



**Lane Cove
Council**

Agenda Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024, 7:00 PM

Council will commence consideration of
all business paper agenda items at 7.00 pm.

Notice of Meeting

Dear Councillors,

Notice is given of the Ordinary Council Meeting, to be held in the Council Chambers on Thursday 12 December 2024 commencing at 7:00 PM. The business to be transacted at the meeting is included in this business paper.

In accordance with clause 3.26 of the Code of Meeting Practice Councillors are reminded of their oath or affirmation of office made under section 233A of the Act, and of their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

Yours faithfully



Craig Wrightson
General Manager

Council Meeting Procedures

The Council meeting is chaired by the Mayor, Councillor Merri Southwood. Councillors are entitled to one vote on a matter. If votes are equal, the Chairperson has a second or casting vote. When a majority of Councillors vote in favour of a Motion it becomes a decision of the Council. Minutes of Council and Committee meetings are published on Council's website www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au by 5.00 pm on the Tuesday following the meeting.

The Meeting is conducted in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice. The order of business is listed in the Agenda on the next page. That order will be followed unless Council resolves to modify the order at the meeting. This may occur for example where the members of the public in attendance are interested in specific items on the agenda.

The Public Forum will hear registered speakers from the Public Gallery as well as online using the web platform Zoom. All speakers wishing to participate in the public forum must register by using the [online form](#) no later than midnight, on the day prior to the meeting (Wednesday, 11 December 2024) and a Zoom meeting link will be emailed to the provided email address of those registered as an online speaker. Please note that the time limit of three minutes per address still applies, so please make sure your submission meets this criteria. Alternatively, members of the public can still submit their written address via email to service@lanecove.nsw.gov.au. Written addresses are to be received by Council no later than midnight, on the day prior to the meeting. (500 words maximum).

Please note that meetings held in the Council Chambers are webcasted, and recordings are made publicly available on the Council's website. Should you require assistance to participate in the meeting due to a disability; or wish to obtain further information in relation to Council, please contact Council's Director - Corporate Services and Strategy on (02) 9911 3550.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

APOLOGIES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

MINUTE OF SILENCE FOR RELECTION OR PRAYER

NOTICE OF WEBCASTING OF MEETING

PUBLIC FORUM

Members of the public may address the Council Meeting on any issue for 3 minutes.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 21 NOVEMBER 2024

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Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
**NOTICE OF RESCISSION - ENCLOSED DOG EXERCISE AREA AT BOB CAMPBELL OVAL
ON C2 LAND**

Item No: 1.1

Item No: 1.1
Subject: Notice of Rescission - Enclosed Dog Exercise Area at Bob Campbell Oval on C2 Land
Record No: SU8090 - 78039/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Katie Little; Councillor Scott Bennison; Councillor Caleb Taylor; Councillor David Roenfeldt

This Notice of Rescission seeks to rescind the **Resolution 228/2024** passed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 November 2024 regarding the removal of the dog enclosure and fencing at Bob Campbell Oval.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council rescind the resolution passed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 November 2024 regarding the removal of the dog enclosure and fencing at Bob Campbell Oval, viz:-

“That Council:

- 1. does not provide a dog off-leash enclosure at the northern end of Bob Campbell Oval;*
- 2. retains the area to the north of the sports field as shared recreation space;*
- 3. removes the section of fencing at the north end of the site that is located within C2 zoned land, with the cost of removal of the fence to be funded from the project budget;*
- 4. undertakes planting consistent with C2 zoning to enhance the area north of the sports field as a shared recreation space;*
- 5. in the event that there is no budget for the works in 4 above in Council’s 2024-25 budget, to procure an estimate of the cost of these works, with a view to inclusion in the Council budget for 2025-26;*
- 6. prioritises the implementation of its dog education program to ensure that dog owners are fully informed as to their responsibility to ensure that their use of grassed sports fields for dog-walking is consistent with Council regulations and with their responsibility to ensure that the actions of their dogs do not pose a risk to other users of the fields; and*
- 7. seeks advice on whether this C2 area would be an appropriate site for the Annual Planet Ark Community Tree planting which takes place every year in Lane Cove.”*

Councillor Katie Little
Councillor

Councillor Scott Bennison
Councillor

Councillor Caleb Taylor
Councillor

Councillor David Roenfeldt
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 1.2
Subject: Notice of Rescission - Dogs on Sportsfields
Record No: SU8288 - 77709/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Kathy Bryla; Councillor Helena Greenwell; Councillor Rochelle Flood; Councillor Merri Southwood; Councillor Bridget Kennedy

Executive Summary

This Notice of Rescission is for **Resolution 101/2024**. Officer Report for Determination - 'Dogs on Sportsfields' at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 23 May 2024.

Background

As our local government area continues to grow in both population and density, the shared use of communal open spaces has become increasingly vital to maintaining an inclusive, multi-purpose environment for our community. These spaces not only support organised activities but also provide essential areas for informal recreation and social interaction.

One key aspect of this shared use is the gathering of community members with their companion animals -particularly dogs -on sports fields. These green spaces serve as important venues where residents can socialise, build friendships, and exercise their pets, fostering both community connection and individual well-being.

At the May 2024 meeting, the Council resolved to address the management of dogs on sports fields, as outlined in the attached motion minutes from that meeting . Council has not yet engaged the consultant referred to in resolution 101, and with the December/January holiday season imminent, many community members will be unavailable to participate meaningfully in a focus group during this time. Additionally, neither the Dog Advisory Committee (now the Companion Animal Advisory Committee) nor the Sporting Club Advisory Committee have been convened, meaning their critical input will not be available. Without these contributions, the forum would lack the necessary representation and depth to ensure a balanced and informed discussion.

Over the past three years, several important topics have emerged in discussions within the Dog Advisory Committee, Sport Club Advisory Committee, and Bushland Management Advisory Committee meetings. A recurring theme has been the need for increased education and awareness among companion animal owners, as well as the broader community, regarding the etiquette and rules associated with responsible pet behaviour outside the home. This is echoed in the recommendation 12, 13, 14 & 15 in the Councils 2021 Dog strategy which have not yet been fully actioned.

Delaying the implementation of the education program until after consultation becomes feasible is not an optimal outcome. This program directly addresses many of the concerns raised by the community and stakeholders, ensuring timely progress on these longstanding issues. It is clear that the proposed motion represents a more expedient, direct and cost-effective approach to achieving the intended goals.

Education plays a critical role in ensuring the harmonious use of these public spaces. New South Wales legislation, alongside Lane Cove Council's strategy, provides clear guidance to support this process and foster cooperation between various user groups.

The proposed alternate motion aims to address the following key issues:

- The safety concerns of dogs, residents, and council staff in the shared use of our open spaces;
- The protection of our bushland areas;
- The promotion of a culture of respectful behaviour among all users of these shared spaces.

Examples of dog education provided by other councils:

Inner West Council

- **Comprehensive Pet Information:** Offers extensive resources on their website covering a range of pet-related topics, including adopting a pet, obedience training, lost and found pets, pet etiquette, desexing, and local veterinary services.
- **Puppy Preschool Program:** Ran a trial of a council-facilitated puppy preschool program led by a certified dog trainer in collaboration in conjunction with Inner West Companion Animal Services.
- **Mobile Info Stand:** Companion Animal Officers host monthly pop-up stands in parks across the Inner West, offering free microchip scans, responsible pet ownership goodies, and informational resources.
- **'Collar Me Home' Program:** Provides free ID tags to pet owners whose pets are lifetime registered, microchipped, and have up-to-date microchip details.
- **Online Community:** Hosts an Inner West Companion Animal Facebook group to connect pet owners and share relevant information.
- For more details, visit: [Inner West Council - Dogs and Cats](#)

Mosman Council

- **Responsible Pet Ownership:** Offers a wide range of information about being a responsible pet owner, including pet registration, environmental impacts, and owner responsibilities.
- **Pet Welcome Packs:** Provides new pet owners with a welcome pack upon registering their pet, including guidance on responsible ownership and local regulations.
- **Online Resources:** Features detailed information and links to additional 3rd party resources on their website [Mosman Council - Responsible Pet Ownership -](#)

City of Sydney Council

- **Guides and Fact Sheets:** Offers short accessible guides and more comprehensive printable fact sheets/pamphlets covering individual topics related to aspects of dog ownership such as barking and pet etiquette in public spaces

RECOMMENDATION

That Council rescind its decision (**Resolution 101/2024**.) made at the Ordinary Council Meeting of Thursday 23 May 2024 in relation to 'Dogs on Sportsfields' report, viz:-

1. *receive and note the report,*
2. *engage a suitable consultant to undertake focus group(s) to devise ideas to put forward for further community consultation regarding how the use of open space in the Lane Cove LGA can be shared with reduced conflict between residents who play organised sport(s) and*

residents who recreate with pets,

3. *ensure that the same question in 2 be the subject of consultation with the Dog Advisory Committee, the Sporting Club Advisory Committee, and relevant staff by an independent facilitator,*
4. *delegate authority to the General Manager to source an external independent facilitator to appoint members of the focus group, to organise workshops/sessions and to ensure that all information required or requested is provided to the focus group, and*
5. *report back at the appropriate time after the focus group has made recommendations.*

Councillor Kathy Bryla
Councillor

Councillor Helena Greenwell
Councillor

Councillor Rochelle Flood
Councillor

Councillor Merri Southwood
Councillor

Councillor Bridget Kennedy
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - RETENTION OF THE ENCLOSED DOG EXERCISE AREA AT BOB CAMPBELL OVAL

Item No: 2.1

Item No: 2.1
Subject: Notice of Motion - Retention of the Enclosed Dog Exercise Area at Bob Campbell Oval
Record No: SU8090 - 78055/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Scott Bennison; Councillor Katie Little; Councillor Caleb Taylor; Councillor David Roenfeldt

Executive Summary

In the event the Notice of Rescission, for **Resolution 228/2024**, at this meeting is carried, then this Notice of Motion is proposed.

Background

The recent site inspection at Bob Campbell Oval on Saturday, 30 November 2024, highlighted critical considerations that necessitate a reassessment of the decision to remove the fence at the northern end of the Oval.

Oval Development and Protection:

The Oval is no longer just an open grass field. It has been raised by up to 1.2 metres, incorporating sophisticated drainage systems to manage overflow from surrounding cliffs.

The grass selected for the Oval is designed for limited sunlight exposure and may take longer to establish. Protecting this investment is crucial, as approximately \$980,000 has been spent on developing the Oval into a valuable community asset.

C2 Land Considerations:

The C2 boundary was drawn before modern mapping technologies, raising questions about its accuracy. Also, various photos back to the 1940's indicate the land has never been bushland.

C2 land is designated for environmental conservation, but it does not preclude the existence of structures. Council's own Nursery, for instance, exists on C2 zoned land.

Environmental and Practical Concerns:

Removing the fence would render the enclosed dog area obsolete, wasting ratepayer funds and Council resources.

Without an enclosed area, off leash dogs in that area could access and potentially damage the C2 land, including vulnerable flora, fauna, and waterways, undermining rehabilitation efforts. This poses a significant risk to the protection of C2-zoned land and undermines ongoing conservation efforts. By maintaining an enclosed dog exercise area, alongside the completed oval which will be available for off leash dog exercise when sports are not on, and appropriate signage for clearly designated areas, Council can mitigate this risk and offer a safer, more controlled environment for dog owners and their pets.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - RETENTION OF THE ENCLOSED DOG EXERCISE AREA AT BOB CAMPBELL OVAL

Item No: 2.1

Concerns with Potential Work Health and Safety (WHS) Breaches and Potential Psychosocial Risks:

The series of actions surrounding the Bob Campbell Oval project, including the abrupt cancellation of the 2020 master plan, the development of a new plan in 2022, budget constraints and the subsequent transfer of project control from a Councillor-established committee back to the General Manager in 2024, has resulted in a complicated history of the project.

The October 2024 decision to remove the fence at the northern end of the dog park was put forward as a solution to appease important community groups with valid concerns, however with a fresh look at the project as it stands now, and keeping in mind this enclosed dog area was seen as a cost-saving measure with protective intentions by the General Manager, removing part of the fence introduces further risk by exposing newly established grass fields to potential damage and compromising the adjacent bushland, all in all creating further problems which may end up appealing no one.

Furthermore, the constant shifts in project direction, budget increases, and the inconsistent application of strategic decisions can create an environment of uncertainty and demotivation for Council staff. These actions may undermine the professional expertise of staff, leading to a perceived lack of respect for their contributions and diminishing job satisfaction. Cumulatively, Council's decisions may introduce significant psychosocial risks to our staff and raise concerns as to whether Council's obligations under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (NSW) have been considered, particularly Sections 19 and 27, which require employers and officers to ensure a safe and healthy working environment. The constant changes and lack of consistent project governance may contribute to psychosocial hazards, including:

- Increased stress and anxiety from unclear responsibilities and conflicting priorities.
- Diminished job satisfaction due to perceived undervaluation of expertise and wasted effort.
- Erosion of trust between staff and decision-makers, leading to decreased morale and engagement.

Rationale

This approach balances environmental conservation, community safety, and fiscal responsibility. By retaining the fence, Council avoids the immediate \$4,000 removal cost and the potential expenses related to storage and reinstallation. More importantly, this phased approach allows the community to experience the facility before determining its future, ensuring informed decision-making based on practical use and feedback.

RECOMMENDATION

That:-

1. Council resolves to retain the northern end fence at Bob Campbell Oval for a 12-month trial period from when the community has access to the park. This will allow the community to utilise the enclosed dog exercise area while the Oval is being completed and after it becomes operational. Retaining the fence will protect the newly established grass and infrastructure, preventing potential damage caused by off-leash dogs to bushland and creek, while providing a safe space for dog owners.
2. Following the 12-month trial period, Council undertake a comprehensive community consultation process to gather feedback on the use of the enclosed dog exercise area. This consultation will assess the community's preferences regarding the permanent retention or removal of the fence, ensuring decisions are informed by public input and practical experience.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - RETENTION OF THE ENCLOSED DOG EXERCISE AREA AT BOB CAMPBELL OVAL

Item No: 2.1

3. Once the enclosed dog exercise area is ready for public use, Council will notify the community of its availability and outline the conditions of use, including:
 - Dogs must be on-leash when entering or exiting the enclosure.
 - Clear signage outlining rules and responsibilities for dog owners.
 - Any additional requirements deemed appropriate by the General Manager.
4. Council reaffirms its commitment to responsible dog management as resolved on 22 February 2024, reinforcing the responsibilities of dog owners to:
 - a) Obey all signage on or adjacent to sporting fields.
 - b) Comply with all directions from Council officers regarding dog management.
 - c) Ensure dogs do not cause damage to the surface of playing fields.
 - d) Leave sporting fields in a clean and safe state after use.
5. Council delegates authority to the General Manager to manage the site in the interest of protecting the grass sports field. This includes enforcing measures related to breaches of Council's dog management policy pursuant to the Companion Animals Act 1998 and issuing infringement notices where necessary to ensure compliance.
6. Council acknowledges the importance of adhering to Work Health and Safety (WHS) requirements and recognises the potential psychosocial risks associated with frequent changes to major project directions. Continuous changes can undermine staff confidence, create anxiety, and impact morale, leading to inefficiencies and increased risk. Council commits to stable project governance to safeguard staff well-being, comply with WHS obligations, and protect ratepayers' investments.
7. Council seek advice on whether this C2 area would be an appropriate site for the Annual Planet Ark Community Tree planting which takes place every year in Lane Cove."

Councillor Scott Bennison
Councillor

Councillor Katie Little
Councillor

Councillor Caleb Taylor
Councillor

Councillor David Roenfeldt
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 [View](#) BCO Dog Enclosure Photo

1 Page



Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - COMPANION ANIMALS IN OUR COMMUNITY - WORKING TOWARDS
A RESPECTFUL AND HARMONIOUS SOLUTION

Item No: 2.2

Item No: 2.2
Subject: Notice of Motion - Companion Animals in our community - working towards a respectful and harmonious solution
Record No: SU8288 - 77718/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Helena Greenwell; Councillor Merri Southwood; Councillor Rochelle Flood; Councillor Bridget Kennedy; Councillor Kathy Bryla

Executive Summary

In the event the Notice of Rescission, for **Resolution 101/2024**, at this meeting is carried, then this Notice of Motion is proposed.

Background

In the event the Notice of Rescission is carried, for **Resolution 101/2024**, Officer Report for Determination - *'Dogs on Sportsfields'* at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 23 May 2024, then this Notice of Motion is proposed.

As our local government area continues to grow in both population and density, the shared use of communal open spaces has become increasingly vital to maintaining an inclusive, multi-purpose environment for our community. These spaces not only support organised activities but also provide essential areas for informal recreation and social interaction.

One key aspect of this shared use is the gathering of community members with their companion animals -particularly dogs - on sports fields. These green spaces serve as important venues where residents can socialise, build friendships, and exercise their pets, fostering both community connection and individual well-being.

At the May 2024 meeting, the Council resolved to address the management of dogs on sports fields, as outlined in the attached motion minutes from that meeting (AT-1). Council has not yet engaged the consultant referred to in resolution 101, and with the December/January holiday season imminent, many community members will be unavailable to participate meaningfully in a focus group during this time. Additionally, neither the Dog Advisory Committee (now the Companion Animal Advisory Committee) nor the Sporting Club Advisory Committee have been convened, meaning their critical input will not be available. Without these contributions, the forum would lack the necessary representation and depth to ensure a balanced and informed discussion.

Over the past three years, several important topics have emerged in discussions within the Dog Advisory Committee, Sport Club Advisory Committee, and Bushland Management Advisory Committee meetings. A recurring theme has been the need for increased education and awareness among companion animal owners, as well as the broader community, regarding the etiquette and rules associated with responsible pet behaviour outside the home. This is echoed in the recommendation 12, 13, 14 & 15 in the Councils 2021 Dog strategy which have not yet been fully actioned.

Delaying the implementation of the education program until after consultation becomes feasible is not an optimal outcome. This program directly addresses many of the concerns raised by the community and stakeholders, ensuring timely progress on these longstanding issues. It is clear that the proposed motion represents a more expedient, direct and cost-effective approach to achieving the intended goals.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - COMPANION ANIMALS IN OUR COMMUNITY - WORKING TOWARDS
A RESPECTFUL AND HARMONIOUS SOLUTION

Education plays a critical role in ensuring the harmonious use of these public spaces. New South Wales legislation, alongside Lane Cove Council's strategy, provides clear guidance to support this process and foster cooperation between various user groups.

This motion aims to address the following key issues:

- The safety concerns of dogs, residents, and council staff in the shared use of our open spaces;
- The protection of our bushland areas;
- The promotion of a culture of respectful behaviour among all users of these shared spaces.

Examples of dog education provided by other councils:

Inner West Council

- **Comprehensive Pet Information:** Offers extensive resources on their website covering a range of pet-related topics, including adopting a pet, obedience training, lost and found pets, pet etiquette, desexing, and local veterinary services.
- **Puppy Preschool Program:** Ran a trial of a council-facilitated puppy preschool program led by a certified dog trainer in collaboration in conjunction with Inner West Companion Animal Services.
- **Mobile Info Stand:** Companion Animal Officers host monthly pop-up stands in parks across the Inner West, offering free microchip scans, responsible pet ownership goodies, and informational resources.
- **'Collar Me Home' Program:** Provides free ID tags to pet owners whose pets are lifetime registered, microchipped, and have up-to-date microchip details.
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Mosman Council

- **Responsible Pet Ownership:** Offers a wide range of information about being a responsible pet owner, including pet registration, environmental impacts, and owner responsibilities.
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City of Sydney Council

- **Guides and Fact Sheets:** Offers short accessible guides and more comprehensive printable fact sheets/pamphlets covering individual topics related to aspects of dog ownership such as barking and pet etiquette in public spaces.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - COMPANION ANIMALS IN OUR COMMUNITY - WORKING TOWARDS
A RESPECTFUL AND HARMONIOUS SOLUTION

Item No: 2.2

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Acknowledges that no action has been taken following the earlier resolution to date,
2. Note the hard work undertaken by the Dog Advisory Committee during the past term of Council, and the time and effort committed by both community members and staff,
3. Notes that its sports fields and open green spaces currently used by dog owners are important shared spaces used by the entire community,
4. Ensure that sporting groups are adhering to the policy of using the red flag system on sports fields when games are in play, and report back to Council with the findings,
5. Launch a three-month education campaign in February 2025, in line with the Companion Animals Act 1998 (No. 87), the Lane Cove Dog Strategy 2021, and the findings of the Dog Advisory Committee. If no budget has been allocated, the Council is to investigate and report on costs, with a view to allocating the necessary funding in the 2025-2026 budget,
6. Review the signage at all sports fields shared by dogs and dog parks to ensure that penalties for non-compliance with the Companion Animals Act 1998 (No. 87) and Lane Cove Council rules are clearly outlined,
7. Install educational banners at the entry points of all Lane Cove Bushland sites to inform residents about the implications of allowing cats and dogs off-lead in bushland areas, and the associated penalties for breaching these rules; and
8. Ensure that all sports grounds and open spaces used by dog owners are equipped with sufficient bins for the disposal of dog waste:-

Councillor Helena Greenwell
Councillor

Councillor Merri Southwood
Councillor

Councillor Rochelle Flood
Councillor

Councillor Bridget Kennedy
Councillor

Councillor Kathy Bryla
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - CLIMATE EMERGENCY REPORTING MOTION

Item No: 2.3

Item No: 2.3
Subject: Notice of Motion - Climate Emergency Reporting Motion
Record No: SU9603 - 77896/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Bridget Kennedy; Councillor Kathy Bryla

Executive Summary

This motion recognises the Lane Cove Council Sustainability Team's dedication and achievements in advancing environmental sustainability. It seeks to build on this success by fostering a stronger culture within the Council and Local Government Area (LGA) that prioritizes sustainability and addresses the declared Climate Emergency in all decision-making.

Background

In September 2023, Councillor Bryla and Councillor Kennedy participated in the Cities Power Partnership Climate Summit for Local Government 2023. Key strategic actions were identified from the summit, emphasising how councils can integrate climate-conscious decisions across operations to mitigate risks, reduce costs, and prepare communities for a sustainable future.

The summit addressed several critical topics, including:

- The role of **public and private infrastructure** in climate action and the legal implications councils must consider.
- **Electrification** as a vital component of sustainable development, presenting new opportunities and benefits for councils.
- How **integrating Indigenous and Western knowledge** can inform more resilient climate strategies.
- Collaboration between **local, state, and federal governments** to drive stronger, coordinated climate action.
- The importance of **Local Government** in facilitating the transition to cleaner transport.
- Insights from the Climate Council's latest report, "*Shifting Gear – A Pathway to Cleaner Transport*," which recommends:
 - Reducing car trips by over half by the end of the decade.
 - Increasing public transport use by 3.5 times.
 - Tripling active modes of transport (e.g., walking and cycling).

Inspiration from Other Councils

The City of Darebin (Victoria), which declared a climate emergency in 2016, was highlighted as a leader in embedding climate priorities into all council decisions. Following their declaration, Darebin adopted a Climate Emergency Plan (2017-22) and their updated plan for 2024-30 (AT_1). The City of Melbourne (AT-2) has recognised that we are in a climate emergency that requires urgent action to reduce emissions and to address climate change impacts. Across Australia over eight million people and 1,400 local governments globally have followed their example by declaring a climate emergency. Lane Cove Council is one of these, having declared a Global Climate Emergency in 2019.

By declaring a climate emergency, a government acknowledges that **climate change exists** and that previous actions are insufficient. It commits to prioritising measures that address the crisis.

**Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - CLIMATE EMERGENCY REPORTING MOTION**

Item No: 2.3

Net Zero Operational Targets of other NSW councils₁

Local Government Area	Net Zero	Local Government Area	Net Zero
Albury	2040	Liverpool	2036
Ballina	2030	Mosman	2030
Bellingen Shire	2040	Newcastle	2030
Blue Mountains	2025	North Sydney	2030
Burwood	2030	Port Stephens	2025
Byron Bay	2025	Randwick	2030
Campbelltown	2029	Ryde	2035
Canada Bay	2030	Sutherland	2030
Hawkesbury City	2030	Tweed Shire	2030
Inner West	2025	Willoughby	2025
Kiama	2031	Wollongong	2030

Net- zero LGA Community Targets₁

Local Government Area	Net Target	Local Government Area	Net Target
Armidale (project zero30)	2030	Ku-ring-gai	2040 or earlier
Blacktown	2040	Mosman	2040
Blue Mountains	2040s	City of Sydney	2035
Newcastle	2040	Tweed	2030
City of Ryde	2040 or sooner	Uralla aim to be first zero net energy town	2035
Clarence Valley	2040	Waverly	2035
Hawkesbury	2030	Willoughby	2040 or sooner

Source 1:
<https://100percentrenewables.com.au/net-zero-commitments-by-states-local-governments-and-communities-sept-2024/>

The Urgency of the Climate Crisis

In Australia the current outlook, according to AdaptNSW (NSW Government) is that most of the changes observed over recent decades will continue into the future. Projections suggest that for Australia:

- hot days will become hotter and more frequent

- the time in drought will increase across southern Australia
- snow depths will decline
- extreme rainfall events will become more intense
- sea levels will rise
- oceans will become more acidic.

Several world organisations, similarly have published their research findings:

WMO (World Meteorological Organisation): The state of the climate in 2023 also gave ominous new significance to the phrase “off the charts.” And their predictions and reporting were:

- State of Global Climate report confirms 2023 as hottest year on record by clear margin
- Records broken for ocean heat, sea level rise, Antarctic sea ice loss and glacier retreat
- Extreme weather undermines socio-economic development
- Renewable energy transition provides hope
- Cost of climate inaction is higher than cost of climate action

The global mean temperature in 2024 is on track to outstrip the temperature even of 2023, the current warmest year. For 16 consecutive months (June 2023 to September 2024), the global mean temperature likely exceeded anything recorded before, and often by a wide margin, according to WMO’s consolidated analysis of the datasets.

NASA: Overall, Earth was about 2.45 degrees Fahrenheit (or about 1.36 degrees Celsius) warmer in 2023 than in the late 19th-century (1850-1900) pre industrial average. The 10 most recent years are the warmest on record (ATT- 4)

WHO (World Health Organisation): Research shows that 3.6 billion people already live in areas highly susceptible to climate change. Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250 000 additional deaths per year, from undernutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress alone.

Benefits of Climate Action

Transitioning to a carbon-neutral economy offers significant benefits, including:

- Health improvements and enhanced well-being worldwide.
- Economic savings, job creation, and new market opportunities.
- A shift in mindset among industry leaders and governments toward sustainable practices.

Aligning Climate Action with Council's Strategic Plan

Lane Cove Council's Community Strategic Plan currently focuses on six themes:

1. Our Society
2. Our Built Environment
3. Our Natural Environment
4. Our Culture
5. Our Local Economy
6. Our Council

While goals related to the climate emergency are embedded in the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework, they are positioned lower within the framework. However, as the climate crisis escalates, it is evident that all six themes of the Strategic Plan are at risk. To effectively address these challenges, the Climate Emergency Strategy must be elevated across all areas of Council's operations, ensuring that every decision supports long-term environmental sustainability.

This motion calls for strengthened climate leadership within Lane Cove Council, building on existing efforts and setting a bold example for other Councils.

ATT-1 City of Darebin-How Council is addressing the climate emergency

[darebin.vic.gov.au- How-council-is-addressing-the-climate-emergency](https://darebin.vic.gov.au-How-council-is-addressing-the-climate-emergency)

ATT- 2 City of Melbourne-Taking bold action on climate change

melbourne.vic.gov.au/taking-bold-action-climate-change

ATT-3 City of Sydney

cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/environmental-action/energy-and-climate-change

ATT-4 NASA-Global Temperature (Tools)

climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/global-temperature/

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:-

1. Draft a Climate Emergency Plan (to replace the current Climate Resilience Plan currently due for review in 2026) and adjust Section Two of the Lane Cove Community Strategic Plan - Liveable Lane Cove (2035) to include its commitment to the Climate Emergency Declaration as an overarching principle, guiding all Council decision-making processes across each CSP theme. Review the CSP Themes to ensure that long term goals and objectives are aligned with our Climate Emergency Targets. The Climate Emergency Plan is to outline the Council's path to meet the Climate Emergency Goals.
2. When updating the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework documents and the Sustainability Action Plan in 2025, commit to a **Lane Cove Council Administration net-zero target of 2028** and commit to an aspirational **LGA net-zero target of 2040** (recognising that Local Government can only aid the community to achieve this goal).
3. Identify any additional resourcing (staff and budgetary) needs required to pursue these goals.
4. Develop a page for the Council website specifically communicating the Climate emergency and how we are addressing our plan (see ATT-1, ATT-2, ATT-3)

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - CLIMATE EMERGENCY REPORTING MOTION

Item No: 2.3

5. Explore options for implementing a check register that demonstrates to the community and governing body how the decision-making process for every motion or report presented to the Council aligns with the following key considerations:
- Environmental Sustainability, including the Climate Emergency (in relation to the Climate Emergency Plan)
 - Equity, Inclusion, Wellbeing, and Human Rights
 - Economic and Cultural Development
 - Operational/Budget Impacts, recognising that value for money extends beyond the price paid
 - Legal and Risk Implications

Councillor Bridget Kennedy
Councillor

Councillor Kathy Bryla
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
**NOTICE OF MOTION - PLAN FOR WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND
GREATER WATER REUSE**

Item No: 2.4

Item No: 2.4
Subject: Notice of Motion - Plan for Water Sensitive Urban Design Principles and greater Water Reuse
Record No: SU10235 - 77895/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Bridget Kennedy; Councillor Kathy Bryla

Executive Summary

This motion calls for the development of a comprehensive Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and Water Reuse Policy and Strategy for Lane Cove, aimed at reducing stormwater damage to our waterways and maximising water reuse to enhance sustainability and environmental resilience.

Background

Aligning with the Lane Cove Community Strategic Plan's objective on water conservation and management, the revised Lane Cove Development Control Plan, updated this year, introduces measures to advance this goal. In addition, the Open Spaces team has integrated WSUD features, such as rain gardens into redeveloped areas, reinforcing our commitment to sustainable urban design.

The effects of climate change are twofold; warmer-than-usual temperatures with high evaporation rates and increased periods of intense rainfall with high volumes of water. These climate effects increase the pressure on our current stormwater systems and over time have the potential to increase our need to reuse water.

In urban areas, rainfall runs off impervious surfaces like roofs and roads, quickly entering waterways through drainage systems. This limits natural infiltration, evaporation, and transpiration, increasing runoff and the risk of localised flooding during heavy rain.

Developing a broader long-term policy for WSUD (Water Sensitive Urban Design) is required to build our resilience into the future. Effectively reducing net water consumption and managing stormwater runoff are critical to protecting waterways, enhancing sustainability, and building long-term water resilience in our community.

WSUD benefits in Lane Cove include:

- Reducing urban flooding and erosion.
- Improving water quality and preventing pollution.
- Enhancing urban aesthetics and biodiversity.
- Supporting climate change adaptation and resilience.
- Mitigating heat island effects through greening.
- Promoting sustainable water use and reducing pressure on water supply systems.

With a growing population and increasing development, addressing rising water consumption and stormwater runoff is essential.

Several councils are leading the way in WSUD adoption, providing inspiration for Lane Cove's continued efforts:

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Byron Bay

<https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Plans-Strategies/Policies/Water-Sensitive-Urban-Design-Policy>

Blacktown Council

<https://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/Plan-build/Stage-2-plans-and-guidelines/Stormwater-management-and-water-sensitive-urban-design-WSUD/Water-sensitive-urban-design-WSUD>

Ballina Shire

https://issuu.com/ballinashirecouncil/docs/healthy_waterways_program_2021

In addition, Sydney Water have a good set of introductory guidelines to reference:

<https://www.sydneywater.com.au/content/dam/sydneywater/documents/water-sensitive-urban-design.pdf>

RECOMMENDATION

That Council :-

1. Provide a report to Council, prior to the preparation of the 2025/26 budget, on resourcing and funds required to implement the actions below:
 - a. An audit of existing water systems, infrastructure, and environmental conditions.
 - b. Identification of areas prone to flooding, water scarcity, or pollution to prioritise interventions.
 - c. Assessment of the community's water usage patterns and potential for stormwater reuse.
 - d. An outline of current gross pollutant trap numbers and location and where none are currently installed but are needed.
 - e. A Summary of all council-owned facilities as to how they reuse water and where gaps occur.
 - f. The costs to engage a consultant team to produce a **Water Sensitive Urban Design Policy** for Lane Cove that covers but is not limited to how we can incorporate:
 - i. **Stormwater management:** Bioswales, rain gardens, and constructed wetlands.
 - ii. **Water reuse:** Greywater systems, rainwater harvesting, and stormwater recycling.
 - iii. **Permeability:** Green roofs, permeable pavements, and infiltration trenches.
 - g. Investigate and implement new communication strategies, workshops and campaigns
 - i. to raise community awareness on how we can keep our waterways clean, as well as promote the rebates Council offers for rainwater capture (up to \$250 for single dwellings, \$2000 for unit dwellings and \$1000 for business (refer resolution 48/2023)
 - ii. to raise awareness about the benefits of WSUD among residents and businesses.
 - iii. to encourage community participation in water-sensitive initiatives.
2. Invite a member from the Sydney Water Business Development team to present to key council staff and Councillors on the work they're undertaking.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
**NOTICE OF MOTION - PLAN FOR WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND
GREATER WATER REUSE**

Councillor Bridget Kennedy
Councillor

Councillor Kathy Bryla
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 2.4

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - KEEPING COMMUNITY INFORMED AS TO PROPOSED REMOVAL OF TREES AND SIGNIFICANT VEGETATION BY COUNCIL ON COUNCIL LAND

Item No: 2.5

Item No: 2.5
Subject: Notice of Motion - Keeping Community informed as to Proposed Removal of Trees and Significant Vegetation by Council on Council Land
Record No: SU6209 - 77503/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Merri Southwood

Executive Summary

This motion recognises that community members care deeply about trees and significant vegetation on public land and seeks the development and implementation of policies to ensure that the community is advised as to the proposed removal of trees or significant vegetation, of the reasons for proposed removal and proposed replacement plantings or other works on the site of removed trees or significant vegetation.

Background

Council's Community Strategic Plan includes a strategy to address its objective for its urban forest

3.2.1 Maintain and enhance the overall urban forest and canopy cover on public and private land throughout the Lane Cove Local Government Area.

Council's Urban Forest Strategy 2023 at p 10 states that "Trees are an essential part of the fabric of a city. Trees across an urban or suburban setting combine to form an 'urban forest', which includes trees on both private and public land."

The Strategy further states that "investigations have demonstrated that extensive, diverse, and healthy urban vegetation is essential for the liveability of a place. Vegetation, and trees in particular, provide important economic, social, health, environmental and aesthetic benefits for urban areas".

Council's arborists are qualified professionals and are required to make decisions about urban forest management that may include removal of trees or significant vegetation on public or private land.

Council has in place procedures related to the carrying out of tree works on private land. Permits granted for approved private tree works are accessible on Council's website.

<https://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/Environment-Sustainability/Tree-Management/Approved-Private-Tree-Works>

This motion relates to the removal of trees or significant vegetation by or on behalf of Council on land owned or managed by Council.

A robust and extensive urban forest is important to the mental health and well-being of the community.

The removal of trees or significant vegetation from public land, without an explanation of the reasons for removal and, if appropriate, plans for replacement plantings, can be distressing for a community that values our urban forest.

Council has sought to address the need to keep the community informed as to proposed tree removal/planting on public land as follows:-

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NOTICE OF MOTION - KEEPING COMMUNITY INFORMED AS TO PROPOSED REMOVAL OF TREES AND SIGNIFICANT VEGETATION BY COUNCIL ON COUNCIL LAND

Item No: 2.5

- Resolution **136/2018** requires that 28 days prior to removal of any street tree, a notice, including the reason for removal, be placed on the tree. This resolution has been reflected in Clause 4.3 of Council’s Landscaping Street Trees and Tree Preservation Policy.
- The Trees on Public Land page on Council’s website states that “residents will be notified with a letter prior to planting (of street trees) stating the proposed species.”

It is noted that current Council processes relate only to trees, not to other significant vegetation such as mature oleanders.

It is also noted that Council’s current procedures relate only to street trees. They do not relate to trees on other Council owned or managed land such as the golf course.

This motion seeks to put in place procedures to ensure that the community is informed as to the proposed removal, by or on behalf of Council, of trees and other significant vegetation on all land owned or managed by Council, the reasons for removal, the proposed replacement planting or, if no planting is proposed, the future plans for the site of the item to be removed.

It is acknowledged that Council officers may be required to make emergency decisions on the grounds of public health and safety such that compliance with Council procedures is not possible.

It is also acknowledged that works may be carried out on land owned or managed by Council by authorities that are not required to comply with Council procedures.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:-

1. acknowledges that the preservation of our urban forest is important to our community and that it is important to keep the community informed as to decisions made by Council in respect of removal of trees or other significant vegetation from land owned or managed by Council, and
2. receives a report by June 2025 to outline recommendations for amendments to relevant Council strategies, plans, policies and procedures to provide information to the community, in a timely manner, as to-
 - (a) the proposed removal of trees and other significant vegetation on land owned or managed by Council
 - (b) the reason for the removal, and
 - (c) the proposed replacement planting or, if no proposed replacement planting, the reason for this decision.

Councillor Merri Southwood
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - IMPLEMENT SMART BIN COMMUNITY EARN AND RETURN BOTTLES AND CANS

Item No: 2.6

Item No: 2.6
Subject: Notice of Motion - Implement Smart Bin Community Earn and Return Bottles and Cans
Record No: SU1993 - 77515/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Caleb Taylor

Executive Summary

This motion proposes the implementation of smart bin community earn-and-return system for bottles and cans at key high-traffic locations across the Lane Cove Local Government Area (LGA). This initiative aims to promote sustainable recycling practices, reduce landfill waste, and support local community groups and charities through fund raising.

Background

Lane Cove Council currently lacks recycling bins for bottles and cans in high-traffic areas such as The Canopy, Lane Cove Plaza, Blackman Park, Kingsford Smith Oval, and Wadanggari Park. Without proper recycling options, many bottles and cans end up in landfill, contributing to unnecessary waste.

The installation of smart bins for bottles and cans would help divert these recyclables from landfill, ensuring that they are properly recycled. These smart bins are designed with a unique mechanism: the bin's chute opens only when the barcode of a bottle or can is scanned, preventing the insertion of non-recyclable items. Additionally, this system allows for the collection and allocation of funds raised from the returned recyclables to local community groups or charities, fostering both environmental sustainability and community support

Conclusion

Implementing these smart recycling bins will not only help reduce waste and increase recycling rates within the Lane Cove community, but it will also support local charities and non-profit organisations. This initiative provides both environmental and social benefits, and I urge my fellow councillors to support this motion. By doing so, we can create a more sustainable and community-focused Lane Cove

RECOMMENDATION

That:-

1. The installation of smart bottle and can recycling bins as outlined in this motion be considered for inclusion in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and Budget for 2025/2026; and
2. Council obtains costings, technical specifications for the installation and ongoing use of the smart bottle and can recycling bins, including the option of partnering with local groups for consideration at the 2025 Corporate Planning Weekend.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - IMPLEMENT SMART BIN COMMUNITY EARN AND RETURN BOTTLES AND CANS

Councillor Caleb Taylor
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 [View](#) Smart Bin Bottles and Cans at Macquarie Shopping Centre (example of a current smart bin system in use). 1 Page

Item No: 2.6

Smart Bin Bottles and Cans at Macquarie Shopping Centre (example of a current smart bin system in use).



Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - ORIGIN DESTINATION STUDY: KARILLA AVENUE LANE COVE NORTH

Item No: 2.7

Item No: 2.7
Subject: Notice of Motion - Origin Destination Study: Karilla Avenue Lane Cove North
Record No: SU6042 - 77807/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Rochelle Flood

Executive Summary

A motion to assign budget and to plan for an origin-destination traffic study in Karilla Avenue Lane Cove North, to assess whether the changes have reduced rat-running.

Background

The issue of rat-running on Karilla Avenue was first raised by local residents in 2009 – when the local community started a petition and lobbied council for action to address pedestrian safety concerns in this street.

In 2015/2016, council undertook an Origin-Destination study looking at cars travelling on Karilla Avenue, to determine how many cars were using this as a rat-run. The definition of a rat run here is that used by Transport for NSW (formerly RMS): ‘A minor, typically residential street used by drivers to avoid main roads.’ The study found that two-thirds of the vehicles were using the street as a rat-run.

In 2016 there was an initial survey done to consider three options to address the two-way rat run. Option 1 was for a left-turn only out of Karilla (school bus excepted), option 2 was for Landers left out only at Parklands, option three was for raised thresholds. 57% of respondents supported option 1 for a left-turn only (school bus) excepted out of Karilla.

In 2018 a meeting was held with the State MP Anthony Robert’s, Lane Cove North Residents Association, and Lane Cove Council traffic Committee Members including RMS reps, NSW Police, and council staff. RMS and the police had no objections to option 1 which was a partial closure of Karilla Avenue. Later in 2018 a second survey was done to see if there was support for a six month trial of option 1 which had been supported in the previous survey. This survey was sent out to a wider group than the first, and it was supported by a majority of residents in Karilla, Parklands and Kooyong – the only street that did not have majority support for the trial closure was Landers.

In 2019 work started on the Lane Cove North traffic study with the Bitzios Report. This report formed the basis of the Lane Cove North Speed Reduction Plan which was put out for consultation at the end of last year, and was approved for implementation after further amendments earlier this year. Between 2019 and the finalisation of the LCN speed reduction plan, there were a series of meetings and consultations with residents, however, only minor changes were made including the installation of a single speed bump on Karilla. However, this is about to change with the implementation of the full Lane Cove North Speed Reduction Plan.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - ORIGIN DESTINATION STUDY: KARILLA AVENUE LANE COVE NORTH

Item No: 2.7

Discussion

Increased development in Lane Cove North resulted in pedestrian safety concerns that had to be addressed. The Lane Cove North Speed Reduction Plan was a welcome move that will hopefully address key concerns in the area. The plan suggested that benefits of the traffic calming measures would be:

- Creating a safer environment for vulnerable road users
- Creating priority crossing opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists
- Better place-making outcomes
- Promoting walking and cycling
- Minimal reliance on policing as it would be self-enforcing
- Discouraging rat-running

This reflects the fact that while speed was one key problem residents were seeking address, it was not the only issue. The volume of cars travelling on 'non-main roads' such as Karilla, also presents safety concerns – particularly for pedestrians.

Karilla Ave is the only street on the east side of Centennial Ave between Mowbray Road and Barwon Street that is not partially closed to traffic entering to and from Centennial. This means the residents of Karilla bear the brunt of the two-way rat run with people avoiding congestion on Epping Road. Rat-running is recognised as an issue because quieter residential streets are not typically built to handle larger volumes of vehicle movements. This disrupts residents and can make people feel less safe walking or riding their bikes

Follow-up evaluations assessing whether the implementation of traffic calming measures effectively reduced speed in Lane Cove North will be undertaken. However, there is currently no plan to evaluate whether the traffic calming measures such as the continuous footpath treatments have effectively discouraged rat running. Given the longstanding nature of the issue with rat-running in Karilla Avenue, and the amount of money spent on this project, it is worth assessing whether the changes have delivered the other suggested benefits such as discouraging rat-running.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:-

1. Consider the inclusion in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and Budget for 2025/2026 the undertaking of an Origin-Destination study for cars using Karilla Avenue to help evaluate whether the traffic calming measures have reduced the volume of cars using the two-way rat run.
2. The Origin-Destination study be undertaken within 12 months of the Karilla Avenue traffic calming measures being installed. The study should assess rat-running during the recognised peak travel times and it shall not be done during school holidays.
3. Receive a report comparing the new Origin-Destination study data to the baseline results from the 2015/2016 study. If the study does not show a significant reduction in rat-running, the report should outline additional measures available to address specific concerns with the Karilla Avenue rat-run.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - ORIGIN DESTINATION STUDY: KARILLA AVENUE LANE COVE
NORTH

Councillor Rochelle Flood
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 2.7

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - CENTRAL WARD REDUCTION OF SPEED - TRAFFIC STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION.

Item No: 2.8

Item No: 2.8
Subject: Notice of Motion - Central Ward Reduction of Speed - Traffic Study and Implementation.
Record No: SU6042 - 77511/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Kathy Bryla; Councillor Bridget Kennedy

Executive Summary

This motion calls for a Traffic Study in Lane Cove Central Ward to improve the safety to both cars, bicycle users and pedestrians and to reduce the speed limit for motor vehicles to 40km/hour.

Background

The residents of Lane Cove Central Ward are feeling the impact of increased traffic and cars travelling at speed on their streets. As was the case in Lane Cove North back in 2015 when Council commenced the Lane Cove North Traffic Study, it is time to commence a similar process for the streets of Central Lane Cove including the peninsular areas.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:-

1. Take action to improve the safety for both cars and pedestrians in Central Ward within the area contained inside the red boundary outline as shown on the map **AT-1** (and including Finlayson Street);
2. Commence the process with Community Engagement with the Central Ward community to identify specific traffic-related concerns;
3. Receive a report on the cost of conducting a traffic study in Central Ward, focusing on improving safety for both cars and pedestrians, with the objective of reducing speed limits to 40 km/h in the area; and
4. Include this project in the Liveable Lane Cove 2035, Community Strategic Plan update for this term of Council, and the project be considered for inclusion in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and Budget for 2025/2026.

Councillor Kathy Bryla
Councillor

Councillor Bridget Kennedy
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 [View](#) Attachment 1 - Study Area for Reduction of Speed in Central Ward

Attachment 1

Traffic Study Area – Reduction of Speed in Central Ward



Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT ON PROPOSED TENDER(S) - SPORT AND RECREATION
FACILITY OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT

Item No: 2.9

Item No: 2.9
Subject: Notice of Motion - Report on Proposed Tender(s) - Sport and Recreation Facility Operation and Management
Record No: SU9115 - 78227/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Merri Southwood; Councillor Rochelle Flood

Executive Summary

This motion seeks to ensure that Councillors will be fully briefed on the business and operational planning undertaken by Council in relation to the management/operation of the Sport and Recreation Facility before requests for tender are released.

It also seeks review of request for tender documents by industry experts to ensure requests for tender conditions align with the commercial and community objectives set for the project.

Background

Business Cases for the Sport and Recreation Facility Project

22 February 2022

The report to Council for the meeting of 21 February 2022 included as **AT-1** in Item 48 Council's Strategic Business Case - Lane Cove Sport and Recreation Precinct (undated) (Lane Cove Council Strategic Business Case).

May 2021 (Business Papers for meeting 19 May 2022)

The business papers for the Council meeting on 19 May 2022 included, as attachments, two earlier business cases for the Sport and Recreation Facility that were dated May 2021 and were not included in the business papers for the 21 February 2022 meeting:

(a) Lane Cove Sport and Recreation Precinct Business Case Final May 2021 (Xypher Business Case).

The Xypher Business Case noted on p 29 that "A management and operational model has not been determined by Council at this point and will be subject to further investigations as the project planning progresses".

(b) Appendices A: Lane Cove Sport and Recreation Precinct Model Final May 2021 (Xypher Business Model).

The Xypher Business Model also noted that Council had not determined the management and operational model for the facility but it included in its financial modelling a management fee.

The Xypher Business Model was based on 9 courts and forecast an operating surplus of \$369,100 in Year 1, rising to \$691,600 in Year 10.

Included in the revenue figure was revenue from the café and retail of \$451,100 in Year 1, rising to \$561,600 in Year 10.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT ON PROPOSED TENDER(S) - SPORT AND RECREATION
FACILITY OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT

Item No: 2.9

September 2022

In September 2022 Council finalised the Lane Cove Council Sport and Recreation Precinct Capital Expenditure Review for submission to the Office of Local Government.

The submission included a document titled Business Case Lane Cove Sport & Recreation Precinct (undated) in the name of Lane Cove Council (for 8 courts). (CAPEX Business Case).

The Financial Appraisal on p 52 of the CAPEX Business Case states that a “a conservative detailed Business Model and Operating Forecast was prepared to inform the project” but it is unclear as to which document this refers.

The CAPEX Business Case shows in Table 29 - ‘Probable’ Financial Model for preferred option (excluding loan servicing) an operating surplus in Year 1 of \$310,950, rising to \$500,750 in Year 10 and revenue from the café and retail of \$401,826 Year 1, rising to \$561,600 in Year 10.

It also included a Management fee.

PMY Group Review

Council then engaged PMY Group “to undertake an independent review of this Business Case to provide the Council with confidence that the methodology, analysis, projections, and recommendations are consistent with the current market environment and a best practice approach has been utilised” (PMY Review).

The PMY review is dated 19 October 2022. It was included as **AT-4** in Item 7 the business papers for the Council meeting of 27 October 2022.

It is understood that the document reviewed was the CAPEX Business Case.

The PMY Review did not provide a revised business case to the level of detail included in the Xypher Business Case. It provided commentary on the modelling and assumptions underpinning the CAPEX Business Case.

The key findings of PMY Group are detailed on p 12 of the PMY Review.

The PMY Review Recommendations are outlined on p 13-

‘Overall, we find the feasibility financial projections conservative. This is consistent with the “community first” approach which the model was predicated upon.

Notwithstanding this, we find that there is opportunity to make the asset and Council's investment work harder in the interests of higher community usage and benefit, as well as improve commercial outcomes”.

However, the PMY review’s concluding paragraph stated “Aligned to the standard development process, we recommend Council undertake more detailed business and operational planning before commencement of operational procurement processes to ensure Council is best placed to negotiate optimal community and commercial outcomes over the short and longer-term time horizons of the venue, and in readiness for transition to operation”.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT ON PROPOSED TENDER(S) - SPORT AND RECREATION
FACILITY OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT

Item No: 2.9

Management and Operational Model

In Resolution **25/2023** on 23 March 2023 Council resolved that “the management/operational model for the Sport and Recreation Facility will be determined by Council and that a report be prepared on the available options including modelling of financial feasibility of a Council operated Sport and Recreation Facility”.

On 7 December 2023 Council received a report on the management and operational model for the Sport and Recreation Facility.

The report noted that “it is true to say that the LCSRC is a site with complexity. There is no similar site in Metropolitan Sydney with such a diverse offering: multi-sport courts (indoor / outdoor); golf course; bistro and dining; program rooms; and / or event space(s)”.

The report did not include modelling of the financial feasibility of a Council operated Sport and Recreation Facility.

After consideration of a report, Council resolved in Resolution **259/2023** as follows –

1. Receive and note the report;
2. Undertake an open Request for a Key Operator which will include the option of subletting of the Management of Golf Operations including coaching and Bistro / Event disciplines;
3. Undertake a process with potential community users of the facility to understand their proposed utilisation rates for utilisation of the facility prior to the acceptance of any tender;
4. Undertake a separate process to identify an operator for the Bistro / Event activities as a priority to facilitate fit-out prior to the opening of the facility;
5. Receive a report on the outcome of the tender process at the appropriate time for consideration and determination by the Council. In line with Parts 15 and 16 of Council’s resolution of 29 August 2022, the report is to include how the operation of the facility will provide all stakeholders with balanced access to both the sporting and recreation facilities; and
5. Confirms that the core goal of the facility is to operate as a service to the community.

Noting that the resolution did not provide that Councillors receive further information as to detailed business or operational planning before commencement of operational procurement processes, as recommended by the PMY Review dated 19 October 2022, Councillors have not received such information other than a report on Sport and Recreation Facility User Utilisation Responses.

Councillors have received no reports on the business case for the Sport and Recreation Facility since the release of the PYM Group Review in the business papers for the meeting of 27 October 2022.

Families are experiencing mortgage stress and rising cost of living pressures with diminished capacity to undertake discretionary expenditure.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-08-03/australian-household-spending-falls/104175810>

Over “1900 hospitality businesses failed last financial year (2023-24) as food and energy expenses rose and discretionary consumer spending fell sharply”.

<https://www.macrobusiness.com.au/2024/10/losses-mount-across-australias-hospitality-industry/>

Noting the current economic conditions and the complexity of the Sport and Recreation Facility, with no similar site in Metropolitan Sydney against which to benchmark, and noting that the costs

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NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT ON PROPOSED TENDER(S) - SPORT AND RECREATION
FACILITY OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT

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of the construction of the \$81 million facility (with the exception of a \$5 million grant) are borne by Lane Cove Council, It is appropriate that Councillors ensure that requests for tender for the management and operation of the Sport and Recreation Facility will meet both the commercial and the “community first” objectives that underpin the Sport and Recreation Facility project over the short and long term horizons.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Councillors receive, in a briefing, an overview of the proposed conditions to be included in the request(s) for tender for management/operation of the Sport and Recreation Facility, this briefing to include a written report that details -
 - (a) business and operational planning undertaken since the PMY Group Review
 - (b) investigation of and key findings about management/operational models of facilities in Australia that are run on a Key Operator model such as proposed for the Sport and Recreation Facility
 - (c) clarification around the proposed management/operation of the bistro/event functions in the facility
 - (d) proposed conditions to ensure that the core goal of the facility will be to operate as a service to the community.
2. That the proposed requests for tender be reviewed by an independent adviser in sporting and event facility management to ensure that the proposed tender conditions align with Council’s commercial and community objectives for the facility
3. That no requests for tender for a key operator or operator of any of the business activities to be conducted in the Sport and Recreation Facility be issued until after the briefing in 1 above and the review in 2 above
4. That the tender review panel(s) include an independent expert with experience in managing sporting and event facilities of a similar scale and complexity as the Sport and Recreational Facility.

Councillor Merri Southwood
Councillor

Councillor Rochelle Flood
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 3.1
Subject: Completion of the Pottery Lane Performance Space
Record No: SU9095 - 75505/24
Division: Community and Culture Division
Author(s): Stephanie Kelly

Executive Summary

This report provides a final update to Council on the completion of the Pottery Lane Performance Space, outlining its features, the next steps for operational trials, community engagement, and the official opening. It is also to acknowledge the work of the Theatre Space Planning Reference Group for their work in helping create a new multifunctional performance space for Lane Cove.

Background

Council's Cultural Action Plan included an action to 'Continue to investigate opportunities for a multipurpose cultural performance space and work alongside community cultural groups to ensure the solution is viable and sustainable.' While initially the conversion of the Council Chambers was aimed at meeting this need, as the cost and time constraint involved in the site were considered a better option was identified in the form of the Terrace Function Room at the Lane Cove Community Hub.

In the meeting of 23 May 2024, Council resolved that:-

- “1. *amend 4.2.1.b. in the Operational Plan, which states, "Convert the Civic Centre Council Chambers Space into a Multifunction Theatre Space" and associated budget of \$1,000,000 be amended to "Progress the development of a multifunctional performance space in the Terrace Function Room" with a budget of \$1,000,000*”;
2. *approve the project scope in this report as the key project deliverables with the addition of the following item to the project scope: reasonable measures for Lane Cove Theatre Company to serve refreshments at performances, within the existing budget.*
3. *target completion of the conversion by the end of 2024 to meet the critical move in dates discussed by the Lane Cove Theatre Company.*”

Discussion

Construction of the space started in August 2024 and all major construction works are now complete. The space has been thoughtfully designed to accommodate a wide range of performances and includes the following features:

- A black box theatre opportunity, providing a versatile and adaptable space suitable for a wide range of performances, including but not limited to experimental theatre, small-scale productions, cinematic screenings, acoustic concerts, multimedia showcases, and community-led events.
- Four rows of tiered seating to ensure optimal audience visibility.
- Curtains demarking corridor space to distinguish front and back-of-house areas while enabling the whole room to also be available for events and enhancing functionality.
- Custom joinery for curtain storage to maintain the flexibility of the space.
- Dedicated dressing room and storeroom to support performers and streamline backstage operations.

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COMPLETION OF THE POTTERY LANE PERFORMANCE SPACE

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- Appropriate air conditioning tailored for segmented spaces to provide comfort for performers and attendees.
- A fixed bar area to provide hospitality options during events.
- Digital screen and cinematic projector to enable high-quality visual presentations.
- Professional-grade audio-visual equipment for exceptional sound and performance quality.
- Extensive acoustic management to enhance the quality of performances and audience experience.
- Exterior repairs to improve waterproofing of the floor and ensure durability.
- Upgraded fire safety systems to ensure safety.



Next Steps

The next step is to test the functionality and versatility of these features and as such a three-month trial program has been planned prior to the official opening. This will involve diverse art forms to ensure the space is fully equipped to support a variety of performances. Feedback gathered during the trials will help refine the operations and functionality of the space. Project contingency funds have been retained to address any needs or issues that may emerge during this period. Performances and activities will include the following:

Uses Identified in the community consultation	Proposed trial host	Proposed date
Church Service	C3 Church program	6 December 2024
Comedy Show	International Day of Persons with Disability	11 December 2024

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Drama	Lane Cove Theatre Company (AV/sound Test)	13 December 2024
School activity	School Holiday Program	January 2025
Webcast	Cultural Programs	January 2025
Performance Workshop	Cultural Programs	January 2025
Author talk	Lane Cove Library Program	January 2025
Live Music	Lane Cove Music and Culture Program	January 2025
Film	Cultural Programs	January 2025
TED style talk/ Lecture	Lane Cove Library Program	February 2025
Musical	Lane Cove Theatre Company	25 February 2025
Community Meeting	Community Strategic Plan consultation	March 2025
Cabaret	TBC	March 2025
Performance Art	Gallery Lane Cove	March 2025

An art exhibition featuring local performers has been commissioned from Joshua XX and curated by Gallery Lane Cove to celebrate local talent and create a sense of awe upon the entry to the building.

A visual identity for the adopted name 'Pottery Lane Performance Space' has been commissioned and will inform the exterior signs and internal wayfinding. Additional wayfinding signage and a sculptural element on the terrace will be installed to promote the space to the broader community. This identity will also be used to create a destination online presence so that residents can easily find out what's on at the space as the program develops.

Official Opening Event

The official opening is planned for spring and will feature a light program of performances and an opening ceremony. This event will also provide a networking opportunity for the cultural and performance community to connect with Council and celebrate the completion of this state-of-the-art facility.

Budget and Final Adjustments

The final cost will be confirmed after the trial period, once all elements have been tested and any necessary remediation works have been completed. The project is currently within the budget.

Acknowledgements

Council extends its sincere thanks to the Theatre Space Planning Reference Group for their invaluable input over the past 12 months. Their dedication and expertise were crucial in addressing the diverse needs of this project, ensuring the space is both functional and inspiring.

Conclusion

The completion of the Pottery Lane Performance Space marks a significant milestone for Lane Cove's Cultural program and the community by providing a venue that fosters creativity, community engagement, and cultural expression. With its versatile features the space is set to support a diverse range of performances, from theatre to acoustic concerts and cinematic events.

The upcoming trial program seeks to ensure the space meets its full potential, with feedback from local cultural groups helping to refine its functionality. As the program develops, the community will have easy access to event information, promoting active participation and connection to the new space.

Council's collaboration with the Theatre Space Planning Reference Group has been invaluable, and their contributions have ensured the space is both practical and inspiring. The planned official opening in spring will celebrate this achievement and set the stage for the Pottery Lane Performance Space to become a vibrant cultural hub in Lane Cove.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. receive and note the report;
2. Send a letter of thanks to all the volunteers on the Theatre Space Planning Reference Group for their participation.

Stephanie Kelly
Director - Community and Culture
Community and Culture Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
LANE COVE COUNCIL AWARDED LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD AT LGNSW EXCELLENCE IN THE ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

Item No: 3.2

Item No: 3.2
Subject: Lane Cove Council Awarded Local Sustainability Award at LGNSW Excellence in the Environment Awards
Record No: SU9603 - 78189/24
Division: Planning and Sustainability Division
Author(s): Bernadette Riad

Executive Summary

Lane Cove Council was announced as the overall winner of the Local Sustainability Award at the 2024 Local Government NSW Excellence in the Environment Awards at a special event held in Sydney on December 4th.

Held annually, the Excellence in the Environment Awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of NSW councils in their efforts to manage and protect the environment.

Lane Cove Council was among 32 winners across a range of categories, with Lane Cove also accepting divisional awards for the Toward Net Zero Award, and the Innovation in Planning, Policies and Decision Making Award.



Discussion

The winners of the 2024 Local Government NSW Excellence in the Environment Awards were announced at a special event held at Docksider, Cockle Bay Wharf in Sydney on Wednesday December 4th.

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) President Cr Darriea Turley AM congratulated all the winners, noting that the standard of this year's submissions were exceptional. "It's clear that councils are meeting environmental challenges head-on, with innovation and passion, achieving meaningful outcomes for their communities," Cr Turley said. "It's important that we celebrate and recognise the amazing work being done by councils and council staff."

Lane Cove Council received two divisional awards (based on population size); the Towards Net Zero Emissions award and the Innovation in Planning, Policies and Decision Making Award, and was announced as the overall winner of the Local Sustainability Award, receiving a prize of \$10,000 to be used for professional development activities or study tours for staff.

The prestigious Local Sustainability Award recognises outstanding achievement by a NSW council to implement Ecologically Sustainable Development and strive for a sustainable future for their

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
LANE COVE COUNCIL AWARDED LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD AT LGNSW
EXCELLENCE IN THE ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

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local community. As a prerequisite for this award, Councils must demonstrate their commitment to sustainability by entering in at least 3 bronze categories in the current or previous years.

This award recognised the wide-ranging programs delivered by Lane Cove Council to achieve sustainable outcomes across our program and operational activities. Including the incorporation of key actions from our Sustainability Action Plan and Climate Resilience Plan into our Delivery Program and Operational Plan to drive momentum towards improvements across the quadruple bottom line, key projects such as the Community Renewables Program, the opening of Wadanggari Park, the formation of the Sustainability Collective and our Internal Sustainability Committee, the delivery of renewable energy projects and roll-out of EV charging infrastructure, the establishment of the Compost Network Program, and the support of initiatives such as the establishment of a facility for the Sydney Library of Things. Noting that these actions demonstrate sustainability across the organisation and empower the community to do the same.

The Towards Net Zero Award recognised Councils program of works to support our community to reduce emissions. In particular; the development and introduction of a Sustainability Rebates program to incentivise the installation of solar, batteries, and EV charging, collaboration with charge point operators to support the rollout of public EV charging infrastructure, the delivery of a Solar and Battery Bulk Buy with options to join a VPP, the creation of the Lane Cove Sustainability Collective which supports community volunteers to promote sustainability and inspire positive change, and a comprehensive review of our Development Control Plan to ensure future developments meet stringent sustainability standards to for lower emission developments.

The Sustainability Review of the DCP was also a Division Winner for Innovation in Planning, Policies and Decision Making Award. Recognising the collaborative approach undertaken in the review of the Lane Cove DCP an the adoption of enhanced sustainability provisions which ensures development within the Lane Cove LGA aligns with our sustainability objectives and best practice.

The Award provides excellent recognition of all involved in Council's journey to Net Zero Emissions and a Sustainable Lane Cove, the community, councillors and staff.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

Mark Brisby
Director - Planning and Sustainability
Planning and Sustainability Division

Craig Wrightson
General Manager
General Managers Unit

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 3.3
Subject: Update on support for local women's refuge and families in need
Record No: SU2631 - 75431/24
Division: Community and Culture Division
Author(s): Susan Heyne

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the resolution of Council at its July meeting to provide support for women and families in need through community collaboration and identification of homes where temporary access could be provided.

Background

At the Council meeting held 18 July 2024, it was resolved that Council:

1. *acknowledges the support that has been, and continues to be provided to Women & Children First and Delvena by a dedicated team of local volunteers,*
2. *investigate a process to identify houses that are empty and available, and contact the owners to seek agreement to facilitate free temporary access; and*
3. *organises a roundtable discussion with interested parties, including volunteers who have worked to date with Women & Children First and Delvena to support a comprehensive coordinated network to increase the assistance available to women and families in need.*

Delvena is a refuge for women, and their children, escaping domestic violence. Located in Lane Cove (at an address that we do not disclose for safety reasons), it has been supporting women, through the provision of safe accommodation and support services for over 30 years. Delvena is now part of Women & Children First (W&CF), an organisation committed to ensuring women, children and families are safe, connected and given the support they need across Northern Sydney.

Council, residents, local businesses, media, community and charitable organisations have long been supporters of Delvena through a range of good deeds and donations. However the need for support for women and children seeking a safe home and community continues.

In July this year, a meeting was held with Council's then Mayor, Councillor Scott Bennison, and the staff of W&CF to discuss current issues impacting women and children escaping domestic and family violence and potential solutions to these issues. It was suggested that unoccupied housing may be used to provide accommodation to W&CF clients. W&CF have experience in managing short to medium term housing arrangement for their clients and welcomed the opportunity to partner with Council on this project.

Prior to this meeting, Council had already provided Delvena with ongoing access to a home in the Lane Cove local government area. Council had also identified a vacant property awaiting development that could be offered to W&CF as short to medium term accommodation and had reached out to W&CF to discuss this opportunity. Since the meeting Council has potentially identified a second vacant property which could also provide a family with desperately needed housing and demonstrate to other property owners how vacant properties can be used to support people in need rather than remaining empty whilst awaiting redevelopment.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
UPDATE ON SUPPORT FOR LOCAL WOMEN'S REFUGE AND FAMILIES IN NEED

Item No: 3.3

Council is part of the Lower North Shore Domestic and Family Violence Network which involves collaboration between agencies and providers in the local area. To further support a coordinated Lane Cove network that increases the assistance available to women and families in need, other interested parties including volunteers will be invited to participate in a roundtable discussion.

Discussion

An investigation of existing Council-owned properties has identified two properties that can be offered to W&CF as short to medium term accommodation while awaiting redevelopment. Council is now in discussion with W&CF to realise this project so that two additional dwellings can be made available, adding to the permanent dwelling already made available for this purpose.

A roundtable meeting has been set to take place on Tuesday 10 December. The meeting has been planned to take place during the UN Women '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence'.

A range of interested parties have been invited to attend the roundtable meeting including but not limited to local volunteers, local churches, Lane Cove Rotary, St Vincent de Paul, Sydney Community Services, Women and Children First, and the North Shore Police Area Command Domestic Violence Team.

The meeting is part of a series of events and actions taking place across the region UN Women '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence' which recently included the *1 Minute of Silence 4 Violence* event hosted in Lane Cove Plaza on Wednesday 4 December.

Conclusion

We look forward to continuing to work with Delvena to facilitate free temporary access to empty and available properties and supporting the outcomes of the collaborative roundtable event.

These initiatives increase assistance available to women and families in need and demonstrate Council's commitment to supporting some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes this report.

Stephanie Kelly
Director - Community and Culture
Community and Culture Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 3.4
Subject: Bob Campbell Oval Upgrade Progress
Record No: SU9881 - 77099/24
Division: Open Space and Infrastructure Division
Author(s): Ted Webster

Executive Summary

At the April 2024 Council meeting it was resolved to engage Landscape Solutions P/L for the implementation of the Bob Campbell Oval Masterplan.

Construction activities began in May 2024 and have been advancing according to the planned program, notwithstanding the recent rainfall. A significant milestone was reached in late November with the installation of the turf sprigs. It is anticipated that the turf will require around six months to fully establish.

The turf oval is expected to be available for public use by July 2025, however the completed elements of the reserve could be made available to the community early in the new year, when they can be safely accessed by the public.

Background

Council called tenders in December 2023 for the implementation of the Masterplan at Bob Campbell Oval. Council received eight tenders. Following successful negotiations, Council resolved to engage Landscape Solutions P/L to deliver the project.

Discussion

i) Works commenced on site in May 2024 and despite the rain over recent months the project remains on schedule. The perimeter drainage is now complete, and the sports field light footings and poles are all in place. The new cricket pitch surface has been installed onto its concrete base. The slab and services to the amenities building have now been installed and the framing of the building is complete. The rainwater tanks that will supplement the irrigation system are also in place.

ii) In addition to the playground equipment being in place, the slabs for the picnic shelters have been constructed and installation of the first picnic shelter has commenced. Preparation for future picnics is also progressing through the upcoming installation of the electric BBQs.

A significant milestone was realised in late November 2024 with the commencement of the turf field sprigging process. As Council is trying to achieve the best and most durable natural turf surface, the project sports field consultant AgEnviro specified that the grass be laid using this sprigging method.

Turf sprigging is a specialised technique for turf installation that utilises grass sprigs to create the turf surface. These sprigs generally comprise the stems, stolons, or rhizomes of the grass specific species being utilised. During the sprigging procedure, the sprigs are uniformly distributed and embedded into the prepared soil. Over time, these sprigs expand, and cover the area, resulting in a vibrant and healthy turf surface that has a strong and resilient root system. The establishment of the turf from the installation of the sprigs is expected to take around 6 months.

The two photos below show the oval immediately after it was sprigged in late November and how the turf cover has increased over the first week after installation.



Figure 1: Bob Campbell Oval on 25 November 2025



Figure 2: Bob Campbell Oval on 3 December 2025

The remainder of project is progressing as planned and is expected that the oval will be ready for public use by July 2025, however an assessment of a staged release to the public of the completed works in the reserve will be made early in the new year, when they can be safely accessed by the public. The project is currently on time and on budget.

Conclusion

On completion Bob Campbell Oval will be one of the best turf sporting fields in Lane Cove and the new features of the park and playground will offer a variety of opportunities for outdoor recreation for the local community and beyond.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council received and note the report.

Martin Terescenko
Director - Open Space and Infrastructure
Open Space and Infrastructure Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 3.5
Subject: Annual Community Satisfaction Survey Results
Record No: SU7705 - 72933/24
Division: General Managers Unit
Author(s): Corinne Hitchenson

Executive Summary

Each year Council undertakes a Community Satisfaction Survey which aims to understand and identify the trends in the community's satisfaction with Council's performance across various service delivery areas including planning and development, maintenance of roads and footpaths, parks and open space, and community services and facilities as well as the community's level of satisfaction with Council's overall performance.

In the 2024 survey, Council achieved an overall satisfaction rating of 88%, with 17% of residents stating they were very satisfied with Council's overall performance. In addition to this, of the 20 service delivery areas surveyed, 15 received satisfaction ratings of more than 80%.

This report includes a summary of the ratings received across the service areas surveyed and provides high level analysis on the top performing areas and the areas noted for improvement.

It is recommended that the report be received and noted, and the results of the survey be published on Council's website.

Background

Council has conducted a Customer / Community Satisfaction Survey each year since 1996, with the number of service delivery areas reviewed increasing over time. The annual survey allows Council to track progress in key service delivery areas in accordance with Council's Community Strategic Plan and identifies the community's level of satisfaction with the overall performance of Council. The survey is also used to better understand how the community contacts Council and the satisfaction with Council's customer service, communication, and engagement.

Discussion

Survey Methodology

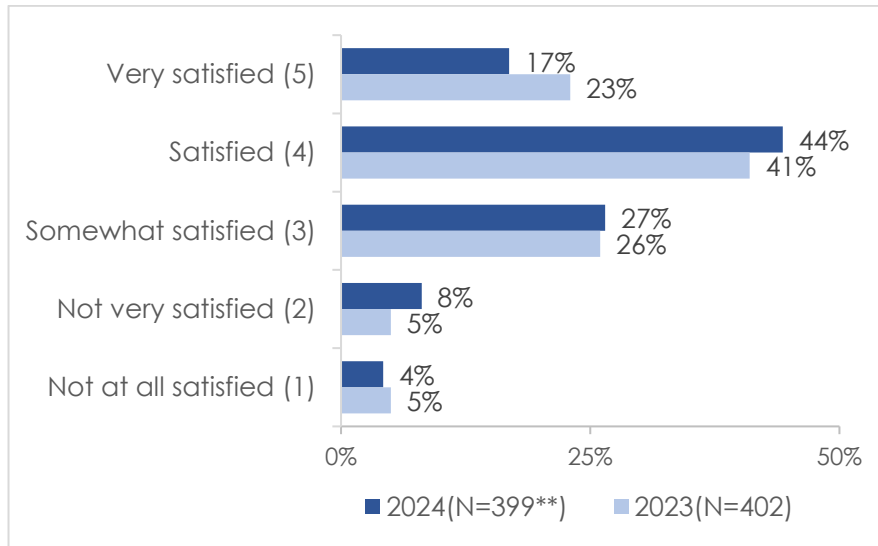
The 2024 Annual Community Satisfaction Survey was completed by 400 residents via phone, with calls taking place between 16 – 26 September 2024. 50% of the survey respondents were recruited via a computer based random sample using data available to Micromex and 50% were contacted via a Council supplied database of customers who had contacted Council since the start of the 2024 year for a customer service request.

Community Satisfaction Results

Using a 5-point rating scale (with 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest), 88% of residents rated Lane Cove Council in the top 3 ratings (very satisfied, satisfied or somewhat satisfied). This result is on par with the Micromex benchmark which uses survey results from 21 other Councils as a comparison.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
ANNUAL COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

It is interesting to note that when a breakdown of the individual ratings is completed, 17% of Lane Cove residents said they were 'very satisfied' with Council's overall performance compared to the Micromex benchmark result of 11%.



In addition to the overall satisfaction rating, the community was asked to rate the performance of Council in 20 individual service delivery areas which sit under the broad themes of Natural and Built Environment, Community Services and Facilities, Culture and Recreation, Local Economic Development and Council Services and Engagement.

Of these 20 service areas, 15 received satisfaction ratings of more than 80%. The following ranked as the top 5 highest rated service areas in terms of satisfaction.

1. Libraries - 100%
2. Events at The Canopy – 99%
3. Special Events – 98%
4. Maintaining a High Standard of Council Facilities – 97%
5. Lane Cove Aquatic Centre – 95%

These five service areas consistently rank very highly in Annual Community Satisfaction Surveys for Lane Cove Council.

The importance of these service areas is also noted in the verbatim comments, with both community events/activities and library services ranking highly as a valued service.

The following ranked as the bottom 5 service areas in terms of satisfaction rating, noting that even the lowest rated area for satisfaction, control of development, achieved a satisfaction rating of 67%.

1. Control of development – 67%
2. Tree Management – 69%
3. Consultation and engagement with the community – 75%
4. Traffic Management of local roads – 76%
5. Maintaining local roads and footpaths – 79%

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
ANNUAL COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

The following table provides a comparison with other metropolitan councils in relation to the satisfaction levels of key services:-

Service Measure	2024 (T3B%)	Metro Benchmark (T3B%)	Gap
Access for people with disabilities	93%	85%	8%
Lane Cove Aquatic Centre	95%	87%	8%
Appearance of public areas	94%	88%	6%
Bushland	93%	87%	6%
The library	100%	94%	6%
Traffic management of local roads	75%	72%	3%
Customer Service Centre	86%	83%	3%
Parks and playgrounds	93%	91%	2%
Consultation and engagement with the community	75%	73%	2%
Waste and recycling collections	94%	93%	1%
Council website	86%	89%	-3%
Sports fields	88%	91%	-3%
Control of development	67%	70%	-3%
Tree management	69%	76%	-7%

The following commentary is provided in relation to the lower performing areas.

Control of development rated at 67% and was also the lowest ranked area for community satisfaction in 2023 (63%). Residents raised control of development as an area for improvement in the open question and a review of the verbatim feedback provided shows that the main concern expressed by residents is concern about levels of over-development and ensuring that new developments are better supported by improved planning and enhanced supporting infrastructure.

Tree Management rated at 69% community satisfaction. Tree management by Council included most prominently feedback seeking improved and more timely maintenance of public trees, particularly where residents perceive there are tree hazards. Feedback was also received regarding private tree management, which centred on improving access to approvals to address trees perceived as hazardous.

Consultation and engagement rated at 75% community satisfaction, the same result received in 2023, noting this result is on par with the Micromex benchmark satisfaction rating of 76%. In their feedback, residents advocate for more consultation and communication with the community, with particular emphasis around enhanced consultation processes for local development. Some residents indicated they would also like to see more responsiveness from Council in addressing and responding to residents' concerns.

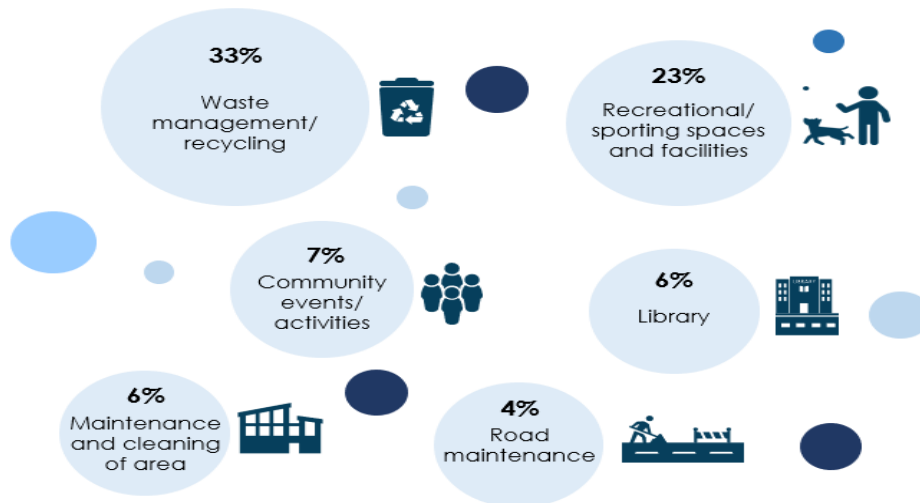
Traffic Management rated at 76% community satisfaction. Responses were largely reflecting a general concern about traffic management broadly within the community. Of the more specific feedback provided, the themes were concerns about traffic congestion due to ongoing

development and population growth, along with management of road works associated with developments.

Maintaining local roads and footpaths rated at 79% community satisfaction. Feedback centred on requesting Council to focus on local roads maintenance, including the need to repair potholes and other road damage. Similarly, feedback regarding footpaths focused on the need for more effective footpath repairs and maintenance, particularly where residents identified concerns about safety, such as repairing trip hazards, or providing footpaths in areas where they do not currently exist. Within this category, there were also some comments received advocating for improved bicycle access, such as bike lanes.

Finally, the graphic below shows the most valued services as noted by residents in the open question towards the end of the survey. Waste and recycling were mentioned by 33% of residents, well above any other service, demonstrating the importance to residents for Council to perform its core functions well. The satisfaction rating for this area was 94% which is slightly higher than last year's score of 90%.

Recreational and/or sporting facilities was the most valued service for 23% of Lane Cove's residents with verbatim comments stressing the importance of a well-maintained and safe environment for recreation. In this area, sports fields, parks and playgrounds all scored above 88% satisfaction rating.



Conclusion

In the 2024 survey, Council achieved an overall satisfaction rating of 88%, with 17% of residents stating they were very satisfied with Council's overall performance. In addition to this, of the 20 service delivery areas surveyed, 15 received satisfaction ratings of more than 80%.

It is recommended that the report be received and noted, and the results of the survey be published on Council's website.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
ANNUAL COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

Item No: 3.5

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives and notes this report; and
2. Publishes the results of the 2024 Annual Community Satisfaction Survey on Council's website.

Craig Wrightson
General Manager
General Managers Unit

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 [View](#) Annual Community Satisfaction Survey Results - 2024

Available
Electronically

Item No: 3.6
Subject: Traffic Committee 19 November 2024
Record No: SU1326 - 73866/24
Division: Open Space and Infrastructure Division
Author(s): John Gill

Executive Summary

The Lane Cove Traffic Committee has met and provided recommendations for Council's consideration. The attached Minutes include a summary of each item – it is recommended the November 2024 Minutes are adopted for implementation.

Background

The Lane Cove Traffic Committee is a requirement of Transport for NSW and is primarily a technical review committee, which provides advice to Council on matters referred to it by Council. These matters must be related to prescribed traffic control devices and traffic control facilities for which Council has delegated authority. The Committee has no decision-making powers, it makes recommendations for the Council to consider, but Council is not bound by the advice.

Discussion

The Lane Cove Traffic Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday 19 November 2024. The agenda is included as **AT-1**. The Traffic Committee recommendations are shown in the Minutes of the Meeting, included as **AT-2**.

Agenda Items were as follows:

1. Confirmation of the Minutes Traffic Committee meeting - 19 November 2024.
2. Greenwich Road South of Chisholm Street, Greenwich - Extension of existing 'No Stopping' zone.
3. Tambourine Bay Road - No Parking Opposite Sera Street.
4. Greenwich Road Bus Zone south of River Road, Greenwich.
5. Regulatory Signposting and Linemarking.
6. 2025 Traffic Committee Meeting Dates.
7. 640 Mowbray Road, Lane Cove North - Relocate 'No Stopping' sign.
8. Petition from residents of The Baytree, Ulonga Avenue, Greenwich regarding traffic access issues along Innes Road – Update.
9. Bus Stop on the East Side of Longueville Road, North of Central Avenue (*Opposite Lil Lane Eatery*), Lane Cove.
10. 2 Kenneth Street, Longueville – Change to Parking Restrictions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the recommendations of the Lane Cove Traffic Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19 November 2024.

Martin Terescenko
Director - Open Space and Infrastructure
Open Space and Infrastructure Division

ATTACHMENTS:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| AT-1 View | Agenda of Traffic Committee - Tuesday, 19 November 2024 | Available
Electronically |
| AT-2 View | Minutes of Traffic Committee - Tuesday, 19 November 2024 | Available
Electronically |

Item No: 3.7
Subject: Hidden Disability Sunflower Program
Record No: SU6606 - 76140/24
Division: Community and Culture Division
Author(s): Susan Shand

Executive Summary

Following a suggestion by Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee, Council has become a member of the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower program. The Program provides a simple yet effective way for someone to communicate a non-visible disability. Staff have completed training in recent months signaling their ongoing support for members of the community living with disability. This report summaries Council's involvement in the program ahead of its launch in Lane Cove on Tuesday 3 December which coincides with International Day of People with Disability.

Background

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program is a global initiative helping to let others know that a person has a disability or chronic illness that isn't immediately apparent. People living with a hidden disability are given access to a sunflower lanyard which has a distinctive yellow sunflower printed on a green background. The sunflower is a simple yet effective way to communicate a non-visible disability without explaining it whenever people need assistance. By wearing the lanyard it indicates to those around them that the wearer is a person with a hidden disability who may require support, understanding, or a little patience when they are out in public, at work, in shops, or using transportation.



Following a suggestion from Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee, staff investigated participation in the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program. This included regional level discussions across the Community Services teams within the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) to ensure the initiative would be recognised beyond the Lane Cove area. Following discussions and further benchmarking with other councils, membership fees for the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program were included in the 2024/2025 operational budget.

Discussion

In recent months Council's Community Development team have secured business membership of the program and created a team of Sunflower Champions. The Champions are made up of customer facing staff from across Council. Following their training through the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program, Council staff then led peer training for their teams. Additional training was provided to key staff in November to continue to raise awareness throughout Council.

The program will officially launch on Tuesday 3 December to coincide with International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD). It will include a soft launch morning tea at Lane Cove Library hosted by Council's Sunflower Champions. Members of the community have been invited along for an informal chat and given the opportunity to ask questions about the program. Community members seeking a lanyard will initially be able to collect one from the Hidden Disability Sunflower boxes located at Council's Customer Service Desk as well as St Leonards and

Lane Cove Libraries. Additional locations may be considered in due course and will be updated during broader promotion of the initiative as well as on Council's website:

www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/hiddensunflower.

Conclusion

Council is proud to be launching its involvement in the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program to coincide with International Day of People with Disability on Tuesday 3 December 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

Stephanie Kelly
Director - Community and Culture
Community and Culture Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 3.8
Subject: Lane Cove's 12 Beetles of Christmas
Record No: SU9795 - 75216/24
Division: Community and Culture Division
Author(s): Sarah Corry

Executive Summary

Where have all the beetles gone? Lane Cove's 12 Beetles of Christmas is a multi-faceted, cross-division program that encourages our local community to come together and consider the world around them this festive season. It is recommended that Council receive and note the report.

Background

Council staff have been working hard to create a cohesive and unique experience of Christmas in Lane Cove this year. At the centre of the creative suite is the distinctive Christmas Beetle which features in the activities specially designed for the community utilising funds from Council's Sustainability Levy.

With the iconic Christmas Beetle being harder to spot than it once was, this unique campaign combines citizen science, biodiversity education, public art, and interactive community events, to surprise, delight and encourage participation this festive season.

The Australian Museum states that evidence suggesting a decline in Christmas Beetles is anecdotal yet compelling. In the 1920s, they were reported to drown in huge numbers in Sydney Harbour, with tree branches bending into the water under the sheer weight of the massed beetles. You won't see that these days, and there is a public movement to seek answers to the question: where have they gone?

Discussion

The campaign to raise awareness for the Christmas Beetle encompasses public art, citizen science and biodiversity, and community events. This includes:-

Public Art

12 small scale steel Christmas Beetle sculptural works have been decorated by local artists and community groups and are adorning the public domain in the Lane Cove village.

The intention is that the community will spot the beetle installations during their visits to the village whether it be to shop locally or attend events, with Council holding a photo competition for the community to "catch" a beetle. The development of the public art by various local groups provided an opportunity for creative expression for participants, with the outcome becoming a motif of the Christmas spirit in the Lane Cove village in 2024.

Artists and contributors include:-

- Indo the Artist
- Gwiyaala Aboriginal Art
- Creations and Catastrophes
- Septimus Metamorphosis
- Gallery Lane Cove

- Lane Cove Library Services
- Kindy Cove and other Council teams

Citizen science and biodiversity

Council is partnering with Invertebrates Australia to host a webinar and live event regarding their Beetle Count campaign; a citizen science campaign to count the number of beetles people are seeing in Australia to understand whether their numbers are truly dwindling. Likewise, Council's Bushcare teams are hosting several Beetle Count events and bush Christmas events with beetle theming. Invertebrates Australia was founded in September 2021 by three scientists, catalysed by the extreme extent and severity of the 2019/2020 megafires. By creating a group that can represent all invertebrates, they are making a big positive impact on ecological and economic outcomes in biodiversity management.

Council-run programs include:-

- "Bah-Hum Bugs" interactive talk in Lane Cove Plaza
- Webinar on the Invertebrates Australia Beetle Count campaign
- Christmas Beetle Bug Hunt at the Lane Cove Community Nursery
- Christmas in Stringybark Creek Reserve

Events

While the Lighting of the Christmas Tree and the Bluey Live Christmas Experience remain a centrepiece of the festive event calendar, Christmas Beetle theming will run throughout the events with entertainers in costume, banners and marketing collateral all featuring the bug.

Event activations include:-

- Roving Christmas Beetle characters at 6 December event
- Christmas Beetle decorations
- Christmas Beetle craft sessions at the library
- Beetle Storytime in the library programs
- Mystery beetle craft bags

Conclusion

This multifaceted campaign has been developed by staff over many months to capture the imagination of locals and visitors alike this Christmas. The full Council's program is available on Council's website at www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/christmas.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report.

Stephanie Kelly
Director - Community and Culture
Community and Culture Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
COUNCILLOR TRAINING ATTENDANCE REQUEST - LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW
EXECUTIVE CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

Item No: 3.9

Subject: Councillor Training Attendance Request - Local Government NSW Executive Certificate for Elected Members
Record No: SU2520 - 75547/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Stephen Golding

Executive Summary

Local Government NSW offer an accredited and highly acclaimed 'Executive Certificate for Elected Members' training program for Councillors each year. Councillor Taylor, Councillor Little and Councillor Greenwell have expressed an interest in participating in this training program, offered in May and June 2025.

This report seeks Council's endorsement for Councillor Taylor, Councillor Little and Councillor Greenwell to undertake the Local Government NSW Executive Certificate for Elected Members training program.

Discussion

The Executive Certificate for Elected Members training program is developed by Local Government NSW in partnership with the University of Technology Sydney. The program is an accredited course, developed specifically for elected representatives, and is designed for councillors looking for tools to navigate local government. The course content consists of councillor roles and responsibilities, integrated planning and reporting, community engagement, development assessment and land-use planning, communication and working collaboratively.

The course dates are 16 to 17 May 2025 (Block 1) and 20 to 21 June 2025 (Block 2). The cost of the training program is \$3,500 per person.

Council's Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy allows councillors to attend conferences, training and development and similar functions by Council resolution or where it is not practical to submit a report to Council prior to the event, such requests can be approved by the Mayor and General Manager.

The Councillor Training Expenses Budget currently contains sufficient funds to accommodate the training request of Councillor Taylor, Councillor Little and Councillor Greenwell. Any additional Councillors that wish to attend the training, can nominate at the Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the request by Councillor Taylor, Councillor Little and Councillor Greenwell to undertake the Local Government NSW Executive Certificate for Elected Members training program at a cost of \$3,500 per person to be funded from the Councillor Training Expenses Budget.

Steven Kludass
Director - Corporate and Strategy
Corporate and Strategy Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY DURING CHRISTMAS AND ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING RECESS

Item No: 3.10

Item No: 3.10
Subject: Delegation of Authority During Christmas and Ordinary Council Meeting Recess
Record No: SU5070 - 72930/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Stephen Golding

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to delegate authority to a Committee comprising of the Mayor and the General Manager to deal with urgent matters arising during the Christmas and Ordinary Council Meeting recess.

Discussion

It is the normal practice to grant authority to the Mayor and General Manager to determine any urgent matters which may arise during the Christmas and Ordinary Council Meeting recess.

Section 226(d) of the Local Government Act 1993 provides that the role of Mayor includes: “(d) to exercise, in cases of necessity, the policy-making functions of the governing body of the council between meetings of the council”.

Section 377(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 provides that Council may: “...delegate to the general manager or any other person or body (not including another employee of the council) any of the functions of the council under this or any other Act...” The exercise of this power is confined by a list of matters that cannot be delegated. This has worked well in the past by ensuring that the delegation is exercised in relation to urgent matters and that Council’s policies will apply. Where no such policies exist, appropriate caution will be exercised.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council, in accordance with Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993, appoint a Committee comprising of the Mayor and the General Manager, or in their absence a delegate of the Mayor and/or the person acting as General Manager, to deal with and determine, urgent matters arising during the Christmas and Ordinary Council Meeting recess until 20 February 2025, in such cases applying Council’s policies, or where no such policies exist, exercising appropriate caution.

Steven Kludass
Director - Corporate and Strategy
Corporate and Strategy Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 12 December 2024
SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2025

Item No: 3.11

Item No: 3.11
Subject: Schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings for 2025
Record No: SU1915 - 72932/24
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Stephen Golding

Executive Summary

Council is required to adopt its annual Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule. It is recommended that the meeting schedule outlined below be adopted.

Discussion

With respect to the Schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings for 2025, the following dates are proposed:

- Thursday 20 February 2025
- Thursday 20 March 2025
- Thursday 24 April 2025
- Thursday 22 May 2025
- Thursday 19 June 2025
- Thursday 24 July 2025
- Thursday 21 August 2025
- Thursday 18 September 2025
- Thursday 23 October 2025
- Thursday 20 November 2025
- Thursday 11 December 2025

In preparing the proposed Schedule of Ordinary Council Meetings for 2025, regard was had for designated public holidays and the timing of the LGNSW Annual Conference (23 to 25 November 2025).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the proposed Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule for 2025, as outlined in this report.

Steven Kludass
Director - Corporate and Strategy
Corporate and Strategy Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: 4.1
Subject: Council Snapshot November 2024
Record No: SU220 - 78217/24
Division: General Managers Unit
Author(s): Corinne Hitchenson

Attached for the information of Councillors is a review of Council's recent activities.

This Snapshot report provides a summary of the operations of each Division within Council for November 2024 at **AT-1**.

Given the earlier timing for the December Council meeting there may be some figures or detail unavailable for the full period.

Included at **AT-2** is Council's Resolution Tracker showing the progress of Council's resolutions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the report.

Craig Wrightson
General Manager
General Managers Unit

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 View	Council Snapshot November 2024	35 Pages	Available Electronically
AT-2 View	Council Resolution Tracker for 12 December Council Meeting	19 Pages	Available Electronically