



Camden Council

Business Paper

Ordinary Council Meeting 9 November 2021

Please note due to COVID-19 restrictions this meeting is being held as a teleconference. The public can 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>



COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

AEP	Annual Exceedence Probability
AHD	Australian Height Datum
BCA	Building Code of Australia
CLEP	Camden Local Environmental Plan
CP	Contributions Plan
CRET	Camden Region Economic Taskforce
DA	Development Application
DCP	Development Control Plan
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry & 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
GSC	Greater Sydney Commission
LAP	Local Approvals Policy
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LSPS	Local Strategic Planning Statement
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

ORDINARY COUNCIL

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ORDINARY COUNCIL

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)

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet and pay our respect to elders both past and present.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

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.

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 and note that Council will not be responsible for your actions and comments.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: LEAVES OF ABSENCE

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

RECOMMENDED

That leaves of absence be granted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF INTEREST

NSW legislation provides strict guidelines for the disclosure of pecuniary and non-pecuniary Conflicts of Interest and Political Donations.

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

Councillors should be familiar with the disclosure provisions contained in the Council's Code of Conduct.

This report provides an opportunity for Councillors to disclose any interest that they may have or Political Donation they may have received relating to a Report contained in the Council Business Paper and to declare the nature of that interest.

RECOMMENDED

That the declarations be noted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

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 subject to necessary changes to accommodate remote access to the meeting. Speakers will be able to make their address by accessing Council's meeting remotely via the internet. Speakers must submit an application form, available on Council's website, to Council's Governance team no later than 5.00pm on the working day prior to the day of the meeting.

Speakers are limited to one topic per Public Address session. Only seven speakers can be heard at any meeting. A limitation of one speaker for and one speaker against on each item is in place. Additional speakers, either for or against, will be identified as 'tentative speakers' or should only be considered where the total number of speakers does not exceed seven at any given meeting. Speakers will be provided with instructions to allow them to access the meeting remotely online.

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.

Speakers should ensure that their statements, comments and questions comply with the Guidelines.

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.

Public Addresses are recorded for administrative purposes. 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 video conference and webcast. Visual images of the speaker will not be captured.

RECOMMENDED

That the public addresses be noted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirm and adopt Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 12 October 2021 and Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held on 14 October 2021.

RECOMMENDED

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 12 October 2021 and the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 14 October 2021, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

Mayoral Minute

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - FINAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TERM

FROM: The Mayor

TRIM #: 21/554231

This evening marks the final Ordinary Council meeting for this term of Council, and what a term it has been.

Camden continues to be one of the fastest growing local government areas in the country. In 2016 Camden had a population of just over 80,000 people and, with more than 100 new residents moving in every week, there are now more than 122,000 people who call our beautiful area home.

With this growth, we have seen our area become incredibly diverse. I am so proud to say our residents have settled here from more than 80 countries around the world; identify with more than 100 nationalities; speak more than 60 languages and believe in more than 35 different religions. We're fast becoming an exciting melting pot of traditions, cultures and beliefs, woven in beautifully with Camden's very own rich history.

During such an exciting time of growth and diversity for Camden, we have continued to deliver many great city shaping initiatives including infrastructure projects, service improvements, community projects and initiatives and achieved some fantastic planning and financial outcomes.

Of all the wonderful things delivered over the past five years, a few of the capital works highlights achieved this term include:

- Kirkham Park BMX Facility, with the completion of Stage One and ongoing work on Stage Two;
- Sedgewick Reserve and Harrington Park Youth Play Spaces;
- Curry Reserve Water Play Spaces;
- Dawson-Damer Water Play Spaces in partnership with Greenfields Development Company (GDC);
- Completion of Julia Reserve Precinct in partnership with GDC and Landcom;
- Completion of Stage 1 of the Narellan Sports Hub and Stage 2 almost complete;
- Oran Park Library in partnership with GDC and Landcom;
- The progression of Oran Park Leisure Centre;
- Alan Baker Art Gallery;
- The construction of Camden's first synthetic football field at Nott Oval;
- Stage 1 of Fergusons Land Cricket Centre of Excellence almost complete;
- The completion of the Camden Town Centre Streetscape Improvement Works;
- Graham Hill Road/Richardson Road upgrade;
- Camden Valley Way/Macarthur Road intersection upgrade;
- The delivery of the incredibly popular, 2.4-kilometre Miss Llewella Davies Pioneer Walkway; and
- The completion of Gregory Hills, Spring Farm, Catherine Park and Emerald Hills Community Centres, which have been key to their individual communities.

Some of the community initiatives developed and service enhancements made during this Council term include:

- Expanded Green Waste Service;
- Introduction of a third kerbside pickup service;
- Increased city presentation, water way cleaning and maintenance;
- High Profile Planting Program;
- Expansion of our Social Media presence;
- Significant Customer Service enhancements and advancement;
- Development of the Matching Aged To Engaging Youngsters (MATEY) project;
- Being the first Council in NSW to join the BINS4Blokes Men's Health Campaign and installing disposal bins for incontinence products in male toilets;
- The production of the Camden Edition of Monopoly; and
- Becoming Guinness World Record holders for the largest online quiz, just to name a few.

The one thing that definitely stands out about this Council term, and something we should particularly be proud of, is how we've come together as a Council and community over almost two years to tackle this global pandemic of COVID-19. It has undoubtedly been one of the most difficult and challenging times for us as a nation, organisation and community.

It was a pleasure to work so closely and collaboratively with my fellow Councillors and Council staff to develop our incredibly comprehensive, \$130.6 million COVID-19 Community Support Package, which has provided relief and support for our residents and businesses and is estimated to boost Camden's economy by up to \$221.7 million and generate up to 507 new jobs. Together, we continue to navigate the challenging times and have responded and created an environment where our community feels supported, inspired and lifted.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the General Manager, Ron Moore, the Executive Team, Senior Management Team and broader Council staff. They have seen the decisions of this Council acted upon in a professional manner which has gone a long way in providing our residents, now and in the future, with an area they are proud to live, work and play in. We have a fantastic team in place at Council and I have seen countless examples where our staff have gone above and beyond to provide outstanding service to our customers. I sincerely thank you for all your efforts.

To my fellow Councillors, thank you for your service to the community and for your support, especially during my time as Mayor. As a team we have navigated through some very challenging situations and achieved some fantastic outcomes for our residents and community, and I am excited to see what's in store for the future.

Lastly, but very importantly, I would like to thank my husband Frank and my family for their continuous love and support. I could not have taken on the position of Mayor and Councillor, and all the responsibilities and duties that come along with the roles, without their understanding and patience.

It has been an absolute pleasure and honour to have served the Camden community over the past five years as your Deputy Mayor from September 2016 to April 2019 and as Mayor from April 2019 to now. I am proud of this beautiful area, and this Council, and will remember this period as being one of strength and resilience in the face of adversity.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the information.



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD01

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - YEAR ENDING
30 JUNE 2021**

FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy

TRIM #: 21/505781

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council adopt the 2020/21 Financial Statements, invite the Audit Office of NSW to address Council on the Financial Statements and Financial Performance for year ending 30 June 2021, and thank the Audit Office of NSW for their services.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with section 418 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), a copy of Council's Financial Statements has been made available to the public for inspection since 2 November 2021 at the Oran Park Customer Service Centre and on Council's website.

Under section 420 of the Act, "Any person may make submissions in writing to the Council with respect to the Council's audited Financial Statements or with respect to the auditor's report". Submissions must be in writing and received by Council before close of business on 16 November 2021 (the Act allows seven days for submissions after Council has considered the Financial Statements and auditor's report).

Any submissions received are not considered by Council; they are forwarded to Council's external auditor for comment. The auditor will advise Council if, as a result of the submission, the audit opinion should change and/or the Financial Statements should be adjusted. Any change to the Financial Statements requires a new resolution of Council.

A Councillor briefing was held on 28 September 2021 and 26 October 2021 to provide information on this report and the process.

The Annual Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2021 will be provided to Councillors under separate cover.

MAIN REPORT

The audit of Council's Financial Statements was completed by the Audit Office of NSW on 25 October 2021.

Adjustments to Annual Financial Statements

Council signed the Annual Financial Statements 12 October 2021. Following the audit by the Audit Office of NSW, some changes were required and are detailed in the table below:

		Adjustment 000's		Variation 000's	Reason
		was	now		
Income Statement	Net Operating Result for the Year before Capital Grants and Contributions	(\$23,284)	(\$26,014)	(\$2,730)	Change in accounting treatment transferred from income to the revaluation reserve (balance sheet).
Balance Sheet	Net Assets	\$2,197,161	\$2,177,220	(\$19,941)	Net movement of additional VPA assets recognised and a reduction in the value of Other Structures through revaluation.

All corrections or disclosure improvements recommended by the Audit Office of NSW have been made to the Financial Statements.

The Audit Office of NSW will attend tonight's Council meeting to present the audit report and address Council on its financial performance for the 2020/21 Financial Year.

Audit Risk and Improvement Committee

Council's Audit Risk and Improvement Committee met on Monday, 25 October 2021 to review and provide an independent assessment of the 2020/21 Financial Statements. The meeting included a presentation to the Committee by Council's external auditors (Audit Office of NSW) on the conduct of the 2020/21 audit.

The Committee resolved the following, noting that the Special Schedules are not audited:

- i. noted the Interim Management Letter;*
- ii. noted the verbal Engagement Closing Report;*
- iii. noted the verbal report on the General Purpose Financial Statements, the Special Purpose Financial Statements and the Special Schedules (collectively referred to as the financial statements) from the Chief Financial Officer;*
- iv. subject to minor corrections and enhancements being processed:*
 - a. endorsed the General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 for submission to Council for adoption;*
 - b. endorsed the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 for submission to Council for adoption;*
 - c. endorsed the Special Schedules for the year ended 30 June 2021 for submission to Council for adoption;*
- v. thanked Management and the Audit Office of NSW for their efforts in completing the financial statements and external audit in a challenging year; and*
- vi. raised the following actions:*
 - a. requested a summary be circulated to the Committee of changes made between the financial statements presented to the Committee and the final financial statements;*
 - b. requested a presentation on Council's process for updating and revaluing Council's assets be provided to a future meeting.*

All minor corrections or disclosure improvements recommended by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee have been made to the Financial Statements.



CONCLUSION

The audit of the 2020/21 Financial Statements has been completed and Council has received an unqualified audit report.

Council's independent Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee has endorsed the Statements, which provides Council with confidence as to their integrity and compliance with the Act, and Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Subject to Council considering the presentation by the Audit Office of NSW at tonight's meeting, Council's Financial Statements can be considered for adoption.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. resolve that a representative/s from Council's external auditor, Audit Office of NSW, address Council on the Annual Financial Statements and Financial Performance for the year ending 30 June 2021;**
- ii. adopt the Annual Financial Statements for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2021; and**
- iii. write to the Audit Office of NSW, thanking them for their services this year.**

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD02

SUBJECT: RESULT AGAINST BUDGET AND REVOTES FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2021

FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy

TRIM #: 21/477449

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the budget result for the year ending 30 June 2021 in accordance with Part 9, Division 3, Clause 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

BACKGROUND

SUMMARY OF BUDGET POSITION

In adopting the March Review of the 2020/21 Budget, Council approved a balanced budget position.

A review of the budget as at 30 June 2021 has resulted in a surplus of \$365,292 after comparing final income and expenditure balances against the revised budget. The impact of COVID on Council's budget to 30 June 2021 is discussed in more detail in the variations section of this report.

A Councillor briefing was held on 26 October 2021 to discuss this report.

MAIN REPORT

PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF THE 2020/21 BUDGET SURPLUS

It is recommended that the surplus of \$365,292 be allocated as follows.

Budget surplus allocation		
Budget Surplus Available for Allocation		\$365,292
Less: Transfer to Capital Works Reserve	\$365,292	
Total - Allocation of Budget Surplus		\$365,292
Budget Position		Balanced

CURRENT RESERVE BALANCES

Capital Works Reserve

The Capital Works Reserve is predominantly used to fund capital works or to match grant funding as part of a capital grant funding agreement. The balance of the Capital Works Reserve is as follows:



Capital Works Reserve	
Current Reserve Balance	\$1,474,725
Add: Proposed June 2021 Review Transfer	\$365,292
Proposed Balance of Reserve	\$1,840,017
Committed Funds Held in Reserve	
Less: 2020/21 Revoted projects	(\$886,266)
Less: 2022/23 Community Support Package Round 3 Funding	(\$205,000)
Total Allocated	(\$1,091,266)
Uncommitted Balance – Capital Works Reserve	\$748,751

If the year-end surplus is allocated to the Capital Works Reserve, the increase in cash reserves could be used to fund new or existing projects unable to be funded as part the 2021/22 Operational Plan (budget) process.

Asset Renewal Reserve

The Asset Renewal Reserve is primarily used for the replacement and/or maintenance of existing assets. It assists in maintaining Council's asset base in a good condition. The balance of the Asset Renewal Reserve is as follows:

Asset Renewal Reserve	
Current Reserve Balance	\$631,700
Add: LIRS Interest (2021/22 Budget)	\$30,300
Proposed Reserve Balance	\$662,000
Committed Funds Held in Reserve	
Less: 2020/21 Revoted projects	(\$89,973)
Less: 2022/23 Community Support Package Round 3 Funding	(\$291,800)
Total Allocated	(\$381,773)
Uncommitted Balance – Asset Renewal Reserve	\$280,227

RESULTS AGAINST BUDGET - 30 JUNE 2021

Further information and explanation of the year end surplus for the 2020/21 financial year is detailed below:

Major Variations to Budget

Variations between the adoption of the March Review of the 2020/21 budget and the final budget result for the 2020/21 financial year represent a budget surplus of \$365,292. A list of the variations (greater than \$20,000) is provided in the following table. Brief explanations follow the table.

Result against budget - Year ending 30 June 2021 Major Variations	Budget Impact Increase/ (Decrease)
Income adjustments	
Note: Increase in income is an increase to the budget Shortfall in income is a decrease to the budget	
1. Commercial Waste Income	\$193,786
2. Civic Centre Income – COVID Impact	(\$181,996)
3. Capital Works Staffing - Transfer from Section 7.11 Reserve	\$90,304
Sub Total - Income Adjustments	\$102,094
Expenditure adjustments	
Note: Increase in expenditure is a decrease to the budget Saving in expenditure is an increase to the budget	
4. Additional Facilities Costs – COVID Impact	(\$329,565)
5. Planning and Environment	\$255,208
6. Appearance of Public Areas	(\$227,628)
7. Fleet Management – COVID Impact	\$200,611
8. Parks & Playgrounds	(\$172,759)
9. Recreation Services & Facilities – COVID Impact	\$150,816
10. Development Control	\$146,630
11. Management of Emergency Events	\$135,016
12. Community Support Services & Facilities	(\$124,271)
13. Community Events – COVID Impact	\$95,025
14. Library Services – COVID Impact	\$83,071
15. Community and Cultural Development – COVID Impact	\$71,484
Variations less than \$20,000	(\$20,440)
Sub Total - Expenditure Adjustments	\$263,198
TOTAL - Proposed Variations to Budget	\$365,292

Income Adjustments Commentary

1. Commercial Waste Income – Increase in Income of \$193,786

Actual income for Council's commercial three-bin service and commercial garbage service (1,100 litre bin) for the 2020/21 financial year has exceeded budget expectations. This is a result of higher demand than anticipated which predominantly relates to growth in the sector.

2. Civic Centre Income COVID Impact – Decrease in Income of \$181,996

Lower income has been realised for Civic Centre events and hire when compared to budget for the 2020/21 financial year. The Civic Centre has been significantly impacted by COVID restrictions and compliance with public health orders.

3. Construction & Maintenance of Infrastructure – Increase in Income of \$90,304

This is the reimbursement of Council's costs (general fund) for project managing capital works that are fully funded from the Section 7.11.

Expenditure Adjustments Commentary

4. Additional Facilities Costs COVID Impact - Expense Increase of \$329,565

In response to COVID, an enhanced cleaning regime is in place at Council facilities to minimise the transmission of COVID.

This variation also includes the maintenance costs associated with Council's second depot at Smeaton Grange. The second depot was a control measure to ensure if one depot could not be used due to a COVID related issue, Council could still provide essential services to our community. This provides for sound operational risk management in a COVID environment.

5. Planning and Environment - Expense Savings of \$255,208

Savings have been realised within the Strategic Planning area during 2020/21. These savings are primarily a result of a reduction in expected expenditure spent on external consultants and studies. The majority of studies prepared during 2020/21 have been funded by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to inform the LEP review.

6. Appearance of Public Areas – Expense Increase of \$227,628

Street Sweeping operations have exceeded budget projections. This increase is primarily a result of additional work required to improve appearances in key sites including CBD areas and car parks, as well as additional sweeping around high traffic locations.

7. Fleet Management COVID Impact – Expense Decrease of \$200,611

The operating costs for Council's fleet (leaseback vehicles) were below budget expectations for 2020/21. This is primarily a result of fuel savings during COVID restrictions.

8. Parks & Playgrounds – Expense Increase of \$172,759

Council's open space maintenance budget was approximately \$10.6 million for the 2020/21 financial year. A minor variation to budget of 1.63% has been realised for additional mowing and landscaping, primarily a result of growth and new suburbs now in the care of Council.

9. Recreation Services & Facilities COVID Impact – Expense savings of \$150,816

This expense saving relates to the Mount Annan Leisure Centre as the centre was closed for a period of time due to COVID.

10. Development Control Impact – Expense savings of \$146,630

Savings in salaries realised as a result of vacancies throughout the year and the time taken to recruit the appropriate staff.

11. Management of Emergency Events – Expense Savings of \$135,016

All Councils are required to pay a statutory contribution towards the operational costs for State Emergency Services, NSW Fire Services and Rural NSW Fire Services. This saving is the result of a part reimbursement paid to all councils by the NSW State Government for the 2020/21 Emergency Services Levy.

12. Community Support Services & Facilities – Expense Increase of \$124,271

Council’s building maintenance budget was approximately \$5.4 million for the 2020/21 financial year. A minor variation to budget of 2.3% was realised for maintenance costs. The variation related to an increase in maintenance of new facilities because of new subdivisions in areas such as Gregory Hills and Gledswood Hills, primarily normal cleaning and security costs.

13. Community Events COVID Impact – Expense Savings of \$95,025

Savings in Community Events expenditure due to events not being held as a result of COVID.

14. Library Services COVID Impact – Expense Savings of \$83,071

Community programs moved to online due to COVID resulting in operational expenditure savings.

15. Community and Cultural Development COVID Impact – Expense Savings of \$71,484

Community programs moved to online due to COVID resulting in operational expenditure savings.

Council Authorised Variations

Council has authorised four budget variations since the adoption March Quarterly Review of the 2020/21 Budget. A list of these approved variations is provided in the following table:

Council approved variations	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	Income Increase/ (Decrease)	Budget Impact Increase/ (Decrease)
Acceptance of Grant Funding - Springfield Road, Catherine Field and Dickson Road, Leppington Design Projects ORD 55/21	(\$4,846,112)	\$4,846,112	\$0
Acceptance of Funding - Leppington Town Centre Review – ORD 72/21	(\$700,000)	\$700,000	\$0
Acceptance of Grant Funding - Showground Stimulus Project - ORD 73/21	(\$713,636)	\$713,636	\$0
Acceptance of Grant Funding - Transport for New South Wales Safer Roads Program 2021/22 - ORD 74/21	(\$360,000)	\$360,000	\$0
TOTAL	(\$6,619,748)	\$6,619,748	\$0

Contra Adjustments

These adjustments relate to movements of income and expenditure within Council's adopted budget. The adjustments have no impact on Council's projected budget result as both movements of income and expenditure are of equal value.

During this quarter (1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021), there has been one contra adjustment which has been required totalling \$26,556,411. This contra adjustment relates to developer contributions cash receipts and is restricted to the Section 7.11 external cash reserve at year end.

Expenditure Revotes

Each year, Council adopts its Operational Plan (budget) which is for the period July to June (financial year). At the end of the financial year, Council's approval of expenditure for any projects that have not yet commenced lapses. As a result, Council is required under the *Local Government Act 1993* to pass a resolution to include those projects in the new year's budget. The projects (expenditure) included in the new year's budget are referred to as revotes.

Projects that are not yet completed but have commenced (works in progress) are not required to be revoted by Council as they are automatically included in the new year's Operational Plan (budget).

Below is a summary table of the revotes and works in progress; a more detailed summary of the revotes is provided as **Attachment 2** to this report.

EXPENDITURE REVOTES & WORKS IN PROGRESS (SOURCE OF FUNDS)	Works Not Commenced (Revotes)	Works in Progress (Carry Forward)	Total
Section 7.11 Contributions	\$2,843,500	\$20,584,543	\$23,428,043
External Grant Funding	\$210,443	\$29,001,427	\$29,211,870
Internal Reserves	\$396,300	\$11,702,396	\$12,098,696
Waste Management	\$0	\$1,204,500	\$1,204,500
General Revenue (i.e. Council Funds)	\$684,500	\$5,464,818	\$6,149,318
Other Sources	\$5,100	\$210,000	\$215,100
TOTAL	\$4,139,843	\$68,167,684	\$72,307,527

It should be noted that the general fund component of the revotes and works in progress (\$6,149,318) is transferred to Council's revotes and works in progress reserve to ensure funds are available for those projects in the new year; all other funding sources are already held in a cash reserve.

The revotes and works in progress program totals \$72.308 million for the period ending 30 June 2021. This is significant when compared to the revotes and works in progress program for the previous reporting period 30 June 2020, which totalled \$36.409 million. This is an increase of \$35.899 million.

The increase in works in progress is primarily due to Council securing a number of significant grants (\$29.2 million) for major capital projects, and there were some delays due to COVID-19.

The works in progress program contains several projects which are considered outside the norm of Council's typical capital expenditure program. A list of these projects is provided in the table below. These projects represent 56% of the total revotes and works in progress program.

Project Description	Proposed Carry Forwards	2021/22 Update
Byron Rd Upgrade Design (HAF 5)	\$7,668,494	Design project commenced
Ingleburn Rd Upgrade Design (HAF 5)	\$6,802,918	Design project commenced
Narellan Sports Hub Stage 2	\$5,913,832	Project under construction
Depot Redevelopment	\$5,508,919	Project under construction
Kirkham Park BMX and Sporting Facility Expansion	\$2,711,641	Project under construction
Leppington - Heath Rd - CVW to Dickson	\$2,620,375	Design project planning commenced
Leppington - Byron Rd - Concept & Detailed Design	\$2,352,277	Design project commenced
Fergusons Land Sportsgrounds	\$2,259,227	Project under construction
Pat Kontista Reserve Design Masterplan	\$2,250,000	Masterplan Design commenced
Leppington - Dickson Rd- Ingleburn Rd to Heath Rd	\$2,115,000	Design Project planning commenced
Top 10 Projects Total	\$40,202,683	

COUNCILLOR CONSOLIDATED WARD FUNDS

The balance of Consolidated Ward Funds is \$108,754.

CONSOLIDATED WARD FUNDS	
2021/22 Budget Allocation	\$30,000
2020/21 Ward Funds Revote	\$78,754
Total Funds Available	\$108,754
PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2020/21	
Nil	
Total Projects Funded in 2020/21	\$0
BALANCE OF CONSOLIDATED WARD FUNDS	\$108,754

It should be noted that the balance of Consolidated Ward Funds is over and above the year-end budget surplus as advised in this report.



SUMMARY OF YEAR END RESULTS AGAINST BUDGET

The following table is a summary of budget adjustments up to 30 June 2021.

Summary of budget adjustments	Expenditure (Increase) / Decrease	Income Increase / (Decrease)	Budget Impact Increase / (Decrease)
2019/20 Carry-Forward Working Funds			\$1,000,000
2020/21 Adopted Budget Position			\$0
LESS: Minimum Desired Level of Working Funds			(\$1,000,000)
September 2020 Review Adjustments	(\$3,729,957)	\$3,729,957	\$0
December 2020 Review Adjustments	(\$7,591,594)	\$7,591,594	\$0
March 2021 Review Adjustments	(\$14,530,052)	\$14,530,052	
TOTAL Available Working Funds 31 March 2021			\$0
NOTE 1: Major Variations	\$263,198	\$102,094	\$365,292
NOTE 2: Authorised Variations	(\$6,619,578)	\$6,619,578	\$0
NOTE 3: Contra Adjustments	(\$26,556,411)	\$26,556,411	\$0
TOTAL - June Review Adjustments	(\$32,912,791)	\$33,278,083	\$365,292
TOTAL Available Working Funds (uncommitted cash)			\$365,292

STATEMENT BY RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER (CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER)

The following statement is made by the Responsible Accounting Officer (Chief Financial Officer) in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*:

'It is my opinion that the year-end Budget Result for Camden Council for the period ending 30 June 2021 indicates that Council's projected financial position is satisfactory. No remedial actions are required based on the financial position presented within this report.'

CONCLUSION

Council continues to maintain a strong budget position despite the impact of COVID-19. Prudent financial management by Council has resulted in a surplus position as at 30 June 2021. Service delivery has remained at a high standard with the organisation responding effectively to the challenges of working remotely. Council has continued to support its community through the Community Support Program and continues to stay connected with its community.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. adopt the budget variations contained within this report and confirm the allocation of the year end surplus of \$365,292 to Capital Works Reserve;**
- ii. adopt the revote of projects totalling \$4,139,843 as identified within the attachment to this report and approve the inclusion of these projects in the 2021/22 Budget; and**
- iii. approve the transfer of \$6,149,318 to the revotes and works in progress reserve, representing the General Fund portion of the revotes and works in progress program.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. 2020-21 June Review - Budget Appendix**
- 2. 2020-21 Expenditure Revotes**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD03

SUBJECT: RATES, CHARGES AND LEVIES WRITTEN OFF FOR THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR

FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy

TRIM #: 21/477456

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the rates, charges, and levies to be written off for the 2020/21 financial year, as permitted under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (Clause 131) requires the General Manager to advise Council of all rates and charges and levies to be written off in the previous financial year.

A Councillor briefing was held on 26 October 2021 to discuss this report.

MAIN REPORT

The amount of rates, charges and levies proposed to be written off in respect of the 2020/2021 financial year are set out below and discussed.

1. Postponed Rates – (\$11,916.68)

An owner of rural land or land used as a principal dwelling, where the land is not used for the purpose for which it is zoned, may apply to Council for postponed rates. This is essentially because the rating of land is based on use, not zoning.

The Valuer General approves and provides Council with a discounted land value to calculate the rates payable on these properties. The amount which is discounted is referred to as postponed rates.

Under Section 595 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, on the sixth year, the first year's postponed rates and interest are to be written off. Upon sale of the property, the amount postponed (up to five years) becomes payable.

The postponed rates amount written off for the 2020/21 financial year are as follows:

Rates written off from 2016/17	\$9,447.65
Interest written off from 2016/17	\$2,469.03
Total Postponed Rates	\$11,916.68

2. Rates and Charges – Pension Rebate – (\$835,373.76)

Section 583 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to write off amounts of rates, charges and interest reduced or waived under Division 1 of Part 8 of Chapter 15 of the Act (concessions for pensioners). The pensioner rebate is currently \$250 per assessment. The pensioner rebate amount has not changed since 1989.

Rates and charges to be written off for the 2020/21 financial year relating to the pension rebate total \$835,373.76.

Council is then able to claim 55% (\$459,455.57) of the pensioner rebate from the NSW State Government. The remaining 45% (\$375,918.19) is a cost to Council, which is provided for as part of the budget each year.

3. Stormwater Management Levy – Pension Rebate (Under Council's Policy) – (\$76,276.71)

Section 582 of the *Local Government Act 1993* allows Council to waive or reduce rates, charges, and interest due by any person prescribed by the regulations who is in receipt of a pension, benefit or allowance under the *Social Security Act 1991* of the Commonwealth.

In line with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, ratepayers who are eligible for the pension rebate also receive a payment exemption for the Stormwater Management Levy.

The amount to be written off in relation to the Stormwater Management Levy for the 2020/21 financial year is \$76,276.71.

4. Accrued Interest and Miscellaneous Amounts – (\$595.62)

Section 567 of the *Local Government Act 1993* allows Council to write off accrued interest on amounts that would be uneconomical to recover.

The amount to be written off in relation to small balance write-offs (amounts under \$3.00) is \$595.62.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with the relevant sections of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the total amount to be written off in the 2020/2021 financial year is \$924,162.77. The majority of the amount to be written off pertains to the Pensioner Rebate. It should be noted that 55% of the Pensioner Rebate is recovered from the NSW State Government.

The amount to be written off each financial year is considered as part of the annual budget process and is reviewed at each quarterly budget review. Adjustments which arise as a result of exemptions or write-offs are included within budget projections to minimise the impact they may have on Council's budget position.



CONCLUSION

The General Manager has a statutory obligation to advise the Council of all rates, charges and levies that are to be written off. The adoption of this report means Council has complied with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (Clause 131).

RECOMMENDED

That Council write off rates, charges and levies as outlined in this report totalling \$924,162.77 for the 2020/21 financial year.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD04

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER REVIEW OF THE 2021/22 OPERATIONAL PLAN (BUDGET)

FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy

TRIM #: 21/477453

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents the September Quarterly Operational Plan (budget) Review for the 2021/22 financial year in accordance with Part 9, Division 3, Clause 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

Its purpose is to inform Council of the necessary changes to the 2021/22 Operational Plan since the adoption of the 2021/22 Operational Plan (Budget), and to consider other changes put forward for determination.

BACKGROUND

SUMMARY OF BUDGET POSITION

In adopting the 2021/22 Operational Plan, Council approved a balanced budget position. Budget adjustments identified at the September Review represent a projected surplus position of \$24,066 for the 2021/22 financial year.

A Councillor briefing was held to discuss this report on the 26 October 2021.

MAIN REPORT

ALLOCATION OF THE 2020/21 PROJECTED BUDGET SURPLUS

It is recommended that the projected surplus of \$24,066 be allocated as follows:

Proposed Budget surplus allocation		
Budget Surplus Available for Allocation		\$24,066
Less: Transfer to Capital Works Reserve	\$24,066	
Total - Allocation of Budget Surplus		\$24,066
Budget Position		Balanced

CURRENT RESERVE BALANCES

Capital Works Reserve

The Capital Works Reserve is predominantly used to fund capital works or to match grant funding as part of a capital grant funding agreement. The balance of the Capital Works Reserve is as follows:



Capital Works Reserve	
Reserve Balance	\$1,474,725
Add: Proposed June 2021 Review Transfer	\$365,292
Add: Proposed September 2021 Review Transfer	\$24,066
Proposed Balance of Reserve	\$1,864,083
Committed Funds Held in Reserve	
Less: 2020/21 Revoted projects	(\$886,266)
Less: 2022/23 Community Support Package Round 3 Funding	(\$205,000)
Total Allocated	(\$1,091,266)
Uncommitted Balance – Capital Works Reserve	\$772,817

Asset Renewal Reserve

Council approved the creation of the Asset Renewal Reserve as part of adopting the 2013/14 - 2016/17 Delivery Program. The balance of the Asset Renewal Reserve is as follows:

Asset Renewal Reserve	
Reserve Balance	\$631,700
Add: LIRS Interest (2021/22 Budget)	\$30,300
Proposed Reserve Balance	\$662,000
Committed Funds Held in Reserve	
Less: 2020/21 Revoted projects	(\$89,973)
Less: 2022/23 Community Support Package Round 3 Funding	(\$291,800)
Total Allocated	(\$381,773)
Uncommitted Balance – Asset Renewal Reserve	\$280,227

Funds from this reserve are primarily used for the replacement and/or maintenance of existing assets.

SEPTEMBER REVIEW OF THE 2021/22 BUDGET

Further information and explanation of the projected budget surplus of \$24,066 for the 2020/21 financial year is detailed below.

Proposed Variations to Budget

Proposed variations between the adoption of the 2021/22 budget and the September Review for 2021/22 led to a budget surplus of \$24,066. A list of the variations (greater than \$20,000) is provided in the following table. Brief explanations follow the table.

September review of the 2021/22 budget Proposed Variations	Budget Impact Increase/ (Decrease)
Income adjustments	
Note: Increase in income is an increase to the budget Shortfall in income is a decrease to the budget	
1. Rating Income	\$205,000
2. Library Subsidy Grant	\$23,066
Sub Total - Income Adjustments	\$228,066

Expenditure adjustments	
Note: Increase in expenditure is a decrease to the budget Saving in expenditure is an increase to the budget	
3. Water Play Splash Park Maintenance	(\$184,000)
Variations less than \$20,000	
Sub Total - Expenditure Adjustments	(\$184,000)
Council Authorised Variations	(\$20,000)
TOTAL - Proposed Variations to Budget	\$24,066

Income Adjustments Commentary

1. Rating Income – Increase in Income of \$205,000

Supplementary rate income is received upon the re-zoning or subdivision of land. It is additional rate income to the amount levied at the beginning of the financial year. The increase in rate income realised during the first quarter of 2021/22 is primarily due to new lots created through subdivisions in the Spring Farm, Oran Park, Gregory Hills, and Leppington land release areas.

2. Library Subsidy Grant – Increase in Income of \$23,066

Council has received a higher library subsidy for 2021/22 than advised when the original budget was adopted by Council.

Expenditure Adjustments Commentary

3. Water Play Splash Parks Maintenance - Expense Increase of \$184,000

A maintenance review was conducted at the end of the water play season in 2020/21 of the Water Play Splash Parks at Curry Reserve and Dawson-Damer Park. The review recommended an increase to the frequency of cleaning at the sites during peak times.

COUNCIL AUTHORISED VARIATIONS

Council has authorised five budget variations since the adoption of the 2021/22 Budget. A list of these approved variations is provided in the following table:

Council approved variations	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	Income Increase/ (Decrease)	Budget Impact Increase/ (Decrease)
Acceptance of Grant Funding – Greening our City Program - ORD 94/21	(\$445,000)	\$445,000	\$0
Acceptance of Grant Funding – Stronger Communities Program – Community Centres Powered by the Sun - ORD 95/21	(\$20,000)	\$20,000	\$0
Leppington Land Acquisition – ORD 109/21	(\$5,284,384)	\$5,284,384	\$0
Review of Sponsorship Support – Macarthur FC ORD 126/21	(\$20,000)	-	(\$20,000)



Council approved variations	Expenditure (Increase)/ Decrease	Income Increase/ (Decrease)	Budget Impact Increase/ (Decrease)
Acceptance of Grant Funding – Rickard Road, Leppington Design Project - ORD 142/21	(\$4,500,000)	\$4,500,000	\$0
TOTAL	(\$10,269,384)	\$10,249,384	(\$20,000)

Contra Adjustments

These adjustments relate to movements of income and expenditure within Council's adopted budget. The adjustments have no impact on Council's projected budget result as both movements of income and expenditure are of equal value.

During this quarter (1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021), there has been 19 contra adjustments which have been required amounting to \$1,454,186. A detailed list of these adjustments is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

COUNCILLOR CONSOLIDATED WARD FUNDS

The balance of Consolidated Ward Funds is \$108,754.

CONSOLIDATED WARD FUNDS	
2021/22 Budget Allocation	\$30,000
2020/21 Ward Funds Revote	\$78,754
Total Funds Available	\$108,754
PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2021/22	
Nil	
Total Projects Funded in 2021/22	\$0
BALANCE OF CONSOLIDATED WARD FUNDS	\$108,754

It should be noted that the balance of Consolidated Ward Funds is over and above the projected balanced budget position as advised in this report.

SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER REVIEW ADJUSTMENTS

The following table is a summary of budget adjustments up to 30 September 2021.

Summary of budget adjustments	Expenditure (Increase) / Decrease	Income Increase / (Decrease)	Budget Impact Increase / (Decrease)
2019/20 Carry-Forward Working Funds			\$1,000,000
2020/21 Adopted Budget Position			\$0
LESS: Minimum Desired Level of Working Funds			(\$1,000,000)
TOTAL Available Working Funds 30 September 2021			\$0

NOTE 1: Proposed Variations	(\$184,000)	\$228,066	\$44,066
NOTE 2: Authorised Variations	(\$10,269,384)	\$10,249,384	(\$20,000)
NOTE 3: Contra Adjustments	(\$1,454,186)	\$1,454,186	\$0
TOTAL – September Review Adjustments	(\$11,907,570)	\$11,931,636	\$24,066
TOTAL available working funds (uncommitted cash)			\$24,066

ON-TIME PAYMENT POLICY REPORTING

At the end of each quarter, Council is required to report on compliance with its adopted On-Time Payment Policy. This Policy requires Council to pay interest where an invoice received from small business (turnover less than \$2 million p.a.) has been held by Council for more than 20 days and the interest payable is more than \$20.

Council processes approximately 13,500 invoices each year. As at 30 September 2021, Council had processed 36 invoices from registered small businesses for the quarter. One invoice became overdue during the reporting period. The invoice has been paid and no interest was payable.

Summer Fund Night Program Grant

The NSW Government’s Summer Night Fund Program provides NSW councils with grant funds of \$15,000 (excl. GST) to deliver activations or events in public spaces to re-energise local centres in the evening as we emerge from lockdown. The Summer Night Fund Program is available to every council in NSW.

This is a non-competitive grant program, and councils who present a project that meets the eligibility criteria will receive the funds requested. There is no requirement for matched funding from councils. Council will submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for funding to the value of \$15,000 (excl. GST) to deliver a proposed “Live at the Gallery” program, a series of pop-up events to be held at dusk, outside the Alan Baker Art Gallery (ABAG).

Council is expected to be notified of meeting the EOI criteria in December 2021 and receive the funding from this program, it is therefore recommended that following the receipt of the grant funds Councillors be notified in a Councillor update and the appropriate budget adjustments be reported to Council as part of the December Quarterly Budget Review.

STATEMENT BY RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

The following statement is made in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*:

‘It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Result for Camden Council for the period ending 30 September 2021 indicates that Council’s projected financial position is satisfactory. No remedial actions are required based on the financial position presented within this report.’



CONCLUSION

The September Quarterly Budget Review has been completed and is recommended for adoption by Council.

RECOMMENDED

That Council adopt the budget variations contained within this report and confirm the allocation of the September Quarterly Review Surplus of \$24,066 to the Capital Works Reserve.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2021-22 September Review - Budget Appendix
2. 2021-22 September Review - QBRs

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD05

SUBJECT: END OF TERM REPORT 2021
FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy
TRIM #: 21/405917

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the End of Term Report as an outgoing Council.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the *Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009* and the NSW Government’s Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework for local government, Council is required to report on the progress of implementing the Community Strategic Plan at the final meeting of the outgoing Council.

Camden’s End of Term Report outlines the status against the 23 indicators within the Community Strategic Plan and progress towards the community outcomes under six key directions:

- Key Direction 1: Actively managing Camden’s LGA’s Growth
- Key Direction 2: Healthy Urban and Natural Environment
- Key Direction 3: A Prosperous Economy
- Key Direction 4: Effective and Sustainable Transport
- Key Direction 5: An Enriched and Connected Community
- Key Direction 6: Strong Local Leadership.



This End of Term Report covers the period of September 2016 to October 2021 to reflect the extended Council term.

MAIN REPORT

How Community Outcomes are measured

The rating scale in **Table 1** provides the description under each rating scale used to assess the status of the 23 performance indicators within the Community Strategic Plan:

Table 1

Rating Scale	Symbol	Description
• “On Track”		When the ‘actual’ is either equal to, less than or greater than the set target.
• “Monitoring”		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.







• “Needs Work”		When the ‘actual’ is either below or above the corporate variance
• “Trend”		Shows a pattern of change data over time where setting a target is not possible

Table 2 below provides a summary of the status of the 23 performance indicators under these six Key Directions:

Table 2

Key Direction	No. of Performance Indicators	Status			
		On Track 	Monitoring 	Needs Work 	Trend 
Actively Managing Camden LGA’s Growth	4	4	0	0	0
Healthy Urban and Natural Environment	6	1	0	0	5
A Prosperous Economy	3	0	0	0	3
Effective and Sustainable Transport	3	3	0	0	0
An Enriched and Connected Community	5	4	0	0	1
Strong Local Leadership	2	2	0	0	0
TOTALS	23	14	0	0	9

Overall Council is on track, or trending in a positive direction, towards meeting its performance indicators across all Key Directions.

Progress towards the Community Strategic Plan under each Key Directions

The progress under each Key Direction has been sourced from six-monthly Delivery Program Progress Reports, Annual Reports, Council resolutions, media releases and discussion with key staff members.

Key Direction 1: Actively Managing Camden Local Government Area’s Growth

Tracking the progress is shown through four performance indicators:

✔	1. Development Application (DA) determination time within statutory requirement.
✔	2. Increase number of new householders across the Camden LGA.
✔	3. Maintain and protect Camden LGA’s rural lands.
✔	4. Retain Camden LGA’s valued heritage sites, and scenic and cultural landscape.

The performance status indicates that Council is ‘on-track’.

Council works to actively manage its services to support the community’s aspiration in valuing its local characteristics. Some of the activities Council undertook in managing the urban development, adequately administering rural lands and heritage sites includes:

Development Applications (DAs) – To help meet the rapid growth and the increase in the number of Development Applications received, Council introduced a user-friendly DA information section on its website. Council continued to provide excellent service in the development assessment process according to the most recent data issued by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. During the reporting period, the average turnaround to process Development Applications for Council was 30.6 days which is under the legislative target of 40 days.






Development Control Plan (DCP) – Council adopted the DCP 2019 supported by a user-friendly interactive website to allow users to see what planning controls apply in different suburbs across the Camden LGA.

Rural Lands – Council’s Rural Lands Strategy was endorsed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, and relevant planning proposals are assessed against the strategy’s rezoning criteria, protecting the rural and heritage character of the Camden LGA.

Heritage – Council established a Heritage Advisory Committee to help inform strategic heritage directions and community education around the importance of our unique identity. Council and the Heritage Advisory Committee ran a series of events to support the importance of heritage within Camden LGA, including Unlock Camden using #mycamdenstory attracting 200 visitors, Virtual ‘Unlock Camden’ resulting in a promotional video that received over 7,800 views and the “My Camden Story” campaign which resulted in a video which received 2,300 views, 20 shares and comments through Council’s social media platforms.

Key Direction 2: Healthy Urban and Natural Environment

Tracking the progress is shown through six performance indicators:

	1. Waste diverted from landfill.
	2. Increase green waste.
	3. Increase recycling.
	4. Increase community participation in protecting and managing the natural environment.
	5. The waterways and catchments are clean and free of pollutants.
	6. Maintain biodiversity, natural reserves, streetscapes and open spaces.

The performance status indicates that Council is 'on-track' and notes the trends for five indicators.

Council has a range of services, programs and initiatives to manage urban and natural environment. Some of the activities Council undertook in managing a healthy environment includes:

Waste Services – Council expanded its green waste collection service and supported a Container Deposit Scheme. Council also undertook a range of initiatives, in addition to its three-bin system collected weekly and commercial garbage and recycling services. The initiatives include on-call bulky household waste collection; annual household chemical cleanouts and recycling drop offs days; introduction of “All in One” Recycling Stations and joining with RecycleSmart to provide residents a direct pick-up service for recyclable items. Council was successful in receiving grant funding from the State Government’s Better Waste and Recycling funds and the Environmental Protection Authority. Between 2016 – 2021 Council has provided an additional 11,452 new bin services.




Biodiversity – Council has successfully initiated a new Biodiversity Certification Policy and development of the Biodiversity Strategy to protect, restore, manage and enhance biodiversity across the Camden LGA. Some of the examples include caring for the Nepean River landholder guides; implementation of annual program to manage the number of ibis at Lake Annan, Mount Annan; and Gundungurra Reserve (North and South) registered as a biobank site with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

Air Quality – Council developed a Poor Air Quality Procedure in line with the NSW Health Guidelines and undertook initiatives to promote better practice for wood heater operations to help reduce air pollution through local media, Council’s website and educational programs.

Water Quality – Council maintains regular monitoring of the Nepean River and recreational water bodies, reviewed the maintenance of the stormwater control assets within the sub-catchment areas of Narellan Creek and installed floating wetlands as a secondary storm water treatment measures, to improve water quality and to support water quality testing.

Key Direction 3: A Prosperous Economy

Tracking the progress is shown through three performance indicators:

	1. Increase number of registered businesses operating within the Camden LGA.
	2. Increase number of jobs within the Camden LGA.
	3. Increase in visitor numbers through tourism and promotional marketing opportunities.

The performance status indicates that Council notes the trends.

Council has a range of services to manage significant places across the LGA and promote tourism that influences in strengthening the local economy. Some of the activities Council undertook across the business and tourism industry includes:




Tourism Promotion – Implementation of the Camden Destination Management Plan commenced during the reporting period, setting the framework for how Camden tourism will be managed and encouraged in the future. The marketing and promotion of Camden Town Centre as a tourism hub continues to be a key focus area and is supported by active social media channels @macarthurnsw and face-to-face visitor services from the John Oxley Cottage Visitor Information Centre, which was also refurbished during the reporting period to improve the visitor experience.

Industrial and Employment Lands – Council completed the study to determine the appropriate type and quantum of industrial zoned land in the Camden LGA, to make informed strategic decisions in assessing short and long-term supply and demand balance of industrial land, and its suitability for the future.

There is a steady increase in the business registration from 6,320 to 10,295 and local jobs increased from 28,713 to over 40,000.

Key Direction 4: Effective and Sustainable Transport

Tracking the progress is shown through three performance indicators:

	1. Maintain or reduce number of pedestrian and vehicle accidents.
	2. Increase in the range of transport alternatives including cycleways, pathways, crossings and bus stops.
	3. Maintain roads and transportation infrastructure.

The performance status indicates that Council is 'on-track'.



Council has programs and projects to improve accessibility and connectivity that influence the community's health and well-being. Some of the activities Council undertook on road safety, transport options and transport infrastructure include:

Black Spot Funded Projects – Council has successfully completed a number of Black Spot funded projects including at Deepfields Road, Burraborang Road/Cawdor Road, Catherine Fields Road, Welling/Waterworth/Henrietta Roundabout, Holdsworth Drive and Broughton Street.

Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan – Over the five years, \$1.6M has been invested into completing 5.4 kilometres of new paths, and Council continues to proactively support and promote the benefits of using alternate modes of transport, such as walking, running, and cycling through its Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP).

Transport Projects – Council has undertaken a range of small and large projects to preserve, restore and enhance road and transport related assets. Some of them include Argyle Street/Camden Town Centre upgrade (Stages 1 to 4); Completion of the Camden Valley Way/Macarthur Road and Grahams Hill Road and Richard Road intersections; Cobbitty Road upgrade; and school crossing at Harland Road and Paramoor Street. Council continued to advocate to the State and Federal Government for the timely delivery of infrastructure to support the growth of the local government area.

Key Direction 5: An Enriched and Connected Community

Tracking the progress is shown through five performance indicators:

	1. Maintain or increase number of culturally diverse programs/celebrations.
	2. Maintain or increase number of recreation facilities, sporting fields and open space.
	3. Reduce crime rate.
	4. Maintain or increase number of places available at local schools and colleges.
	5. Maintain or increase in the number of library members.

The performance status indicates that Council is 'on-track' and notes the trend for one indicator.

Council has a range of services to foster cultural and social inclusion across the LGA. Some of the actions and activities Council undertook to support and enrich social connectivity, promote cultural diversity and provide learning opportunities for all includes:

Community Events and Celebrations – Council’s popularity of its annual events program, including the Camden Festival and Australia Day celebrations, continues to grow. New event initiatives have also been established such as Bounce Town, Date Night, Winter Fest, Youth Multicultural Festival, Camden Cultures, Backyard Bash (Camden Festival), #camdenlive and Paws in the Park. In addition to these, the community-based events held annually also include Harmony Day, Youth Week, NAIDOC Week, Multicultural March and Make Music Australia Day.

Reserves, Sporting Parks and Play Space Upgrades – A number of significant projects were completed during the reporting period, bringing upgraded or new and exciting facilities to the community of Camden including the Oran Park Library and Community Resource Centre, Alan Baker Art Gallery, Stage 1 of the Narellan Sports Hub, Curry Reserve Water Play Space (Stages 1 & 2), Stage 1 of the Kirkham Park BMX Facility, Stage 1 Kirkham Playing Fields, Spring Farm Community Centre, Harrington Park Lake Reserve Youth Play Space, Sedgwick Reserve Youth Play Space, Julia Reserve Youth Precinct and Community Centre, Dawson-Damer Park, Nott Oval Synthetic Football Field and Catherine Park Community Centre and Playing Fields. In all, Council upgraded over 60% of its reserve and sporting parks to provide more efficient and automated lighting systems, refurbishment or development of new amenities, installation of irrigation systems and provision of upgraded playing surfaces. The upgrading of play spaces involved the removal of the old equipment and the redesign of playgrounds to include new soft fall ground cover, contemporary play equipment promoting accessibility, cognitive and motor skill development, and provision of shade and seating requirements.

Crime Prevention – Council continues to partner with the Camden Local Area Command and participates at the Local Government Crime Prevention Network, NSW Police Crime Prevention Workshops, Camden Wollondilly Domestic Violence Committee and Community Safety Precinct meetings.

Education Facilities – Council continues to support the growing community through working with the Department of Education and private education providers to plan for and deliver improved schools, school capacity, safe accessibility and, investigates suitable potential sites for new schools to align with our population growth. Council also collaborates with TAFE and current and emerging industries in the region to align the education sector with the required future skills and innovation capacity.

Library Services – Council has three libraries located at Camden, Narellan and Oran Park. In 2016/2021, a total of 2.6 million visitors have visited and Council conducted 10,943 activities. Along with the usual services, libraries also provided a range of initiatives including extended opening hours, Tech Savvy Seniors program, Pop-up library services, Paint the Town REaD program, ‘Paws n Tales’ program, Online tutoring and Languages other than English (LOTE).

Key Direction 6: Strong Local Leadership

Tracking the progress is shown through two performance indicators:

✓	1. Increase partnership project arrangement with external community groups and/or the private sector.
✓	2. Local media outlets continue to service the LGA.



The performance status indicates that Council is 'on-track'.

Council has a range of services, projects and programs responding to the community needs and to advocate on behalf of the community. Some of the activities Council undertook to support the community and keep the community informed includes:

Western Sydney City Deal – A significant milestone, Council entered into the Western City Deal Memorandum of Understanding which formalised a regional collaboration framework to guide how the eight City Deal councils will work together to deliver outcomes under the City Deal and will collaborate on matters of regional importance. Council participated in the delivery of City Deal Commitments including the Western Sydney Planning Partnership, the Western Sydney Investment Attraction Office, the business case for North-South Rail, the preparation of a Digital Action Plan, and the establishment of the Health Alliance.

Partnerships – Council has a strong commitment in building partnerships with a diverse range of stakeholders, including State and Federal Government agencies, on behalf of its community to maintain proactive open dialogue and deliver effective outcomes. Some examples include Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living (MCSL), Sydney Water to install water bubbler and bottle re-fill stations in recreation areas, MyGateway hosting apprentices and trainees, WIRES to install wildlife warning signs, Local Scout groups, OzHarvest at the TASTE Festival, North South Rail Line and South West Rail Link Extension and the Western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The works, services, projects and programs undertaken in implementing the Community Strategic Plan are fully funded in accordance Council's annual budget and quarterly budget reviews.

CONCLUSION

This report has been prepared in line with the statutory requirements of the IPR legislation.

The End of Term Report demonstrates positive movement in implementing the Community Strategic Plan over Council's term.

The Community Strategic Plan will be reviewed as part of the incoming Council's responsibilities under the IPR framework.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the information in this report.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD06

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT MONIES - SEPTEMBER 2021
FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy
TRIM #: 21/533811

PURPOSE OF REPORT

In accordance with Part 9, Division 5, Section 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, a list of investments held by Council as at 30 September 2021 is provided.

MAIN REPORT

The weighted average return on all investments was 0.77% p.a. for the month of September 2021. The industry benchmark for this period was 0.01% (Ausbond Bank Bill Index) and the current official cash rate as determined by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) is 0.10%.

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 September 2021; and**
- iii. note the weighted average interest rate return of 0.77% p.a. for the month of September 2021.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Investment Report - September 2021



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD07

SUBJECT: COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGE AND INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS
FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy
TRIM #: 21/347034

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council about a change to the date by which results for the 2021 NSW local government elections are expected to be declared and to clarify interim arrangements.

BACKGROUND

The NSW local government elections are scheduled to take place on Saturday, 4 December 2021. Pursuant to sections 233(2) and 234(5) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), the office of Councillors and the Mayor will end at midnight on Friday, 3 December 2021.

The *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) was amended on 9 July 2021 to establish several arrangements in support of the COVID-safe conduct of these elections. These measures included an extension to the deadline to receive a postal vote, from before 6pm on the first business day following election day to before 6pm on the thirteenth day following election day. Completed postal votes will therefore now be accepted until 6pm on Friday, 17 December 2021.

The NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) has advised councils that this change to the date by which postal votes can be received means that election results are anticipated to be declared between Tuesday 21 and Thursday 23 December 2021. Under section 290(1)(a) of the Act, the election of a mayor by the councillors is to be held within three weeks after the election.

Councillors were briefed on this matter on 27 July 2021 and 19 October 2021.

MAIN REPORT

Change to Council Meeting Date

The final Ordinary Meeting of Council for 2021 is currently scheduled for Tuesday, 14 December 2021. Under clause 3.1 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Council may vary dates for particular meetings if it so resolves.

Noting that the election results should be declared between 21 - 23 December 2021, it is recommended that Council resolve to note that the Ordinary Meeting of Council scheduled for Tuesday, 14 December 2021 will not proceed and to hold the subsequent Ordinary Meeting, being the first meeting of the new Council term, on Monday, 10 January 2022. The principal function of the first meeting of the Council term is to elect the Mayor and, if desired, the Deputy Mayor. Assuming the declaration of the election results is as indicated by the NSWEC, this meeting date would still ensure that Councillors can elect the Mayor within three weeks after the election, as required under section 290(1)(a) of the Act.

However, as it is unknown exactly when the results will be declared, it is also recommended that Council authorise the General Manager, in his discretion, to cancel the Ordinary Meeting of Council proposed for 10 January 2022 if he considers such a cancellation appropriate because of a delay in the declaration of results or other circumstances.

If the 10 January 2022 meeting is cancelled, the General Manager will liaise with the newly elected Councillors in relation to calling an extraordinary meeting to ensure that the Mayor is elected within three weeks of the declaration of results.

Interim Arrangements

As a consequence of the amendments to the Regulation described above, Council will operate for several weeks without a Mayor or Councillors in office.

It is therefore noted that the existing delegation from Council to the General Manager can be exercised during that period, as required, to maintain Council functions.

In summary, the General Manager's delegation authorises the General Manager to exercise any of Council's statutory functions under the Act and other Acts subject to Council's policy requirements and any directions to the General Manager by Council, except for the non-delegable functions set out under section 377(1) of the Act.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

Due to the change to the date by which results for the 2021 NSW local government elections are expected to be declared, it is recommended that Council note that the Ordinary Meeting of Council scheduled for 14 December 2021 will not proceed and endorse 10 January 2022 as the date for the first Ordinary Meeting of the new Council term.

In addition, it is recommended that Council authorise the General Manager in his discretion to cancel the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 10 January 2022 if that is required because of a delay in the declaration of election results or other circumstances, noting that, in the event of such a cancellation, the General Manager will liaise with Councillors in relation to calling an extraordinary meeting to ensure that the Mayor is elected within three weeks of the declaration of results.

The existing delegation from Council to the General Manager is noted.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. note that the Ordinary Meeting of Council scheduled for 14 December 2021 will not proceed;**
- ii. endorse 10 January 2022 as the date of the first Ordinary Meeting of Council for the new Council term; and**



- iii. **authorise the General Manager to cancel the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 10 January 2022 if in the General Manager's discretion that cancellation is considered necessary because of a delay in the declaration of election results or other circumstances, and liaise with the newly elected Councillors in relation to calling an Extraordinary Meeting of Council to ensure that the Mayor is elected within three weeks of the declaration of results.**

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD08

SUBJECT: VARIATIONS TO DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS APPROVED UNDER STAFF DELEGATION (QUARTERLY REPORT)

FROM: Director Planning & Environment

TRIM #: 21/498789

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of any development applications (DAs) that involved a development standard variation approved under staff delegation in the last quarter (July-September 2021).

BACKGROUND

In February 2018, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) published *Planning Circular PS 18-003 Varying Development Standards* to advise consent authorities of arrangements for when the Secretary's concurrence to vary development standards may be assumed and to clarify requirements around reporting and record keeping where that concurrence has been assumed.

In accordance with the planning circular, councils are required to fulfil the following procedural and reporting requirements when development standards are being varied:

- Maintain a publicly available online register of all variations to development standards approved by the consent authority or its delegates;
- Report all variations approved by Council to the DPIE within four weeks of the end of each quarter; and
- Report all applications approved under staff delegation to a meeting of Council at least once each quarter.

Council maintains an online register of all variations to development standards and reports all variations approved by Council to the DPIE within four weeks of the end of each quarter.

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of any applications approved under staff delegation during the last quarter as per the procedural requirements outlined above.

Councillors were advised of the details of the applications referred to in this report on 19 October 2021.

MAIN REPORT

During the last quarter (July-September 2021), Council staff approved two DAs that varied a development standard. The details of these application are outlined below:



DA/2020/260/2 – Detached Dual Occupancy at 37 Arndell Street, Camden South

- The development involves the erection of a new dwelling in the rear yard of an existing dwelling house to create a detached dual occupancy.
- The subject lot has a minimum width at the front building line of 17.03m and thereby varied from the minimum width for a detached dual occupancy (18m) as prescribed under Clause 4.1D(3) of Camden Local Environmental Plan (CLEP) 2010 (97cm or 5.38% variation).
- The variation was considered reasonable given the site has a width in excess of 100m at the building line of the new dwelling; the site has an area of 8,476m² thereby exceeding the minimum lots size for a detached dual occupancy (600m²); the development satisfied the key amenity related development controls pertaining to site coverage, solar access, height, landscaping and private open space; and the proposal was consistent with the objectives of the zone and the standard.

DA/2020/739/1 – Commercial Building at 7 Broughton Street, Camden

- The development involves the erection of a new two-storey commercial building.
- The proposed building has a maximum building height of 7.326m and thereby varied from the maximum height of buildings development standard (7m) prescribed under Clause 4.3 of Camden Local Environmental Plan (CLEP) 2010 (32.6cm or 4.65% variation).
- The variation was considered reasonable given the breach related to a minor section of the pitched roof; the proposed roof form was sympathetic to the heritage character of the area; the topography of the site added to the contravention; and the proposal was consistent with the objectives of the zone and the standard.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no financial implications for Council.

CONCLUSION

During the last quarter (July-September 2021), Council staff approved two DAs that varied a development standard. The variations are reported to Council in accordance with the procedural requirements outlined in *Planning Circular PS 18-003 Varying Development Standards*.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the information in this report.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD09

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2021/2022
FROM: Director Sport, Community & Activation
TRIM #: 21/527681

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the recommended allocations for the Community Grants Program, funded through the COVID-19 Community Support Package Stage 3.

BACKGROUND

On 9 March 2021, Council endorsed the Community Support Package - Stage 3 to provide ongoing support to both businesses and residents.

The package included financial grants available to incorporated associations, not-for-profit groups, sporting groups, businesses and individuals located in or servicing the Camden Local Government Area (LGA).

Categories for the 2021/2022 round included Community Small Grants, Community Sponsorship, and Sport and Recreation Grants, Cultural Activation Seed Grants and Cultural Performance Subsidy.

Applications were assessed using set guidelines and criteria to ensure equity, probity and consistency in evaluating requests.

Councillors were briefed on the matter on 26 October 2021.

MAIN REPORT

Council's Community Grants Program has been developed to provide assistance to community groups to deliver projects and events that address gaps in service delivery, create innovation and activation, and demonstrate wider community benefit.

The grants program was promoted widely through direct mail, social media, Council's website and community service providers. Eligibility criteria were published on Council's website and grants platform, and information sessions were also held via Zoom.

A table outlining all applications received is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

Community Small Grants 2021/2022

The Community Small Grants Program consisted of three categories: Health and Wellbeing, Culture and Inclusion, and Minor Works. Incorporated associations, charities and not-for-profit organisations could apply for a total of up to \$6,500 (excl. GST). A total of 28 applications were received to a total value of \$147,753 (excl GST).



Each application was assessed against the program guidelines and criteria with consideration given to:

- Community benefit;
- The timeline of project delivery;
- The contribution of the organisation towards the project or program; and
- Consideration of community needs and service gaps.

The assessment panel has recommended 19 applications for funding under the Community Small Grants Program as outlined below:

No.	Name of applicant	Project Name	Amount recommended
1.	Camden Community Connections trading as Big Yellow Umbrella	Yellow Hamper Food Support - COVID Response	\$6,500
2.	Turning Point Camden Inc.	COVID Recovery - Food Provision Program	\$6,500
3.	Rapid Relief Team (RRT) Ltd (registered charity)	Respectful Relationships	\$6,375
4.	Mother Hubbard Cupboard in Camden Inc.	Cooking Up a Storm	\$6,500
5.	Macarthur Art Group Inc.	Artmaking and exhibiting for the "Camden Re(dis)covered" Art Show	\$6,500
6.	Cancer Patients Foundation	Look Good Feel Better	\$3,250
7.	Shining Stars Foundation	Food Vouchers (COVID Response)	\$4,000
8.	The Shepherd Centre - for deaf children	Confident Kids - a social skills development program for children with hearing loss in Camden	\$2,500
9.	The Scouts Association of Australia NSW Branch	Locks, Lights & Smoke Alarms	\$5,727
10.	Shanhe Education Inc	The Practical Australian English and Chinese Booklet	\$6,500
11.	The Disability Trust	Re-Engage	\$2,160

No.	Name of applicant	Project Name	Amount recommended
12.	Karitane	Parenting support program for fathers with young children	\$6,135
13.	Rotary Club of Camden Inc	Renew lights on Camden's Rotary Mural	\$3,440
14.	Hope Anglican Church Leppington	Summerfest	\$1,000
15.	Rainbow Club Australia Inc.	Establishing a Think Sensory program at Narellan Rainbow club	\$3,000
16.	Rotary Club of Gregory Hills, Next-Gen Inc.	Rotary Serves Up Support	\$3,500
17.	Camden Digital Art and Culture Centre	CDACC Camden community outreach program	\$3,500
18.	Mentoring Men	Thrive Program - Empowering Young Men	\$3,000
19.	Men's Shed Narellan Inc.	Precision Drilling and Machining for Timber and Metal Projects	\$3,369
Total value of projects recommended for funding (excl. GST)			\$83,456

Sport and Recreation Grants 2021/2022

The Sport and Recreation Program received a total of nine applications requesting monetary support to a total value of \$46,942 (excl. GST). Local sporting groups, clubs and organisations could apply for a total of up to \$6,500 (excl. GST).

Each application was assessed against the program guidelines and criteria with consideration given to:

- Benefit to the local community;
- Consideration of sustainable programs including coach development or administration development;
- Projects for target groups including female participation, inclusion & diversity; and
- Projects that enhanced pathway development for athletes and participation opportunities.



The assessment panel has recommended seven applications for funding under the Sport and Recreation Program:

No.	Name of applicant	Project Name	Amount recommended
1.	Camden Tigers FC	Female Football Development Program	\$6,000
2.	Camden Tigers FC	Indigenous Football Program	\$6,500
3.	Hamro Club Inc	Hamro Christmas Soccer	\$1,320
4.	Mets Baseball Club Inc	Junior & Senior Umpire Development	\$6,422
5.	Camden District Australian Football Club Incorporated	Junior Transition Academy	\$3,000
6.	Camden Digital Arts and Culture Centre	NAIDOC Week Football Comp & Mentoring Day	\$2,500
7.	Camden Junior Australian Football Club	Equipment & Season Launch	\$4,500
Total value of projects recommended for funding (excl. GST)			\$30,242

Community Sponsorship Grants 2021/2022

The Community Sponsorship Program received a total of 11 applications requesting monetary support to a total value of \$70,780 (excl. GST).

Each application was assessed against the program guidelines and criteria with consideration given to:

- Not-for-profit groups, organisations or individuals seeking to organise an event/activity/service within the Camden LGA that has benefit to the wider community;
- Festivals, special events and activities that will enhance and promote community wellbeing, the lifestyle of residents and provide a service to the resident or business community of the Camden LGA;
- Organisations that encourage economic and/or tourism opportunities within the Camden LGA.

The assessment panel has recommended 10 applications for funding under the Community Sponsorship Program:

No.	Name of applicant	Event Name	Amount recommended
1.	Rotary Club of Camden Inc	75th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Camden	\$660 in-kind
2.	Camden Tigers FC	Tharawal Cup	\$10,000
3.	Rotary Club of Gregory Hills, Next-Gen	Come Together - music and connection	\$5,000
4.	The Shepherd Centre - For Deaf Children	Changing the Story - photography exhibition	\$2,000
5.	C3 New Hope	Mega Easter Egg Hunt	\$1,000
6.	Camden Rugby Union club Inc	Macarthur 10s Rugby Tournament	\$5,000
7.	Camden & District Netball Association Inc.	Netball competitions for females and males.	\$4,500 \$2,500 cash \$2,000 in-kind
8.	Camden Musical Society Inc.	Community musical theatre production	\$9,000
9.	The Camden Show Society Inc.	Camden Show 2022	\$20,000 \$9,000 cash \$11,000 in-kind
10.	Cobbitty and Zone 10 Pony Clubs	Jamboree	\$4,500
Total value of projects recommended for funding (excl. GST)			\$61,660

Cultural Activation Seed Grant

The Cultural Activation Seed Grant made funding available to an individual artist or creative, a small to medium arts organisation or creative business in any art form or art media located within the Camden LGA.

New art projects could apply for funding up to \$1,500 (excl. GST), while new art programs could apply for up to \$3,000 (excl. GST).

Council received 10 Cultural Activation Grant applications in total, requesting \$24,000 (excl. GST) in monetary support. Each application was assessed against the program guidelines and criteria, with consideration given to:



- Clear artistic/creative rationale and objectives for the project;
- Proposed key activities within the project timeframe;
- Clear outcomes relating to engaging identified community target groups;
- Evidence of a well-structured implementation plan;
- Evaluation of the project/plan; and
- Relevant supporting material.

The assessment panel has recommended eight applications for funding under the Cultural Activation Seed Grant.

No.	Name of applicant	Project Name	Amount recommended
1.	Wild Heart Creatives	A Wild Showcase	\$1,500
2.	Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra	Camden Connexions	\$3,000
3.	Camden Community Band	An Introduction to Concert Band for Young People	\$1,500
4.	Cobbitty Gallery	Cobbitty Creative Program	\$3,000
5.	Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra	Seasons: Metamorphosis	\$1,450
6.	Angelakikiart	Convergence of Glory	\$2,500
7.	Ho Yee Wong	Introduction to the Art of Chinese Calligraphy	\$2,350
8.	Wen Denaro	Mother 88	\$600
Total value of projects recommended for funding (excl. GST)			\$15,900

Cultural Performance Subsidy

The Cultural Performance Subsidy made funding available for not-for-profit organisations to run events or performances at the Camden Civic Centre or Julia Reserve Youth Facility.

Applicants could apply for up to \$1,200 (excl. GST) for the Camden Civic Centre or up to \$800 (excl. GST) for Julia Reserve.

Council received five Cultural Performance Subsidy applications in total for Camden Civic Centre, requesting \$5,140 (excl. GST) for in-kind support. Julia Reserve received no applications. Each application was assessed against the program guidelines and criteria, with consideration given to:

- Experience in delivery of high-quality cultural performance;
- Demonstration of how the performance will engage audiences and enhance Camden's cultural offering;

- Capacity to develop and deliver the program from January to June 2022;
- Detailed marketing proposal and budget for the project.

The assessment panel has recommended four applications for funding under the Cultural Performance Subsidy.

No.	Name of applicant	Performance Name	Amount recommended
1.	Camden Community Band	Snippets of Camden	\$880 in-kind
2.	Macarthur Singers Incorporated	Camden Sings	\$880 in-kind
3.	Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra	Picture Perfect	\$880 in-kind
4.	Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society Camden Inc.	Camden Kiddies' Concert	\$660 in-kind
Total value of projects recommended for funding (excl. GST)			\$3,300

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is sufficient budget allocated to fund the total of \$194,558 (excl. GST) as outlined in this report.

CONCLUSION

A total of 63 applications have been received across the five grant categories. The recommendations as outlined in this report see a total of 48 applications supported to a total value of \$194,558 (excl. GST).

The applications include a variety of programs and projects that will benefit the wider Camden community, and provide assistance to a range of community organisations, sporting and cultural groups.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. approve funding for Community Small Grants Program for \$83,456 (excl. GST);**
- ii. approve funding for Sport and Recreation Program for \$30,242 (excl. GST);**
- iii. approve funding for Community Sponsorship Program for \$61,660 (excl. GST);**
- iv. approve funding for Cultural Activation Seed Grant for \$15,900 (excl. GST);**



v. approve funding for Cultural Performance Subsidy for \$3,300 (excl. GST) in-kind support; and

vi. write to each applicant advising them of the outcome of this report and thanking them for their participation in the program.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Grants Summary

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD10

SUBJECT: DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2022-2026

FROM: Director Sport, Community & Activation

TRIM #: 21/463061

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement to place the draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 on public exhibition.

BACKGROUND

The draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 (the Strategy), provided as an **attachment** to this report, has been developed to outline Council's priorities and actions for economic development throughout the Camden LGA. It will set the framework for Council as an enabler of economic growth and diversification in Camden and throughout the Western Parkland City.

This report seeks Council endorsement to undertake an extended public exhibition of the Strategy across the holiday period.

MAIN REPORT

The draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 outlines Council's priorities for stimulating economic growth and vitality throughout the Camden LGA. The Strategy provides a framework to deliver the key directions of the Camden Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and the priorities of the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which relate to encouraging vibrant and connected centres and promotion of a diversified and growing local economy.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Strategy aligns with key Council and regional strategies, including the:

- Camden Community Strategic Plan;
- Camden Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), 2020;
- Greater Sydney Region Plan – a Metropolis of Three Cities, 2018;
- Western City District Plan, 2018; and
- Western Sydney City Deal, 2018.

The Strategy builds on the principles outlined in these key documents and will deliver a holistic approach to economic development which prioritises innovation, community wellbeing, celebration of our unique rural and urban assets, and maximising opportunities to leverage growth from the Western Sydney International Airport and Aerotropolis.



The development of the Strategy was also informed by the following key documents:

NSW Government:

- Accelerating Research and Development in NSW, 2021;
- Visitor Economy Strategy, 2021;
- Western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan, 2020;
- 24-hour Economy Strategy, 2020; and
- NSW 2040 Economic Blueprint, 2019.

Camden Council:

- Centres and Employment Land Strategy, 2021;
- Rural Lands Strategy, 2018;
- Camden Town Centre Urban Design Framework, 2018;
- Camden Destination Management Plan, 2016; and
- Camden Town Centre Vision, 2014.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

A range of source materials and consultation methods were utilised to inform the Strategy's development. This included a literature review, review of the regional context, and review of the community consultation outcomes derived from the development of the LSPS.

Activities undertaken for the Strategy's consultation process included:

- Interviews with internal stakeholders;
- Online survey to business and industry groups;
- Online community survey regarding place initiatives;
- Webinar for Camden LGA businesses and stakeholders; and
- Workshops for Camden LGA businesses and stakeholders.

Key themes derived from the review and consultation process are:

- Business engagement and capacity building;
- Employment pathways;
- Investment attraction; and
- Vibrant centres and precincts.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Council will capitalise and build on Camden's existing strengths as well as support and promote growth in emerging industries, leveraging off opportunities arising from our rapid population growth and proximity to the Western Sydney International Airport and surrounding Aerotropolis.

Council's approach to economic development will be guided by the vision and principles of support, collaboration, leverage, promotion, place and innovation identified in the Strategy.

Camden's vision for economic growth:

“To leverage Camden’s local strengths and emerging regional advantages to promote attractive and liveable places, stimulate economic and employment growth, and foster a vibrant, diversified and technologically advanced economy.”

The Strategy identifies four strategic directions which will support and enhance the Camden economy over the short to medium term and provide a framework for Council to achieve its vision for economic growth.

The four strategic directions are:

1. Facilitate business and industry growth;
2. Strengthen education, training and career pathways;
3. Attract investment to the region; and
4. Support the development of vibrant places.

Council will work collaboratively across government and industry, to facilitate economic activity and employment growth, advocate for investment in the Camden LGA, and encourage the development of attractive and vibrant places in order to grow a prosperous economy and connected community.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

The following activities are proposed to facilitate the public exhibition of the Strategy:

- A webinar to provide information about the Strategy;
- A public survey to gather feedback on the Strategy;
- Focused engagement groups; and
- A Communications Plan to inform the community of the public exhibition period.

The Public Exhibition Plan for the Strategy will be implemented through the new Camden Matters community engagement platform.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for Council as a result of this report; all activities outlined will be completed within existing operational budgets.

CONCLUSION

The Strategy will support and enhance the Camden economy over the short to medium term, providing a framework for Council to achieve its vision for economic growth. Council will capitalise and build upon Camden LGA’s existing strengths as well we support and promote growth in emerging industries, leveraging off opportunities arising from the strength of our heritage and history, rapid population growth, catalytic regional development and the expansion of key sectors throughout the Western Parkland City.

It is recommended that Council endorse the draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 to be placed on public exhibition.



RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the public exhibition of the draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 included as Attachment 1 to this report; and**
- ii. receive a further report at the conclusion of the public exhibition period.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026**