning and Environment	Development Compliance Officer	N/A
Planning and Environment	Senior Compliance Officer	N/A
Planning and Environment	Student Planner	N/A
Planning and Environment	Executive Planner, Strategic Planning	15/08/2024



CCS6 MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS STATISTICS 2023/2024

AUTHOR: David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Statistics on Code of Conduct complaints received by Council are required to be reported to Council and the Office of Local Government (OLG) within three (3) months of the end of September each year as set out in section 11.1 of the Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct. The OLG collates and aggregates reports from all Councils for publication on the OLG's website.

REPORT

Code of Conduct Complaint Statistics for the reporting period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024:

Total Number of Code of Conduct (CoC)	
complaints made about Councillors and the	1
General Manager	
Number of CoC complaints referred to a Conduct	1
Reviewer	1
Number of CoC complaints finalised by a Conduct	0
Reviewer at the preliminary assessment stage	U
Number of CoC complaints investigated by a	1
Conduct Reviewer	l l
Without identifying particular matters, the	Apology
outcome of investigations completed	Apology
Number of matters reviewed by the Office of	
Local Government (OLG) and without identifying	0
particular matters, the outcome of reviews	
Total cost dealing with CoC complaints made	
about Councillors and the General Manager,	\$4,250
including staff costs	

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

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CCS7 NSW PUBLIC LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION NOMINATION OF COUNCILLOR

REPRESENTATIVE

AUTHOR: Jack Britton, Chief Librarian

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council nominates a Councillor to be its elected representative on the NSW Public Libraries Association.

2. That Council allocates expenditure from Councillors Conferences & Seminars budget in FY2025/2026 for attendance of the annual SWITCH Conference.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Membership of NSW Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA) requirements include having an elected Councillor be a representative to the Association.

Notify of the next upcoming AGM for NSW Public Libraries Association on Friday 15 November 2024.

REPORT

The NSWPLA is a representative body of Public Libraries of NSW, having an advocacy role on behalf of local government libraries to state and federal government, in local government forums, and where appropriate, to other bodies and the wider community. All NSW Councils are members of the NSWPLA.

The Objectives of the Association are:

- 1. To represent the concerns and interests of local government public libraries to Federal, State and local government sectors
- 2. To foster and encourage networking, collaboration and joint/collaborative projects in areas identified for research and development by the sector
- 3. To participate in policy setting forums in relation to public library development
- 4. To encourage, maintain, support and develop strategic alliances with the State Library of NSW and other key sector agencies
- 5. To foster and develop programs that support skills development for members
- 6. To research and develop marketing strategies that promote the value of public libraries

Membership of the NSWPLA is open to all Councils in NSW who have adopted the *NSW Library Act 1939*, as amended. Each member of the Association is required to advise the Executive Officer the names and addresses of persons nominated to be its authorised representatives at meetings of the Association.

At least one of a member Council's authorised representatives is required to be an elected Councillor ("the councillor representative") with the nominated Library Officer.

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(Cont'd)

The Executive of the Association is led by a President and Vice-President elected at the Association's AGM with eligibility restricted to those member representatives who are elected Councillors. Further details on the structure and function of the Executive are provided within the NSWPLA Rules and NSWPLA Procedures, available on the NSWPLA website: https://nswpla.org.au/#who_are_we

Under the terms of the Association, Councillor involvement is encouraged with the Association President and Vice-president required to be filled by Councillors. Appointed Councillor representatives will be invited to:

- All quarterly meetings of the Association, ordinarily in February, May and August
- The Annual General Meeting, next occurring on 15 November 2024
- Annual Public Library SWITCH conference, next available to be held in November 2025

At any point the nominated Councillor cannot attend the Association's Executive Officer may be notified for an alternate Councillor to attend.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

Budget Item	Approved Budget	
Association membership	\$1,720 ex GST	

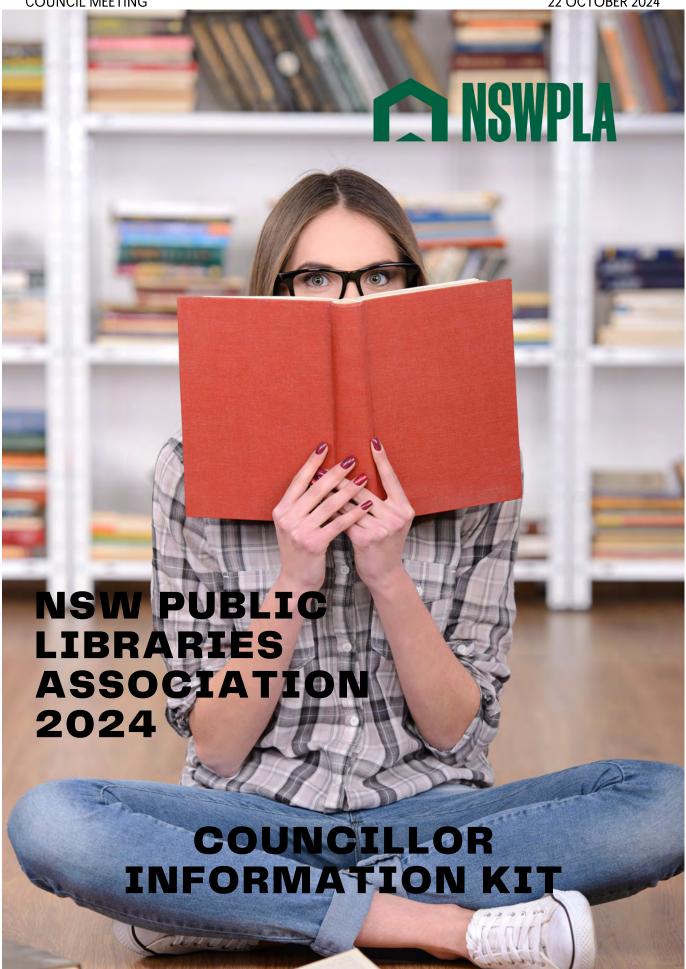
Funding to be allocated in the 2025/26 budget for this purpose.

Budget Item	Estimated Expenditure
Conference 2025 attendance fees	\$1,000 ex GST
	Plus, associated travel costs

ATTACHMENTS

1.J NSW Public Libraries Australia - Information Pack 2024

Item CCS7 Page 205



The peak body for public libraries across **NSW** providing Advocacy, Network Opportunities, Professional Development, Collaboration and Recognition

About NSWPLA

NSWPLA is the only state based library association in Australia that was formed by councillors, includes councillors in its executive committee, and has a membership exclusively of councils. 100% of NSW councils are currently members of NSWPLA. This point of difference provides NSWPLA with a broader political focus, including a strong relationship with Local Government NSW.

The Association depends on councillors for its ongoing prosperity, and strongly encourages the engagement of councils and councillors to support the betterment of the 362 libraries across the state.

The Renew Our Libraries funding campaign in 2018/19 resulted in an additional \$60m funding for NSW libraries over the 4-year period 2019/20–2022/23, the largest single increase in funding for NSW libraries since the introduction of the NSW Library Act in 1939.

History

NSWPLA was formed in July 2014 when the former New South Wales Metropolitan Public Libraries Association (NSWMPLA) and the country association, Public Libraries New South Wales (PLNSW), amalgamated. The amalgamation was undertaken to strengthen the voice for public libraries in New South Wales.

PLNSW and NSWMPLA were based on two very different philosophies. The former was a political association that was established in 1989 (as the NSW Country Public Libraries Association – CPLA) when councillors voted to form an association to lobby the state government for a more equitable funding model for country libraries. NSWMPLA emerged from the Metropolitan Chief Librarians' Committee that had previously been the Sydney Chief Librarians' Committee. It was an association that provided professional support to the network through its working parties and publications.

NSWPLA was based largely on the constitution of PLNSW, as one of the main reasons for the amalgamation was to engage metropolitan councillors to add strength to the political voice for lobbying and advocacy – at that time a funding campaign prior to the 2015 NSW election.

NSWPLA is the only Australian state based library association that includes councillors in the structure of its Executive. Other state associations are professional organisations with a membership of library services rather than councils, reflecting the unique genesis of NSWPLA (through the formation of the CPLA). This point of difference provides NSWPLA with a closer affiliation with the 128 councils across NSW, and the advantage of the associated local government lobbying capacity to support political campaigns

Role

NSWPLA is the peak body for public libraries across NSW. The role of the Association is to:

- · Advocate and lobby for the NSW public library network
- Initiate strategic partnerships
- Champion the public library cause
- Build trust and support
- Provide relevant information
- Foster cooperation and collaboration
- Strengthen the public library network

Membership

Full membership to the Association is open to all Local Government Councils in NSW that have adopted the NSW Library Act 1939. Whilst libraries and their services are a key focus of NSWPLA, it is Councils that are the members of the association. Councils provide the vast majority of funding for the provision of library services, and campaigning for better funding is a key role of NSWPLA. The Association currently enjoys 100% membership of NSW Councils, which provides a clear imprimatur for NSWPLA to represent the interests of NSW libraries as their recognised peak body.

Membership Representation

There are three levels of NSWPLA representation:

- Elected representatives: Councillors, who can lobby government and make political comment to strengthen advocacy campaigns. They are also a key to strengthening the partnership of the Association with Local Government New South Wales (LGNSW).
- Council Management representatives, who provide the link from the Association into Council and can inform council of the work of the Association.
- Library Managers, who provide the professional advice that forms the basis for the work of the Association.

The membership is key to the success of the Association.

Associate Membership

Associate Membership is open to any individual or organisation with an interest in the public library sector and community development.

NSWPLA Executive Structure

As outlined in the NSWPLA Constitution Part 3 Clause 15, the Executive comprises of:

- President
- Two Vice Presidents
- Two Library Managers
- Secretary/Treasurer

The Executive is elected from the member representatives in accordance with Clause 15(1) of the constitution. The President and Executive Officer represent NSWPLA on the <u>NSW</u> <u>Public Libraries Consultative Committee</u>, a sub-committee of the Library Council of NSW.

Executive Priorities

Executive continues to focus on the strategic growth and development of the Association. Key areas of attention are:

- Fostering higher levels of engagement and participation by metropolitan councillors
 who had little involvement in the previous Metropolitan Public Libraries Association,
 which was primarily a professional organisation for library managers until its merger
 with the NSW Country Public Libraries Association in 2014 to form NSWPLA.
- Maintaining the current 100% membership of the Association by NSW councils through representation of the Executive at all meetings of the 8 NSWPLA Zones.
- Strengthening the strategic alliance between NSWPLA and Local Government NSW to further political capacity of the Association.
- Activating the key strategies of the NSWPLA Strategic Plan 2021-2025, Identity, Advocacy and Connections:
 - Identity Strengthen the NSWPLA identity so that it projects one voice to members, stakeholders and communities raising the profile of public libraries across NSW.
 - Advocacy Public libraries offer vibrant spaces in which all community members can meet, learn and play. They provide essential community learning and social services to every community in NSW.
 - Connections Create and facilitate opportunities for members and stakeholders to collaborate, cooperate, and share experiences, knowledge, and ideas to ensure that NSW libraries have the capacity to meet the future needs of members and communities.
- Better articulating the Association's value proposition to its membership under the key headings of Professional Development, Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships by including opportunities for our member councils and their staff:

Professional Development

- Annual SWITCH Conference
- Colin Mills Scholarship (biennial)
- Kath Knowles Emerging Leaders Award (biennial)
- Multicultural Excellence Awards (annual)
- Innovation and Outreach Services Awards (annual)
- Life Membership awards (annual)
- Recognition of retiring Library Managers (annual)

- o The Reading Hour
- Summer Reading Club
- o Provision of the Inclusion Resources Program for NSWPLA members
- Provision of the Basecamp electronic communications program to support more effective and inclusive interactions within NSWPLA Zones
- Provision of professional development support to staff of NSWPLA member councils to attend SLNSW offsite training opportunities

Advocacy

- o Establishment and maintenance of a strong network of 8 geographic zones
- An Executive Committee that provides scope to include both elected and library manager representatives from across the state
- An Executive Officer who is employed to undertake a range of administrative, strategic, and support activities on behalf of the Executive Committee and broader membership
- o Various campaigns as required including the Renew Our Libraries funding campaign

Strategic Partnerships

- Alliance with Local Government NSW
- State Library of NSW via representation on Public Libraries Consultative Committee
- Representation on the Australian Public Library Alliance (Sub Committee of Australian Library and Information Association)
- Membership of the Australian Libraries Copyright Council

Executive Officer

NSWPLA contracts an Executive Officer to undertake the administration of the Association, including convening the annual SWITCH Conference. The Executive Officer role provides support to the Executive Committee and is a conduit between the Association and its members. There is an increasing focus on member services, acknowledging that NSWPLA members are the strength of the Association.

NSWPLA Zones

The Association comprises eight (8) zones across the state:

- Central East Zone
- Central West Zone
- North East Zone
- South East Zone
- South West Zone
- Sydney North Zone
- Sydney South Zone
- Sydney West Zone

Each zone consists of member Councils as follows:

Central East Zone

Central Coast Council Cessnock City Council **Dungog Shire Council**

Lake Macquarie City Council

Maitland City Council

Muswellbrook Shire Council Newcastle City Council Port Stephens Council

Singleton Shire Council

Upper Hunter Shire Council

Central West Zone

Bathurst Regional Council Blayney Shire Council **Bogan Shire Council Bourke Shire Council** Brewarrina Shire Council Broken Hill City Council Cabonne Shire Council

Central Darling Shire Council

Cobar Shire Council Coonamble Shire Council Cowra Shire Council **Dubbo Regional Council** Forbes Shire Council Gilgandra Shire Council

Lachlan Shire Council City of Lithgow Council

Mid-Western Regional Council

Moree Plains Shire Council Narromine Shire Council

Oberon Council Orange City Council Parkes Shire Council Walgett Shire Council Warren Shire Council

Warrumbungle Shire Council

Weddin Shire Council

North East Zone

Armidale Regional Council Ballina Shire Council Bellingen Shire Council Byron Shire Council Clarence Valley Council Coffs Harbour City Council Glen Innes Severn Council Gunnedah Shire Council Gwydir Shire Council **Inverell Shire Council** Kempsey Shire Council **Kyogle Council**

Lismore City Council

Midcoast Council

Liverpool Plains Shire Council Nambucca Shire Council Narrabri Shire Council

Port Macquarie-Hastings Council

Richmond Valley Council

Tamworth Regional Council
Tenterfield Shire Council
Tweed Shire Council
Uralla Shire Council
Walcha Council

Bega Valley Shire Council

Eurobodalla Shire Council

South East Zone

Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Kiama Municipal Council
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional
Council
Shellharbour City Council
Shoalhaven City Council
Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Wingecarribee Shire Council
Wollondilly Shire Council
Wollongong City Council
Yass Valley Council

South West Zone Albury City Council

Balranald Shire Council

Berrigan Shire Council Bland Shire Council Carrathool Shire Council Coolamon Shire Council Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council **Edward River Council Federation Council** Greater Hume Shire Council Griffith City Council Hay Shire Council Hilltops Council Junee Shire Council Leeton Shire Council Lockhart Shire Council Murray River Council Murrumbidgee Council Narrandera Shire Council Temora Shire Council Snowy Valleys Council Wagga Wagga City Council Wentworth Shire Council

Sydney Northern

City of Ryde Council
Hornsby Shire Council
Hunters Hill Council
Ku-ring-gai Council
Lane Cove Council
Mosman Municipal Council
North Sydney Council
Northern Beaches Council
Willoughby City Council

Sydney Southern

Bayside Council
Burwood Council
City of Canada Bay
Canterbury-Bankstown Council
Georges River Council
Inner West Council
Randwick City Council
Strathfield Municipal Council
Sutherland Shire Council
Sydney City Council
Waverley Council
Woollahra Municipal Council

Sydney Western

Blacktown City Council
Blue Mountains City Council
Camden Council
Campbelltown City Council
City of Parramatta Council
Cumberland Council
Fairfield City Council
Hawkesbury City Council
The Hills Shire Council
Liverpool City Council
Penrith City Council

NSWPLA Zone Contacts

Central East

Mala Scorse

City of Newcastle

Secretary

mscorse@ncc.nsw.gov.au

Central West

Katherine McAlister

Macquarie Regional Library

Secretary

Kathryn.McAlister@mrl.nsw.gov.au

North East

Kathryn Breward

Clarence Regional Library

Joint Secretary

kathryn.breward@clarence.nsw.gov.au

South East

Pamela McGowan

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Library

Secretary

pamela.mcgowan@qprc.nsw.gov.au

South West

Carina Clement

Albury City Library and Museum

Secretary

cclement@alburycity.nsw.gov.au

Sydney North

Rebecca Browning

Willoughby City Council

Secretary

rebecca.browning@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

Sydney South

Heather Davis

City of Sydney

Secretary

HDavis@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Sydney West

Vicki Edmunds

Blue Mountains City Library

Secretary

vedmunds@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Each Zone has a Chairperson and Secretary. The roles of the Chair and Secretary are pivotal to the success of the organisation and duties of the positions vary across the state depending on the zone requirements. In general, the Chair is the spokesperson for the Zone; is a strong advocate for libraries at local and state levels; works with the NSWPLA Executive on matters that require the input of the wider Association; and is a positive ambassador for the Zone, NSWPLA and libraries in general. The Secretary facilitates Zone meetings; acts as a contact and liaison point between the NSWPLA Executive and the Zone; provides information and support to the NSWPLA executive as required; represents libraries at the Zone level; and is also a strong advocate for the NSW public library network.

It imperative that Zone Presidents and Zone Secretaries are positive ambassadors for libraries within their electorates and zones, and across the wider library network supporting the purpose and values of NSWPLA.

Legislative Framework

NSW public libraries are managed by local authorities (Councils) that have adopted the Library Act 1939. The State Library provides a range of services to public libraries including support and consultancy, as well as being the conduit between the NSW public library network and the state government through the NSW Public Library Consultative Committee.

If the local authority has adopted the Act, and operates its library service in accordance with the requirement of the Act, it is eligible for a subsidy administered by the Library Council of New South Wales. By observing the principles the legislation embodies, local authorities may also be eligible for other financial assistance from the State Government's funding programs. Local Libraries receiveState subsidies and Library Infrastructure grants approved by the Minister on the recommendation of the Library Council.

Amendments to the Library Act 1939, Section 10

The Library Amendment Act 1992 amended section 10 of the Library Act 1939. This section deals with the provisions in relation to public libraries. These amendments were introduced "to make further provisions with respect to the services to be provided free of charge by local libraries; and for related purposes". The amendments ensure that core educational and information services remain free of charge

Public Library Funding

NSW Councils receive funds from the State Government to support the provision of library services across the state in accordance with the Library Act 1939 (NSW), however funding gradually declined over the 38 year period 1980 - 2018. In 1980, state funding met 23.6% of the total cost of operating the 373 public libraries across NSW. By 2016/17 the state contribution had reduced to meet just 7.04% of library operating costs. This was the lowest per-capita contribution of all states in Australia. The level of State Government funding for NSW public libraries reached crisis point in 2017 because the ongoing attrition of state funding for libraries had been ignored by successive NSW governments, leaving local government to bear an ever increasing funding burden.

NSWPLA launched its Renew Our Libraries Campaign in early August 2018 in partnership with Local Government NSW, NSW councils, their libraries and communities. NSW Labor had already committed to a \$50m increase in state funding at its election campaign launch in March 2018. The Liberal Party pledged a \$60m pledge by the end of August2018, to be rolled out over the next term of government (2019-20 to 2022-23). Renew Our Libraries continued until the state election in May 2019 and relaunched in August 2019 with phase two of the campaign, focusing on the future sustainability of library funding through cost of living indexation and protection via inclusion of the new funding arrangements in library legislation.

As a result of the Renew Our Libraries funding campaign, the NSW Library Act 1939 legislates that

\$2.85 per capita will be provided (by 2022/23) to each NSW Council to support its library services. Although this part of the funding formula is not indexed to population growth or the consumer price index (CPI), lobbying is currently underway to index and protect the funding (as discussed above).

Significantly, libraries have become a recognised default access point for online state, federal and often private enterprise services for communities across the state. With a 373-strong network of libraries across the state that all provide internet access, it is not surprising that libraries have assumed this role. In effect, public libraries are subsidising access and support to online services for a broad range of government and non-government enterprises in the absence of any financial contribution for staffing or infrastructure. Accordingly, the problem for NSW communities is that as online services grow and the capacity of libraries to meet the demand for online support diminishes, people who are socially, financially and/or digitally disadvantaged find themselves further isolated from online services.



Contact

New South Wales Public Libraries Association Executive Officer Adele Casey a.casey@nswpla.org.au

For more information go to: NSWPLA.ORG.AU





CCS8 COUNCILLOR WORKSHOP 15 OCTOBER 2024

AUTHOR: Gina Nobrega, Governance and Corporate Support Officer

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to present a summary to Council of the items discussed at the Councillor Workshop held on Tuesday 15 October 2024 and follow up action required.

REPORT

Attendees

Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Cai, Kim (from 5:15pm), Nosworthy and Reddy (from 4:43pm)

Apologies

Councillor Karen Pensabene.

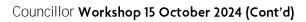
Declarations of Interest

Nil.

The Councillor Workshop commenced at 4:32pm and closed 8:11pm.

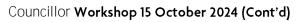
The following items were discussed at the Councillor Workshop held on 15 October 2024:

Item	Title	Attendance	Summary	Follow Up Action
CCS4	Draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Cai, Nosworthy and Reddy. Councillor Kim arrived at the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 5:15pm.	The Manager Governance and Procurement, Amanda Rutherford provided an overview of the Draft Councillor & Staff Interaction Policy, going to the next Council Meeting. Councillors were introduced to Kath Roach of SincSolutions, providing a presentation on Psychosocial Health & Safety advising Councillors how positive and professional working relationships between Councillors and staff being key elements to a Council's success.	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
GMU1	State of the City Report 2024	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Cai, Kim	Councillors were briefed on the State of the City report, required for	To go to Council Meeting 22





Item	Title	Attendance	Summary	Follow Up Action
		Nosworthy and Reddy. Councillor Reddy left the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 5:20pm. Councillor Reddy returned to the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 5:30pm. Councillor Nosworthy left the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 5:44pm.	presentation to incoming Council following the elections of 14 September 2024. Cathy Jones, Chief Strategy Officer gave an overview on what would be provided in more detail on Day 2 of the Councillor Inductions Weekend Workshop Saturday 19 October 2024.)	October 2024
CCS1	Update on Draft Annual Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2024	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Cai, Kim and Reddy. Councillor Nosworthy returned to the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 5:48pm. Councillor Kim left the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 6:07pm. Councillor Reddy left the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 6:22pm.	Council's Chief Financial Officer, Rodney Sanjivi provided Councillors with an update presentation on Council's Draft Annual Financial Statements for Year End 30 June 2024, of which was noted to be the first time such statements would be submitted to the Office of Local Government on time by 31 October. Councillors were encouraged to attend the ARIC meeting of 17 October 2024 where a more detailed report on the Draft Statements will be presented. The Draft Statements will go on exhibition for a minimum period of 14 days before submission to the OLG.	To go to ARIC 17 October and Council Meeting 22 October 2024





Item	Title	Attendance	Summary	Follow Up Action
		Councillor Blackmore left the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 6:24pm.		
CCS2	Monthly Investment Reports to Council	Councillors Baladi, Cai, and Nosworthy. Councillor Reddy returned to the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 6:26pm.	Councillors were briefed by Council's Chief Financial Officer, Rodney Sanjivi on legislative requirements pertaining to monthly investment reports.	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
CCS3	OLG Councillor Conduct and Meeting Practices - New Framework Submission - Due 15 November 24	Councillors Baladi, Cai, Nosworthy and Reddy.	The Manager Governance and Procurement, Amanda Rutherford spoke on draft submission points regarding proposed changes to the Code of Conduct for Councillors by the OLG and potential impact these could have on Councillors and Council.	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
CCS5	NSW Public Libraries Association Nomination of Councillor Representative	Councillors Baladi, Cai, Nosworthy and Reddy.	The General Manager explained the role of the NSW Public Libraries Association plays on behalf of member local government libraries. Council needs to be nominate a representative to the Association for the new term of Council.	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
CCS6	2024 LGNSW Annual Conference	Councillors Baladi, Cai, Nosworthy and Reddy.	Councillors were informed on the upcoming LG NSW Annual Conference to be held in Tamworth, 17 – 19 November 2024. Representatives to attend the Conference as well as voting delegates will need to be selected.	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
PE1	Update - Strathfield Active Travel Survey	Councillors Baladi, Cai, Nosworthy and Reddy.	The Manager Planning and Place, Dylan Porter provided a progress presentation on preliminary results of	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024



Item	Title	Attendance	Summary	Follow Up Action
	and Homebush Movement and Place Project	Councillor Cai left the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 6:48pm.	the Strathfield Active Travel Survey and Homebush Movement and Place Project. An overview of the work in the active travel space across the Strathfield LGA was provided.	
		Councillor Cai returned to the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 6:54pm.		
		Councillor Blackmore returned to the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 7:01pm.		
PE2	Update - Post Exhibition Report - Amendment to Part P - Heritage of Strathfield Development Control Plan 2005	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Cai, Nosworthy and Reddy. Councillor Cai left the meeting during discussion of this item, the time being 7:29pm.	The Manager Planning and Place, Dylan Porter gave a presentation on the outcomes from exhibition of minor amendments to Part P — Heritage of the Strathfield DCP 2005 and the next steps before finalisation of Part P — Heritage. The update will be presented at the next meeting of Council with a further update to be presented to Council in early 2025.	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
EO1	Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space Proposal	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Nosworthy and Reddy.	Director Engineering and Operations, Cathy Edwards-Davis briefed Councillors in response to resolution 198/24 at Council Meeting 13 August 2024, to be presented at the October Council meeting on cost of a feasibility study supporting the Cooks River Upgrade.	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024
EO2	Review Of The Return & Earn In The Strathfield Town Centre	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Nosworthy and Reddy.	Director Engineering and Operations, Cathy Edwards-Davis briefed Councillors on a response to resolution 169/24 at Council Meeting	To go to Council Meeting 22 October 2024



Item	Title	Attendance	Summary	Follow Up Action
EO3	1 Loftus Crescent - Proposed Lease Termination	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Nosworthy and Reddy.	23 July 2024 on the future options for the Return & Earn Initiative to be presented at the October Council meeting. Director Engineering and Operations, Cathy Edwards-Davis informed Councillors about operational issues at 1 Loftus Crescent Homebush.	For Councillor information only
EO4	Strathfield Urban Forest - Strategies to Increase Tree Canopy October 2024	Councillors Baladi, Blackmore, Nosworthy and Reddy.	Councillors were given an overview on a response to resolution 195/24 from Council Meeting 13 August 2024, to be presented at the October Council meeting on clarification on specific changes to Council's Tree Management Policy.	Further reviews of Part O of the Strathfield Consolidated DCP 2005 to be undertaken in the future and report to Council at the appropriate time.

Mayor's Update

 Noting this being the first Councillor Workshop and marking one week since becoming Mayor, Councillor John-Paul Baladi took the opportunity to express his gratitude and excitement at commencing this new term of Council as Mayor of Strathfield.

General Manager's Update

- The General Manager explained to the newly appointed Councillors the intention of Workshops as a forum where they are briefed on key reports prior to a Council meeting.
- Councillors were informed of a closure to the driving range for a period of 3 weeks from 21 October 2024 and another 3 weeks in February 2025. These closures will be in two stages so use of the driving range is not interrupted over Christmas and peak season.
- Council's new website is up and running and the General Manager encouraged feedback from Councillors on their experience with the website and any improvements.
- The General Manager was pleased to provide Council's Staff Engagement Survey results of 81% Favourable and 83% Wellbeing, with staff participation of 94%, compared to the first survey in 2022 with participation of 83%. These outstanding results has gained Strathfield Council an award from the organisers, XREF.
- Strathfield Symphony Orchestra have signed and MOU for use of the Town Hall.
- Some key events to note:
 - o Councillors encouraged to attend an Extraordinary Meeting of the Audit Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC) on Thursday 17 October 2024 at 2pm.
 - o Day 2 of Councillor Induction Weekend Workshop on Saturday 19 October 2024.
 - o Day 3 of Councillor Induction Workshop will possibly run on a weekday, though not yet decided.
 - o The first Citizenship in the new term of Council will be held 29 October 2024 with all Councillors





Item	Title	Attendance	Summary	Follow Up Action
	encouraged to	be present.		

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report



CCS9 2024 LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

AUTHOR: Amanda Rutherford, Manager, Governance & Procurement

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council selects up to four (4) voting delegates for the Conference as follows:

- a. The Mayor
- b. The Deputy Mayor
- c. Two (2) selected Councillors

Note: the above assumes the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will attend.

2. Council confirms all attendees for the 2024 Conference.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Councillors of the timeline for the LG NSW Annual Conference on 17-19 November 2024 and confirm voting delegates and attendance to 2024 Conference.

REPORT

The LG NSW Annual Conference will be held from Sunday 17 to Tuesday 19 November 2024 at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre.

Full details for the Annual Conference are available on the 2024 Annual Conference website at <u>2024 Home LGNSW</u>.

This conference is the main policy making event for the Local Government sector where issues are debated, and motions put forward for consideration by delegates.

Council Motion submission dates

Wednesday 17 July 2024 Motions open via online portal. Members are encouraged to submit motions

as soon as possible.

Friday 15 August 2024 Motion submissions close online. *Note: Council has submitted its motions.*

Voting Deadlines

Wednesday 6 November Voting delegates due.

Attendee Deadlines

Wednesday 6 November General delegates attending due.



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy provides for an annual allocation of \$5,000 per Councillor for Councillor attendance at approved conferences and seminars.

A sufficient budget has been provided for all other claimable expense in attending the conference.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report



CCS10 OLG COUNCILLOR CONDUCT AND MEETING PRACTICES - NEW FRAMEWORK

SUBMISSION - DUE 15 NOVEMBER 24

AUTHOR: Amanda Rutherford, Manager, Governance & Procurement

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

The Council consider the draft submission points regarding the proposed changes to the Code of Conduct for Councillors due 15 November 2024.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council on the potential impacts of the proposed changes to Councillor Conduct Framework proposed by the Office of Local Government (OLG).

REPORT

In September 2024 the Office of Local Government released a Discussion Paper 'Councillor conduct and meeting practices. A new framework' (Attachment 1). Feedback is being sought from Councils and submissions are due 15 November 2024.

The Discussion Paper's key objectives and what is changing are outlined:

What's new or changing

The Councillor Conduct Framework is under review by the OLG with the aim to facilitate and support local decision making. The OLG is seeking feedback from the community, key stakeholders, and the local government sector about the proposed changes. Submissions should be made by 15 November 2024.

What this will mean for council - Key points

The OLG states that strong and thriving communities need effective local government and the Councillor Conduct Framework is under review to ensure that it delivers on the need for transparency and ensures that councillors are visibly in control of their councils.

Councillors should act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interests of the local community. They should be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supportive working environment for staff.

It is intended that the revised Councillor Conduct Framework will be based on the following principles of change:

- council leadership and decision-making is paramount
- freedom of speech is fundamental
- transparency and accountability are maintained
- issues are dealt with at the most immediate or local level
- a strong and proportionate local government regulator
- justice is timely and proportionate
- significant penalties should only be imposed by a judicial or quasi-judicial body.

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Background to the Framework

The OLG has several concerns about the existing framework and has proposed a more streamlined system that will address the following issues that have emerged over the last few years that highlights abuse of the system and lack of transparency etc:

• Lack of transparency in the decision-making process – there is a concern that closed briefing sessions are being used to make decisions away from public view.

The OLG argues that the public should know what information is being used by Councillors in their decision-making process and closed briefing sessions means that information may be considered there that impacts the decisions of Council and they are not apparent to the public when decisions are later made at a Council meeting.

- Weaponisation of the complaints process the OLG has been a growth in trivial complaints that impact the ability of the OLG to adequately deal with Councillors who do abuse their office or cause serious governance problems. The current Code enables too many complaints about Councillors that too often are for political or vexatious reasons.
- Further, the handling of complaints allows an unelected State Government official to determine penalties and guilt and this undermines the status of local government.

The below table outlines the changes proposed under the new framework

ITE	M	CHANGE
1.	Code of Conduct and Oath of Office	A new, more streamlined aspirational Code of Conduct for Councillors will be developed that is based on the NSW Parliament framework which is only 2-3 pages. This would mean that staff would have a separate Code of Conduct to Councillors. This new Code would align with the Oath of Office to ensure behavioural standards and expectations are clear. Critically, it would not restrain Councillors from speaking publicly on matters pertaining to their Council even when they are being critical of or disagreeing with the decisions of the majority.
2.	Changes to the definitions and assessment of councillor misbehaviour	Misbehaviour will be more clearly defined and articulated with the LG Act rather than spread across several regulatory instruments and policy documents to make it easier to navigate. Changes to the definitions of Councillor misbehaviours would emphasise Councillors are community leaders and therefore exemplars of good behaviour. This would incorporate Councillor misbehaviour in public office and have three (3) levels (unbecoming, brings Council into disrepute, assessed as being outside the norms and expectations).
3.	Formation of a 'Privileges Committee'	It is proposed to form a Privileges Committee that would consist of senior experienced mayors and ex-mayors from across NSW to assess complaints. Therefore, peers with at least 2 terms experience would be assessing Councillors thus removing bureaucrats from the decision-making process within politics.
4.	Lobbying Guidelines	The OLG seeks to address inappropriate lobbying by developing lobbying guidelines and a model policy on lobbying for council to adopt.

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ITE	M	CHANGE
5.	Restrictions on Property Developers and real estate agents.	The OLG argues that it can sometimes be impossible to isolate precise interests that would drive a councillor's decision when they are elected officials. This is particularly so when Councillors are Real Estate Agents and Property Developers. While it is not possible to ban anyone from being a Councillor, the model proposed would require Councillors to divest themselves from real estate or development business activities and contractual obligations.
6.	Dispute resolution and penalty framework	Instead of the existing two (2) step process conflict of interest complaints would be made directly to the OLG and misbehaviour complaints would go directly to the Privileges Committee via a dedicated webform. This would mean that there would be no role for privately hired investigators for breach of Code of Conduct matters. The OLG proposes to introduce new Penalty Infringement Notices powers for the OLG for minor or administrative breaches of the conflicts of interest declarations. The Privileges Committee would also be able to administer penalties for misbehaviour in public office by way of Censure, Warning, Loss of sitting fees for misbehaviour at a meeting and more serious sanctions (suspension and disallowance) following referral to a tribunal or body.
7.	Restoring Dignity to council meetings	The OLG Proposes reforms to the Model Code of Meeting practice to support the Mayor to ensure meetings are conducted in an orderly and dignified manner. The Mayor will have the power to expel councillors for acts of disorder and remove their entitlement to receive a fee for a month in which they were expelled from a meeting. Councillors would be required to apologise for an act of disorder at the meeting in which it occurs, or a subsequent meeting until they comply, and Councillors would be entitled to a right of review. Councillors would have to stand when addressing the meeting and when the Mayor enters the chamber. A new power would be granted to the Mayor to enable them to issue a Penalty Infringement Notice to members of the public who refuse to leave a meeting after being expelled.
8.	Banning Briefing Sessions	To promote transparency and address corruption risks it is proposed to ban premeeting briefing sessions that are closed to the public. Strategic briefings would be allowed, as would briefings for the Mayor alone. This is to ensure that no decisions are made behind closed doors and that the public can be aware of all material presented to Councillors that may affect their decisions.

DRAFT COUNCIL SUBMISSION

COUNCIL

The below outlines the DRAFT Submission for Strathfield Council in response to the consultation on the changes.

Strathfield welcomes the opportunity to give feedback on the Office of Local Government's 'Councillor conduct and meeting practices – A new framework discussion paper of September 2024. We would like it noted that the ability of Councils to give considered feedback during the consultation for this paper has been greatly impacted by the timing coinciding with the September Local Government Elections and preparations for the induction of new Councillors that has taken precedence.

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While supportive of the ideals of open and transparent government and accountability, there are several proposed changes that raise concerns for Council.

Code of Conduct and Oath of Office

In relation to the changes proposed for the Code of Conduct and Oath of Office Council notes the following:

- a. In relation to streamlining the Code, Council supports this improvement
- b. In relation to separating the Code of Conduct into two (2) distinct Codes (Councillors and Staff), Council supports this improvement and welcomes the greater clarity it would give to Councillors, staff and the public.
- c. In relation to Councillors speaking publicly on matters pertaining to their Council, these changes to the allow for Councillors to speak publicly on matters pertaining to their Council. This would be even when they are being critical of or disagreeing with the decisions of the majority and is a departure from the current position where the Mayor is the spokesperson for the Council.

Councillors are free to voice their concerns and disagreements with decisions when matters are before Council but should be encouraged to support the decisions made by the majority.

If Councillors are able to voice their dissent on social media and other platforms, how can they be prevented from bringing the Council into disrepute or undermine the confidence of the public in their decisions. There would be a need for some guidance for Councillors on how to deal with social media and representing themselves in the public realm.

Changes to the definitions and assessment of Councillor misbehaviour

In relation to the changes proposed for changes to the definitions and assessment of Councillor misbehaviour, Council supports this improvement and welcomes the greater clarity it would give to Councillors, staff and the public.

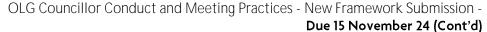
Privileges Committee and the dispute resolution and penalty framework

It is the proposed establishment of the Privileges Committee raises concerns for Council. It is noted that the Committee will be highly political with it being constituted by Mayors and ex-Mayors, with the strong possibility of party-political alliances influencing the decision-making processes. This would be particularly difficult to manage from a fairness and equity perspective if penalties are to be attached to misbehaviour, such as warnings, suspensions or loss of fees.

The introduction of new Penalty Infringement Notices powers for the Office of Local Government for minor or administrative breaches of the conflicts of interest declarations generally appears to have potential to address more significant issues, however the management of these Notices and reviews needs further clarification.

Moreover, the proposed Privileges Committee raises several questions about the funding model. Will it be a User-pays system or more like costs awards in court proceedings. Is this an incentive to manage issues locally? Would legal representatives be allowed at the Committee and Council's preference is no. There is concern on how the process would, if introduced work in the detail.

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Lobbying

In relation to the changes proposed for lobbying, Council supports this improvement and welcomes the greater clarity it would give to Councillors, staff and the public.

Restrictions on Property Developers and Real Estate Agents as Councillors

In relation to Property Developers and Real Estate Agents, will the requirement for divestment be for ALL activities or only those conducted within the Local Government Area in which they are elected Councillors?

If for all activities, how is this not then requiring these Councillors to give up their businesses and sources of income and be a defacto ban on those professions being able to afford to be Councillors given that their allowance form Council is not a wage. Also, of concern is how and who would manage oversight of this requirement.

Council would urge there be a more nuanced approach to the divestment restriction if ALL activity is what is proposed. Some existing Councillors in these professions have managed potential conflicts of interest by undertaking not to practice in the Local Government Area in which they serve as Councillors so that planning decisions etc. will not raise conflicts of interest when matters are before Council for decision.

Restoring Dignity to council meetings

While Council supports the general purpose of this change, that being to ensure meetings are conducted in an orderly and dignified manner, the proposed approach presents several questions and concerns.

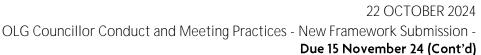
While enabling the Mayor to expel Councillors and setting the expectation for Councillors to apologise at the subsequent meeting may be beneficial, this requires significant detailed information on what would be considered an Act of Disorder and could present challenges in relation to interpretation of the Act of Disorder.

The removal of entitlements in regard to Councillor fees presents a number of concerns in relation to interpretation (as noted above) and the management of fee reductions, and reviews should a review be requested.

Councillors being required to stand when addressing the meeting and when the Mayor enters the chamber is supported by Council.

In relation to a new power enabling the Mayor to issue a Penalty Infringement Notice to members of the public who refuse to leave a meeting after being expelled may be beneficial, this requires significant detailed information on how it would be managed. It is common for Council Rangers to experience less than desirable responses to providing Penalty Infringement Notices so it would be anticipated that similar occurs in the Chamber. Further consideration on this item should look to the risk to safety to those in the Chamber at the time (Mayor, Councillors, Staff, Community Members), and the potential for increased costs to engage security for Council meetings. Currently Strathfield does not typically have a need for security at our Council meetings so this may place a further cost on our meetings if implemented.

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The banning of closed Briefing Sessions

This is a concern as these are a valuable opportunity to interact with Councillors in a less formal session. There is real value in allowing Councillors the freedom to ask all manner of questions and to gain insight into matters without having to be concerned about how that may make them appear before the public.

It is noted the State and Federal Ministers receive confidential briefing sessions for similar reasons and it is only equitable that Local Councillors receive the same.

The proposed changes do not have sufficient clarity around the definition of a briefing session. Would Councils be allowed to have confidential briefing sessions from other agencies? Strathfield, along with other affected Councils, has lately been involved in the Transport Oriented Development Scheme and received vital briefings from the State Government during the process.

The practical impact for Council would that banning briefing sessions would force Council to form Committees, and this would involve considerable cost to allow for proper recording, publishing and minuting of proceedings and lose the ability of Councillors to ask questions in a more relaxed atmosphere.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should the OLG require Committee to be established this may incur additional costs.

ATTACHMENTS

OLG 'Councillor conduct and meeting practices - A new framework' Discussion Paper Sep 2024 1.<u>↓</u>

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Office of Local Government



Councillor conduct and meeting practices

A new framework

September 2024 olg.nsw.gov.au



Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

Published by NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

dphi.nsw.gov.au

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

First published: September 2024

More information

Office of Local Government

Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

Ph (02) 4428 4100

olg@olg.nsw.gov.au

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The need for change – returning local democracy to councils

Strong and thriving communities need effective local government. No other level of government is as close to the issues and people.

Effective local government comes when councillors are visibly in control of their councils. How councillors act and how appropriately and transparently decisions are made at meetings is critical in demonstrating to the community that their elected representatives understand the consequences of their decisions, and then make the best possible decisions they can for their community as a whole.

Unfortunately, the existing councillor conduct framework is not delivering on the need for transparency or the necessary degree of respect in the community for the role that councillors have.

Closed council briefing sessions are being used to make decisions away from the public view. Council debates on issues are too often personal slanging matches, rather than forums for robust but respectful discussions on what is best for the community.

Similarly, we have seen a growth in the number of complaints, often over trivial issues. Data from the Office of Local Government (OLG) has shown there has been 4289 complaints over the last 3 years (2020/21 to 2022/23) through the code of conduct process. Overall:

- 420 were referred for preliminary enquiries and then discontinued
- 136 were investigated as potential pecuniary interest matters
- 102 were investigated as potential misconduct (not pecuniary interest)
- 36 related to public interest disclosures, and
- · 2 related to political donations

But of these thousands of complaints, in the years since 2020/21 OLG has:

- taken action against 14 councillors by way of a suspension or reprimand
- referred 4 councillors to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) for misconduct, and
- disqualified and dismissed one councillor on the basis of Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) recommendations

The volume of frivolous complaints is crowding out the ability of the OLG and the sector to adequately deal with councillors who abuse their office or cause serious governance problems. It is critical the framework that governs both the behaviour and meeting practices of councillors ensures the community can observe and comment on the behaviour of councillors, instead of inhibiting the operation and function of local democracy.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

The weaknesses of existing frameworks

The simple, but compelling premise is local councils should be accountable to their community with council staff being accountable to their councillors, through the General Manager. The best way to achieve this aim is for councils to provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning and decision making. Unfortunately, this simple concept has been lost.

How councillors behave, how they deliberate and the responsibilities they hold should be modelled on how members of Parliament are expected to behave and act. As the governing body, councillors should act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interests of the local community, and they should be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supportive working environment for staff. A criticism made about the current framework for councillor conduct or meeting practices is that they do not reflect local government's status as an independent third tier of government: it allows an unelected State Government official to determine penalties and guilt thus undermining the status of local government.

While most local councils and local councillors do the right thing with the best intent, there are some councillors who are not so motivated. In these cases, the current councillor behavioural framework, as implemented in NSW, does not facilitate the best outcomes or resolve issues.

In relation to complaint management, it is not considered acceptable to create better complaint management pathways for the processing of code of conduct complaints. The current code of conduct simply enables too many complaints about councillors, all too often for political or vexatious reasons.

It is for this reason that the Government has embarked upon a new approach that refocuses the limited resources of the State on those concerns that matter most: serious misbehaviours and attempts by councillors to enrich themselves through their office.

Weaknesses of the current framework include:

- The councillor conduct framework distracts from, rather than enhances, robust democratic debate.
 Complaints are weaponised for political reasons, or to silence dissent from other elected representatives.
- Councillors and community members report dissatisfaction with the process for resolving code of conduct complaints – being expensive, overly legal, prone to political sparring and not timely, with average timeframes exceeding 12 months and more than 24 months if they are then referred to OLG for further investigation.
- Issues are not being addressed and resolved at the local level – instead complaints are escalated unnecessarily to the State Government to resolve because of the view that public censure from the local council is not a 'strong enough' punishment.
- Communities and councillors report that council decision making is not transparent – with decisions being seen as made behind closed doors, information not being provided or withheld, too much use of closed to the public briefings or councils going into closed sessions for no adequate rationale.
- Bad councillor behaviour is not considered to have been addressed quickly enough and when sanctions are imposed it is too late or of little consequence.
- There is a lack of clarity around OLG's role as the sector regulator – taking too long to resolve matters and not focussing on the important financial and government concerns in the sector, instead spending time focussed on individual councillor behaviour.
- OLG reports challenges in relying on the reports of council conduct reviewers – investigations into councillors need to be done afresh, the process is cumbersome with multiple feedback loops and serious sanctions can only come from suspensions handed down by NCAT.

With so much focus on the bad behaviour of a limited number of councillors there is not enough attention given to the good work that councillors do. The role of a councillor is a noble public service, and the local government behavioural framework should support those who seek to do the right thing and punish those that are not so motivated.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Options for a better approach

Improving the councillor conduct framework and the meeting practices of councils can be achieved but will require changes to the Local Government Act 1993 (the Local Government Act), as well as updating the various regulations, codes and policies that apply. Some of the work to update the regulations and codes can be done quickly, while others requiring legislative change will take some time.

This paper provides an overview of the proposed new approach to both the councillor conduct framework and meeting practices. The proposals are to:

- Make OLG directly responsible for dealing with pecuniary interest and significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interest, with sanctions (suspensions and loss of pay) being determined by an appropriate tribunal or body,
- Refer behavioural based concerns about councillor conduct to a State-wide panel of experienced councillors to judge their peers,
- Reset the code of conduct to be similar to Parliamentary Codes, making it clear the expected patterns of councillor behaviour,
- Ensure the community can observe local democratic processes by banning closed to the public briefing sessions, while at the same time restoring the dignity and prestige of the council chamber.

These changes are only proposed for councillors and there is no change proposed for the code of conduct for Local Government staff. Feedback from stakeholders is that the existing code of conduct of staff remains fit for purpose and is largely effective.

Seeking your views

This discussion paper has been prepared to seek the views of the community, key stakeholders and the local government sector about the proposed changes.

Submissions will be accepted to **COB Friday 15 November 2024**.

All input received through this consultation process **may be made publicly available**. Please let us know in your submission if you **do not want** your name and personal details published.

As part of the consultation process, we may need to share your information with people outside OLG, including other public authorities and government agencies. We may also use your email to send you notifications about further feedback opportunities or the outcome of the consultation.

There may also be circumstances when OLG is required by law to release information (for example, in accordance with the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009). There is a privacy policy located on OLG's website that explains how some data is automatically collected (such as your internet protocol (IP) address) whenever you visit OLG's website. The link to that policy is https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/about-us/privacy-policy/.

Further information about how to make a submission is provided at section 7 of this paper.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

What are the principles of change?

In preparing the proposed reforms the following principles have guided the discussion and the intent of the changes:

- Council leadership and decision making is paramount – it is critical that the sector, as the third tier of government, is given independence to make decisions in the best interests of the community
- Freedom of speech as elected officials, councillors have the constitutional right and democratic responsibility to speak freely about issues affecting their local community and to advocate for the interests of that community
- Transparency and accountability as a democracy councils need to hear, consider and debate issues in an open manner
- Significant penalties should only be imposed by a judicial or quasi-judicial body – to ensure procedural fairness and thorough testing of allegations, significant penalties should be given by bodies such as the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal
- A strong and proportionate local government regulator – the role of OLG should be to create the framework for local government, ensure councils, joint organisations (JOs), and county councils have the capacity to operate within the framework so that the regulator intervenes as rarely as needed
- Subsidiarity decisions are made at the level closest to those impacted by those decisions
- Justice is timely and proportionate where allegations are made, they should be heard, tested and dealt with as quickly as possible.

Question

Are we missing anything in the principles of change?

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Potential changes to the code of conduct and oath of office

The key proposed reform for the councillor behavioural framework is to move to a streamlined, aspirational Code of Conduct. This is equivalent to the Code of Conduct framework for NSW Members of Parliament available here and here.

The aspirational Code of Conduct would clearly and succinctly outline the behavioural expectations of local councillors (approximately 2-3 pages) in easy-to-understand language. It would then be supported by a clearer framework and definitions for misbehaviour of elected officials.

The aspirational Code of Conduct would not set out the definitions of misbehaviour as these would be legislated as explained in later sections of this discussion paper.

Separating the behavioural expectations in a Code of Conduct from definitions of misbehaviour reflects a positive approach to councillor behaviour. The separation also recognises that the majority of councillors want to do the right thing and they should have easy access to the standards expected of them.

The revamped Code of Conduct could also be aligned to the Oath of Office for local councillors ensuring that the behavioural standards and expectations are clear and understood when a councillor takes office. The existing framework can make it difficult to understand the behavioural expectations and standards upon councillors.

Importantly, the revamped Code of Conduct will not seek to restrain the ability of a councillor to speak publicly on matters pertaining to their council, even when that councillor is disagreeing with, or being critical of, the decisions of the majority.

It is proposed to make the new Code of Conduct an aspirational code of expected behaviours instead of enforceable for local councillors.

Question

What are the key elements of an aspirational Code of Conduct that should be enshrined?

Question

What are your views about aligning the Oath of Office to the revamped Code of Conduct?

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Potential changes to the definitions and assessment of councillor misbehaviour

The current Local Government Act defines councillor misconduct as a breach of the Local Government Act or other regulatory provisions, which includes the Code of Conduct. This means that it is difficult for the average person to understand the definition of misconduct as they need to reference several other regulatory instruments and policy documents to determine what constitutes.

It is proposed in the revised framework that misbehaviour will be more clearly defined and articulated within the Local Government Act, with the reference to regulations and other statutory instruments only for further enunciation or explanation.

These definitions, which are described in later sections would cover:

- Pecuniary conflicts of interests, (for example decisions that financially benefit the councillor or a close associate).
- Significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interests (for example where a councillor participates in a decision and a direct advantage/disadvantage is created for a person or company the councillor is friendly with or associated with), and
- Councillor misbehaviour in public office (for example, poor conduct in meetings leading to exclusion by the Mayor or Chair of the Committee).

This will make clearer to all participants in the local government sector what is considered misbehaviour by a local councillor.

The definitions of misbehaviour do not change the other legislative requirements. Communities, residents, workers and fellow councillors expect their elected officials to act in an appropriate and ethical way, including observing workplace health and safety, environmental and criminal laws. If there is an offence or complaint under these other laws, people should

seek redress from the appropriate regulator including SafeWork, Independent Commission Against Corruption or the NSW Police.

The behavioural standards in the revamped Code of Conduct will reinforce the expectation that councillors are community leaders and therefore exemplars of good behaviour. As community leaders it is also expected councillors will meet legislative obligations. Therefore, misbehaviour only needs to be defined as those issues which go to the nature of councillors as elected officials, being conflicts of interest or misbehaviour in public office.

These are the expectations that are upon councillors because of the public trust that is placed in them as elected officials. In this way it more closely reflects, with appropriate adjustments the framework that applies to other elected officials in other levels of Government.

Conflicts of interest

The first proposed limb of the revised misbehaviour definition is a councillor's failure to manage a conflict of interest.

Management of conflicts of interest is important to ensure that councillors act and are seen to act in the public good, not for private benefit or personal gain. Conflicts of interest arise when there is a conflict, perception or potential of a conflict between an official's private interests and public duty.

The test for pecuniary interests is quite clear as it is an objective test; would a councillor or one of their close associates (spouse, family members), receive a financial benefit as a result of a decision. However, testing whether there is a non-pecuniary conflict of interest is more challenging.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Pecuniary interests

It is proposed to align the definition of pecuniary interests for NSW councillors with those that are utilised and defined for NSW members of parliament, requiring disclosure of the following interests:

- Real property property in which councillors have an 'interest'
- Sources of income all income over \$500 other than salary of office
- Gifts all gifts of cumulative value of more than \$500
- Contributions to travel of value of more than \$250 (including flight upgrades)
- Interests and positions in corporations eg stocks and shares, directorships
- Positions in unions and professional or business organisations
- Debts of cumulative value of more than \$500, excluding home loans or debts for goods and services disposed of within a year
- · Dispositions of property
- Engagement to provide a service involving use of a councillor's position and
- Discretionary disclosures.

It is proposed that the interests for disclosure by the councillor are similarly extended to the interest of a spouse or de facto partner, relative, or partner or employer, or a company or other body of which the councillor, or their nominee, partner or employer, is a shareholder or member. This extends only to the extent the councillor is aware or should be aware of such interests.

It is proposed there remains an absolute prohibition on a councillor being involved in any matter before council where a pecuniary conflict of interest exists, unless otherwise determined via regulation.

It is also proposed to give extended investigation powers to OLG to investigate and request information on corporate structures such as trust or companies to determine underlying beneficial ownership and interests.

OLG, as the agency responsible for investigating alleged breaches of pecuniary interests, needs clear powers to compel the production of information and/or records, to ensure that pecuniary interest returns are provided and made publicly available. If there is non-compliance with an OLG direction, which may include the requirement to make a declaration, remedies such as penalty infringement notices (PIN) should be available to ensure cooperation with investigative processes.

Question

Is the proposed pecuniary interest framework appropriate? Is anything missing?

Non-pecuniary interests

A conflict of interest does not necessarily have to be financial in nature. It could also arise from familial or personal relationships, affiliations or memberships. It is equally important that such conflicts are managed appropriately to ensure that decision making is seen to be transparent and remains in the public interest.

An interested and informed observer should be confident a decision made by a councillor is free from bias or a reasonable apprehension of bias. This means that any concerns about a potentially significant conflict of interest should be declared and appropriately managed.

The nature and breadth of non-pecuniary interests naturally means that the framework for management of such interests is more nuanced, with the management approach often dependent upon the individual circumstances of the case.

It is also important to recognise that councillors, as representatives of their community, reside within their community, so memberships of clubs, congregational

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

memberships etc should not automatically be seen as conflicts of interest.

If a decision of a councillor directly advantages (or disadvantages) a particular individual or organisation the councillor is friendly with or associates with, then that can be a conflict that should be publicly declared, if the councillor considered it of minor consequence, it wasn't controversial, or the councillor did not hold the casting vote.

Alternatively, if a decision of a councillor directly advantages (or disadvantages) a particular individual or organisation the councillor is friendly with or associates with, then that can be a conflict requiring the councillor to recuse themselves from being involved in the decision-making process if there was a major advantage or disadvantage (or potential for), if it was controversial or the vote of the councillor was critical.

The appropriate test for whether a non-pecuniary interest should be declared is based on an objective test, not in the mind of the individual who is subject to the conflict of interest. The test is whether a reasonable and informed person would perceive that the councillor could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out their official functions in relation to a matter.

Whether the councillor abstains themselves from a decision, or decides to participate, the continued and timely disclosure of interests is critical. Disclosure ensures the community is aware of any potential conflicts and how the councillor is managing and responding to the issue.

Councillors should remain as vigilant about disclosure of non-pecuniary interests as they are about pecuniary interests.

Question

Do you agree with the principles of what constitutes a significant or major non-pecuniary interest?

Property developers and real estate agents

The NSW Government has made a commitment to ensure the conflicts of interest that exist between a councillors' public duties to make decisions on behalf of communities and the private interests that exist in securing a profit as a developer or real estate agent are addressed. A simple change to ban developers or real estate agents from being councillors is not possible as it infringes the right to political free speech implied by the Australian Constitution.

Ordinarily conflicts of interest are managed through declarations and withdrawing from decision making. However, in the case of property development and real estate interests, where so much of what a council does is related to land and the potential for speculation in the changes of land value arising from planning, development and infrastructure decisions, it can be impossible to isolate the precise interests that would drive a councillor's decision.

Without some way of managing these conflicts, the community confidence that planning, development and infrastructure decisions are taken transparently in the public interest will erode. Given the importance of planning, development and infrastructure decisions to resolving the housing crisis, driving the move to net zero through the electrification of the economy and building community resilience to disasters, it is critical to restore confidence.

To address this concern, an alternative means of managing the inherent conflict of councillors undertaking real estate and development business activity is being considered which involves requiring councillors to divest themselves from real estate or development business activities and contractual obligations.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Legislation is being drafted that will:

- identify how developers and real estate agents are identified.
- create the obligation to divest and not enter into real estate or development business arrangements through contracts,
- establish the penalties, including disqualification, where a councillor engages in contractual arrangements with real estate agents or developers,
- ensure there are exemptions so councillors can buy and sell their own property using a real estate agent, and
- create transitional arrangements for the introduction of the new obligations.

Question

Are there any other specific features that should be included to address concerns about councillors undertaking real estate and development business activities?

Councillor misbehaviour in public office

The third proposed component of a revised definition of misconduct is misbehaviour in public office.

Misbehaviour in public office would cover behaviour which is inconsistent or outside of the norms of behaviour expected from a councillor, particularly given their role as a community leader. Given the discussion is about behaviour rather than action, there is a much greater degree of interpretation, and it is appropriate that councillors judge their fellow councillors on whether they could be considered to have misbehaved.

There would be three limbs to this proposed misbehaviour definition being conduct that:

- Is unbecoming of a councillor
- · Brings council into disrepute; and/or
- Is assessed as being outside the norms and expectations of a sitting councillor.

The first two tests of this framework are established legal concepts with existing case law and precedents.

Unbecoming conduct means behaviour more serious than slight, and of a material and pronounced character. It means conduct morally unfitting and unworthy, rather than merely inappropriate or unsuitable, misbehaviour which is more than opposed to good taste or propriety. Conduct unbecoming refers to the conduct that is contrary to the public interests, or which harms his/her standing of the profession in the eyes of the public. Examples can be referenced in *Oei v The Australian Golf Club [2016] NSWSC 846*.

To bring something into disrepute is to lower the reputation of the profession or organisation in the eyes of ordinary members of the public to a significant extent. It is a higher threshold than the test of bringing an individual into disrepute - (Zubkov v FINA (2007) CAS 2007/A/1291).

The third limb of the misbehaviour definition allows consideration of behaviours and actions of a sitting councillor which are considered egregious or problematic that are otherwise not captured by the other elements of the definitions.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

As this is a test of appropriate behaviour, the determination of whether the misbehaviour occurred would be undertaken by the peers of the councillor. This would involve the formation of an 'Local Government Privileges Committee' (Privileges Committee) of senior and experienced mayors and ex-mayors from across NSW to meet and assess the complaints made against councillors. The Privileges Committee would be supported by OLG, but decisions would be made by the mayors or ex-mayors on the Privileges Committee who would draw on their expertise as mayors, as well as having served at least two council terms as a councillor.

There would also be an opportunity to apply these principles to poor behaviour in meetings, particularly where a councillor has failed to comply with the directions given by the mayor or Privileges Committee Chair

Question

Is this the appropriate threshold to face a Privileges Committee?

Question

How else can complaints be minimised?

Addressing inappropriate lobbying

A number of investigations by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) has led to recommendations to put in place measures to address concerns about lobbying of councillors. ICAC has been concerned about councillors having relationships with development applicants that pose a conflict of interest, concerns with councillors meeting with development applicants in private settings to discuss their applications, and concerns about councillors receiving gifts and inducements as part of lobbying activities to improperly influence council decision-making.

Lobbying is an important feature of democratic representative government, and all councillors get lobbied by residents, businesses and community groups. However, inappropriate lobbying that isn't declared presents certain risks and can lead to corrupt behaviour or improper decision-making. On the recommendation of ICAC to address these risks, OLG is developing lobbying guidelines and a model policy on lobbying for councils to adopt that will:

- address how professional lobbyists are identified and the obligations on councils and councillors if they met a professional lobbyist,
- set out inappropriate behaviours when being lobbied,
- identify steps to be taken to ensure transparency,
- require council officials to report inappropriate or corrupt lobbying behaviours to the councils general manager.

The development of lobbying guidelines and a model policy on lobbying will ensure councillors and councils understand these risks and have effective controls in place to address them.

Question

What key features should be included in lobbying guidelines and a model policy?

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

13

Dispute resolution and penalty framework

Consistent with the principles outlined earlier, it is proposed that there be a significant change to the dispute resolution and penalties framework for misbehaviour.

While the overall intent is to reduce the weaponisation of the complaints process and reduce the number of complaints, there is also a need for more timely resolution of matters and ensure that the limited investigation and regulator resources are directed to the more significant misbehaviour matters.

There is also an opportunity to bring the dispute resolution framework more into line with that used in other levels of government.

The approach being proposed is to create clear separation between the process for consideration of conflicts of interest and the processes for consideration of misbehaviour. This has the benefit of removing general managers from being central to the complaint process.

Under the reforms, the investigation of serious conflicts of interest would be put entirely into the hands of OLG. The approach also removes the existing 'two step' process of referrals to conduct reviewers and then OLG.

There would be no investigations of misbehaviour, instead councillors would be required to demonstrate to their peers why their actions, which may have led to the complaint, were appropriate to the circumstances.

To implement these new approaches, changes to the systems and structures of investigation and complaints handling are needed.

Abolishing the 'two step process'

The existing process for complaints is set out in the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct.

In simple terms, the complaint process involves the general manager or the mayor receiving a complaint, determining whether the complaint is valid and referring the matter to a complaints coordinator within the council, who will in turn appoint an external conduct reviewer. Once the conduct reviewer investigates the issue, interviews the complainant and the subject of the complaint, as well as any other relevant people, provides a report to the council and the council makes a decision, many months can pass.

As it currently stands, if OLG, receives a referral following the council consideration of a complaint, they are then expected to rely on the investigation report of the conduct reviewer to make an assessment. However, investigation reports prepared by conduct reviewers may satisfy the evidentiary standard required for a councillor to be censured but may not satisfy the higher evidentiary standard required to support disciplinary action under the misbehaviour provisions under the Local Government Act, such as suspension or disqualification. OLG's experience is that rarely can it rely on these reports and must instead recommence an investigation process if it decides to pursue the matter.

Instead of this existing two-step process:

- Complaints about conflict of interest matters would be made directly to OLG, and
- Complaints about misbehaviour would be made directly to the Local Government Privileges Committee via a dedicated webform.

Under the proposed approach, there would be no role for privately hired investigators to determine whether the Code of Conduct has been breached.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Giving OLG the power to issue penalty infringement notices

In order to ensure information is provided to OLG more effectively, it is proposed to enable OLG the discretion to issue penalty infringement notices (PINs) for minor or insignificant breaches of the conflicts of interest declarations. The PINs would be primarily utilised in circumstances where the breach is considered minor or administrative in nature—for example an inadvertent failure to lodge a return of interests.

This change to PINs is designed to allow a quick process for dealing with minor matters to free up limited regulatory resources while still ensuring that sanction for important matters is provided.

Like all other PIN provisions in other NSW legislations there would be the ability for the PIN to be appealed or special circumstances to be considered. Where the breach was considered more serious in nature then it can be referred to an appropriate tribunal or body for more significant punishment.

Question

What level of PIN is appropriate?

NSW Local Government Privileges Committee

Along with the PIN framework, it is also proposed to create a Local Government Privileges Committee (Privileges Committee) to examine all allegations of misbehaviour in public office. This would replace the existing code of conduct review framework and instead aim to provide a speedy process for resolution and assessment of behavioural complaints against councillors. It also allows for the sector to better govern itself. The Privileges Committee would only examine issues of misbehaviour, not conflicts of interest.

The Privileges Committee would be made up by a group of experienced mayors and ex-mayors from across NSW to ensure that a variety of perspectives and experiences are considered. The Privileges Committee would be supported by a small Secretariat from OLG who could be delegated the power by the Privileges Committee to dismiss matters that are vexatious, trivial, where the Privileges Committee lacks jurisdiction, or where there is an alternative remedy available.

The Privileges Committee process would be paid for by either individual councillors or their councils, dependent on the outcome.

Penalties that could be imposed by the Privileges Committee are as follows:

- Censure of the councillor
- Warning of the councillor
- Where referred following misbehaviour in a council meeting, a potential loss of sitting fees
- Referral to an appropriate tribunal or body for more serious sanction, including suspension or disallowance.

As noted above if the breach is deemed serious then the Privileges Committee would have the power to refer a matter to the OLG for preparation of a brief for an appropriate tribunal or body.

Question

Are the penalties proposed appropriate, and are there any further penalties that should be considered?

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

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Referral of significant sanctions to appropriate tribunal or body

Under the existing processes for consideration of complaints, OLG, in particular the Departmental Chief Executive (or their delegate), can suspend a councillor for between 1-3 months with a consequential loss of sitting fees. This creates the situation where a public servant is sitting in judgement on an elected official. Where a greater suspension is appropriate, the Departmental Chief Executive may refer the matter to an appropriate tribunal or body.

To remedy the concerns about whether it is appropriate for an unelected official to stand in judgment on an elected councillor, it is proposed that any significant sanction, such as suspension, significant fine or disqualification from office, can only be undertaken by an appropriate tribunal or body.

This reduces the existing power of the Departmental Chief Executive to impose penalties. It reflects the principle that significant sanctions, including suspension, should only be imposed by a judicial or quasi-judicial body. It also removes the dual roles of the head of OLG, meaning OLG's focus is on preparing the brief of evidence for consideration by the appropriate tribunal or body.

The role of the appropriate tribunal or body would therefore be to look at all serious misconduct matters that have either been referred by the Privileges Committee, appeals from PINs or referrals of conflict of interest matters from the OLG.

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Question

Are the existing sanctions available under the Local Government Act sufficient?

Question

Should decisions on sanctions for councillors be made by the Departmental Chief Executive or a formal tribunal with independent arbitrators and a hearing structure?

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Restoring dignity to council meetings

A council chamber is a chamber of democracy, and the mayor as figurehead represents the authority of that council.

Unfortunately, many council meetings are conducted without the appropriate level of dignity or reverence for tradition that suggests the importance of the debate and the need for civility. Councillors are not expected to agree with each other, in fact debate is encouraged, but the debate should be fair and respectful.

A council meeting, and the council chamber itself, should see meetings conducted with dignity. Unfortunately, there are too many examples where the dignity of council meetings has been lost, either because councillors are not appropriately reverential and respectful, or the manner of debate is lowered by inappropriate chamber design or meeting practices.

Proposed reforms to the Model Code of Meeting Practice

To restore the prestige and dignity of the council chamber reforms to the meeting code of practice are being developed to support the mayor in exercising their statutory responsibility to preside at meetings and to ensure meetings are conducted in an orderly and dignified manner.

The proposed reforms will confer the power on mayors to expel councillors for acts of disorder and to remove the councillor's entitlement to receive a fee for the month in which they have been expelled from a meeting.

As a further deterrent against disorderly conduct, councillors will also be required to apologise for an act of disorder at the meeting at which it occurs and, if they fail to comply at that meeting, at each subsequent meeting until they comply. Each failure to apologise becomes an act of misbehaviour and will see the councillor lose their entitlement to receive their fee for a further month.

To provide a check against misuse of the power of expulsion and subsequent loss of entitlement of a fee, councillors will be entitled to a right of review.

Councillors will also be expected to stand, where able to do so, when addressing a meeting and when the mayor enters the chamber.

The proposed reforms will also expand the grounds for mayors to expel members of the public from the chamber for acts of disorder and enable the issuing of a PIN where members of the public refuse to leave a meeting after being expelled.

Question

Are there any other powers that need to be granted to the mayor or chair of the relevant meeting to deal with disorderly behaviour?

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

Banning briefing sessions

A practice has recently developed in local government where councillors receive briefings from staff that are closed to the public.

As an example, development applications should be considered in the public domain. However, councillors receive private briefings from the council planners before they are dealt with in the public forum of a council or committee meeting. Consequently, members of the public impacted by the council's decision have no idea what the councillors have been told or what has been discussed.

To promote transparency and address the corruption risks identified by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) that can arise from a lack of transparency, it is proposed that councils will no longer be permitted to hold pre-meeting briefing sessions in the absence of the public.

Any material provided to councillors, other than the mayor, that will affect or impact or be taken into account by councillors in their deliberations or decisions made on behalf of the community must be provided to them in either a committee meeting or council meeting. This restriction will not apply to mayors. As the leader of the organisation, the mayor needs to have candid conversations with the general manager outside of formal meetings.

To further promote transparency, the proposed reforms will also extend the period that recordings of council and committee meetings must be maintained on a council's website.

Question

Are there any other measures needed to improve transparency in councillor deliberations and decision making?

Councillor conduct and meeting practices

How to provide feedback?

This discussion paper has been released through the Office of Local Government's communication channels and on the Government's Have your Say Website.

You can make submissions on this proposed framework by **COB Friday 15 November 2024**. Further information is available on OLG website at https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/misconduct-and-intervention/councillor-conduct-framework/.

Submissions can be made online here -https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/misconduct-and-intervention/councillor-conduct-framework/

OF

in writing to: councillorconduct@olg.nsw.gov.au

Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

Submissions must be clearly labelled "Councillor Conduct Framework Review"

Please direct any inquiries to the OLG's Strategic Policy Unit at councillorconduct@olg.nsw.gov.au or on (02) 4428 4100.

Next Steps

Feedback from this consultation process will be carefully analysed and incorporated to finalise the revised councillor conduct framework.

OLG will then look to finalise necessary draft legislation, regulations and materials for implementation of the revised model over the coming year. Consultation will continue with the local government on the implementation of the revised framework.

Information about the progress of the Councillor Conduct Framework Review will be available on the OLG website.

Councillor conduct and meeting practices





CCS11 DRAFT COUNCILLOR AND STAFF INTERACTION POLICY

AUTHOR: Amanda Rutherford, Manager, Governance & Procurement

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy 2024.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Positive, professional working relationships between Councillors and staff are a key element of any Council's success. If relationships between Councillors and staff are functioning effectively, the Council is more likely to perform effectively. If these relationships break down, it can lead to dysfunction, create a potential corruption risk, and ultimately the Council's performance will suffer.

This report outlines the key objectives of the Draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy which is based on the Model Policy developed by the Office of Local Government (OLG).

REPORT

A good relationship between Councillors and staff is based, in large part, on both having a mutual understanding and respect for each other's roles and responsibilities. These are defined in the *Local Government Act 1993* (LGA) and the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW (Model Code of Conduct).

In broad terms, a Councillor's role is a strategic one. As members of the governing body, Councillors are responsible not only for representing the community, but also for setting the strategic direction of the council and keeping its performance under review. A comprehensive outline of the role of a Councillor is provided in Part 4 of the Draft Policy.

The role of Council staff, under the leadership of the General Manager, is to carry out the day-to-day operations of the Council and to implement the decisions, plans, programs, and policies adopted by the governing body.

Access to information: the key to the relationship

Councillors need access to information about the Council's strategic position and performance to perform their civic functions effectively. The General Manager and staff are responsible for providing Councillors with this information to facilitate the decision-making process.

Given Councillors' role in setting the Council's strategic direction and keeping its performance under review, Councillors are entitled to request information about a range of issues.

However, in requesting information, Councillors should not be seeking to interrogate the minutiae of the Council's operations or to direct or influence staff in the performance of their duties. Councillors should also recognise that a Council's resources are finite, and they need to be mindful of the impact of their requests.

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Above all, interactions between Councillors and staff should be positive, respectful, and professional.

Official capacity versus private capacity

It is also inevitable that Councillors and Council staff will engage with their council in their private capacity. This can be for something as simple as borrowing a book from a Council library to more complex matters, such as submitting a development application.

In these circumstances, it is vital that Councillors and Council staff do not seek to use, or appear to use, their position within Council to obtain a private benefit. To do so could be seen as an attempt to exert pressure on Councillors and/or Council staff with a view to obtaining preferential treatment. Such conduct has the potential to undermine both the integrity of a Council's decision-making processes, as well as the community's confidence in Council, and so must be avoided.

The development and intent of this policy

This Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy has been developed by the Office of Local Government (OLG) in consultation with Councils. It is applicable to Councils, County Councils and Joint Organisations.

It provides an exemplary approach, incorporating examples of best practice from a diverse range of NSW Councils. At its core, the policy has three main goals:

- To establish a framework by which councillors can access the information they need to perform their civic functions,
- To promote positive and respectful interactions between councillors and staff, and
- To advise where concerns can be directed if there is a breakdown in the relationship between councillors and staff.

The Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy is structured as follows:

Part 1	Introduction
Part 2	Sets out the scope of the policy
Part 3	Describes the policy's objectives
Part 4	Sets out the respective roles and responsibilities of councillors and staff and the principles that should guide their interactions
Part 5	Sets out the administrative framework for a councillor requests system
Part 6	Identifies which staff councillors can contact directly
Part 7	Addresses councillors' entitlement to access council buildings
Part 8	Describes appropriate and inappropriate interactions between councillors and staff
Part 9	Provides advice about who complaints can be made to
Schedule 1	Contains a template for a list of staff councillors can contact directly under Part 6 of the policy

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Adoption

While not mandatory, the Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy reflects best practice and all Councils, County Councils and Joint Organisations are encouraged to adopt it. In doing so, they are free to adapt the policy to suit their local circumstances and operating environments or to supplement it with their own provisions.

Provisions which can be adjusted are marked in red.

Enforcement

Clause 3.1(b) of the Model Code of Conduct provides that Council officials must not conduct themselves in a manner that is contrary to a Council's policies. If adopted by a Council, a breach of the policy may also constitute a breach of Council's Code of Conduct.

Concerns or complaints about the administration of a Council's Councillor request system should be raised with the General Manager (or the Mayor in the case of a complaint about the General Manager). If the matter cannot be resolved locally, Councillors may raise their concerns with OLG.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

1... DRAFT Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy

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STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

DRAFT COUNCILLOR AND STAFF INTERACTION POLICY

2024





Draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy 2024

POLICY DETA	POLICY DETAILS						
Policy Name	2	Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy					
Policy Numl	per						
Version Nur	nber	1					
Authoriser		Council					
Date							
Minute Nun	nber						
Review Time	eframe	Council – at least e	Council – at least every four years				
Policy Owne	er	Manager Governance and Procurement					
CM10 Folder	r#						
CM10 Docur	ment #	DRAFT					
ASSOCIATED	POLICIES	Code of Conduct					
ASSOCIATED	LEGISLATION	Local Government Act 1993					
		VERSION HISTORY					
Version No	Date	Revision details Modified by Amendments made					
1	2024	New	Manager Governance and Procurement	OLG Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy 2022			

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DRAFT

PART 1 - Introduction

1.1 The Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy (the Policy) provides a framework for Councillors when exercising their civic functions by specifically addressing their ability to interact with, and receive advice from, authorised staff.

- 1.2 The Policy complements and should be read in conjunction with Strathfield Council's Code of Conduct (the Code of Conduct).
- 1.3 The aim of the Policy is to facilitate a positive working relationship between Councillors, as the community's elected representatives, and staff, who are employed to administer the operations of the Council. The Policy provides directions on interactions between Councillors and staff to assist both parties in carrying out their day-to-day duties professionally, ethically, and respectfully.
- 1.4 It is important to have an effective working relationship that recognises the important but differing contribution both parties bring to their complementary roles.

2.0 PART 2 - Application

- 2.1 This Policy applies to all Councillors and Council staff.
- 2.2 This Policy applies to all interactions between Councillors and staff, whether face-to-face, online (including social media and virtual meeting platforms), by phone, text message or in writing.
- 2.3 This Policy applies whenever interactions between Councillors and staff occur, including inside or outside of work hours, and at both Council and non-Council venues and events.
- 2.4 This Policy does not confer any delegated authority upon any person. All delegations to staff are made by the General Manager.
- 2.5 The Code of Conduct provides that Council officials must not conduct themselves in a manner that is contrary to the Council's policies. A breach of this Policy will be a breach of the Code of Conduct.

3.0 PART 3 – Policy objectives

- 3.1 The objectives of the Policy are to:
 - a. establish positive, effective, and professional working relationships between Councillors and staff defined by mutual respect and courtesy
 - b. enable Councillors and staff to work together appropriately and effectively to support each other in their respective roles
 - c. ensure that Councillors receive advice in an orderly, courteous and appropriate manner to assist them in the performance of their civic duties

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- d. ensure Councillors have adequate access to information to exercise their statutory roles
- e. provide direction on, and guide Councillor interactions with, staff for both obtaining information and in general situations
- f. maintain transparent decision making and good governance arrangements
- g. ensure the reputation of Council is enhanced by Councillors and staff interacting consistently, professionally and positively in their day-to-day duties
- h. provide a clear and consistent framework through which breaches of the Policy will be managed in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

4.0 PART 4 - Principles, roles, and responsibilities

- 4.1 Several factors contribute to a good relationship between Councillors and staff. These include goodwill, understanding of roles, communication, protocols, and a good understanding of legislative requirements.
- 4.2 The Council's governing body and its administration (being staff within the organisation) must have a clear and sophisticated understanding of their different roles, and the fact that these operate within a hierarchy. The administration is accountable to the General Manager, who in turn, is accountable to the Council's governing body.
- 4.3 Section 232 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the LG Act 1993) states that the role of a Councillor is as follows:
 - a. to be an active and contributing member of the governing body
 - b. to make considered and well-informed decisions as a member of the governing body
 - c. to participate in the development of the integrated planning and reporting framework
 - d. to represent the collective interests of residents, ratepayers, and the local community
 - e. to facilitate communication between the local community and the governing body
 - f. to uphold and represent accurately the policies and decisions of the governing body
 - g. to make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a Councillor.
- 4.4 The administration's role is to advise the governing body, implement Council's decisions and to oversee service delivery.
- 4.5 It is beneficial if the administration recognises the complex political environments in which elected members operate and acknowledge that they work within a system that is based on democratic governance. Councillors similarly need to understand that it is a highly complex task to prepare information and provide quality advice on the very wide range of issues that Council operations cover.

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4.6 Council commits to the following principles to guide interactions between Councillors and staff:

Principle	Achieved by
Equitable and consistent	Ensuring appropriate, consistent and equitable access to information for all Councillors within established service levels
Considerate and respectful	Councillors and staff working supportively together in the interests of the whole community, based on mutual respect and consideration of their respective positions
Ethical, open, and transparent	Ensuring that interactions between Councillors and staff are ethical, open, transparent, honest and display the highest standards of professional conduct
Fit for purpose	Ensuring that the provision of equipment and information to Councillors is done in a way that is suitable, practical and of an appropriate size, scale and cost for a client group of seven people
Accountable and measurable	Providing support to Councillors in the performance of their role in a way that can be measured, reviewed, and improved based on qualitative and quantitative data

- 4.7 Councillors are members of the Council's governing body, which is responsible for directing and controlling the affairs of the Council in accordance with the LG Act 1993. Councillors need to accept that:
 - a. responses to requests for information from Councillors may take time and consultation to prepare and be approved prior to responding
 - b. staff are not accountable to them individually
 - c. they must not direct staff except by giving appropriate direction to the General Manager by way of a Council or committee resolution, or by the Mayor exercising their functions under *section 226 of the LG Act 1993*
 - d. they must not, in any public or private forum, direct or influence, or attempt to direct or influence, a member of staff in the exercise of their functions
 - e. they must not contact a member of staff on Council-related business unless in accordance with this Policy
 - f. they must not use their position to attempt to receive favourable treatment for themselves or others.
- 4.8 The General Manager is responsible for the efficient and effective day-to-day operation of the Council and for ensuring that the lawful decisions of the Council are implemented without undue delay.
- 4.9 Council staff need to understand:
 - a. they are not accountable to individual Councillors and do not take direction from them.
 They are accountable to the General Manager, who is in turn accountable to the Council's governing body
 - b. they should not provide advice to Councillors unless it has been approved by the General Manager or a staff member with a delegation to approve advice to Councillors

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- c. they must carry out reasonable and lawful directions given by any person having the authority to give such directions in an efficient and effective manner
- d. they must ensure that participation in political activities outside the service of the Council does not interfere with the performance of their official duties
- e. they must provide full and timely information to Councillors sufficient to enable them to exercise their civic functions in accordance with this Policy.

5.0 Part 5 - The Councillor requests system

- 5.1 Councillors have a right to request information provided it is relevant to Councillor's exercise of their civic functions. This right does not extend to matters about which a Councillor is merely curious.
- 5.2 Councillors do not have a right to request information about matters that they are prevented from participating in decision-making on because of a conflict of interest, unless the information is otherwise publicly available.
- 5.3 The General Manager may identify Council support staff under this Policy for the management of requests from Councillors. This will be communicated to Councillors outside of this policy, via email.
- 5.4 Councillors can use the Councillor requests system to:
 - a. request information or ask questions that relate to the strategic position, performance, or operation of the Council
 - b. bring concerns that have been raised by members of the public to the attention of staff
 - c. request ICT or other support from the Council administration
- 5.5 Councillors must, to the best of their knowledge, be specific about what information they are requesting, and make their requests respectfully. Where a Councilors' request lacks specificity, the General Manager or staff member authorised to manage the matter is entitled to ask the Councillor to clarify their request and the reason(s) why they are seeking the information.
- 5.6 Staff must make every reasonable effort to assist Councillors with their requests and do so in a respectful manner.

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5.7 The General Manager or the staff member authorised to manage a Councillor request will provide a response within 10 working days. Where a response cannot be provided within that timeframe, the Councillor will be advised, and the information will be provided as soon as practicable.

- 5.8 Councillors are required to treat all information provided by staff appropriately and to observe any confidentiality requirements.
- 5.9 Staff will inform Councillors of any confidentiality requirements for information they provide so Councillors can handle the information appropriately.
- 5.10 Where a Councillor is unsure of confidentiality requirements, they should contact the General Manager, or the staff member authorised to manage their request.
- 5.11 The General Manager may refuse access to information requested by a Councillor if:
 - a. the information is not necessary for the performance of the Councillor's civic functions, or
 - b. if responding to the request would, in the General Manager's opinion, result in an unreasonable diversion of staff time and resources, or
 - c. the Councillor has previously declared a conflict of interest in the matter and removed themselves from decision-making on it, or
 - d. the General Manager is prevented by law from disclosing the information.
- 5.12 Where the General Manager refuses to provide information requested by a Councillor, they must act reasonably. The General Manager must advise a Councillor in writing of their reasons for refusing access to the information requested.
- 5.13 Where a Councillor's request for information is refused by the General Manager on the grounds referred to under clause 5.12 (a) or (b), the Councillor may instead request the information through a resolution of the Council by way of a notice of motion. This clause does not apply where the General Manager refuses a Councillor's request for information under clause 5.12 (c) or (d).
- 5.14 Nothing in clauses 5.12, 5.13, and 5.14 prevents a Councillor from requesting the information in accordance with the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.*
- 5.15 Where a Councillor persistently makes requests for information which, in the General Manager's opinion, result in a significant and unreasonable diversion of staff time and resources the Council may, on the advice of the General Manager, resolve to limit the number of requests the Councillor may make.

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5.16 Councillor requests are state records and must be managed in accordance with the State Records Act 1998.

5.17 A report will be provided to Council six monthly regarding the performance and efficiency of the Councillor requests system against established key performance indicators.

5.0 Part 6 – Access to Council staff

- 6.1 Councillors may directly contact members of staff that are listed in Schedule 1 of this Policy.

 The General Manager may amend this list at any time and will advise Councillors promptly of any changes.
- 6.2 Councillors can contact staff listed in Schedule 1 about matters that relate to the staff member's area of responsibility.
- 6.3 Councillors should as far as practicable, only contact staff during normal business hours.
- 6.4 If Councillors would like to contact a member of staff not listed in Schedule 1, they must receive permission from the General Manager.
- 6.5 If a Councillor is unsure which authorised staff member can help with their enquiry, they can contact the General Manager or the Manager Governance and Procurement who will provide advice about which authorised staff member to contact.
- 6.6 The General Manager or a member of the Council's executive leadership team may direct any staff member to contact Councillors to provide specific information or clarification relating to a specific matter.
- 6.7 A Councillor or member of staff must not take advantage of their official position to improperly influence other Councillors or members of staff in the performance of their civic or professional duties for the purposes of securing a private benefit for themselves or for another person. Such conduct should be immediately reported to the General Manager or Mayor in the first instance, or alternatively to the Office of Local Government, NSW Ombudsman, or the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption.

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7.0 Part 7 – Councillor access to Council buildings

7.1 Councillors are entitled to have access to the Council chamber, committee room, Mayor's office (subject to availability), Councillors' rooms, and public areas of Council's buildings during normal business hours for meetings. Councillors needing access to these facilities at other times must obtain approval from the General Manager.

7.2 Councillors must not enter staff-only areas of Council buildings without the approval of the General Manager.

8.0 Part 8 – Appropriate and inappropriate interactions

- 8.1 Examples of appropriate interactions between Councillors and staff include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Councillors and Council staff are courteous and display a positive and professional attitude towards one another
 - Council staff ensure that information necessary for Councillors to exercise their civic functions is made equally available to all Councillors, in accordance with this Policy and any other relevant Council policies
 - c. Council staff record the advice they give to Councillors in the same way they would if it was provided to members of the public
 - d. Council staff, including Council's executive team members, document Councillor requests via the Councillor receives system
 - Council meetings and Councillor briefings are used to establish positive working relationships and help Councillors to gain an understanding of the complex issues related to their civic duties
 - f. Councillors and Council staff feel supported when seeking and providing clarification about council related business
 - g. Councillors forward requests through the Councillor requests system and staff respond in accordance with the timeframes stipulated in this Policy.
- 8.2 Examples of inappropriate interactions between Councillors and staff include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Councillors and Council staff conducting themselves in a manner which:
 - i) is contrary to their duties under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and their responsibilities under any policies or procedures adopted by the Council to ensure workplace health and safety
 - ii) constitutes harassment and/or bullying within the meaning of the Code of Conduct, or is unlawfully discriminatory
 - Councillors approaching staff and staff organisations to discuss individual or operational staff matters (other than matters relating to broader workforce policy such as, but not limited to, organisational restructures or outsourcing decisions), grievances, workplace investigations and disciplinary matters

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- staff approaching Councillors to discuss individual or operational staff matters (other than matters relating to broader workforce policy such as, but not limited to, organisational restructures or outsourcing decisions), grievances, workplace investigations and disciplinary matters
- d. subject to clause 5.12, staff refusing to give information that is available to other Councillors to a particular Councillor
- e. Councillors who have lodged an application with the Council, discussing the matter with staff in staff-only areas of the Council
- f. Councillors being overbearing or threatening to staff
- g. staff being overbearing or threatening to Councillors
- h. Councillors making personal attacks on staff or engaging in conduct towards staff that would be contrary to the general conduct provisions in Part 3 of the Code of Conduct in public forums including social media
- Councillors directing or pressuring staff in the performance of their work, or recommendations they should make
- j. staff providing ad hoc advice to Councillors without recording or documenting the interaction as they would if the advice was provided to a member of the community.
- 8.3 Where a Councillor engages in conduct that, in the opinion of the General Manager, puts the health, safety or welfare of staff at risk, the General Manager may restrict the Councillor's access to staff.
- 8.4 Any concerns relating to the conduct of staff under this Policy should be raised with the General Manager.

9.0 Part 9 - Complaints

- 9.1 Complaints about a breach of this policy should be made to the General Manager (if the complaint is about a Councillor or member of Council staff), or the Mayor (if the complaint is about the General Manager).
- 9.2 Clause 9.1 does not operate to prevent matters being reported to OLG, the NSW Ombudsman, the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption or any other external agency.

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Schedule 1 – Authorised staff contacts for Councillors

1.0 Clause 6.1 of this Policy provides that Councillors may directly contact members of staff that are approved by the General Manager. The General Manager may amend this list at any time and will update Councillors and staff via email when changes are made.

- 2.0 Councillors can contact staff approved by the General Manager listed below about matters that relate to the staff member's area of responsibility.
- 3.0 Councillors should, as far as practicable, only contact staff during normal business hours.
- 4.0 If Councillors would like to contact a member of staff not approved by the General Manager, they must receive permission from the General Manager or their delegate.
- 5.0 If a Councillor is unsure which authorised staff member can help with their enquiry, they can contact the General Manager or the Manager Governance and Procurement who will provide advice about which authorised staff member to contact.
- 6.0 In some instances, the General Manager or a member of the Council's executive leadership team may direct a Council staff member to contact Councillors to provide specific information or clarification relating to a specific matter.
- 7.0 The table below provides the overarching authorised positions, noting that General manager will provide a more exhaustive list of contectable staft via email, which may be periodically updated as required.

Authorised positions
General Manager
Director Corporate and Community
Director Engineering and Operations
Director Planning and Environment
General Counsel

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PE1 HOMEBUSH MOVEMENT AND PLACE CONNECTIVITY AND STREETSCAPE UPGRADE

AUTHOR: Gary Choice, Planner

APPROVER: Clare Harley, Director Planning and Environment

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council notes its consideration of the findings of the Strathfield Active Travel Survey (2024).

- 2. That Council progress the proposed 50% concept design of the Homebush Movement and Place upgrade project to public exhibition for a four (4) week period 25 October 2024 to 22 November 2024 and provide the opportunity for the Strathfield community to participate in the consultation process.
- 3. That Council receive and consider the outcomes of the public exhibition at the upcoming Council meeting on 10 December 2024.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present an update on work to advance the *Strathfield Cycleway Concept Plan* (Powells Creek Bike and Walking Track) since the project was last considered by the Strathfield Traffic Committee in February 2022 and Council's March 2022 Meeting. The project has since been enhanced and extended to create the draft *Homebush Movement and Place Connectivity and Streetscape Upgrade* project (Homebush MaP).

The report also provides an overview of the Strathfield Active Travel Community Engagement Strategy including findings from the recent Strathfield Active Travel Survey; and a summary of next steps including community consultation for the Homebush MaP.

REPORT

BACKROUND

Project context (active travel in Strathfield LGA)

The Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA) is known for its well-connected and accessible public transport systems. Strathfield Station is one of the largest stations in Sydney and is part of a network which features metro, Regional, freight, country and State rail connections. Other train stations in the LGA include Homebush and Flemington Rail stations.

There are currently bus service and private vehicle drop off services that allow the community to access the existing train stations in Strathfield. However, active transport options are less well developed and there is opportunity to improve accessibility to the Strathfield Station (and other stations) as key destinations. There is an opportunity to enhance existing good access to roads to provide improve the footpaths and cycleways network across the LGA.



Strathfield also occupies a strategic location in the context of regional active travel destinations. It is currently part of the Botany Bay to Homebush Bay (Bay-to-Bay bikeway). However, provision of dedicated active transport connected is inconsistent, with Strathfield being one of the less well serviced sections of the route. Locally there is opportunity to provide links to destinations such as Sydney Olympic Park and provide the Strathfield community with an active travel connection to Olympic standard sport and leisure facilities.

The Strathfield Local Strategic Planning Statement - *Strathfield 2040* - prioritises a review of Strathfield's current active travel infrastructure and facilities to identify barriers to walking and cycling to local centres and key transport nodes and implement a program for the delivery of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure to ensure neighbourhood accessibility.

Recent community consultation on attitudes toward active travel

In 2024, Council has sought to understand community sentiment and identify barriers to using active transport. Key objectives of the community engagement include:

- Improve overall understanding and perceptions about bike riding in Strathfield,
- Improve engagement and strengthen relationships between Council and stakeholders, and
- Increase collaboration between stakeholders to maximise opportunities and benefits for healthy, safe and active travel in Strathfield.

Council's staff have conducted community engagement activities from 11 July 2024 to 13 September 2024.

The project involved an open, online survey which was made available via the Strathfield Council website. The survey was promoted via an information pack (digital and physical versions) containing a QR scan code with a link to the online survey. Physical copies of the information pack were also distributed to locations within and surrounding the Strathfield LGA (see **Attachment 1**). The online survey sought to collect a significant sample of meaningful qualitative and quantitative data (including technical data) to gauge attitudes towards bike riding and modal shift in Strathfield, with the aim of building an evidence base to inform decision-making about future active travel initiatives.

A total of 445 contributions were collected (see Attachment 2) with 38.7% of survey participants residing outside of the Strathfield area. The survey findings, therefore, provide data on experiences and attitudes of both the residents of – and visitors to – the Strathfield LGA.

An analysis of the survey data includes the following highlights:

- 83% of the same survey sample expressed an interest in bike riding, despite nearly half of survey participants stating that they did not currently ride a bicycle
- 86% of participants agreed that bike riding would be safer if bike paths were separated from vehicle traffic
- 86% of participants agreed that bike riding would be more desirable if the bike paths connected with destinations like town centres and railway stations

The quantitative data collected from this survey provides an evidence base which indicates general support for active travel initiatives in Strathfield, although the survey made no mention of the Homebush MaP itself. An analysis of the survey data suggests that both residents and visitors would support improvements to active travel infrastructure, such as dedicated bike lanes in the Strathfield area.





Homebush MaP design and development

Since the endorsement of the Strathfield Cycleway Concept Plan (Powells Creek Bike and Walking Track) in 2022, Council has identified additional opportunities to enhance walking and bike riding facilities in the Homebush area which has further enhanced the project design scope beyond the original 2018 cycleway concept plan. This enhanced concept plan was first referred to as the draft Homebush Active Travel Network (HATN) and has since been renamed to Homebush Movement and Place project (Homebush MaP).

Homebush Movement and Place Connectivity and Streetscape Upgrade (Cont'd)

The draft Homebush MaP has now been developed into a 3.2km active travel project which will connect the Powell's Creek walking and bike path in the northern bounds of Homebush to Strathfield Town Centre; Homebush Town Centre and the Bay-to-Bay Ride (see Attachment 3).

State-led developments in the design of active travel infrastructure

The Cycleway Design Toolbox (the Toolbox) was released by Transport for NSW in 2020 to provide design guidelines for practitioners on facilities for bike riding and other forms of micro mobility (walking, scooters, wheelchairs etc). The Toolbox champions the separation of pedestrians, bike riders, and traffic from each other as much as possible, and provides updated design treatments to promote bike riding as a viable form of transport. Bike path designs must still follow national guidelines such as Austroads and must comply with regulatory requirements.

Project funding

One of main objectives of the Homebush MaP is to deliver the project at a minimum cost to Council.

The original Strathfield Cycleway Concept Plan was created in 2018 and pre-dates the current Cycleway Design Toolbox guidelines. As part of the Get NSW Active Program, TfNSW awarded Council with a total \$350k grant funding to produce and updated concept and detail design that would better align with the current Toolbox guidelines. Design funding was bolstered further with \$100k of grant funding as part of the Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvement Program (PRUAIP).

Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) increased its spending on Active Transport infrastructure for the Get NSW Active programs 2023/24 period to \$52m for construction projects including \$10m dedicated to projects that enable walking and micro mobility usage to access schools, up to \$7.5m for design projects, and \$500k for strategy and planning projects.

There is an opportunity for Strathfield Council to access additional grant funding for the delivery of construction ready active transport projects.

Council has secured funding from the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) for the construction of sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the Homebush MaP. Following the completion of the concept and detail design (including community consultation), Council will pursue additional grant funding opportunities to fund the construction of section 3 of the project.



Although construction funding for section 3 has not yet been secured, the construction of sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 will create a complete and fully functional bike route from Airey Park to Ismay Reserve, significantly improving the Bay-to-Bay bikeway.

Concept and detail design

Utilising the current grant funding provided by DPHI, Council (in October 2023) engaged the services of Connybeare Morrison International (CM+) to prepare a concept design for community engagement purposes as well as a detailed design for construction of the Homebush MaP.

The 50% draft concept map for all sections of the Homebush MaP can be seen in **Attachment 4**.

Consultation with referral authorities

Inter-Agency Working Group (AWG)

An Agency Working Group was established by the Homebush MaP project design group and preliminary consultation was held online on 6 June 2024 whereby Council staff led a comprehensive walkthrough of the proposed bike route with representatives from the following organisations:

- Burwood Council
- Canada Bay Council
- Cumberland Council
- Parramatta Council
- School Infrastructure NSW
- Sydney Water
- Sydney Metro
- Sydney Trains

No significant issues were raised at the first AWG meeting and all parties were generally supportive of the proposal. Key agencies were able to share information relevant to the delivery of the project

Homebush Transport Oriented Development (TOD) Precinct

The draft Homebush TOD rezoning proposal aims to implement the vision for Homebush outlined in the <u>Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy</u>, with some changes proposed to support delivery of more diverse homes located close to key public transport infrastructure.

Key features of the Homebush TOD rezoning proposal include:

- Capacity for up to 16,100 additional homes within the precinct (approximately 50% of total dwelling yield within Strathfield LGA)
- The creation of up to 2,670 additional jobs
- Potential for new open space, pathways and cycleways within the precinct

The state rezoning proposal to implement the Homebush TOD program is expected to be endorsed by the Minister for Planning and Place, Minister Scully, in November 2024. A significant feature of the Homebush



TOD will be the provision of active transport connections to provide existing and future residents with an active travel network across the precinct and to primary destinations such as future Sydney Metro.

The Homebush MaP now forms part of the list of strategies and studies which inform the *Homebush TOD Rezoning Precinct Transport Statement*. This will ensure that residents and visitors have access to a safe and enjoyable active travel route through the Homebush TOD Precinct, linking Flemington, Homebush West, Homebush and Strathfield Town Centre.

Planned exhibition and community consultation on the Homebush MaP

The next stage of the community engagement process involves the public exhibition of the proposed concept design for a period of four (4) weeks from 25 October 2024 to 22 November 2024 whereby Council will provide opportunities for the community to participate in the consultation process via written submission and discussion at a drop-in information session to be held at Strathfield Library.

The aim of the public exhibition is to build awareness of the overall intent of the Homebush MaP project (including local and regional benefits) and key objectives of the Homebush Map community engagement are to:

- Develop broad stakeholder interest, understanding, and support for the project,
- Create awareness of the project and where it fits within the Central River City and Eastern Harbour City regional plans, and
- Promote Strathfield Council as a leader in active travel and safer street design.

The project team will be working to demonstrate how the project has responded to anticipated points of concern and highlight broader project benefits. Given the technical nature of the project, the community will be invited to provide commentary and feedback on issues of concern. The acceptance of community stakeholder feedback such as written contributions will be possible during the engagement period.

Although it will not significantly alter the overall project alignment (i.e. the overall bike route), it will enable Council to optimise detailed design in response to community stakeholder feedback.

Next Steps

- Stage 2: Public Exhibition of Homebush MaP Project Information 25 October to 22 November 2024
 - Staged release of project information pack, plans and FAQs (4 weeks for submissions)
 - Website information and social media posts
 - Drop-in session at Strathfield Library
- Outcomes of public exhibition presented to Council 3 December 2024
 - Project presented for tender December 2024 (pending Council meeting 10 December 2024)
 - Letterbox mailout to affected properties



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding has been secured for the design and construction of the Homebush MaP project as discussed elsewhere in this report. provided in the current budget for this purpose as set out below:

Budget Item	Approved Budget	Expenditure To Date	
Concept & detail design			
TfNSW - Get NSW Active	\$350,000	\$276,930	
grants program 2022/23			
DPHI - Parramatta Road Urban	\$100,000	\$0	
Amenity Improvement Program			
(PRUAIP) grant funding			

Should Council endorse the project, DPHI will fully fund construction of sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the Homebush MaP.

Delivery of stage 3 (Homebush Station to Strathfield Station) would require additional funding, and Council can pursue various state and federal grant funding programs.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1.1 Strathfield Active Travel Survey 2024 InfoPack
- 2.1 Strathfield ATS 2024 findings report Oct 2024
- 3.J Homebush MaP sections map 4 Apr 2024
- 4.1 Draft Homebush MaP 50% CONCEPT DESIGN Sept 2024

What will we do with your feedback?

Your feedback is important in helping Council build a better understanding of your travel movements through the area and any challenges you face along your route.

Complete the 5 minute survey and enter the draw to win a \$100 gift voucher.

Scan the OR code or visit haveyoursay.strathfield.nsw.gov.au to complete the survey by Friday 13 September 2024.



SCAN HERE or visit haveyoursay. strathfield.nsw.gov.au

Name and email required to enter the draw. Winner to be notified by 25 September 2024.



Strathfield Active Travel Survey





or visit haveyoursay.

strathfield.nsw.gov.au









Complete the

a \$100 gift

voucher!

5 minute survey and enter the draw to

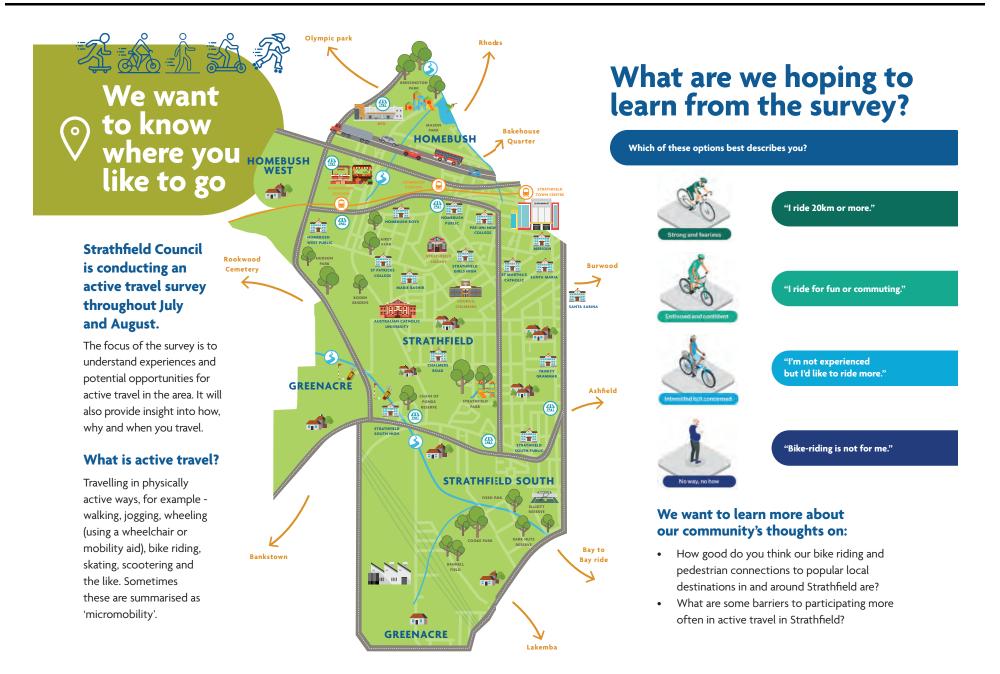
Strathfield

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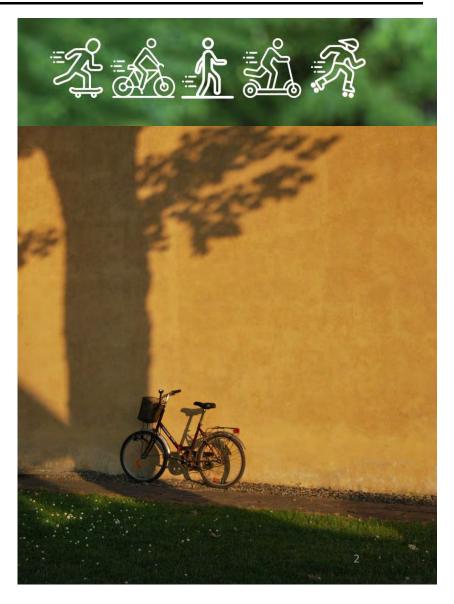




Report Outline

Research Objectives	3
Summary Findings	7
Methodology and Sample	4
1. Summary findings	7
2. Attitudes and perceptions	11
Appendix 1: Total survey results	19
Appendix 2: Strathfield Active Travel Survey 2024 Questions	35









Research Objectives

The Strathfield Council Active Transport Team conducted a community engagement exercise during the period of 11 July to 13 September 2024.

The project involved an open online survey which was made available via the Strathfield Council website. The survey was promoted via an information pack (digital and physical versions) containing a QR scan code with a link to the online survey. Physical copies of the information pack were also distributed to various locations both within and surrounding the Strathfield LGA.

A total of 445 contributions were collected* (see page 4 for details on data maintenance). This report will analyse the results of the survey.

3

Δ

Methodology and Sample



Ratings questions

Participants were asked a series of questions – comprising a combination of – which included demographic (age, gender, household status, etc.); questions around travel and mobility including personal travel mode preferences; and multiple Likert Scale statements to measure attitudes and perceptions toward bike riding, perceptions of bike riding infrastructure and facilities in the Strathfield LGA.

A Unipolar Scale of 1 to 5 was used in all rating questions, where 1 was the highest frequency or support (always/strongly agree) and 5 the lowest frequency or support (never/strongly disagree). This scale allowed us to identify different levels of activity and support across respondents.

Top 2 (T2) Box: refers to the aggregate percentage (%) score of the top two scores for importance. (i.e. supportive & very supportive and agree & strongly agree)

Note: All percentages are calculated to the nearest whole number and therefore the total may not exactly equal 100%.

8 How do y	ou travel	to from	and around	Strathfield?	Doguinad
8. HOW GO 1	ou travei	to, from	and around	Stratnneid!	Required

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Walking & wheeling					
Public transport					
Bike riding					
Taxis and shared transport					
Vehicle (driver or passenger)					

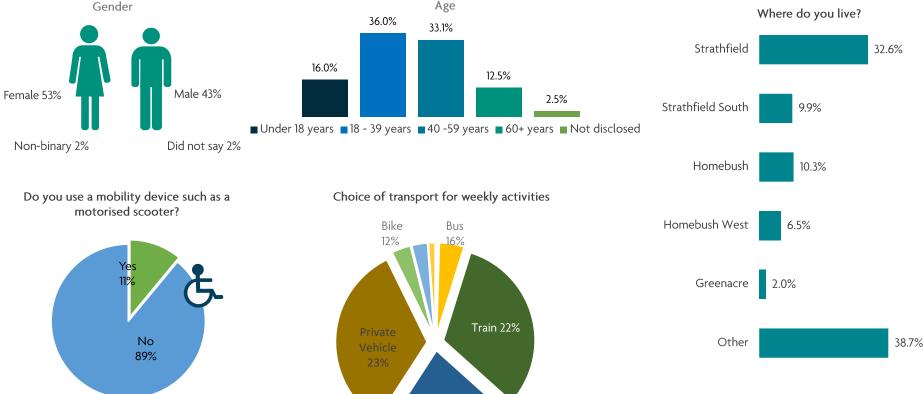
9. When moving around the Strathfield area, I believe that.... Required

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
You need a car to get around the Strathfield area	0				
It is easy to get to a lot of great places in the Strathfield area without a car					
There are some great walking and bike riding facilities in Strathfield					
I am not aware of any walking or bike riding facilities in Strathfield			0	0	0

4

Sample Profile: Strathfield Active Travel Survey 2024

Note: As this survey data is from a self select sample the results are only reflective of those who have participated, and not generalisable to a broader population.

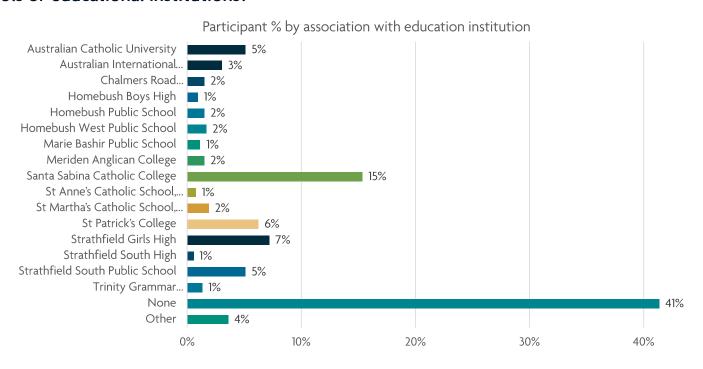


5 Base: N = 445

5

Association with local educational institutions

Q. Do you or anyone in your household attend one of these schools or educational institutions?



A total of 59% of survey participants have at least one household member attending a school or other educational institution within the Strathfield locale. Santa Sabina Catholic College had the highest representation with 15% or total responses.

6

Summary Findings

The Active Travel Survey 2024 the opportunity for the wider community to participate in consultation regarding the active travel in Strathfield. The report notes, that 38.7% of participants reside outside of the Strathfield LGA. The survey findings, therefore, provide data on the experiences and attitudes of both residents of – and visitors to – the Strathfield LGA.

52%

of participants agreed that a car is necessary to travel around the Strathfield area



87%

of participants agreed that they would love for children to be able to ride bikes safely in the Strathfield area



86%

of participants agreed that bike riding would be more desirable if bike paths connected with destinations like town centres



94%

of participants agreed that dedicated bike lanes separate from vehicle traffic were needed in Strathfield to encourage more people to ride bikes



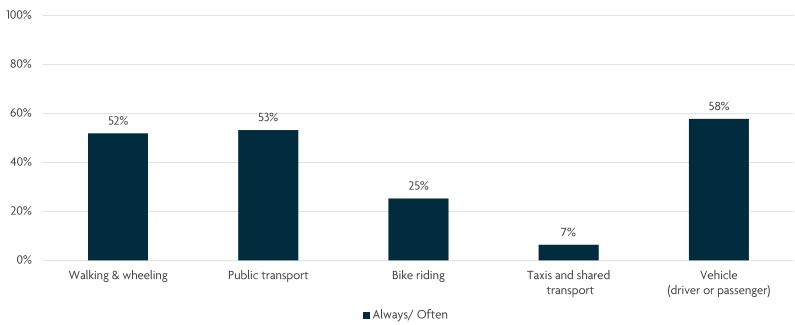
7

Typical travel modes for residents and visitors



Q. How do you travel to, from and around Strathfield?





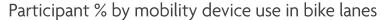
Private vehicle was the most frequently used mode of transport with public transport, walking and wheeled devices (wheelchairs, scooters etc.) also being used frequently by the majority of participants.

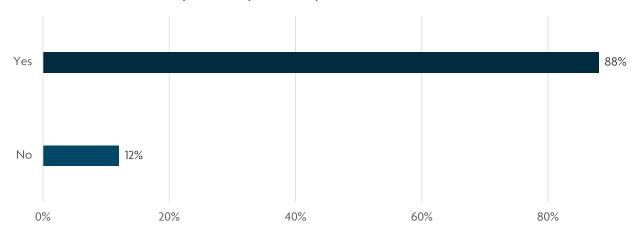
8

Use of bike-riding facilities with mobility devices



Q. Have you ever used separated bike lanes to travel with your mobility device?





A total of 49 survey participants (16%) answered 'Yes' to using a mobility device such as a motorised wheelchair scooter. Of this sub-population, 88% of participants have previously used their mobility device in bike lanes.

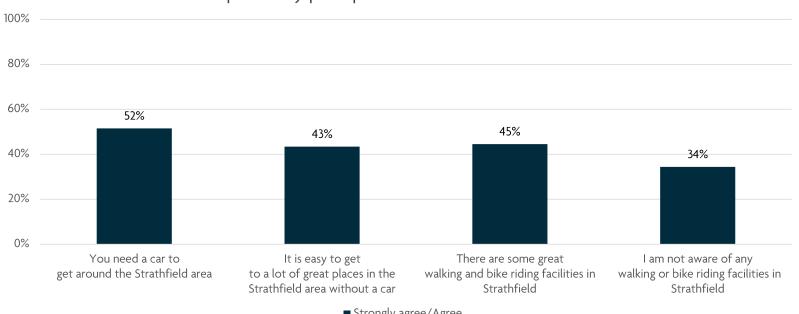
9

Perceptions of personal travel and local facilities



Q. When moving around the Strathfield area, I believe that.....





■ Strongly agree/Agree

Perceptions of local travel infrastructure saw a majority of participants agree that a car use was necessary to travel around the Strathfield area. Although almost half of the survey sample seemed to be aware of the existence of walking and bike riding facilities in the Strathfield area only 43% of participants agreed that many destinations around Strathfield were easy to get to without a car.

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10



Attitudes & Perceptions



11

What are we hoping to learn from the survey?





Survey sample and data maintenance

Participants were asked a series of questions – comprising a combination of – which included demographic (age, gender, household status, etc.); questions around travel and mobility including personal travel mode preferences; and multiple Likert Scale statements to measure attitudes and perceptions toward bike riding, perceptions of bike riding infrastructure and facilities in the Strathfield LGA.

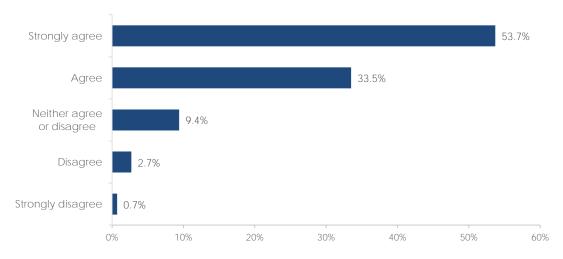
This section explores the responses to specific concepts and gauges attitudes toward bike-riding across the Strathfield LGA.

12

Attitudes towards children riding bikes in Strathfield

87.2% of participants strongly agree/agree that children should be able to ride their bikes safely in the Strathfield area. Concurrence is generally higher amongst participants younger the 70 years old.

	Overall		Age								
		Under 18	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	N/D		
Top 2 Box %	87%	85%	91%	86%	91%	95%	85%	73%	55%		
Mean rating	1.63	1.82	1.56	1.59	2.97	1.48	1.47	2.09	2.18		
Base	445	71	73	87	87	60	34	22	11		



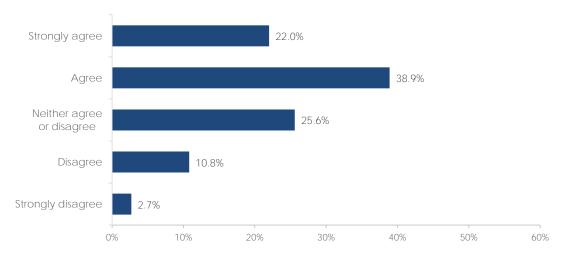
Base: Stage 2 (N = 445)

Scale: 1 = Strongly agree , 5 = Strongly disagree A significantly higher/lower level of concurrence (by group) N/D : Prefer not to say (not disclosed)

Perceptions of bike-rider safety in Strathfield

60.9% of participants strongly agree/agree that local roads and traffic in Strathfield is dangerous and bike-riding is not safe. Concurrence is generally higher amongst participants 30 years of age and older.

	Overall		Age							
		Under 18	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	N/D	
Top 2 Box %	61%	36.6%	49%	72%	69%	72%	62%	55%	91%	
Mean rating	2.33	2.74	2.6	2.14	2.17	2.18	2.24	2.5	1.45	
Base	445	71	73	87	87	60	34	22	11	



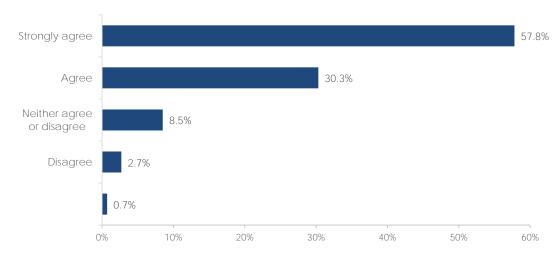
Base: Stage 2 (N = 445)

Scale: 1 = Strongly agree , 5 = Strongly disagree A significantly higher/lower level of concurrence (by group) N/D : Prefer not to say (not disclosed)

Perceptions of separated bike paths and bike-riding safety

88.1% of participants strongly agree/agree that bike-riding would be safer if bike paths were separated from vehicle traffic. Participants within the 70+ years bracket were less concurrent.

	Overall		Age						
		Under 18	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	N/D
Top 2 Box %	88%	90%	88%	92%	87%	83%	97%	73%	82%
Mean rating	1.58	1.6	1.63	1.49	1.57	1.58	1.32	2.09	1.72
Base	445	71	73	87	87	60	34	22	11



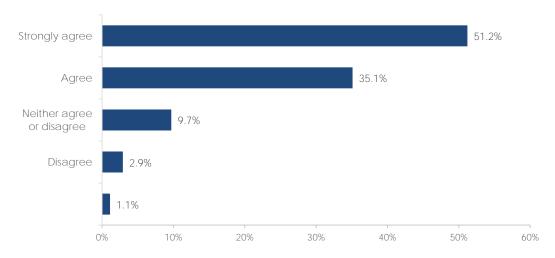
Base: Stage 2 (N = 445)

Scale: 1 = Strongly agree , 5 = Strongly disagree A significantly higher/lower level of concurrence (by group) N/D : Prefer not to say (not disclosed)

Attitudes toward bike-riding connectivity in Strathfield

86.3% of participants strongly agree/agree that bike-riding would be more desirable if the bike paths connected with destinations like town centres and rail stations. Participants within the 70+ years bracket show a lower level of concurrence.

	Overall		Age						
		Under 18	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	N/D
Top 2 Box %	86%	79%	81%	90%	90%	90%	93%	73%	100%
Mean rating	1.68	1.94	1.85	1.55	1.51	1.57	1.38	2.22	1.45
Base	445	71	73	87	87	60	34	22	11



Base: Stage 2 (N = 445)

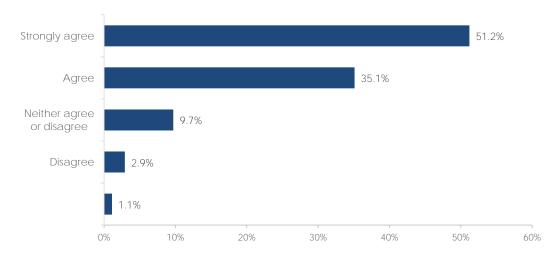
Scale: 1 = Strongly agree , 5 = Strongly disagree A significantly higher/lower level of concurrence (by group) N/D : Prefer not to say (not disclosed)

Item PE1 - Attachment 2 Page 290

Attitudes toward separated bike lanes to encourage more bike-riding

86.3% of participants strongly agree/agree that dedicated bike lanes separate from vehicle traffic are needed in Strathfield to encourage more people to ride bikes more often. Participants within the 70+ years bracket show a lower level of concurrence.

	Overall		Age							
		Under 18	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	N/D	
Top 2 Box %	86%	83.1%	81%	90%	84%	87%	88%	68%	64%	
Mean rating	1.68	1.94	1.66	1.56	1.59	1.65	1.44	2.18	2.18	
Base	445	71	73	87	87	60	34	22	11	

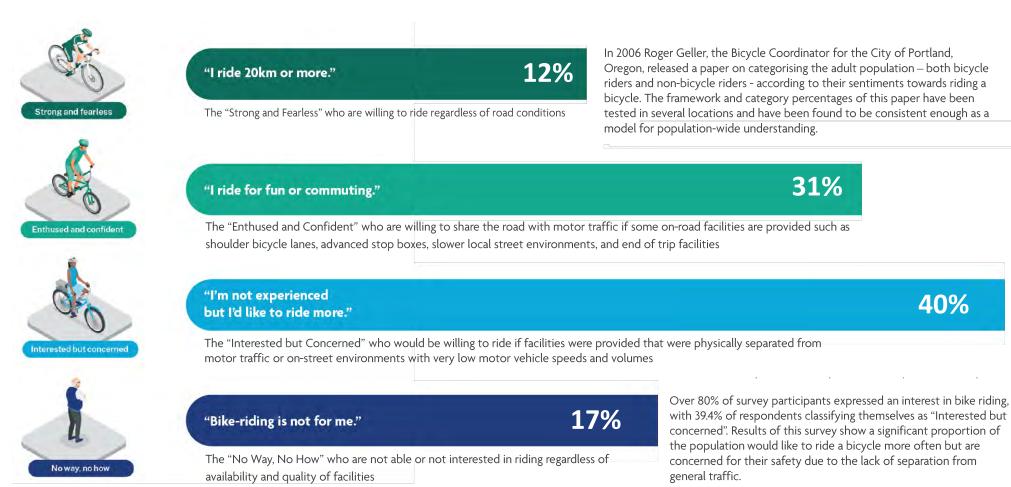


Base: Stage 2 (N = 445)

Scale: 1 = Strongly agree , 5 = Strongly disagree A significantly higher/lower level of concurrence (by group) N/D : Prefer not to say (not disclosed)

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¹⁸Sample Profile: Rider types using the Geller test



Base: N = 417 - 28 participants skipped Q13 of the survey

Item PE1 - Attachment 2

19



Appendix 1 Total Survey Results

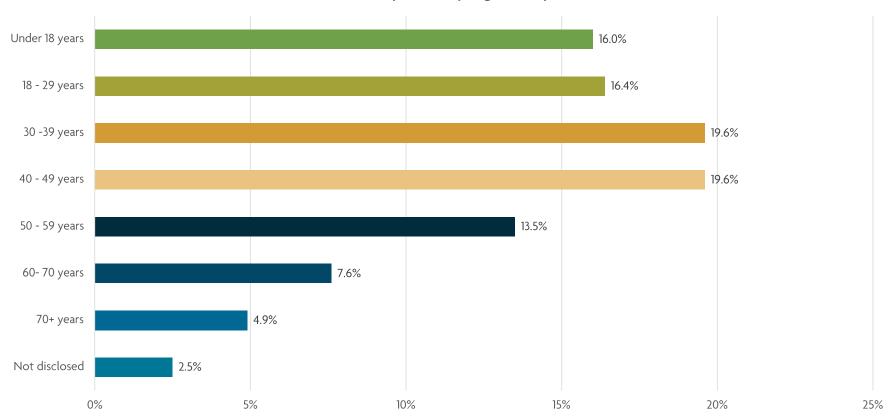


19

1. What is your age?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

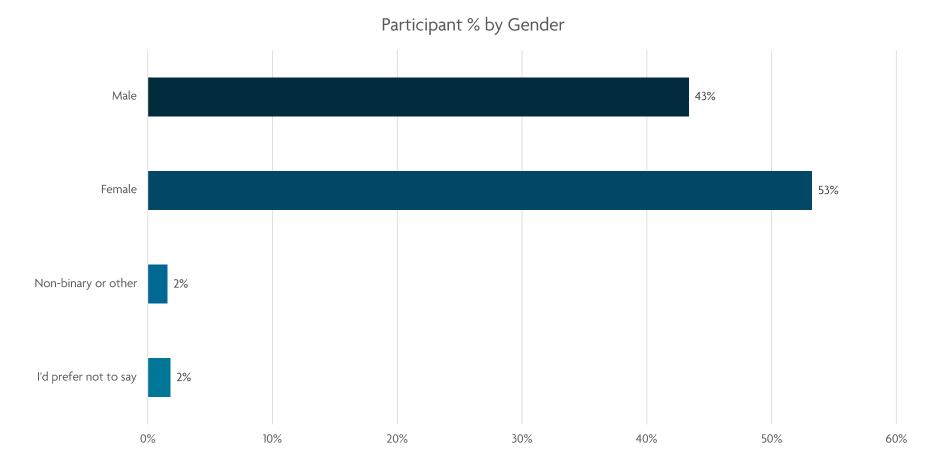
Participant % by Age Group



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2. What is your gender?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

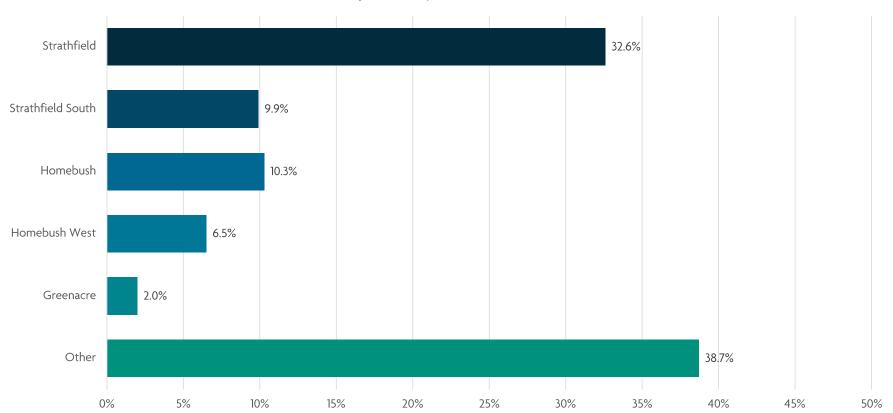


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3. Where do you live?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

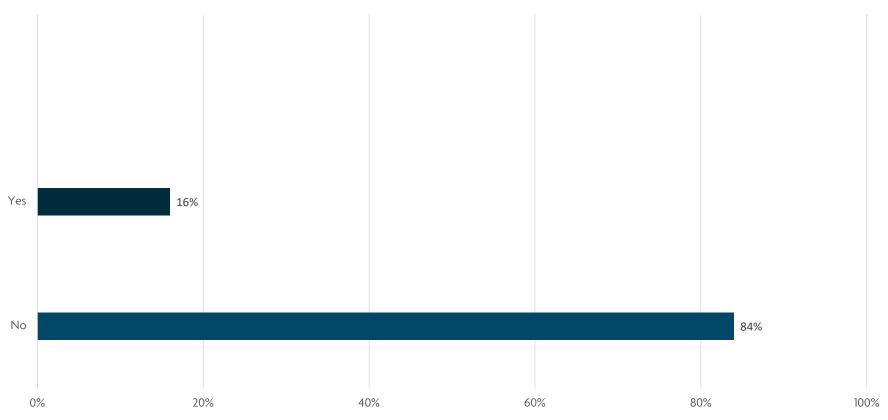
Participant % by Place of Residence



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4. Do you use a mobility device such as a scooter or wheelchair to travel around Strathfield and other areas? Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

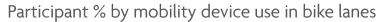


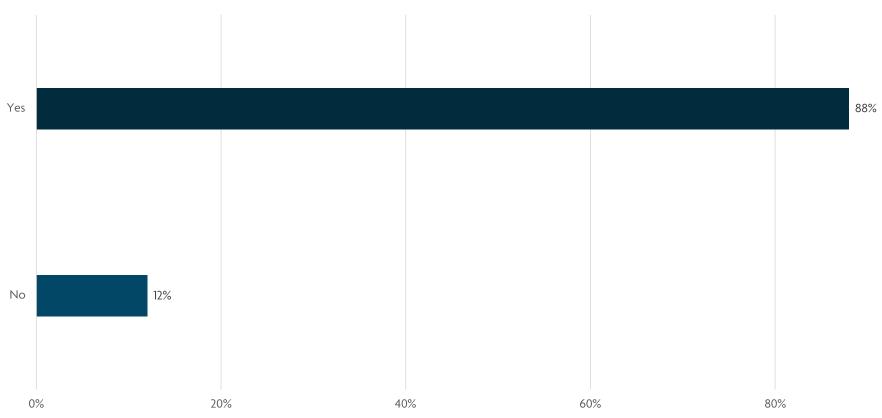


23

5. If 'Yes', have you ever used separated bike lanes to travel with your mobility device?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 396 | Answered: 49 (73.27%)



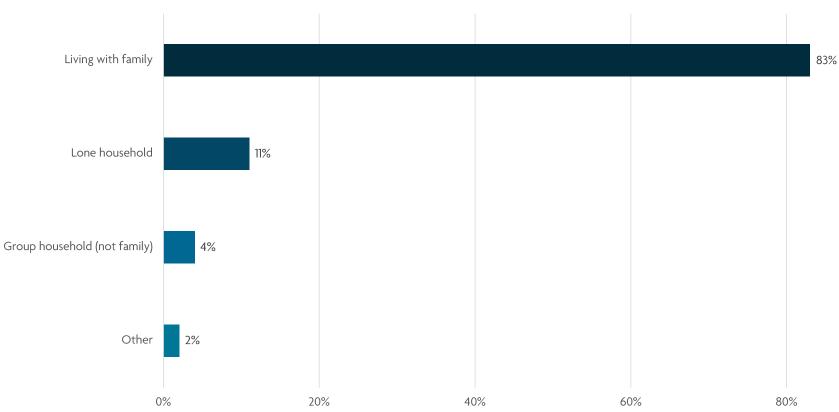


24

6. How would you describe your living arrangements?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)



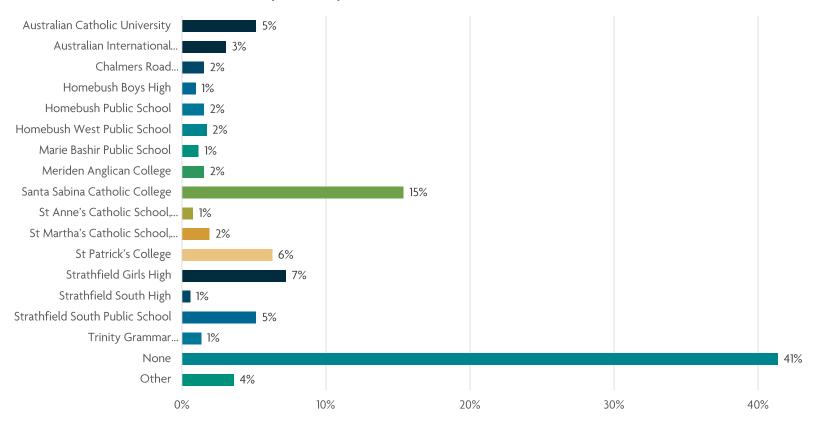


Item PE1 - Attachment 2 Page 299

7. Do you or anyone in your household attend one of these schools or educational institutions?

Multi Choice | Multiple selections permitted | Answers: 527 counted

Participant % by association with education institution

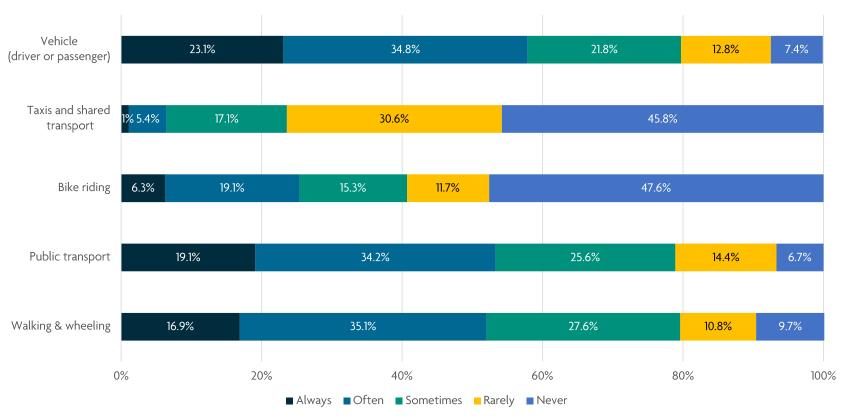


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8. How do you travel to, from and around Strathfield?

Matrix | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

Participant % by travel mode frequency

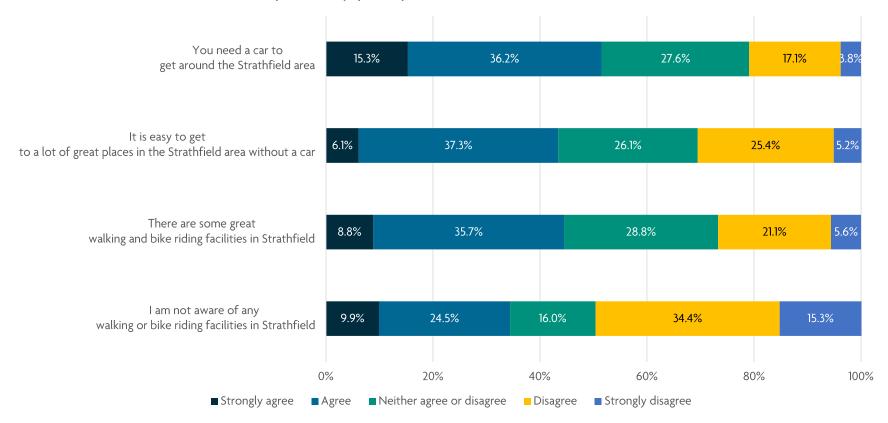


27

9. When moving around the Strathfield area, I believe that.....

Matrix | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

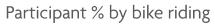
Participant % by perceptions of local travel infrastructure

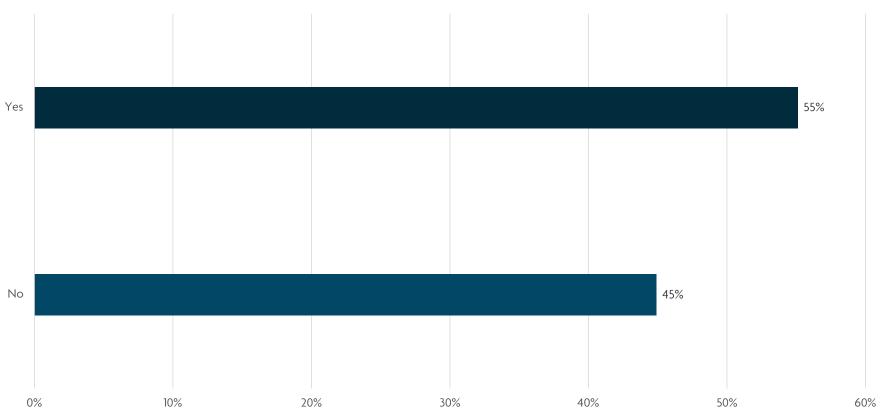


Item PE1 - Attachment 2 Page 302

11. Do you ride a bicycle?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)



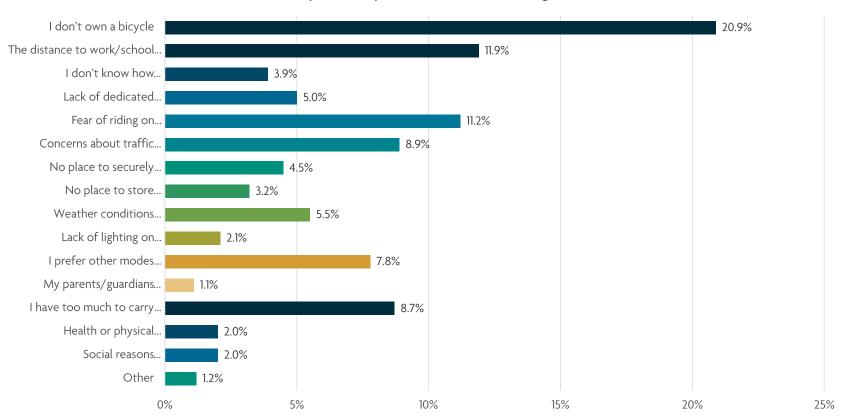


Item PE1 - Attachment 2 Page 303

12. Why don't you ride a bicycle? (Check all that apply)

Multiple selections permitted | Answers: 561 counted

Participant % by reasons for not riding bike

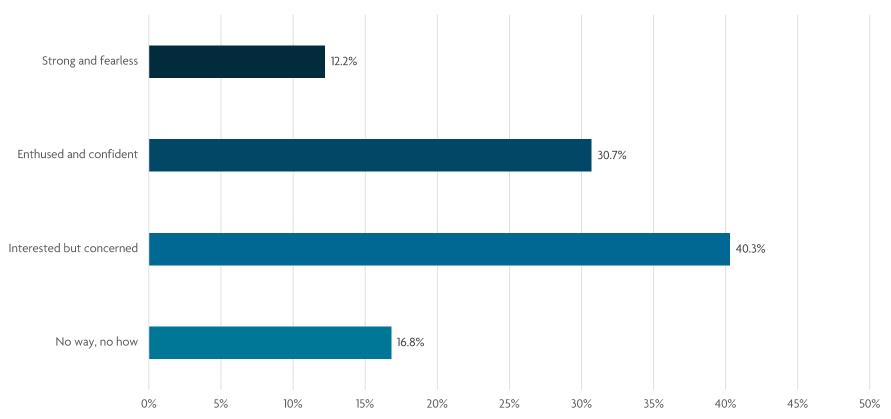


30

13. Which of these people best describe you?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 29 | Answered: 416 (100%)

Participant % by bike rider type

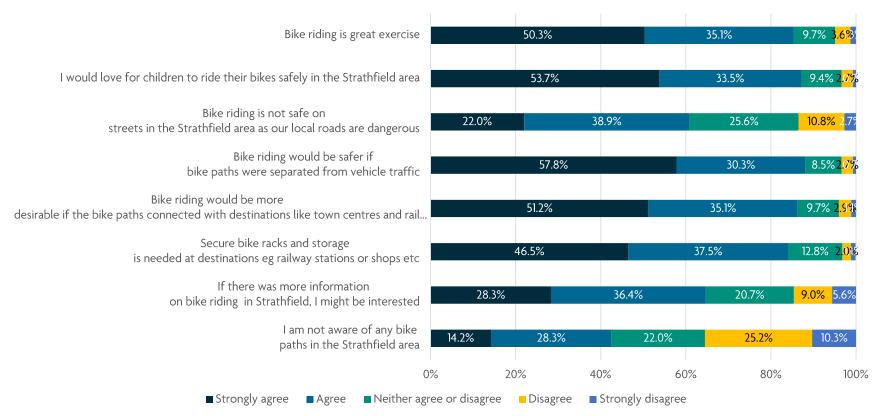


Item PE1 - Attachment 2 Page 305

14. What are your thoughts on bike riding in the Strathfield area?

Matrix | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

Participant % by perceptions of local travel infrastructure

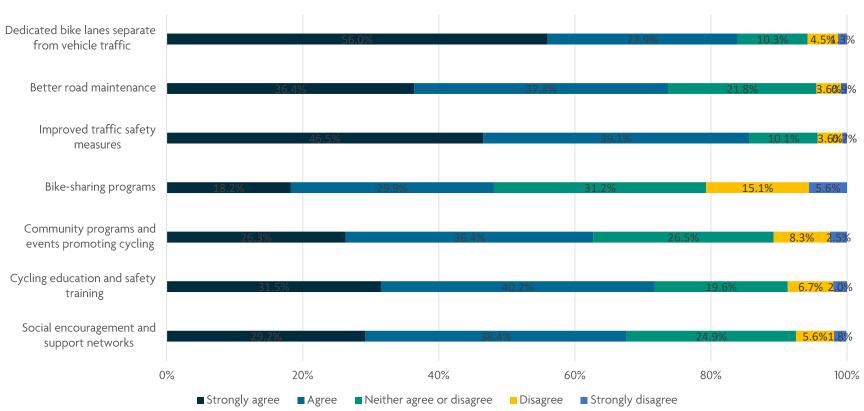


Item PE1 - Attachment 2 Page 306

15. What improvements are needed in Strathfield to encourage more people to ride bikes more often?

Matrix | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 445 (100%)

Participant % by suggested active travel improvements

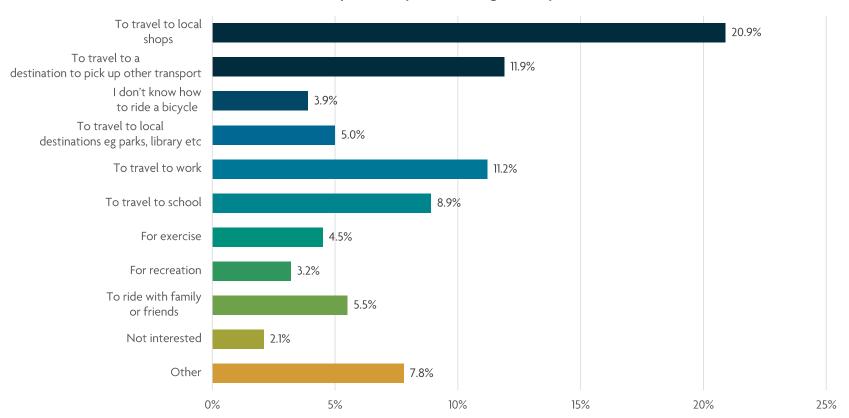


33

16. What would be your main interests in bike riding in Strathfield? (tick all that apply)

Multiple selections permitted | Answers: 1608 counted

Participant % by bike riding activity



Item PE1 - Attachment 2 Page 308

Appendix 2 Strathfield Active Travel Survey 2024 Questions





Strathfield Active Travel Survey

Section 1: Personal Information	
1. What is your age group? Required	3. Where do you live? Required
Under 18 years	Strathfield
18 – 29 years	Strathfield South
30 -39 years	Homebush
40 - 49 years	Homebush West
50 - 59 years	Greenacre
60-70 years	Other (please specify)
70+ years	
I'd rather not say	4. Do you use a mobility device such as a scooter or wheelchair to travel around Strathfield and other areas? Required
	Yes
2. What is your gender? Required	Na Na
Male	
Female	5. If 'Yes', have you ever used separated bike lanes to travel with your mobility device?
Non-binary or other	Yes:
I'd prefer not to say	, No
	6. How would you describe your living arrangements? Required
	Living with family
	Lone houshold
	Group household (not family)
	Other (please specify) 36

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7. D	to you or anyone in your household attend one of these schools or educational institutions? Requir
	Australian Catholic University
	Australian International Academy – Strathfield Campus
	Chalmers Road Special Needs School
	Homebush Boys High
	Homebush Public School
	Homebush West Public School
	Marie Bashir Public School
	Meriden Anglican College
	Santa Sabina Catholic College
	St Anne's Catholic School, Strathfield South
	St Martha's Catholic School, Strathfield
	St Patrick's College
	Strathfield Girls High
	Strathfield South High
	Strathfield South Public School
	Trinity Grammar Preparatory School
	None
	Other (please specify)

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Section 2: Moving around S	trathfield						
8. How do you travel to, from and around Strathfield? Required							
	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never		
Walking & wheeling	0	0	0	0			
Public transport	0	0	0	0	0		
Bike riding	0	0	0	0			
Taxis and shared transport	0	0	0	0	0		
Vehicle (driver or passenger)	0	0	0	0			
You need a car to get around the Strathfield area	0	0	disagree	0	Disagree		
It is easy to get to a lot of great places in the Strathfield area without a car	0	Ò	0	0	0		
There are some great walking and bike riding facilities in Strathfield	0	0	Ö	Ö	ò		
Strutimeta							

38

38

10.	How do you usually travel to usual weekly activities like work or school? (Tick all that apply) Required
	Walk
	Bicycle
	School Bus
	Train
	Bus (public or private bus service)
	Private motor vehicle (driven by self or parent/guardian)
	Carpool (with other students)
	Taxi/Rideshare
	Other (please specify)
Se	ction 3: Riding in the Strathfield area
11. E	Do you ride a bicycle? Required
	Yes
0	No.

39

39

13. Which of these people best describe you? Required









40

40

14. What are your thoughts on bike riding in the Strathfield area? Required

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Bike riding is great exercise	0	0	0	0	0
I would love for children to ride their bikes safely in the Strathfield area	0	0	0	0	0
Bike riding is not safe on streets in the Strathfield area as our local roads are dangerous	0	0	0	0	0
Bike riding would be safer if bike paths were separated from vehicle traffic	0	0	0	0	0
Bike riding would be more desirable if the bike paths connected with destinations like town centres and rail stations	0	0	0	0	
Secure bike racks and storage is needed at destinations eg railway stations or shops etc	0	0	0	0	0
If there was more information on bike riding in Strathfield, I might be interested	0	0	0	0	0
I am not aware of any bike paths in the Strathfield area	0	0	0	0	0

41

41

15. What improvements are needed in Strathfield to encourage more people to ride bikes more often? Required

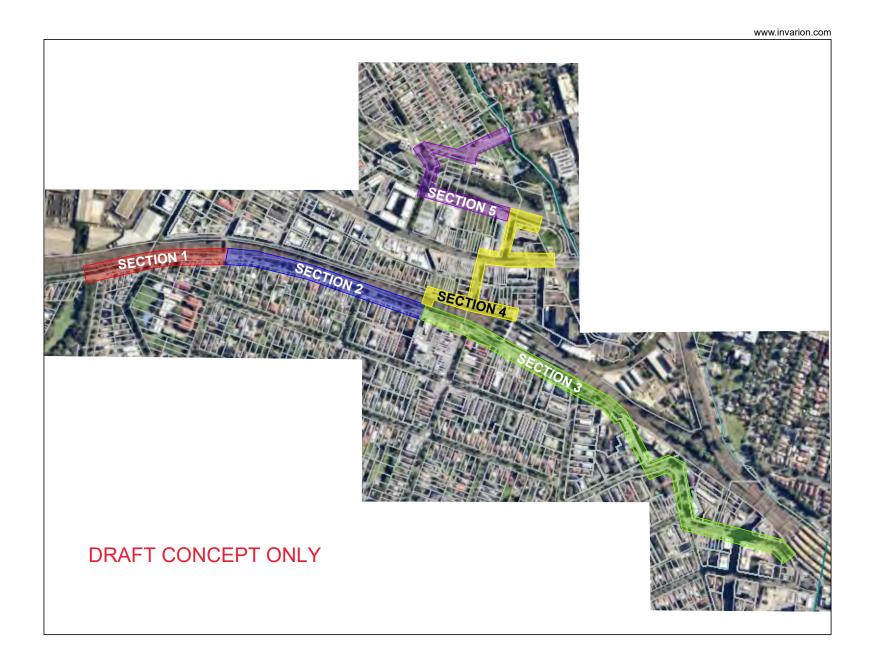
	Very likely	Likely	Neutral	Unlikely	Very unlikely
Dedicated bike lanes separate from vehicle traffic	0	0	0	0	0
Better road maintenance	0	0	0	0	0
Improved traffic safety measures	0	0	0		0
Bike-sharing programs	0			0	0
Community programs and events promoting cycling	0	0	0	0	0
Cycling education and safety training	0	0	0	0	0
Social encouragement and support networks	0	0	0	0	0

42

42

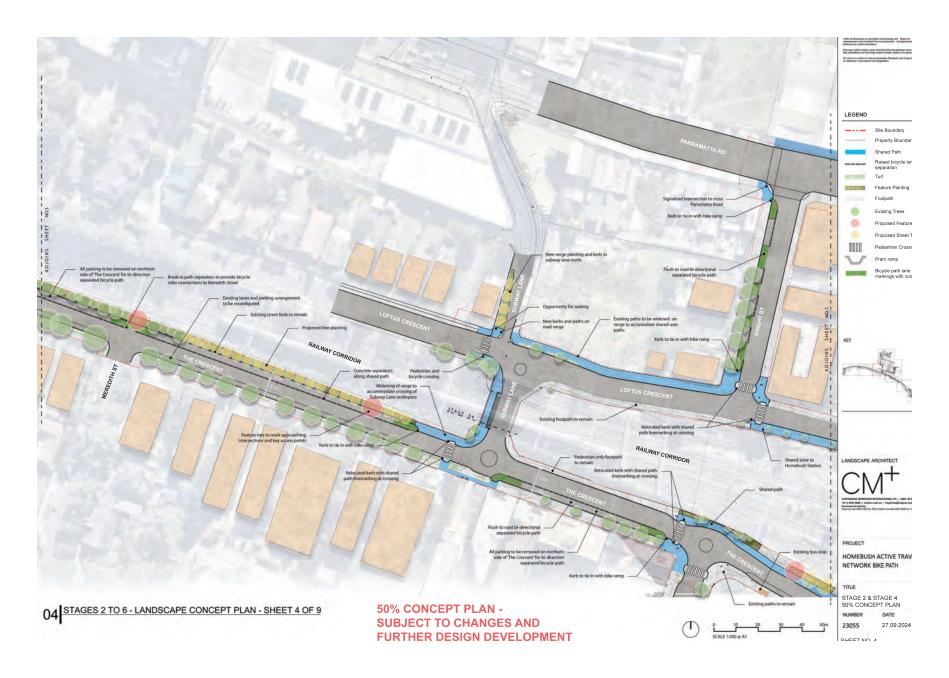
16. What would be your main interests in bike riding in Strathfield? (tick all that apply) Required
To travel to local shops
To travel to a destination to pick up other transport
To travel to local destinations eg parks, library etc
To travel to work
To travel to school
For exercise
For recreation
To ride with family or friends
Not interested
Other (please specify)

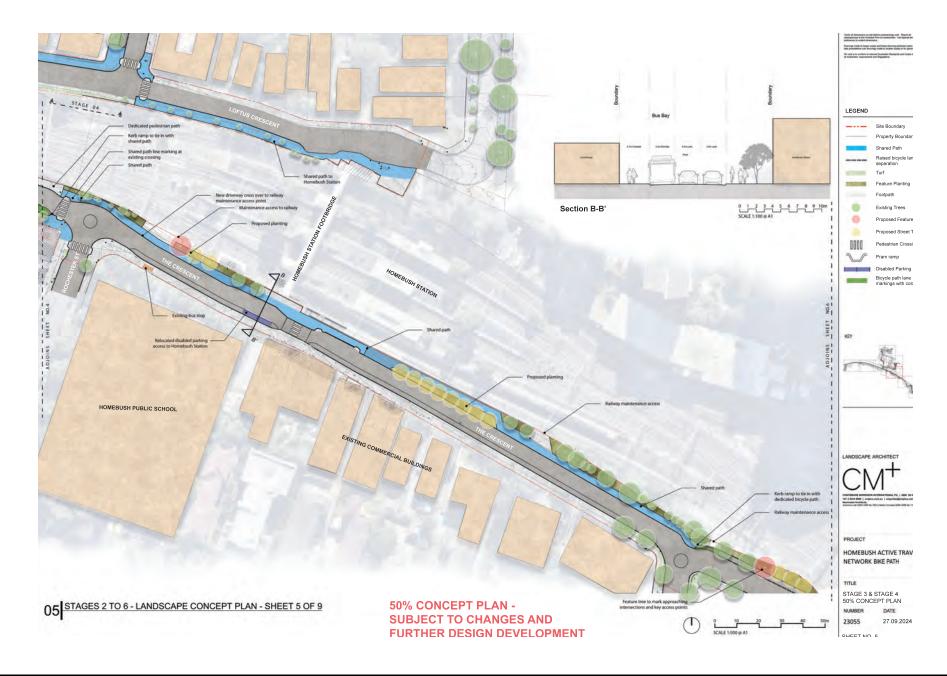
The information contained herein is believed to be reliable and accurate, however, no guarantee is given as to its accuracy and reliability, and no responsibility or liability for any information, opinions or commentary contained herein, or for any consequences of its use, will be accepted by Strathfield Council, or by any person involved in the preparation of this report.

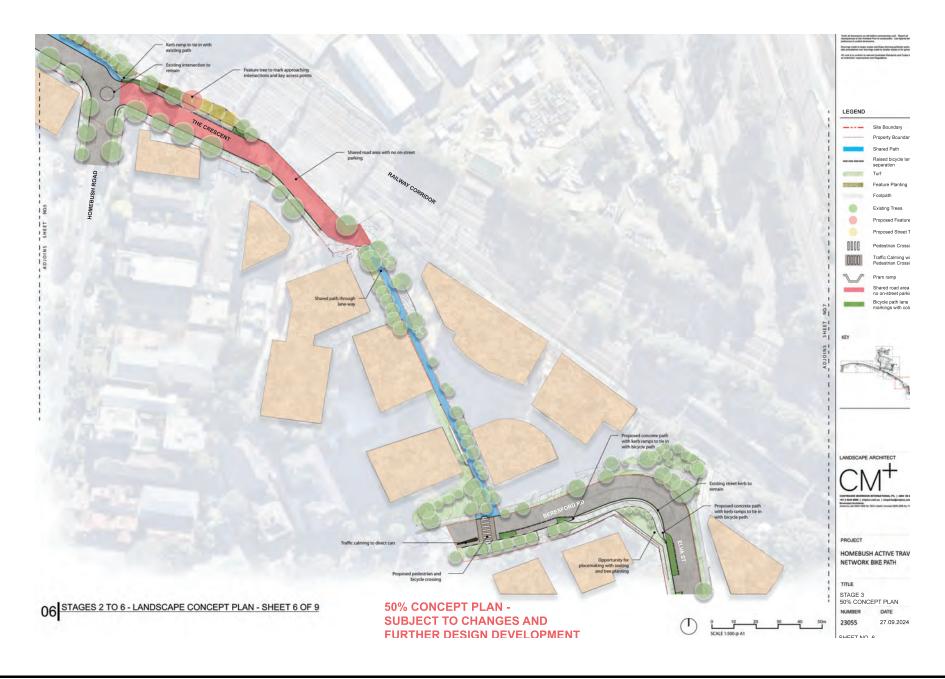




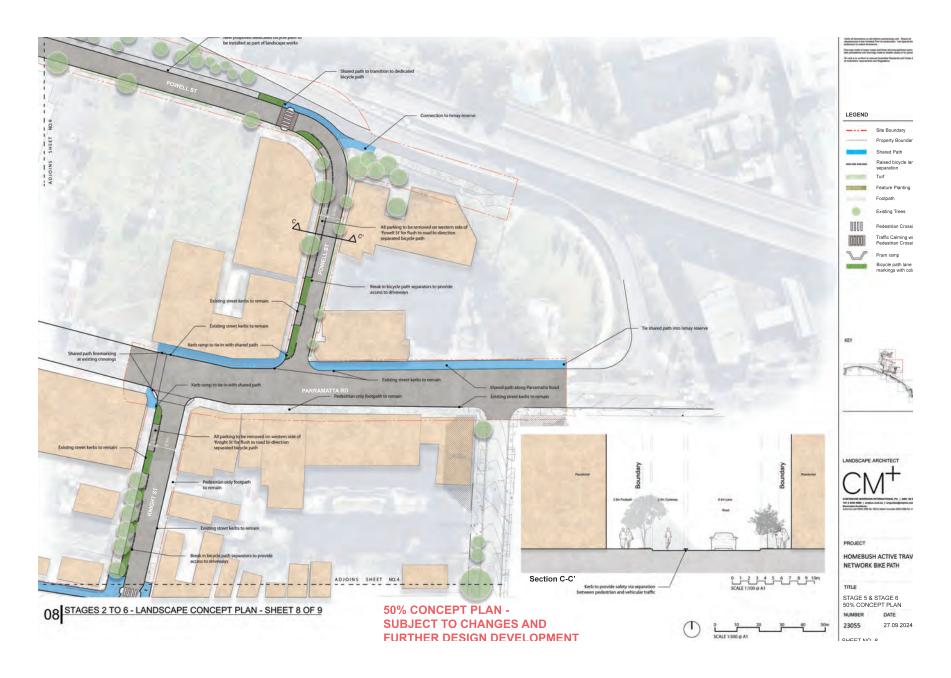
















PE2 POST EXHIBITION REPORT - AMENDMENT TO PART P - HERITAGE OF STRATHFIELD

DCP 2005

AUTHOR: Joseph Gillies, Senior Planner

APPROVER: Clare Harley, Director Planning and Environment

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council, pursuant to Section 3.43 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* and in accordance with clause 14 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021*, adopt the amendments to Part P of the Strathfield Consolidated DCP 2005, with the changes as outlined in the body of this report and included at Attachment 3.

- 2. That the General Manager be endorsed to make minor modifications to any numerical, typographical, interpretation and formatting errors, if required, prior to the finalisation of the amendment to Part P Heritage
- 3. That Council give public notice of the decision to approve the amendments to Strathfield Consolidated DCP, on its website within 28 days in accordance with Clause 14(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*.
- 4. That all those who made a submission be notified in writing of Council's decision
- 5. That a comprehensive review of Part P Heritage be undertaken which includes the identification of classifications of each property within the Heritage Conservation Areas and a further report be presented to Council.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides and overview of the public exhibition of the proposed amendments to Part P – Heritage of Strathfield Development Control Plan (DCP) 2005.

Four (4) submissions were received during the exhibition period.

Following a review of the submissions, it is recommended that post exhibition amendments be made to the DCP, as outlined in the body of the report. The report recommends that the amendments to incorporate new sustainability performance requirements for dwellings be adopted, as exhibited.

REPORT

Public Exhibition and consultation

Council, at its meeting on 25 June 2024, considered a report on the proposed amendments to Part P – Heritage of the Strathfield DCP 2005, where it resolved the following (160/24):

- 1. That the amendments to DCP Part P Heritage of the Strathfield Development Control Plan 2005 (DCP) as outlined in the body of the report and highlighted in Attachment 1 be adopted by Council for Public Exhibition.
- 2. The Draft DCP Part P be placed on Public Exhibition on Council's Website and E-News for a period of 28 days in accordance with Clause 13 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 and Council's Community Participation Plan.
- 3. A further report be brought to Council following the exhibition period to consider any submissions during the exhibition period, or should there be no submissions received, delegation being granted to the General Manager to approve the DCP Part P as exhibited and publish a notice of its decision on the Council website.
- 4. That the wording of clause 2.12 Environmentally Sustainable Technologies be reviewed at the 9 July 2024 Councillor Workshop prior to exhibition.

The amendments to Part P – Heritage of the Strathfield DCP were placed on public exhibition from Tuesday 20 August 2024 to Tuesday 17 September 2024. The exhibition noticed included a link to the Have Your Say page on Council's website.

A copy of the exhibited version of Part P is included at Attachment 1.

A letter advising of the proposed amendments and the exhibition were also sent to affected property owners (owners of heritage listed properties and properties within the HCAs).

Copies of the information were also made available for viewing at Council's Customer Service Centre and Strathfield Library for the duration for the exhibition.

The exhibited amendments to Part P – Heritage can be summarised as follows:

- (i) Introduction of objectives and controls relating to environmentally sustainable technologies
 - These amendments respond to the State Governments updates to the Sustainable Buildings State Environmental Planning Policy 2022 which incorporate new sustainability performance requirements for dwellings. Objectives and controls were reviewed to ensure that environmentally sustainable technologies can be incorporated into developments for heritage listed properties or within heritage conservation areas (HCA) without impacting on the significance of the building.
- (ii) Revisions to the layout and formatting
 - The chapter has been reformatted to be more user friendly and visually appealing through the introduction of diagrams and reference pictures. The formatting of this chapter is a precursor to the comprehensive review of the DCP.
- (iii) Introduction of mapping to identify those properties within HCAs as contributory, neutral or intrusive



Buildings located within a Heritage Conservation Area contribute to the streetscape in different ways and can be classified into three categories: contributory, neutral, and intrusive. An independent heritage review was undertaken in 2020 as part of the comprehensive review of the Strathfield LEP 2012, however this review was later abandoned.

As part of this Heritage Review, an assessment was undertaken of each dwelling within all of the HCAs to classify them as either contributory, neutral or intrusive. The introduction of the classifications for properties within the HCAs allow existing owners and prospective purchasers to better understand the limitations that would apply to a property when considering the redevelopment of properties within a HCA.

This mapped information was included in the reformatted version of the draft DCP that was exhibited.

During the exhibition four (4) submissions were received. A detailed summary of the submissions is included at Attachment 2.

Summary of Submissions

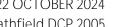
The following key themes are present in the submissions:

- The introduction of the environmentally sustainable technologies amendments was generally not a focus within any of the submissions and were generally supported.
- Feedback was received to the revisions to the layout, formatting and new diagrams, noting that the
 existing content of the DCP was not revised but only reformatted. This brought into focus parts of
 the DCP that could be improved,
- The introduction of the classifications for dwellings in the HCAs was generally not supported due to
 a lack of information on how classifications were established and the absence of definitions for what
 constitutes a contributory, neutral or intrusive item within the HCA. The principle of introducing the
 classifications was supported however it is considered that further work be undertaken with respect
 to the classifications.

Issue	Response
Amendments relating to	It is recommended that these amendments proceed.
environmentally sustainable	
technologies	Minor edits are required for the purposes of clarity.
Revisions to the layout, formatting	Submissions noted a number of issues with photographs and
and new diagrams (other than the	diagrams such as the need for labels on certain photographs
new HCA grading maps) and clarity /	and/or that certain photographs are not suitable representations.
intent of various controls and	
objectives	The DCP has been reviewed and those photographs which are not
	considered appropriate in terms of representing the controls have
	been removed. For those photographs that have been retained,
	labels have been included to indicate what the photos are
	representing.



Issue	Response
	Certain comments relate to existing diagrams that have not been changed under the revision to Part P. These diagrams will not be changed at this stage as they are best considered as part of a comprehensive review.
	Similarly with text, smaller grammatical and typographical edits included in submission have been addressed, while more substantial questions on the intent of certain objectives and controls has been taken on notice for consideration as part of a comprehensive review.
	It is noted that most comments on text relate to parts of the DCP that have not been amended as part of this DCP review (i.e. objectives and controls not relating to environmentally sustainable technologies).
Introduction of the new HCA grading maps	Council, in 2020, undertook an independent review of heritage items and HCAs as part of the work undertaken for the comprehensive review of Strathfield LEP. The comprehensive LEP review was later abandoned, and this work was never incorporated into the LEP/DCP.
	The independent heritage review included the classification of buildings in the HCAs as either contributory, neutral or intrusive, classifications, and included definitions for each of the classifications. It has never been reported to Council nor was it exhibited as part of the previous comprehensive LEP review.
	The mapping relating to the classification of each of the individual properties was included in the exhibited amendment to Part P, without the supporting study or definitions.
	A number of the submissions objected to the inclusion of the classification on the basis that the 2020 Heritage Review was not exhibited concurrently with the amendments and did not include the definition for each of the classifications.
	The Heritage Review that was undertaken in 2020 has not been recently reviewed. It is recommended that the mapping relating to the classification of buildings within the HCAs be removed from the exhibited version of Part P in the interim.
	A comprehensive peer review of the 2020 Heritage Review will be undertaken by Council's Heritage Officer over the coming months





Post Exhibition Report - Amendment to Part P - Heritage of Strathfield DCP 2005 (Cont'd)

Issue	Response
	and a further report will be brought back to Council once this work has been completed with further recommended changes to Part P of the DCP. This peer review will include a review of the classifications proposed by the Heritage Review.

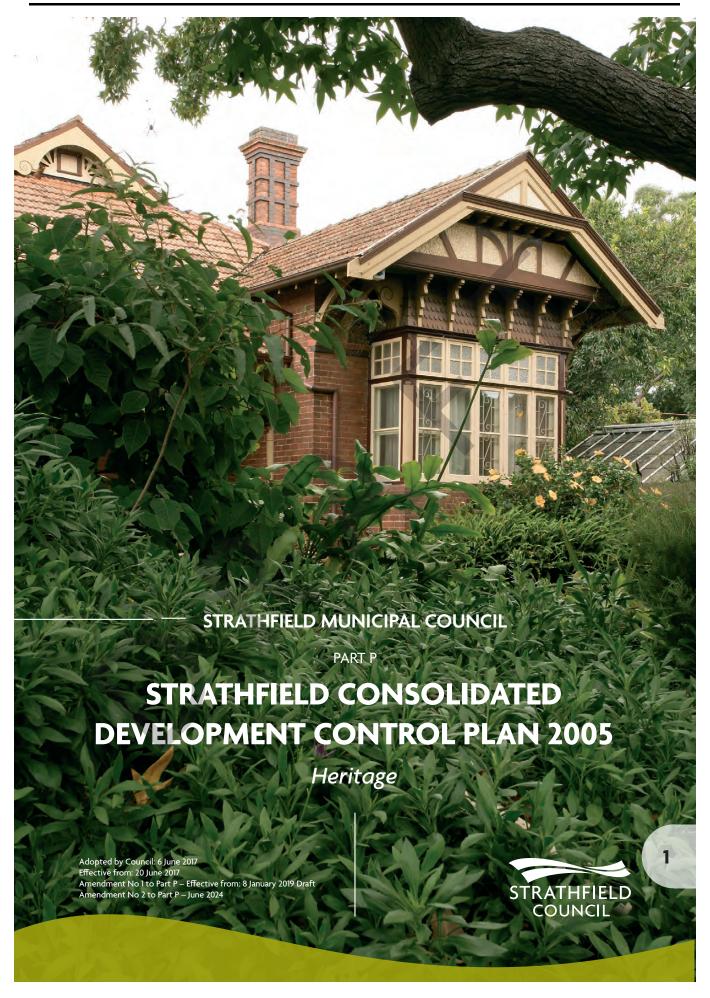
The amendments as outlined above have been made in the draft DCP, a copy of which is included at Attachment 3.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1.1 Attachment 1 Draft Part P Heritage Exhibition version
- 2.1 Attachment 2 Summary of Submissions & Council's Officers Response
- 3.1 Attachment 3 Post Exhibition Version Part P Heritage Strathfield DCP

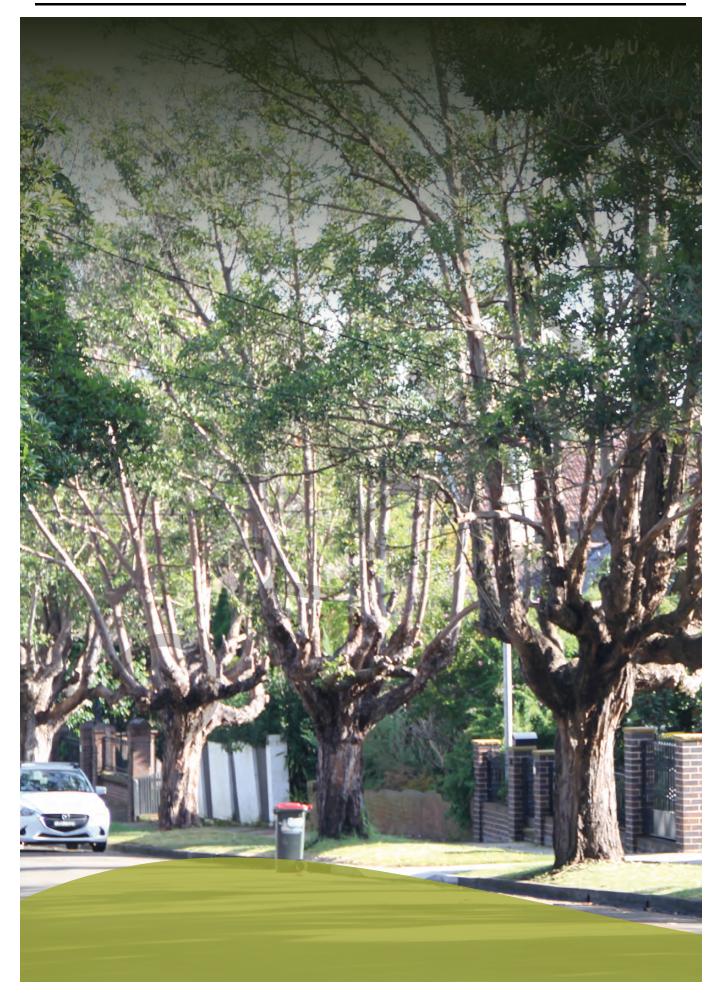


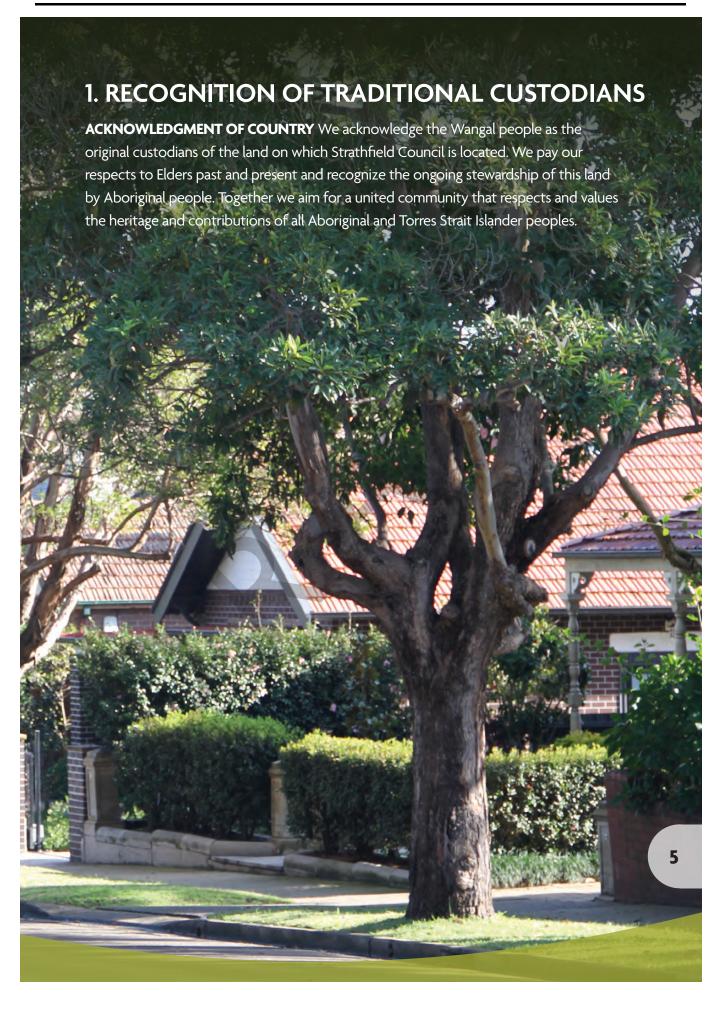


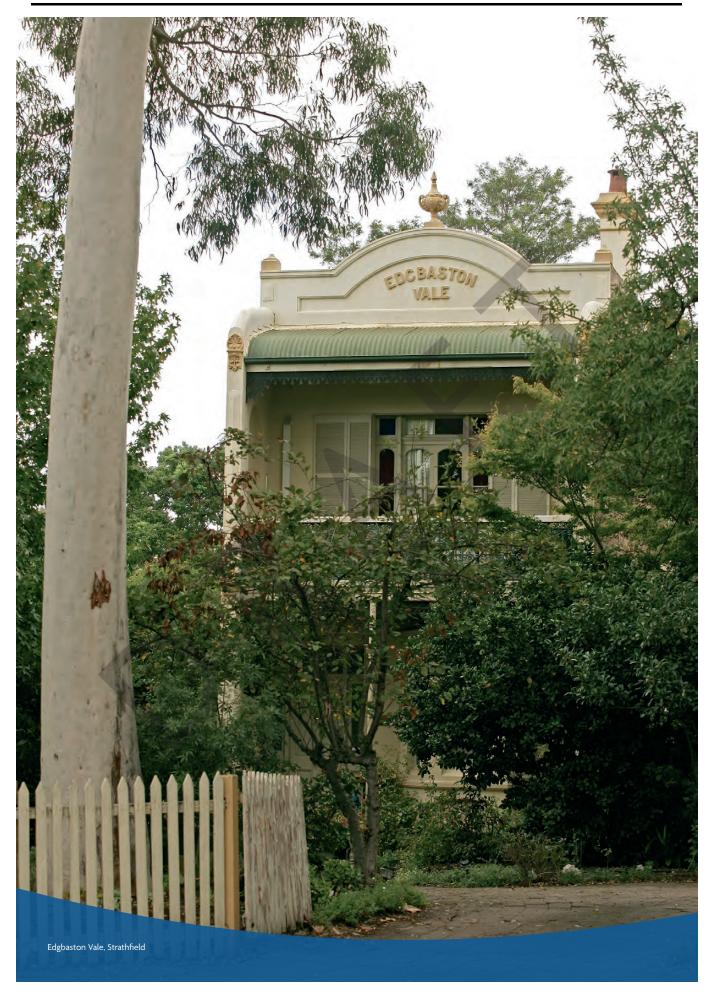
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.1 Executive summary	7	5.3 Building Form	54
.2 Relationship to SLEP 2012 and SCDCP 2005	8	5.4 Roof Forms	54
.3 Development to which Part P of SCDCP 2005 applies:	8	5.5 Walls, chimneys, doors and windows	55
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2.2 Setting	12	Conservation Area	56
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2.13 Demolition	22	5.9.8 Marion Street Conservation Area – Inter-war bungalow sty	_ /-
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4.4 Siting	39	6.2 Land use	74
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4.6 Doors and windows	43	6.4 Setbacks	74
4.7 Car parking	44	6.5 Rear elevations	74
4.8 Fencing	45	6.6 Shop fronts and building facades	74
4.9 Landscape elements including paving and driveways	46		
4.10 Outbuildings	46	6.7 Roofs, parapets and architectural features	74
4.11 Environmentally Sustainable Technologies	48	6.8 Materials and finishes	74
4.12 Demolition	49	6.9 Signage	75
4.13 Subdivision	50	6.10 Statement of Significance and specific additional controls for	or
4.14 Signage	50	Retail Conservation Areas	76
5 Additional controls for development within the Residentia	l	6.10.1 The Boulevarde Retail Conservation Area (CIS)	76
Conservation Areas	53	6.10.2 "Village of Homebush" Retail Conservation Area (C5)	78

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3







1. INTRODUCTION

"These places contribute

to the character of

the local government

area and help to make

Strathfield an attractive

place to live and work

and help tell the story

of the development

of Strathfield. It is

important to recognise

and conserve this

heritage."

1.1 Executive summary

This section of the Development Control Plan establishes controls for development affecting places of heritage significance. This includes development of heritage items (including draft heritage items), properties in a Heritage Conservation Area, and development in the vicinity of a heritage item or conservation area.

Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA) has a large number of items of environmental heritage as well

as Heritage Conservation Areas. These are listed respectively under Part 1 and Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Examples of listed heritage items include weatherboard cottages, **Federation** houses. Victorian Italianate houses. Inter-war bungalows, Churches, Victorian houses, Spanish Mission houses, commercial buildings, parks and gardens, and educational establishments. It is important to

note that in some instances the curtilage of the listed item including its garden surrounds is also listed as being of heritage significance.

These places contribute to the character of the local government area and help to make Strathfield an attractive place to live and work and help tell

the story of the development of Strathfield. It is important to recognise and conserve this heritage.

Development that affects places of heritage significance, whether an individual heritage item and its curtilage, or a Conservation Area, needs to be carefully designed to minimise any negative impacts on heritage significance.

Negative impacts may occur due to actions such as removal of original fabric, loss of design features,

loss of views, unsympathetic bulk and scale of new development and inappropriate selection of materials.

Council has a Heritage Inventory for each heritage item, which provides a description of the significance of each item and identifies features of significant value. Please contact Council's Planning Unit should you wish to find out more details.

Not all places of heritage significance may have been

identified. These additional places may be identified in the future, through the development application process or by further review of heritage throughout Strathfield.

7

1.2 Relationship to SLEP 2012 and SCDCP 2005

Part P of the DCP is to be read in conjunction with the SCDCP 2005 and the Strathfield LEP 2012. Where there is any inconsistency with any part of the SCDCP 2005 in respect of development affecting a heritage item and/or item within a Conservation Area, Part P prevails.

1.3 Development to which Part P of SCDCP 2005 applies

This section of the Development Control Plan applies to:

- · development of heritage items;
- development in the vicinity of heritage items;
 and
- development in Conservation Areas.

Places can be affected by statutory listings as heritage items or in Conservation Areas under a Local Environmental Plan, a Regional Environmental Plan or on the State Heritage Register. One way of determining whether a property is affected by a heritage listing under a Local Environmental Plan or Regional Environmental Plan, whether as a heritage item or a Conservation Area or in the vicinity of a heritage item or a Conservation Area, is to obtain a Section 10.7 Certificate.

A small number of places in Strathfield LGA are identified as being of state heritage significance and are listed on the State Heritage Register. To determine whether a place is listed on the State Heritage Register, a Section 167 form can be lodged with the NSW Heritage Office (Department of Planning).

Council's planning unit is able to assist with preliminary advice on development affecting heritage items and Conservation Areas.

1.4 Objectives of this DCP Part

A. To retain evidence of historic themes of development evident in the Strathfield Local Government Area, through the proper care and maintenance of individual heritage items and Heritage Conservation Areas.

B. To promote environmentally sustainable design in the retention, alterations and additions to heritage listed items and buildings within a heritage conservation area.

- **C.** To protect those items and areas that are of value to the local community.
- **D.** To encourage development which complements existing heritage items and Heritage Conservation Areas in a modern context.
- **E.** To ensure that development in the vicinity of heritage items is designed and sited to protect the heritage significance of the item and its setting.
- **F.** To retain any significant horticultural or landscape features that assist in the interpretation of Strathfield's heritage.

1.5 Heritage management documents

Heritage management documents must accompany any development application where the carrying out of the proposed development may affect the heritage significance of a heritage item, Conservation Area, aboriginal object or place of heritage significance in accordance with Section 5.10 of Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012 (SLEP 2012).

Heritage management documents will generally be required to accompany all development applications on land which is either heritage listed under Schedule 5 of SLEP 2012, in the vicinity of listed heritage items, or of potential heritage significance (refer note below).

Under Section 5.10(5) of SLEP 2012, the consent authority may require a heritage management document, in respect of any development:

- a) on land on which a heritage item is located, or
- b) on land that is within a Heritage Conservation Area. or
- c) on land that is within the vicinity of land referred to in paragraph a) or b),

The heritage management document is to assess the extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development would affect the heritage significance

of the heritage item or Heritage Conservation Area concerned.

Under Section 5.10(6) of the SLEP 2012, the consent authority may require, after considering the heritage significance of a heritage items and the extent of change proposed to it, the submission of a Heritage Conservation Management Plan before granting consent under this clause.

Heritage Management Documents may comprise either:

- **a)** A Heritage Impact Statement which identifies heritage significance, assesses impact on that significance and measures to minimise that impact. In particular a Heritage Impact Statement will:
 - i) demonstrate that all possible means of mitigating any negative impact on the item have been addressed and that the proposed works will not significantly alter the heritage significance of an item or the character of the locality.
 - ii) be prepared by a qualified heritage consultant and in the case of Heritage Impact Statements, Council may accept statements from any other appropriately qualified or experienced person for minor development.
 - iii) assist Council in its assessment of the development but Council may decide not to adopt, or not to fully adopt, the particular recommendations of the documents submitted.
- **b)** a Heritage Conservation Management Plan must be in accordance with the relevant conservation policies and management mechanisms in the NSW Guidelines and Policy; or
- **c)** any other document that provides guidelines for the ongoing management and conservation.

1.6 Council responsibilities

Council has certain responsibilities in respect of the Public Domain in relation to the protection of heritage items and their curtilage, land within the vicinity of heritage items, and land within Conservation Areas, as follows:

- 1) The pattern of grass verges, footpaths and street tree planting should be identified and maintained in any development proposal.
- 2) Where there are gaps in the street tree planting, new trees should be planted which match any existing types/species.

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2. DEVELOPMENT OF HERITAGE ITEMS

Heritage items have been identified as places that should be retained and conserved for future generations. The heritage significance of these places must be understood and respected when designing future development, with a greater level of information, care and retention of heritage values required. The controls for heritage items recognise that the whole of the place - the building, the site and its features – may have heritage significance. The following objectives and controls are provided to retain heritage values while providing opportunities for change and adaptation of places of heritage significance.

2.1 General objectives

- **A.** To ensure that additions to a heritage item and new buildings on the site of a heritage item are of a scale, mass, bulk, orientation, setback and character consistent with the heritage item.
- **B.** To ensure that new development respects the contribution of a heritage item to the streetscape and/ or townscape and allows an ongoing application of its heritage significance.
- C. To retain or reinstate missing original details that contribute to the aesthetic quality and/or significance of a heritage item and to encourage the removal of inappropriate alterations and additions.
- **D.** To ensure that important elements of the form or fabric of a heritage item are not obscured or destroyed by alterations and additions.
- **E.** To ensure that materials and colours used on both the original heritage item and any alterations and additions are consistent with the significance of the heritage item.
- F. To provide an appropriate visual setting for heritage items, including landscaping, fencing and car parking.

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2.2 Setting

Setting is the area around a heritage item that contributes to its heritage significance and may include the visual catchment of a heritage item. Topography, trees, gardens, fencing, and pavement can all contribute to the setting of a heritage item. Where a heritage item has importance as a landmark, it is particularly important that new development does not obscure its visual presence in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Objectives

- **A.** To provide an appropriate visual setting for heritage items, including landscaping, fencing and car parking; and
- **B.** To ensure that new development respects the contribution of a heritage item to the streetscape and/or townscape and retains the significance of the item.

Controls

Original elements that contribute to the setting of a heritage item such as landscaping, fences and gates, driveways, seawalls etc. should not be removed and, traditional garden designs should be reinstated where possible.

New structures on land on which a heritage item is located such as swimming pools and outbuildings should be located so that they do not adversely impact on the significance of the heritage item.

The natural landform and character of the area within which a Heritage Item is located, should be maintained, avoiding any cut and fill to land when constructing new buildings and landscaping grounds.

Applications that propose basement additions may be required to provide a Structural Report from a practicing structural engineer with experience in heritage buildings to confirm that the proposed excavation will not adversely affect the building or adjoining properties. This report should be provided as part of the development application.

The placement of the basement entrance should not detract from the street presentation of the item of the streetscape. Placement of basement entries toward the rear of the property and parallel to the side boundary is encouraged.

2.3 Scale

Scale is the size of a building and its relationship with its surrounding buildings or landscape. It is important that new development at places of heritage significance respects the scale of the existing buildings and or landscape elements that contribute to the significance of the place.

Objective

To ensure that alterations and additions to a heritage item and new buildings on the site of a heritage item are of a scale consistent with the heritage item so as not to detract from the significance of the item.

Controls

- (i) Development on the site of a heritage item must not dominate the item or detract from its significance.
- (ii) Development shall not obstruct significant views to and from the item of significance.



2.4 Form

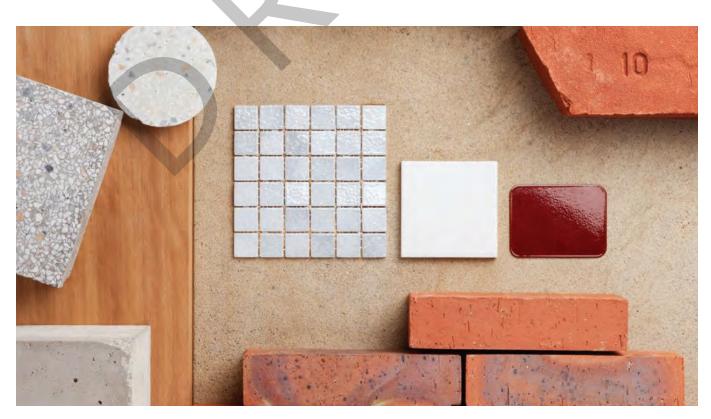
The form of a building is its overall shape and volume and the arrangement of its parts. The rooflines of buildings, and elements such as chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. are often important elements of the form of a heritage item and contribute to its aesthetic significance.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure that important elements of the form of a heritage item are not obscured or destroyed by alterations and additions.
- **B.** To ensure that the form of a heritage item retains its importance in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Controls

- (i) Important elements of the form of a heritage item such as main roof forms, chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. should not be demolished or obscured by alterations and additions.
- (ii) Development of a heritage item must seek to reconstruct missing architectural detailing of a Heritage Item where possible, including gables, finial trims, front verandahs or bays.
- (iii) Verandahs on the front and sides of a heritage item should not be filled in
- **(iv)** Additions and alterations to a heritage item should not detract from important aspects of the form of the heritage item.
- (v) The original shape of the roof of a Heritage Item should not be altered.



2.5 Materials and colours

The selection of materials and colours is very important to the aesthetic qualities of most built heritage items. Development that includes changing roof materials, re-skinning of brickwork, rendering or painting of face brickwork and inappropriate textured finishes can degrade the significance of a heritage item.

New materials should be carefully selected to ensure they are consistent with the original building.

Objectives

A The environmental impact from building materials is minimised through the reduction, re-use and recycling of materials, resources and building components.

- **B.** To ensure that original materials that contribute to the significance of heritage items are not obscured.
- **C.** To ensure that colours of paintwork on heritage items are consistent with the significance of the heritage item.
- **D.** To ensure that materials on alterations and additions to heritage items are consistent with the materials of the heritage item.

Controls

- (i) The original wall treatment of a Heritage Item must be retained where possible. Unpainted brick or stone on a Heritage Item should not be painted or rendered.
- (ii) Original materials of heritage items should not be replaced with different materials or materials of different colour.
- (iii) Non-original materials of heritage items that are being replaced shall, if possible, be replaced with material that matches the original material as closely as possible.
- (iv) Painting, rendering or bagging of original face brickwork and/or stonework is not permitted.
- (v) The texture of original rendered finishes should not be changed.
- **(vi)** Materials for additions and alterations to heritage items should be compatible with the original materials of the heritage item.

- (vii) Colour schemes for heritage items should have a hue and tonal relationship with traditional colour schemes for the period and style of the heritage item.
- **(viii)** The use of fluorescent paint on heritage items is not permitted.
- (ix) The façade of a heritage item is not to be painted in a corporate colour scheme.
- (x) The use of modern finishes including stencilled concrete for driveways associated with heritage items is not permitted.
- (xi) The original roof cladding of a heritage item (slate, tiles or corrugated iron) should not be changed if it is in good repair.
- (xii) Sandblasting to remove paint from brick or stone should not be undertaken on a heritage item as it exposes it to weathering and may change its appearance.

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2.6 Alterations and additions

Additions and alterations to a heritage item should be located to the rear of the heritage item, so it does not impact on its heritage significance. Works should be consistent with the original materials of the heritage item. While it is not always necessary to match the materials of the original building, new materials should be carefully selected to ensure they are consistent with the original building

Objectives

A. To promote environmentally sustainable design in the design of alterations and additions to a heritage listed item.

B. To support the retention of heritage properties and maintain their heritage significance.

C. To maximise the benefits of passive solar design

- **D.** To allow changes to the rear of heritage items where the new work does not impact the heritage significance of the heritage item.
- **E.** To ensure that alterations or additions to heritage properties are sympathetic to the item and reflect the predominant scale, height, proportion, character and setbacks of the existing property, and surrounding development.

Controls

- (i) Alterations and additions must not adversely impact the significance of a heritage item.
- (ii) Any alterations and additions must be consistent with the scale, form, proportion, details and materials of the heritage item.
- (iii) Alterations and additions to heritage items must be located so as to minimise their visibility and prominence from the street or adjoining streets, and the height must not be seen above the main ridgeline of the building. Refer to Figure 1.
- (iv) Ancillary buildings on the same site as a heritage item must be located so as to not obscure the significant elements of the Item.



2.7 Doors and windows

The spacing, proportions, materiality and detailing of doors and windows of heritage items usually contributes greatly to their aesthetic appeal. Altering windows and doors or adding new openings can dramatically affect the character of a building.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain original windows and doors that contribute to the aesthetic quality and/or significance of a heritage item.
- **B.** To reinstate lost details that contributed to the aesthetic qualities and/or significance of a heritage item.
- **C.** To retain the proportions of walls and openings that contribute to the aesthetic quality of a heritage item.

Controls

- (i) Original window and door openings in a heritage item should be retained. If the original doors or windows have been lost, they are to be replaced with one of similar size, type and material for the age and style of the Item.
- (ii) Where original windows and doors in a heritage item have been removed and replacement of the new joinery is proposed, the form and detailing of the original windows and/or doors should be reconstructed.
- (iii) New dormer and roof windows of a house should preferably be located on rear roof slopes in preference to roof slopes visible from the street.
- (iv) New dormer windows visible from the street must be located to complement the design of the building with built form, proportions and details which do not detract from the significance of the building.
- (v) Extensive areas of glazing visible from the Public Domain are not permitted unless this was a feature of the original design of the building.
- (vi) New or reinstated glazing is to be specified as clear. Glazing performance must be met without the need of tinting or colourisation of any kind.
- **(vii)** Only physical, externally fixed methods that are sympathetic and referencing the prevailing details of the primary residence to mitigate overlooking is permitted. Frosted glazing is not permitted.
- **(viii)** New skylights are not permitted in roof slopes visible from the Public Domain.

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2.8 Car parking

Garages and carports can have the greatest detrimental impact on the significance of heritage items. Garages and carports in front of the building line obscure views of the buildings and break the rhythm and pattern of the streetscape. The proportions of garage doors do not relate to the smaller and more vertical proportions of windows and doors that are usually found on heritage items.

Objectives

A. To ensure that garages and carports are designed to minimise the visual impact on views of heritage items.

B. To ensure that car parking does not compromise the structural integrity of heritage items.

Controls

- (i) Garages and carports must be located behind the front building line.
- (ii) Garages should not be incorporated into the front façade of a heritage item.
- (iii) Where a new garage or carport is on the same side of a building as a front verandah, the garage or carport must be located entirely behind the verandah.
- (iv) Applications that propose basement additions are required to provide a Structural Report from a practicing structural and geotechnical engineer with experience in heritage buildings to confirm that the proposed excavation will not adversely affect the building as part of the development application.
- (v) The placement of the basement entrance should not detract from the street presentation of the item of the streetscape. Placement of basement entries toward the rear of the property and parallel to the side boundary is encouraged.
- **(vi)** Refer to the Controls for Garages and Carports in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding garages and carports.

2.9 Fencing

Fencing, particularly fencing facing the street, is of particular importance in establishing the setting of a heritage item. Fencing should complement the style and scale of the house.

Objectives

- **A.** To conserve gates and fences that are contemporary with heritage items.
- **B.** To ensure that new fences and gates are in keeping with the character of the heritage item.
- **C.** To ensure that the significance of the heritage item is not diminished by inappropriate fencing.

Controls

- (i) Original fencing styles and materials on a heritage item should be repaired and retained where possible.
- (ii) New fencing and gates to a heritage item should be of a style and scale that is consistent with the style of the building.
- (iii) Unless evidence is provided to establish a greater height, solid fencing (i.e. brickwork/stone) forward of the building line should not be greater than 1m in height above the adjacent public footpath level.
- **(iv)** Unless evidence is provided to establish a greater height, fencing forward of the building line, constructed of material such as timber pickets, metal pickets or wrought metal panels or a combination of masonry and one of the above materials, should not be greater than 1.5m in height above the adjacent public footpath level.
- (v) Original face brick or sandstone fencing to a heritage item should not be painted.
- **(vi)** For front boundaries where there is no existing front fence or the existing fence is not contemporary with the Heritage Item, a new low fence should be constructed. Materials used for front fencing of Heritage Items should be similar to those of the building or those for which there is historical evidence.
- **(vii)** Refer to the Controls for Fencing in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding fencing.

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2.10 Landscape elements including paving and driveways

Landscape elements are of great importance in contributing to the significance of heritage items. The design of front gardens usually provides a setting for the building and reinforces the significance of the heritage item.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain and protect heritage listed landscape elements.
- **B.** To retain important landscape elements that contribute to the significance of heritage items.
- **C.** To reinforce the significance of the heritage item through appropriate landscaping.

Controls

- (i) Original driveways and footpath crossings that relate to a heritage item should not be relocated.
- (ii) Double driveways and footpath crossings will generally not be permitted for houses listed as heritage items.
- (iii) Original or early garden layouts that contribute to the significance of the heritage item should not be altered.
- (iv) Established trees and shrubs that contribute to the significance of the heritage item should not be removed unless it can be established by an arborist that the health of the tree or shrub is such that it must be removed.
- (v) Proposals involving substantial works should consider landscaping the front setback in a manner appropriate to the age and style of the dwelling.

2.11 Outbuildings

Outbuildings such as garden sheds, outhouses, gazebos, pool pavilions can easily detract from the setting of heritage items. The location and setting of these must be carefully considered so that they have minimal impact on important views of heritage items.

Objectives

A. To minimise visual intrusion on views of heritage items due to outbuildings.

Controls

- (i) Outbuildings should be located in the rear yard of heritage items.
- (ii) Outbuildings should be single storey and designed so that they have negligible if any impact on important views of heritage items.
- (iii) Outbuildings must not be greater in height or bulk than the heritage item.

2.12 Environmentally Sustainable Technologies

Many modern technologies improve the energy efficiency of a building by reducing its reliance on the grid. This is the most effective intervention that helps Council achieve a Net Zero target. The installation of new sustainability measures may offset the less energy complaint fabric and features of the heritage item.

Fixtures such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, skylights, shading devices, energy efficient hot water systems, EV charging points and rainwater tanks are sometimes large or items with a very modern appearance. They could be intrusive elements if installed to a highly visible roofscape or prominent streetscape facade. However, as technology is improving, these elements, such as photovoltaics are foreseen to become better integrated in the building fabric and it is critical that both the environmental and heritage benefits are considered to ensure energy efficient technologies can be implemented without compromising any significant heritage fabric.

Objectives

- **A.** To promote environmentally sustainable design in the design of additions to heritage listed items.
- **B.** To promote the use of renewable energy resources while minimising visual impacts on Heritage items from the public domain.
- C. To ensure that ancillary roof mounted structures do not detract from the heritage significance or aesthetic value when viewed from the public domain.

Controls

- (i) Ancillary roof mounted structures (such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, television aerials and satellite dishes) are to be located on roof planes facing the rear yard of a heritage item and in a position to ensure they are not visible from the public domain.
- (ii) Ancillary roof mounted structures should not be higher than the main ridge line of a building that is or is part of a heritage item and shall be located so that they are not visible from the Public Domain.
- (iii) The introduction of environmentally sustainable technologies that allows these structures to be integrated into the building or roof fabric are permissible on roof planes and building facades visible from the public domain so long as they are;
 - a. flush with the predominant roof surface and,
 - Indistinguishable from the predominant roof material
 - c. integrated into the building facade without compromising any significant heritage fabric.

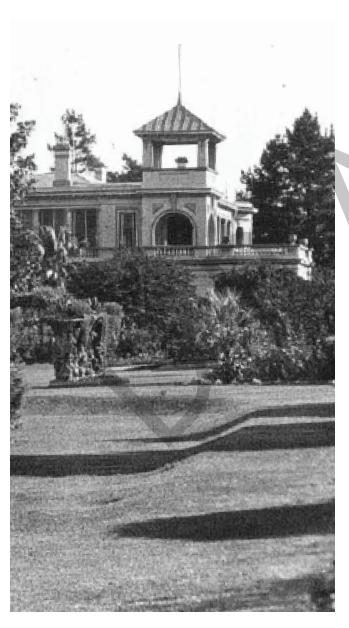


2.13 Demolition

Demolition of heritage items is generally not supported by Council. However, should an applicant insist in pursuing such a request, the onus is on the applicant to demonstrate why the building is not reasonably capable of retention. Demolition of a heritage item is usually only considered where the structure is unsound. In its determination of any application to demolish a heritage item, Council will give consideration to the relevant Planning Principles established by the Land and Environment Court. The Planning Principles can be viewed on the Land and Environment Court's website (www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lec).

Objectives

To retain buildings that are of heritage significance or contribute to the significance of a heritage item.



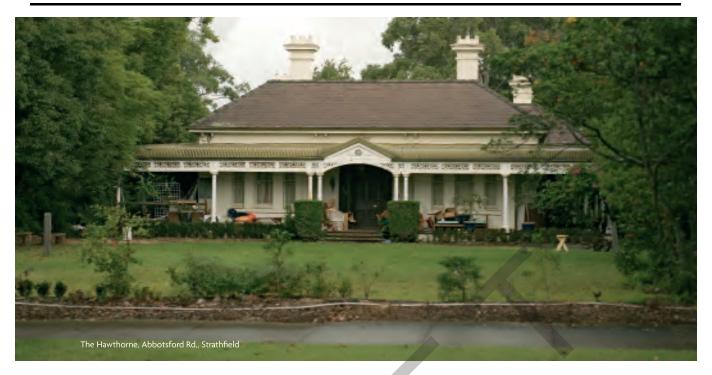
Milroy House, Strathfield

Controls

- (i) Buildings that are listed as heritage items or contribute to the significance of a heritage item shall not be demolished.
- (ii) Applications for the demolition of a heritage item must be accompanied by a Demolition Report. The report is to provide details of the heritage significance of the heritage item and is to address the applicable matters within this Part of the DCP. Plans of the replacement development are to be submitted with any application for demolition.

Note: Submitting the documentation to seek approval to demolish a heritage item or contributory item does not imply that approval will be granted. Council may seek independent advice on aspects of any application for demolition.

- (iii) Partial demolition of heritage items may be possible subject to the merits of the proposal. Partial demolition of a heritage item may only be allowed when it can be established in a Statement of Heritage Impact that the partial demolition will not have an impact on the significance of the heritage item.
- (iv) Outbuildings associated with heritage items can only be demolished where a Statement of Heritage Impact has established that the outbuilding does not contribute to the heritage significance of the place and the demolition does not impact on the significance of the heritage item.
- (v) Where demolition is allowed, a photographic record of the building must be prepared for the site and submitted to Council prior to the commencement of the demolition works.



2.14 Subdivision

The grounds and gardens associated with a building are often important in providing a setting to a heritage item. The grounds of a heritage item can also ensure that important views to or from a heritage item are available. Subdivision can result in the loss of the setting of a heritage item and should only be done if an adequate curtilage can be retained.

In certain cases, Council may require the proposed subdivision plan to show the proposed building envelopes for each proposed lot, in order to determine whether or not the proposed curtilage of the heritage item is appropriate, in order to maintain the significance of the item and to maintain any views to or from the heritage item. Council may impose restrictions upon the title of a proposed lot that is within the vicinity of a heritage site, to ensure that the development of the adjoining land does not adversely affect the cultural significance of a heritage site. This may include (but not necessarily be limited to) height limitations, building setbacks, access arrangements, building orientation, and presentation to the street.

Objectives

A. To ensure that subdivision of heritage items does not result in a loss of appropriate curtilage for the heritage item.

B. To ensure that subdivision of heritage items does not result in development that would obscure important views to or from the heritage item.

Controls

(i) Subdivision of an allotment that includes a heritage item will not be approved unless it can be demonstrated in a Statement of Heritage Impact that an adequate curtilage of the heritage item is retained.

(ii) Subdivision of land that includes a heritage item will not be allowed unless it can be established in a Statement of Heritage Impact that proposed or future development on the created allotments will not impact on important views to or from the heritage item.

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2.15 Signage

Many commercial buildings built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century incorporate areas on the main façade designed for locating a sign to identify the business operating within. This allows for appropriate signage while the unity of the streetscape is retained.

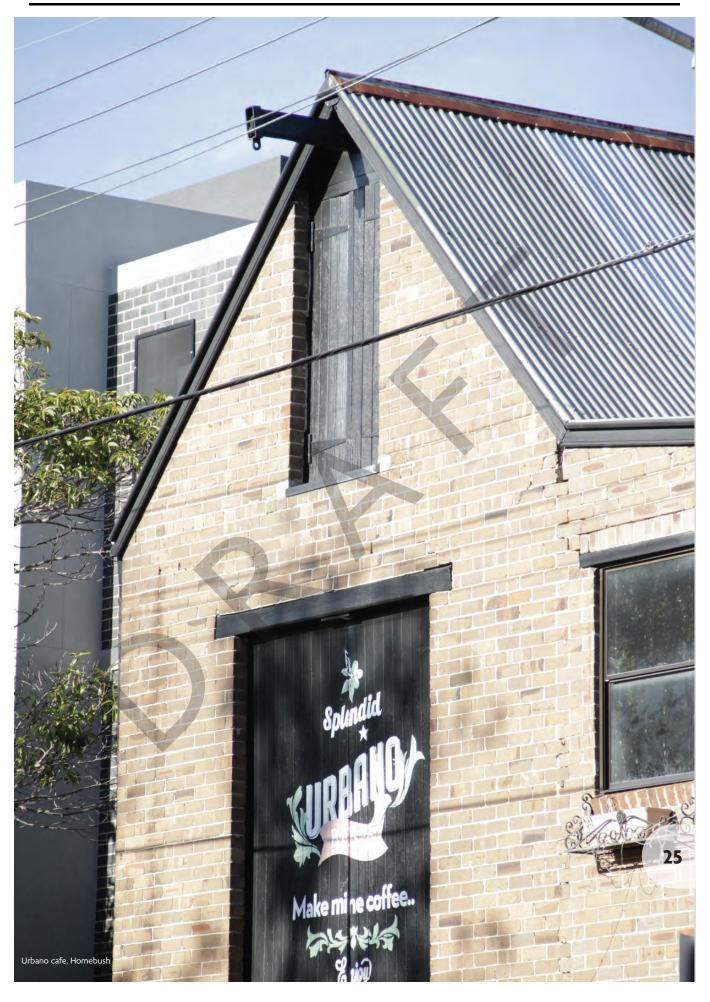
Residential heritage items can be obscured by inappropriate signage. For most late nineteenth century and early twentieth century buildings house names are often incorporated into the building or placed on a small sign fixed to a wall near the front door.

Objectives

- **A.** To allow for appropriate signage on heritage items, complementing the historic character of the building
- **B.** To ensure the original details of heritage items are not obscured by inappropriate signage.
- **C.** To conserve existing heritage signs which have cultural significance.

Controls

- (i) Signage on commercial buildings is to be confined to:
 - an under-awning sign of appropriate size.
 - a window sign in the ground floor shopfront of appropriate design; or
 - a first-floor sign contained within a purpose designed panel on the building façade.
- (ii) The architectural details of a building are not to be obscured or damaged by commercial signage.
- (iii) Signage for the use of residential buildings for professional rooms or commercial purposes is to be designed to have minimal impact on the significance of the heritage item.
- (iv) Backlight signs and neon signs should only be allowed for under-awning signs on commercial buildings.
- (v) Advertising structures are not permitted.



2.16 Adaptive reuse

Whilst the continued original use of a heritage item is the best conservation outcome, this is not always possible. Adaptive reuse of buildings is a process that changes a place that is no longer suitable for its original purpose to a new purpose while retaining the significance of the item. This is desirable both for environmental sustainability and heritage conservation.

All buildings have "embodied energy"; the energy consumed by all the processes involved in producing materials, delivering them to site and constructing the building. New buildings have high energy costs.

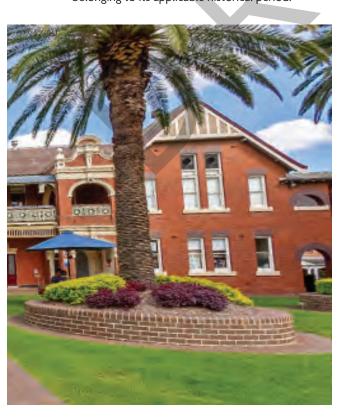
Adaptive reuse of buildings is an important part of sustainable development. Reusing historic buildings also has long term benefits for the community. Adaptive reuse allows buildings that are valued by the community to be retained for future generations. Sometimes it is the only way a place can be conserved for the future.

In many cases, adaptive reuse will involve few if any changes to a building. Where changes are needed to a building of heritage significance, it is important to first understand why the place is significant. Changes should then ensure that significant aspects of the place are conserved and that new development respects the significance of the place.



Objectives

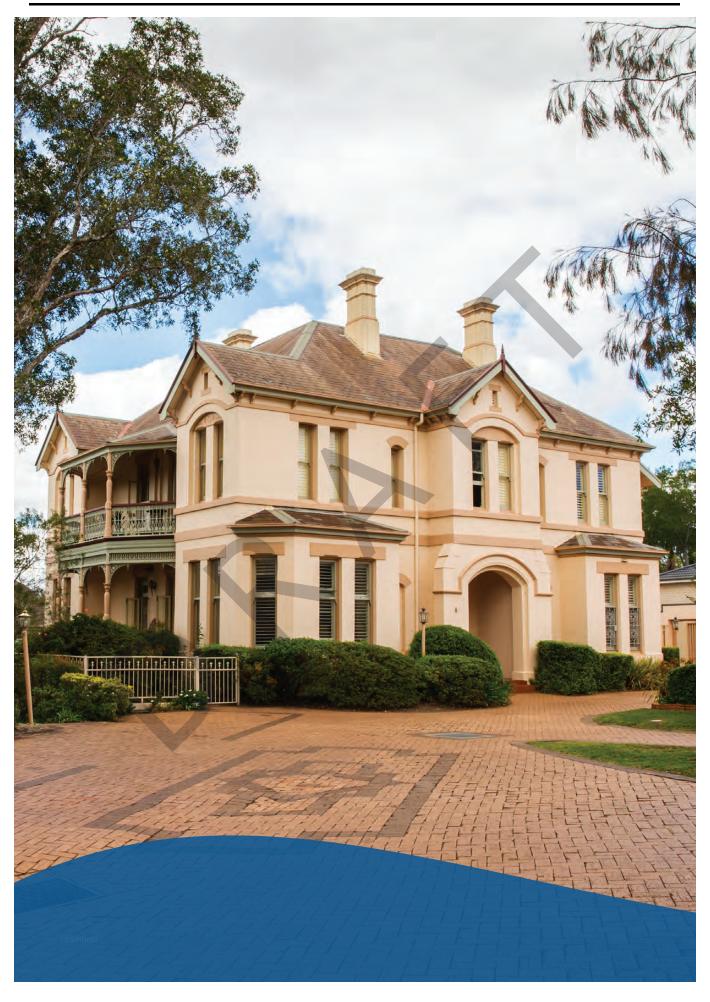
- **A.** To encourage sympathetic adaptive reuse of buildings which are no longer suitable for their original use, by encouraging heritage items to be used for purposes that are appropriate to their heritage significance.
- **B.** To ensure that adaptive reuse of heritage items respects the significance of the building and relates to the architectural qualities of the existing building.
- **C.** To retain original building structure and fabric, and legibility of the original building layout, form and setting, and to reinstate significant missing details.
- **D.** To ensure that the adverse impacts of adaptive reuse on heritage items are minimised.
- **E.** To ensure that changes to the building as a result of adaptive reuse can be interpreted in the future as belonging to its applicable historical period.



Controls

- (i) Alterations and additions to a building as part of adaptive reuse must be designed by a suitably qualified heritage architect to respect the original architectural qualities of the building such as building form, façade articulation, fenestration pattern, parapet profile and detail, materials and colours.
- (ii) Adaptive reuse of a heritage item is to involve minimal change to the significant fabric of the place.
- (iii) Adaptive reuse of a heritage item must respect significant associations and meanings of the place.
- (iv) Retention of only the façades of the building is discouraged.
- (v) New work necessary in the adaptive reuse of a heritage item should be distinguishable from original work and designed by a suitably qualified heritage architect.
- (vi) Fire engineered solutions should be sought to allow retention of original structural systems that would otherwise not meet "deemed to comply" provisions of the Building Code of Australia. Proposals involving "alternative solutions" must be accompanied by a report form an appropriately qualified and experienced specialist confirming the proposal achieves the applicable performance requirements.
- **(vii)** Access to heritage buildings must be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Disability (Access to Premises buildings) Standards 2010. Accessibility solutions must be designed by a suitably qualified heritage architect and respond to the heritage significance of the site.

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3. DEVELOPMENT IN THE VICINITY OF HERITAGE ITEMS

Development near a heritage item can have adverse impacts on the heritage item. This may be as a result of obstructing views to or from the heritage item, affecting trees or landscape elements that are part of the heritage item. It can also have an adverse impact by obscuring the landmark significance of a heritage item.

New development in the vicinity of a heritage item should take into consideration the importance of that item in the local streetscape or townscape.

In most cases, development in the vicinity of a heritage item will only affect properties that share a boundary with or are opposite a heritage item. In a few cases, development in the vicinity of a heritage item might have wider impacts. An example of this might be where important views of a landmark building such as a church spire might be lost by a new development.

3.1 General objectives

- **A.** To ensure that development located in the vicinity of a heritage item is designed and sited in a manner sympathetic to the significance of the heritage property and its setting.
- **B.** To ensure that development in the vicinity of a heritage item does not detrimentally impact upon the heritage significance of heritage items and heir settings.
- C. To ensure that new development is compatible with the heritage values of nearby heritage items

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3.2 Setting

Setting is the area around a heritage item that contributes to its heritage significance and may include the visual catchment of a heritage item. Topography, trees, gardens, fencing, and pavement can all contribute to the setting of a heritage item.

Where a heritage item has importance as a landmark, it is particularly important that new development in the vicinity of the heritage item does not obscure its visual presence in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure the setting of heritage items is not compromised by development in the vicinity of the heritage item.
- **B.** To ensure that new development respects the contribution of heritage items to the streetscape and/or townscape.

Controls

- (i) Development in the vicinity of a heritage item should not be of such bulk or height that it visually dominates or overshadows the heritage item.
- (ii) Views to or from a heritage item should not be obscured by new development.
- (iii) Where a heritage item is part of a streetscape of buildings of consistent style, form and materials, development in the vicinity of the heritage item should incorporate elements of the dominant style, form and materials in the streetscape.
- (iv) Where trees are integral to the significance of a heritage item, development should not be allowed beneath the drip zone of the trees. An arborist report may be required to establish the development will not impact upon trees on nearby heritage items.

3.3 Scale

Scale is the size of a building and its relationship with its surrounding buildings or landscape. Buildings of inappropriate scale in the vicinity of a heritage item can detract from its contribution to the streetscape and/or townscape.

Objectives

A. To ensure that new development in the vicinity of a heritage item is of a scale that does not detract from the significance of the heritage item.

Controls

- (i) The scale of new development in the vicinity of a built heritage item should not be substantially greater than that of the heritage item.
- (ii) New development that obscures important views of a heritage item is not permitted.

3.4 Siting

Siting relates to the position of the building on the site and includes the orientation of a building in relation to the street as well as the setbacks of the building from the boundaries. Setbacks define the overall footprint of a building and the outer extremities of that building in relation to the front, side and rear boundaries.

Setbacks of buildings in the vicinity of heritage items can be of importance in ensuring the retention of important views to and from the heritage item. In some cases, it is also necessary to consider the potential impact of the building on important landscape elements associated with the heritage item.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure new development in the vicinity of a heritage item is sited so that it does not obscure important views to or from the heritage item.
- **B.** To ensure that new development in the vicinity of a heritage item does not adversely impact landscape elements that are significant or are associated with a heritage item

Controls

- (i) The siting and setback of new development (including alterations and additions) in the vicinity of a heritage item should ensure that important views to or from the heritage item are not adversely impacted on.
- (ii) The siting and setback of new development in the vicinity of a heritage item should ensure that landscape elements associated with or listed as a heritage item are not adversely affected by the development.

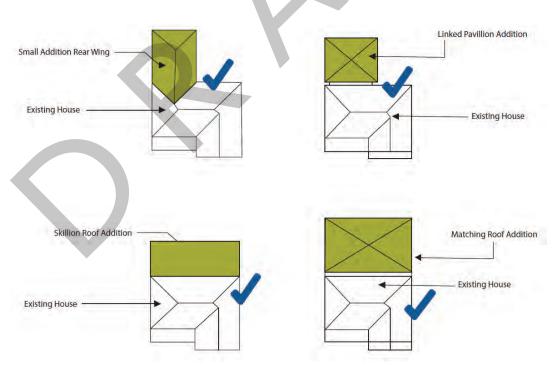


Figure 2: Examples of appropriate siting for additions to heritage items

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3.5 Materials and colours

New development should take into consideration the dominant original materials of heritage items in the vicinity of the development. Materials should be selected so that attention is not drawn away from the heritage item to the new development.

Objectives

A. To ensure that new development in the vicinity of a heritage item does not detract from the significance of the heritage item.

Controls

(i) Materials and colours for development in the vicinity of a heritage item shall be selected to avoid stark contrast with the adjacent development where this would result in the visual importance and significance of the heritage item being reduced.



3.6 Excavation

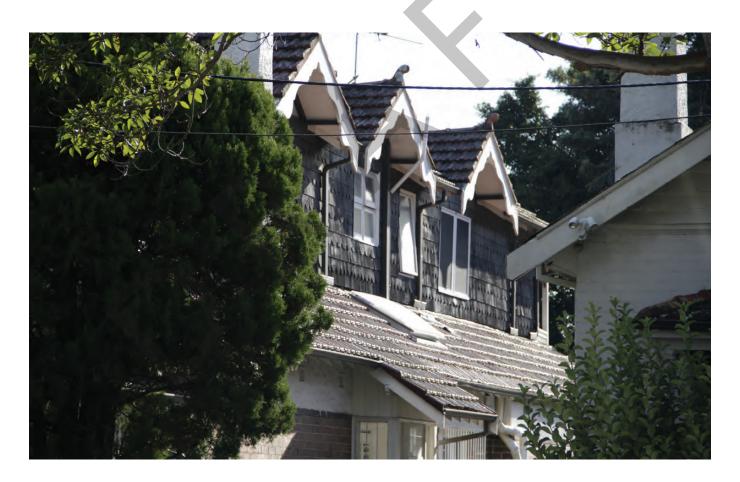
To ensure that new development does not put nearby heritage items at risk of damage.

Objectives

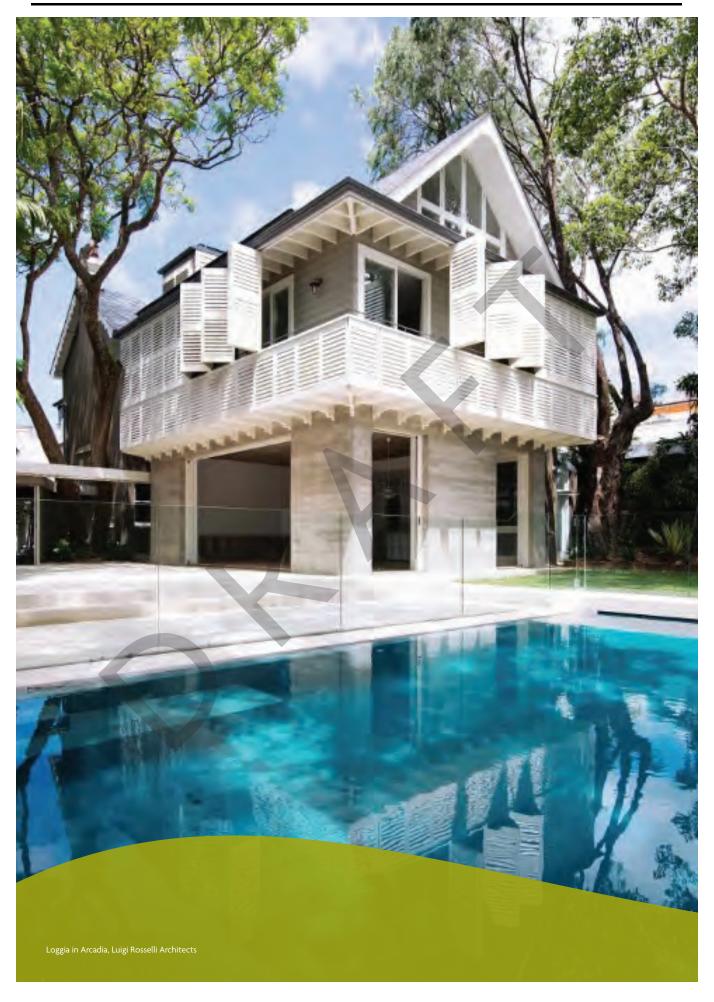
A. To ensure that new development does not put nearby heritage items at risk of damage.

Controls

(i) Applications involving excavation adjacent to a heritage item must demonstrate that the proposed excavation will not compromise the structural integrity of the heritage item and will not detract from its setting.



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4. DEVELOPMENT IN CONSERVATION AREAS

Strathfield Council has a number of Heritage Conservation Areas of local significance, which are listed under Part 2 of Schedule 5 of SLEP 2012. These are identified on the Heritage Maps accompanying SLEP 2012 and include fifteen (15) residential Conservation Areas and two (2) retail Conservation Areas as follows:

Residential Conservation Areas:

- Albert Road Central Conservation Area Federation Queen Anne style group (C7)
- Birriwa Avenue Conservation Area Inter-war California bungalow style group (C1)
- Broughton Road Conservation Area Federation houses group (C9)
- Churchill Avenue Conservation Area Federation houses group (C10)
- Homebush Road Conservation Area (C11)
- Marion Street Conservation Area Inter-war bungalow style group (C12)
- Meredith Street Conservation Area Victorian Villa style group (C4)
- Merley Road Conservation Area (C13)
- Pair of Federation Queen Ann style houses (C3)
- Redmyre Road Conservation Area (C14)
- Vernon Street Conservation Area (C16)
- Welfare Street Conservation Area Inter war bungalow style group (C6)
- Woodward Avenue Conservation Area (C17)

Retail Conservation Areas:

- The Boulevarde Retail Conservation Area (C15)
- "Village of Homebush" Retail Conservation Area (C5)

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4.1 Setting

Setting relates to the space and details around buildings in a Conservation Area that contribute to its heritage significance and may include the visual catchment of a Conservation Area. Street trees, gardens, fencing, and pavement can all contribute to the setting of a Conservation Area. The setback of buildings from the street and the space between buildings also contribute to the setting of a place.

Objectives

- **A.** To provide an appropriate visual setting for Heritage Conservation Areas, including landscaping, fencing and car parking.
- **B.** To maintain and enhance the existing character of the streetscape of a Heritage Conservation Area.
- **C.** To ensure that new development respects the established patterns in the streetscape of a Heritage Conservation Area, including setbacks, siting, landscaped settings, car parking and fencing.
- **D.** To protect street trees within Heritage Conservation Areas

Controls

- (i) The side and front setbacks of new development in a Conservation Area should be typical of the spacing of existing buildings in the vicinity of the proposed development in that Conservation Area, such that the rhythm of buildings in the streetscape is retained.
- (ii) No new structures should be built forward of the established street building line.
- (iii) The established landscape character of the locality including the height of canopy and density of boundary landscape plantings should be retained in any new development.
- **(iv)** Driveways must be placed having regard to street trees that contribute to the character of Heritage Conservation Area. An arborist report may be required for any development in the vicinity of significant street trees.

4.2 Scale

Scale is the size of a building and its relationship with its surrounding buildings or landscape. It is important that new development in Conservation Areas respects the scale of the existing buildings and/ or landscape elements that contribute to the significance of the Conservation Area.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure that new development adjacent to or within a Heritage Conservation Area is of a scale consistent with the existing development in the vicinity of the site that contributes to the character of the in the Heritage Conservation Area.
- **B.** To ensure that additions and alterations to a building within a Conservation Area are of a scale consistent with the contributory buildings in the Conservation Area.

Controls

- (i) The scale of new development adjacent to or within a Conservation Area should relate to the scale of the adjacent or nearest contributory elements of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Development of a larger scale is allowable only if it can be demonstrated that the new development will not adversely impact the identifiable character of the Conservation Area.



4.3 Form

The form of a building is its overall shape and volume and the arrangement of its parts. The rooflines of buildings, and elements such as chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. can contribute greatly to the character of an area.

Objectives

A. To ensure that new development in a Conservation Area relates positively to the dominant forms of existing contributory buildings in the Conservation Area.

B. To ensure that buildings that contribute to the character of a Conservation Area retain their importance in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Controls

- (i) Important elements of the form of a contributory building in a Conservation Area such as main roof forms, chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. should not be demolished or obscured by alterations and additions.
- (ii) New development in a Conservation Area is to complement existing nearby buildings that contribute to the Conservation Area.
- (iii) Chimneys and roof features such as ventilation gables should not be removed from contributory buildings in a Conservation Area.
- (iv) Dormer windows should generally be confined to rear or side roof slopes to minimize visibility in the streetscape.
- (v) Additions and alterations to existing buildings that contribute to the character of a Conservation Area should not detract from the original form of the existing building as viewed from the Public Domain.
- (vi) The treatment of the street façade of new development in a Conservation Area should relate to existing nearby buildings that contribute to the Conservation Area.

4.4 Siting

Siting relates to the position of the building on the site and includes the orientation of a building in relation to the street as well as the setbacks of the building from the boundaries.

Most buildings in a Conservation Area are oriented to the street frontage. The regular orientation of buildings contributes to the pattern and rhythm of the streetscape.

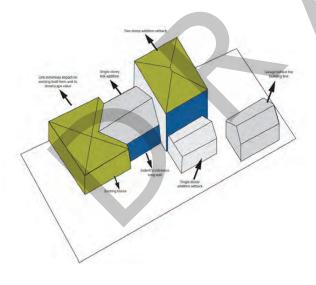
Setbacks define the overall footprint of a building and the outer extremities of that building in relation to the front, side and rear boundaries.

In Conservation Areas, setbacks are of greater importance in establishing the continuity of the streetscape. Side setbacks are also of importance in providing separation between buildings and establishing a rhythm in the streetscape.

Objectives

A. To integrate new development in Conservation Areas with the identifiable character of the area.

B. To maximise the benefits of passive solar design



Controls

- (i) The front setback of new development (including alterations and additions) in Conservation Areas should match that of adjacent contributory development. Where adjacent developments have different setbacks, new development should align with the greater setback.
- (ii) For Conservation Areas where first floor additions are appropriate, the first floor must be located behind the main roof form in a manner that does not detract from the streetscape character of the Conservation Area. (Refer to Figure 3)
- (iii) Side setbacks of new development (including alterations and additions) in Conservation Areas should match the pattern of adjacent and/or nearby contributory development. This will often include a greater setback on one side of the development to provide vehicular access at the side of a property.
- **(iv)** The orientation of new development should follow the established pattern of development in the Conservation Area.
- (v) Where trees are important to a Conservation Area, new buildings should be sited away from the drip line of the trees.

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4.5 Materials and colours

The quality of many of the Conservation Areas in Strathfield is reinforced by the use of a cohesive palette of materials and colours. Use of sympathetic materials and colours can help new development to reinforce the identifiable character of the area. Development that includes changing roof materials, re-skinning, rendering or painting of face brickwork can degrade the significance of a Conservation Area.

New development should take into consideration the dominant original materials of contributory development in the Conservation Area. Where there are contributory buildings of differing materials in close proximity to the proposed development, the building that reflects the dominant period of development in the Conservation Area should be given greater weight when selecting materials.

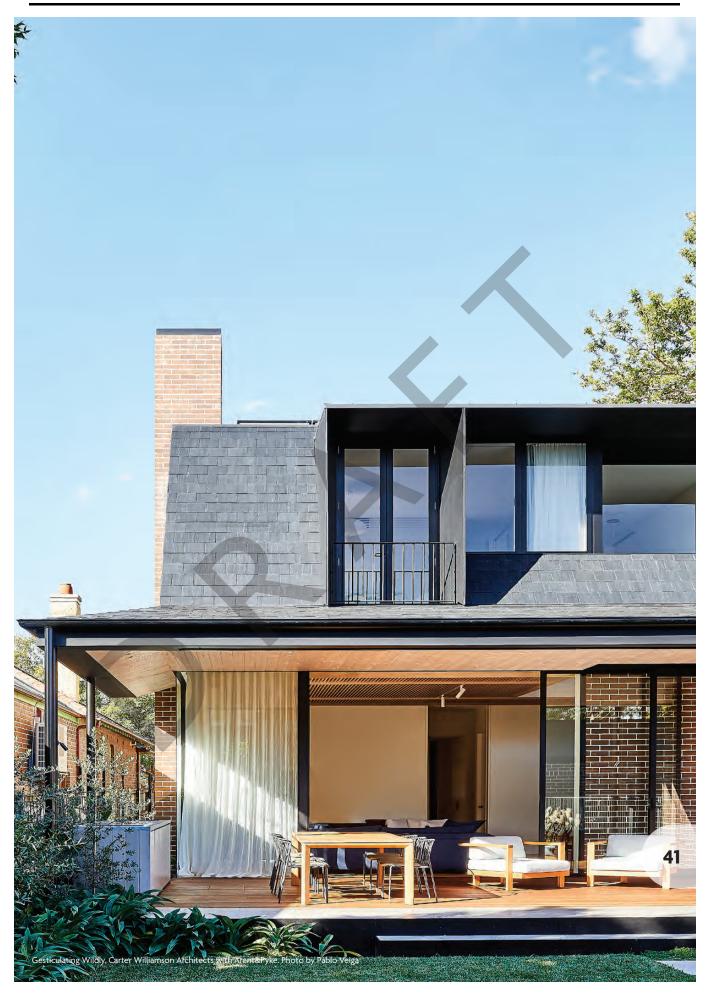
Objectives

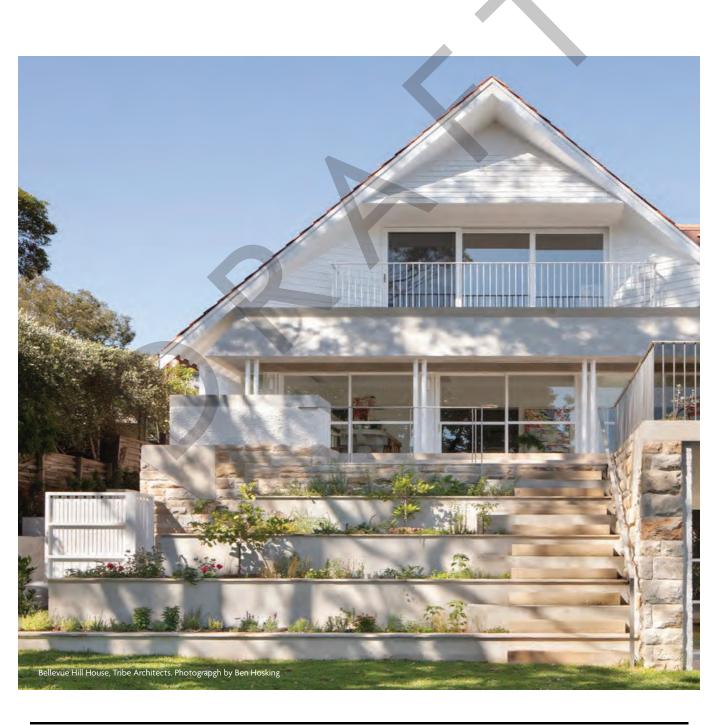
A. To encourage the use of external materials on new development that is consistent with the existing contributory buildings in a Conservation Area.

B. The environmental impact from building materials is minimised through reduction, re-use and recycling of materials, resources and building materials.

Controls

- (i) Original materials of contributory buildings in Conservation Areas should not be replaced with different materials or with materials of different colours.
- (ii) Non-original materials of existing contributory buildings in Conservation Areas that are being replaced shall, if possible, be replaced with material that matches the original material as closely as possible.
- (iii) Painting, rendering or bagging of face brickwork and sandstone is not permitted.
- (iv) The texture of original rendered finishes should not be changed.
- (v) Colour schemes for existing and new development in Conservation Areas should have a hue and tonal relationship with traditional colour schemes for the dominant style of development found in the Conservation Area
- **(vi)** The use of fluorescent paint on buildings in Conservation Areas is not permitted.





4.6 Doors and windows

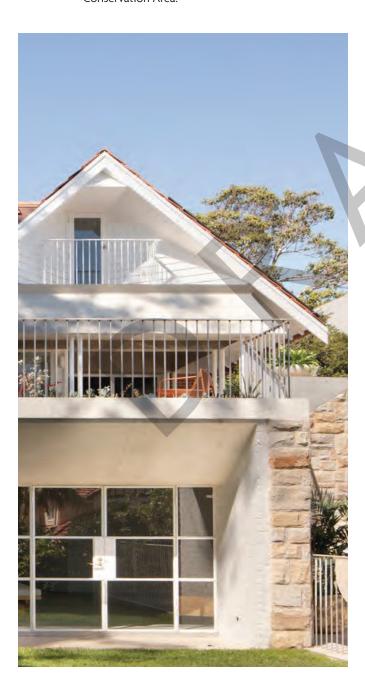
The spacing, proportions, materiality and detailing of doors and windows of buildings in Conservation Areas usually contributes to the quality of the streetscape. Altering windows and doors or adding new openings can dramatically affect the character of a building and incrementally erode the character of a Conservation Area.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain original door and window details of contributory buildings in Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To ensure that new development in a Conservation Area has fenestration patterns and proportions consistent with contributory buildings in the Conservation Area.



- (i) Extensive areas of glazing are not permitted for doors and windows visible from the Public Domain on buildings within a Conservation Area.
- (ii) Original door and window joinery visible from the Public Domain on contributory buildings in a Conservation Area should be conserved.
- (iii) New door and window openings to contributory buildings in a Conservation Area that are visible from the Public Domain should be of proportions and details that relate to existing built form, doors and window openings.
- (iv) New or reinstated glazing is to be specified as clear. Glazing performance must be met without the need of tinting or colourisation of any kind.
- (v) Only physical, externally fixed methods that are sympathetic and referencing the prevailing details of the primary residence to mitigate overlooking is permitted. Frosted glazing is not permitted.
- **(vi)** Roof structures (i.e. skylights) should be located on roof slopes where they will not be visible from the Public Domain.



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4.7 Car parking

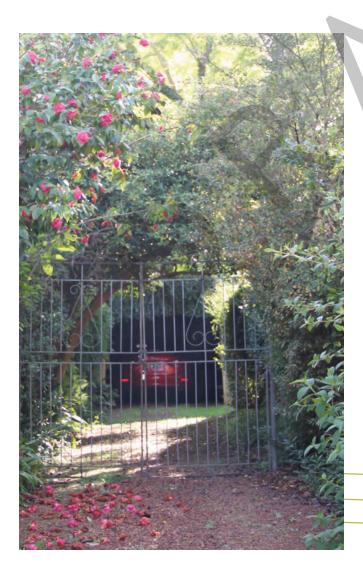
Garages and carports can have a detrimental impact on the aesthetic qualities of Conservation Areas. Garages and carports in front of the building line obscure views of the contributory buildings and break the rhythm and pattern of the streetscape. The proportions of garage doors do not relate to the smaller and more vertical proportions of windows and doors that are usually found on contributory buildings within Conservation Areas.

Objectives

A. To ensure that, where possible, garages and carports are designed to minimise the visual impact on the streetscape of Conservation Areas.

Controls

- (i) Garages and carports must be located as far behind the front building line as possible.
- (ii) Garages should not be incorporated into the front façade of a building in a Conservation Area.
- (iii) Where a new garage or carport is on the same side of a building as a front verandah, the garage or carport must be located entirely behind the verandah.
- (iv) Carports will only be allowed in front of the front building alignment where there is no possibility for side or rear access for car parking. Any such carports shall be limited to a single carport.
- (v) Applications that propose basement additions may be required to provide a Structural Report from a practicing structural engineer with experience in heritage buildings to confirm that the proposed excavation will not adversely affect the building or adjoining properties. This report should be provided as part of the development application. The placement of the basement entrance should not detract from the street presentation of the item of the streetscape.
- (vi) Placement of basement entries toward the rear of the property and parallel to the side boundary is encouraged.
- **(vii)** Refer to the Controls for Garages and Carports in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding garages and carports.



4.8 Fencing

Fencing, particularly fencing facing the street is important in retaining the significance of Conservation Areas. Consistent and uniform fencing can contribute significantly to the streetscape and character of a Conservation Area. Fencing should complement the style and scale of the house. Inappropriate fencing can detract from the streetscape by interrupting the pattern of development and by obscuring views.

Objectives

- **A.** To conserve original gates and fences within Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To ensure new fences and gates are consistent with the character of the Conservation Area and in particular with contributory housing in a Conservation Area.
- **C.** To ensure that the quality of the streetscape or townscape in a Conservation Area is not diminished by inappropriate fencing.



Controls

- (i) Fencing and gates that are constructed at the same time as the contributory building should not be demolished.
- (ii) New fencing and gates to contributory housing in a Conservation Area should be designed to complement the style of the house.
- (iii) New fencing and gates to infill development in a Conservation Area should be in keeping with the dominant character of the Conservation Area.
- (iv) Unless evidence is provided to establish a greater height, fencing constructed of solid material such as masonry forward of the building line should not be greater than Im in height above the adjacent public footpath level. In all cases, the height of fencing should relate to the style of the house and width of the allotment.
- (v) Original face brick or sandstone fencing in a Conservation Area should not be painted.
- **(vi)** Refer to the Controls for Fencing in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding fencing (Note: this section prevails in the event of any inconsistency).

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4.9 Landscape elements including paving and driveways

Landscape elements are important in reinforcing the significance of the Conservation Areas. The design of front gardens provides a setting for the house and reinforces the character of the place. In many Conservation Areas, street plantings are an integral part of the original design of the area.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain important landscape elements that contribute to the significance of Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To reinforce the qualities of the Conservation Area through appropriate landscaping

Controls

- (i) Street trees in Conservation Areas should not be removed to allow for new development. New and relocated driveways should be located to accommodate existing street tree. An arborist report may be required for works in the vicinity of street trees.
- (ii) Existing driveways and footpath crossings that relate to original development in a Conservation Area should not be relocated.
- (iii) Double driveways and footpath crossings will not be permitted in Conservation Areas.

4.10 Outbuildings

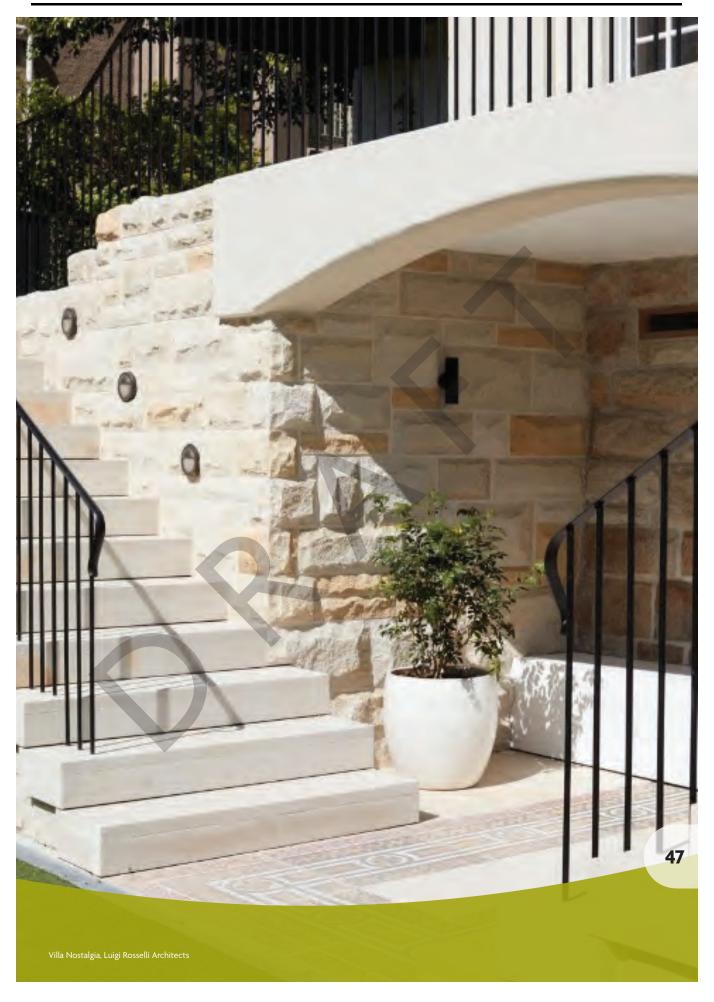
Outbuildings such as garden sheds, outhouses, gazebos, pool pavilions can easily detract from the quality of the streetscape. The location and setting of these must be carefully considered so that they have minimal impact on the streetscape.

Objectives

A. To minimise visual intrusion on the streetscape due to outbuildings.

Controls

- (i) Outbuildings should be located in the rear yard of properties within a Conservation Area.
- (ii) Outbuildings should be single storey and designed so that they have negligible if any impact on the streetscape.



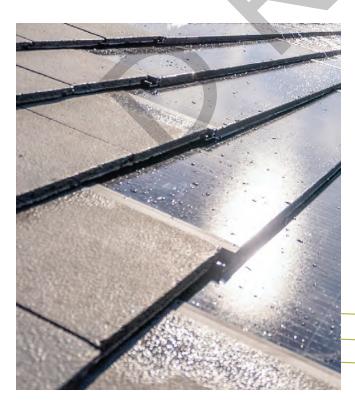
4.11 Environmentally Sustainable Technologies

Many modern technologies improve the energy efficiency of a building by reducing its reliance on the grid. This is the most effective intervention that helps Council achieve a Net Zero target. The installation of new sustainability measures may offset the less energy complaint fabric and features of the heritage conservation area.

Fixtures such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, skylights, shading devices, energy efficient hot water systems, EV charging points and rainwater tanks are sometimes large or items with a very modern appearance. They could be intrusive elements if installed to a highly visible roofscape or prominent streetscape facade. However, as technology is improving, these elements, such as photovoltaics are foreseen to become better integrated in the building fabric and it is critical that both the environmental and heritage benefits are considered to ensure energy efficient technologies can be implemented without compromising any significant heritage fabric.

Objectives

- **A.** To promote environmentally sustainable design in the design of alterations and additions to development buildings within a Heritage Conservation Area.
- **B.** To promote the use of renewable energy resources while minimising visual impacts
- **c.** To ensure that ancillary roof mounted structures do not detract from the heritage significance or aesthetic value when viewed from the public domain.



Controls

- (i) Ancillary roof mounted structures (such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, television aerials and satellite dishes) are to be located on roof planes facing the rear yard of dwellings within a heritage conservation area and in a position to ensure they are not visible from the public domain.
- (ii) Ancillary roof mounted structures should not be higher than the main ridge line of a building that is or is part of a heritage item and shall be located so that they are not visible from the Public Domain.
- (iii) The introduction of environmentally sustainable technologies that allows these structures to be integrated into the building or roof fabric are permissible of roof planes and building facades visible from the public domain so long as they are;
 - a. flush with the predominant roof surface and,
 - b. Indistinguishable from the predominant roof material
 - c. integrated into the building facade without compromising any significant heritage or character of the conservation area.



4.12 Demolition

Demolition of buildings within a Conservation Area can diminish the qualities of the Conservation Area. It is important that contributory buildings in the Conservation Area are retained.

Objectives

A. To retain the contributory buildings in a Conservation Area.

Controls

- (i) Contributory buildings within a Conservation Area must not be demolished.
- (ii) Partial demolition of contributory items within a Conservation Area may only be allowed when it can be established in a Statement of Heritage Impact that the partial demolition will not have an impact on the significance of the contribution of the item to the Conservation Area.
- (iii) Demolition of rear outbuildings in Conservation Areas may be acceptable. For places listed as heritage items, additional restrictions might apply.

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4.13 Subdivision

The subdivision pattern of Conservation Areas is important in the existing streetscape and reflects the historic subdivision of large estates and land grants as the area developed over time. The regular sizes of blocks together with the regular setbacks of buildings helps to establish a rhythm to the streetscape.

Consolidation of allotments often results in larger buildings that have an undesirable impact on the pattern of the streetscape. Similarly, subdivision of allotments can result in development with inadequate setbacks and/or narrow allotments that break the pattern of the streetscape.

Objectives

A. To retain subdivision patterns that contribute to the rhythm of streetscapes in Conservation Areas.

Controls

- (i) Consolidation of allotments of an early subdivision within a Conservation Area is not permitted unless it can be demonstrated that the original pattern of development in that part of the Conservation Area will be maintained.
- (ii) Subdivision of allotments of an early subdivision within a Conservation Area will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that the original pattern of development in that part of the Conservation Area will be maintained.
- (iii) New subdivision within a Heritage Conservation Area should reinforce the original pattern of development within the Heritage Conservation Area.

4.14 Signage

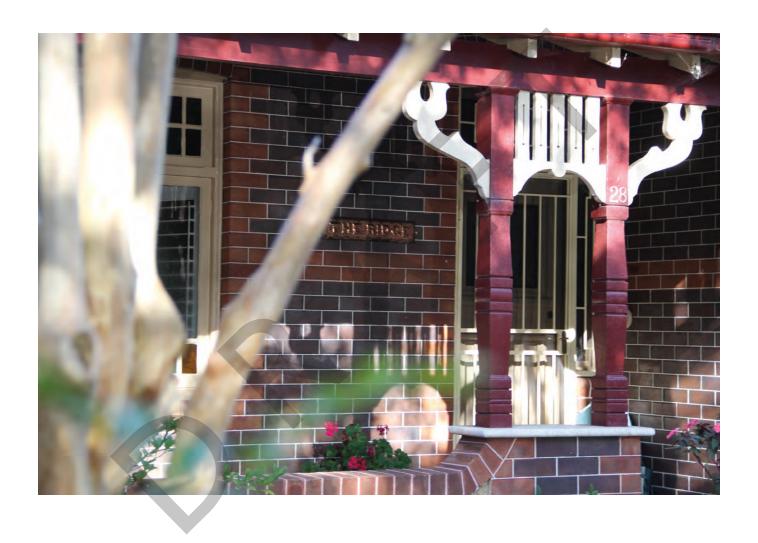
Residential streetscapes in Conservation Areas can be obscured by inappropriate signage. For late nineteenth century and early twentieth century buildings house names are often incorporated into the building or placed on a small sign fixed to a wall near the front door.

Objectives

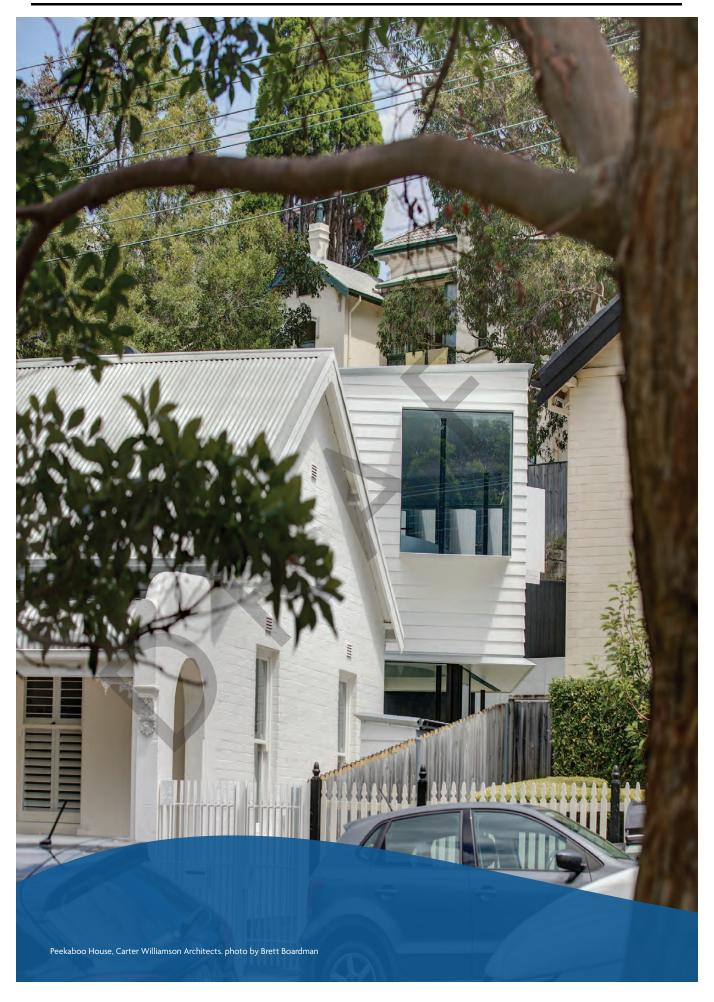
- **A.** To ensure the original details of buildings in Conservation Areas are not obscured by inappropriate signage.
- **B.** To ensure that signage does not have a detrimental impact on residential parts of Conservation Areas.

Controls

- (i) The architectural details of a building are not to be obscured or damaged by signage.
- (ii) Signage for the use of residential buildings for professional rooms or commercial purposes is to be designed to have minimal impact on the streetscape.



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5. ADDITIONAL CONTROLS FOR DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREAS

Development within Strathfield's Residential Conservation Areas must satisfy the general objectives and controls below as well as the provisions contained within this DCP in respect of heritage items and/or land/buildings within the vicinity of heritage items, and development within Conservation Areas generally, as relevant.

5.1 General objectives

- A. To conserve the existing character and heritage significance of Strathfield's residential Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To facilitate sympathetic and appropriate alterations and additions, whilst minimising the impact on the heritage significance of the dwellings and streetscapes within residential Conservation Areas.
- **C.** To ensure that new development is sympathetic to the particular building and/or relevant Conservation Area in terms of siting, form, massing, articulation and detail composition.
- D. To ensure that the proposed form of roof and details, the style, size, proportion and position of openings of windows and doors, the colours, textures, style, size and type of finish of materials to be used on the exterior of the building is compatible with similar features and materials used in the existing building on the site and within the relevant Conservation Area
- E. To retain any horticultural or landscape features within the relevant Conservation Area.
- F. To retain the subdivision pattern of the relevant Conservation Area.
- **G.** To promote an understanding of the importance of conserving the fabric of existing buildings and its context within the relevant Conservation Area.

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5.2 Siting and Garden Area

- (i) The historical pattern of development of individual buildings on separate allotments of land separated by garden space, which characterise each of the Residential Conservation Areas, should be maintained.
- (ii) Front garden areas, lawns and associated pathways as traditional garden settings for houses should be maintained in any development proposal within a Residential Conservation Area.
- (iii) Views around and between buildings collectively forming a Residential Conservation Area are to be retained in any development proposal.
- (iv) Existing side boundary setbacks should be maintained. A lesser setback may be considered for additions where it can be demonstrated that the resulting development does not detract from the character of the Conservation Area.

5.3 Building Form

(i) Any proposed development should retain the particular building character of each Residential Conservation Area as identified in the particular Statement of Significance for the Conservation Area.

- (ii) Extensions should be sited to the rear of a dwelling within a Conservation Area and are to be consistent with and complement the existing dwelling. Alterations to the original main part of a building (other than a non-conforming building), including front and side facades, verandahs and roof forms, are discouraged.
- (iii) Where a building, other than a non-conforming building has undergone limited change, restoration/reinstatement and repair of the original front of the building is encouraged.

5.4 Roof Forms

- (i) Roof extensions on buildings within a Residential Conservation Area are to relate sympathetically and subordinately to the original roof in shape, pitch, proportion and materials.
- (ii) New buildings are to have roofs that reflect the size, mass, shape of original roofs in the vicinity, particularly of the adjoining roofs.
- (iii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials or are to use approved alternative materials.
- (iv) Roof details such as finials, ridge capping, are to be maintained, repaired and reinstated where possible.

5.5 Walls, chimneys, doors and windows

- (i) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of buildings within a Residential Conservation Area shall not be altered.
- (ii) Chimneys on buildings within a Residential Conservation Area should not be demolished unless they are structurally unsound and only when accompanied by plans for immediate reconstruction in the original design. Reconstruction of original chimneys where there is evidence of previously removed chimneys is encouraged.
- (iii) Original doors and windows of dwellings within a Conservation Area, are to be kept, maintained and repaired when necessary.
- (iv) New doors and windows of dwellings within a Conservation Area are to reflect the proportion, location, size, sill heights, header treatment, materials, detailing and glazing pattern of the original doors and windows on the house to which they belong.

5.6 Verandahs

(i) Existing original verandahs at the front of contributory dwellings within a Residential Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.

5.7 Garages and Carports

- (i) New garages and carports are to be located at the back or at the side of the house.
- (ii) Carports, but not garages, forward of the building line may be permitted only in circumstances where access is not available to the rear and only where the design and materials are considered acceptable within the streetscape.
- (iii) Driveways consisting of wheel tracks with central grass/planting are preferred to fully paved driveway spaces.

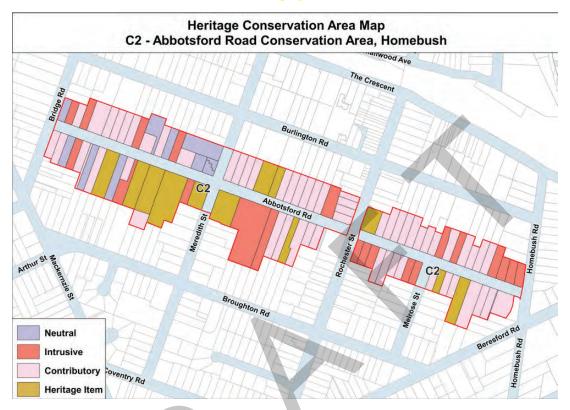
5.8 Fences & Gates

- (i) Original front fences and gates are to be kept and repaired where possible.
- (ii) Where replacement is necessary, replace side and rear fences with a timber paling fence of same height to the original, or a fence of unobtrusive lightweight materials such as timber or wire mesh with covering plants. Replacement fences must be in keeping with the character of the Conservation Area.
- (iii) Privacy walls higher than 1m of brick, timber or brush are not permitted on the street frontage.

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5.9 Statement of Significance and additional controls for each Conservation Area

5.9.1 Abbotsford Road Conservation Area (C2)



Statement of Significance

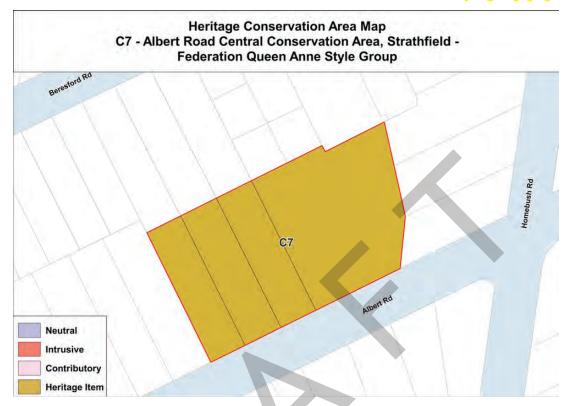
Abbotsford Road contains a consistently high-quality streetscape with housing dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. There is some modern infill but generally it is unobtrusive. The streetscape is tied together by mature street planting and well-maintained gardens. Abbotsford Road is of particular significance for its architectural and aesthetic qualities.

Additional Controls

(i) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising mature trees on the verges must be retained. New development must be designed to avoid impacting on the health of the street trees.

(ii) Mature trees should be planted to match the existing type and species where there are gaps in the street tree planting.

5.9.2 Albert Road Central Conservation Area - Federation Queen Anne style group (C7)



Statement of Significance

All built between 1899 and 1901, this group of houses are a cohesive group of Federation Queen Anne Style houses featuring terracotta tiled roofs with hipped and gabled roof forms, face brick walls trimmed with roughcast render, a variety of window types and verandahs with decorative timber work. As a group they are a distinctive and attractive part of the streetscape of Albert Road.

This group has historic importance as part of the development of this precinct following the decision of the Camden Congregational Church to subdivide their Strathfield property. As individual homes, these houses have a number of important historical connections. The Strathfield Education Centre is important for being built for William Arnott. The three houses from Numbers 71-75 Albert Road are the work of the prominent Strathfield builder John Lyon Gardiner.

Additional Controls

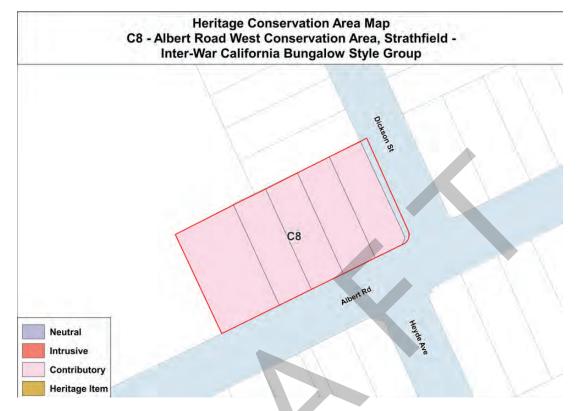
- (i) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials of dwellings within this Conservation Area, these being unglazed terra cotta Marseilles tiles.
- (ii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic face brickwork trimmed with roughcast render should be retained and repaired or replaced where appropriate.

(iii) Existing original verandahs with timber detailing which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.

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5.9.3 Albert Road West Conservation Area - Inter-war California bungalow style group (C8)



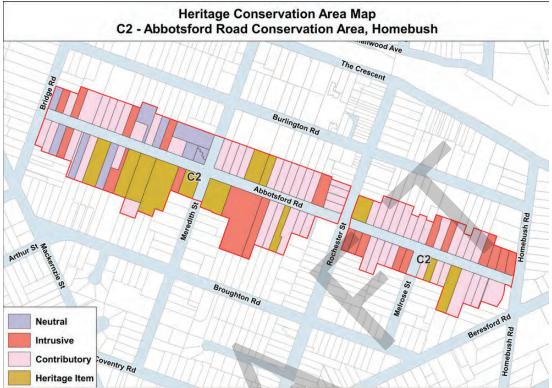
Statement of Significance

Built in a short period between 1920 and 1924, this group of houses are a cohesive group of Inter-War California Bungalows with a consistency of scale, form and materials. All the houses feature characteristics of the style including low-medium pitched roofs, most with broad gables facing the street, front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts, casement windows, and battened fibre and shingled cladding to the gables. As a group, the pattern of gables and verandahs of these houses makes an important contribution to the local streetscape.

Additional Controls

- (i) New buildings or alterations to existing buildings are to have roofs that reflect the low-medium roof pitch of the neighbouring original roofs within this Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof and gable materials are to match original materials in the use of battened fibre and shingled cladding to the gables which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area.
- (iii) Existing original front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.

5.9.4 Birriwa Avenue Conservation Area - Inter-war California bungalow style group (CI)



Statement of Significance

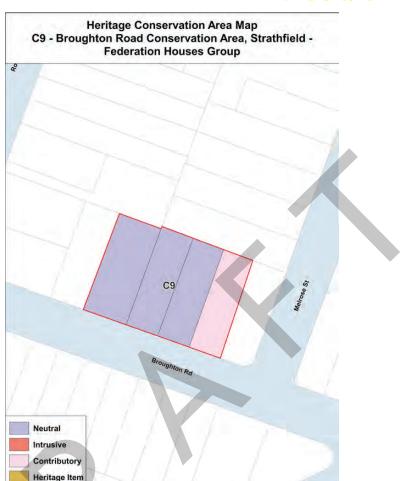
Birriwa Avenue is an intact streetscape of Inter-War California Bungalows, terminated at the western end by an Inter-War corner shop. The cohesive nature of the streetscape is created in a large part by the regular pattern of gabled roofs and front verandahs along the street. The construction of a whole street by one builder has resulted in a similarity of scale, style and material through the streetscape. The plantings of Nerium oleander and the gentle curve in the avenue add to the quality of the streetscape.

The houses of Birriwa Avenue are representative of the Inter-War California bungalow style through the use of gabled fronts to the street, imitation half timbering and imitation timber shingles to contrast with face brickwork, verandahs on brick piers and sets of timber casement windows. The corner shop is also a good representative example of a small Inter-War commercial building attached to a residence.

Additional Controls

- (i) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising Nerium oleander on the verges, must be retained.
- (ii) New trees using advanced Nerium oleander should be planted where there are gaps in the street tree planting.
- (iii) The original Inter-War corner shop should be retained in any development proposal.
- (iv) Existing original front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.
- (v) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls on dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic imitation half timbering and imitation timber shingles along with face brickwork should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.

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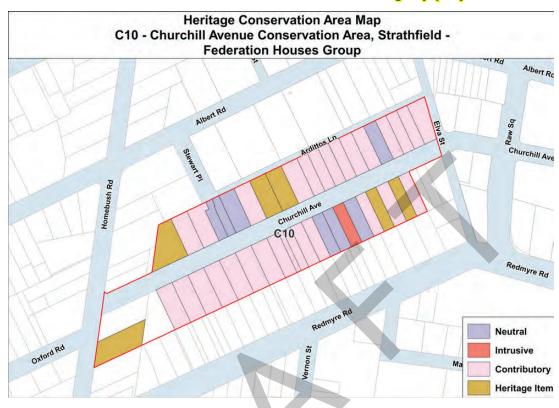
5.9.5 Broughton Road Conservation Area - Federation houses group (C9)(C8)

Statement of Significance

Built within a three-year period, this group of houses has a similarity of scale, form, details and materials. As examples of the Federation Queen Anne style, they have characteristic features including terracotta and slate roofing with hipped and gabled forms, face brickwork contrasting with imitation half timbering to the gables, verandahs supported on timber posts with timber detailing and casement windows. As a group, they are an important part of the Broughton Road streetscape.

Additional Controls

- (i) The predominant gable pattern which is characteristic of the Broughton Road Conservation Area should be retained or restored in any development.
- (ii) Existing original front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts which are characteristic of dwellings in this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.
- (iii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic imitation half timbering and imitation timber shingles along with face brickwork should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.



5.9.6 Churchill Avenue Conservation Area - Federation houses group (C10)

Statement of Significance

Churchill Avenue is of local significance for its high retention of form, scale, and architectural detail. Mature street planting and period style fences provide a unified streetscape. The housing stock is comprised of Federation and bungalow styled residences. Elements that

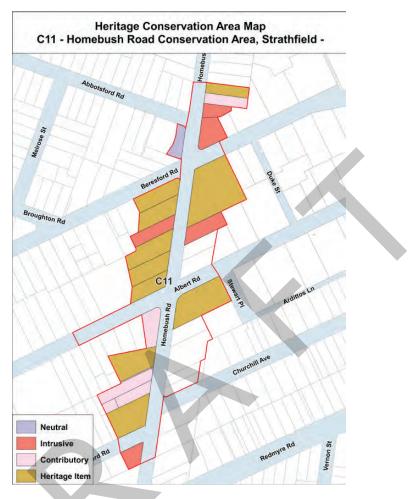
give the precinct its character includes Marseilles tile and slate roofs, brick construction, single storey, timber detailing and well-maintained gardens.

Additional Controls

- (i) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials where possible on dwellings within this Conservation Area. Suitable roof materials are unglazed terra cotta Marseilles tiles or slate where applicable.
- (ii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls shall not be altered. Characteristic brickwork should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.

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5.9.7 Homebush Road Conservation Area (CII)

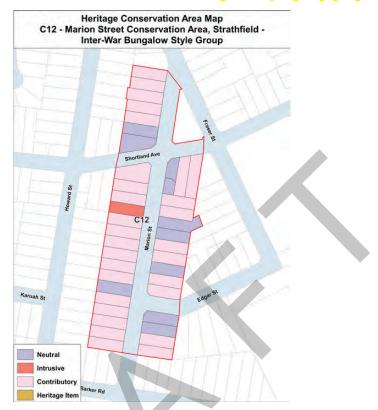


Statement of Significance

Homebush Road precinct is of local significance for its architectural character and for its diverse high-quality streetscape. Important streetscape elements include fencing, gardens and Brush Box Street planting that combine to provide a sense of enclosure and continuity.

Additional Controls

- (i) Original brick and iron fencing should be retained and repaired. New fencing must respond to the prevailing design and materiality of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising Brush Box on the verges of this Conservation Area is to be retained.
- (iii) The predominance of soft landscaping within the front setback is to be retained. Reinstatement of period gardens in encouraged.



5.9.8 Marion Street Conservation Area – Inter-war bungalow style group (C12)

Statement of Significance

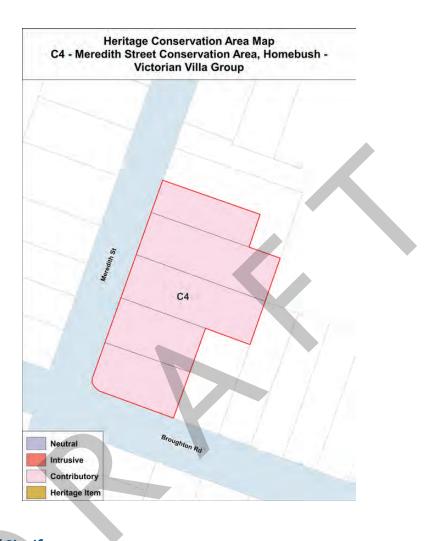
Marion Street is of local significance as representing a cohesive group of housing from the 1930's and 1940's that retains representative form, scale and detail. The houses are predominantly single storey with tiled hip roofs, dark coloured brick, small front bays and verandahs, timber windows and low brick fences. Marion Street has Brush Box planting and well-kept gardens that add to the overall streetscape value.

Additional Controls

- (i) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising Brush Box on the verges of this Conservation Area must be retained. New development should be designed to avoid impacting on the health of the street trees.
- (ii) New trees using mature Brush Box should be planted where there are gaps in the street tree planting.
- (iii) Roof extensions of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to relate sympathetically and subordinately to the original roof in shape, pitch, proportion and materials, with hipped roof forms and Marseilles tiles to be used where appropriate.
- (iv) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic dark coloured brick should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.
- (v) Existing original small front verandahs and bays which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.
- (vi) Original low brick front fences which are characteristic of the Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired where possible.

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5.9.9 Meredith Street Conservation Area - Victorian Villa style group (C4)



Statement of Significance

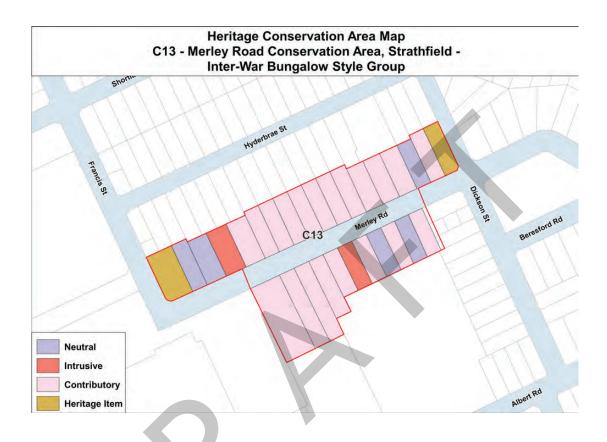
This late 19th Century Victorian Precinct is of local significance for retaining its form, scale and some detail and illustrates early housing on the 1878 Underwood Estate. These villas retain their asymmetrical facades with projecting bays, arch top windows and front verandahs. They are of single storey, constructed of rendered brick. The tiled roofs and the unsympathetic fences detract from the overall streetscape value. The retention of the eaves detailing (brackets and medallions) are important features.

Additional Controls

(i) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic rendered brick should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.

(ii) Existing original verandahs and projecting bays which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.

5.9.10 Merley Road Conservation Area (C13)



Statement of Significance

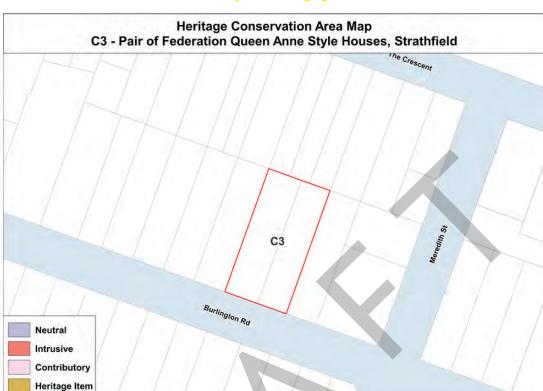
Merley Road, between Dickson Street and Francis Street, is an intact streetscape dominated by Inter-War California bungalow style houses. The few Federation period houses in the street blend well with the Inter-War houses due to the use of gables facing the street, front verandahs, terracotta tiled roofs and face brick walling contrasted with small areas of render and/or battened fibre and shingles.

Additional Controls

- (i) Gables should be restored, repaired or replaced to follow the consistent pattern throughout the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials on dwellings within this Conservation Area, such as unglazed terra cotta Marseilles tiles.
- (iii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Face brickwork with render should be repaired or replaced where appropriate.
- (iv) Existing original front verandahs are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.

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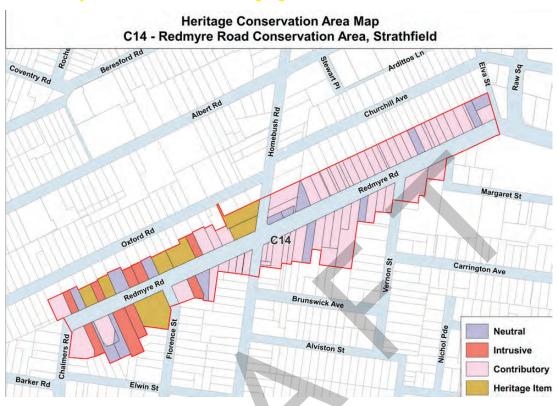
5.9.11 Pair of Federation Queen Ann style houses (C3)

Statement of Significance

Talgai and Gowan Brae are a good example of a pair of Federation Queen Anne style houses. Characteristics of the style evident in Talgai and Gowan Brae include the hipped and gabled terracotta roof, detailed entry porch, face brickwork contrasted with roughcast render and grouped casement windows.

Additional Controls

- (i) Replacement roof design and materials on each of the dwellings are to match original materials, including hipped and gabled terracotta roof types.
- (ii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of the two dwellings shall not be altered. Characteristic face brickwork contrasted with roughcast render should be retained on the two dwellings or replaced like-for-like.
- (iii) The existing detailed entry porches which are characteristic of this dwelling pair are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.



5.9.12 Redmyre Road Conservation Area (C14)

Statement of Significance

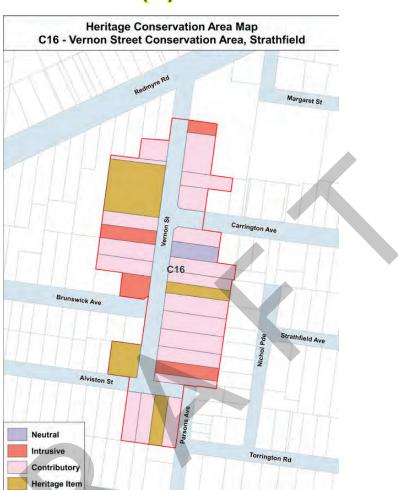
Redmyre Road is of significance for its historical and architectural qualities. This Conservation Area displays a full range of housing that is dominated by early twentieth century architecture. It features a unified streetscape with predominantly single storey, well-maintained houses. The housing types include Victorian Italianate, Late Victorian/Early Federation and Federation/bungalow. Also featured is the Council Chambers and former Town Clerk's house. The central planting of Jacarandas in a grassed median strip and side planting of Brush Box form an important landscape feature to the street.

Additional Controls

- (i) The characteristic pattern of grass verges, footpaths and street tree planting comprising Jacarandas within the grassed median strip, and Brush Box on the verges, must be retained.
- (ii) New trees using mature Jacarandas on the median strip and Brush Box on the verges, should be planted where there are gaps in the street tree planting.

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5.9.13 Vernon Street Conservation Area (C16)

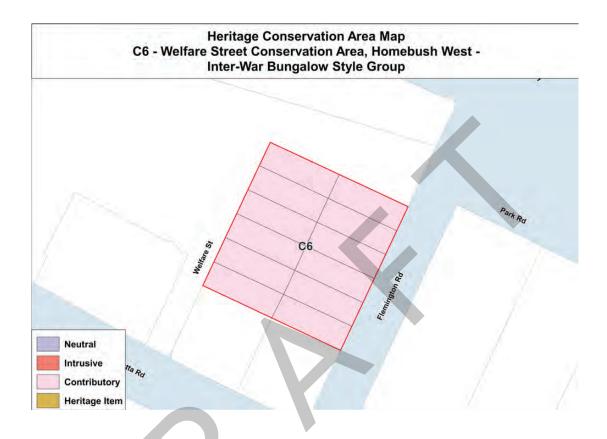
Statement of Significance

This Conservation Area contains many buildings from the late Nineteenth Century. It is of local significance as the villas retain their form and scale and they combine to provide an attractive streetscape. The villas are predominantly single storey with asymmetrical facades and projecting bays.

Additional Controls

(i) Existing original projecting bays characteristic of dwellings in this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired where possible or reinstated.

5.9.14 Welfare Street Conservation Area - Inter war bungalow style group (C6)



Statement of Significance

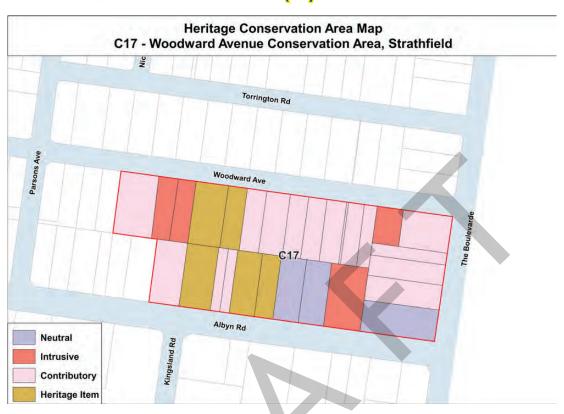
Bounded by Welfare Street, Park, Flemington and Parramatta Roads this precinct is of local significance as it features a homogenous group of bungalow housing dating from c. 1920. The houses are single storey, brick with asymmetrical façades and have Marseilles tiled gables, terra cotta finials, square timber posts on brick supports, decorative timber brackets, timber sun hoods, brick verandahs and small front gardens. Throughout the Conservation Area there is a repetition of design and a high retention of detail, form and scale.

Additional Controls

- (i) New development should complement the asymmetrical facade designs that are characteristic of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials used within this Conservation Area, including Marseilles tiled gables.
- (iii) Original roof details on dwellings within this Conservation Area, such as terracotta finials, ridge capping, are to be maintained, repaired and reinstated where necessary.
- (iv) Existing original brick verandahs that characterise dwellings within the Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.

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5.9.15 Woodward Avenue Conservation Area (C17)

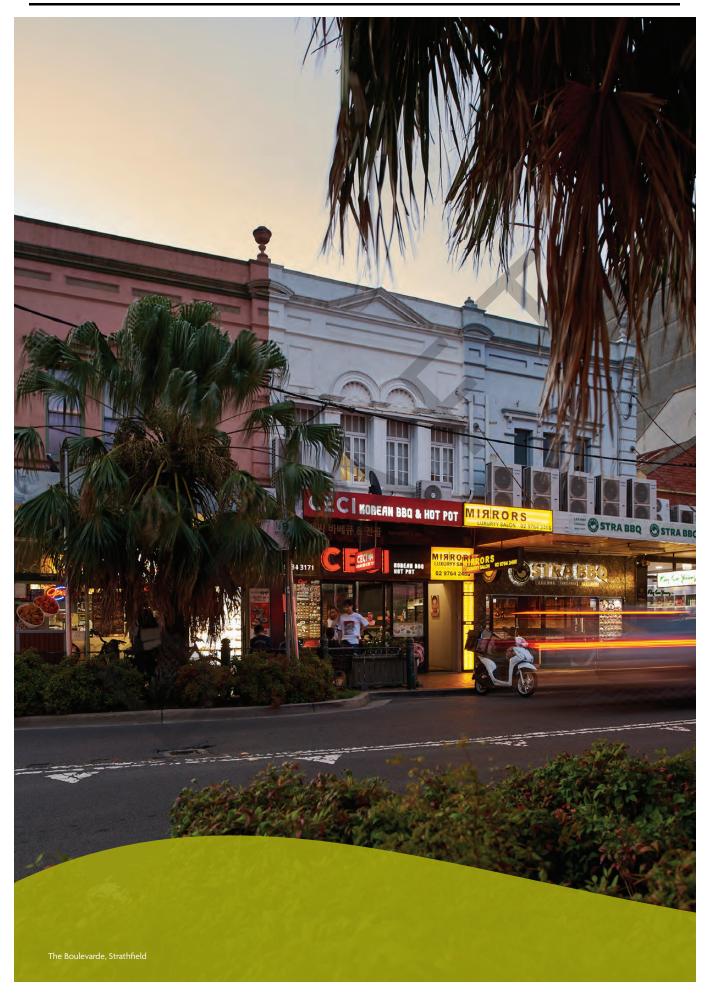
Statement of Significance

This Conservation Area is a Victorian era precinct that is of local significance for its retention of form, scale and architectural detail from the late 19th century. Features of the Conservation Area include predominantly single storey, asymmetrical facades, projecting bays, slate roofs, rendered brick construction and front verandahs.

Additional Controls

- (i) Where appropriate, new development should complement the asymmetrical facade designs that are characteristic of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials such as slate or are to employ approved alternative materials where possible.
- (iii) Rendered brick construction on dwellings within this Conservation Area should be retained and repaired where possible.
- (iv) Existing original front verandahs and projecting front bays that characterise dwellings within the Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.





6. ADDITIONAL CONTROLS FOR DEVELOPMENT WITHIN RETAIL CONSERVATION AREAS

Development within Strathfield's Retail Conservation Areas must satisfy the general objectives and controls below as well as the provisions contained within this DCP in respect of heritage items and/or land/buildings within the vicinity of heritage items, and development within Conservation Areas generally, as relevant.

6.1 General objectives

- **A.** To ensure the retail Conservation Areas continue to provide a range of retail and commercial services with varied and interesting active frontages to the street.
- **B.** To encourage the retention of significant and contributory shopfronts and promote the reinstatement of original characteristics and shopfronts.
- C. To retain and enhance the prevailing character given by buildings built to street and side boundaries.
- **D.** To ensure the prevailing pattern of buildings built to the front boundary and massed to their existing height at the street frontage is continued.
- **E.** To ensure the rear of properties complement the existing streetscape.
- F. Retain/repair original awnings.
- **G.** To retain the prominence of the building form and character given by the roofs, parapets and architectural features of buildings within the retail Conservation Areas.

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6.2 Land use

(i) Shopfronts within the Retail Conservation Areas should incorporate a range of uses to engage with and activate the street.

6.3 Building design

- (i) Buildings must be massed towards the street frontage.
- (ii) The height of the buildings at the street boundary must be determined by the prevailing height of adjacent and neighbouring contributory buildings.

6.4 Setbacks

- (i) Side setbacks are not required where new development matches an existing or concurrently proposed adjoining building.
- (ii) Setbacks to the street are only permitted where the established pattern is set back.

6.5 Rear elevations

(i) Rear elevations and structures are to be treated and maintained in a manner that complements the existing character of the Retail Conservation Areas.

6.6 Shop fronts and building facades

- (i) New shop fronts shall reflect original details and proportions characteristic of the retail shop fronts, including the siting of recessed entrance doors.
- (ii) Original facades and shop fronts should be conserved, reinstated, and maintained where possible.

6.7 Roofs, parapets and architectural features

- **(i)** Original parapets should be preserved and maintained, with existing detailing, unpainted and free of hoarding signs.
- (ii) The profile of the front parapet wall should be maintained as a silhouette against the sky.
- (iii) Gable ends to the roof above eaves level should retain their existing details, where they are present. Reinstatement of lost elements is encouraged.
- **(iv)** Original chimneys should be retained, or reinstated where possible and the introduction of new roof fixtures (such as roof vents, aerials, solar collectors, mobile phone transmitters or satellite dishes) must not be located on the front façade of shop fronts within the Retail Conservation Area.
- (v) Continuous awnings should be provided where possible, at a unified height and fascia to each shop. The level of overhead awnings above the footpath should match the existing.
- **(vi)** Original upper-level windows should be restored and maintained.
- **(vii)** The removal of first floor windows that have altered the profile of former openings is encouraged, with the original window to be restored.

6.8 Materials and finishes

(i) Materials must be sympathetic to the original materials used within the relevant Retail Conservation Area.

6.9 Signage

Many commercial buildings built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century incorporate areas on the main façade designed for locating a sign to identify the business operating within. This allows for appropriate signage while the unity of the streetscape is retained.

Objectives

A. To allow for appropriate signage on commercial buildings in Conservation Areas.

B. To ensure the original details of buildings in Conservation Areas are not obscured by inappropriate signage.

Controls

- (i) Signage on commercial buildings is to be confined to:
 - · an under-awning sign of appropriate size.
 - a window sign in the ground floor shopfront of appropriate design; or
 - a first-floor sign contained within a purpose designed panel on the building façade.
- (ii) The façade of any building in a Conservation Area is not to be painted in a corporate colour scheme.
- (iii) The architectural details of a building are not to be obscured or damaged by signage.
- (iv) Signage for the use of residential buildings for professional rooms or commercial purposes is to be designed to have minimal impact on the streetscape.
- (v) Backlight signs and neon signs should only be allowed within Conservation Areas where they are temporary and do not detract from the character of the Conservation Area.
- (iv) Advertising structures are not permitted.

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6.10 Statement of Significance and specific additional controls for Retail Conservation Areas

6.10.1 The Boulevarde Retail Conservation Area (C15)





Statement of Significance

These shops are part of a group of commercial buildings developed along The Boulevarde in the late nineteenth century by the financier, land agent and architect Randolph Nott, capitalising on the importance of the nearby railway station in generating business. The shops remained in the possession of Nott until the 1920's.

This is a rare group of late nineteenth century shops in Strathfield. Numbers 25-31 and Number 33 are representative examples of early Federation commercial buildings and retain much of their original brick and sandstone detailing. Number 35-39 is a good example of a commercial building with Federation free classical detailing.

Additional Objectives

- **A.** To reinforce the prevailing pattern of early Federation shop fronts which is characterised by simple, rectilinear building forms, full height at street frontage, and variation in roof parapet, chimney, roof eaves, details and other features.
- **B.** To preserve and reinstate original early Federation shopfront facades where possible.
- C. To encourage the reinstatement of original windows.
- **D.** To ensure buildings are sympathetic to characteristic materials, finishes and colours including using brick and sandstone.

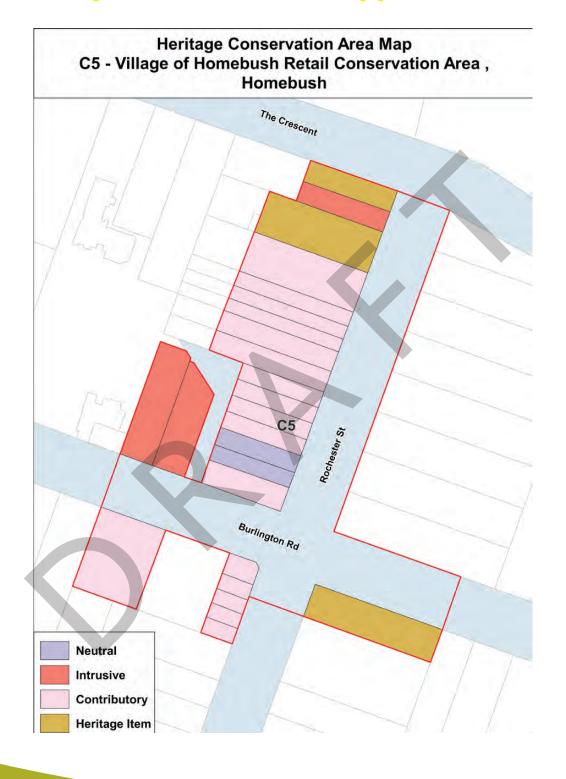
Additional Controls

- (i) A range of uses must be provided to engage with and activate the street and which reinforce the connection with Strathfield Railway Station.
- (ii) New shop fronts shall reflect original details and proportions characteristic of this group of early Federation shop fronts, including the siting of recessed entrance doors.
- (iii) Original Federation façades and shop fronts are to be conserved, reinstated and maintained where possible.
- **(iv)** Original materials used such as sandstone and brick, must be retained and preserved.

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6.10.2 "Village of Homebush" Retail Conservation Area (C5)



Statement of Significance

The "Village of Homebush" Retail Conservation Area has aesthetic value as a cohesive group of late Federation and Inter-War commercial buildings. There is a consistency of materials, scale and detailing through the group. The Conservation Area demonstrates the importance of Rochester Street in connecting Homebush and Strathfield residential areas with Homebush Railway Station and, prior to the closure of the level crossing over the railway line, with Parramatta Road.

The precinct has, since the nineteenth century, been the location of small commercial premises. The survival of an Inter-War garage as part of the group underlines the continued importance of this precinct in connecting the adjacent suburb with major transport routes. While the incorporation of first floor cantilevered balconies on Inter-War commercial buildings was not uncommon, surviving examples such as those on Number 1 Rochester Street and Numbers 5-7 Rochester Street are now rare.

Additional Controls

(i) Land uses within the Homebush Retail Conservation Area should comprise small- scale commercial premises which can engage with and activate the street and residential above (i.e. shop-top housing).

(ii) Original Federation and Inter-War façades and shop fronts must be conserved, maintained and reinstated.

(iii) First floor cantilevered balconies must be retained or reinstated as important functional and architectural elements of the front facade within the Homebush Retail Conservation Area where possible.



STRATHFIELD MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

PART P

STRATHFIELD CONSOLIDATED DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2005

Heritage



65 Homebush Road, Strathfield NSW 2135 02 9748 9999 | www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au

Adopted by Council: 6 June 2017
Effective from: 20 June 2017
Amendment No 1 to Part P – Adopted by Council: 4 December 2018
Amendment No 1 to Part P – Effective from: 8 January 2019



StrathfieldCouncil



StrathfieldMC



StrathfieldCouncil



StrathfieldTV

Attachment 2 - Summary of submissions and Council officer's response

Amendments to Part P – Heritage of the Strathfield Development Control Plan 2005

No. / Reference	Summary	Response
No. / Reference 1. Meriden (Urbis)	The submission is site specific to the Meriden School campus and relates to the new gradings for the Redmyre Road Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) and the Vernon Road HCA. The submission agrees with the contributory grading for the portion of the school that lies within the Redmyre Road HCA. The submission disagrees with the contributory grading for the portion of the school that lies within the Vernon Street HCA (4-8 Vernon Street). This land now contains a playground and auditorium. Previously, No. 4 had contained an early twentieth century dwelling, however this was demolished and replaced with a playground in 2023 via the State Significant Development process. No. 6-8 was previously vacant land, with the auditorium built in 2011. Considering the changes to built form within the Meriden campus since creation of the HCA, a neutral grading would be more appropriate.	Council notes the changes to the Meriden school campus within the Vernon Street Conservation Area. The classification for this HCA will be reviewed as part of the review of the 2020 Heritage Review and a further report waill be presented to Council. As noted in the Council report, the classifications are proposed to be removed from this amendment.

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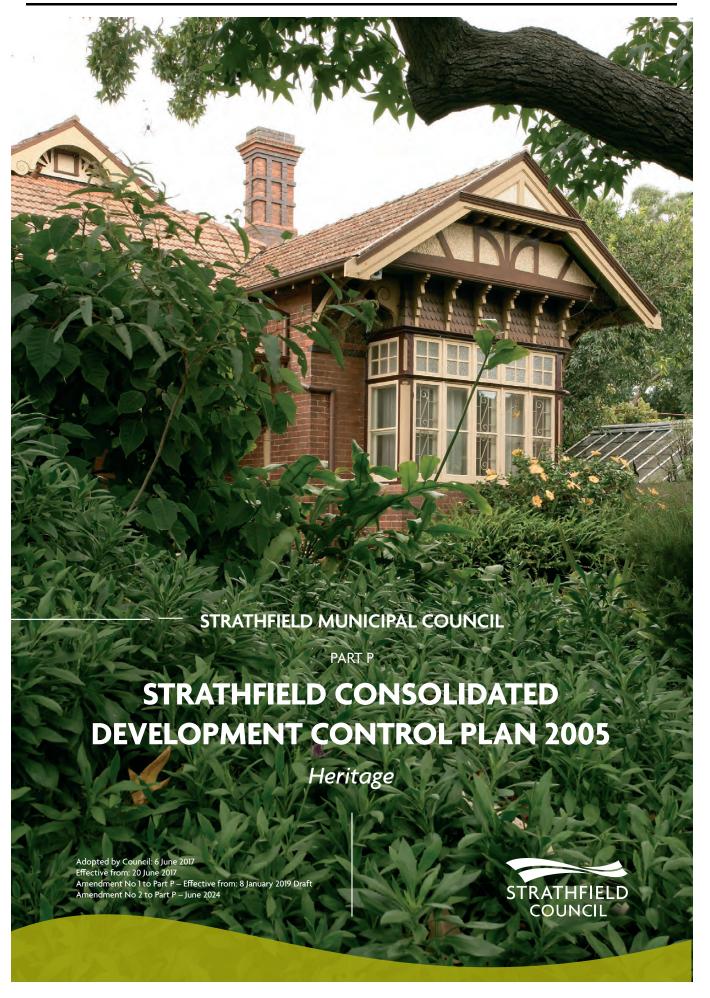
No. / Reference	Summary	Response
2. Strathfield	The submission is generally supportive of the amendments	Council undertook a review of heritage items and HCAs in
Homebush	relating to environmental sustainable design.	2020 in preparation for an LEP amendment that never
District		eventuated. The heritage review included classifications:
Historical	The submission is not supportive of other amendments,	contributory, neutral and intrusive (as exhibited in the
Society	primarily those relating to the introduction of gradings for	amendment to Part P), definitions for the three and
	HCA's. The following key concerns are raised:	justifications for how individual properties were classified.
	 Definitions for what constitutes a contributory, 	The classifications included as part of the exhibited version of
	neutral and intrusive item are required,	Part P were taken from the 2020 heritage review.
	 The methodology or justification behind how 	
	properties within each HCA have been graded should	As the work that identified these classifications were
	be provided,	undertaken in 2020, it has been recommended that they be
	 Various site specific queries on the gradings 	removed from the DCP until such time as a further review of
	attributed within certain HCA's (e.g. a certain house	this work is undertaken. It is proposed that this work will be
	appears to be contributory, yet has been given a	the next stage in the review of Part P of the DCP. A further
	neutral grading),	report will be presented to Council in this regard and should
		Council endorse those changes, exhibition of the amendments will occur
		amendments will occur
	The submission is also not supportive of the document in	Council has reviewed comments relating to images and text
	general, which they indicate is difficult to interpret and	references and these changes have been incorporated where
	missing information (primarily in relation to diagrams and	appropriate. Certain comments relate to existing text or detail
	photographs).	that requires careful consideration and is best captured in the comprehensive review of Part P and all other Chapters of
		SCDCP 2005.
		00001 2000.
		The submission raised a number of times the need for
		property identification on the maps. Properties are generally
		identifiable via the cadastral property boundaries. However,
		numbering of properties will be considered in the
		comprehensive review.
		·

2

No. / Reference	Summary	Response
3. Lauren Schutz	The following points are made in the submission:	The submission makes numerous valuable edits and
		recommendations for achieving a more robust and
	Insufficient detail for definitions, objectives and controls	accessible heritage DCP. However, the majority of these are
	limiting the public's ability to interpret the document and	best captured in the comprehensive review of Part P and all
	creating a number of grey areas,	other Chapters of SCDCP 2005.
	The diagrams and photos are inadequate or misleading,	
	There is insufficient information on the new gradings for	
	the conservation areas,	
	There are grammatical and typographical errors	
4. James Burney	The focus of the submission is on the benefits of	The submission does not raise any issues with the
	Conservation Management Plans during the Development	amendments to Part P. The focus of the submission is more
	Application process and opportunities to add 'including	relevant to potential amendments to Council's Local
	interiors' to certain local heritage items.	Environmental Plan and / or the statement of significance for
		each heritage item, which could inform a CMP prepared by an
	A number of examples are provided.	applicant when submitting a development application.
		It is noted that the DCP already establishes that Council may
		request a Conservation Management Plan in accordance with
		the requirements in SLEP 2012 (Clause 5.10 Heritage
		conservation).

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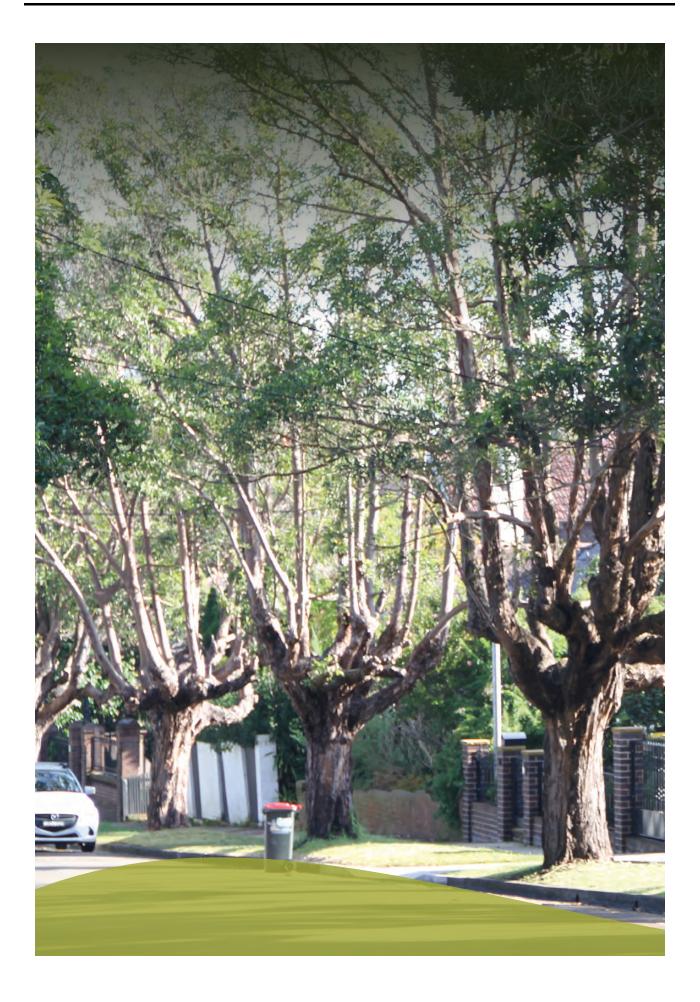
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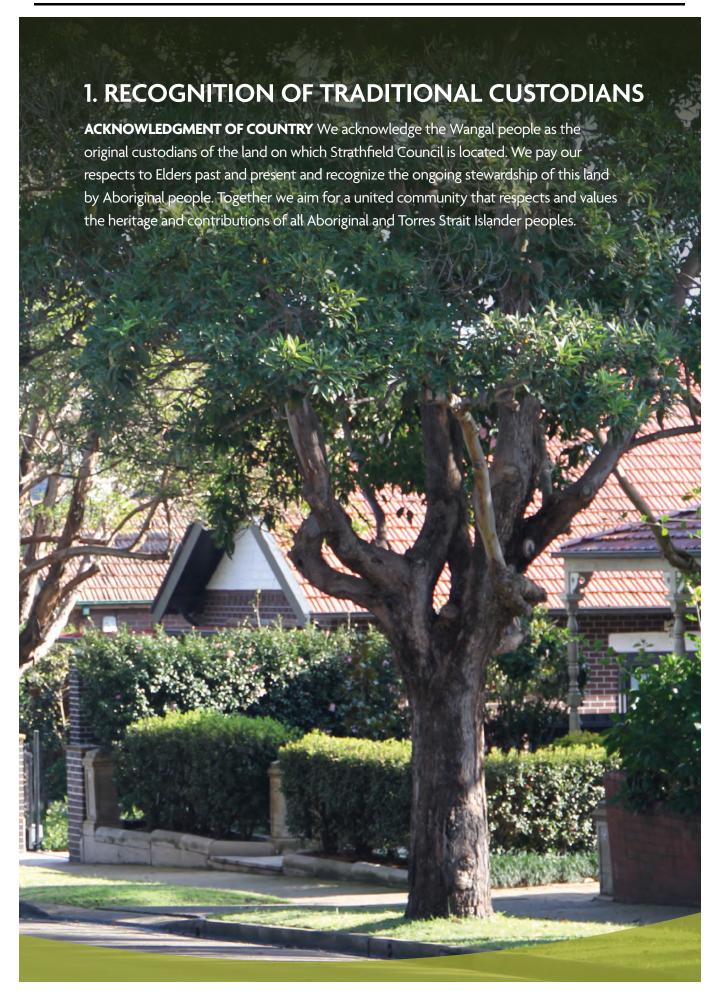


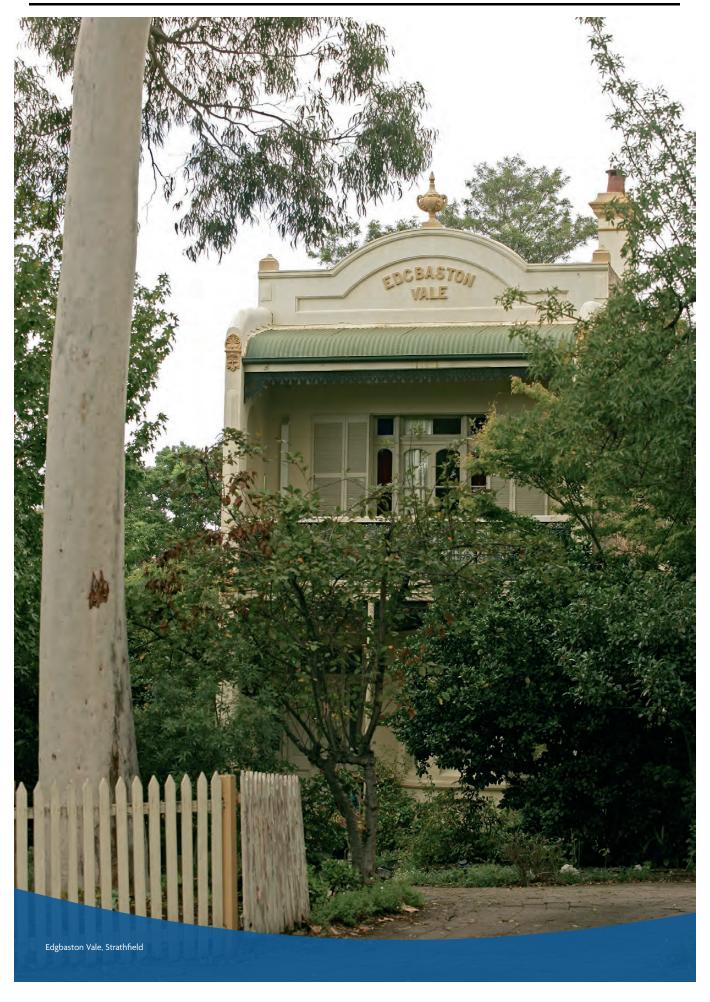
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1. INTRODUCTION

"These places contribute

to the character of

the local government

area and help to make

Strathfield an attractive

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of the development

of Strathfield. It is

important to recognise

and conserve this

heritage."

1.1 Executive summary

This section of the Development Control Plan establishes controls for development affecting places of heritage significance. This includes development of heritage items (including draft heritage items), properties in a Heritage Conservation Area, and development in the vicinity of a heritage item or conservation area.

Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA) has a large number of items of environmental heritage as well

as Heritage Conservation Areas. These are listed respectively under Part 1 and Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Examples of listed heritage items include weatherboard cottages, **Federation** houses. Victorian Italianate houses. Inter-war bungalows, Churches, Victorian houses, Spanish Mission houses, commercial buildings, parks and gardens, and educational establishments. It is important to

note that in some instances the curtilage of the listed item including its garden surrounds is also listed as being of heritage significance.

These places contribute to the character of the local government area and help to make Strathfield an attractive place to live and work and help tell

the story of the development of Strathfield. It is important to recognise and conserve this heritage.

Development that affects places of heritage significance, whether an individual heritage item and its curtilage, or a Conservation Area, needs to be carefully designed to minimise any negative impacts on heritage significance.

Negative impacts may occur due to actions such as removal of original fabric, loss of design features,

loss of views, unsympathetic bulk and scale of new development and inappropriate selection of materials.

Council has a Heritage Inventory for each heritage item, which provides a description of the significance of each item and identifies features of significant value. Please contact Council's Planning Unit should you wish to find out more details.

Not all places of heritage significance may have been

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identified. These additional places may be identified in the future, through the development application process or by further review of heritage throughout Strathfield.

1.2 Relationship to SLEP 2012 and SCDCP 2005

Part P of the DCP is to be read in conjunction with the SCDCP 2005 and the Strathfield LEP 2012. Where there is any inconsistency with any part of the SCDCP 2005 in respect of development affecting a heritage item and/or item within a Conservation Area, Part P prevails.

1.3 Development to which Part P of SCDCP 2005 applies

This section of the Development Control Plan applies to:

- · development of heritage items;
- development in the vicinity of heritage items;
 and
- development in Conservation Areas.

Places can be affected by statutory listings as heritage items or in Conservation Areas under a Local Environmental Plan, a Regional Environmental Plan or on the State Heritage Register. One way of determining whether a property is affected by a heritage listing under a Local Environmental Plan or Regional Environmental Plan, whether as a heritage item or a Conservation Area or in the vicinity of a heritage item or a Conservation Area, is to obtain a Section 10.7 Certificate.

A small number of places in Strathfield LGA are identified as being of state heritage significance and are listed on the State Heritage Register. To determine whether a place is listed on the State Heritage Register, a Section 167 form can be lodged with the NSW Heritage Office (Department of Planning).

Council's planning unit is able to assist with preliminary advice on development affecting heritage items and Conservation Areas.

1.4 Objectives of this DCP Part

A. To retain evidence of historic themes of development evident in the Strathfield Local Government Area, through the proper care and maintenance of individual heritage items and Heritage Conservation Areas.

B. To promote environmentally sustainable design in the retention, alterations and additions to heritage listed items and buildings within a heritage conservation area.

C. To protect those items and areas that are of value to the local community.

- **D.** To encourage development which complements existing heritage items and Heritage Conservation Areas in a modern context.
- **E.** To ensure that development in the vicinity of heritage items is designed and sited to protect the heritage significance of the item and its setting.
- **F.** To retain any significant horticultural or landscape features that assist in the interpretation of Strathfield's heritage.

1.5 Heritage management documents

Heritage management documents must accompany any development application where the carrying out of the proposed development may affect the heritage significance of a heritage item, Conservation Area, Aboriginal object or place of heritage significance in accordance with Section 5.10 of Strathfield Local Environmental Plan 2012 (SLEP 2012).

Heritage management documents will generally be required to accompany all development applications on land which is either heritage listed under Schedule 5 of SLEP 2012, in the vicinity of listed heritage items, or of potential heritage significance.

Under Section 5.10(5) of SLEP 2012, the consent authority may require a heritage management document, in respect of any development:

- a) on land on which a heritage item is located, or
- b) on land that is within a Heritage Conservation Area, or
- c) on land that is within the vicinity of land referred to in paragraph a) or b),

The heritage management document is to assess the extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development would affect the heritage significance of the heritage item or Heritage Conservation Area

concerned.

Under Section 5.10(6) of the SLEP 2012, the consent authority may require, after considering the heritage significance of a heritage items and the extent of change proposed to it, the submission of a Heritage Conservation Management Plan before granting consent under this clause.

Heritage Management Documents may comprise either:

- **a)** A Heritage Impact Statement which identifies heritage significance, assesses impact on that significance and measures to minimise that impact. In particular a Heritage Impact Statement will:
 - i) demonstrate that all possible means of mitigating any negative impact on the item have been addressed and that the proposed works will not significantly alter the heritage significance of an item or the character of the locality.
 - ii) be prepared by a qualified heritage consultant and in the case of Heritage Impact Statements, Council may accept statements from any other appropriately qualified or experienced person for minor development.
 - iii) assist Council in its assessment of the development but Council may decide not to adopt, or not to fully adopt, the particular recommendations of the documents submitted.
- **b)** a Heritage Conservation Management Plan must be in accordance with the relevant conservation policies and management mechanisms in the NSW Guidelines and Policy; or
- **c)** any other document that provides guidelines for the ongoing management and conservation.

Council has certain responsibilities in respect of the Public Domain in relation to the protection of heritage items and their curtilage, land within the vicinity of heritage items, and land within Conservation Areas, as follows:

- 1) The pattern of grass verges, footpaths and street tree planting should be identified and maintained in any development proposal.
- 2) Where there are gaps in the street tree planting, new trees should be planted which match any existing types/species.

1.6 Council responsibilities

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2. DEVELOPMENT OF HERITAGE ITEMS

Heritage items have been identified as places that should be retained and conserved for future generations. The heritage significance of these places must be understood and respected when designing future development, with a greater level of information, care and retention of heritage values required. The controls for heritage items recognise that the whole of the place - the building, the site and its features – may have heritage significance. The following objectives and controls are provided to retain heritage values while providing opportunities for change and adaptation of places of heritage significance.

2.1 General objectives

- **A.** To ensure that additions to a heritage item and new buildings on the site of a heritage item are of a scale, mass, bulk, orientation, setback and character consistent with the heritage item.
- **B.** To ensure that new development respects the contribution of a heritage item to the streetscape and/ or townscape and allows an ongoing application of its heritage significance.
- **C.** To retain or reinstate missing original details that contribute to the aesthetic quality and/or significance of a heritage item and to encourage the removal of inappropriate alterations and additions.
- **D.** To ensure that important elements of the form or fabric of a heritage item are not obscured or destroyed by alterations and additions.
- **E.** To ensure that materials and colours used on both the original heritage item and any alterations and additions are consistent with the significance of the heritage item.
- F. To provide an appropriate visual setting for heritage items, including landscaping, fencing and car parking.

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2.2 Setting

Setting is the area around a heritage item that contributes to its heritage significance and may include the visual catchment of a heritage item. Topography, trees, gardens, fencing, and pavement can all contribute to the setting of a heritage item. Where a heritage item has importance as a landmark, it is particularly important that new development does not obscure its visual presence in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Objectives

- **A.** To provide an appropriate visual setting for heritage items, including landscaping, fencing and car parking; and
- **B.** To ensure that new development respects the contribution of a heritage item to the streetscape and/or townscape and retains the significance of the item.

Controls

- (i) Original elements that contribute to the setting of a heritage item such as landscaping, fences and gates, driveways, seawalls etc. should not be removed and, traditional garden designs should be reinstated where possible.
- (ii) New structures on land on which a heritage item is located such as swimming pools and outbuildings should be located so that they do not adversely impact on the significance of the heritage item.
- (iii) The natural landform and character of the area within which a Heritage Item is located, should be maintained, avoiding any cut and fill to land when constructing new buildings and landscaping grounds.
- **(iv)** Applications that propose basement additions may be required to provide a Structural Report from a practicing structural engineer with experience in heritage buildings to confirm that the proposed excavation will not adversely affect the building or adjoining properties. This report should be provided as part of the development application.
- (v) The placement of a basement entrance should not detract from the street presentation of the item of the streetscape. Placement of basement entries toward the rear of the property and parallel to the side boundary is encouraged.

2.3 Scale

Scale is the size of a building and its relationship with its surrounding buildings or landscape. It is important that new development at places of heritage significance respects the scale of the existing buildings and or landscape elements that contribute to the significance of the place.

Objective

To ensure that alterations and additions to a heritage item and new buildings on the site of a heritage item are of a scale consistent with the heritage item so as not to detract from the significance of the item.

Controls

- (i) Development on the site of a heritage item must not dominate the item or detract from its significance.
- (ii) Development shall not obstruct significant views to and from the item of significance.

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2.4 Form

The form of a building is its overall shape and volume and the arrangement of its parts. The rooflines of buildings, and elements such as chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. are often important elements of the form of a heritage item and contribute to its aesthetic significance.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure that important elements of the form of a heritage item are not obscured or destroyed by alterations and additions.
- **B.** To ensure that the form of a heritage item retains its importance in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Controls

- (i) Important elements of the form of a heritage item such as main roof forms, chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. should not be demolished or obscured by alterations and additions.
- (ii) Development of a heritage item must seek to reconstruct missing architectural detailing of a Heritage Item where possible, including gables, finial trims, front verandahs or bays.
- (iii) Verandahs on the front and sides of a heritage item should not be filled in.
- **(iv)** Additions and alterations to a heritage item should not detract from important aspects of the form of the heritage item.
- (v) The original shape of the roof of a Heritage Item should not be altered.



2.5 Materials and colours

The selection of materials and colours is very important to the aesthetic qualities of most built heritage items. Development that includes changing roof materials, re-skinning of brickwork, rendering or painting of face brickwork and inappropriate textured finishes can degrade the significance of a heritage item.

New materials should be carefully selected to ensure they are consistent with the original building.

Objectives

- **A** The environmental impact from building materials is minimised through the reduction, re-use and recycling of materials, resources and building components.
- **B.** To ensure that original materials that contribute to the significance of heritage items are not obscured.
- **C.** To ensure that colours of paintwork on heritage items are consistent with the significance of the heritage item.
- **D.** To ensure that materials on alterations and additions to heritage items are consistent with the materials of the heritage item.

Controls

- (i) The original wall treatment of a Heritage Item must be retained where possible. Unpainted brick or stone on a Heritage Item should not be painted or rendered.
- (ii) Original materials of heritage items should not be replaced with different materials or materials of a different colour.
- (iii) Non-original materials of heritage items that are being replaced shall, if possible, be replaced with material that matches the original material as closely as possible.
- (iv) Painting, rendering or bagging of original face brickwork and/or stonework is not permitted.
- (v) The texture of original rendered finishes should not be changed.
- **(vi)** Materials for additions and alterations to heritage items should be compatible with the original materials of the heritage item.

- (vii) Colour schemes for heritage items should have a hue and tonal relationship with traditional colour schemes for the period and style of the heritage item.
- **(viii)** The use of fluorescent paint on heritage items is not permitted.
- (ix) The façade of a heritage item is not to be painted in a corporate colour scheme.
- (x) The use of modern finishes including stencilled concrete for driveways associated with heritage items is not permitted.
- (xi) The original roof cladding of a heritage item (slate, tiles or corrugated iron) should not be changed if it is in good repair.
- (xii) Sandblasting to remove paint from brick or stone should not be undertaken on a heritage item as it exposes the brick or stone to weathering and may change its appearance.

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2.6 Alterations and additions

Additions and alterations to a heritage item should be located to the rear of the heritage item, or in areas of lesser heritage significance, so it does not impact on its heritage significance. Works should be consistent with the original materials of the heritage item. While it is not always necessary to match the materials of the original building, new materials should be carefully selected to ensure they are consistent with the original building

Objectives

- **A.** To promote environmentally sustainable design in the design of alterations and additions to a heritage listed item.
- **B.** To support the retention of heritage properties and maintain their heritage significance.
- C. To maximise the benefits of passive solar design
- **D.** To allow changes to the rear of heritage items where the new work does not impact the heritage significance of the heritage item.
- **E.** To ensure that alterations or additions to heritage properties are sympathetic to the item and reflect the predominant scale, height, proportion, character and setbacks of the existing property, and surrounding development.

Controls

- (i) Alterations and additions must not adversely impact the significance of a heritage item.
- (ii) Any alterations and additions must be consistent with the scale, form, proportion, details and materials of the heritage item.
- (iii) Alterations and additions to heritage items must be located so as to minimise their visibility and prominence from the street or adjoining streets, and the height must not be seen above the main ridgeline of the building. Refer to Figure 1.
- (iv) Ancillary buildings on the same site as a heritage item must be located so as to not obscure the significant elements of the Item.

2.7 Doors and windows

The spacing, proportions, materiality and detailing of doors and windows of heritage items usually contributes greatly to their aesthetic appeal. Altering windows and doors or adding new openings can dramatically affect the character of a building.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain original windows and doors that contribute to the aesthetic quality and/or significance of a heritage item.
- **B.** To reinstate lost details that contributed to the aesthetic qualities and/or significance of a heritage item.
- **C.** To retain the proportions of walls and openings that contribute to the aesthetic quality of a heritage item.

Controls

- (i) Original window and door openings in a heritage item should be retained. If the original doors or windows have been lost, they are to be replaced with one of similar size, type and material for the age and style of the Item.
- (ii) Where original windows and doors in a heritage item have been removed and replacement of the new joinery is proposed, the form and detailing of the original windows and/or doors should be reconstructed.
- (iii) New dormer and roof windows of a house should preferably be located on rear roof slopes in preference to roof slopes visible from the street.
- **(iv)** New dormer windows visible from the street should compliment the design of the building with built form, proportions and details which do not detract from the significance of the building.
- (v) Extensive areas of glazing visible from the Public Domain are not permitted unless this was a feature of the original design of the building.
- (vi) New or reinstated glazing is to be specified as clear. Glazing performance must be met without the need of tinting or colourisation of any kind.
- **(vii)** Only physical, externally fixed methods that are sympathetic and reference the prevailing details of the primary residence is permitted to mitigate overlooking. Frosted glazing is not permitted.
- **(viii)** New skylights are not permitted in roof slopes visible from the Public Domain.

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2.8 Car parking

Garages and carports can have the greatest detrimental impact on the significance of heritage items. Garages and carports in front of the building line obscure views of the buildings and break the rhythm and pattern of the streetscape. The proportions of garage doors do not relate to the smaller and more vertical proportions of windows and doors that are usually found on heritage items.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure that garages and carports are designed to minimise the visual impact on views of heritage items.
- **B.** To ensure that car parking does not compromise the structural integrity of heritage items.

Controls

- (i) Garages and carports must be located behind the front building line.
- (ii) Garages should not be incorporated into the front façade of a heritage item.
- (iii) Where a new garage or carport is on the same side of a building as a front verandah, the garage or carport must be located entirely behind the verandah.
- (iv) Applications that propose basement additions are required to provide a Structural Report from a practicing structural and geotechnical engineer with experience in heritage buildings to confirm that the proposed excavation will not adversely affect the building as part of the development application.
- (v) The placement of a basement entrance should not detract from the street presentation of the item to the streetscape. Placement of basement entries toward the rear of the property and parallel to the side boundary is encouraged.
- (vi) Refer to the Controls for Garages and Carports in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding garages and carports.

2.9 Fencing

Fencing, particularly fencing facing the street, is of particular importance in establishing the setting of a heritage item. Fencing should complement the style and scale of the house.

Objectives

- **A.** To conserve gates and fences that are contemporary of heritage items.
- **B.** To ensure that new fences and gates are in keeping with the character of the heritage item.
- **C.** To ensure that the significance of the heritage item is not diminished by inappropriate fencing.

Controls

- (i) Original fencing styles and materials on a heritage item should be repaired and retained where possible.
- (ii) New fencing and gates to a heritage item should be of a style and scale that is consistent with the style of the building.
- (iii) Unless evidence is provided to establish a greater height, solid fencing (i.e. brickwork/stone) forward of the building line should not be greater than 1m in height above the adjacent public footpath level.
- **(iv)** Unless evidence is provided to establish a greater height, fencing forward of the building line, constructed of material such as timber pickets, metal pickets or wrought metal panels or a combination of masonry and one of the above materials, should not be greater than 1.5m in height above the adjacent public footpath level.
- (v) Original face brick or sandstone fencing to a heritage item should not be painted.
- **(vi)** For front boundaries where there is no existing front fence or the existing fence is not contemporary with the Heritage Item, a new low fence should be constructed. Materials used for front fencing of Heritage Items should be similar to those of the building or those for which there is historical evidence.
- **(vii)** Refer to the Controls for Fencing in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding fencing.

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2.10 Landscape elements including paving and driveways

Landscape elements are of great importance in contributing to the significance of heritage items. The design of front gardens usually provides a setting for the building and reinforces the significance of the heritage item.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain and protect heritage listed landscape elements.
- **B.** To retain important landscape elements that contribute to the significance of heritage items.
- **C.** To reinforce the significance of the heritage item through appropriate landscaping.

Controls

- (i) Original driveways and footpath crossings that relate to a heritage item should not be relocated.
- (ii) Double driveways and footpath crossings will generally not be permitted for houses listed as heritage items.
- (iii) Original or early garden layouts that contribute to the significance of the heritage item should not be altered.
- (iv) Established trees and shrubs that contribute to the significance of the heritage item should not be removed unless it can be established by an arborist that the health of the tree or shrub is such that it must be removed.
- (v) Proposals involving substantial works should consider landscaping the front setback in a manner appropriate to the age and style of the dwelling.

2.11 Outbuildings

Outbuildings such as garden sheds, outhouses, gazebos, pool pavilions can easily detract from the setting of heritage items. The location and setting of these outbuildings must be carefully considered so that they have minimal impact on important views of heritage items.

Objectives

A. To minimise visual intrusion on views of heritage items due to outbuildings.

Controls

- (i) Outbuildings should be located in the rear yard of heritage items and should not detract from the significance of the heritage item.
- **(ii)** Outbuildings should be single storey and designed so that they have negligible if any impact on important views of heritage items.
- (iii) Outbuildings must not be greater in height or bulk than the heritage item.

2.12 Environmentally Sustainable Technologies

Many modern technologies improve the energy efficiency of a building by reducing its reliance on the grid. This is the most effective intervention that helps Council achieve a Net Zero target. The installation of new sustainability measures may offset the less energy compliant fabric and features of the heritage item.

Fixtures such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, skylights, shading devices, energy efficient hot water systems, EV charging points and rainwater tanks are sometimes large or items with a very modern appearance. They could be intrusive elements if installed to a highly visible roofscape or prominent streetscape facade. However, as technology is improving, these elements, such as photovoltaics are foreseen to become better integrated in the building fabric and it is critical that both the environmental and heritage benefits are considered to ensure energy efficient technologies can be implemented without compromising any significant heritage fabric.

Objectives

- **A.** To promote environmentally sustainable design in the design of additions to heritage listed items.
- **B.** To promote the use of renewable energy resources while minimising visual impacts on Heritage items from the public domain.
- **C.** To ensure that ancillary roof mounted structures do not detract from the heritage significance or aesthetic value when viewed from the public domain.

Controls

- (i) Ancillary roof mounted structures (such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, television aerials and satellite dishes) are to be located on roof planes facing the rear yard of a heritage item and in a position to ensure they are not visible from the public domain.
- (ii) Ancillary roof mounted structures should not be higher than the main ridge line of a building that is or is part of a heritage item and shall be located so that they are not visible from the Public Domain.
- (iii) The introduction of environmentally sustainable technologies that allows these structures to be integrated into the building or roof fabric are permissible on roof planes and building facades visible from the public domain so long as they are;
 - a. Flush with the predominant roof surface and,
 - b. Indistinguishable from the predominant roof material
 - c. Integrated into the building facade without compromising any significant heritage fabric.



2.13 Demolition

Demolition of heritage items is generally not supported by Council. However, should an applicant insist in pursuing such a request, the onus is on the applicant to demonstrate why the building is not reasonably capable of retention. Demolition of a heritage item is usually only considered where the structure is unsound. In its determination of any application to demolish a heritage item, Council will give consideration to the relevant Planning Principles established by the Land and Environment Court. The Planning Principles can be viewed on the Land and Environment Court's website (www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lec).

Objectives

To retain buildings that are of heritage significance or contribute to the significance of a heritage item.

Controls

- (i) Buildings that are listed as heritage items or contribute to the significance of a heritage item shall not be demolished.
- (ii) Applications for the demolition of a heritage item must be accompanied by a Demolition Report. The report is to provide details of the heritage significance of the heritage item and is to address the applicable matters within this Part of the DCP. Plans of the replacement development are to be submitted with any application for demolition.

Note: Submitting the documentation to seek approval to demolish a heritage item or contributory item does not imply that approval will be granted. Council may seek independent advice on aspects of any application for demolition.

- (iii) Partial demolition of heritage items may be possible subject to the merits of the proposal. Partial demolition of a heritage item may only be allowed when it can be established in a Statement of Heritage Impact that the partial demolition will not have an impact on the significance of the heritage item.
- (iv) Outbuildings associated with heritage items can only be demolished where a Statement of Heritage Impact has established that the outbuilding does not contribute to the heritage significance of the place and the demolition does not impact on the significance of the heritage item.
- (v) Where demolition is allowed, a photographic record of the building must be prepared for the site and submitted to Council prior to the commencement of the demolition works.

Milroy House, Strathfield



2.14 Subdivision

The grounds and gardens associated with a building are often important in providing a setting to a heritage item. The grounds of a heritage item can also ensure that important views to or from a heritage item are available. Subdivision can result in the loss of the setting of a heritage item and should only be done if an adequate curtilage can be retained.

In certain cases, Council may require the proposed subdivision plan to show the proposed building envelopes for each proposed lot, in order to determine whether or not the proposed curtilage of the heritage item is appropriate, in order to maintain the significance of the item and to maintain any views to or from the heritage item. Council may impose restrictions upon the title of a proposed lot that is within the vicinity of a heritage site, to ensure that the development of the adjoining land does not adversely affect the cultural significance of a heritage site. This may include (but not necessarily be limited to) height limitations, building setbacks, access arrangements, building orientation, and presentation to the street.

Objectives

A. To ensure that subdivision of heritage items does not result in a loss of appropriate curtilage for the heritage item.

B. To ensure that subdivision of heritage items does not result in development that would obscure important views to or from the heritage item.

Controls

(i) Subdivision of an allotment that includes a heritage item will not be approved unless it can be demonstrated in a Statement of Heritage Impact that an adequate curtilage of the heritage item is retained.

(ii) Subdivision of land that includes a heritage item will not be allowed unless it can be established in a Statement of Heritage Impact that proposed or future development on the created allotments will not impact on important views to or from the heritage item.

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2.15 Signage

Many commercial buildings built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century incorporate areas on the main façade designed for locating a sign to identify the business operating within. This allows for appropriate signage while the unity of the streetscape is retained.

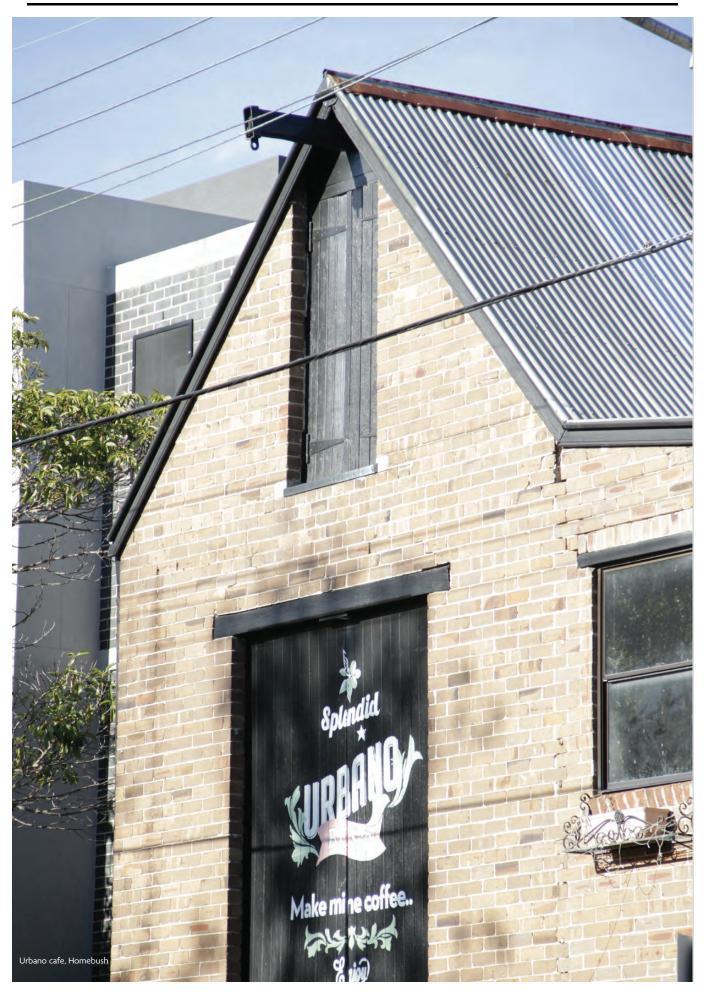
Residential heritage items can be obscured by inappropriate signage. For most late nineteenth century and early twentieth century buildings house names are often incorporated into the building or placed on a small sign fixed to a wall near the front door.

Objectives

- **A.** To allow for appropriate signage on heritage items, complimenting the historic character of the building
- **B.** To ensure the original details of heritage items are not obscured by inappropriate signage.
- **C.** To conserve existing heritage signs which have cultural significance.

Controls

- (i) Signage on commercial buildings is to be confined to:
 - an under-awning sign of appropriate size.
 - a window sign in the ground floor shopfront of appropriate design; or
 - a first-floor sign contained within a purpose designed panel on the building façade.
- (ii) The architectural details of a building are not to be obscured or damaged by commercial signage.
- (iii) Signage for the use of residential buildings for professional rooms or commercial purposes is to be designed to have minimal impact on the significance of the heritage item.
- (iv) Backlit signs and neon signs should only be allowed for under-awning signs on commercial buildings.
- (v) Advertising structures are not permitted.



2.16 Adaptive reuse

Whilst the continued original use of a heritage item is the best conservation outcome, this is not always possible. Adaptive reuse of buildings is a process that changes the use of the place that is no longer suitable for its original purpose to a new purpose while retaining the significance of the item. This is desirable both for environmental sustainability and heritage conservation.

All buildings have "embodied energy"; the energy consumed by all the processes involved in producing materials, delivering them to site and constructing the building. New buildings have high energy costs.

Adaptive reuse of buildings is an important part of sustainable development. Reusing historic buildings also has long term benefits for the community. Adaptive reuse allows buildings that are valued by the community to be retained for future generations. Sometimes it is the only way a place can be conserved for the future.

In many cases, adaptive reuse will involve few if any changes to a building. Where changes are needed to a building of heritage significance, it is important to first understand why the place is significant. Changes should then ensure that significant aspects of the place are conserved and that new development respects the significance of the place.



Objectives

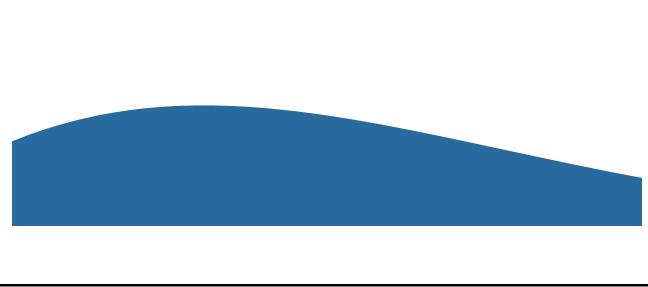
- **A.** To encourage the sympathetic adaptive reuse of buildings which are no longer suitable for their original use, by encouraging heritage items to be used for purposes that will respect to their heritage significance.
- **B.** To ensure that the adaptive reuse of heritage items respects the significance of the item and relates to the architectural qualities of the existing building.
- **C.** To retain the original building structure and fabric, and legibility of the original building layout, form and setting, and to reinstate significant missing details.
- **D.** To ensure that the adverse impacts of adaptive reuse on heritage items are minimised.
- **E.** To ensure that changes to the building as a result of adaptive reuse can be interpreted in the future as belonging to its applicable historical period.



Controls

- (i) Alterations and additions to a building as part of the adaptive reuse of a heritage item must be designed by a suitably qualified heritage architect to respect the original architectural qualities of the building such as building form, façade articulation, fenestration pattern, parapet profile and detail, materials and colours.
- (ii) Adaptive reuse of a heritage item is to involve minimal change to the significant fabric of the place.
- (iii) Adaptive reuse of a heritage item must respect significant associations and meanings of the place.
- (iv) Retention of only the façades of the building is discouraged.
- (v) New work necessary in the adaptive reuse of a heritage item should be distinguishable from original work and designed by a suitably qualified heritage architect.
- (vi) Fire engineered solutions should be sought to allow retention of original structural systems that would otherwise not meet "deemed to comply" provisions of the Building Code of Australia. Proposals involving "alternative solutions" must be accompanied by a report form an appropriately qualified and experienced specialist confirming the proposal achieves the applicable performance requirements.
- **(vii)** Access to heritage buildings must be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Disability (Access to Premises buildings) Standards 2010. Accessibility solutions must be designed by a suitably qualified heritage architect and respond to

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3. DEVELOPMENT IN THE VICINITY OF HERITAGE ITEMS

Development near a heritage item can have adverse impacts on the heritage item. This may be as a result of obstructing views to or from the heritage item, affecting trees or landscape elements that are part of the heritage item. It can also have an adverse impact by obscuring the landmark significance of a heritage item.

New development in the vicinity of a heritage item should take into consideration the importance of that item in the local streetscape or townscape.

In most cases, development in the vicinity of a heritage item will only affect properties that share a boundary with or are opposite a heritage item. In a few cases, development in the vicinity of a heritage item might have wider impacts. An example of this might be where important views of a landmark building such as a church spire might be lost by a new development.

3.1 General objectives

- **A.** To ensure that development located in the vicinity of a heritage item is designed and sited in a manner sympathetic to the significance of the heritage item and its setting.
- **B.** To ensure that development in the vicinity of a heritage item does not detrimentally impact upon the heritage significance of heritage items and heir settings.
- C. To ensure that new development is compatible with the heritage values of nearby heritage items

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3.2 Setting

Setting is the area around a heritage item that contributes to its heritage significance and may include the visual catchment of a heritage item. Topography, trees, gardens, fencing, and pavement can all contribute to the setting of a heritage item.

Where a heritage item has importance as a landmark, it is particularly important that new development in the vicinity of the heritage item does not obscure its visual presence in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure the setting of heritage items is not compromised by development in the vicinity of the heritage item.
- **B.** To ensure that new development respects the contribution of heritage items to the streetscape and/or townscape.

Controls

- (i) Development in the vicinity of a heritage item should not be of such bulk or height that it visually dominates or overshadows the heritage item.
- (ii) Views to or from a heritage item should not be obscured by new development.
- (iii) Where a heritage item is part of a streetscape of buildings of consistent style, form and materials, development in the vicinity of the heritage item should incorporate elements of the dominant style, form and materials in the streetscape.
- (iv) Where trees are integral to the significance of a heritage item, development should not be allowed beneath the drip zone of the trees. An arborist report may be required to establish that the development will not impact upon trees of nearby heritage items.

3.3 Scale

Scale is the size of a building and its relationship with its surrounding buildings or landscape. Buildings of inappropriate scale in the vicinity of a heritage item can detract from its contribution to the streetscape and/or townscape.

Objectives

A. To ensure that new development in the vicinity of a heritage item is of a scale that does not detract from the significance of the heritage item.

Controls

- (i) The scale of new development in the vicinity of a built heritage item should not be substantially greater than that of the heritage item.
- (ii) New development that obscures important views of a heritage item is not permitted.

3.4 Siting

Siting relates to the position of the building on the site and includes the orientation of a building in relation to the street as well as the setbacks of the building from the boundaries. Setbacks define the overall footprint of a building and the outer extremities of that building in relation to the front, side and rear boundaries.

Setbacks of buildings in the vicinity of heritage items can be of importance in ensuring the retention of important views to and from the heritage item. In some cases, it is also necessary to consider the potential impact of the building on important landscape elements associated with the heritage item.

Objectives

- **A.** To ensure new development in the vicinity of a heritage item is sited so that it does not obscure important views to or from the heritage item.
- **B.** To ensure that new development in the vicinity of a heritage item does not adversely impact landscape elements that are significant or are associated with a heritage item.

Controls

- (i) The siting and setback of new development (including alterations and additions) in the vicinity of a heritage item should ensure that important views to or from the heritage item are not adversely impacted on.
- (ii) The siting and setback of new development in the vicinity of a heritage item should ensure that landscape elements associated with or listed as a heritage item are not adversely affected by the development.

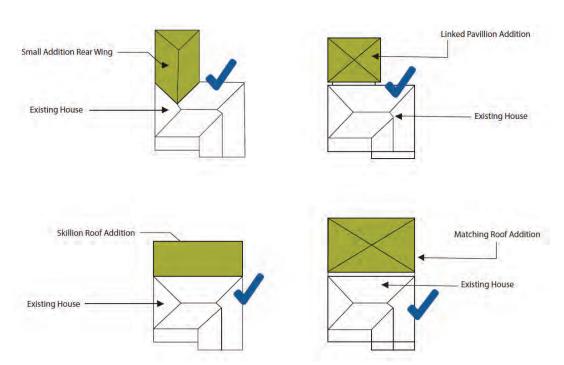


Figure 2: Examples of appropriate siting for additions to heritage items

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3.5 Materials and colours

New development should take into consideration the dominant original materials of heritage items in the vicinity of the development. Materials should be selected so that attention is not drawn away from the heritage item to the new development.

Objectives

A. To ensure that new development in the vicinity of a heritage item does not detract from the significance of the heritage item.

Controls

(i) Materials and colours for development in the vicinity of a heritage item shall be selected to avoid stark contrast with the adjacent development where this would result in the visual importance and significance of the heritage item being reduced.

3.6 Excavation

To ensure that new development does not put nearby heritage items at risk of damage.

Objectives

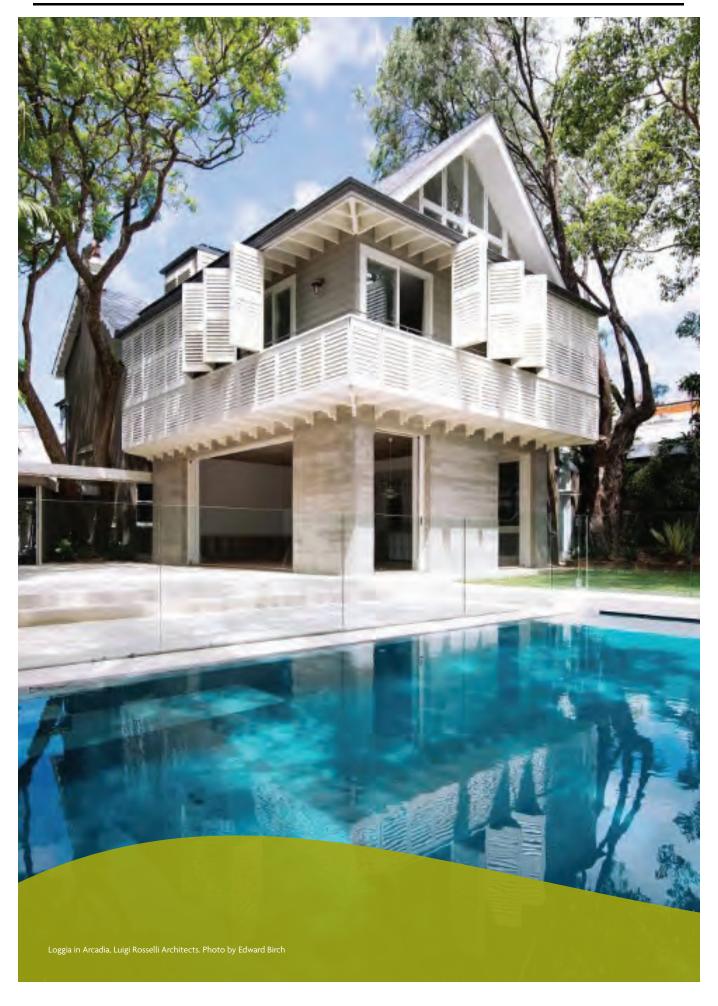
A. To ensure that new development does not put nearby heritage items at risk of damage.

Controls

(i) Applications involving excavation adjacent to a heritage item must demonstrate that the proposed excavation will not compromise the structural integrity of the heritage item and will not detract from its setting.

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4. DEVELOPMENT IN CONSERVATION AREAS

Strathfield Council has a number of Heritage Conservation Areas of local significance, which are listed under Part 2 of Schedule 5 of SLEP 2012. These are identified on the Heritage Maps accompanying SLEP 2012 and include fifteen (15) residential Conservation Areas and two (2) retail Conservation Areas as follows:

Residential Conservation Areas:

- Albert Road Central Conservation Area Federation Queen Anne style group (C7)
- Birriwa Avenue Conservation Area Inter-war California bungalow style group (C1)
- Broughton Road Conservation Area Federation houses group (C9)
- Churchill Avenue Conservation Area Federation houses group (C10)
- Homebush Road Conservation Area (C11)
- Marion Street Conservation Area Inter-war bungalow style group (C12)
- Meredith Street Conservation Area Victorian Villa style group (C4)
- Merley Road Conservation Area (C13)
- Pair of Federation Queen Ann style houses (C3)
- Redmyre Road Conservation Area (C14)
- Vernon Street Conservation Area (C16)
- Welfare Street Conservation Area Inter war bungalow style group (C6)
- Woodward Avenue Conservation Area (C17)

Retail Conservation Areas:

- The Boulevarde Retail Conservation Area (C15)
- "Village of Homebush" Retail Conservation Area (C5)

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4.1 Setting

Setting relates to the space and details around buildings in a Conservation Area that contribute to its heritage significance and may include the visual catchment of a Conservation Area. Street trees, gardens, fencing, and pavement can all contribute to the setting of a Conservation Area. The setback of buildings from the street and the space between buildings also contribute to the setting of a place.

Objectives

- **A.** To provide an appropriate visual setting for Heritage Conservation Areas, including landscaping, fencing and car parking.
- **B.** To maintain and enhance the existing character of the streetscape of a Heritage Conservation Area.
- **C.** To ensure that new development respects the established patterns in the streetscape of a Heritage Conservation Area, including setbacks, siting, landscaped settings, car parking and fencing.
- **D.** To protect street trees within Heritage Conservation Areas.

Controls

- (i) The side and front setbacks of new development in a Conservation Area should be typical of the spacing of existing buildings in the vicinity of the proposed development in that Conservation Area, such that the rhythm of buildings in the streetscape is retained.
- (ii) No new structures should be built forward of the established street building line.
- (iii) The established landscape character of the locality including the height of canopy and density of boundary landscape plantings should be retained in any new development.
- **(iv)** Driveways must be placed having regard to street trees that contribute to the character of Heritage Conservation Area. An arborist report may be required for any development in the vicinity of significant street trees.

4.2 Scale

Scale is the size of a building and its relationship with its surrounding buildings or landscape. It is important that new development in Conservation Areas respects the scale of the existing buildings and/ or landscape elements that contribute to the significance of the Conservation Area.

Objectives

A. To ensure that new development adjacent to or within a Heritage Conservation Area is of a scale consistent with the existing development in the vicinity of the site that contributes to the character of the Heritage Conservation Area.

B. To ensure that additions and alterations to a building within a Conservation Area are of a scale consistent with the contributory buildings in the Conservation Area.

Controls

- (i) The scale of new development adjacent to or within a Conservation Area should relate to the scale of the adjacent or nearest contributory elements of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Development of a larger scale is allowable only if it can be demonstrated that the new development will not adversely impact the identifiable character of the Conservation Area.



4.3 Form

The form of a building is its overall shape and volume and the arrangement of its parts. The rooflines of buildings, and elements such as chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. can contribute greatly to the character of an area.

Objectives

A. To ensure that new development in a Conservation Area relates positively to the dominant forms of existing contributory buildings in the Conservation Area.

B. To ensure that buildings that contribute to the character of a Conservation Area retain their importance in the streetscape and/or townscape.

Controls

- (i) Important elements of the form of a contributory building in a Conservation Area such as main roof forms, chimneys, parapet walls, verandahs etc. should not be demolished or obscured by alterations and additions.
- (ii) New development in a Conservation Area is to complement existing nearby buildings that contribute to the Conservation Area.
- (iii) Chimneys and roof features such as ventilation gables should not be removed from contributory buildings in a Conservation Area.
- (iv) Dormer windows should generally be confined to rear or side roof slopes to minimize visibility in the streetscape.
- (v) Additions and alterations to existing buildings that contribute to the character of a Conservation Area should not detract from the original form of the existing building as viewed from the Public Domain.
- (vi) The treatment of the street façade of new development in a Conservation Area should relate to existing nearby buildings that contribute to the Conservation Area.

4.4 Siting

Siting relates to the position of the building on the site and includes the orientation of a building in relation to the street as well as the setbacks of the building from the boundaries.

Most buildings in a Conservation Area are oriented to the street frontage. The regular orientation of buildings contributes to the pattern and rhythm of the streetscape.

Setbacks define the overall footprint of a building and the outer extremities of that building in relation to the front, side and rear boundaries.

In Conservation Areas, setbacks are of greater importance in establishing the continuity of the streetscape. Side setbacks are also of importance in providing separation between buildings and establishing a rhythm in the streetscape.

Objectives

- **A.** To integrate new development in Conservation Areas with the identifiable character of the area.
- **B.** To maximise the benefits of passive solar design.

Controls

- (i) The front setback of new development (including alterations and additions) in Conservation Areas should match that of adjacent contributory development. Where adjacent developments have different setbacks, new development should align with the greater setback.
- (ii) For Conservation Areas where first floor additions are appropriate, the first floor must be located behind the main roof form in a manner that does not detract from the streetscape character of the Conservation Area.
- (iii) Side setbacks of new development (including alterations and additions) in Conservation Areas should match the pattern of adjacent and/or nearby contributory development. This will often include a greater setback on one side of the development to provide vehicular access at the side of a property.
- **(iv)** The orientation of new development should follow the established pattern of development in the Conservation Area.
- (v) Where trees are important to a Conservation Area, new buildings should be sited away from the drip line of the trees.

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4.5 Materials and colours

The quality of many of the Conservation Areas in Strathfield is reinforced by the use of a cohesive palette of materials and colours. Use of sympathetic materials and colours can help new development to reinforce the identifiable character of the area. Development that includes changing roof materials, re-skinning, rendering or painting of face brickwork can degrade the significance of a Conservation Area.

New development should take into consideration the dominant original materials of contributory development within the Conservation Area. Where there are contributory buildings of differing materials in close proximity to the proposed development, the building that reflects the dominant period of development in the Conservation Area should be given greater weight when selecting materials.

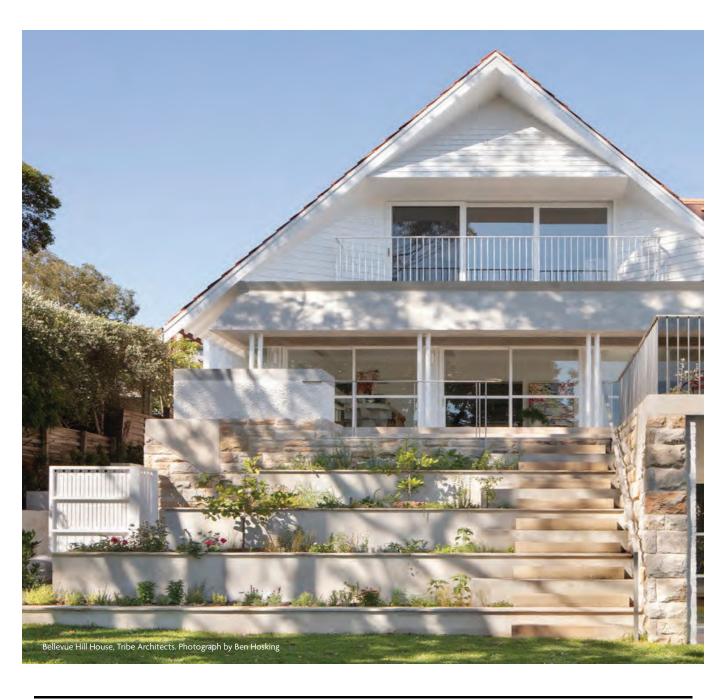
Objectives

- **A.** To encourage the use of external materials on new development that is consistent with the existing contributory buildings in a Conservation Area.
- **B.** The environmental impact from building materials is minimised through reduction, re-use and recycling of materials, resources and building materials.

Controls

- (i) Original materials of contributory buildings in Conservation Areas should not be replaced with different materials or with materials of different colours.
- (ii) Non-original materials of existing contributory buildings in Conservation Areas that are being replaced shall, if possible, be replaced with material that matches the original material as closely as possible.
- (iii) Painting, rendering or bagging of face brickwork and sandstone is not permitted.
- **(iv)** The texture of original rendered finishes should not be changed.
- (v) Colour schemes for existing and new development in Conservation Areas should have a hue and tonal relationship with traditional colour schemes for the dominant style of development found in the Conservation Area
- **(vi)** The use of fluorescent paint on buildings in Conservation Areas is not permitted.





4.6 Doors and windows

The spacing, proportions, materiality and detailing of doors and windows of buildings in Conservation Areas usually contributes to the quality of the streetscape. Altering windows and doors or adding new openings can dramatically affect the character of a building and incrementally erode the character of a Conservation Area.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain original door and window details of contributory buildings in Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To ensure that new development in a Conservation Area has fenestration patterns and proportions consistent with contributory buildings in the Conservation Area.



Controls

- (i) Extensive areas of glazing are not permitted for doors and windows visible from the Public Domain on buildings within a Conservation Area.
- (ii) Original door and window joinery visible from the Public Domain on contributory buildings in a Conservation Area should be conserved.
- (iii) New door and window openings to contributory buildings in a Conservation Area that are visible from the Public Domain should be of proportions and details that relate to existing built form, doors and window openings.
- (iv) New or reinstated glazing is to be specified as clear. Glazing performance must be met without the need of tinting or colourisation of any kind.
- (v) Only physical, externally fixed methods that are sympathetic and referencing the prevailing details of the primary residence to mitigate overlooking is permitted. Frosted glazing is not permitted.
- (vi) Roof structures (i.e. skylights) should be located on roof slopes where they will not be visible from the Public Domain.

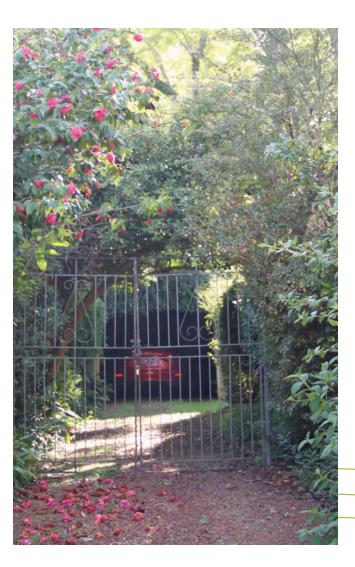
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4.7 Car parking

Garages and carports can have a detrimental impact on the aesthetic qualities of Conservation Areas. Garages and carports in front of the building line obscure views of the contributory buildings and break the rhythm and pattern of the streetscape. The proportions of garage doors do not relate to the smaller and more vertical proportions of windows and doors that are usually found on contributory buildings within Conservation Areas.

Objectives

A. To ensure that, where possible, garages and carports are designed to minimise the visual impact on the streetscape of Conservation Areas.



Controls

- (i) Garages and carports must be located as far behind the front building line as possible.
- (ii) Garages should not be incorporated into the front façade of a building in a Conservation Area.
- (iii) Where a new garage or carport is on the same side of a building as a front verandah, the garage or carport must be located entirely behind the verandah.
- (iv) Carports will only be allowed in front of the front building alignment where there is no possibility for side or rear access for car parking. Any such carports shall be limited to a single carport.
- (v) Applications that propose basement additions may be required to provide a Structural Report from a practicing structural engineer with experience in heritage buildings to confirm that the proposed excavation will not adversely affect the building or adjoining properties. This report should be provided as part of the development application. The placement of the basement entrance should not detract from the street presentation of the site on the streetscape.
- **(vi)** Placement of basement entries toward the rear of the property and parallel to the side boundary is encouraged.
- (vii) Refer to the Controls for Garages and Carports in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding garages and carports.

4.8 Fencing

Fencing, particularly fencing facing the street is important in retaining the significance of Conservation Areas. Consistent and uniform fencing can contribute significantly to the streetscape and character of a Conservation Area. Fencing should complement the style and scale of the house. Inappropriate fencing can detract from the streetscape by interrupting the pattern of development and by obscuring views.

Objectives

- **A.** To conserve original gates and fences within Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To ensure new fences and gates are consistent with the character of the Conservation Area and in particular with contributory housing in a Conservation Area.
- **C.** To ensure that the quality of the streetscape or townscape in a Conservation Area is not diminished by inappropriate fencing.



Controls

- (i) Fencing and gates that are constructed at the same time as the contributory building that contribute to the HCA should be retained and reinstated.
- (ii) New fencing and gates to contributory housing in a Conservation Area should be designed to respect the significance of the HCA.
- (iii) New fencing and gates to infill development in a Conservation Area should be in keeping with the dominant character of the Conservation Area.
- (iv) Unless evidence is provided to establish a greater height, fencing constructed of solid material such as masonry forward of the building line should not be greater than Im in height above the adjacent public footpath level. In all cases, the height of fencing should relate to the style of the house and width of the allotment.
- (v) Original face brick or sandstone fencing in a Conservation Area should not be painted or rendered.
- **(vi)** Refer to the Controls for Fencing in the Residential section of this Development Control Plan for general provisions regarding fencing (Note: this section prevails in the event of any inconsistency).

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4.9 Landscape elements including paving and driveways

Landscape elements are important in reinforcing the significance of the Conservation Areas. The design of front gardens provides a setting for the house and reinforces the character of the place. In many Conservation Areas, street plantings are an integral part of the original design of the area.

Objectives

- **A.** To retain important landscape elements that contribute to the significance of Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To reinforce the qualities of the Conservation Area through appropriate landscaping.

Controls

- (i) Street trees in Conservation Areas should not be removed to allow for new development. New and relocated driveways should be located to accommodate existing street tree. An arborist report may be required for works in the vicinity of street trees.
- (ii) Existing driveways and footpath crossings that relate to original development in a Conservation Area should not be relocated.
- (iii) Double driveways and footpath crossings will not be permitted in Conservation Areas.

4.10 Outbuildings

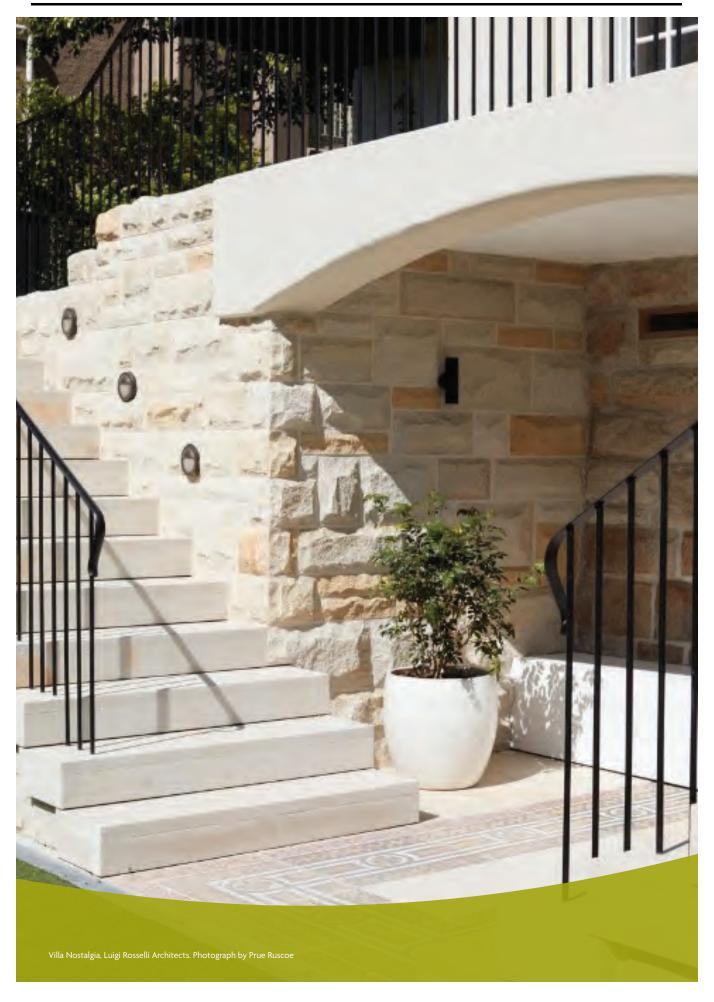
Outbuildings such as garden sheds, outhouses, gazebos, pool pavilions can easily detract from the quality of the streetscape. The location and setting of these must be carefully considered so that they have minimal impact on the streetscape.

Objectives

A. To minimise visual intrusion on the streetscape due to outbuildings.

Controls

- (i) Outbuildings should be located in the rear yard of properties within a Conservation Area.
- (ii) Outbuildings should be single storey and designed so that they have negligible if any impact on the streetscape.



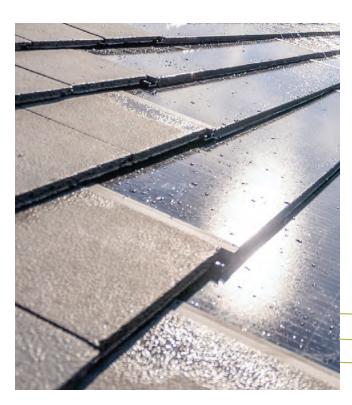
4.11 Environmentally Sustainable Technologies

Many modern technologies improve the energy efficiency of a building by reducing its reliance on the grid. This is the most effective intervention that helps Council achieve a Net Zero target. The installation of new sustainability measures may offset the less energy complaint fabric and features of the heritage conservation area.

Fixtures such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, skylights, shading devices, energy efficient hot water systems, EV charging points and rainwater tanks are sometimes large or items with a very modern appearance. They could be intrusive elements if installed to a highly visible roofscape or prominent streetscape facade. However, as technology is improving, these elements, such as photovoltaics are foreseen to become better integrated in the building fabric and it is critical that both the environmental and heritage benefits are considered to ensure energy efficient technologies can be implemented without compromising any significant heritage fabric.

Objectives

- **A.** To promote environmentally sustainable design in the design of alterations and additions to buildings within a Heritage Conservation Area.
- **B.** To promote the use of renewable energy resources while minimising visual impacts
- **C.** To ensure that ancillary roof mounted structures do not detract from the heritage significance or aesthetic value when viewed from the public domain.



Controls

- (i) Ancillary roof mounted structures (such as solar electricity collectors, air vents, television aerials and satellite dishes) are to be located on roof planes facing the rear yard of dwellings within a heritage conservation area and in a position to ensure they are not visible from the public domain.
- (ii) Ancillary roof mounted structures should not be higher than the main ridge line of a building that is or is part of a heritage item and shall be located so that they are not visible from the Public Domain.
- (iii) The introduction of environmentally sustainable technologies that allows these structures to be integrated into the building or roof fabric are permissible of roof planes and building facades visible from the public domain so long as they are;
 - a. flush with the predominant roof surface and,
 - b. Indistinguishable from the predominant roof material
 - c. integrated into the building facade without compromising any significant heritage or character of the conservation area

4.12 Demolition

Demolition of buildings within a Conservation Area can diminish the qualities of the Conservation Area. It is important that contributory buildings in the Conservation Area are retained.

Objectives

A. To retain the contributory buildings in a Conservation Area.

Controls

- **(i)** Contributory buildings within a Conservation Area must not be demolished.
- (ii) Partial demolition of contributory items within a Conservation Area may only be allowed when it can be established in a Statement of Heritage Impact that the partial demolition will not have an impact on the significance of the contribution of the item to the Conservation Area.
- (iii) Demolition of rear outbuildings in Conservation Areas may be acceptable. For places listed as heritage items, additional restrictions might apply.

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4.13 Subdivision

The subdivision pattern of Conservation Areas is important in the existing streetscape and reflects the historic subdivision of large estates and land grants as the area developed over time. The regular sizes of blocks together with the regular setbacks of buildings helps to establish a rhythm to the streetscape.

Consolidation of allotments often results in larger buildings that have an undesirable impact on the pattern of the streetscape. Similarly, subdivision of allotments can result in development with inadequate setbacks and/or narrow allotments that break the pattern of the streetscape.

Objectives

A. To retain subdivision patterns that contribute to the rhythm of streetscapes in Conservation Areas.

Controls

- (i) Consolidation of allotments of an early subdivision within a Conservation Area is not permitted unless it can be demonstrated that the original pattern of development in that part of the Conservation Area will be maintained.
- (ii) Subdivision of allotments of an early subdivision within a Conservation Area will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that the original pattern of development in that part of the Conservation Area will be maintained.
- (iii) New subdivision within a Heritage Conservation Area should reinforce the original pattern of development within the Heritage Conservation Area.

4.14 Signage

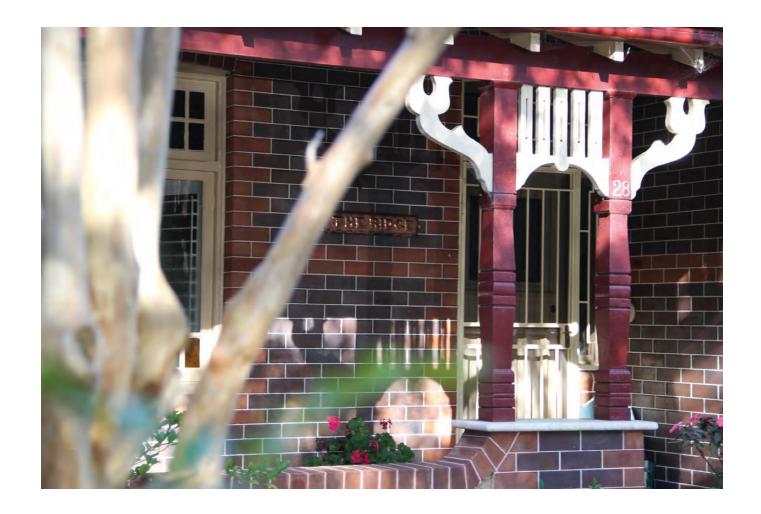
Residential streetscapes in Conservation Areas can be obscured by inappropriate signage. For late nineteenth century and early twentieth century buildings house names are often incorporated into the building or placed on a small sign fixed to a wall near the front door.

Objectives

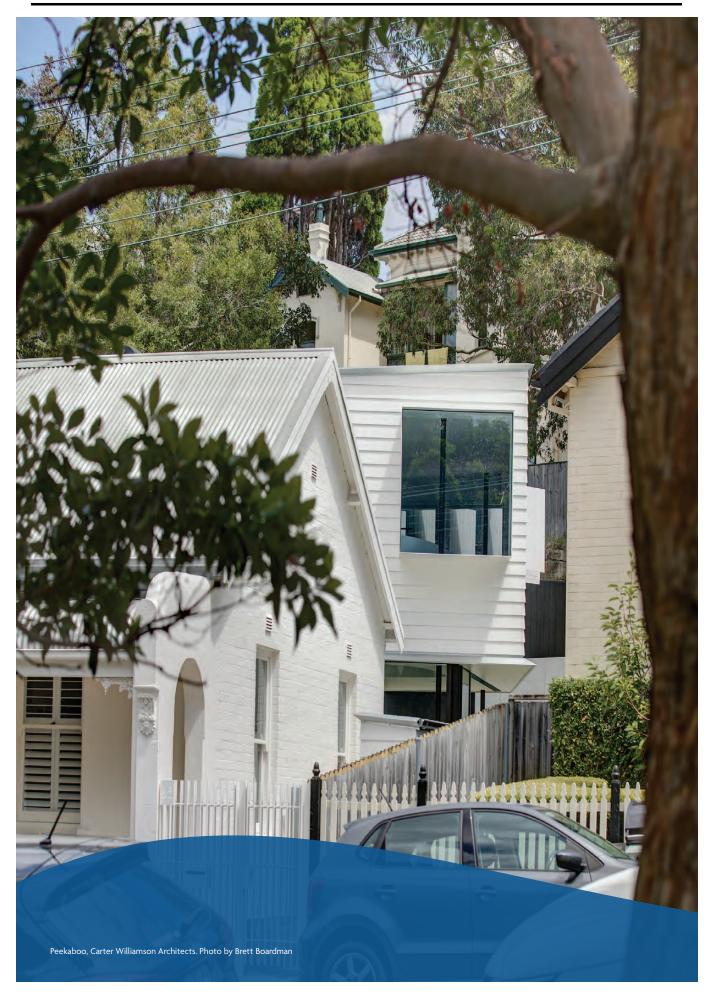
- **A.** To ensure the original details of buildings in Conservation Areas are not obscured by inappropriate signage.
- **B.** To ensure that signage does not have a detrimental impact on residential parts of Conservation Areas.

Controls

- (i) The architectural details of a building are not to be obscured or damaged by signage.
- (ii) Signage for the use of residential buildings for professional rooms or commercial purposes is to be designed to have minimal impact on the streetscape.



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5. ADDITIONAL CONTROLS FOR DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREAS

Development within Strathfield's Residential Conservation Areas must satisfy the general objectives and controls below as well as the provisions contained within this DCP in respect of heritage items and/or land/buildings within the vicinity of heritage items, and development within Conservation Areas generally, as relevant.

5.1 General objectives

- A. To conserve the existing character and heritage significance of Strathfield's residential Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To facilitate sympathetic and appropriate alterations and additions, whilst minimising the impact on the heritage significance of the dwellings and streetscapes within residential Conservation Areas.
- **C.** To ensure that new development is sympathetic to the particular building and/or relevant Conservation Area in terms of siting, form, massing, articulation and detail composition.
- D. To ensure that the proposed form of roof and details, the style, size, proportion and position of openings of windows and doors, the colours, textures, style, size and type of finish of materials to be used on the exterior of the building is compatible with similar features and materials used in the existing building on the site and within the relevant Conservation Area
- **E.** To retain any horticultural or landscape features within the relevant Conservation Area.
- **F.** To retain the subdivision pattern of the relevant Conservation Area.
- **G.** To promote an understanding of the importance of conserving the fabric of existing buildings and its context within the relevant Conservation Area.

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5.2 Siting and Garden Area

- (i) The historical pattern of development of individual buildings located on separate allotments of land separated by garden space, which characterise each of the Residential Conservation Areas, should be maintained.
- (ii) Front garden areas, lawns and associated pathways as traditional garden settings for houses should be maintained in any development proposal within a Residential Conservation Area.
- (iii) Views around and between buildings collectively forming a Residential Conservation Area are to be retained in any development proposal.
- (iv) Existing side boundary setbacks should be maintained. A lesser setback may be considered for additions where it can be demonstrated that the resulting development does not detract from the character of the Conservation Area.

5.3 Building Form

(i) Any proposed development should retain the particular building character of each Residential Conservation Area as identified in the particular Statement of Significance for the Conservation Area.

- (ii) Extensions should be sited to the rear of a dwelling within a Conservation Area and are to be consistent with and complement the existing dwelling. Alterations to the original main part of a building (other than a non-conforming building), including front and side facades, verandahs and roof forms, are discouraged.
- (iii) Where a building, other than a non-conforming building has undergone limited change, restoration/ reinstatement and repair of the original front of the building is encouraged.

5.4 Roof Forms

- (i) Roof extensions on buildings within a Residential Conservation Area are to relate sympathetically and subordinately to the original roof in shape, pitch, proportion and materials.
- (ii) New buildings are to have roofs that reflect the size, mass, shape of original roofs in the vicinity, particularly of the adjoining roofs.
- (iii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials or are to use approved alternative materials.
- (iv) Roof details such as finials, ridge capping, are to be maintained, repaired and reinstated where possible.

5.5 Walls, chimneys, doors and windows

- (i) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of buildings within a Residential Conservation Area shall not be altered.
- (ii) Chimneys on buildings within a Residential Conservation Area should not be demolished unless they are structurally unsound and only when accompanied by plans for immediate reconstruction in the original design. Reconstruction of original chimneys where there is evidence of previously removed chimneys is encouraged.
- (iii) Original doors and windows of dwellings within a Conservation Area, are to be kept, maintained and repaired when necessary.
- (iv) New doors and windows of dwellings within a Conservation Area are to reflect the proportion, location, size, sill heights, header treatment, materials, detailing and glazing pattern of the original doors and windows on the house to which they belong.

5.6 Verandahs

(i) Existing original verandahs at the front of contributory dwellings within a Residential Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.

5.7 Garages and Carports

- (i) New garages and carports are to be located at the back or at the side of the house.
- (ii) Carports, but not garages, forward of the building line may be permitted only in circumstances where access is not available to the rear and only where the design and materials are considered acceptable within the streetscape.
- (iii) Driveways consisting of wheel tracks with central grass/planting are preferred to fully paved driveway spaces.

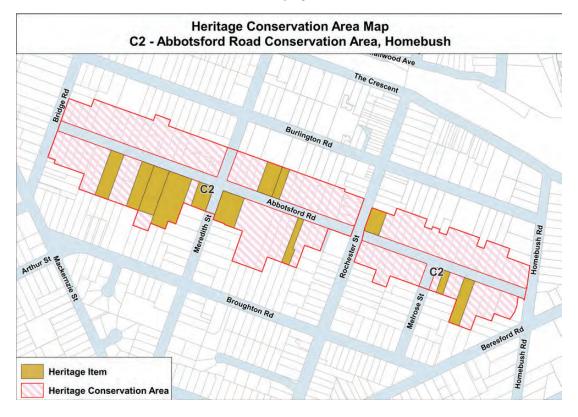
5.8 Fences & Gates

- (i) Original front fences and gates are to be kept and repaired where possible.
- (ii) Where replacement is necessary, replace side and rear fences with a timber paling fence of same height to the original, or a fence of unobtrusive lightweight materials such as timber or wire mesh with covering plants. Replacement fences must be in keeping with the character of the Conservation Area.
- (iii) Privacy walls higher than 1m of brick, timber or brush are not permitted on the street frontage.

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5.9 Statement of Significance and additional controls for each Conservation Area

5.9.1 Abbotsford Road Conservation Area (C2)



Statement of Significance

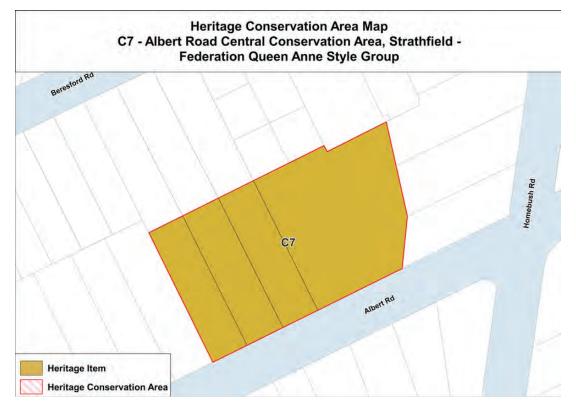
Abbotsford Road contains a consistently high-quality streetscape with housing dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. There is some modern infill but generally it is unobtrusive. The streetscape is tied together by mature street planting and well-maintained gardens. Abbotsford Road is of particular significance for its architectural and aesthetic qualities.

Additional Controls

(i) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising mature trees on the verges must be retained. New development must be designed to avoid impacting on the health of the street trees.

(ii) Mature trees should be planted to match the existing type and species where there are gaps in the street tree planting.

5.9.2 Albert Road Central Conservation Area - Federation Queen Anne style group (C7)



Statement of Significance

All built between 1899 and 1901, this group of houses are a cohesive group of Federation Queen Anne Style houses featuring terracotta tiled roofs with hipped and gabled roof forms, face brick walls trimmed with roughcast render, a variety of window types and verandahs with decorative timber work. As a group they are a distinctive and attractive part of the streetscape of Albert Road.

This group has historic importance as part of the development of this precinct following the decision of the Camden Congregational Church to subdivide their Strathfield property. As individual homes, these houses have a number of important historical connections. The Strathfield Education Centre is important for being built for William Arnott. The three houses from Numbers 71-75 Albert Road are the work of the prominent Strathfield builder John Lyon Gardiner.

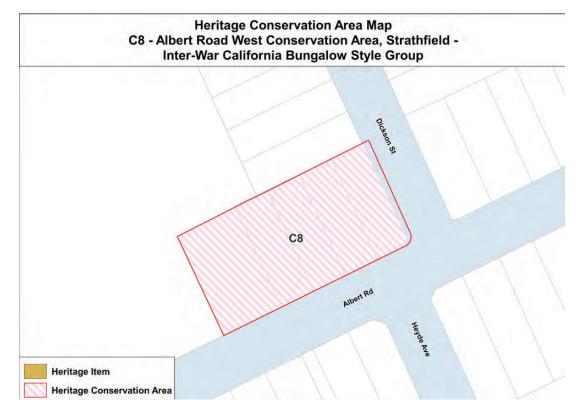
Additional Controls

- (i) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials of dwellings within this Conservation Area, these being unglazed terra cotta Marseilles tiles.
- (ii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic face brickwork trimmed with roughcast render should be retained and repaired or replaced where appropriate.
- (iii) Existing original verandahs with timber detailing which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.

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5.9.3 Albert Road West Conservation Area - Inter-war California bungalow style group (C8)



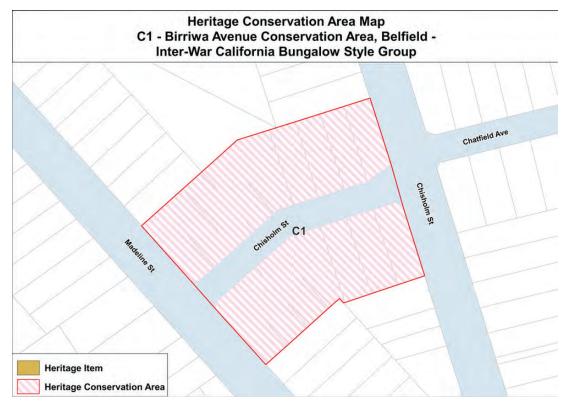
Statement of Significance

Built in a short period between 1920 and 1924, this group of houses are a cohesive group of Inter-War California Bungalows with a consistency of scale, form and materials. All the houses feature characteristics of the style including low-medium pitched roofs, most with broad gables facing the street, front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts, casement windows, and battened fibre and shingled cladding to the gables. As a group, the pattern of gables and verandahs of these houses makes an important contribution to the local streetscape.

Additional Controls

- (i) New buildings or alterations to existing buildings are to have roofs that reflect the low-medium roof pitch of the neighbouring original roofs within this Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof and gable materials are to match original materials in the use of battened fibre and shingled cladding to the gables which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area.
- (iii) Existing original front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.

5.9.4 Birriwa Avenue Conservation Area - Inter-war California bungalow style group (C1)



Statement of Significance

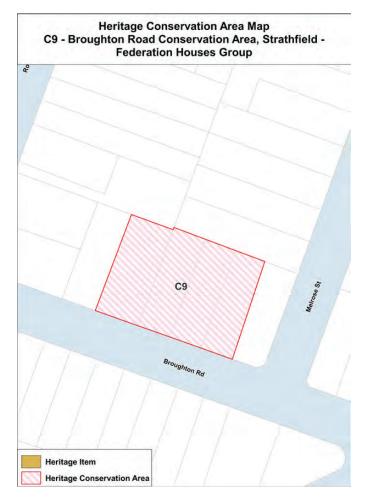
Birriwa Avenue is an intact streetscape of Inter-War California Bungalows, terminated at the western end by an Inter-War corner shop. The cohesive nature of the streetscape is created in a large part by the regular pattern of gabled roofs and front verandahs along the street. The construction of a whole street by one builder has resulted in a similarity of scale, style and material through the streetscape. The plantings of Nerium oleander and the gentle curve in the avenue add to the quality of the streetscape.

The houses of Birriwa Avenue are representative of the Inter-War California bungalow style through the use of gabled fronts to the street, imitation half timbering and imitation timber shingles to contrast with face brickwork, verandahs on brick piers and sets of timber casement windows. The corner shop is also a good representative example of a small Inter- War commercial building attached to a residence.

Additional Controls

- (i) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising Nerium oleander on the verges, must be retained.
- (ii) New trees using advanced Nerium oleander should be planted where there are gaps in the street tree planting.
- (iii) The original Inter-War corner shop should be retained in any development proposal.
- (iv) Existing original front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.
- (v) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls on dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic imitation half timbering and imitation timber shingles along with face brickwork should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.

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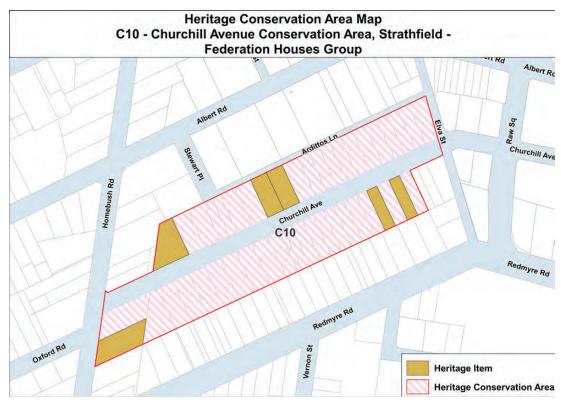
5.9.5 Broughton Road Conservation Area - Federation houses group (C9)

Statement of Significance

Built within a three-year period, this group of houses has a similarity of scale, form, details and materials. As examples of the Federation Queen Anne style, they have characteristic features including terracotta and slate roofing with hipped and gabled forms, face brickwork contrasting with imitation half timbering to the gables, verandahs supported on timber posts with timber detailing and casement windows. As a group, they are an important part of the Broughton Road streetscape.

Additional Controls

- (i) The predominant gable pattern which is characteristic of the Broughton Road Conservation Area should be retained or restored in any development.
- (ii) Existing original front verandahs with brick piers and timber posts which are characteristic of dwellings in this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where possible.
- (iii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic imitation half timbering and imitation timber shingles along with face brickwork should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.



5.9.6 Churchill Avenue Conservation Area - Federation houses group (C10)

Statement of Significance

Churchill Avenue is of local significance for its high retention of form, scale, and architectural detail. Mature street planting and period style fences provide a unified streetscape. The housing stock is comprised of Federation and bungalow styled residences. Elements that

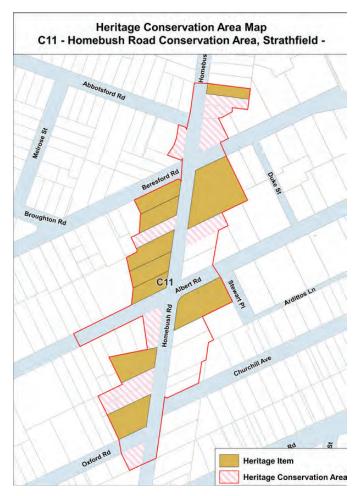
give the precinct its character includes Marseilles tile and slate roofs, brick construction, single storey, timber detailing and well-maintained gardens.

Additional Controls

- (i) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials where possible on dwellings within this Conservation Area. Suitable roof materials are unglazed terra cotta Marseilles tiles or slate where applicable.
- (ii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls shall not be altered. Characteristic brickwork should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.

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5.9.7 Homebush Road Conservation Area (C11)

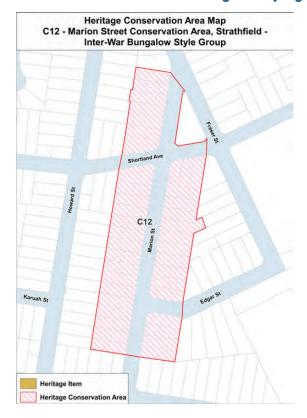


Statement of Significance

Homebush Road precinct is of local significance for its architectural character and for its diverse high-quality streetscape. Important streetscape elements include fencing, gardens and Brush Box Street planting that combine to provide a sense of enclosure and continuity.

Additional Controls

- (i) Original brick and iron fencing should be retained and repaired. New fencing must respond to the prevailing design and materiality of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising Brush Box on the verges of this Conservation Area is to be retained.
- (iii) The predominance of soft landscaping within the front setback is to be retained. Reinstatement of period gardens in encouraged.



5.9.8 Marion Street Conservation Area – Inter-war bungalow style group (C12)

Statement of Significance

Marion Street is of local significance as representing a cohesive group of housing from the 1930's and 1940's that retains representative form, scale and detail. The houses are predominantly single storey with tiled hip roofs, dark coloured brick, small front bays and verandahs, timber windows and low brick fences. Marion Street has Brush Box planting and well-kept gardens that add to the overall streetscape value.

Additional Controls

- (i) The characteristic pattern of street tree planting comprising Brush Box on the verges of this Conservation Area must be retained. New development should be designed to avoid impacting on the health of the street trees.
- (ii) New trees using mature Brush Box should be planted where there are gaps in the street tree planting.
- (iii) Roof extensions of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to relate sympathetically and subordinately to the original roof in shape, pitch, proportion and materials, with hipped roof forms and Marseilles tiles to be used where appropriate.
- (iv) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic dark coloured brick should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.
- (v) Existing original small front verandahs and bays which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.
- (vi) Original low brick front fences which are characteristic of the Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired where possible.

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5.9.9 Meredith Street Conservation Area - Victorian Villa style group (C4)



Statement of Significance

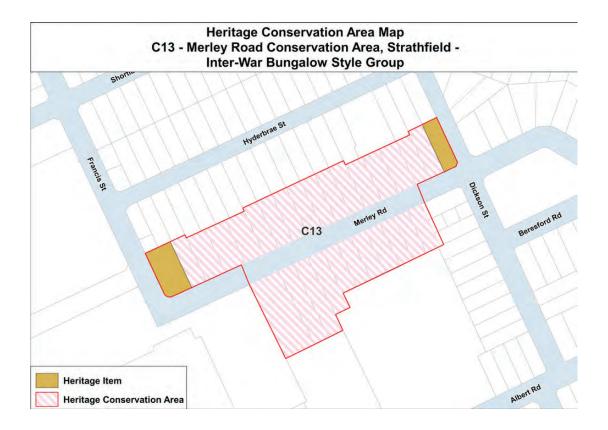
This late 19th Century Victorian Precinct is of local significance for retaining its form, scale and some detail and illustrates early housing on the 1878 Underwood Estate. These villas retain their asymmetrical facades with projecting bays, arch top windows and front verandahs. They are of single storey, constructed of rendered brick. The tiled roofs and the unsympathetic fences detract from the overall streetscape value. The retention of the eaves detailing (brackets and medallions) are important features.

Additional Controls

(i) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Characteristic rendered brick should be retained, replaced or repaired where appropriate.

(ii) Existing original verandahs and projecting bays which are characteristic of dwellings within this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.

5.9.10 Merley Road Conservation Area (C13)



Statement of Significance

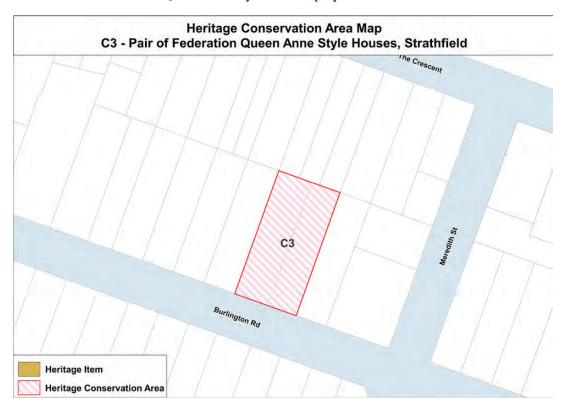
Merley Road, between Dickson Street and Francis Street, is an intact streetscape dominated by Inter-War California bungalow style houses. The few Federation period houses in the street blend well with the Inter-War houses due to the use of gables facing the street, front verandahs, terracotta tiled roofs and face brick walling contrasted with small areas of render and/or battened fibre and shingles.

Additional Controls

- (i) Gables should be restored, repaired or replaced to follow the consistent pattern throughout the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials on dwellings within this Conservation Area, such as unglazed terra cotta Marseilles tiles.
- (iii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of dwellings within this Conservation Area shall not be altered. Face brickwork with render should be repaired or replaced where appropriate.
- (iv) Existing original front verandahs are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.

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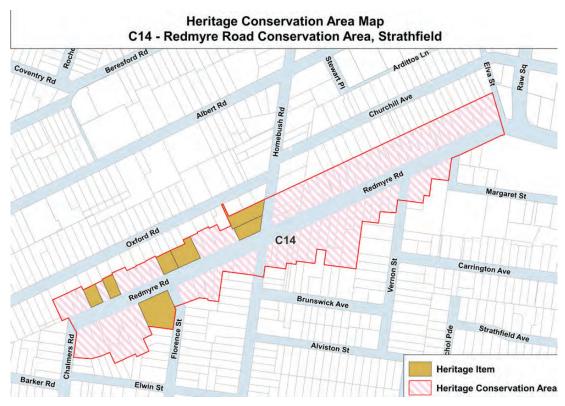
5.9.11 Pair of Federation Queen Ann style houses (C3)

Statement of Significance

Talgai and Gowan Brae are a good example of a pair of Federation Queen Anne style houses. Characteristics of the style evident in Talgai and Gowan Brae include the hipped and gabled terracotta roof, detailed entry porch, face brickwork contrasted with roughcast render and grouped casement windows.

Additional Controls

- (i) Replacement roof design and materials on each of the dwellings are to match original materials, including hipped and gabled terracotta roof types.
- (ii) The original shape and materials of the front and side walls of the two dwellings shall not be altered. Characteristic face brickwork contrasted with roughcast render should be retained on the two dwellings or replaced like-for-like.
- (iii) The existing detailed entry porches which are characteristic of this dwelling pair are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.



5.9.12 Redmyre Road Conservation Area (C14)

Statement of Significance

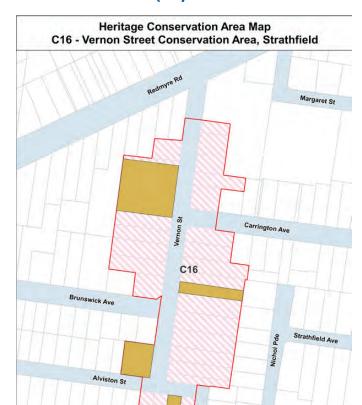
Redmyre Road is of significance for its historical and architectural qualities. This Conservation Area displays a full range of housing that is dominated by early twentieth century architecture. It features a unified streetscape with predominantly single storey, well- maintained houses. The housing types include Victorian Italianate, Late Victorian/Early Federation and Federation/bungalow. Also featured is the Council Chambers and former Town Clerk's house. The central planting of Jacarandas in a grassed median strip and side planting of Brush Box form an important landscape feature to the street.

Additional Controls

- (i) The characteristic pattern of grass verges, footpaths and street tree planting comprising Jacarandas within the grassed median strip, and Brush Box on the verges, must be retained.
- (ii) New trees using mature Jacarandas on the median strip and Brush Box on the verges, should be planted where there are gaps in the street tree planting.

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5.9.13 Vernon Street Conservation Area (C16)

Statement of Significance

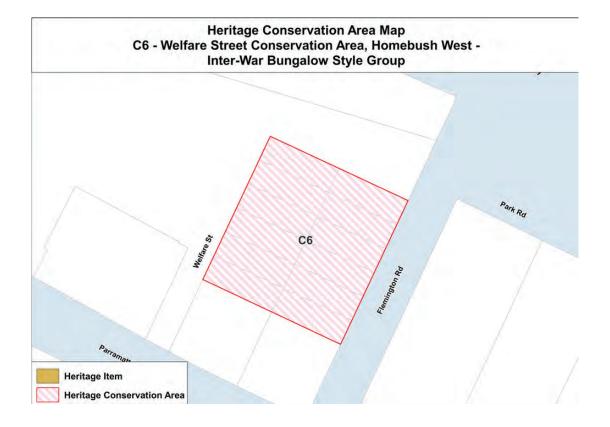
This Conservation Area contains many buildings from the late Nineteenth Century. It is of local significance as the villas retain their form and scale and they combine to provide an attractive streetscape. The villas are predominantly single storey with asymmetrical facades and projecting bays.

Heritage Conservation Area

Additional Controls

(i) Existing original projecting bays characteristic of dwellings in this Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired where possible or reinstated.

5.9.14 Welfare Street Conservation Area - Inter war bungalow style group (C6)



Statement of Significance

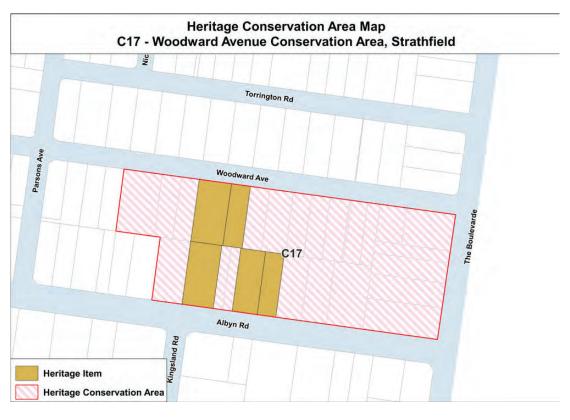
Bounded by Welfare Street, Park, Flemington and Parramatta Roads this precinct is of local significance as it features a homogenous group of bungalow housing dating from c. 1920. The houses are single storey, brick with asymmetrical façades and have Marseilles tiled gables, terra cotta finials, square timber posts on brick supports, decorative timber brackets, timber sun hoods, brick verandahs and small front gardens. Throughout the Conservation Area there is a repetition of design and a high retention of detail, form and scale.

Additional Controls

- (i) New development should complement the asymmetrical facade designs that are characteristic of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials used within this Conservation Area, including Marseilles tiled gables.
- (iii) Original roof details on dwellings within this Conservation Area, such as terracotta finials, ridge capping, are to be maintained, repaired and reinstated where necessary.
- (iv) Existing original brick verandahs that characterise dwellings within the Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.

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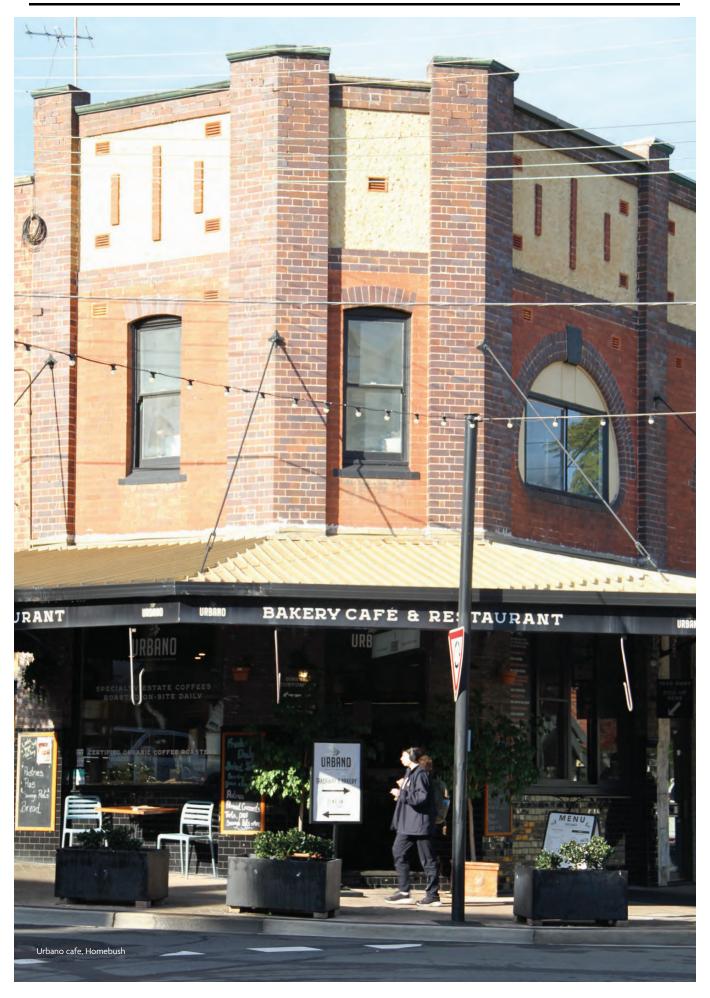
5.9.15 Woodward Avenue Conservation Area (C17)

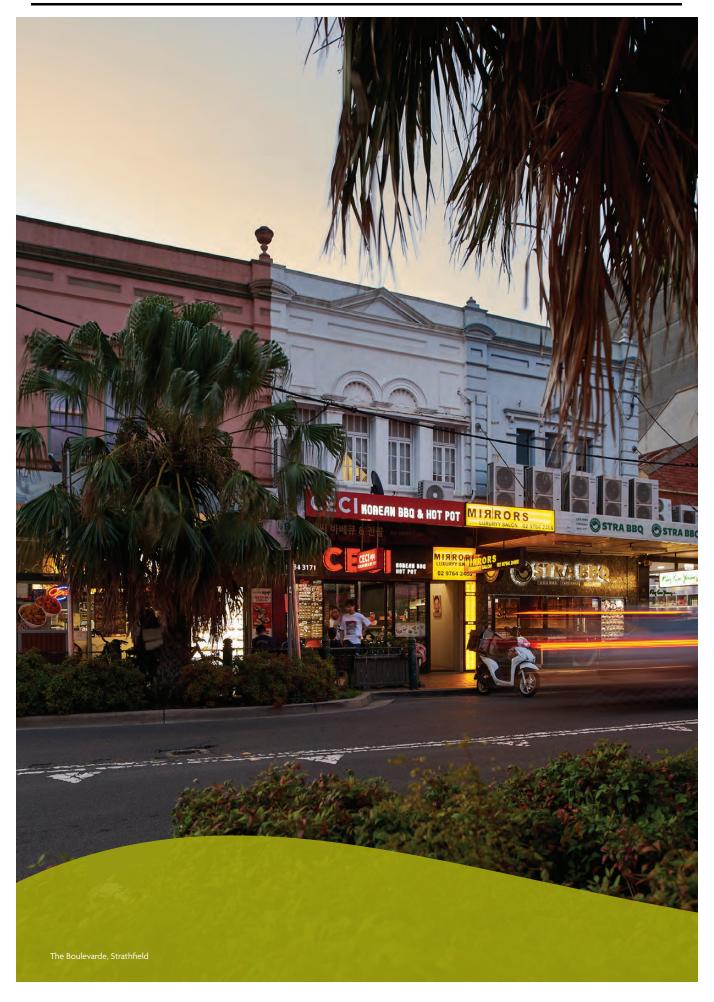
Statement of Significance

This Conservation Area is a Victorian era precinct that is of local significance for its retention of form, scale and architectural detail from the late 19th century. Features of the Conservation Area include predominantly single storey, asymmetrical facades, projecting bays, slate roofs, rendered brick construction and front verandahs.

Additional Controls

- (i) Where appropriate, new development should complement the asymmetrical facade designs that are characteristic of the Conservation Area.
- (ii) Replacement roof materials are to match original materials such as slate or are to employ approved alternative materials where possible.
- (iii) Rendered brick construction on dwellings within this Conservation Area should be retained and repaired where possible.
- (iv) Existing original front verandahs and projecting front bays that characterise dwellings within the Conservation Area are to be kept and repaired or reinstated where necessary.





6. ADDITIONAL CONTROLS FOR DEVELOPMENT WITHIN RETAIL CONSERVATION AREAS

Development within Strathfield's Retail Conservation Areas must satisfy the general objectives and controls below as well as the provisions contained within this DCP in respect of heritage items and/or land/buildings within the vicinity of heritage items, and development within Conservation Areas generally, as relevant.

6.1 General objectives

- **A.** To ensure the retail Conservation Areas continue to provide a range of retail and commercial services with varied and interesting active frontages to the street.
- **B.** To encourage the retention of significant and contributory shopfronts and promote the reinstatement of original characteristics and shopfronts.
- C. To retain and enhance the prevailing character given by buildings built to street and side boundaries.
- **D.** To ensure the prevailing pattern of buildings built to the front boundary and massed to their existing height at the street frontage is continued.
- **E.** To ensure the development of the rear of properties complement the existing streetscape.
- F. Retain/repair original awnings.
- **G.** To retain the prominence of the building form and character given by the roofs, parapets and architectural features of buildings within the retail Conservation Areas.

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6.2 Land use

(i) Shopfronts within the Retail Conservation Areas should incorporate a range of uses to engage with and activate the street.

6.3 Building design

- (i) Buildings must be massed towards the street frontage.
- (ii) The height of the buildings at the street boundary must be determined by the prevailing height of adjacent and neighbouring contributory buildings.

6.4 Setbacks

- (i) Side setbacks are not required where new development matches an existing or concurrently proposed adjoining building.
- (ii) Setbacks to the street are only permitted where the established pattern is set back from the street.

6.5 Rear elevations

(i) Rear elevations and structures are to be treated and maintained in a manner that complements the existing character of the Retail Conservation Areas.

6.6 Shop fronts and building facades

- (i) New shop fronts shall reflect original details and proportions characteristic of the retail shop fronts, including the siting of recessed entrance doors.
- (ii) Original facades and shop fronts should be conserved, reinstated, and maintained where possible.

6.7 Roofs, parapets and architectural features

- **(i)** Original parapets should be preserved and maintained, with existing detailing, unpainted and free of hoarding signs.
- (ii) The profile of the front parapet wall should be maintained as a silhouette against the sky.
- (iii) Gable ends to the roof above eaves level should retain their existing details, where they are present. Reinstatement of lost elements is encouraged.
- **(iv)** Original chimneys should be retained, or reinstated where possible and the introduction of new roof fixtures (such as roof vents, aerials, solar collectors, mobile phone transmitters or satellite dishes) must not be located on the front façade of shop fronts within the Retail Conservation Area.
- (v) Continuous awnings should be provided where possible, at a unified height and fascia to each shop. The level of overhead awnings above the footpath should match the existing.
- **(vi)** Original upper-level windows should be restored and maintained.
- **(vii)** The removal of first floor windows that have altered the profile of former openings is encouraged, with the original window to be restored.

6.8 Materials and finishes

(i) Materials must be sympathetic to the original materials used within the relevant Retail Conservation Area.

6.9 Signage

Many commercial buildings built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century incorporate areas on the main façade designed for locating a sign to identify the business operating within. This allows for appropriate signage while the unity of the streetscape is retained.

Objectives

- **A.** To allow for appropriate signage on commercial buildings in Conservation Areas.
- **B.** To ensure the original details of buildings in Conservation Areas are not obscured by inappropriate signage.

Controls

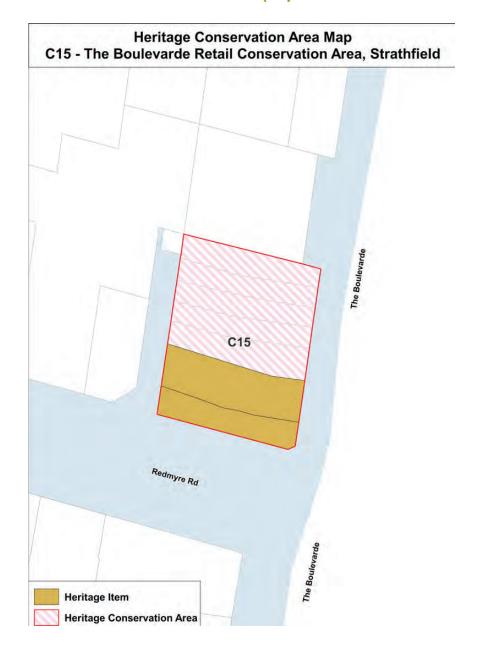
- (i) Signage on commercial buildings is to be confined to:
 - · an under-awning sign of appropriate size.
 - · a window sign in the ground floor shopfront of appropriate design; or
 - · a first-floor sign contained within a purpose designed panel on the building façade.
- (ii) The façade of any building in a Conservation Area is not to be painted in a corporate colour scheme.
- (iii) The architectural details of a building are not to be obscured or damaged by signage.
- **(iv)** Signage for the use of residential buildings for professional rooms or commercial purposes is to be designed to have minimal impact on the streetscape.
- (v) Backlight signs and neon signs should only be allowed within Conservation Areas where they are temporary and do not detract from the character of the Conservation Area.
- (iv) Advertising structures are not permitted.

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6.10 Statement of Significance and specific additional controls for Retail Conservation Areas

6.10.1 The Boulevarde Retail Conservation Area (C15)



Statement of Significance

These shops are part of a group of commercial buildings developed along The Boulevarde in the late nineteenth century by the financier, land agent and architect Randolph Nott, capitalising on the importance of the nearby railway station in generating business. The shops remained in the possession of Nott until the 1920's.

This is a rare group of late nineteenth century shops in Strathfield. Numbers 25-31 and Number 33 are representative examples of early Federation commercial buildings and retain much of their original brick and sandstone detailing. Number 35-39 is a good example of a commercial building with Federation free classical detailing.

Additional Objectives

- **A.** To reinforce the prevailing pattern of early Federation shop fronts which is characterised by simple, rectilinear building forms, full height at street frontage, and variation in roof parapet, chimney, roof eaves, details and other features.
- **B.** To preserve and reinstate original early Federation shopfront facades where possible.
- **C.** To encourage the reinstatement of original windows.
- **D.** To ensure buildings are sympathetic to characteristic materials, finishes and colours including using brick and sandstone.

Additional Controls

- (i) A range of uses must be provided to engage with and activate the street and which reinforce the connection with Strathfield Railway Station.
- (ii) New shop fronts shall reflect original details and proportions characteristic of this group of early Federation shop fronts, including the siting of recessed entrance doors.
- (iii) Original Federation façades and shop fronts are to be conserved, reinstated and maintained where possible.
- **(iv)** Original materials used such as sandstone and brick, must be retained and preserved.

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6.10.2 "Village of Homebush" Retail Conservation Area (C5)



Statement of Significance

The "Village of Homebush" Retail Conservation Area has aesthetic value as a cohesive group of late Federation and Inter-War commercial buildings. There is a consistency of materials, scale and detailing through the group. The Conservation Area demonstrates the importance of Rochester Street in connecting Homebush and Strathfield residential areas with Homebush Railway Station and, prior to the closure of the level crossing over the railway line, with Parramatta Road.

The precinct has, since the nineteenth century, been the location of small commercial premises. The survival of an Inter-War garage as part of the group underlines the continued importance of this precinct in connecting the adjacent suburb with major transport routes. While the incorporation of first floor cantilevered balconies on Inter-War commercial buildings was not uncommon, surviving examples such as those on Number 1 Rochester Street and Numbers 5-7 Rochester Street are now rare.

Additional Controls

(i) Land uses within the Homebush Retail Conservation Area should comprise small- scale commercial premises which can engage with and activate the street and residential above (i.e. shop-top housing).

(ii) Original Federation and Inter-War façades and shop fronts must be conserved, maintained and reinstated.

(iii) First floor cantilevered balconies must be retained or reinstated as important functional and architectural elements of the front facade within the Homebush Retail Conservation Area where possible.

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STRATHFIELD MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

PART P

STRATHFIELD CONSOLIDATED DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2005

Heritage



65 Homebush Road, Strathfield NSW 2135 02 9748 9999 | www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au

Adopted by Council: 6 June 2017
Effective from: 20 June 2017
Amendment No 1 to Part P – Adopted by Council: 4 December 2018
Amendment No 1 to Part P – Effective from: 8 January 2019



StrathfieldCouncil



StrathfieldMC



StrathfieldCouncil



StrathfieldTV



EO1 COOKS RIVER AND STRATHFIELD GOLF CLUB OPEN SPACE PROPOSAL

AUTHOR: Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering & Operations

APPROVER: Michael Mamo, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Council meeting on the 13 August 2024, Council resolved:

"198/24

RESOL VED: (Datta / Maheswaran)

That Council resolves to:

- 1. Support and consider funding the proposal subject of Council report EO3 presented at the 2 May 2023 Council meeting being a feasibility study, and
- 2. provide a report to the October 2024 Council Meeting on the cost of implementing the feasibility study."

REPORT

The recommendations were addressed in the report to Council on the 2 May 2023 titled 'Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space Proposal" and 26 March 2024 titled 'Cooks River Upgrade'. A copy of these reports are attached.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As outlined in the report dated 2 May 2023, should Council choose to proceed with the project, subject to the availability of funding and staff resources, the next step would be to prepare a Masterplan at a cost of around \$200,000. This Masterplan would include an estimate for implementing the feasibility study.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Cooks River Council Report 2 May 2023
- 2.J Cooks River Council Report 26 March 2024

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COUNCIL MEETING 2 MAY 2023

EO3 COOKS RIVER AND STRATHFIELD GOLF CLUB OPEN SPACE PROPOSAL

AUTHOR: Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering & Operations

APPROVER: Michael Mamo, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

 That Council gives in principle support to the Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space project.

- 2. That Council does not give any funding to this project at this time.
- That Council monitor for possible future grant opportunities to recommend to the Golf Club for this project.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Council meeting of 7 February 2023, it was resolved:

43/23

That Council direct the General Manager to engage with the Strathfield Golf Course on the commission of a feasibility study on improvement of the water quality in the Cooks River and the commissioning of public open space around the Strathfield Golf Course with Council's officers to present a report at the next convenient Council workshop or Council meeting.

REPORT

Council staff had a meeting with representatives from the Strathfield Golf Club and the Cooks River Alliance, where the Club presented their proposal. In summary, the proposal includes the following:

A Missing Link

A shared path connection through the golf course can be the catalyst for improving regional connections at the city scale.

The site can act as a link between the active transport networks of the Eastern Harbour City and Central River City as part of the Greater Sydney Commissions Metropolis of Three Cities – Greater Sydney Region Plan.

New active transport links along the eastern edge of Rookwood Cemetery are also in planning which will improve north-south movement.

Continuing the Cooks River Cycleway

The Cooks River Cycleway follows the river from Wolli Creek to Augusta Street in Strathfield, then diverts around the golf course ending at the corner of Ada and Melville Avenues.

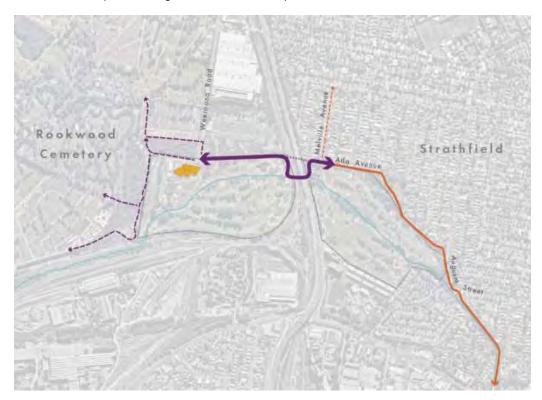
There is an opportunity to provide a connection from Ada Ave west through the golf course towards Rookwood Cemetery and beyond to USYD Cumberland Campus and Lidcombe TAFE. This connection would benefit the community at a regional planning level.

At a local level this connection would create an inviting walking and cycling option for families from the residential catchment of Strathfield and further afield.

Item EO3 Page 1



The active transport missing link is shown in the plan below:



Strategic Green Grid Positioning

The current Cooks River Cycleway follows the river from Wolli Creek to Augusta Street then diverts around the golf course ending at corner of Ada & Melville Avenues.

The Eastern City Green Grid Opportunities mapping identifies an east-west link through Strathfield Golf Course.

Strategic Biodiversity Priorities

The proposal contributes to Council's biodiversity priorities including:

- Ensuring native vegetation and habitat is conserved, restored and enhanced.
- Improving the health and resilience of Mason Park Wetlands, Cooks River and Coxs Creek.
- Connecting reserves, green spaces and streetscapes to support biodiversity.
- Actively engaging Community and Council in biodiversity conservation.

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The bank restoration along the Cooks River includes opportunities such as:



Strathfield Golf Club Licence

Part of the Strathfield Golf Club, west of Centenary Drive, is privately owned. Part of the Strathfield Golf Club, east of Centenary Drive is Council owned and licenced to the Club. The current Licence expires in July 2026. The Licence notes the following:

1 Use of Premises and Period of Use...

- (e) The Licensee shall have the use of the premises during the following times and days, namely:
- · Sunrise to Sunset

The licenced area is currently entirely fenced and not available to the community from sunset to sunrise.

Project Benefits

The proposal has benefits as follows:

- · Positive environmental benefits.
- Aligns with Council and State Government green-blue grid policies.
- Possible important east-west pedestrian and cyclist 'missing' link.

Project Limitations and Risks

The proposal has some limitations and risks:

 The Golf Club are the substantive beneficiaries of the proposal. The bulk of the proposed works, landscape improvements to the riverbank and reduction in flooding, are within the property owned by the Golf Club and property licenced to the Golf Club. This area is currently fully fenced off.

Item EO3 Page 3



 Approvals are required from a number of third parties, including Strathfield Golf Club, Sydney Water, Sydney Trains, Transport, Ausgrid and Rookwood Cemetery. Obtaining these approvals will take some time. Pursuit of this project will impact on Council's ability to undertake other capital projects.

- The project will only achieve its potential active transport benefits if there is agreement from Rookwood Cemetery and Cumberland Council to continue the bicycle and pedestrian path.
- There is currently no funding for the project.

Project Delivery

Should Council choose to proceed with the project, subject to the availability of funding and staff resources, the following key project steps will need to be undertaken:

- Masterplan process 6-12 months.
 - The cost is around \$200,000.
 - o Unlikely to attract grant funding for a masterplan.
 - o The masterplan would include an estimate for the substantive construction works.
- Design and planning approval process 12 months.
- Approvals and landowner's consent from third parties up to 2 years.
- Construction 12 months.

It is noted that some of the above steps could be undertaken concurrently.

Conclusion

The Cooks River and Strathfield Golf Club Open Space project has merit, particularly in improving active transport links.

Council has a number of large projects which are about to commence, particularly \$21.8 million in WestInvest projects. It is also currently very hard to attract appropriately skilled project managers. Council cannot currently provide resources to this project, and it is therefore recommended that no funding be provided at this time.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is recommended that Council not give any funding to this project at this time and therefore there are no financial impacts.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item EO3 Page 4



COUNCIL MEETING 26 MARCH 2024

EO3 COOKS RIVER UPGRADE

AUTHOR: Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering & Operations

APPROVER: Michael Mamo, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council staff continue to actively work with the Cooks River Alliance and other Councils on the proposed Masterplan for the Cooks River and other improvement projects.

2. That Council staff continue to monitor for possible future grant opportunities for Cooks River upgrade projects.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Council Meeting on 5 December 2023, Council resolved:

"325/23

RESOL VED: (Maheswaran / Pensabene)

- 1. That Councillors be provided a report that considers engagement with the Strathfield Golf Course and Cooks River Alliance and other appropriate bodies to prepare a proposal for delivery of:
 - a) Installation of pollutant traps to improve the water quality of the Cooks River,
 - b) The creation of a public crossing underneath the M3 between Council land to link with Council/State land around the Strathfield Golf Course, and
 - c) The creation of activated recreational space in the public land surrounding the Strathfield Golf Course.
- 2. That Council include in the report possible available funding from State and Federal governments."

REPORT

Masterplan

The Cooks River Alliance has been working with Strathfield and other Councils on a proposed Masterplan for the Cooks River. This project intends to develop a whole-of-catchment Masterplan for the Cooks River for the first time. The proposed Masterplan provides the foundations necessary to deliver the intent of the Cooks River Alliance Strategic Plan. Furthermore, the Masterplan and its supporting digital elements will provide both the framework and the necessary visibility to ensure existing plans and programs do not get 'forgotten', and that future planning has ready and reliable access to data and studies. It is expected that the Masterplan will take up to three years to complete.

Item EO3 Page 1



COUNCIL MEETING 26 MARCH 2024

Cooks River Upgrade (Cont'd)

GPTs

Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs) can play an important role in preventing visible litter and waste (gross pollutants) from contaminating waterways. Gross pollutant traps have specific internal configurations and hydrodynamic separation characteristics. During a rain event, pollutants are collected by stormwater on the urban runoff path and discharged into receiving waterways. In the absence of GPTs stormwater pollution can result in considerable damage to the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem. Stormwater pollutants can inflict physical, chemical and/or biological damage.

The visible impact of gross accumulated pollutants, organic matter and street litter, in waterways is generally perceived to indicate poor water quality. Studies have shown that litter such as leaves and paper have a high absorption surface, therefore carrying finer pollutants. There are several types of designs available depending on environmental and infrastructure conditions.

Advantages of gross pollutant traps are that they:

- Have a relatively small lateral footprint.
- Are hidden from view.

Limitations of gross pollutant traps are that they:

- Provide limited removal of fine sediment and dissolved pollutants.
- Have a high cost of build.
- Are complex to install.
- Require regular and costly cleaning.

Contingent on the types of GPTs selected, ongoing cleaning costs can be in the order of several hundreds of thousands of dollars per year. This is not currently funded within Council's operating budget.

Active Transport Link

The development of an Active Transport link through the Strathfield Golf Course is supported. This will link will connect Council and State land surrounding the Golf Course such that the link complements the popular Cooks River Shared Path and the wider Strathfield Active Travel network, both existing and proposed.

The link creates a key east-west Active Travel connection between the Strathfield and Cumberland LGAs, where only three other connections are available via Barker Road/Weeroona Road, Arthur Street, and Parramatta Road. The link also serves as an Active Travel connection between the Eastern Harbour City and the Central River City as outlined in Transport for NSW's Strategic Cycleway Corridors Policy, with Strathfield straddling the border between the two cities and serving as a gateway.

Beyond the regional connectivity implications, the link also provides a recreational route for riders and walkers of all ages and abilities, where recreational routes in parks and green areas are desirable due to the safety they provide and the general separation from motor traffic, both physical and sensory (sight, noise etc.).

The link must be a minimum 4m-wide shared path within the golf course, beginning at Ada Avenue and terminating at the Golf Course car park. Construction of this shared path requires reconstruction of the Item EO3

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COUNCIL MEETING 26 MARCH 2024

Cooks River Upgrade (Cont'd)

existing relevant paths through the Golf Course, and suitable wayfinding signage to be provided. It is noted that where the link crosses underneath Centenary Drive and the train line, this is a constrained situation that may not lend itself to a desirable facility. The link is to follow a route like that outlined in the report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 2 May 2023 to separate bike riders from the activities of the Golf Course for their protection.

Outside of the Golf Course, the link would extend from the Golf Course car park north on Weeroona Road to then connect to the entry at Rockwood Cemetery such that the link provides a completed connection from the Strathfield LGA to the Cumberland LGA via the cemetery. The link on Weeroona Road would be a shared path and / or separated bike path.

The implementation of this route would require the engagement of a suitably qualified design consultant and is subject to approvals from several external stakeholders including Strathfield Golf Club, Sydney Water, Sydney Trains, Transport for NSW, AusGrid, Rockwood Cemetery, and Cumberland Council. The latter two stakeholders must be consulted during the design and construction stages to ensure the continuity of the link through Rockwood Cemetery and into the Cumberland LGA.

Recreational Space Surrounding the Strathfield Golf Course

It is expected that the proposed Cooks River Alliance Masterplan will be high level, and not include the specifics that Council requires for activating adjacent recreational space.

Council has recently employed a Place Designer (Landscape Architect). He will be progressively developing Masterplans for various parks and mainstreet areas. Once the overarching Cooks River Masterplan has been developed, Council's Place Designer can develop localised Masterplans for the adjacent recreation spaces.

Council has recently undertaken some minor works at Freshwater Park and Yarrowee Road. This includes unblocking the stormwater, minor vegetation maintenance and tidying up excess debris. This will help improve the stormwater flows from the surrounding network.

Licence with Strathfield Golf Course

Part of the Strathfield Golf Club, west of Centenary Drive, is privately owned. Part of the Strathfield Golf Club, east of Centenary Drive is Council owned and licenced to the Club. The current Licence expires in July 2026. The Licence notes the following:

1 Use of Premises and Period of Use...

- (e) The Licensee shall have the use of the premises during the following times and days, namely:
- · Sunrise to Sunset

The licenced area is currently entirely fenced and not available to the community from sunset to sunrise. This will be reviewed when the License is due for expiry/renewal. The new Licence may result in the removal of this fence, which would open up the area for broader community recreation.

Funding Opportunities

Item EO3 Page 3



COUNCIL MEETING 26 MARCH 2024

Cooks River Upgrade (Cont'd)

The Cooks River Alliance has put in a grant application with the Department of Planning and Environment for the proposed Cooks River Catchment Management Masterplan. The grant application is for \$1 million in funding.

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water has an Uban Rivers and Catchments Program. The Cooks River Alliance has submitted a grant proposal for \$10 million for Cooks River Rehabilitation. This includes delivery of habitat, access and amenity improvements at Ford Park South Strathfield to compliment channel renewal works being investigated by Sydney Water and a GPT at Strathfield Golf Club. This is subject to further negotiations with the NSW Government.

Council's Executive Officer Business Performance and Improvement has been searching for additional grant opportunities and has advised that there appear to be no dedicated grants available or planned at a Federal or State level that suit the infrastructure requirements of the East-West tunnel under Centenary Drive.

The overwhelming majority of planned grants related to roads and community safety are specifically 'non-infrastructure' and aimed at education programs. The best candidate was the 'Get Active' program that has since closed. There has been no commitment for future rounds of funding.

There are no suitable grants open or set to open, at a State or Federal level for the installation and ongoing operation of a gross pollutant trap.

Regarding the activation of recreational space. The annual Local Small Community Allocation grants have been used in the past for community upgrades and playground equipment. Council received \$50,000 for an upgrade of Tavistock Reserve in 2023/2024. Council staff will continue to apply for these funds.

The most suitable programs would be the Department of Planning's 'Everyone Can Play' or 'Places to Play' programs. These are targeted at community access to open space and do not need to centre on sporting or playground equipment. These programs have also closed and no announcement made for upcoming funding.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding implications are outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item EO3 Page 4



EO2 REVIEW OF THE RETURN & EARN IN THE STRATHFIELD TOWN CENTRE

AUTHOR: Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering & Operations

APPROVER: Michael Mamo, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council continues to support Return & Earn as an initiative to encourage the recycling of bottles and cans and to reduce waste going to landfill.
- 2. Council terminates the current Licence for the Return and Earn at the Strathfield Town Centre car park.
- 3. Council approach Strathfield Plaza management, to request they host a Return & Earn facility in their car park as the first preference.
- 4. Council hosts a Return & Earn facility in the Coronation Parade car park (behind the Enfield Hall) should the facility at Strathfield Plaza not proceed.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

At the Council Meeting of 23 July 2024, Council resolved:

"169/24

RESOLVED ON THE NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEW BLACKMORE Moved by: (Blackmore / Cai)

That Council report at the October Ordinary Meeting:

- 1. Revenue Council receives in relation to leasing or licensing parking spaces in the Strathfield Town Centre to the Return & Earn over the course of its existence.
- 2. Estimated costs incurred by Council for cleaning and maintenance of the vicinity surrounding the return & earn in Strathfield Town Centre.
- 3. Estimated return that the car spaces could generate from paid parking.
- 4. A copy of the licence or lease and any Council resolution approving this licence or lease."

The purpose of this report is to address the Council resolution.

REPORT

The purpose of the Return & Earn facility is to encourage the recycling of bottles and cans and to reduce waste going to landfill. It is understood that the Return & Earn facility at the Strathfield Town Centre was installed around 6 March 2018. The exact installation date is unclear.

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Revenue from Return & Earn

The revenue received from hosting the Return & Earn facility is contained within the confidential attachment.

Cleaning and Maintenance

The area around the Return & Earn facility is cleaned first thing in the morning 7 days per week and 3-4 additional times per day until 6.00pm. It takes approximately one hour per cleaning session which includes rubbish removal for disposal. The estimated cost for cleaning and maintenance in this area is \$54,000 per annum. Refer to photos below of the area.













Paid Parking

The Return & Earn facility currently takes up four parking spaces. At the Council Meeting held on the 1 August 2023 it was resolved to install paid parking in the Strathfield Town Centre car park along with several other locations. At the same time, it is proposed to provide the residents with 2 Hours free parking in the metered parking areas. The parking meters have not yet been installed, whilst the resident scheme is being created, so the likely revenue from the four spaces is not currently known.

The parking restrictions are currently 1 Hour Parking 7am to 6pm and 2 Hour Parking 6pm to 7am. Assuming a conservative *paid* occupancy rate (i.e. excluding residents who park for free) of 40% during the day and 30% from 6pm to 10pm, these four parking spaces would earn approximately \$27,000 per annum.

Licence

The initial Licence commenced from 3 March 2018 and expired on 30 January 2023. Council's current Licence expires on 30 January 2027. The Licence allows for Early Termination at any time with six months' written notice.

A copy of the Licence and extension is attached to the report.

Council Resolution

Previous Council resolutions in relation to Return & Earn are below.

At the Council Meeting of 6 March 2018, Council resolved:

"33/18 RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Kokkolis)

That:

- 1. A report be provided to the April Ordinary Council meeting in relation to:
 - a) Strathfield Council providing quarterly Drop Off Point/s for large cardboard boxes and soft recyclable plastic packaging.
 - b) The feasibility placing the cardboard recycling and packaging drop off and EPA Chemical Clean Out Day on the waste calendar.
- 2. The report should include but not limited to suitable locations, benefits to the community, any rebates/grants council can receive and what discount on our recycling waste charges council will get if any due to the introduction of the return and earn scheme."

At the Council meeting of 10 April 2018, Council resolved:

"82/18 RESOL VED: (Blackmore / Duggan)



That Council conduct community consultation on Ford Park and the Hudson Park car park being used as drop off points for large cardboard boxes and soft recyclable plastic packaging."

At the Council Meeting of 3 July 2018, Council resolved:

"131/18 RESOL VED: (Vaccari)

That Council write to the Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Gabrielle Upton to;

- 1. Congratulate her on the overwhelming success of the Return and Earn Scheme, which has so far collected more than 460mil drink containers from 632 collection points across NSW since its introduction on 1 December 2017:
- 2. Thank her for installing a two-bay Return and Earn collection station at Strathfield Town Centre, which processes on average more than 120,000 containers each week, and
- 3. Request her to introduce legislation as a matter of urgency banning single-use plastic shopping bags in all NSW retail businesses.
- 4. That this matter be discussed at the next Councillor workshop."

At the Council Meeting of 7 August 2018, Council resolved:

"165/18 RESOL VED: (Vaccari)

That Council write to the Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Gabrielle Upton to:

- 1. Congratulate her on the overwhelming success of the Return and Earn Scheme, which has so far collected more than 460 million drink containers from 632 collection points across NSW since its introduction on 1 December 2017;
- 2. Thank the Minister for installing a two-bay Return and Earn collection station at Strathfield Town Centre, which processes on average more than 120,000 containers each week; and
- 3. Request the Minister to introduce legislation as a matter of urgency banning single-use plastic shopping bags in all NSW retail businesses. Further that the government legislate a compulsory charge of 50 cents per 'reusable bag' retailers might wish to distribute."

No specific Council resolutions were found in relation to a lease or licence for the Return & Earn facility at the Strathfield Town Centre.

Alternative Locations

It is noted that there are other existing Return & Earn facilities nearby at the following locations:

- Sydney Markets (private property)
- 173 Concord Road, North Strathfield
- 197 Burwood Road, Burwood



46 Hampton Street, Croydon Park (Magpie Sports Club)

The current Return & Earn facility is located within the heart of the Strathfield Town Centre. Council is pursuing an exciting new vision for the future of the Strathfield Town Centre and Council is currently in the process of developing a Masterplan in consultation with the community. Council is trying to identify and prioritise public realm and placemaking opportunities in this area. The current Return & Earn facility at this location, including the waste it attracts to its surrounds, detracts from that objective.

The purpose of the Return & Earn facility is to encourage the recycling of bottles and cans and to reduce waste going to landfill. Given this objective, a Return and Earn facility is important. However, the current facility within the Strathfield Town Centre needs to be located elsewhere.

Council staff have investigated possible alternative locations, and these are discussed in the table below:

Location	Pros	Cons
Strathfield Plaza (private car park) Homebush West car park	 Close to the existing Return & Earn facility Close to retail outlets It would not be located on public land Close to retail outlets 	Council staff would need to negotiate with the Strathfield Plaza management, who may not support a Return & Earn in their car park A Pature & Fore was proviously. A Pature & Fore was proviously. A Pature & Fore was proviously. A Pature & Fore was proviously.
Fioriebusii west car park	Close to retail outlets	A Return & Earn was previously located in this car park and was removed for reasons unknown
Dan Murphys' car park	 Customers to Dan Murphys are generating drink containers. They could return drink containers prior to shopping at the store The demand for parking at this location is lower (with the exception of the pre-Christmas sales) 	 Council currently leases this car park to Dan Murphys. The lease would have to be renegotiated This car park is not located near a train station (although there are bus services)
Coronation Parade car park (behind the Enfield Hall). It is noted that some of the parking spaces in this car park are allocated to the Lessee at Enfield Hall (but not all)	 Close to Dan Murphys. Customers to Dan Murphys are generating drink containers. They could return drink containers prior to shopping at the store The demand for parking at this location is lower (with the exception of the pre-Christmas sales) 	This car park is not located near a train station (although there are bus services)
Crossways car park	Close to the Cross Ways HotelThe demand for parking at this location is lower	This is a less busy retail area



Review of the Return & Earn in the Strathfield Town Centre (Cont'd)

Location	Pros	Cons
Hudson Park car park	The demand for parking at this location is lower	This car park is not located near public transport services. There is limited passive surveillance at times
2A Fraser Street car park	The demand for parking at this location is lower	This would potentially conflict with the primary use of this property, which is a leased childcare centre
DFO, at Underwood Road (private car park)	It would not be located on public land	 Geographically close to the existing facility at Sydney Markets Council staff would need to negotiate with the DFO, who may not support a Return & Earn in their car park
Mason Park car park	 The demand for parking at this location is lower during the week People attending sport at Mason and Bressington Parks could make use of the facility 	 Geographically close to the existing facility at Sydney Markets This car park is not located near public transport services. There is limited passive surveillance at times

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications are outlined in the report and the confidential attachments.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Attachment 1 Strathfield Municipal Council Signed Licence Return & Earn *UNDER SEPARATE*CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT for the information of Councillors Circulated in Attachments document
- 2. Attachment 2 Strathfield Municipal Council Licence Extension Return & Earn *UNDER SEPERATECONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT for the information of Councillors Circulated in Attachments document*



12.1 REPORT FROM MULTICULTURAL AND DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

ON 7 AUGUST 2024

AUTHOR: Bharvi Bhatt-Burgess, Community Development Coordinator

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting held on 7 August 2024 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS

1.1 Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee 7 August 2024 - Minutes

Item 12.1 Page 510

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

MULTICULTURAL AND DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

7 August 2024

4:30pm

Ironbark Room, Strathfield Council

65-67 Rochester Street, Homebush





Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee - 7 August 2024

MINUTES

Minutes of the Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee of Strathfield Municipal Council held on Date at Ironbark Room, Strathfield Library, 65-67 Rochester Street, Homebush.

COMMENCING: 4:46pm

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Benjamin Cai (Chairperson)

Councillor Sandhya Reddy

MEMBERS: Em Joo Shin, Community Representative

Dinesh Garg, Community Representative Vaasantha , Community Representative Robin Hu, Community Representative

Raffaele D' Angelo Community Representative

VISITORS: Jack Britton, Acting Library & Community Services

Cathy Jones, Chief Strategy Officer

Bharvi Bhatt-Burgess, Community Development Coordinator (Minutes)

1. APOLOGIES

Joseph Premnath, Community Representative

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST - PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIRARY

Nil.

3. CONFIRMATION OF RECORD OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Cr. Sandy Reddy / Raffaele D' Angelo)

That the Record of Previous Meeting held on 8 May 2024, be taken as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Voting was unanimous.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

5. MULTICULTURAL SURVEY POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Cathy Jones presented to the group, the survey results from the ongoing Multicultural Survey specifically designed for CALD community living in the Strathfield area.

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Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee - 7 August 2024

MINUTES

6. MULTICULTURAL AND DIVERSITY ITEMS FOR UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

The Committee was made aware of the Burwood-Strathfield Multicultural Network and monthly Community Information Hub held in Burwood and Strathfield area, next month the information hub is scheduled in Dutton Centre on Monday 9 September 2024.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHAIR PRIOR TO THE MEETING AND APPROVED FOR CONSIDERATION

It was recommended that an Information Electronic Board should be available for the community in a public place e.g. Strathfield square where anyone can access information from the display screen.

Recommendation for creating indoor services or appropriate shelter in the park for those who regularly exercise and visit the park for recreation purposes.

Cr Cai thanked Bharvi Bhatt-Burgess, Jack Britton and Cathy Jones for their contribution towards the committee and concluded with a note that this was the final meeting and next meeting will be held after elections.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To Be Confirmed

9. **MEETING CLOSED:** 5:47pm

Item 12.1 - Attachment 1 Page 513

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12.2 REPORT FROM TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING ON 20 AUGUST 2024

AUTHOR: John Inglese, Traffic Engineer

APPROVER: Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering and Operations

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 20 August 2024 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS

1.1 Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes - 20 August 2024

Item 12.2 Page 514

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 20 August 2024

11am - 12:30pm

Main Building Meeting Room

65 Homebush Road, Strathfield



STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024

MINUTES

Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 20 August 2024, in the Main Building Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

COMMENCING: 11:05AM

PRESENT:

Raymond Yeung Auburn Traffic Police Daniel Yip Transport for NSW

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr John Inglese (Acting Chair)

Senior Traffic and Transport Engineer Strathfield Council

Mr Jack Griffiths

Senior Traffic and Transport Engineer, Strathfield Council

Mr Chris Johnson Road Safety Officer Strathfield Council

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

John Inglese opened and welcomed attendees

2. APOLOGIES

Karen Pensabene Mayor and Chairperson

Karin Gaylard Representative of the Member for Strathfield

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED RAYMOND YEUNG - AUBURN TRAFFIC POLICE
SECONDED JOHN INGLESE - ON BEHALF OF KAREN PESEBENE

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting meeting held on 16 July 2024, 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

Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



MINUTES

6. REPORTS

6.1 Pomeroy Street, Homebush – Extended Time Limit of 'No Parking'

PURPOSE

To propose an extension of time of the 'No Parking' restriction on the south side of Pomeroy Street east of Underwood Road to account for school traffic peak times.

BACKGROUND

Council received representations requesting an extension of the 'No Parking' times of effect on the south side of Pomeroy Street east of Underwood Road due to the existing restrictions not accounting for afternoon school peak times. Afternoon school peak times begin from approximately 2:30PM while the parking restriction comes into effect from 3:30PM. As a result of these time differences, a combination of vehicles waiting to turn right and parked vehicles prevents vehicles continuing through or turning left from doing so, causing congestion.

Existing times of effect of the parking restriction during the morning account for school peak times. The existing restrictions are shown in Figure 1.

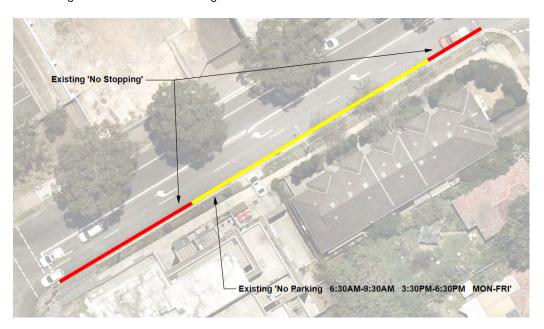


Figure 1 – existing parking restrictions on the south side of Pomeroy Street east of Underwood Road

Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



MINUTES

PROPOSAL

It is proposed to extend the afternoon hours of effect of the 'No Parking' restriction to begin at 2:30PM (and still operate until 6:30PM). In extending the hours of restriction, it is expected that this will account for afternoon school traffic and reduce congestion on Pomeroy Street.

No additional changes to surrounding parking restrictions are proposed.

CONSULTATION

As the proposed changes will only affect approximately 7 on-street parking spaces and significantly benefit traffic flow in the immediate and wider areas, it is proposed to only notify surrounding residents of the change.

A letterbox drop will be conducted for all residences/businesses with frontage to the affected parking area.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the conversion of the 'No Parking' restriction on the south side of Pomeroy Street east of Underwood Road from 'No Parking' 6:30AM-9:30AM 3:30PM-6:30PM Mon-Fri to 'No Parking' 6:30AM-9:30AM 2:30PM-6:30PM Mon-Fri as outlined in this report.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

Page 4

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



MINUTES

7. SPECIAL EVENTS

7.1 Tongan Day Festival – 9 November 2024 at Bressington and Mason Park.

INTRODUCTION

Council has received an application from organisers of the Tongan Day Festival to hold an Event in Bressington and Mason Park on the 9 November 2024. This will be an all-day event. The event Hours are as follows; Bump In 5am-8am, Event 8am – 5pm Bump Out 6pm-8pm.

BACKGROUND

Details of the even are at follows

Activity/Event	Tonga Day Festival	
Location	Mason Park, Homebush	
Applicant	Tonga Day Sydney	
Event Date(s)	Saturday, 9th November 2024	
Event Hours	Hours Bump In 5am-8am	
	Event 8am – 5pm	
	Bump Out 6pm-8pm	

Tonga Day Sydney® propose to occupy Manson Park on 9 November 2024 for the Tonga Day Festival. The below points are to provide further information on the event schedule and process:

- Vehicles associated with bump in/out will access/egress the area via Underwood Road through to the carpark.
- The below table outlines the estimated number of participants throughout the day.

Time Period	Peak Number of Participants
5am-6am (Setup)	10-20
6am-7am (Setup)	20-40
7am-8am (Setup)	40-50
8am-9am	100-500
9am-10am	500-750
10am-11am	600-800
11am-12pm	800-1000
12pm-1pm (Peak)	1000-1250
1pm-2pm (Peak)	1500-2000
2pm-3pm (Peak)	1500-2000
3pm-4pm	1500-2000
4pm-5pm	1000-1250
5pm-6pm	500-800
6pm-7pm (Pack-up)	100-500 + 40-50
7pm-8pm (Pack-up)	40-50

Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



MINUTES

Traffic management will be provided for the event as follows:

Removal of Parking (Night Before):

 Traffic Controllers will remove parking along the East side of the carpark off Underwood Road to the staging of bump-in/bump-out, emergency vehicles and disabled parking. Removal of parking will take place from Friday 5pm.



Bump In/Bump Out:

- During bump in/out vehicles will park in the designated loading/unloading zone and manually move materials to their designated area.
- Traffic Controllers will ensure that vehicles arrive in their designated time slot and leave promptly at the conclusion of their time slot.
- No queuing of vehicles is to occur on Underwood Road, vehicles will be turned away if they arrive
 outside their time slot.

Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



MINUTES

Traffic Flow:

- Participants will be notified prior to the event via email/flyers about the parking availability. These will be within the 3 public carparks (Mason Park carpark 145 spots, Bressington Park carpark as overflow 110 available spots and Secure Parking at P3 Olympic Park.
 - TMP Mason Park, Homebush | Roadside Traffic Management 3
- Participants will be encouraged to utilise public transport or carpool where possible.

Monitoring:

- Traffic controllers and safety vehicles will all be equipped with 2-way radios.
- Traffic controllers will periodically check Underwood Road to ensure no major queuing or illegal parking.

Carparks:

Event parking will be monitored as follows: Mason Park carpark to be filled from the Northern end to the Southern end with 3 spots reserved for emergency vehicles and 5 spots reserved for disabled parking in the middle sections. Once filled traffic controllers will close of the carpark and place signage prior to Bressington Park carpark advising drivers to use Bressington Park carpark.

Bressington Park carpark Western end to be cordoned off and reserved for the public who wish to use the dog park (52 spots). Spots to be filled in a clockwise direction and signage to be placed on Underwood Road once the reserved 110 spots have been filled. Signage to advise drivers that there is no more event parking within either Bressington Park or Mason Park and to use parking facilities at the Secure Parking P3 – Sydney Olympic Park. Shuttle bus to be organised to run between the carpark and Mason Park to assist event participants and reduce movements on public roads.

Local Roads:

Traffic Controllers will also monitor queuing on Underwood Road to ensure queuing occurs as a result of
the event. Event signage will be used to direct drivers to carparks and pedestrians to the venue entry
points.

Pedestrians:

Pedestrians will be instructed to use the footpaths only.

Venue Workers:

- Venue Workers will be provided with a timetable and site map indicating their time slot to arrive to setup/pack-up.
- The traffic controller at the entry point will also hold a site map and guide Venue Workers to their location.

All measures will be in place for the duration of the works and are precautionary safety measures for the unlikely chance of incident.

A Traffic Guidance Scheme (TGS) has been developed to ameliorate conditions whilst the works is taking place. Short delays to motorists on the affected road are possible.

Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



MINUTES

Measures to ameliorate the impact of re-assigned traffic.

Traffic Controllers will carry 2-way radios to ensure communication can be maintained between the traffic controllers. Public access will be maintained for the duration of the works and car spaces will be specifically reserved for the public. TMP – Mason Park, Homebush | Roadside Traffic Management 4.

Assessment of public transport services effected.

Public Transport on Underwood Road may experience short delays once carparks are at capacity and drivers are diverted to overflow carparks.

Details of provision made for emergency vehicle, heavy vehicles, cyclist and pedestrians,

All emergency services will have been notified of the day of activities prior to the event commencing to ensure prompt action in the case of an emergency situation. In the event that an emergency vehicle requires access, traffic controllers will assist access and communicate with traffic controllers to ensure a clear and direct path is established for emergency vehicles. Short delays are expected for motorists as they navigate around the event.

Public Consultation Process

To provide early notification to the public a letter box drop will be carried out 1 week prior to the works. VMS will be placed either side of Mason Park advising of the event 1 week out advising the date and time of the event and that carparks will be utilised for the event and to expect delays.

Consultation

Letter to Residents:

Roadside Traffic Management

Event at Mason Park on Saturday, 9th November 2024

There will be changed traffic conditions on Underwood Road outside Mason Park on Saturday, **9 November** 5am – 8pm. For the duration the park will be closed for the Tonga Day Festival. Backup dates for this event will be 16/11, 23/11, 30/11. We ask that you please ensure 1 day prior no vehicles/trailers be left in these areas to allow our event to run smoothly and quickly to minimise local disruption.

We apologise for any inconveniences caused throughout the event and plan to minimise disruption to local residents/traffic. To help minimise and/or eliminate such disturbances during the event, traffic controllers will be in attendance to help guide vehicles and pedestrians around the event area as seen in the below Traffic Guidance Scheme. We will also be maintaining resident access for the duration of the event.

For any concerns on the days of the event or to find out further details please contact Dwayne Perera on 0400 350 182.

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



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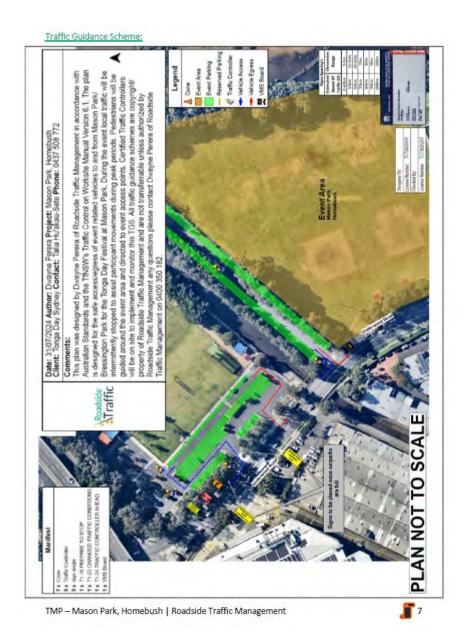
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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



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As this event is contained wholly within the Boundary of Bressington and Mason Park this is a Class 3 Event.

In addition Council has advised the organisers that they can also request assistance from the Auburn Local Area Command under a User Pays System for additional Traffic Control. Ultimately this would be up to the organisers to decide.

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STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

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At the meeting it was determined that the event organisers will need to engage the Police under a user pays arrangement and that 4 Police would be required from 8:00AM to 6:00PM

Also TfNSW requested that Council inform the Transport Management Centre of the Class 3 Event.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Traffic Committee receive and note the report.
- 2. That Transport for NSW note this is a Class 4 Event
- 3. That the applicant must engage the police under a User Pays Arrangement for additional traffic management and that 4 Police would be required from 8:00AM to 6:00PM
- 4. That a Schedule 1 Form must be completed by the applicant as part of the application.
- 5. That Council advise the Transport Management Centre of this Class 4 event.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



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7.2 Henley Road, Homebush West – Moon Festival

PURPOSE

To inform the Local Traffic Committee of the intention for Council to host the 2024 Moon Festival in Homebush West.

BACKGROUND

Council intends to host the inaugural Moon Festival in Homebush West on Saturday 28 September 2024, where the Festival will involve a night of live music, cultural entertainment and a chance for the community to enjoy local delicacies under the stars.

The event will be held in Henley Road between Exeter Road and The Crescent to maximise potential business for local shops and to utilise connections to surrounding bus and train public transport.

The event area is shown below in Figure 1.

Sit Karphaga
Vinayakar Temple

St Dominic's
Catholic Church

Australia Post
Homebush West
Vietnamese 1.3

Australia Post
Homebush West LPO
Recently vietnamese 1.3

Saint Sava Serbian
Orthodox Church

Figure 1 - Moon Festival event area

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PROPOSAL

To facilitate the event, Henley Road will be closed between Exeter Road and The Crescent from 10AM to midnight on Saturday 28 September. However, local traffic (residents with frontage to Henley Road) will be able to enter and exit Henley Road via Exeter Road under supervision of traffic controllers. Further, to prevent vehicles accessing Henley Road from the Exeter Road car park, the car park laneway will be closed. The closures and accessible area of Henley Road are shown in Figures 2 and 3, respectively.

As Henley Road is a bus route for northbound/eastbound buses, bus services will be diverted for the duration of the road closure via Exeter Road and Hampstead Road. To facilitate simultaneous 2-way bus movements on Exeter Road between Henley Road and Hampstead Road, the southern parking lane will be converted to 'No Parking' for the day as this section of Exeter Road is quite narrow. Also, as the bus stop outside Flemington Station will be closed for the duration of the diverted bus routes, a temporary 'Bus Zone' is being implemented on the west side of Hampstead Road south of The Crescent to act in place of the regular stop.

The 'No Parking' and 'Bus Zone' restrictions are shown in Figures 3 and 4, respectively.

All other roads in the surrounding area are unaffected, where all other roads are 2-way and have on-street parking to facilitate private vehicle access to the event. Public transport will be promoted for those accessing the event.

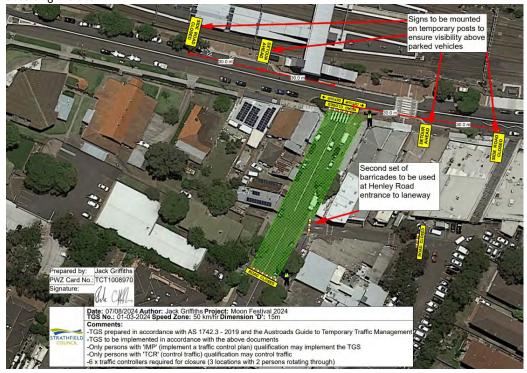


Figure 2 - closure of Henley Road

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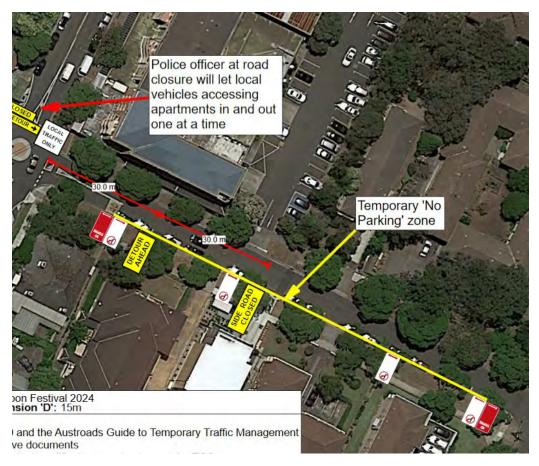


Figure 3 – accessible area of Henley Road and 'No Parking' restriction on Exeter Road

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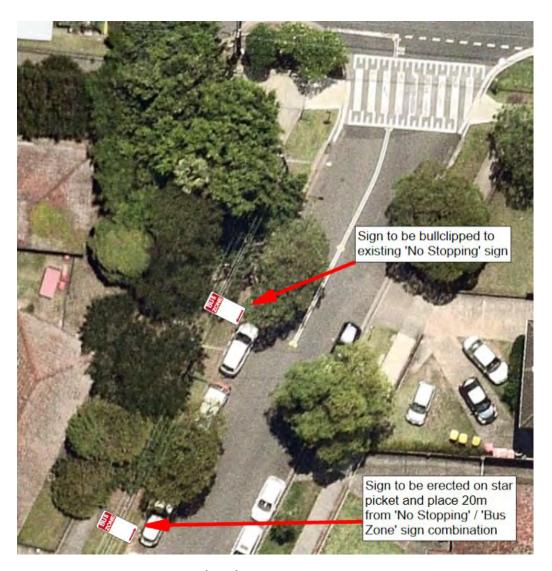


Figure 4 – 'Bus Zone' on Hampstead Road

CONSULTATION

The event and related changes to traffic and parking will be advertised via all of Council's media sources (social media, newsletter, website).

A letterbox drop will be conducted for all residences/businesses bounded by the roads shown in Figure 5.

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Figure 5 – letterbox drop area

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council approve the closure of Henley Road on Saturday 28 September to facilitate the 2024 Moon Festival.
- 2. That the Traffic Management Plan for the event be provided to Transport for NSW for their concurrence.
- 3. That Transport for NSW note this is a Class 2 event.
- 4. That organisers keep all pedestrians within the confines of the event.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

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8. ROAD SAFETY

8.1 ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS REPORT – AUGUST 2024

Report prepared by Road Safety Officer

Issues

There are seven major Road Safety Projects for the 23/24 Year,

1) Senior Drivers with a focus on driving in School Zones and refreshing driving skills workshops 6x per year. BOOKINGS.

- Year to date, 48 Attended. Last workshop 10 July
- Next workshop Seniors Week lead up double 21 August 2024

Impact

- Reduce Strathfield's crash rate with people aged 60+.
- Better preparation Senior Drivers and promote skills refresh lessons as a positive experience.

2) Teaching Learner Drivers helping parent's tech their children to drive workshops 4x per year

Workshop held with Burwood, Inner West and Canada Bay in September 24, February and April 25

BOOKINGS.

- 90% Involvement from Schools
- Over 28 attendees so far for 20th March Workshop.

Impact

- Continuation of Strathfield's low crash rate with persons aged 17-24.
- Better preparation for learner drivers with a positive experience.
- 3) Drink Driving with a focus on activations and working with Local Liquor Accord.

Projects: Working with Burwood Liquor Accord next meeting in August 24 Promotions of new "Just Don't" campaigns from Liquor and Gaming NSW.

4) Safety Around Schools, continuing our only project and environmental upgrades.

Projects:

Working with Schools Crossing Supervisors program to better coordinate crossing programs. Promotions of Road Safety Schools area Schools' Crossing Audits 23/24 year.
Schools' orientation programs in the 1st term

5) Pedestrian Safety, with a focus on education and hot spot targeting in shopping areas.

Projects: New stencils program in HPAA across Strathfield, Homebush and Homebush West

6) Occupant Restraints, continuing our current program of 11 workshops per year. Currently Council runs 11 child restraint checking day per year servicing on average 14 seat installations. We will be aiming for a productivity increase to 20 seats per session.

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BOOKINGS.

- Vehicles Checked 23/24 as of December 2023 348
- Next Checking Day 13 August 2024 is fully booked.

Impact

- Positive promotions and feedback across mothers' groups and social media
- Driver education for each vehicle checked.
- Seatbelt related injuries 2021 have decreased to less than 0.3% of accidents.

7) Senior Pedestrians, continuing our current program of 6 workshops for 23/24 year.

Projects: New stencils program in HPAA across Strathfield, Homebush and Homebush West

BOOKINGS.

- Next workshop Seniors Week lead up double in August 2024
- 3 More workshops being held at the Strathfield Community Centre

Road Safety News of interest to the Community

Line marking improves road safety and reduces accidents by 35% in urban areas – The traffic team have been implementing line marking upgrades across the LGA. By providing clear guidance to drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists, line markings contribute significantly to improved traffic flow and reduced accidents, by,

- Enhancing visibility and clarity
- Defining traffic patterns
- Creating safe pedestrian zones
- Improving Parking Management

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 AUGUST 2024



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RECOMMENDATION

That the Road Safety Officer Report be received and noted.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

Meeting Closed: 11:40AM

Next Meeting: 17 September 2024

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12.3 REPORT FROM TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

AUTHOR: John Inglese, Traffic Engineer

APPROVER: Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering and Operations

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 17 September 2024 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS

1.1. Traffic Committee Minutes - 17 September 2024

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STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 17 September 2024

11am -12:30pm

Main Building Meeting Room

65 Homebush Road, Strathfield



STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

MINUTES

Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 17 September 2024, in the Main Building Meeting Room, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

COMMENCING: 11:00AM

PRESENT: Andy Huynh Transport for NSW

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr John Inglese Senior Traffic and Transport Engineer, Strathfield Council
Mr Jack Griffiths Traffic and Transport Engineer, Strathfield Council
Mr Chris Johnson Road Safety Officer Strathfield Council

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

John Inglese (acting Chair) opened the meeting

2. APOLOGIES

Karin Gaylard Representative of the Member for Strathfield Raymond Yeung Auburn Traffic Police

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED DANIEL YIP - TRANSPORT FOR NSW SECONDED JOHN INGLESE – STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting meeting held on 20 August 2024, 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

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 17 SEPTEMBER 2024



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6. REPORTS

6.1 Barker Road / Chalmers Road / Redmyre Road, Strathfield – New Roundabout and Extension of Median

Purpose

To provide a detailed concept design for a new roundabout at the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road and an extension of the planted median on Redmyre Road around the corner of Redmyre Road and Chalmers Road.

Background

At the 2024 June Local Traffic Committee meeting, a preliminary concept design for a roundabout at the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road was presented (Figure 1) following several reports of crashes at this intersection and observed turning movement difficulties during peak hours.



Figure 1 – preliminary concept design of roundabout at the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road

Transport for NSW raised concerns with the design as below due to the significant number of west-east movements during peak hour, where vehicles on Barker Road turn left onto Chalmers Road and right onto Elwin Street:

While TfNSW does not object to the item, we do raise concerns with the proposed configuration of the roundabout. Currently, it appears that there is sufficient carriageway width for NB vehicles to queue for the RT manoeuvre and vehicles to pass through the kerbside. Since there is a predominant dog leg movement at this intersection, the proposal may exacerbate queueing when a motorist performs the 1-5 movement or attempts to turn right onto Elwin Street with the constricted lane width. Motorists may also experience difficulties exiting Elwin Street due to the location of the entry point.

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Transport for NSW recommended that alternative designs like a peanut roundabout be considered, however Council was not supportive of this due to peak hour movement difficulties at an existing peanut roundabout and the required turning movements for buses. Alternatively, Transport for NSW recommended that the intersection of Elwin Street and Chalmers Road become left-in left-out by implementing a median on Chalmers Road, however Council was also not supportive of this due to the adverse effects caused by displace traffic.

Separately to the roundabout, Council has received representation regarding safety concerns at the bend on Redmyre Road and Chalmers Road, where it is reported that vehicles speed around this bend and there have been several crashes as a result.

Council had traffic speed and volume surveys conducted on the Redmyre Road and Chalmers Road approaches to the bend which revealed an 85th percentile speed of 50.2 km/hr and 44.6 km/hr, respectively. While vehicle speeds are consistent with the posted speed limit, Council are proposing to extend the existing median on Redmyre Road around to Chalmers Road for improved safety on the bend and for consistency of street design.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 18 June 2024, 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.

With the minor change to the recommendation for item 6.1 Barker Road / Chalmers Road / Redmyre Road, Strathfield – New Roundabout and Extension of Median

- 1. That Council staff prepare detailed design options for a roundabout at the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road which also includes the extension of the existing landscaped median so that it extends into the bend between Redmyre Road and Chalmers Road, and that this design be brought back to a future Traffic Committee meeting for consideration.
- 2. Further that the residents that raised this request with Council be notified on this outcome.

Proposal

In regard to the intersection of Redmyre Road and Chalmers Road, it is proposed to extend the planted median on Redmyre Road around the bend to Chalmers Road, where the median is to match that on Redmyre Road and taper down to 0.3m width on Chalmers Road as shown in Figure 2.

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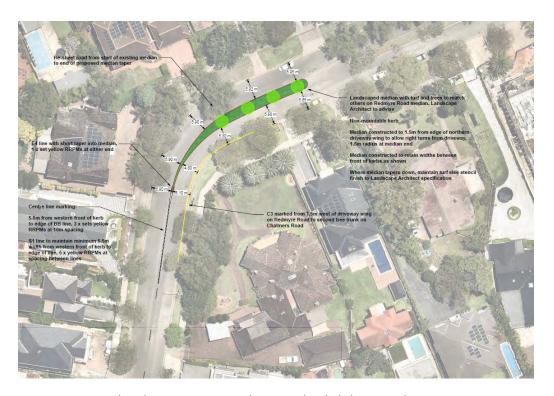


Figure 2 – proposed median extension on Redmyre Road and Chalmers Road

The median extension provides a break between the end of the proposed and existing medians to allow for U-turns of vehicles and access to and from the driveways on the north and south sides of the road at the median break.

The median retains a minimum 5.8m northbound/eastbound travel lane, allowing for parking of vehicles on the outside of the bend as is common practice. The outside of the bend is also wider due to lower vehicle speeds on the Chalmers Road approach to the bend. The inside of the median narrows to approximately 4.8m to slow vehicles on the inside of the bend, noting a higher approach speed for westbound/southbound movements. While this formally removes parking (as indicated by the yellow 'No Stopping' line marking), vehicles currently rarely park in this area.

In regard to the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road, as per Council's original proposal (and as per the recommendations of the 2009 Local Area Traffic Management Study), a single roundabout has been proposed as shown in Figure 3.

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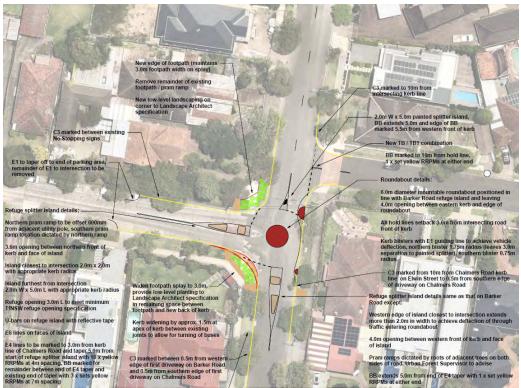


Figure 3 – proposed roundabout at the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road

The 6m diameter roundabout paired with 2 kerb blisters on the east side of the road achieves suitable deflection of through vehicles to reduce circulating vehicle speeds to 25-30 km/hr as per Austroads guidelines for roundabouts on local urban roads.

The existing refuge island on Barker Road is to be demolished and reconstructed further into Barker Road to provide a minimum 2.0m x 3.0m opening as per TfNSW standards, requiring realignment of the pram ramps on either side of the refuge island. Low-level planting will be provided on these corners to direct pedestrians to cross at the pram ramp openings.

A new refuge island is proposed on Chalmers Road to assist in east-west pedestrian movements, where the final location of this will be dictated by the pram ramps and their locations to minimise impact on the roots of the adjacent trees.

Both refuge islands are designed and located to allow for turning movements of buses between Barker Road and Chalmers Road south of Barker Road, noting that swept paths have been tested at a 15m turning radius for 15 km/hr speeds as per bus design guidelines. It should be noted that kerb widening of approximately 1.5m is proposed on the southwest corner of the intersection to accommodate bus turning movements from Chalmers Road into Barker Road.

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Regarding the northern leg of the intersection, it is proposed to utilise a painted median with appropriately located BB centre lines to address the concerns of Transport for NSW. This section of road is approximately 11.1m between kerbs with the existing road informally (not defined by line marking) providing 5.55m wide northbound and southbound lanes. This allows for a vehicle on Chalmers Road waiting to turn right into Elwin Street to stand near the middle of the road in the northbound lane such that a vehicle behind wanting to continue straight can veer to the kerbside of the northbound lane to pass the waiting vehicle, hence reducing queuing at this intersection.

The painted median and BB centre marking is located such that the 5.55m width from the front of the western kerb to the edge of the BB line marking is maintained, hence continuing to provide an informal passing opportunity for through vehicles. It is noted that this reduces the width of the southbound lane, but as there are no vehicles parked here or vehicles needing to pass due to the proposed roundabout, this is acceptable. It is further noted that as there is no formal pedestrian crossing point here and as the proposed refuge island on the south leg of the intersection provides a pedestrian crossing point, no assisted pedestrian crossing point is proposed here.

With the above in mind, Council prefers that the current proposal be implemented. In implementing the proposed single roundabout, traffic conditions at the intersection can be monitored and additional treatments implemented should the roundabout exacerbate traffic conditions. Due to the unique environment of the intersection, an iterative approach is recommended such that too much infrastructure is not implemented at once and hazards to road users are created.

As the existing bus stop on the west side of Chalmers Road south of Barker Road is close to the proposed roundabout such that northbound through vehicles would need to encroach into the southbound travel lane to avoid a stopped bus, it is further proposed to relocate the bus stop as per Figure 4.

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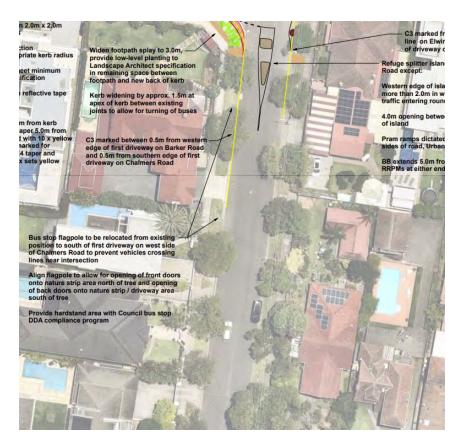


Figure 4 – signage plan for the relocated bus stop

It is proposed to relocate the existing bus stop approximately 25m to the south on Chalmers Road such that a stopped bus remains clear of the proposed line marking and refuge island, allowing through vehicles to safely approach and enter the intersection. With the stop relocation, a hardstand area will be provided for the bus stop in line with Council's accessible bus stop upgrade program.

It should be noted that while the stop relocation maintains less than a 400m separation to the downstream bus stop as per bus design guidelines, the relocation benefits separation to the upstream stop. Currently, the upstream stop is approximately 460m away, thus exceeding bus design guidelines. The stop relocation, although not achieving the required 400m separation, brings the separation closer to the required 400m. Request for concurrence of the stop relocation with the benefit outlined has been sent to local bus operators.

A signage plan of the proposal is provided in Figures 5 and 6.

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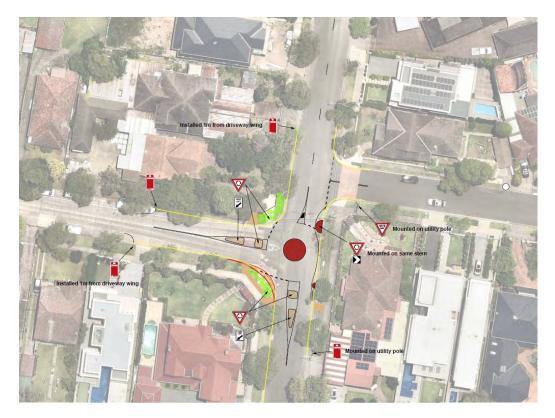


Figure 5 – signage plan at the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 17 SEPTEMBER 2024



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Figure 6 – signage plan for the relocated bus stop

The proposed roundabout results in the loss of 5 parking spaces on Chalmers Road. 2 of these spaces are due to the bus stop relocation, where the other 3 spaces are on the east side of Chalmers Road. Although permitted as parking under existing conditions, these spaces are rarely occupied due to the proximity to the intersection.

Consultation

As the proposal benefits traffic safety in the area, it is proposed that notification only be delivered to all residences below, with feedback on aspects of the design to be received by Council and minor aspects of the design changed if required.

It is proposed to notify all residences on:

- Redmyre Road west of Homebush Road,
- Chalmers Road north of Newton Road,
- Barker Road east of Todman Place, and
- Elwin Street west of Florence Street.

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The notification area is indicated in red in Figure 7.



Figure 7 – proposed notification area.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council approve the extension of the landscaped median on Redmyre Road around to Chalmers Road as per Figure 3.
- 2. That Council approve the installation of a roundabout at the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road as per Figures 3 and 5 pending approval of the bus stop relocation from local bus operators
- 3. That Council officers monitor the intersection of Barker Road and Chalmers Road once the roundabout is installed to determine if further treatments are required to mitigate traffic issues at the roundabout.
- 4. That all residences highlighted in Figure 7 and others outside of this area who raised concerns of the intersection with Council be notified of the roundabout and median implementation.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

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6.2 Roads between Parramatta Road and M4, Homebush – Consultation on Parking Changes

Purpose

To propose parking changes in the industrial area of Homebush and consultation on the extension of Resident Parking Scheme Area 20 in the residential area of Homebush with consideration for businesses provided.

Background

Council has received representation on several parking issues in the area bounded by Parramatta Road to the south and the M4 to the north as outlined below:

- In the industrial area bounded by Flemington Road to the west and Bedford Road to the east (Figure 1): extended parking of semi-truck trailers and prime movers and other freight vehicles that cause sight distance issues at driveways and intersections, parking of heavy vehicles within 90-degree parking spaces, extended parking of vehicles in general.
- In the residential/commercial area bounded by Kanoona Avenue in the west and Powell Street in the east (Figure 2):
 - o Parking of business-related vehicles on roads detracting from available residential parking.
 - o Lack of available parking for business customers causing illegal parking.
 - Note that Powell Street east of Underwood Road previously had consultation conducted for 3-hour parking, where residents advised that 3 hours was not sufficient to allow for residential parking.

These requests have typically included the following:

- Industrial area: introduce parking restrictions to allow for enforcement of extended vehicle parking but that permits all day parking for workers and similar.
- Residential area: implement a Resident Parking Scheme to allow for parking by residential vehicles and short-term parking by visitors and business customers.
- Commercial area: provide short-term parking restrictions to encourage turnover of vehicles for access to businesses note that an item was previously presented to the 2024 April Local Traffic Committee meeting proposing consultation on 2-hour parking on Park Road near Parramatta Road for businesses here. As the subject investigation arose at this time, this consultation as delayed allowing consultation on all parking changes to be conducted concurrently.

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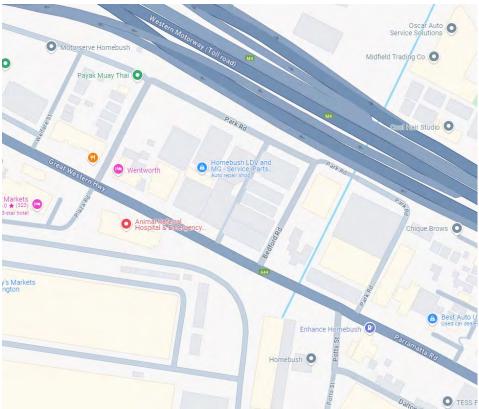


Figure 1 – industrial area of Homebush

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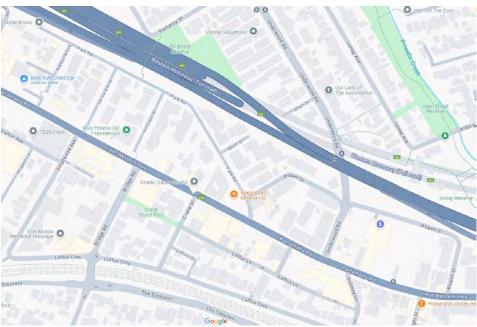


Figure 2 – residential and commercial area of Homebush

Proposal

To assist in each of the above issues, the below measures are proposed:

- 8-hour parking 8am-6pm Monday-Saturday on Bedford Road, Park Road, and Flemington Road (Figure 3): while this will allow for enforcement of extended parking, this provides sufficient time for most, if not all, workers to arrive, work, and leave without needing to move their vehicles as a typical workday is 8 hours. The proposed restrictions provide a 30-minute leeway on either end of this.
- 2-hour parking 8am-6pm Monday-Friday with permit holders excepted on Kanoona Avenue (north of road closure), Derowie Avenue (north of road closure), Hillcrest Street, Short Street, Park Road with frontage to residences, and Powell Street between Park Road and Underwood Road and north of Parramatta Road (red in Figure 4): this allows for unrestricted parking of residential vehicles with permits while still providing 2-hour parking for visitors and business customers. Note that this permit area would be an extension of Area 20 (area between Parramatta Road and Loftus Crescent).
- 4-hour parking 8am-6pm Monday-Friday on Park Road north of Parramatta Road and Powell Street
 east of Park Road (blue in Figure 4): provides required turnover of vehicles for access to nearby
 businesses while providing parking opportunities for workers that requires them to move their cars
 once per day.
- Powell Street east of Underwood Road and Underwood Road north of Parramatta Road to remain unrestricted as no reported parking issues here and to retain some unrestricted parking for residents not able to get permits and local workers.

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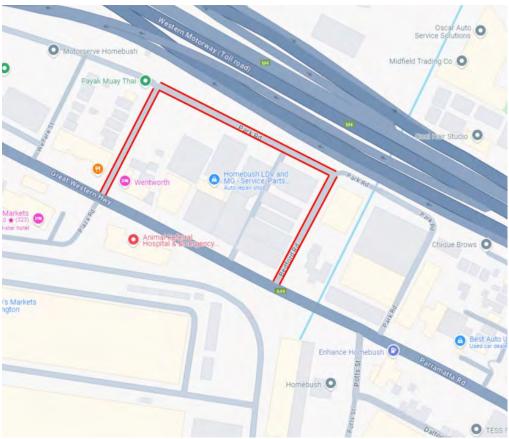


Figure 3 – proposed parking restriction area in the industrial area of Homebush

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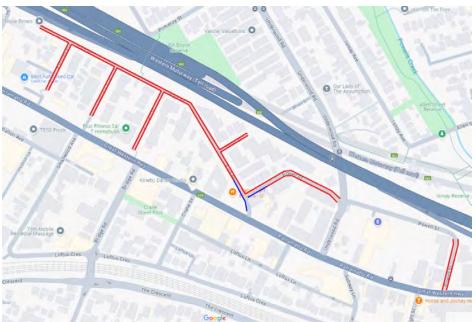


Figure 4 – proposed parking restriction area in the residential and commercial area of Homebush

Consultation

The below consultation/notification is proposed for each area and parking restriction for a period of 28 days:

- Industrial area: notification only to all buildings with frontage to the area as all buildings here are businesses and no long-term parking is required here. Feedback on length of parking restriction times will be received and restrictions will be adjusted as required.
- Residential/commercial area: consultation with all building with frontage to the area on each of the proposed parking restrictions and areas the restrictions apply to, including length of each restriction and time of effect of each restriction. Feedback from residences and businesses will be received to ensure a suitable balance between the needs of the 2 is achieved. Those areas with no parking restrictions being introduced and with frontage to Parramatta Road but within the area will also be consulted for additional feedback. The results of this consultation will be reported back to the next available Local Traffic Committee for a final recommendation on the parking restrictions to be introduced.

RECOMMENDATION

- That Council approve the implementation of '8P 8AM-6PM MON-SAT' parking restrictions in the industrial area of Homebush as per Figure 3 of this report and that all businesses with frontage to the area be notified.
- That Council approve consultation on the implementation of aforementioned parking restrictions in the residential and commercial area of Homebush as per Figure 4 and that the results of this consultation be reported back to a future Local Traffic Committee meeting.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

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TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 17 SEPTEMBER 2024



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6.3 2P Strathfield Select Parking, On-Street Parking Areas Signage Modification Approval.

Background

Pursuant to the Council resolution of 1 August 2023 in relation to the proposed Parking Strategy, Council resolved as follows; *That Council endorse the parking strategies for the Strathfield LGA in accordance with the concepts outlined in this report with residents of the Strathfield LGA being provided with 2 hours free parking per day for all locations in the Strathfield LGA.*

Council has completed the replacement of the of old parking meters in Bressington Park and Mason Park Car Parks. These meters became operational on 22 April 2024.

The parking meters are being rolled out in a staged approach; the 4 Phases are as follows.

PHASE 1

- Install and enforcement of new parking scheme at Bressington and Mason Parks (replace 9 existing meters and install 9 new meters).
- No 2P Strathfield Select Permit system in this phase.
- No changes in the way car park users park and pay.

PHASE 2 - 6 meters

- Strathfield Town Centre Car Park off-street 2 meters to replace current old meters.
- Homebush West Town Centre Car Park off-street 3 meters to replace current old meters.
- Homebush Road Car Park Strathfield South off street -1 meter to replace current old meter.

PHASE 3 - 29 meters

- Hudson Park Car Park, off-street 4 new meters
- Chalmers Road at Strathfield Park, on-street 2 new meters
- Strathfield Town Centre, on-street 4 new meters
- Homebush Town Centre, on-street 11 new meters
- Homebush Car Park, off-street 1 new meter
- Homebush West Town Centre, on-street 7 new meters.

PHASE 4 – 4 meters

- Begnell Park Car Park, off-street – 4 new meters (to be undertaken at the completion of the park upgrade in 2026).

Council Resolved that in order not to penalise the residents of Strathfield, it is proposed to provide residents with 2 hours free parking at the above locations through an on-line permit parking permit portal system which will be known as 2P Strathfield Select Parking Permit System. Please note, Non-residents would pay for parking. It is proposed that the paid parking at the afore mentioned locations would be rolled out once the 2P Strathfield Select Parking Permit Portal System has been set up and promoted to residents.

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This report has been prepared for the Local Traffic Committee Members to give concurrence to changes to the on-street parking signage for the parking areas that will have parking metres subject to the *2P Strathfield Select Parking Permit System*.

STRATHFIELD SELECT PARKING PERMITS

Council is implementing new parking meters in various locations, both off and on-street, across the Strathfield area. Introducing timed parking will increase the turnover, freeing up more parking spaces and ensuring fair access to shops, sportsfields and other community spaces.

To minimise the impact of the parking meters, residents can apply for 2P Strathfield Select Parking Permits which allows up to 2 hours free parking per day (subject to the posted time limit) at designated locations within the Strathfield LGA.

To be eligible for Strathfield Select parking permits, you simply have to live in the Strathfield LGA. You can apply for permits via the permit portal (URL).

HOW DOES THE STRATHFIELD SELECT PARKING PERMIT WORK

Once you have applied for your permit and have been approved, your vehicle registration number will be lodged in Council's digital permit system. No physical permit will be issued.

Once you park your car, you simply enter your registration number in the parking meter, select how long you will be parked for, and if you will be staying longer than 2 hours, tap your card to pay. No physical ticket will be printed.

TIME RESTRICTIONS

Your 2P Strathfield Select Parking Permit allows you 2-hours free parking, but the signed time restrictions still apply. In some places, 3-hour parking is allowed, in which case you will only be charged for 1 hour of parking. In other places, only 1 hour of parking is allowed, so your parking will be free, but you will need to move your car after 1 hour has ended.

The above will apply to some on street parking areas as shown below locations.

- 1. Strathfield Town Centre, on-street 4 meters
- 2. Chalmers Road at Strathfield Park, on-street 2 meters
- 3. Homebush Town Centre, on-street 11 meters Plus Homebush Car Park, off-street 1 meter
- 4. Homebush West Town Centre, on-street 7 meters.

See location plans below.

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Location 1.



Location 2.

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Location 3



Location 3 Cont.'

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Location 4.

Proposal

For the on-street area locations listed above, it is proposed to modify the on-street parking restrictions to include the following wording. Refer signage example. This will allow residents that have applied online and confirmed that they are a resident in the Strathfield LGA that they will be eligible to park up to 2 hours free in the on-street parking meter areas.

See examples of the additional wording i.e. 2P Strathfield Select Parking Permit Holders Excepted that will be added to the parking signs.

See examples of the additional wording i.e. 2P Strathfield Select Parking Permit Holders Excepted that will be added to the parking signs. Alternatively a supplementary plate may be a cost-effective option, this can be added to the exiting parking signs.

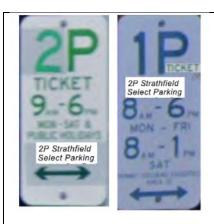
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2P Strathfield Select Parking Permit Holders Excepted

At the meeting discussion took place regarding the standard parking signage wording required based on the TfNSW Parking Guidelines as follows: Permit Holders Excepted. An example of the standard signage is shown below. As there will be no paper tickets issued with the new parking meters, these signs need to display the word METER.

In addition, there are areas in the Town Centres where there is less that IP parking i.e.P30 or P15. According to the TfNSW Parking Guidelines, no permit parking scheme can be implemented for parking restrictions less than 1 hour in duration. Alternatively, the time limit of the parking restrictions will need to be increased to 1 hour parking. The preferred option would be not to have parking meters in areas where parking restrictions are less than IP.

In addition, with the Chalmers Road parking area, currently there is no parking restrictions in the car park so Council would need to first introduce parking restrictions such as 2P 8:30AM to 6:00AM MON -SAT and then roll out the parking meters at the same time.

TfNSW requested that this Item be deferred so that further information regarding parking restrictions in the proposed on-street meter areas can be provided in a follow up report brought back to the next available LTC for approval.

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RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That this item be deferred so that further information regarding parking restrictions in the proposed on-street meter areas can be provided in a follow up report to be brought back to the next available LTC for approval.
- 2. Further that TfNSW advised that they will work with Council on this matter moving forward.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

7. SPECIAL EVENTS

Nil

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8. ROAD SAFETY

8.1 ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2024

Report prepared by Road Safety Officer

Issues

There are seven major Road Safety Projects for the 24/25 Year,

- 1) Senior Drivers with a focus on driving in School Zones and refreshing driving skills workshops 6x per year. BOOKINGS.
- Year to date, 61 Attended. Last workshop 24 August
- Next workshop Seniors Week lead up double 21 October 2024

Impact

- Reduce Strathfield's crash rate with people aged 60+.
- Better preparation Senior Drivers and promote skills refresh lessons as a positive experience.
- 2) Teaching Learner Drivers helping parent's tech their children to drive workshops 4x per year Workshop held with Burwood, Inner West and Canada Bay in October 24, February and May 25 BOOKINGS.
 - 90% Involvement from Schools
 - Over 28 attendees so far for 20th March Workshop.

Impact

- Continuation of Strathfield's low crash rate with persons aged 17 24.
- Better preparation for learner drivers with a positive experience.
- 3) Drink Driving with a focus on activations and working with Local Liquor Accord. *Projects:* Working with Burwood Liquor Accord next meeting in October 24 Promotions of new "Just Don't" campaigns from Liquor and Gaming NSW.
- 4) Safety Around Schools, continuing our only project and environmental upgrades.

Projects:

Working with Schools Crossing Supervisors program to better co-ordinate crossing programs.

Promotions of Road Safety Schools area

Schools' Crossing Audits 23/24 year.

Schools' orientation programs in the 1st term

- **5) Pedestrian Safety**, with a focus on education and hot spot targeting in shopping areas. *Projects:* New stencils program in HPAA across Strathfield, Homebush and Homebush West
- **6)** Occupant Restraints, continuing our current program of 11 workshops per year. Currently Council runs 11 child restraint checking day per year servicing on average 14 seat installations. We will be aiming for a productivity increase to 20 seats per session.

BOOKINGS.

- Vehicles Checked 23/24 as of December 2023 361
- Next Checking Day 13 August 2024 is fully booked.

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Impact

- Positive promotions and feedback across mothers' groups and social media
- Driver education for each vehicle checked.
- Seatbelt related injuries 2021 have decreased to less than 0.3% of accidents.

7) Senior Pedestrians, continuing our current program of 6 workshops for 23/24 year.

Projects:

New stencils program in HPAA across Strathfield, Homebush and Homebush West

BOOKINGS.

- Next workshop Seniors Week lead up double in October 2024
- 3 More workshops being held at the Strathfield Community Centre

Road Safety News of interest to the Community

Road Rules Awareness Week 19 - 25 August: The Road Rules Awareness Week (RRAW) is a chance to educate road users on commonly misunderstood and new road rules. Strathfield has supported this NSW initiative for the past three years targeting Speeding, Pedestrian Safety and Schools.







RECOMMENDATION

That the Road Safety Officer Report be received and noted.

(Voting on this item was unanimous)

Meeting Closed: 11:40AM

Next Meeting: 15 October 2024

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12.4 REPORT FROM AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 5

SEPTEMBER 2024

AUTHOR: David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

APPROVER: Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 September 2024 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS

1.1 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee 5 September 2024 - Minutes

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STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Strathfield Municipal Council

Thursday 5 September 2024

2pm

Community Meeting Room, The Cottage
65 Homebush Road, Strathfield
and

by Audio Visual Link





AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 SEPTEMBER 2024

MINUTES

Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 5 September 2024, in the Community Meeting Room, The Cottage, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield and by Audio Visual Link.

COMMENCING: 2:06pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Hrnjak, Chairperson (Audio-Visual Link)

Alan Pigott

Catherine O'Mallon

Sonja Hammond (Audio-Visual Link)

ATTENDEES PRESENT: Mohua Mukherjee, Head of Internal Audit

Michael Mamo, General Manager

Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community

Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering and Operations

Clare Harley, Director Planning and Environment

Melissa Mallos, General Counsel Rodney Sanjivi, Chief Financial Officer

Amanda Rutherford, Manager Governance and Procurement David Vien, Manager, Digital, Information and Customer

Nichole Edsall, Manager People and Culture Raymond Parkinson, Chief Safety and Risk Officer David McQuade, Senior Governance Officer

INVITEES PRESENT: Emma Hutchinson, Prosperity (Audio Visual Link)

Alex Hardy, Prosperity (Audio Visual Link)
Yas Wickramasekera, OCM (Audio Visual Link)
Celia Withers, Audit Office NSW (Audio Visual Link)
Renee Meimaroglou, Audit Office NSW (Audio Visual Link)

1. APOLOGIES

Nil.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION: (Hrnjak / O'Mallon)

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AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 SEPTEMBER 2024

MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 29 May 2024, 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

4. REPORTS

4.1 Internal Audit Reports

Mr Alex Hardy, Prosperity addressed the committee. A summary of the Fraud and Corruption Risk Assessment was presented to the committee with three moderate risk findings, five low risk rating findings and one opportunity for improvement. There was some positive feedback from the Fraud and Corruption Survey with staff expressing confidence in the leadership team to manage fraud and corruption. Management acknowledged the need for Council to review and develop new policies/risk registers, deliver training in these areas and promote fraud and corruption awareness.

Mr Alex Hardy, Prosperity left the meeting, the time being 2:22pm.

Ms Yas Wickramasekera, OCM addressed the committee. A summary of the Plant and Fleet Management Audit was presented to the committee with two medium risk findings, three low risk findings and one potential improvement opportunity. Positive steps Council are taking include but are not limited to implementation of GPS tracking system across its fleet vehicles, commitment to being environmentally sustainable and safety training for staff. Management agree with the recommendation to improve leaseback agreement document control and responsibility to ensure licence records are current and stored appropriately.

Ms Yas Wickramasekera, OCM left the meeting, the time being 2:33pm.

RECOMMENDATION: (Pigott / O'Mallon)

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receives and notes the reports for the internal audits of Plant and Fleet Management and the Fraud and Corruption Risk Assessment Review.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.2 Internal Audit Recommendations Status Update

Ms Mohua Mukherjee, Head of Internal Audit addressed the committee. The S7.11 and S7.12 Levies outstanding internal audit actions are progressing by well by way of consolidating in a project plan. Food Inspection outstanding internal audit actions are expected to be completed by December 2024. Council will continue to report monthly to the Executive Team Meeting prior to the next ARIC Meeting 26 November 2024.

RECOMMENDATION: (O'Mallon / Hammond)

That the ARIC:

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes

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AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 SEPTEMBER 2024

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1. Receives and notes the status update on internal audit recommendations.

Approves:

- a. The closure of the old open recommendations from the s7.11 Contributions and s7.12 Levies report, given the detailed project plan developed and ongoing rigorous implementation oversight by management, and
- b. That management reports the status of the above Local Infrastructure Contribution (LIC) project plan to ARIC at each meeting, until the project is completed.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.3 Internal Audit Status Report

Ms Mohua Mukherjee, Head of Internal Audit addressed the committee. The Payroll audit will be completed soon and Tree Management audit has commenced. ARIC survey response statistics were presented to the committee with a view to inviting ARIC independent members to complete for presenting at the next ARIC meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: (Pigott / Hammond)

That the Internal Audit Status Update Report be received and noted.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.4 Final Audit Management Letter for the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Ms Renee Meimaroglou, Audit Office and Mr Rodney Sanjivi, Chief Financial Officer addressed the committee to discuss the Final Audit Management Letter for the Year Ended 30 June 2023. A meeting to consider the Financial Statements for the 2023/2024 financial year has been scheduled for 17 October 2024.

RECOMMENDATION: (O'Mallon / Hammond)

That the final Audit Management Letter for the year ended 30 June 2023 be received and noted.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.5 Capital Projects Update

Ms Cathy Edwards-Davis, Director Engineering and Operations addressed the committee.

Note: The committee requested more detail in the next report to be presented to the ARIC Meeting 26 November 2024 including spend against budget and timeframes.

RECOMMENDATION: (Hammond / Pigott)

That the report be received and noted.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

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AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 SEPTEMBER 2024

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4.6 Governance Update

Ms Amanda Rutherford, Manager Governance and Procurement addressed the committee.

RECOMMENDATION: (Pigott / O'Mallon)

That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the report.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.7 Quarterly Update on Cyber Security

Mr David Vien, Manager, Digital, Information and Customer addressed the committee.

RECOMMENDATION: (Hammond / Pigott)

That the report be received and noted.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.8 People and Culture Update

Ms Nichole Edsall, Manager People and Culture addressed the committee.

RECOMMENDATION: (Hammond / O'Mallon)

That the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee (ARIC) receive and note the report.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.9 Integrated Planning and Reporting update

Ms Kristy Watts, Director Corporate and Community addressed the committee.

RECOMMENDATION: (O'Mallon / Hammond)

That this report be considered.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.10 Enterprise Risk Management Update

Mr Raymond Parkinson, Chief Safety and Risk Officer addressed the committee.

RECOMMENDATION: (Hammond / O'Mallon)

That the ARIC receive and note the update provided.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

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AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 SEPTEMBER 2024

MINUTES

4.11 Update on Project Elevate

Mr Rodney Sanjivi, Chief Financial Officer addressed the committee.

RECOMMENDATION: (O'Mallon / Pigott)

That the ARIC note the update on Project Elevate.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

4.12 ARIC Meeting Schedule for 2025, Induction and Workplans

Ms Amanda Rutherford, Governance and Procurement Manager addressed the committee.

Note: The preference of the committee is to schedule ARIC Meetings in 2025 on Thursday afternoons.

RECOMMENDATION: (O'Mallon / Pigott)

That ARIC determine the meeting dates for ARIC for 2025.

Voting on this item was unanimous.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

6. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil.

Meeting Closed: 4:16pm

Next Meeting: 26 November 2024

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13.1 QUESTION WITH NOTICE SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR NOSWORTHY

SUBJECT: AUDIO VISUAL ACCESS

In the Minutes from the Ordinary Council Meeting on 8 October 2024, states a Motion was put forward to allow audio visual access to the meeting for Councillor Pensabene.

The Strathfield Code of Meeting Practice section 5.18, requires Councillors to act reasonably when considering a request by Councillors to attend meetings via audio visual link.

Councillor Pensabene's extenuating health circumstances are well known in the Strathfield community this year. In fact, on 5 September 2024 you yourself Mr Mayor, as then a concerned resident, sent her a text acknowledging her poor health, offering your prayers and wishing her a speedy recovery.

At the Council Meeting 8 October 2024, you as a Councillor at the time, with the support of Councillor Kim, Councillor Reddy and Councillor Cai voted against this Motion for Councillor Pensabene to join the meeting via audio-visual link.

Therefore, I ask you Mr Mayor and Councillors Kim, Reddy and Cai, if you could provide a reasonable explanation for voting against the Motion on 8 October 2024.

COUNCIL OFFICERS' NOTE

Clause 9.13 of the Council's Code of Meeting Practice (COMP) provides that a question must not be asked at a meeting of the Council unless it concerns a matter on the agenda of the meeting or notice has been given of the question in accordance with Clauses 3.9 and 3.13 COMP. Clause 9.16 COMP provides, amongst other things, that a Councillor to whom a question is put is entitled to be given reasonable notice of the question.

Councillor Nosworthy submitted the above question with notice to the General Manager on 15 October 2024. The question has been included in the business paper and has met the notice requirements of clause 3.9 COMP.

Clause 9.18 COMP provides that the Chairperson must not permit discussion on any reply to, or refusal to reply to, a question put to a Councillor or Council employee.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

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