



**Lane Cove
Council**

Late Agenda Ordinary Council Meeting 19 February 2026, 7:30 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 19 February 2026 commencing at 7:30 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



Louise Kerr
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, 18 February 2026) 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.

0 MAYORAL MINUTES

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0 OFFICER REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

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FORUM GUIDELINES 9**

**L.4 INFORMATION REPORT - RELEVANT TO ITEM 16.1 - RESPONSE TO
NOTICE OF MOTION - ENHANCING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DOGS IN
LANE COVE - UPDATE 12**

Item No: L.1
Subject: Mayoral Minute - 2026 Australia Day Honours
Record No: SU18 - 10585/26
Division: Lane Cove Council
Author(s): Councillor Merri Southwood

PURPOSE

The purpose of this mayoral minute is to acknowledge a Lane Cove resident who is a recipient of a 2026 Australia Day Honours Award.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Local resident Emeritus Professor Prem Ramburuth was awarded a 2026 Australia Day Honours Award.
- It is recommended that Council formally acknowledge and congratulate them.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. acknowledge Lane Cove resident Emeritus Professor Prem Ramburuth as a recipient of a 2026 Australia Day Honours Award.
2. write to congratulate Emeritus Professor Prem Ramburuth on this recognition and thank them for their contribution to our community.

BACKGROUND

The Australian Honours and Awards system recognises the outstanding service and contributions of Australians.

Some are well known but many are contributing to their communities, our nation and internationally, and their efforts are not otherwise recognised.

We are very fortunate to have many volunteers and expert professionals who work tirelessly in our community and it is wonderful to see that some are formally acknowledged with distinctive honour. Their recognition is an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge their efforts.

Order of Australia announcements are made in January and June and are awarded by the Governor-General.

DISCUSSION

This year Emeritus Professor Prem Ramburuth, a Lane Cove resident, was recognised *for significant service to tertiary education, particularly through international partnerships*, and has been appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

I congratulate Professor Ramburuth and thank them on behalf of our community.

Councillor Merri Southwood
Councillor

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 19 February 2026
INFORMATION REPORT - RELEVANT TO ITEM 13.2 - QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW -
DECEMBER 2025

Item No: L.2

Item No: L.2
Subject: Information Report - Relevant to Item 13.2 - Quarterly Budget Review - December 2025
Record No: SU10719 - 10855/26
Division: Corporate Services and Strategy Division
Author(s): Steven Kludass

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information in response to questions raised by Councillors relating to Item 13.2 – Quarterly Budget Review – December 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Information provided within this report are responses to five (5) questions that have been raised in relation to Item 13.2 - Quarterly Budget Review – December 2025. The provision of this information is made in accordance with Clause 3.35 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note this report.

DISCUSSION

The following is a summary of questions raised in relation to the Quarterly Budget Review – December 2025 report to council and management responses to each of the questions.

Question 1

Are the Kindy Cove retention payments covered by a government grant and has the grant been received?

Response

Yes, the retention payments are covered by a government grant, and the funds have now been received. The budget adjustment in the quarterly review reflects this receipt.

Question 2

Is the expenditure relating to restoration works covered by Air Trunk and has Council received those funds from Air Trunk?

Response

Yes, the full cost of the restoration works is to be funded by Air Trunk. Council has issued an invoice for the works and expects full payment of the proposed works by the end of February 2026. The restoration works are proposed to be completed by the end of April 2026.

Question 3

Why is an additional \$40,000 required for the Burns Bay Reserve Plan?

Response

The additional funds are primarily required to undertake (independent and outsourced) community consultation in relation to the proposed Plan.

Question 4

In the Transfer to and from Reserves table on page 33 of the business papers there is a reference to “Land sales Proceeds Reserve- removal of transfer due to Morrice Street drainage reserve sale not proceeding (450)”.

Is it still the intention of Council to progress the sale(s) next year? ie the proposed transaction has not been cancelled.

Response

Concerns were raised by some potential purchasers in late 2025 about the methodology used by Council to value the land that may be offered for sale. Given these concerns, Council engaged an independent valuer to assess the value of the land in late December 2025. A draft valuation has recently been submitted to Council and is under review. The sale of the Council land is a complex matter, with growing complexity given not all landowners in the precinct wish to purchase the land. If all landowners in the precinct do not purchase the land, the resultant subdivision pattern will be fragmented, and result in isolated/landlocked parcels of council land. Encroachments of existing structures on the council land only add to the complexity of the matter. Given these issues, the matter requires further consideration by Council before any final decision of Council is made. Accordingly, the sale of land will not occur in the 2025/26 year.

Question 5

Would it be possible to have an estimate of costs (to be) incurred to end June 2026 in supporting this transaction?

Response

It is not anticipated that there will be other costs incurred for this matter before the end of June 2026, apart from staff operational costs, on the basis that the sale of land will not occur in 2025/26.

CONCLUSION

This information report is provided in response to questions raised in relation to the Quarterly Budget Review – December 2025 report to Council.

Steven Kludass
Director - Corporate Services and Strategy
Corporate Services and Strategy Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: L.3
Subject: Information Report - Relevant to Item 13.3 - Draft Public Forum Guidelines
Record No: SU837 - 11321/26
Division: Corporate Services and Strategy Division
Author(s): Steven Kludass

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information in response to questions raised by Councillors relating to Item 13.3 - Draft Public Forum Guidelines.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Information provided within this report are responses to five (5) questions that have been raised in relation to Item 13.3 - Draft Public Forum Guidelines. The provision of this information is made in accordance with Clause 3.35 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note this report.

DISCUSSION.

Question 1

The draft Model Guidelines do not seem to contemplate the possibility that Councillors can ask questions of staff?

Response

The Draft Guidelines refer to both Public Forum (5.1) and Community Forum (5.2) segments within the context of a two-hour time limit. Whilst the Draft Guidelines do not specifically reference the opportunity for Councillors to ask questions of Council officers in relation to matters raised during the Public Forum or in relation to items on the business paper more generally, there is no reason why this could not happen. Council may wish to consider the specific inclusion of councillor questions in the Guidelines when considering the matter this evening.

Question 2

Clause 9.6 provides that the General Manager or a nominee can address the forum for 3 minutes on a question that comes up in forum but there does not seem to be a mechanism for a Councillor to ask a question.

Response

Clause 9.3 enables a Councillor to ask questions of a speaker (refer to Model Rules 8.1). Clause 9.6 has been included as it appears in the Model Rules (refer to 8.4).

Question 3

Clause 9.7 allows the General Manager to recommend deferral of consideration of a matter pending a further report. It is unclear why this is included as no matters are considered in public forum. If further information is required post the forum, could it not be provided in an Information Report?

Response

Clause 9.7 is based on the Model Rules (8.5) and is intended to apply where information may be brought to Council's attention that requires the published business paper item to be deferred. An Information Report may or may not address the magnitude or complexity of issues brought to Council's attention in the time available between the Public Forum (Monday evening) and consideration of the matter at Council (Thursday evening).

Question 4

There is a duplication of para numbers in 2 General.
The second 2.3 has a proposed time limit of 2 hours.

Response

Noted. The numbering in section 2 will be corrected.

Question 5

If there are a lot of submissions from the community and, presumably, a lot of questions to be asked of staff, could we consider a provision as we have in the Code of Meeting Practice whereby a motion could be moved to extend the forum for one hour maximum with the ultimate discretion given to the General Manager to decline this suggestion? This would give the General Manager authority to make a decision that is in the best interests of staff in attendance.
Questions unasked or unanswered could still be dealt with by way of an Information Report.

Response

Given that these Public Forum Guidelines are new and untested, it is likely we will discover some issues as we progress, one of which may be the two-hour limitation (noting that this limitation existed previously in section 4 of the Code of Meeting Practice). We can review the Guidelines at any time to ensure they are working in everyone's best interests.

CONCLUSION

This information report is provided in response to questions raised in relation to the Draft Public Forum Guidelines report to Council.

Steven Kludass
Director - Corporate Services and Strategy
Corporate Services and Strategy Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Ordinary Council Meeting 19 February 2026
INFORMATION REPORT - RELEVANT TO ITEM 16.1 - RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION -
ENHANCING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DOGS IN LANE COVE - UPDATE

Item No: L.4

Item No: L.4
Subject: Information Report - Relevant to Item 16.1 - Response to Notice of Motion - Enhancing infrastructure for dogs in Lane Cove - Update
Record No: SU1247 - 11249/26
Division: Open Space and Infrastructure Division
Author(s): Martin Terescenko

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information in response to questions raised by Councillors relating to Item 16.1 - Response to Notice of Motion - Enhancing infrastructure for dogs in Lane Cove - Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Information is provided within this report to answer four (4) questions raised in relation to Item 16.1 - enhancing infrastructure for dogs in the Lane Cove area. The provision of this information is made in accordance with Clause 3.35 of the Code of Meeting Practice

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note this report.

DISCUSSION

Question 1

The original motion included a request to investigate, as an interim measure, options to safely store a shovel on-site. Has this been explored with the café?

Response

Staff have made a number of attempts to contact the owner of the Puppy Tail Café to see if they are interested in storing a shovel. To date staff have not been successful in making contact. Staff will continue to try and contact the café owner to progress this recommendation.

Question 2

The budget figures referenced for the work at Blackman Park - are these internal staff estimates, or were external quotes obtained?

Response

As stated in the report, staff contacted our specialised drainage contractor that installs sport field drainage to provide feedback on how the sand slit drainage can be installed in the off-leash dog park. Staff also contacted a fencing contractor. The indicative costings are based on their estimates.

Question 3

If we proceed with installing reinforcement mesh at Blackman Park, will signage relating to the installation be able to be included administratively, or does it need to be explicitly included in the motion?

Response

The Council Resolution from the December 2025 Council meeting did not require any additional signage to be installed. Notwithstanding this staff will undertake a signage audit to establish if any further signage is required.

Question 4

I would like to raise concerns regarding drainage at Bob Campbell Oval.

Response

Regarding the Off-leash Dog Area at Bob Campbell Oval, sand slit drainage was installed in the sports field as per the contract specification. The specification did not include the installation of sand slit drainage in the off-leash dog area. The drainage pit in the off-leash area is designed to capture surface water run-off that is generated during larger rainfall events. It is not designed to capture subsoil ground water. Staff will undertake an investigation to see if this area can be regraded to prevent ponding.

CONCLUSION

This information report is provided in response to questions raised in relation to the Officer's report Item 16.1 - Response to Notice of Motion - Enhancing infrastructure for dogs in Lane Cove - Update

Martin Terescenko
Director - Open Space and Infrastructure

Ordinary Council Meeting 19 February 2026
INFORMATION REPORT - RELEVANT TO ITEM 16.1 - RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION -
ENHANCING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DOGS IN LANE COVE - UPDATE

Open Space and Infrastructure Division

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Item No: L.4