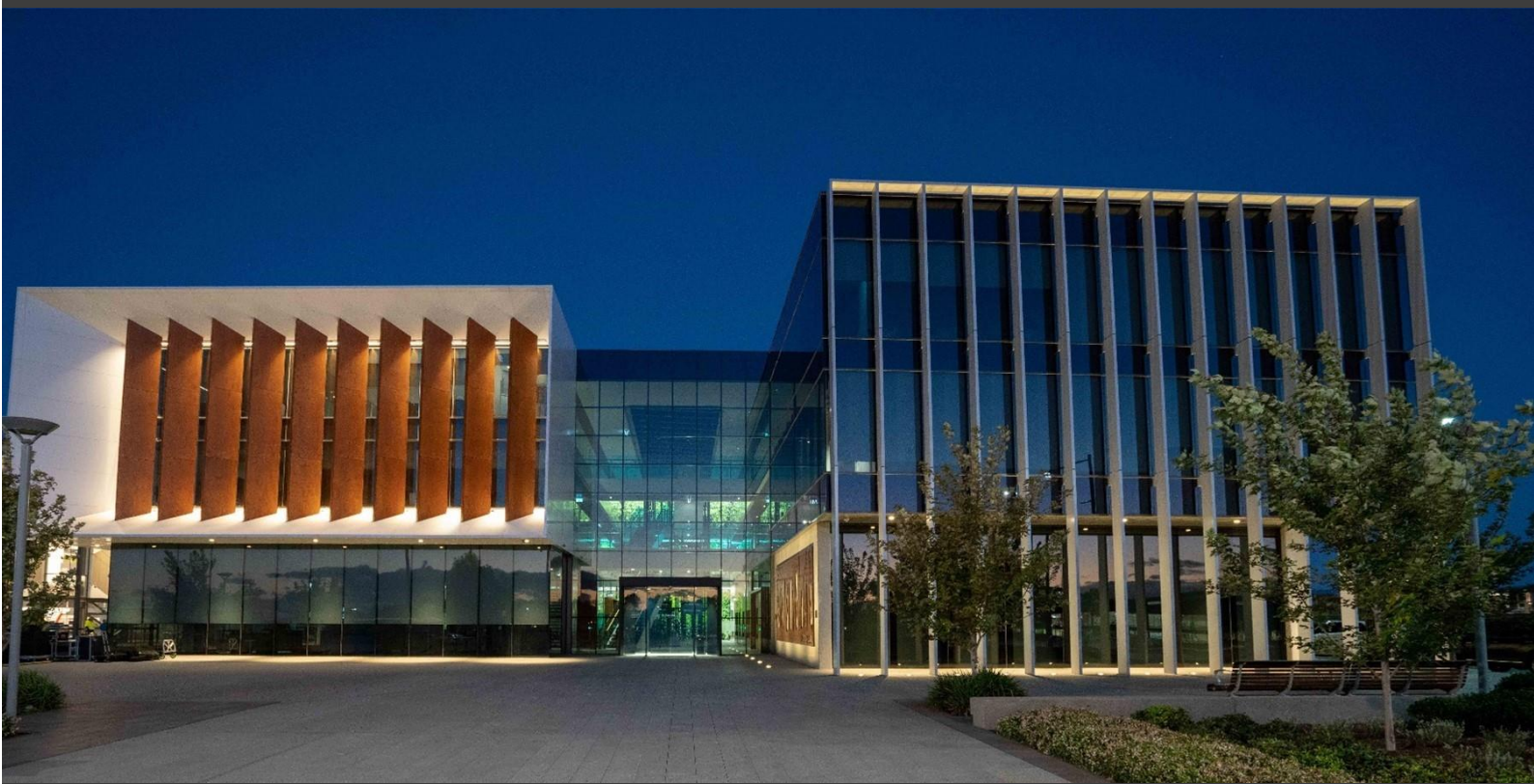


Business Paper

Ordinary Council Meeting

Camden Council
Administration Centre
70 Central Avenue
Oran Park

12 September 2023

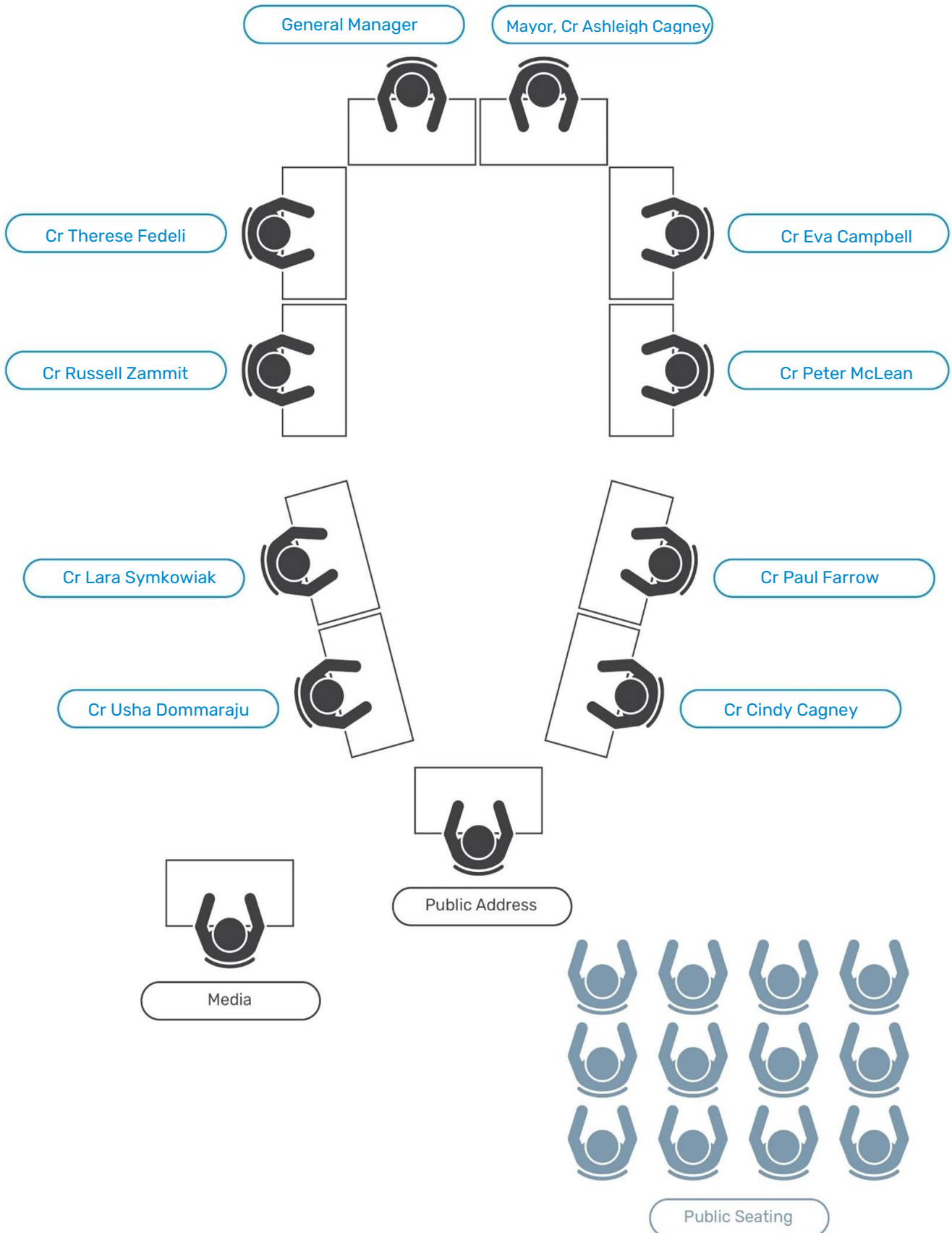


The public can also view the meeting via Council's webcast. A link to this webcast can be found on Council's webpage - <http://webcast.camden.nsw.gov.au/video.php>

camden
council

COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
AHD	Australian Height Datum
CLEP	Camden Local Environmental Plan
CP	Contributions Plan
DA	Development Application
DCP	Development Control Plan
DPE	Department of Planning & Environment
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
FPL	Flood Planning Level
GCC	Greater Cities Commission
LAP	Local Approvals Policy
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LSPS	Local Strategic Planning Statement
NCC	National Construction Code
REP	Regional Environmental Plan
PoM	Plan of Management
RL	Reduced Levels
S10.7 CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to zoning and planning restrictions on properties
S603 CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to Rates and Charges outstanding on a property
S73 CERTIFICATE	Certificate from Sydney Water regarding Subdivision
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SREP	Sydney Regional Environmental Plan
STP	Sewerage Treatment Plant
VMP	Vegetation Management Plan
VPA	Voluntary Planning Agreement



OATH AND AFFIRMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

In accordance with section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, all elected Councillors must take an oath of office or make an affirmation of office at or before the first meeting of the Council.

The oath or affirmation may be taken or made before the General Manager, an Australian legal practitioner or a Justice of the Peace.

A Councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath of office or make an affirmation of the office in accordance with the Act is not entitled to attend a meeting as a Councillor, until the Councillor has taken the oath or made the affirmation.

OATH

“I [*name of councillor*] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Camden Local Government Area and the Camden Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment”.

AFFIRMATION

“I [*name of councillor*] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Camden Local Government Area and the Camden Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment”.

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SUBJECT: PRAYER

PRAYER

Almighty God, bless all who are engaged in the work of Local Government. Make us of one heart and mind, in thy service, and in the true welfare of the people we serve: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Almighty God, give thy blessing to all our undertakings. Enlighten us to know what is right, and help us to do what is good: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Almighty God, we pause to seek your help. Guide and direct our thinking. May your will be done in us, and through us, in the Local Government area we seek to serve: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

AFFIRMATION

We affirm our hope and dedication to the good Government of Camden and the well being of all Camden's residents, no matter their race, gender or creed.

We affirm our hope for the sound decision making by Council which can improve the quality of life in Camden.

Either – “So help me God” or “I so affirm” (at the option of councillors)

We pledge ourselves, as elected members of Camden Council, to work for the provision of the best possible services and facilities for the enjoyment and welfare of the people of Camden.

Either – “So help me God” or “I so affirm” (at the option of councillors)

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the Traditional Lands and Waterways of the Dharawal people and also recognise surrounding Dharug, and Gundungurra people and pay our respect to Elders past, present, and those emerging.

SUBJECT: WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

In accordance with Camden Council's Code of Meeting Practice and as permitted under the *Local Government Act 1993*, this meeting is being live streamed and recorded by Council staff for minute taking and webcasting purposes. The recording will also be made publicly available on Council's website.

No other webcasting or recording by a video camera, still camera or any other electronic device capable of webcasting or recording speech, moving images or still images is permitted without the prior approval of Council. Council has not authorised any other webcasting or recording of this meeting.

I remind those that are participating in this meeting that your image and what you say will be broadcast live to the public and will also be recorded so please be mindful of your actions and comments. You should avoid making statements that might defame or offend, or that release any personal information about another individual without their consent. Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from your actions and comments.

Under Council's Code of Meeting Practice, individuals acting in a disorderly manner can be asked by the Chairperson to leave the meeting.

SUBJECT: LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Leaves of absence tendered on behalf of Councillors from this meeting.

RECOMMENDED

That leaves of absence be granted.

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO ATTEND BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

Requests by Councillors to attend and participate in Council meetings by audio-visual link.

A decision whether to approve a request must be made by a resolution of Council. A resolution must state:

- The meetings the resolution applies to, and
- The reason why the Councillor is being permitted to attend the meetings by audio-visual link (unless the ground is illness, disability, or caring responsibilities).

RECOMMENDED

That the requests to attend and participate by audio-visual link be granted for the meetings as determined by Council and for the reasons noted.

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Council's Code of Conduct also deals with pecuniary and non-pecuniary conflict of interest and Political Donations and how to manage these issues (Clauses 4.28-5.19).

Councillors, and where applicable, all other persons, must be familiar with the conflicts of interest provisions contained in the Code of Conduct.

This item of business provides an opportunity for Councillors to declare and manage any conflicts of interest that they may have in matters being considered at this meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDED

That the declarations be noted.

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ADDRESSES

The Public Address session in the Council Meeting provides an opportunity for people to speak publicly on any item on Council's Business Paper.

The Public Address session will be conducted in accordance with the Public Address Guidelines.

Where a member of the public raises a question during the Public Address session, a response will be provided where Councillors or staff have the necessary information at hand; if not, a reply will be provided at a later time. There is a limit of one question per speaker per meeting.

All speakers are limited to four minutes, with a one minute warning given to speakers prior to the four minute time period elapsing. The commencement and conclusion of time shall be advised by the Mayor/Chairperson.

It should be noted that speakers at Council meetings do not enjoy any protection from parliamentary-style privilege. Therefore they are subject to the risk of defamation action if they make comments about individuals. In the event that a speaker makes potentially offensive or defamatory remarks about any person, the Mayor/Chairperson will ask them to refrain from such comments.

The Mayor/Chairperson has the discretion to withdraw the privilege to speak where a speaker continues to make inappropriate or offensive comments about another person, or make a point of order ruling if a speaker breaches the Guidelines.

Only the audio recording of the public address speakers will be heard on Council's webcast. Visual images of the speaker will not be captured as part of that webcast.

RECOMMENDED

That the public addresses be noted.

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirm and adopt Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held on 1 August 2023 and the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 8 August 2023.

RECOMMENDED

That the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held on 1 August 2023 and the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 8 August 2023, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted.

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE

Consideration of Mayoral Minute (if any).

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF MAYOR - 2023/2024
FROM: Director Customer and Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/412499

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to conduct the mid-term election for the position of Mayor.

BACKGROUND

The Mayor was last elected at Council's Ordinary meeting on 9 May 2023, due to a casual vacancy.

The position of Mayor is required under section 225 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act). Councils that elect their mayors are required under section 290(1)(b) of the Act to hold mid-term mayoral elections in September 2023.

Mayors elected by councillors normally hold their office for two years (unless a casual vacancy occurs). Because of the postponement of the last ordinary council elections to 4 December 2021, the Mayor elected in September 2023 will hold their office until council elections are held on 14 September 2024.

The procedures to be followed in respect of the election of the Mayor are set out in section 290 of the Act (timing), clause 394 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) (method) and Schedule 7 of the Regulation (process).

MAIN REPORT

Nominations

To be nominated for election to the position of Mayor, a nomination form must be completed. The nomination form must be signed by two Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee, and must indicate the consent of the nominee.

The form must be delivered to the General Manager prior to the Council meeting on 12 September 2023. However, to ensure the efficient administration of the elections, it is strongly recommended that forms are returned to the General Manager as soon as possible but **no later than 4pm on 12 September 2023**. To assist, nomination forms have been issued under separate cover to each Councillor for this purpose.

Election Process

The General Manager will act as the returning officer for election of the Mayor.

If only one nomination is received, no election is required, and the General Manager is to declare the nominee the duly elected Mayor for the 2023/2024 term.

If more than one nomination is received for a position, Council will be required to resolve the method of voting for that position. Three methods are available:

- Show of hands (open voting);
- Ordinary ballot; and
- Preferential ballot.

If Council decides to use a method other than show of hands, ballot papers will be handed to each Councillor for completion. It is important that the ballot papers are completed correctly to ensure that they constitute formal votes. Informal votes are described in clause 345 of the Regulation.

Ordinary and preferential ballots must be conducted as secret ballots.

The General Manager is to declare the candidate with the majority vote the duly elected Mayor for the 2023/2024 term.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

The position of Mayor is required under the Act and the Mayoral term is until the council elections in September 2024. Council is to conduct an election for the position of Mayor and the General Manager will act as the returning officer for the election.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. if there is only one valid nomination for Mayor, authorise the General Manager to declare the nominated Councillor to be the duly elected Mayor for the 2023/2024 term; or**
- ii. if there is more than one valid nomination for Mayor:**
 - (a) determine the method of voting; and**
 - (b) hold an election for the office of Mayor at the Council Meeting of 12 September 2023 under the supervision of the General Manager as returning officer; and**
 - (c) once the election result is known, authorise the General Manager to declare the candidate with the majority vote the duly elected Mayor for the 2023/2024 term.**

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR - 2023/2024
FROM: Director Customer and Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/430396

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to conduct the mid-term election for the position of Deputy Mayor.

BACKGROUND

The Deputy Mayor was last elected at Council's Ordinary meeting on 9 May 2023, due to a casual vacancy.

Deputy mayors elected by councillors normally hold their office for two years (unless a casual vacancy occurs). Because of the postponement of the last ordinary council elections to 4 December 2021, the Deputy Mayor elected in September 2023 will hold their office until council elections are held on 14 September 2024.

The position of Deputy Mayor does not involve any additional responsibilities or functional authorities beyond the normal role of a Councillor, except when requested by the Mayor or at times when the Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from carrying out the duties of office, or if there is a casual vacancy in the office of Mayor. At such times, the Deputy Mayor assumes the role of the Mayor as specified under section 226 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Councils are not required to have a deputy mayor but, if one is appointed, the Deputy Mayor holds their office for the term specified by the council's resolution.

MAIN REPORT

Nominations

To be nominated for election to the position of Deputy Mayor, a nomination form must be completed. The nomination form must be signed by two Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee, and must indicate the consent of the nominee.

The form must be delivered to the General Manager prior to the Council meeting on 12 September 2023. However, to ensure the efficient administration of the elections, it is strongly recommended that forms are returned to the General Manager as soon as possible but **no later than 4pm on 12 September 2023**. To assist, nomination forms have been issued under separate cover to each Councillor for this purpose.

Election Process

The General Manager will act as the returning officer for election of the Deputy Mayor.

If only one nomination is received, no election is required, and the General Manager is to declare the nominee the duly elected Deputy Mayor for the 2023/2024 term.

If more than one nomination is received for a position, Council will be required to resolve the method of voting for that position. Three methods are available:

- Show of hands (open voting);
- Ordinary ballot; and
- Preferential ballot.

If Council decides to use a method other than show of hands, ballot papers will be handed to each Councillor for completion. It is important that the ballot papers are completed correctly to ensure that they constitute formal votes. Informal votes are described in clause 345 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

Ordinary and preferential ballots must be conducted as secret ballots.

The General Manager is to declare the candidate with the majority vote the duly elected Deputy Mayor for the 2023/2024 term.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

The position of Deputy Mayor is not required but past practice has been to retain the position of Deputy Mayor for each Mayoral term. Council may conduct an election for the position of Deputy Mayor and the General Manager will act as the returning officer for the election.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. if there is only one valid nomination for Deputy Mayor, authorise the General Manager to declare the nominated Councillor to be the duly elected Deputy Mayor for the period of the 2023/2024 Mayoral term; or**
- ii. if there is more than one valid nomination for Deputy Mayor:**
 - (a) determine the method of voting; and**
 - (b) hold an election for the office of Deputy Mayor at the Council Meeting of 12 September 2023 under the supervision of the General Manager as returning officer; and**
 - (c) once the election result is known, authorise the General Manager to declare the candidate with the majority vote the duly elected Deputy Mayor for the period of the 2023/2024 Mayoral term.**

ORD03

SUBJECT: PROVISION OF EXPENSES AND FACILITIES TO COUNCILLORS - JANUARY TO JUNE 2023
FROM: Director Customer and Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/386790

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to table detailed reports on the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors for the period of 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023, and for Council to note the report on the operation of the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy.

BACKGROUND

At its Ordinary Meeting on 12 July 2022, Council resolved to adopt the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy (the Policy). Section 14.2 of the Policy provides that:

“Detailed reports on the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors will be publicly tabled at a Council meeting every six months and published in full on Council’s website. These reports will include expenditure summarised by individual Councillor and as a total for all Councillors”.

Council also resolved at that same meeting to receive a report on the operation of the Policy in one year’s time.

A Councillor briefing on this matter was held on 29 August 2023.

MAIN REPORT

Provision of Expenses and Facilities to Councillors

In accordance with the Policy, the expenditure for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities to all Councillors for the period of 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023, excluding Mayoral and Councillor Fees, is detailed below in Table 1. This will be further reported in Council’s 2022/23 Annual Report, as required under clause 217(1)(a1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

Table 1:

Expense Category	Total Cost (all Councillors)
Travel Expenses - General	\$493.00
Professional Development	\$3,500.00
Conferences & Seminars	\$8,267.23
ICT Expenses	\$3,540.64
Travel Expenses - Interstate	NIL
Travel Expenses - Overseas	NIL
Spouse & Partner Expenses	NIL

Carer Expenses	NIL
TOTAL	\$15,800.87

A further breakdown by individual Councillor is provided at **Attachment 1** to this report.

Operation of the Policy

The Policy is operating effectively so no amendments are recommended. It is noted that, under 252(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Policy is required to be reviewed and adopted again by Council within the 12 months after the September 2024 election, that is, by September 2025. Any enhancements to the Policy, which are subsequently identified, can be addressed during that review and adoption process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

This report provides information on the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors for the period from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023, including expenditure summarised by individual Councillor and as a total for all Councillors. The report also notes that the Policy is currently operating effectively and no amendments are recommended at this time.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. note the information in this report in relation to the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors for the period of 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023; and**
- ii. endorse that no amendments to the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy are required at this time.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Provision of Expenses and Facilities to Individual Councillors from 1 January 2023 - 30 June 2023

SUBJECT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023
FROM: Director Customer and Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/417881

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of the upcoming 2023 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference (the Conference), seek nominations for Council's voting delegates (if any) with respect to motions and voting in the LGNSW Board election, and request the endorsement of proposed motions to be submitted to the Conference.

BACKGROUND

The Conference will take place from Sunday, 12 November to Tuesday, 14 November 2023 at Rosehill Gardens Racecourse, Rosehill NSW.

Online registration and submission of motions are now open for the Conference on the LGNSW website.

A Councillor briefing on this matter was held on 22 August 2023.

MAIN REPORT

Voting Delegates

To vote at the Conference, Council must nominate its voting delegates. This is separate from registering to attend the Conference.

Council is entitled to nominate up to seven voting delegates to vote at the Conference on motions. Council is also entitled to nominate up to six voting delegates to vote in the LGNSW Board election. A delegate must be present in person to be able to vote.

Council must register its voting delegates by 5:00pm on Friday, 27 October 2023. Additional nominations received after the closing date cannot be accepted.

Changes to Voting Delegates

A registered voting delegate for motions can be changed at any time by giving notice in accordance with LGNSW rules, in writing, signed by either the Mayor or General Manager.

There are no substitutions for voting in the LGNSW Board election; however, nominated voting delegates can appoint a proxy.

Conference Motions

Members (councils) are encouraged to submit motions as early as possible to allow assessment of the motions and distribution of the Conference Business Paper. In line

with the LGNSW rules, the latest date that motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Conference Business Paper is Sunday, 15 October 2023.

Motions will only be included in the Business Paper for the conference where they:

1. Are consistent with the objects of LGNSW;
2. Relate to or concern local government as a sector in NSW and/or across Australia;
3. Seek to establish or change policy positions of LGNSW and/or improve governance of the Association (noting that the LGNSW Board is responsible for decisions around resourcing any campaigns or operational activities, and any necessary resource allocations will be subject to the LGNSW budgetary process);
4. Have a lawful purpose (a motion does not have a lawful purpose if its implementation would require or encourage non-compliance with prevailing laws);
5. Are clearly worded and unambiguous in nature; and
6. Do not express preference for one or several members over one or several other members.

All motions must also be aligned to one of the following categories:

- Industrial relations and employment policy
- Economic policy
- Infrastructure policy
- Social and community policy
- Environmental policy
- Council governance and accountability
- Planning and building regulation policy
- Association business, LGNSW rule and governance.

Proposed Motions

Four motions are proposed for submission to the Conference, as detailed below. The background note to each proposed motion is provided at **Attachment 1**.

1. Motion Category – Council governance and accountability

Motion Title – Extension to Current Term of Councillors

Motion Wording – That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government legislate to extend the current term of NSW councillors to a four-year term by deferring the NSW local government elections to September 2025.

2. Motion Category – Council governance and accountability

Motion Title – Councillor Participation on Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees

Motion Wording – That Local Government NSW lobby the NSW Government to:

- Reinstate Councillors as voting members on Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees, provided independent members remain the majority; and
- Allow Councillors who are not members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee to attend Committee meetings as observers.

3. Motion Category – Infrastructure policy

Motion Title – Provision of Schools for New Communities

Motion Wording – That Local Government NSW lobby the NSW Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning to revisit the design and delivery strategy for the provision of schools' infrastructure to ensure appropriate location, sizing and timing for delivery, including the provision of pick up and drop off areas on school property.

4. Motion Category – Environmental policy

Motion Title – Conserving Koala Habitat in the Planning for New Urban Development

Motion Wording – That Local Government NSW lobby the NSW and Australian Governments for increased protection of koala habitat in the planning for new urban development, including in the Wilton and Greater Macarthur Growth areas.

Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayor and Councillors Policy

Under clause 6.7.3 of Council's Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy, the costs associated with Councillor attendance at the Conference will be met by Council.

Conference registration closes at 5:00pm on Friday, 27 October 2023. Councillors are requested to advise Council's General Manager before this date if they wish to attend the Conference so that bookings can be made accordingly.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with Councillor attendance at the Conference are accommodated within Council's adopted budget.

CONCLUSION

Councillors can register to attend the Conference and Council is entitled to submit motions and nominate seven Councillors to vote on policy motions and six Councillors to vote in the LGNSW Board election at the Conference.

Four motions are proposed as outlined in this report.

Voting delegates must be advised to LGNSW by 5:00pm on Friday, 27 October 2023.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. note the information in this report;
- ii. nominate up to seven delegates to vote on motions at the Local Government NSW 2023 Annual Conference;
- iii. nominate up to six delegates to vote in the Local Government NSW Board election;
- iv. authorise the Mayor and/or General Manager to nominate an alternate registered voting delegate where a nominated registered voting delegate is unable to vote on motions on Council's behalf; and
- v. submit the following motions to the Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2023:
 - a. That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government legislate to extend the current term of NSW councillors to a four-year term by deferring the NSW local government elections to September 2025.
 - b. That Local Government NSW lobby the NSW Government to:
 1. Reinstate Councillors as voting members on Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees, provided independent members remain the majority; and
 2. Allow Councillors who are not members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee to attend Committee meetings as observers.
 - c. That Local Government NSW lobby the NSW Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning to revisit the design and delivery strategy for the provision of schools' infrastructure to ensure appropriate location, sizing and timing for delivery, including the provision of pick up and drop off areas on school property.
 - d. That Local Government NSW lobby the NSW and Australian Governments for increased protection of koala habitat in the planning for new urban development, including in the Wilton and Greater Macarthur Growth areas.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Background Notes to Proposed Motions

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES ACT INTERNAL REPORTING
POLICY - REVISED**

FROM: Director Customer and Corporate Strategy

EDMS #: 23/456520

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council adopt the revised Public Interest Disclosures Act Internal Reporting Policy (the Policy).

BACKGROUND

The Policy was first approved on 13 November 2012, was last reviewed on 10 May 2022 and is due for review again due to the introduction of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2022* (the new PID Act).

A Councillor briefing on this matter was held on 22 August 2023.

MAIN REPORT

The new PID Act provides for the protection of public officials who make public interest disclosures and also for how disclosures are to be made and dealt with. The new PID Act is a complete revision of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994* (PID Act 1994) and will come into force from 1 October 2023.

Under the new PID Act, a public interest disclosure (PID) is a disclosure by a public official of serious wrongdoing in or affecting the public sector. Serious wrongdoing is defined to mean one or more of the following:

- Corrupt conduct;
- A government information contravention;
- A local government pecuniary interest contravention;
- Serious maladministration;
- A privacy contravention;
- A serious and substantial waste of public money.

The NSW Ombudsman is the integrity agency responsible for overseeing the operation of the PID framework across the NSW public sector.

Section 43 of the new PID Act requires the Policy to include certain mandatory content, including Council's procedures across a variety of areas such as disclosures, risk of detrimental action, confidentiality, corrective action, record keeping/reporting, internal oversight and compliance with the Act. The Policy must also have regard to any guidelines issued by the NSW Ombudsman and Council may adopt the Model PID Policy published by the NSW Ombudsman.

The Policy has been reviewed with regard to the new PID Act, the Model PID Policy and draft guidelines published by the NSW Ombudsman. The revised Policy reflects in full the applicable provisions of the Model PID Policy as well as relevant information from the guidelines, subject to necessary tailoring of the content to Council's context as

provided for within the Model PID Policy. The only substantive additions to the Model PID Policy are information about the role of Council's Disclosure Coordinator and the Mayor.

The position of Disclosure Coordinator is not formally required under the new PID Act; however, the NSW Ombudsman advises that it can be appointed at the discretion of an agency. The responsibilities listed for the Disclosure Coordinator in the draft revised Policy are consistent with those outlined in the current Policy. The one addition of note is the authority to deem that a disclosure is a voluntary PID even if it would not otherwise be a voluntary PID, which is a new provision under the new PID Act.

The position of Mayor has no formal responsibilities under the new PID Act; however, it is considered appropriate that the Mayor continues to have authority to act as a disclosure officer and receive PIDs, especially in relation to the General Manager. This is consistent with Council's current Policy.

The revised Policy addresses the following matters:

- Background information (such as purpose and scope);
- How to make reports of serious wrongdoing;
- Protections available under the PID Act;
- How to report detrimental action;
- Support made available by Council;
- Roles and responsibilities;
- How Council deals with voluntary PIDs;
- Review and dispute resolution processes;
- Other obligations.

It also provides for inclusion as annexures the positions and contact information for disclosure officers, and a list of integrity agencies. The NSW Ombudsman recommends that, for councils, these are approved by the General Manager as they are dynamic lists that may require regular updating outside of a standard policy review cycle. This is reflected in the recommendation for this report, noting that the initial list of disclosure officers will be finalised and inserted into the revised Policy before it takes effect.

A copy of the revised Policy is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report. Please note that:

- The attachment is a new draft based on the new Model Policy and official guidance. It is not practicable to show changes from Council's existing Policy, which is based on the PID Act 1994.
- Black text represents content from the new Model Policy.
- Tracked text represents additional drafting in response to the guidance materials.
- Some other minor administrative adjustments have been made to align to Council processes.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that Council adopt the revised Public Interest Disclosures Act Internal Reporting Policy.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **adopt the revised Public Interest Disclosures Act Internal Reporting Policy, included as Attachment 1 to this report, to take effect from 1 October 2023; and**
- ii. **delegate to the General Manager the authority to approve and amend the annexures to the revised Public Interest Disclosures Act Internal Reporting Policy.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Revised Public Interest Disclosures Act Internal Reporting Policy

ORD06

ORD06

SUBJECT: DELIVERY PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORT JANUARY TO JUNE 2023
FROM: Director Customer and Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/411191

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the 2022 - 2026 Delivery Program draft Performance Report for the period January to June 2023.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, all councils are required to undertake their planning and reporting activities using the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework. The framework requires councils to develop a suite of documents that reflect the vision and aspirations of their community.

The documents that form part of the IPR framework include:

- **Community Strategic Plan (10 year+)**
The Community Strategic Plan is the highest level of plan, identifying the community aspirations, desired outcomes, and necessary strategies.
- **Four Year Delivery Program and Operational Plan (Budget)**
The Delivery Program is Council's commitment to progress the Community Strategic Plan in its Council term. The Operational Plan is the sub-set of the Delivery Program.
- **Resourcing Strategy: Executive Summary**
The Strategy ensures the community's long-term objectives are met, and the associated plans are:
 - Asset Management Plan;
 - Workforce Management Strategy; and
 - Long-Term Financial Plan.

Council adopted these documents in June 2022.

The IPR framework requires Council to report the progress of the Delivery Program. This report is the second Performance Report for Council's Delivery Program 2022 - 2026 and provides a progress update for the period January to June 2023.

A Councillor briefing on the Performance Report was held on 29 August 2023.

MAIN REPORT

The Performance Report is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report and provides a status update on the 27 performance indicators within the 2022 - 2026 Delivery Program and the 170 actions within the 2022 – 2023 Operational Plan.

Council monitors its progress in achieving the objectives stated in the Community Strategic Plan through the implementation of the Delivery Program under the five Key Directions:

1. Welcoming – Embracing our Vibrant and Diverse Community;
2. Liveable – Strong and Integrated Connections between our People and our Services;
3. Prosperous – Advancing Local Economic Opportunities and Job Creation;
4. Balanced – Providing Sustainable and Responsible Solutions that Enhance our Heritage and Natural Environment; and
5. Leading – A Successful Advocate for our People and Places.

Council utilises a rating scale to assess the status of the Delivery Program performance indicators. **Table 1** provides a description of each rating scale.

Table 1





The rating scale for assessing Performance indicators:	
	<p>On Track</p> <p>When the 'actual' is either equal, less, or greater than the set target</p>
	<p>Monitoring</p> <p>Corporate variance of ±10% applies to the set target and is considered achievable, feasible and realistic for performance improvement, with the exception of Legislative requirements</p>
	<p>Needs Work</p> <p>When the 'actual' is either below or above the corporate variance</p>
	<p>External Impacts</p> <p>Deliverables impacted by a range of incidents including severe weather events</p>

Table 2 provides a summary of the status of the Delivery Program performance indicators, with detailed information noted within the Performance Report provided at **Attachment 1** to this report.

Table 2

Key Direction	No. of Performance Indicators	Status			
		On Track	Monitoring	Needs Work	External Impacts
Welcome	5	5	0	0	0
Liveable	10	8	2	0	0
Prosperous	3	3	0	0	0
Balanced	5	5	0	0	0
Leading	4	4	0	0	0
	27	25	2	0	0

Council utilises a linear gauge system to assess the progress of the Operational Plan actions. **Table 3** describes each rating scale, and **Table 4** provides an overall progress status on the 170 actions within the Operational Plan.

Table 3

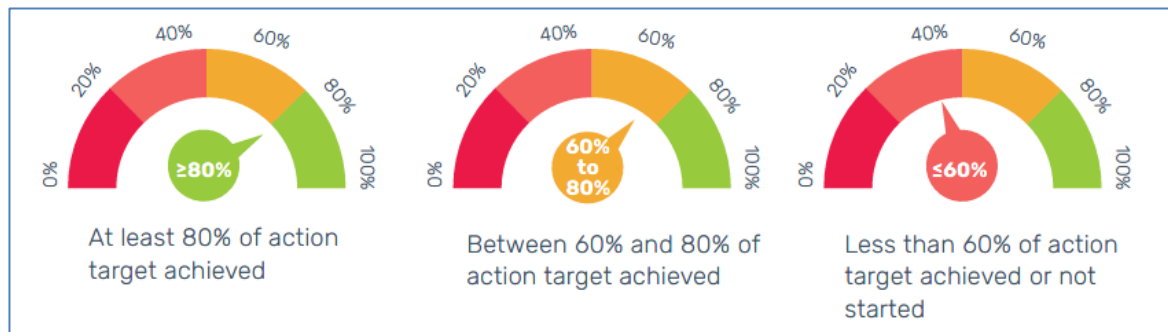
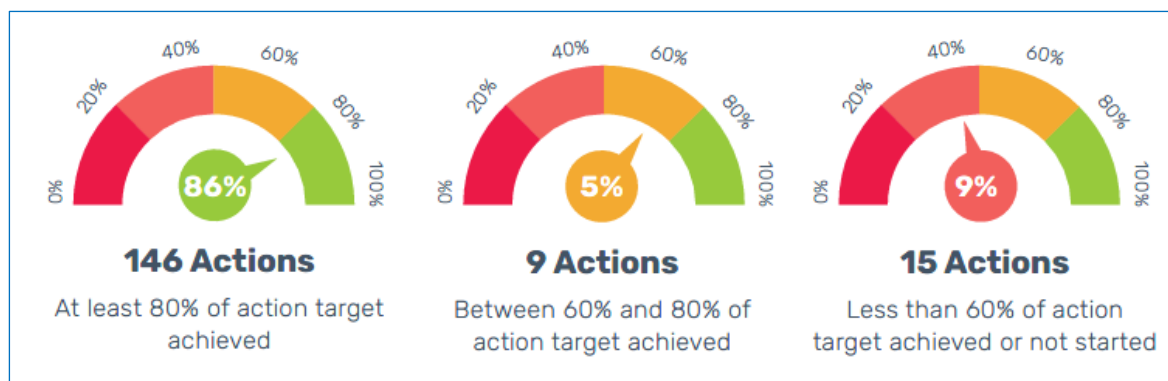


Table 4



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for Council as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION

The Performance Report highlights that at the end of the reporting period (30 June 2023), Council is progressing in implementing the 2022 – 2026 Delivery Program and 2022 – 2023 Operational Plan.

All performance indicators and actions will continue to be monitored to ensure Council meets the targets set.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note and endorse the attached Delivery Program Performance Report for the period January to June 2023.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Delivery Program Performance Report - January to June 2023

ORD07**ORD07**

SUBJECT: POST EXHIBITION - DRAFT GENERIC COMMUNITY LAND PLAN OF MANAGEMENT
FROM: Director Sport, Community and Activation
EDMS #: 23/311211

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the outcome of the public exhibition for the draft Generic Community Land Plan of Management (PoM).

It is recommended that Council adopt the draft PoM provided as **Attachment 1** to this report.

BACKGROUND

Under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act), Council is required to adopt a PoM for all Council owned community land. In addition, under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act), Council must ensure a compliant PoM is in place for all Crown Land under the care, control, or management of Council.

The draft PoM has been developed to meet legislative requirements and provides Council with direction on the management of all community land and sets out how community land is intended to be used, managed, maintained and enhanced in the future.

The draft PoM was placed on public exhibition from 3 July to 14 August 2023, with a public hearing held on 17 July 2023.

Councillors were briefed on the draft PoM on 21 February 2023 and again on the outcome of the public exhibition on 29 August 2023.

MAIN REPORT

Overview of the draft Camden PoM

The draft PoM has been developed to provide direction for the management of all community land and contains a range of actions to guide the management of community land over the life of the document.

The draft PoM defines the values, use, management intent and practices for the community land it covers and has been developed in alignment with existing strategic Council documentation and policies.

Key aspects of the draft PoM includes information on the use and management of community land, including:

- An overview of the land;
- The categorisation and core objectives of the land;
- Examples of authorised development and authorised use;
- Management issues;

- Objectives and performance targets;
- Means of achievement of objectives; and
- Manner of assessment of performance targets.

Categories of community land

In accordance with the LG Act, community land must be categorised to best reflect the use and nature of the land.

The draft PoM categorises community land as one or more of the following:

- General Community Use;
- Park;
- Sportsground;
- Area of Cultural Significance; or
- Natural Area.

Natural areas are then further categorised as either:

- Bushland;
- Wetland;
- Watercourse;
- Escarpment; or
- Foreshore

Maps indicating the categorisation of all community land have been included in the draft PoM.

Public Exhibition and Community Engagement

Under the LG Act, the draft PoM is required to be publicly exhibited for a period of no less than 28 days, with a 42 day period from the date the document is placed on exhibition for submissions to be made.

As the draft PoM applies categorisations to community land, a public hearing was also required to be held, with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment required to approve the draft PoM prior to it being placed on public exhibition.

The draft PoM was placed on public exhibition for 42 days from 3 July to 14 August 2023. The community consultation included:

- Copies of the draft PoM being displayed at Councils Oran Park Administration Building and at the three Libraries;
- Liaison with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment;
- The development of a web page on the Your Voice Camden community consultation platform; and
- Promotion via Council's communication channels including social media.

Outcomes of the Public Exhibition

During the public exhibition period, the Your Voice Camden page received 108 visits by 90 individuals over the 42 day public exhibition period, with the draft PoM being downloaded 34 times.

Council received three submissions, with all three submissions expressing support for the draft PoM.

A summary of the key issues raised in the submissions and officer comments is provided below. A copy of the submissions is provided as a **supporting document** to this report.

Submission summary and officer comments

Submission 1 - Relates primarily to Leppington and the lack of general community use land identified in the draft PoM. The submission requested identification of areas where community facilities will be delivered within the Leppington Town Centre and suggested that the community be consulted when determining annual budget allocations to fund and resource community facilities.

Officer Comment

The draft PoM applies to land that is already either Crown Land or Council owned community land. New land, such as in Leppington, is only categorised upon acquisition by Council.

The draft POM does not allocate funding; however, Council does publicly exhibit its Delivery Program and Operational Plan (Budget) as well as its Fees and Charges annually for public comment prior to adoption.

Submission 2 - No written submission was made, only an indication of support.

Officer Comment

Support noted.

Submission 3 - Relates to a request for Council to provide play equipment at a reserve.

Officer Comment

The draft PoM does not propose specific improvements to Council reserves. Council staff have noted the specific request for future consideration.

Outcomes of the Public Hearing

The Public Hearing was held on 17 July 2023 at Council's Administration Building and was chaired by an independent consultant. Council received two RSVPs for the public hearing, with one member of the public attending online on the night.

A presentation outlining the purpose of the draft PoM was provided at the public hearing, with those in attendance provided the opportunity to comment and ask questions. There were no submissions or comments made at the public hearing.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding for the implementation of activities associated with managing community land as outlined in the draft PoM will be funded through existing operational budgets or as part of future budget or grant processes.

CONCLUSION

The draft PoM meets legislative requirements and aligns with existing Council strategies, provides direction for the management of all community land and contains a range of actions to guide the management of community land over the life of the document.

It is proposed that the draft PoM be reviewed annually while Camden is in a growth phase to ensure new community land can be added to the PoM.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Camden PoM as attached.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. adopt the Draft Generic Community Land Plan of Management pursuant to section 40 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and in accordance with section 3.23(6) of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*;**
- ii. write to the submitters thanking them for their submission and to advise the outcome of this report; and**
- iii. write to the Hon. Stephen Kamper MP, Minister for Lands and Property, to inform him of the adoption of Council's Generic Community Land Plan of Management.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Camden Council Generic Community Land Plan of Management
2. Submissions Received - Public Exhibition of Generic Community Land Plan of Management - *Supporting Document*

ORD08

SUBJECT: AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER - REVISED

FROM: General Manager

EDMS #: 23/404206

ORD08

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council adopt the revised Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Terms of Reference and the revised Internal Audit Charter and to appoint up to two additional alternate Councillor members to the ARIC structure.

BACKGROUND

Council endorsed the implementation of a Business Assurance and Risk Management framework in June 2014. This framework included the establishment of a Business Assurance and Risk Committee (renamed Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee).

The objective of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is to provide independent assistance to Council by monitoring, reviewing and providing advice about Council on governance processes, risk management and control frameworks, and external accountability obligations.

Council resolved to adopt the Committee's current Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter and Internal Audit Charter on 8 June 2021.

On 19 December 2022, the Office of Local Government (OLG) issued a circular providing approved draft Guidelines, Model ARIC Terms of Reference and a Model Internal Audit Charter. The associated amendments required to be made to the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Regulation) have not yet been finalised however the Guidelines were issued in draft form to allow councils to prepare for implementation. The Guidelines and Models are to be implemented by 1 July 2024.

The OLG circular includes Model ARIC Terms of Reference that set out the Committee's objectives, authority, composition and tenure, roles and responsibilities, and reporting and administrative arrangements. Councils must adopt ARIC Terms of Reference that are consistent with the Model Terms of Reference approved by the Departmental Chief Executive and can include additional provisions that are not inconsistent with the approved Model.

The circular also includes a Model Internal Audit Charter to guide how internal audit will be undertaken by the Council. Councils must adopt a charter that is consistent with the Model Charter and can include additional provisions that are not inconsistent with the Model.

Councillors were briefed on 27 June 2023 and a report was presented to the Council meeting of 11 July 2023 where Council resolved the following:

'that this matter be deferred and brought to a Councillor Briefing before being reported back to Council.'

Councillors were further briefed on 22 August 2023 with the focus being the participation of non-member Councillors at ARIC meetings.

MAIN REPORT

The ARIC and Internal Audit Charters have been reviewed in line with the Models issued by OLG. The ARIC reviewed the revised ARIC Terms of Reference and the revised Internal Audit Charter at its 17 May 2023 meeting. Following this, a number of amendments were made, at the ARIC's request, and the Committee endorsed the ARIC Terms of Reference and Internal Audit Charters out of session for reporting to Council for adoption.

Revised Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference

A review of the current Charter has been undertaken considering the Guidelines and ARIC Model Terms of Reference. The changes made are consistent with the Model Terms of Reference and to align with best practice where they relate to Council.

Although significant changes have been made to the Terms of Reference in relation to wording and structure, Council was well advanced with its current Charter largely consistent in requirements with the Model.

The majority of clauses in the Model Terms of Reference have been included however some changes have not yet been added and will be considered on next review once the Regulations are finalised.

The main changes that reflect new or amended requirements relate to:

- Addition of eligibility and independence criteria for independent members and inclusion of independent members to provide an annual written declaration that they meet the independence requirements;
- The development of a four-year ARIC strategic work plan, which covers all matters listed in Section 428A of the *Local Government Act 1993* and must be reviewed annually;
- The inclusion of a four-year strategic assessment report to be provided to Council;
- Additional reporting requirements generally and greater consultation with the governing body of Council;
- A provision to cancel/postpone a meeting where a natural event/disaster means it is unsafe to conduct a meeting;
- Formal signing of confirmed ARIC minutes by the Chair; and
- Enhancements to the roles and responsibilities outlined in Schedule 1, noting that the suggested items from the Model have been largely included with some amendments.

The following inclusions in the Model Terms of Reference will be considered for inclusion after the Regulations are finalised as part of the next review of the ARIC Terms of Reference:

- Councillor membership; and
- Eligibility criteria for Councillor members.

Consideration of additional clauses for non-member Councillors

The Model Terms of Reference do not include reference to non-member Councillors' participation on the Committee. The ARIC Terms of Reference presented to Council on 11 July 2023, as a result, did not include any clauses around such participation. This has been revisited noting that the approved draft Guidelines are silent in respect of these matters.

The additional matters considered are as follows:

- Provision for non-member Councillors to attend the ARIC as observers;
- Provision of the ARIC agenda to non-member Councillors;
- Adding up to two alternate Councillors to the Committee structure.

The following process was undertaken to consider these matters:

- A comparison to Council's current approved ARIC Charter;
- Benchmarking against other Councils; and
- Seeking the advice of the ARIC independent members.

As a result of the process undertaken, three options were considered as follows:

Option 1: Council adopts the proposed ARIC Terms of Reference as presented to July 2023 Council meeting

This option aligns with the Model Terms of Reference however does not provide for non-member Councillors to attend ARIC meetings as observers, does not include provision of the agenda to non-Councillor members and does not include alternate Councillor members in the ARIC structure.

Option 2: Council rejects the proposed ARIC Terms of Reference and keeps the current ARIC Charter in place

This option does not align with the Model Terms of Reference however does include providing for Councillors to attend as observers. The current ARIC Charter does not include provision of the agenda to non-Councillor members and does not include alternate Councillor members in the ARIC structure.

Selection of this option means that Council will not be aligned with the Model Terms of Reference at this time. The draft Guidelines advise that compliance with the Model Terms of Reference will be mandatory from 1 July 2024.

Option 3: Council adopts the ARIC Terms of Reference with an amendment to include the proposed changes supported by the independent members of the ARIC

The independent members of the ARIC are supportive of providing for Councillors to attend ARIC meetings as observers and adding alternate Councillor members to the Committee structure. They are also supportive of providing the agenda list to all Councillors prior to each meeting with attending Councillors to be provided with a copy of the full agenda papers during the meeting.

If this option is chosen, the following changes will be made to the ARIC Terms of Reference.

- At the end of 4.2 the inclusion of an additional sentence to read:

“Council may add up to two alternate councillor members to the Committee structure”.
- The addition of clause 4.12 to read:

“Councillors that are not members of the Committee are to have a standing invitation to attend any meeting of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee, as an observer only. Councillors may speak, subject to any obligation under clause 6.4 to declare a conflict of interest, only if permitted or requested to do so by the Chairperson. All Councillors are entitled to receive notice of Committee meetings and an electronic copy of the meeting agenda list.”

Option 3 is considered an appropriate option as it addresses the participation of non-member Councillors on the Committee and also aligns Council to the Model Terms of Reference where appropriate. The additional clauses will need to be revisited as part of the next review once the final OLG Guidelines and Regulations are finalised.

Where option 3 is chosen, Council may also nominate and vote in up to two alternate Councillor members to the ARIC structure. In accordance with the ARIC Terms of Reference, the Mayor cannot be appointed as a Councillor member of the Committee.

The ARIC currently meets six times per year at 3pm on a Wednesday for approximately 2 hours per meeting.

Due to the number of changes to the format and wording in the new ARIC Terms of Reference, the provision of a ‘tracked changes’ version demonstrating the changes was not practical.

A copy of the revised ARIC Terms of Reference is provided at **Attachment 1**. Content in ‘red’ font represents items that are not in the Model Terms of Reference and have been amended/included as an improvement or where items are not being considered until the next review, for example, additional items transferred from Council’s current Charter or provisions not yet changed (eg Councillor membership). A copy of the current ARIC Charter is included at **Attachment 2** and a copy of the Model Terms of Reference can be accessed using this [link](#).

Revised Internal Audit Charter

A review of the current Internal Audit Charter has been undertaken considering the Guidelines and Model Internal Audit Charter. The changes made are largely consistent with the Model Charter and to align with best practice where they relate to Council.

The main changes relate to:

- Inclusion of Schedule 1, which lists the areas ARIC is responsible for monitoring under Section 428A of the *Local Government Act 1993* and includes internal audit’s role in relation to those areas. Some of these areas were included in the current Charter however not to the same extent. Some changes have been made

to the suggestions in the Model Charter to provide clarity over internal audit's role and allow a risk-based program of internal audits to be developed.

- The internal audit methodology section has been removed however noting that elements of this are covered in the Model and noting that there is inclusion of the statement that all internal audit activities are to comply with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors. It should also be noted that Council has an Internal Audit Manual and Quality Assurance and Improvement Program, which covers these requirements.

Due to the number of changes to the format and wording in the new Internal Audit Charter, the provision of a 'tracked changes' version demonstrating the changes was not practical. A copy of the revised Internal Audit Charter is provided at **Attachment 3**. Content in 'red' font represents items that are not in the Model Charter and have been either amended/added for example from Council's current Charter. A copy of the current Internal Audit Charter is included at **Attachment 4** and a copy of the Model Charter can be accessed using this [link](#).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

The ARIC and internal audit function are critical components of a robust governance framework. The revised ARIC Terms of Reference and Internal Audit Charter are proposed to further align Council with the Office of Local Government's Guidelines and best practice.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- adopt the revised Internal Audit Charter;**
- adopt the revised Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference, including the additional clauses outlined in Option 3 of this report; and**
- subject to the additional clauses in recommendation ii. being adopted as part of the revised Terms of Reference, nominate and appoint up to two Councillors as alternate Councillor members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Revised Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference
2. Attachment 2 - Current Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Charter
3. Attachment 3 - Revised Internal Audit Charter
4. Attachment 4 - Current Internal Audit Charter

ORD09

SUBJECT: MINUTES TO THE 17 MAY 2023 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
FROM: General Manager
EDMS #: 23/390140

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the minutes of the 17 May 2023 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting.

BACKGROUND

Council endorsed the implementation of a Business Assurance and Risk Management framework in June 2014. This framework included the establishment of a Business Assurance and Risk Committee (renamed Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee).

Council resolved to adopt the Committee's current Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter on 8 June 2021. The Charter includes a requirement to report draft minutes to Councillors via the Councillor Update, and to subsequently report the final minutes to Council for noting after they have been approved at the next Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting.

MAIN REPORT

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee met on 17 May 2023. The agenda discussed at the meeting included:

- Precinct Planning Internal Audit;
- General Manager's Update;
- Enterprise Risk Management;
- External Audit Update;
- Outcome of Council's IT Infrastructure and Network Penetration Tests;
- Family Day Care Assessment Results;
- Quarterly Legislative Compliance Update;
- Update on the Policy and Procedure Register;
- Audit Recommendations Implementation Status Update;
- Office of Local Government Guidelines – Gap Analysis and Revised Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference and Internal Audit Charter;
- Internal Audit Plan Status Update; and
- Update on Reports from Authoritative Bodies.

The draft minutes of the 17 May 2023 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting were circulated to Councillors as part of the Weekly Councillor Update on 16 June 2023 and subsequently approved at the 5 July 2023 Committee meeting. The approved minutes are provided as an **attachment** to this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee plays an important role in supporting the governance framework of Council. Reporting the minutes from Committee meetings keeps Council informed of the outcomes from those meetings and they are submitted for information.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the minutes of the 17 May 2023 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes to the 17 May 2023 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting

ORD09

SUBJECT: POST EXHIBITION - CAMDEN: TOWARDS NET ZERO 2023
FROM: Director Community Assets
EDMS #: 23/452175

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the outcome of the public exhibition for the draft Camden: Towards Net Zero plan.

It is recommended that Council adopt the draft Camden: Towards Net Zero, which is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report, without amendment.

BACKGROUND

The draft Camden: Towards Net Zero (the Plan) outlines the pathway to achieve net zero emissions from Council operations by 2050 with an interim target to reduce emissions by 50% by 2030, based on 2018-19 levels.

The Plan sets out the framework to assist with planning and help achieve the biggest carbon emissions reductions through delivery of 46 actions. These actions have been arranged under six focus areas:

1. *Energy* – Our buildings, facilities and assets are energy efficient and powered by renewable energy.
2. *Waste* – Our waste diversion rates will be increased through continual improvement.
3. *Goods and Services* – Commitment to progressively lower emissions through our purchased products and services.
4. *Built Environment* – Our buildings and facilities will have low or zero emissions.
5. *Transport and Plant* – Our staff fleet vehicles, operational vehicles and plant fleet will include low greenhouse emission options.
6. *Emissions Management* – We have the skills, knowledge, and systems to allow us to understand and track our emissions.

At its meeting on 20 June 2023, Council endorsed the Plan for public exhibition. Subsequently, the Plan was placed on exhibition for a period of 28 days from 28 June 2023 until 26 July 2023.

Councillors were briefed on the outcome of the public exhibition on 29 August 2023.

MAIN REPORT

The Plan as on public exhibition from 28 June 2023 until 26 July 2023, which included:

- Display of copies of the Strategy at Council's Oran Park Administration building and Camden, Narellan and Oran Park Libraries;
- Development of a Strategy-specific webpage on the Your Voice Camden community consultation platform; and
- Promotion via Council's communication channels including social media.

Outcomes of the Public Exhibition

The public exhibition period resulted in 26 responses to a quick poll, four contributions to the ideas wall and three submissions from the community. A copy of the submissions is provided as a **supporting document** to this report. A summary of the issues identified in the submissions and Council officer response is provided as **Attachment 2** of this report.

Issue 1 – Suggests expansion of local recycling facilities to build the circular economy within Camden and greater promotion of Council’s partnership with RecycleSmart.

Council acknowledges the importance of these actions and notes that they align with actions identified in the Sustainability Strategy 2020-24. A Waste Strategy is also currently being drafted, focussed on addressing community or residential waste.

In relation to corporate waste, these initiatives align with actions *W3 Investigate waste reduction and diversion technologies to drive reductions in waste generation and resource recovery* and *W6 Explore innovative approaches to increase resource recovery and reduce waste generation, including opportunities to support the circular economy*, within the draft Plan.

No amendment to the draft Plan is proposed.

Issue 2 – Suggests a 20% increase in the purchase of goods with recycled content is conservative.

A program to increase the purchase and use of goods with recycled content is currently underway and this will also focus on collecting adequate information to establish a baseline measurement for this target. Once this information can be regularly monitored, the target will be regularly reviewed to ensure that it provides an incentive to improve Council’s performance.

No amendment to the draft Plan is proposed.

Issue 3 – Suggests providing additional programs for carbon offsetting such as tree planting events, Clean Up Camden Day, additional bike lanes and upgraded foot paths to encourage active transport.

Council acknowledges the importance of these actions and these initiatives align with a number of actions being implemented through delivery of the Sustainability Strategy 2020-24, the Biodiversity Strategy 2023 and the Camden Green and Blue Grid Vision.

However, the focus of the Camden: Towards Net Zero plan is on reducing emissions from Council’s own operations without the need for carbon offsetting. Offsetting occurs when you create or purchase and retire an equivalent number of carbon offset credits. To establish carbon credits, there is a methodology that needs to be followed to measure, verify and ensure the longevity of carbon credits. Purchasing carbon credits can be expensive and investment in reducing emissions is preferred.

No amendment to the draft Plan is proposed.

Issue 4 – Suggests the interim goal should be increased in line with the NSW Government goal from 50% reduction of emissions by 2030 to 75% reduction by 2030.

While Council will aim to exceed the goals set within the draft Plan the current goals and targets have been set based on an assessment of existing available programs and technologies to achieve the required reductions within current resourcing constraints. The significant planned growth for the Camden local government area has also been factored into these goals.

The interim and ultimate goals will be reviewed as part of the four-year planning cycle built into the draft Plan and if possible, will be accelerated as part of this review.

No amendment to the draft Plan is proposed.

Issue 5 – Objection to the draft Plan based on limited potential for actions within Camden to have global impact and need for carbon emissions to be addressed as a Federal Government issue.

Issue 6 – Objection to the draft Plan based on a general opposition to action on climate change by local government.

All communities need to prepare for a changing climate and the challenges and opportunities ahead. The 2021 Australian Local Government Climate Review found that more than 70% of responding councils have set or are planning ambitious emissions reduction targets for their own operations while 80% have set or are investigating emissions reductions across their entire community. If current targets set by local governments were met, Australia would be 96% of the way to meeting the current Federal Government target.

In its Sustainability Strategy 2020-24, Council has committed to several goals that support the preparation of an emissions reduction plan including the following:

- Zero net emissions by 2050;
- 20% reduction in Council energy use per capita; and
- 20% increase in renewable energy generated.

No amendment to the draft Plan is proposed.

In addition to the submissions received, feedback from the community through the quick poll showed the following:

- When asked if residents supported Council's approach to achieving net zero emissions, 62.5% of respondents said yes.
- On a scale of 'not important at all' through to 'very important', over 50% of respondents said it was very important for Council to take action to reduce emissions from its own operations.

When asked where Council should prioritise action to achieve net zero, there was greatest support for increasing waste diversion rates and supporting the circular economy (48%) followed by ensuring our assets are energy efficient and powered by renewable energy (24%).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding for the implementation of the short-term actions within the Plan (over the next five years) will be sourced from current and future budgets as well as from suitable grant funding and partnerships. The implementation of medium and long-term actions will require consideration for funding in future budgets.

CONCLUSION

The draft Plan provides a realistic framework and action plan for strategic emission reduction by Council for its own operations. The public exhibition has not resulted in any amendments to the draft Plan for reasons outlined within the report.

It is recommended that Council adopt the draft Strategy as attached.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. adopt the draft Camden: Towards Net Zero included as an attachment to this report; and**
- ii. write to the submitters thanking them for their submission and to advise the outcome of this report.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Camden Towards Net Zero (Final Document)
2. Supporting Document - Submissions - Net Zero Strategy - *Supporting Document*
3. Attachment 2 - Summary of Submissions - Camden Towards Net Zero

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT MONIES - JULY 2023
FROM: Director Growth and Finance
EDMS #: 23/439471

PURPOSE OF REPORT

In accordance with Part 9, Division 5, Section 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, a list of investments held by Council as at 31 July 2023 is provided.

MAIN REPORT

The weighted average return on all investments was 4.63% p.a. for the month of July 2023. The industry benchmark for this period was 4.48% (Ausbond Bank Bill Index) and the current official cash rate as determined by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) has remained at 4.10%.

The Responsible Accounting Officer (the Chief Financial Officer) has certified that all investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the relevant regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

Council's Investment Report is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **note that the Responsible Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy;**
- ii. **note the list of investments for July 2023; and**
- iii. **note the weighted average interest rate return of 4.63% p.a. for the month of July 2023.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Investment Summary Report - July 2023

ORD12

ORD12

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM - PHASE 4
FROM: Director Growth and Finance
EDMS #: 23/424334

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s acceptance of a fourth round of grant funding from the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program, Phase 4.

BACKGROUND

The LRCI Program was initially created to assist a community-led recovery from COVID-19 by supporting local jobs, firms and procurement. Its intended outcomes were to provide stimulus and employment opportunities while also delivering benefits to communities through funded projects.

The purpose of the LRCI Program is to support local councils to deliver priority local roads and community infrastructure projects across the nation, supporting jobs and delivering benefits to local communities.

This funding offer constitutes the fourth Phase of the LRCI Program funding. Council has previously accepted funding under the first three phases of the LRCI Program as outlined below:

Phase 1	\$ 874,692 (excl. GST)
Phase 2	\$ 3,249,586 (excl. GST)
Phase 3	\$ 1,749,384 (excl. GST).

The current funding on offer under Phase 4 is **\$1,379,234 (excl. GST)**.

MAIN REPORT

The LRCI Phase 4 Funding can be used by Council on a range of projects. Project eligibility for the LRCI Program is stipulated in the Grant Guidelines and can include local roads projects and community infrastructure.

Local Roads Projects

Eligible local road projects involve the construction or maintenance of roads managed by local governments. Local governments are encouraged to consider works that support improved road safety outcomes.

Community Infrastructure Projects:

Eligible community infrastructure projects involve the construction, maintenance and/or improvements to council-owned assets (including natural assets) that are primarily for the direct use and benefit of the local community.

Identified projects in the fourth phase of grant funding must be delivered by 30 June 2025.

It is expected that councils, where possible, will use local businesses and workforces to deliver projects under the LRCI Program to ensure stimulus funding flows into local communities. Council has previously implemented a local preference component in its Purchasing and Procurement Policy to support this aspect of the grant criteria.

A summary of the program is provided below.

#	Project Title	Delivery Year
1	Jack Nash Reserve, Currans Hill - Tennis & basketball courts improvements	2024-25
2	Belgenny Reserve, Camden – Car park access pavement renewal	2023-24
3	Boyd Reserve, Currans Hill - Foot bridge renewal	2023-24
4	Bicentennial Equestrian Park, Camden - Road bridge 2 renewal	2023-24
5	Harrington Park Lake Reserve, Harrington Park - Foot bridge 1 renewal	2023-24
6	Harrington Park Lake Reserve, Harrington Park - Foot bridge 2 renewal	2023-24
7	Kirkham Lane, Kirkham – Pavement stabilisation	2023-24
8	Anthony Road, Leppington – Pavement stabilisation	2023-24

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds are to be included in the budget at the next quarterly review, with the allocation to be as follows:

2023/24 Budget	\$ 1,179,234
2024/25 Budget	\$ 200,000
Total	\$ 1,379,234

Funds required for project administration and design are available from within the existing Council budget or partially from the project budget.

CONCLUSION

Council has been offered additional grant funding from the Australian Government, as part of the LRCI Program. It is therefore recommended that Council accept the additional grant funding in the sum of **\$1,379,234 (excl. GST)**.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program fourth phase grant funding of \$1,379,234 (excl. GST) from the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, and allocate \$1,179,234 (excl. GST) in the 2023/24 budget and the remainder in the 2024/25 budget;**
- ii. write to The Hon. Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, thanking her for the grant; and**
- iii. write to Dr Mike Freelander MP, Member for Macarthur, and the Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Member for Hume, thanking them for their support.**

ORD12

ORD13

SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM OF WORKS - DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS - LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECOVERY GRANTS - CATEGORY D FUNDING

FROM: Director Growth and Finance

EDMS #: 23/452490

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s endorsement of the recommended program of works under the Local Government Recovery Grants Program. Camden Council received a total of \$2 million for storm and flood related disasters in March 2022 (Australian Government Reference Number (AGRN) 1012) and July 2022 (AGRN 1025) for Category D Program Severe Storm event related works.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Recovery Grants Program is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments and administered by the Office of Local Government to assist councils in recovering from severe weather and flooding. This funding initiative provides funding of \$1 million to each council declared under an eligible disaster event.

Camden Council has received a total of \$2 million for March 2022 (AGRN 1012) and July 2022 (AGRN 1025). The funds are flexible and promptly accessible to cover costs incurred by Council for recovery activities and resilience building that are not eligible for other funding.

A draft program for the funding was made available to Council in March 2023. This was noted as dependant on feedback from the Office of Local Government, resourcing, and internal stakeholder consultation. The outcome of this process is the recommended program in this report.

AGRN 1012 (March 2022)	\$ 1,000,000 (excl. GST)
AGRN 1025 (July 2022)	\$ 1,000,000 (excl. GST)

The total Category-D Funding is **\$2,000,000 (excl. GST)**.

MAIN REPORT

The Program requirements are stipulated in the Grant Program Guidelines and can include disaster recovery outcomes, social and economic recovery outcomes and built and environment recovery outcomes.

Council’s Assets and Design Branch have worked to develop the following program to address prioritised projects which met the program requirements and were identified as requiring urgent attention or identified in existing Action Plans such as a Flood Risk Management Plan or Dam Safety Plan.

A summary of the program is provided below and is further detailed in **Attachment 1**.

Projects Summary – AGRN 1012 – March 2022		
#	Title	Budget
1	Implementation of a Council Disaster Dashboard Content Management Platform	\$10,000
2	Flood Gate & Signage Program	\$100,000
3	Flood Modelling - Updated LIDAR Survey Information for LGA	\$12,000
4	LGA Flood Study Improved Community Access to Information	\$30,000
5	Camden Pool Resiliency Improvements	\$35,000
6	Nepean Riverbank Repairs - Cowpasture to Belgenny Reserve	\$813,000
	TOTAL	\$1,000,000

Projects Summary – AGRN 1025 – July 2022		
#	Title	Budget
7	Planning & Investigation of a Total Flood Warning System	\$167,000
8	Project Management	\$128,000
9	Flood Warning Improvements at Anthony Road Creek Crossing	\$220,000
10	Yandel'ora Dam, Mount Annan - Vegetation Removal Flood Risk Mitigation	\$20,000
11	Cobbitty drainage system upgrades	\$465,000
	TOTAL	\$1,000,000

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds are to be allocated in the budget at the next quarterly review. Funds required for project management and administration are available from grant funding as noted in the program summary.

CONCLUSION

Council has received grant funding under the Local Government Recovery Grant Program administered by the Office of Local Government for Category D Program Severe Storm event related works. It is therefore recommended that Council accept the additional grant funding in the sum of **\$2,000,000 (excl. GST)**.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the grant funding of \$2,000,000 (excl. GST) from the Local Government Recovery Grant Program and the recommended program of works to be allocated in the 2023/24 budget; and
- ii. write to Dr Mike Freelander MP, Member for Macarthur, and the Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Member for Hume, thanking them for their support.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2023.08.24 - MEMO - OLG Cat-D Program

ORD14**ORD14**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - TECH SAVVY SENIORS - A NSW GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE WITH TELSTRA
FROM: Director Sport, Community and Activation
EDMS #: 23/448261

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application of \$6,440 (excl. GST) from the State Library of NSW's Tech Savvy Seniors Program, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

The Tech Savvy Seniors Program is a NSW Government initiative in partnership with Telstra and is aimed at helping build the skills and confidence of seniors to use computers, tablets and smartphones.

The funds provided under this grant will enable Council to increase the training opportunities offered through our libraries to better support seniors in our local community.

MAIN REPORT

The State Library of NSW has advised Council that it has been successful in securing a grant of \$6,440 (excl. GST) to run Tech Savvy Seniors training sessions through our libraries.

The grant funding will provide Council with the opportunity to deliver 28 Tech Savvy Seniors training sessions for 140 local seniors, increasing Council's capacity to deliver lifelong learning opportunities for seniors in the Camden Local Government Area (LGA).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for a \$6,440 (excl. GST) grant to deliver Tech Savvy Seniors training sessions at Camden Council libraries.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for a \$6,440 (excl. GST) grant from the NSW Government and Telstra to deliver Tech Savvy Seniors training sessions in the Camden LGA. The funding will enable Council to increase our seniors training program to better support the needs of our local seniors.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$6,440 (excl. GST) through the State Library of NSW's Tech Savvy Seniors Program and allocate the funding in the 2023/24 budget;
- ii. write to the Hon. John Graham MLC, Minister for the Arts, Roads, Music and Night-time Economy and Jobs and Tourism, thanking him for the grant;
- iii. write to the State Library of NSW, thanking them for the grant; and
- iv. write to Mrs Sally Quinnell MP, Member for Camden, Mr Nathan Hagarty MP, Member for Leppington and Mrs Tanya Davies MP, Member for Badgerys Creek, thanking them for their support.

ORD15**ORD15****SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - 2023 NSW SMALL BUSINESS MONTH PROGRAM****FROM:** Director Sport, Community and Activation**EDMS #:** 23/451338**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application of \$2,500 (excl. GST) from the NSW Government's 2023 Small Business Month grant program and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

NSW Small Business Month in October 2023 is a month-long program created for small businesses across NSW to attend events aligned to their individual business interests. The theme of 2023 Small Business Month is *My Small Business*.

The NSW Government offers grants to eligible applicants to deliver events during Small Business Month which align to the program theme and benefits the small business community.

MAIN REPORT

The NSW Small Business Commission has advised Council that it has been successful in securing \$2,500 (exc. GST) of funding under the NSW Government's 2023 Small Business Month grant program.

The funding will support Council to deliver its *Local Procurement Campaign*, which will be launched as part of Council's Small Business Month program in October 2023, to build local businesses' capacity to supply to Council.

The Campaign will include updated information on Council's website, printed collateral, development of an instructional video, and two face-to-face workshops to provide local businesses with information regarding supplying to Council and other government agencies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for a \$2,500 (exc. GST) grant for partial delivery of its Small Business Month program. As part of the funding guidelines, Council is required to match funding, with the funding already allocated within existing operational budgets.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for a \$2,500 (exc. GST) grant under the NSW Government's 2023 Small Business Month program. The funding will be used to assist in the delivery of the *Local Procurement Campaign*, which will be launched as part of Council's Small Business Month program in October 2023.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$2,500 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's 2023 Small Business Month program for delivery of Council's Small Business Month program, and allocate the funding in the 2023/24 budget;
- ii. write to The Hon. Steve Kamper, Minister for Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism and Sport, thanking him for the grant; and
- iii. Write to Sally Quinnell MP, Member for Camden, Nathan Hagarty MP, Member for Leppington and Tanya Davies MP, Member for Badgerys Creek, thanking them for their support.

ORD16**ORD16**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - AGL COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND
FROM: Director Sport, Community and Activation
EDMS #: 23/436453

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application of \$100,000 (excl. GST) from the AGL Community Support Fund, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

The AGL Community Support Fund has been in place since 2001 and has contributed more than \$1 million to the Macarthur region through community funding and natural disaster relief.

The funds provided under this grant program will enable Council to expand our volunteer program to better support the sector by hosting a Volunteer Expo in 2024, contribute to the creation of a volunteer portal to showcase local volunteering opportunities and provide project resourcing support.

MAIN REPORT

AGL Energy Ltd (AGL) has advised Council that it has been successful in securing \$100,000 (excl. GST) as part of their Community Support Fund to increase Council's volunteering program and better support the community services sector.

The grant funding will provide Council with a unique opportunity to provide the much-needed tools to help strengthen and expand our volunteering programs. The proposed initiatives will enable more engagement within the community support sector and increase the opportunity for residents to find out how they can get involved, connect and volunteer within their community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for a \$100,000 (excl. GST) grant as part of AGL's Community Support Fund. Council will also contribute additional funding to the program from within existing operational budgets.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for a \$100,000 (excl. GST) grant under AGL's Community Support Fund. The funding will be used to enhance Camden's Volunteering program and provide much needed support to the community sector agencies engaged with volunteering within the Camden Local Government Area.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$100,000 (excl. GST) from AGL's Community Support Fund 2023 and allocate the funding in the 2023/24 budget; and
- ii. write to AGL Energy Ltd, thanking it for the grant.

ORD17

ORD17

NOTICE OF MOTION

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION - PALLIATIVE CARE UNIT AT CAMDEN HOSPITAL
FROM: Cr C Cagney
EDMS #: 23/462776

"I, Councillor Cindy C Cagney, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following at the Council Meeting of 12 September 2023:

That Council urgently write to:

Amanda Larkin, Chief Executive Officer, South Western Sydney Local Health District;
Grant Isedale, General Manager of Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals; and
The Hon. Ryan Park MP, Minister for Health;

to seek clarification as to whether the Palliative Care Unit at Camden Hospital is going to remain open for the next five years.

BACKGROUND

For several weeks there has been a lot of discussion as to whether the Camden Hospital Palliative Care Unit will remain open or whether (as speculated) it has been earmarked to close by early 2024 and all Palliative Care will be situated at Campbelltown Hospital.

As Councillors can imagine, this is quite a shock to our community and is definitely not in keeping with what our residents consider is a fair or reasonable decision.

The Camden Hospital Palliative Care Unit has long been regarded as one of the best facilities in New South Wales and was one of the first of its kind (to my knowledge).

From its humble beginnings in the enclosed verandah of the original hospital to the current patient needs centred, purpose-built state of the art Unit, it has served our community well and should be maintained.

Camden Rotary, along with many generous donors of both time (volunteer labour) and finances), have established gardens and other amenities, which add to its sense of peacefulness. Many of us have been able to entrust our family members and friends into the hands of the amazingly professional and experienced staff, who have always gone above and beyond in their clinical care and empathy for those who are in the last stages of their life journey.

Their holistic approach to end-of-life care has supported families and carers as well as patients. Our population continues to grow, and it is imperative that this Unit remains open."

ORD17

RECOMMENDED

That Council urgently write to:

- Amanda Larkin, Chief Executive Officer, South Western Sydney Local Health District;
- Grant Isedale, General Manager of Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals; and
- The Hon. Ryan Park MP, Minister for Health;

to seek clarification as to whether the Palliative Care Unit at Camden Hospital is going to remain open for the next five years.

ORD18

ORD18

NOTICE OF MOTION

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION - ALLOCATION OF WARD FUNDS TO CAMDEN COMMUNITY GARDENS
FROM: Cr C Cagney
EDMS #: 23/467665

"I, Councillor Cindy C Cagney, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following at the Council Meeting of 12 September 2023:

That Councillors agree to use Ward Funds to repair the pathways situated within the Camden Community Gardens.

The cost is in the order of \$30,000 plus GST, and I request that Council allow a budget of up to \$40,000 plus GST (if required) for these repairs.

BACKGROUND

Last year's flood damage to the Community Gardens within the Town Farm was quite extensive.

The Gardens Committee and volunteer members have done an amazing job of restoring as much of the property as possible but there are several issues that still need to be addressed.

The most pressing issue is the pathways throughout the gardens, they are in urgent need of repair and will need to be re-graded, the borders repaired, and new crushed surface materials installed, which is a task that our volunteers could not or should not undertake.

I am concerned that the current state of these paths is definitely not to the standard that would meet the expectations of our Disability Inclusion Action Plan or the general standards for safe access for all people.

Apart from the community members who tend to the gardens, the gardens section of the Town Farm enhances the overall experience of the Town Farm and also attracts many visitors in its own right who wish to experience the Camden Community Gardens and see how produce is grown.

The Town Farm Gardening Group also supplies herbs to local businesses, adding value within the synergy of fresh local food, farming and Camden's rural charm.

I ask all Councillors to support the use of Ward Funds for this much needed project."

RECOMMENDED

That Council allocate Ward Funds for Council to undertake repairs to the pathways situated within the Camden Community Gardens up to the amount of \$40,000 plus GST.

ORD19

NOTICE OF MOTION

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION - REQUESTS FOR COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS ON LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

FROM: Cr McLean

EDMS #: 23/471725

"I, Councillor Peter McLean, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following at the Council Meeting of 12 September 2023:

That Council receive a detailed Councillor briefing on the development and update of the Long Term Financial Plan in November 2023 and schedule an additional Councillor briefing in February 2024 to discuss further development and updates to the Long Term Financial Plan to ensure a high level of awareness and input by Councillors prior to the budget process and update of other Integrated Planning and Reporting documents.

BACKGROUND

The Long Term Financial Plan is a key component of Council's Resourcing Strategy within the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

It is common for these plans to be given less focus, attention and timeliness due to many other competing priorities however it is critical that we consider the resourcing of Council's activities especially at this important and pivotal time when major assets are being planned and resourced. A number of major expenditure items may now be outdated as well as other key given presumptions which Councillors need to have early knowledge, feedback and input on.

There is of course no planning and development timeframe required but early preparation for these key plans in advance (nine months in advance) will ensure Camden Council makes the best long term financial decisions. Further changes and updates will need to be made closer to the end of financial year but, with early preparation, many of the significant items will already be updated and included."

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. receive a detailed Councillor briefing on the development and update of the Long Term Financial Plan in November 2023; and**
- ii. receive an additional Councillor briefing in February 2024 to discuss further development and updates to the Long Term Financial Plan to ensure a high level of awareness and input by Councillors prior to the budget process and update of other Integrated Planning and Reporting documents.**

ORD20

ORD20

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC
FROM: Director Customer and Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/461904

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, the following business:

- Acquisition of Land – 148 Cawdor Road, Cawdor
- Acquisition of Land – 150 Cawdor Road, Cawdor
- Acquisition of Land – 201 The Old Oaks Road, Grasmere
- Compulsory Acquisition – The Northern Road, Bringelly
- General Manager's Performance Review

is, in the opinion of the General Manager, of a kind referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, being:

- Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a));
- Information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)(c)); and
- Commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (Section 10A(2)(d)(i));

and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Before a part of the meeting is closed, members of the public may make representations as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed. Representations can only be made in writing to the General Manager prior to the commencement of the meeting or a fixed period immediately after the motion is moved and seconded. That period is limited to four minutes under Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

The meeting will only be closed during discussion of the matters directly the subject of the report and no other matters will be discussed in the closed part.


Members of the public will be readmitted to the meeting immediately after the closed part has ended and, if Council passes a resolution during the closed part, the Chairperson will make the resolution public as soon as practicable after the closed part has ended.


RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. hear any objection or submission by a member of the public, limited to a period of four minutes, concerning the closure of the meeting; and
- ii. close the meeting to the media and public to discuss reports dealing with commercial matters in accordance with the provisions of Sections 10A(2)(a), 10A(2)(c) and 10A(2)(d)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

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