

Meeting Date: Tuesday 27 February 2024
Location: Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online
Time: 6.00pm

Council Meetings will be recorded on audio tape for minute-taking purposes as authorised by the Local Government Act 1993. Council Meetings will also be webcast.

Statement of Ethical Obligations

Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under Section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993 and their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage Conflicts of Interest.

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NOTICE OF BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

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COUNCIL REPORTS

1 ITEMS PUT WITHOUT DEBATE

Report prepared by: Civic Services Manager
File No.: CLM/24/1/1/2 - BP24/78

REPORT SUMMARY

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Council can determine those matters on the Agenda that can be adopted without the need for any discussion.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council determine the Items on Council's Agenda that will be adopted without debate.

OR

That Council determine all Items on the Agenda.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - Council Meeting held on 12 December 2023

Report prepared by: Civic Services Manager
File No.: CLM/24/1/1/2 - BP24/79

REPORT SUMMARY

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, a motion or discussion with respect to such minutes shall not be in order except with regard to their accuracy as a true record of the proceedings.

RECOMMENDATION:

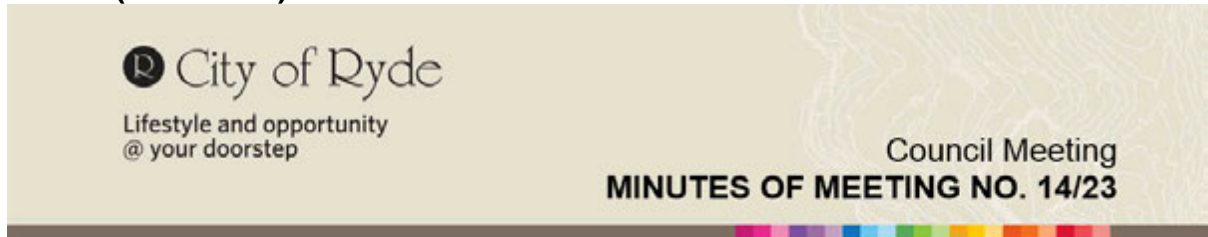
That the Minutes of the Council Meeting 14/23, held on 12 December 2023 be confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 MINUTES - Council Meeting - 12 December 2023

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Meeting Date: Tuesday 12 December 2023
Location: Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online
Time: 6.02pm

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen and Purcell.

Councillors Present via online Audio Visual: Councillor Song.

Apologies: Nil.

Note: Councillor O'Reilly arrived at the meeting at 6.21pm and was not present for voting on Item 1, Mayoral Minute 21/23, Mayoral Minute 22/23, Mayoral Minute 23/23, Item 2, Item 3, Item 5, Item 8, Item 9, Item 12, Item 13, Item 16, Precis of Correspondence 1 and Precis of Correspondence 2.

Note: Councillor Song joined the meeting at 6.36pm and was not present for consideration or voting on Item 1, Mayoral Minute 21/23, Mayoral Minute 22/23, Mayoral Minute 23/23, Mayoral Minute 24/23, Mayoral Minute 26/23 Item 2, Item 3, Item 5, Item 8, Item 9, Item 12, Item 13, Item 16, Precis of Correspondence 1 and Precis of Correspondence 2.

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – City Shaping, Acting General Manager – Business and Operations, Chief Financial Officer, General Counsel, Executive Manager – City Life, Executive Manager – People and Business, Executive Manager – City Development, Acting Executive Officer – City Infrastructure, Manager – Business Assurance and Governance, Executive Officer – City Spaces, Executive Officer – City Places, Executive Officer – City Resilience, Executive Officer – City Fabric, Executive Officer – City Economy, Executive Officer – Social and Cultural Planning, Manager – Traffic Services, Manager – Parks and Open Spaces, Senior Coordinator – Resources Recovery, Senior Coordinator – Library Operations, Senior Coordinator – Library Programs and Marketing, Programs Librarian – Multicultural and Volunteers, Media and Communications Officer, Systems Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

PRAYER

Deacon Scott Lawrence of the Evangel Bible Church, Putney was present and offered prayer prior to the commencement of the meeting.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no Disclosures of Interest.

TABLING OF PETITIONS

No Petitions were tabled.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The following person provided a written submission to Council:-

Name	Topic
Nicole Masterton (representing George Weston Foods)	Delivery at Thomas Bowden Retirement Village – Morrison Road, Putney

COUNCIL REPORTS

1 ITEMS PUT WITHOUT DEBATE

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Brown and Lara-Watson)

That Council adopt Mayoral Minute 22/23, Mayoral Minute 23/23, Item 2, Item 3, Item 5, Item 8, Item 9, Item 12, Item 13, Item 16, Precis of Correspondence 1 and Precis of Correspondence 2 listed on the Council Agenda as per the Recommendations in the reports.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MAYORAL MINUTES

MM22/23 COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PILOT PROGRAM – GRANT FUNDING – Mayor Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

RESOLUTION:

That Council receive the above report and note:

- (a) A grant application has been submitted under the *Community Improvement District Pilot Program* to deliver a pilot project for Hillview Lane, Eastwood as a high-street.
- (b) A collaborative governance model will be included in the delivery of the pilot project (if successful), that leverages the existing resolution of Council to establish a working group for the 145CT project.
- (c) Councillors will be kept informed, by way of a CIB, of the progress of Council's application and, if successful, commencement of the pilot project.
- (d) Council contributions to the pilot project, will be linked to funding already allocated to the development of the Eastwood Master Plan.

MM23/23 CALL FOR REVERSAL OF CUTS TO ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS – Mayor Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council write to the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister, and the Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government:
 - i. Expressing Council's strong opposition to the Australian Government's decision to cut significant infrastructure funding from important projects across NSW.
 - ii. Noting that the infrastructure funding cuts will hamper the ability of communities to accommodate growth and increased housing supply, and harm productivity improvements required for the growing freight task.
 - iii. Calling for the Australian Government to reinstate funding for these critical infrastructure projects.
- (b) That Council write to the Hon Chris Minns MP, NSW Premier, seeking the NSW Government's support for joint advocacy on this matter to the Australian Government.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

COUNCIL REPORTS

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – Council Meeting held on 28 November 2023

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting 13/23, held on 28 November 2023 be confirmed.

3 2023-24 CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

That Council, pursuant to Section 351(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, temporarily appoints Michael Galderisi, General Manager – City Shaping as Chief Executive Officer for the period between 12.00am on 2 January 2024 to 12 midnight on 7 January 2024, while the incumbent Chief Executive Officer is on annual leave.

5 DEFIBRILLATORS AT COUNCIL SPORTSGROUNDS

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council continues to support community user groups in the purchase of and installation of Automated External Defibrillator units at sportsgrounds by identifying and supporting applications for suitable grant funding programs and hosting fund raising events.
- (b) That Council conducts an annual audit of the existing sportsground automated external defibrillators at a cost of up to \$2,100 to be funded from the Sportsground Maintenance Budget.
- (c) That Council funds up to \$2,000 from the Recreational Development Budget to facilitate four (4) First Aid training courses to the community each calendar on a cost recovery basis against first aid training.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

8 ADOPTION OF FIELD OF MARS RESERVE PLAN MANAGEMENT AND LAND CATEGORISATIONS

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council adopt the Field of Mars Reserve Plan of Management in accordance with *Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1993*.
- (b) That Council adopt the recategorisations of parts of Field of Mars Reserve as set out in the Public Hearing and Submissions Report prepared by Parkland Planners (17 October 2023) and in accordance with *Sections 40A and 47G of the Local Government Act 1993*.
- (c) That staff undertake the necessary measures to update documentation and mapping to reflect the adopted land categorisations.
- (d) That staff write to thank the residents who participated in the development of the Field of Mars Reserve Plan of Management and land categorisation public hearing to inform them of Council's resolution.

9 EXTENSION OF LIBRARY OPENING TIMES FOR STUDENTS

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council trials extended hours to support students during the 2024 HSC period for approximately 4 weeks from end the of September through to October 2024, at West Ryde (Tuesday and Thursday) and Eastwood (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) branches, closing one hour later at 9pm on the designated evenings.
- (b) That the Library staff budget is increased by \$10,320.00 p.a. to support the trial as outlined in (a) above as part of the 2024/25 Draft Budget Cycle process.

12 LOCAL HERITAGE ASSISTANCE FUND – PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That the six (6) eligible applications to the Local Heritage Assistance Fund for June to September 20203 (Round 4 and Round 5) be supported and receive funding assistance pursuant to Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993, being:
- 139 Tennyson Road, Tennyson, \$15,000.00
 - 78 West Parade, Denistone, \$950.00
 - 38 Simla Road, Denistone, \$15,000.00
 - 4 Wingate Avenue, Eastwood, \$15,000.00
 - 36 Ashburn Place, Gladesville, \$15,000.00
 - 126 Twin Road, North Ryde, \$6,662.00
- (b) That Council endorse and allocate the amount of \$67,612.00 from Heritage Reserve for the purpose of part (a) above and that the allocation be addressed in the next Quarterly Budget Review.
- (c) That the successful and unsuccessful applicants be advised in writing of the outcomes of their applications to the Local Heritage Assistance Fund.

13 TRAFFIC AND PARKING MATTERS APPROVED BY THE RYDE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING – NOVEMBER 2023

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

(A) WASTE COLLECTION – VARIOUS STREETS - NO PARKING - WASTE VEHICLES EXCEPTED

The following parking changes for waste collection be implemented on the streets mentioned below:

- a) "NO PARKING 5AM-11AM THURSDAY WASTE VEHICLES EXCEPTED" restriction be installed at the cul-de-sac on Dawes Crescent, Eastwood.
- b) 5m long "NO PARKING 5AM-11AM WEDNESDAY WASTE VEHICLES EXCEPTED" restriction be installed at the frontage of 32-34 Anthony Road, West Ryde.
- c) 6.5m long "NO PARKING 5AM-11AM TUESDAY WASTE VEHICLES EXCEPTED" restriction be installed on Blair Street at the frontage of 18-20 Ross Street, Gladesville.
- d) 16m long "NO PARKING 5AM-11AM MONDAY WASTE VEHICLE EXCEPTED" restriction be installed at the frontage of 15-17 Gladstone Avenue, Ryde.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

- e) "NO PARKING 5AM-11AM THURSDAY WASTE VEHICLE EXCEPTED" at the cul-de-sac on Fay Place, Marsfield.
- f) "NO PARKING 5AM-11AM FRIDAY WASTE VEHICLE EXCEPTED" restrictions be installed at the cul-de-sac on Flinders Road, North Ryde.
- g) 14m long "NO PARKING 5AM-11AM FRIDAY WASTE VEHICLE EXCEPTED" restriction be installed at the frontage of 58-60 Falconer Street, West Ryde.
- h) "NO PARKING: 5AM-11AM THURS, WASTE VEHICLES EXCEPTED" restriction be installed at the two cul-de-sacs on Deborah Place, Eastwood.
- i) "NO STOPPING" zones be installed at the property frontage of 2 and 17 Deborah Place, Eastwood.

(B) ELLIOT AVENUE, EAST RYDE – NO STOPPING

The following parking restrictions be considered on Elliot Avenue, East Ryde:

- a) A 12m long "NO STOPPING" zone be installed on the western side of Elliott Avenue outside of 89 Moncrief Drive, East Ryde.

(C) FARRINGTON PARADE, NORTH RYDE - PEDESTRIAN REFUGE – KERB REALIGNMENT

The following measures be considered (subject to availability of funds) at the intersection of Farrington Parade and Truscott Street, North Ryde:

- a) A pedestrian refuge be installed (subject to availability of funds) on Farrington Parade, North Ryde, at the intersection of Truscott Street, as per Transport for NSW Technical Directions.
- b) The intersection of Truscott Street and Farrington Parade be realigned (subject to availability of funds) by kerb extensions to improve the traffic conditions.

(D) PARKES STREET, WEST RYDE - KERB BLISTERS

The following changes be made (subject to availability of funds) along Parkes Street intersections, West Ryde at the following locations:

1. Falconer Street
2. Clarke Street
3. Melville Street
4. Linton Avenue
5. Griffiths Avenue
6. Bowden Street

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

7. Colston Street
8. Shephard Street
9. Hinkler Avenue
10. Lee Avenue
11. Samuel Street

(E) CHATHAM ROAD, WEST PARADE & HILLVIEW ROAD WEST RYDE & EASTWOOD - TRAFFIC CALMING

The following measures be considered on Chatham Road and Hillview Road, West Ryde and Eastwood:

- a) Route traffic calming be installed along a route that includes Chatham Road, West Parade and Hillview Road in West Ryde and Eastwood (subject to availability of funds).
- b) That in principle support be given to the installation of a pedestrian refuge on Chatham Road, near Denistone Sports Club.

(F) RYDE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE - 2024 MEETING DATES

- a) The 2024 Ryde Traffic Committee meeting dates be approved on the following dates:
 1. 22 February 2024
 2. 21 March 2024
 3. 25 April 2024
 4. 27 June 2024
 5. 25 July 2024
 6. 26 September 2024
 7. 24 October 2024 and
 8. 21 November 2024

(G) ROAD SAFETY UPDATE - ROAD SAFETY PROGRAMS

- a) The Road Safety report be received and noted.

16 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER – AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

That Council note the recent appointment of Carl Millington to the position of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Independent Member.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

1 RESPONSE FROM MINISTER SCULLY – STREET ADDRESS ALLOCATIONS

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

2 LETTER FROM MINISTER SCULLY – MACQUARIE PARK INNOVATION PRECINCT (MPIP) REZONING

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

MAYORAL MINUTES

MM21/23 EXCELLENCE IN MULTICULTURAL SERVICES AWARD - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: Councillors O'Reilly and Song were not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

- (a) That the Award presented by the NSW Public Libraries Association for Council's "Job ready at Ryde program" be acknowledged.
- (b) That staff who assisted with development and implementation of the program be congratulated.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

MM22/23 COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PILOT PROGRAM - GRANT FUNDING - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

MM23/23 CALL FOR REVERSAL OF CUTS TO ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

MM24/23 PASSING OF JOHN SCHANZ - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: Councillor Song was not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

Note: Councillor O'Reilly arrived at the meeting at 6.21pm during discussion on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

- (a) That the passing of former senior City of Ryde employee John Schanz be noted.
- (b) That a letter of condolence be sent on behalf of the Mayor and Council to John's family.
- (c) That Council resolve to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MM26/23 DEATH OF JIMMY SHAW - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: Councillor Song was not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

That Council note the passing of Jimmy Shaw and his contribution to the local area.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

Note: A one minute silence was observed by the meeting.

MM25/23 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW EXCELLENCE IN THE ENVIRONMENT AWARDS - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: Councillor Song joined the meeting at 6.36pm during discussion on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

- (a) That the Awards presented by Local Government NSW for Excellence in the Environment for Council's "Behaviour Change in Waste" and "Innovation in Planning, Policies and Decision-Making" projects be acknowledged.
- (b) That staff who assisted with development and implementation of the projects be congratulated.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MM26/23 DEATH OF JIMMY SHAW - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

COUNCIL REPORTS

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - Council Meeting held on 28 November 2023

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

3 2023-2024 CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Li and Pedersen)

That the draft Conflict of Interest Policy be approved by Council for implementation, subject to a workshop being held to brief Councillors on any new additional obligations under this Policy.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: Councillor Maggio

5 DEFIBRILLATORS AT COUNCIL SPORTSGROUNDS

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

6 REPLACING FAST GROWING TURF ON NATURE STRIPS WITH SLOW, LOW GROWING NATIVE SHRUBS

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Purcell)

- (a) That Council resolves to retain the turf nature strips alongside state-listed roads within the LGA, managed by Council, including Victoria Road, Epping Road, Lane Cove Road, Church Street, Devlin Street, Delhi Road, Blaxland Road, Brush Road, Rutledge Street, and First Avenue, spanning the segment of Lane Cove Road between the Twin Road and Quarry Road intersections, due to financial constraints preventing the replacement of turf with slower-growing, low-maintenance plantings.
- (b) That Council notes the estimated cost of \$2.9 million for converting Council-managed nature strips alongside state-listed roads within the City of Ryde Local Government Area from turf to slow, low-growing plants.
- (c) That Council notes the current annual maintenance cost of \$105,560 for the turf nature strips and acknowledges that the projected maintenance cost, if the turf is substituted with slow-growing plants, is estimated to be \$190,000 per annum.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

Against the Motion: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

7 INSTALLATION OF SEATING AROUND LARDELLI PARK POND

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Purcell)

- (a) That Council note a total of four seats were installed at Lardelli Park to accommodate visitors from the rehabilitation centre and local residents, as per the Council resolution from the 22 August 2023.
- (b) That Council note the seats were sourced from existing stock in storage at the Porters Creek Facility.
- (c) That Council note the cost for installing the seating was \$12,000.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

8 ADOPTION OF FIELD OF MARS RESERVE PLAN OF MANAGEMENT AND LAND CATEGORISATIONS

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

9 EXTENSION OF LIBRARY OPENING TIMES FOR STUDENTS

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

10 EXTENDING HOURS OF OPERATION IN RYDE LIBRARIES DURING DAYS OF EXTREME TEMPERATURES

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Li and Lane)

- (a) Council notes that libraries function as key community facilities that provide support services for a diverse community, including those who are disadvantaged and vulnerable.
- (b) That on days that West Ryde and Eastwood libraries are ordinarily open, Council trials extended hours during days of extreme temperatures at 36 degrees and over from December 2023 to March 2024, closing at 9pm.
- (c) That the library staff budget is increased by \$10,000 to support the trial. The CEO may authorise these extended hours on days of extreme temperature up to the budget limit.
- (d) That Council liaises with Northern Beaches Council to understand how their 24/7 Forestville Library currently operates and whether similar services could be offered in City of Ryde libraries.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

- (e) That Council investigates any other Council facilities as potential cool place refuges.
- (f) That the results of the trial and items (d) and (e) be reported back to Council in April 2024.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

11 BOOK/SERVICES FOR LACHLAN'S LINE AND NORTH RYDE METRO STATION PRECINCT

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Maggio)

- (a) That Council receive and note the report.
- (b) That Council further explore placement of lockers and other options to deliver a library service to the residents of Lachlan's Line precinct and that staff promote the e-book collection and availability.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

12 LOCAL HERITAGE ASSISTANCE FUND - PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 2023

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

13 TRAFFIC AND PARKING MATTERS APPROVED BY THE RYDE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - NOVEMBER 2023

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

14 REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL - INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2023

Note: An Information Report was presented to Council.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

15 REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL - ANNUAL REPORT ON CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1 SEPTEMBER 2022 TO 31 AUGUST 2023

Note: An Information Report was presented to Council.

16 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER - AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE FOR CONSIDERATION

1 RESPONSE FROM MINISTER SCULLY - STREET ADDRESS ALLOCATIONS

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

2 LETTER FROM MINISTER SCULLY - MACQUARIE PARK INNOVATION PRECINCT (MPIP) REZONING

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

NOTICES OF MOTION

1 FENCING AT MORRISON BAY PARK, PUTNEY - Councillor Roy Maggio

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Lara-Watson)

That Council:

- (a) Investigate the feasibility of increasing the fencing at Morrison Bay Park, Putney along both sides of the canal to prevent the footballs entering the canal.
- (b) Contact the current user groups of the Morrison Bay Park sporting fields and facilitate an on-site meeting to obtain feedback to assist with the investigation of the works required.
- (c) Determine the associated costings for the fencing and if this can be delivered as a new project to be included into the sports field upgrade and renewal project cluster and determine the appropriate time frame for delivery.
- (d) Receive a report from staff at the April 2024 Council meeting detailing the results of the investigation with recommendations.

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

2 INSTALLATION OF SHADE SAILS AT DENISTONE PARK - Councillor Roy Maggio

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Purcell)

- (a) That Council staff investigate the feasibility of the implementation of shade cloths at Denistone Park for UV protection of children.
- (b) That Council staff investigate the availability of funding from the current approved budget.
- (c) That a report outlining the findings from the investigation be provided to Council in February 2024, with a view that the works be undertaken subject to funding availability.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

3 BIKE REPAIR STATIONS - Councillor Roy Maggio

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Lane)

- (a) That Council investigate the installation of three (3) public Bike Repair Stations (BRS) at the following locations:-
 - Meadowbank Park
 - Shrimptons Creek
 - Kissing Point Park
- (b) That the following be included as part of the investigation:-
 - i. That Council investigate available grant funding for the bicycle repair station.
 - ii. If grant funding is unavailable, that Council investigates the budget feasibility for Council to fund the project.
 - iii. That Council investigate the feasibility of branding the bike repair stations City of Ryde BRS.
- (c) That a report be presented to Council in March 2024 outlining the findings of the investigation.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

NOTICE OF RESCISSION

1 NOTICE OF RESCISSION: ITEM 3 - RYDE CENTRAL AND OTHER MAJOR PROJECTS FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS - Councillor Bernard Purcell, Councillor Penny Pedersen, Councillor Katie O'Reilly

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Purcell and O'Reilly)

That Council rescind the following parts of the previous resolution in relation to Item 3 – RYDE CENTRAL AND OTHER MAJOR PROJECTS FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, passed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 November 2023, namely:-

COUNCIL REPORT

3 RYDE CENTRAL AND OTHER MAJOR PROJECTS FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

1. Ryde Central

(a) *This Council condemns the previous Labor-led (2017-2021) administration of this Council for demolishing the Ryde Civic Centre leaving the community without a Hall and insufficient funds to rebuild the Hall and Civic Centre.*

(b) *Council defers the building of any new civic building at the Ryde Central Site until sufficient funding can be identified.*

2. TG Millner

(a) *As a contingency, should the State Government fail to honour their election commitment, Council staff report back to Council with options for a contingency plan to sell or enter into 99 year leases over one of the operational properties identified in Option 3b to provide adequate funding for the acquisition of TG Millner, to be recommended by staff for Council's consideration in the December 23 meeting.*

3. Eastwood Central

(a) *Council authorises the CEO to expend all necessary funds to extend the useful life of Eastwood Glen Street Car Park by 5 – 10 years and beyond.*

Minutes of the Council Meeting No. 14/23, dated 12 December 2023.

ITEM 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

On being put to the meeting, Councillor Maggio abstained from voting and accordingly, his vote was recorded Against the Motion. The voting on the Motion was four (4) For and eight (8) Against. The Rescission Motion was **LOST**.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

The meeting closed at 7.44pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024

Chairperson

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 23 January 2024

Report prepared by: Civic Services Manager
File No.: CLM/24/1/1/2 - BP24/80

REPORT SUMMARY

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, a motion or discussion with respect to such minutes shall not be in order except with regard to their accuracy as a true record of the proceedings.

RECOMMENDATION:

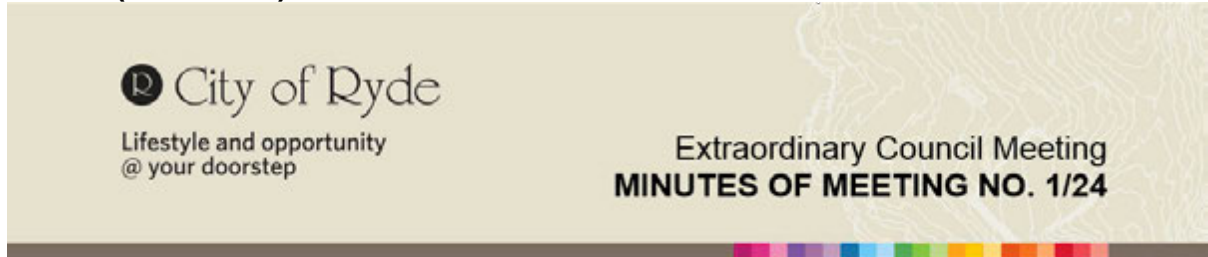
That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting 1/24, held on 23 January 2024 be confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 MINUTES - Extraordinary Council Meeting - 23 January 2024

ITEM 3 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Meeting Date: Tuesday 23 January 2024
Location: Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online
Time: 6.00pm

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen and Purcell.

Councillors Present via online Audio Visual: Councillor Song.

Apologies: Nil.

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – Business and Operations, General Manager – City Shaping, General Counsel, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Executive Manager – City Development, Executive Manager – City Life, Acting Executive Manager – City Infrastructure, Manager – Business Assurance and Governance, Manager – Health, Building and Regulatory Services, Project Director, Systems Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

Externals Present: Stewart Scarlett (Building Commission NSW).

PRAYER

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM offered prayer prior to the commencement of the meeting.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung prior to the commencement of the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

TABLING OF PETITIONS

No Petitions were tabled.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 1/24, dated 23 January 2024.

ITEM 3 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The following person made a written submission to Council:

Name	Topic
Alex Wu (representing Greenland Australia)	Notice of Motion 1 – Building Commission NSW work rectification orders issued to the developer of 23 Halifax Street, Lachlan’s Line, Macquarie Park

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

MAYORAL MINUTES

MM1/24 RYDE CIVIC CENTRE - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

MOTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

That Council:

- a) Reaffirm its commitment to undertake the Ryde Central project when suitable funds are available through prudent financial management, that ensure Council remains fit for the future and there are no adverse impacts on the provision of Council services and programs to the community.
- b) Reaffirm its commitment to retain public ownership of the site.
- c) Explore options in the short term for the use of the 1 Devlin Street site for public open space, achieved by filling the excavated area within this financial year and report back to Council on what is required to provide designs, cost estimates and feasibility of the required works, including a funding strategy.
- d) Investigate how historic photographs and images can be incorporated into the design, to acknowledge and create awareness of the iconic history of the Ryde Central site.

MOTION TO DEAL WITH ITEM IN SERIATIM

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Purcell and Pedersen)

That this Item be dealt with in Seriatim.

On being put to the meeting, the voting on the Motion was six (6) All. The Mayor used his casting vote Against the Motion. The Motion was **LOST**.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 1/24, dated 23 January 2024.

ITEM 3 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Councillors Lara-Watson, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane and Li

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

That Council:

- a) Reaffirm its commitment to undertake the Ryde Central project when suitable funds are available through prudent financial management, that ensure Council remains fit for the future and there are no adverse impacts on the provision of Council services and programs to the community.
- b) Reaffirm its commitment to retain public ownership of the site.
- c) Explore options in the short term for the use of the 1 Devlin Street site for public open space, achieved by filling the excavated area within this financial year and report back to Council on what is required to provide designs, cost estimates and feasibility of the required works, including a funding strategy.
- d) Investigate how historic photographs and images can be incorporated into the design, to acknowledge and create awareness of the iconic history of the Ryde Central site.

On being put to the meeting, Councillor Maggio abstained from voting and accordingly his vote was recorded Against the Motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson and Li

Against the Motion: Councillors Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

ITEM 3 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

MM2/24 23 HALIFAX STREET, LACHLAN'S LINE - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

- 1) That Council note:
 - a) There have been five buildings issued with Work Rectification Orders: 23 Halifax Street, Lachlan's Line, 3 Smith Street, Ryde, 13 - 15 Porter Street, Ryde, 2 - 6 Junction Street, Ryde and 20 Nancarrow Street, Ryde.
 - b) These orders have caused stress to owners, residents and the community as a whole and reduce confidence in the building industry to deliver high rise buildings to required construction standards.
- 2) That Council publish on its website:
 - a) The impact of the defects on local facilities being the auditorium, childcare centre, retail area and surrounding public domain areas.
 - b) Where residents can find adequate support and resources to support their right to a safe home.
- 3) That the Mayor write to the State Government asking that it put in place legislation for stronger building reform.
- 4) That Council provide impacted residents with helpful information in the form of notices and a staff contact for any queries.
- 5) That Council seek further clarification as to whether there are any impacts on its facilities (i.e. the auditorium, childcare centre, retail area and surrounding public domain areas) that are contained within or adjoining the development.
- 6) That Council write to the State Minister for Planning, raising concern with regard to the planned 8000 apartments in Macquarie Park to be created in a short period of time which could lead to similar risks for the community.
- 7) That the City of Ryde prepare a report for Council and the community which details along with any other relevant information:
 - a) Includes the development application, approvals, VPAs or developer contributions, delivery, certifier and any compliance issues.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 1/24, dated 23 January 2024.

ITEM 3 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

- b) The number of residents and businesses who are potentially affected by this issue at each address.
- c) Correspondence from and replies to the Building Commission NSW (and any reference to the structural reports of each building).
- d) Who was advised of this issue at the City of Ryde in October; what date was the letter received and was this information passed on to the CEO, the Mayor and any Councillors?
- e) What mechanisms can be put in place to make certain Councillors and community are informed about all future intentions by the Building Commission to serve a rectification order.

On being put to the meeting, Councillor Maggio abstained from voting and accordingly his vote was recorded Against the Motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson and Li

Against the Motion: Councillors Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

MM3/24 RECOGNITION OF AUSTRALIA DAY - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

That Council:

- (1) Reaffirm its commitment to Australia Day on 26th January.
- (2) Conduct a citizenship ceremony to mark each Australia Day on 26th January.

On being put to the meeting, Councillor Maggio abstained from voting and accordingly his vote was recorded Against the Motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Li, Lara-Watson, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: Councillor Maggio

ITEM 3 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

NOTICE OF MOTION

- 1 BUILDING COMMISSION NSW WORK RECTIFICATION ORDERS ISSUED TO THE DEVELOPER OF 23 HALIFAX STREET, LACHLAN'S LINE, MACQUARIE PARK - Councillor Penny Pedersen and Councillor Bernard Purcell**

Note: Alex Wu (representing Greenland Australia) made a written submission in relation to this Item and a copy is ON FILE.

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM ruled that this Motion not be considered by Council as a substantially similar Motion had already been dealt with by Council at this meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.24pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024

Chairperson

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 30 January 2024

Report prepared by: Civic Services Manager
File No.: CLM/24/1/1/2 - BP24/81

REPORT SUMMARY

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, a motion or discussion with respect to such minutes shall not be in order except with regard to their accuracy as a true record of the proceedings.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting 2/24, held on 30 January 2024 be confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 MINUTES - Extraordinary Council Meeting - 30 January 2024

ITEM 4 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Meeting Date: Tuesday 30 January 2024
Location: Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online
Time: 6.01pm

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Han, Lane, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen and Purcell.

Councillors Present via online Audio Visual: Councillor Deshpande, Lara-Watson, Li and Song.

Apologies: Nil.

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – Business and Operations, General Manager – City Shaping, General Counsel, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Manager – City Development, Executive Manager – City Infrastructure, Manager – Business Assurance and Governance, Executive Officer – City Places, Executive Officer – City Spaces, Executive Officer – City Fabric, Executive Officer – City Resilience, Executive Officer – Social and Cultural Planning, Senior Coordinator – City Places, Project Director, IT Systems Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

PRAYER

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM offered prayer prior to the commencement of the meeting.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung prior to the commencement of the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

TABLING OF PETITIONS

No Petitions were tabled.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 2/24, dated 30 January 2024.

ITEM 4 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

NOTICES OF RESCISSION

1 NOTICE OF RESCISSION: MM1/24 - RYDE CIVIC CENTRE - Councillor Bernard Purcell, Councillor Penny Pedersen, Councillor Katie O'Reilly

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Purcell and Pedersen)

That Council rescind the following part of the previous resolution in relation to MM1/24 – RYDE CIVIC CENTRE passed at the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 23 January 2024, namely:-

- c) Explore options in the short term for the use of the 1 Devlin Street site for public open space, achieved by filling the excavated area within this financial year and report back to Council on what is required to provide designs, cost estimates and feasibility of the required works, including a funding strategy.

On being put to the meeting, Councillor Maggio abstained from voting and accordingly his vote was recorded Against the Motion. The voting on the Motion was four (4) votes For and eight (8) votes Against. The Motion was **LOST**.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

The meeting closed at 6.58pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024

Chairperson

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 2/24, dated 30 January 2024.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 13 February 2024

Report prepared by: Civic Services Manager**File No.:** CLM/24/1/1/2 - BP24/82

REPORT SUMMARY

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, a motion or discussion with respect to such minutes shall not be in order except with regard to their accuracy as a true record of the proceedings.

RECOMMENDATION:

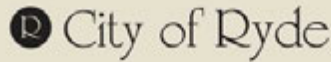
That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting 3/24, held on 13 February 2024 be confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 MINUTES - Extraordinary Council Meeting - 13 February 2024

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Lifestyle and opportunity
@ your doorstep

Extraordinary Council Meeting
MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 3/24

Meeting Date: Tuesday 13 February 2024
Location: Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online
Time: 6.00pm

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song.

Councillors Present via online Audio Visual: Councillor Deshpande.

Apologies: Nil.

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – Business and Operations, General Manager – City Shaping, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Manager – People and Business, Executive Manager – City Development, Executive Manager – City Infrastructure, Executive Manager – City Life, Manager – Business Assurance and Governance, Senior Solicitor (Planning and Enforcement), Executive Officer – City Places, Executive Officer – City Spaces, Executive Officer – City Fabric, Executive Officer – City Transport, Executive Officer – Social and Cultural Planning, Executive Officer – City Economy, Acting Executive Officer – City Resilience, Financial Controller, Manager - Development Assessment, Manager – Engineering and Project Delivery, Senior Coordinator – City Places, Media and Communications Officer, IT Systems Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

PRAYER

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM offered prayer prior to the commencement of the meeting.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung prior to the commencement of the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Han disclosed a Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in Matter of Urgency 4 - Unsafe Practices Outside Ryde Secondary College, for the reason that he is currently working at the school.

Councillor Lane disclosed a Less than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in Item 1 – Council Submission to the Explanation of Intended Effects (EIE) – Diverse and Well-Located Homes, for the reason that as a State MP, he is disclosing an interest out of caution but has no authority over the matter.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 3/24, dated 13 February 2024.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

TABLING OF PETITIONS

No Petitions were tabled.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

MAYORAL MINUTE

MM4/24 KOREAN FESTIVAL LANTERNS – Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

That Council:

- (a) Reaffirm its commitment to celebrate the Lunar New Year by ensuring culturally relevant lantern displays are featured on both sides of Eastwood, in Rowe Street.
- (b) Support the local business community to assist with understanding options that could improve the lantern displays on Rowe St East for the Lunar New Year Festival 2024 within the existing budget.
- (c) Explore future options to expand and enrich street lantern displays by consulting local businesses to ensure more vibrant and culturally appropriate displays to highlight the unique character of Eastwood for future Lunar New Year celebrations.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY

Councillor Brown advised the meeting that he wished to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding the continuation of bowling activities on the Denistone Sports Club site.

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM accepted this matter as an Urgent Item.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 3/24, dated 13 February 2024.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Brown and Lane)

That Council consider a Matter of Urgency, raised by Councillor Brown, regarding the continuation of bowling activities on the Denistone Sports Club site, the time being 6.34pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY 1 – CONTINUATION OF BOWLING ACTIVITIES ON THE DENISTONE SPORTS CLUB SITE

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Brown and Lane)

That Ryde Council:

- 1) Mediate with the Carlingford Sports Club for them to permit the continuation of bowling activities on the Denistone Sports Club site, prior to Council taking ownership of the site.
- 2) Complete this task in anticipation of an ongoing arrangement to be finalised following the transfer of ownership of the land to the Council.

AMENDMENT: (Moved by Councillor Maggio)

- (a) That the General Manager (GM) is to convene a meeting with Carlingford Sports & Recreation Club to discuss the potential termination of the contract for the purchase of the Denistone Bowling Club site. The meeting aims to address the recent decision to evict Denistone bowlers from the Denistone Bowling Club site and to reverse this decision promptly.
- (b) Furthermore, in the absence of an immediate reversal of the eviction decision, the GM is tasked with initiating the process to place a heritage order on the site to protect its cultural significance.

Note: This Amendment lapsed due to the lack of a seconder.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Brown and Lane)

That Ryde Council:

- 1) Mediate with the Carlingford Sports Club for them to permit the continuation of bowling activities on the Denistone Sports Club site, prior to Council taking ownership of the site.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 3/24, dated 13 February 2024.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

- 2) Complete this task in anticipation of an ongoing arrangement to be finalised following the transfer of ownership of the land to the Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM adjourned the Extraordinary Council Meeting for five (5) minutes, the time being 6.48pm. The Council Meeting was adjourned to:-

Tuesday, 13 February 2024 to reconvene at 6.53pm.

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song.

Councillors Present via online Audio Visual: Councillor Deshpande.

Apologies: Nil.

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – Business and Operations, General Manager – City Shaping, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Manager – People and Business, Executive Manager – City Development, Executive Manager – City Infrastructure, Executive Manager – City Life, Manager – Business Assurance and Governance, Senior Solicitor (Planning and Enforcement), Executive Officer – City Places, Executive Officer – City Spaces, Executive Officer – City Fabric, Executive Officer – City Transport, Executive Officer – Social and Cultural Planning, Executive Officer – City Economy, Acting Executive Officer – City Resilience, Financial Controller, Manager - Development Assessment, Manager – Engineering and Project Delivery, Senior Coordinator – City Places, Media and Communications Officer, IT Systems Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

MEETING RECONVENED

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM reconvened the meeting at 6.53pm on Tuesday, 13 February 2024.

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song.

Councillors Present via online Audio Visual: Councillor Deshpande.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 3/24, dated 13 February 2024.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – Business and Operations, General Manager – City Shaping, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Manager – People and Business, Executive Manager – City Development, Executive Manager – City Infrastructure, Executive Manager – City Life, Manager – Business Assurance and Governance, Senior Solicitor (Planning and Enforcement), Executive Officer – City Places, Executive Officer – City Spaces, Executive Officer – City Fabric, Executive Officer – City Transport, Executive Officer – Social and Cultural Planning, Executive Officer – City Economy, Acting Executive Officer – City Resilience, Financial Controller, Manager - Development Assessment, Manager – Engineering and Project Delivery, Senior Coordinator – City Places, Media and Communications Officer, IT Systems Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECOGNITION OF SANDRA BAILEY, EXECUTIVE MANAGER – CITY DEVELOPMENT

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM, on behalf of Council, acknowledged and thanked Sandra Bailey, Executive Manager – City Development for her contribution and service to Council and recognised her achievements and years served with the City of Ryde.

MATTER OF URGENCY

Councillor Purcell advised the meeting that he wished to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding the Korean Lantern Festival.

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM did not accept this matter as an Urgent Item.

MATTER OF URGENCY

Councillor Pedersen advised the meeting that she wished to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding asbestos contamination risks in Sydney.

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM accepted this matter as an Urgent Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Purcell)

That Council consider a Matter of Urgency, raised by Councillor Pedersen, regarding asbestos contamination risks in Sydney, the time being 7.00pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

MATTER OF URGENCY 2 – ASBESTOS CONTAMINATION RISKS IN SYDNEY

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and O'Reilly)

That Council:

- (a) Note that the EPA has confirmed that asbestos has been discovered in mulch used at over thirteen (13) sites across Sydney including hospitals, schools, public parks and public infrastructure.
- (b) Immediately conduct a search for asbestos and audit all areas where mulch is used across the City of Ryde.
- (c) Prepare a media release informing ratepayers of the findings.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY

Councillor Pedersen advised the meeting that he wished to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding a City of Ryde Waste Briefing for Councillors.

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM accepted this matter as an Urgent Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Purcell)

That Council consider a Matter of Urgency, raised by Councillor Pedersen, regarding a City of Ryde Waste Briefing for Councillors, the time being 7.08pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY 3 – CITY OF RYDE WASTE BRIEFING FOR COUNCILLORS

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Purcell)

That City of Ryde prepare a briefing for Councillors before the next Council meeting that covers:

- An update on changes to the recent local government act tendering regulations, in regards to waste collection and protection of workers.
- Increasing advertising about access to recycle smart trial which ends in December.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 3/24, dated 13 February 2024.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY

Councillor Maggio advised the meeting that he wished to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding unsafe practices outside Ryde Secondary College.

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM accepted this matter as an Urgent Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Han)

That Council consider a Matter of Urgency, raised by Councillor Maggio, regarding unsafe practices outside Ryde Secondary College, the time being 7.14pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY 4 – UNSAFE PRACTICES OUTSIDE RYDE SECONDARY COLLEGE

Note: Councillor Han disclosed a Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in this Item for the reason that he is currently working at Ryde Secondary College.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Han)

- (a) That the City of Ryde conduct an immediate meeting with the Principal of Ryde Secondary College about the unsafe practices outside the school, with the main purpose being to implement a traffic management plan.
- (b) That staff consider data collected from previous holistic school traffic meetings.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

COUNCIL REPORTS

1 COUNCIL SUBMISSION TO THE EXPLANATION OF INTENDED EFFECTS (EIE) - DIVERSE AND WELL-LOCATED HOMES

Note: Councillor Lane disclosed a Less than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in this Item for the reason that as a state MP, he is disclosing an interest out of caution but has no authority over the matter.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting No. 3/24, dated 13 February 2024.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Lara-Watson and Brown)

- (a) That Council Endorse the City of Ryde submission to the NSW Government in Attachment 1.
- (b) That Council informs the NSW Government that it opposes the implementation of the Explanation of Intended Effects: Changes to Create Low and Mid-Rise Housing as it provides no evidence-based plans on how this increased housing density can be serviced through the existing provision of infrastructure and other essential services.
- (c) That Council rejects the proposed planning controls from the Explanation of Intended Effects: Changes to Create Low and Mid Rise Housing to Council's R2 – Low density residential zones.
- (d) That Council authorise the CEO to take all action necessary to implement this resolution and otherwise take any action required on the EIE in the interests of the City of Ryde.
- (e) That the Mayor write to the NSW Premier, the Hon. Chris Minns MP; the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Paul Scully MP; the Minister for Housing, the Hon. Rose Jackson MLC and the Minister for Transport, the Hon. Jo Haylen MP calling on them to:
 - i) Take a genuinely collaborative approach to working with Councils to resolve the current housing crisis in a well-balanced planning manner.
 - ii) Work with Councils to deliver balanced outcomes for their communities alongside increased housing, specifically: infrastructure, essential services, open space and employment opportunities for new and existing residents.
 - iii) Consider the NSW Government having a larger role in the provision of public and affordable housing instead of incentivizing Build-to-Rent for developers.
 - iv) Work with the Federal Government to explore other policy levers surrounding the current housing crisis (i.e., focus on other potential improvements beyond housing planning controls, including improved pathways for more well-trained builders and tradesmen, improving supply of building materials).

AMENDMENT: (Moved by Councillors Purcell and Pedersen)

- (a) That Council Endorse the City of Ryde submission to the NSW Government in Attachment 1.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

- (b) That Council informs the NSW Government that it opposes the implementation of the Explanation of Intended Effects: Changes to Create Low and Mid-Rise Housing as it provides no evidence-based plans on how this increased housing density can be serviced through the existing provision of infrastructure and other essential services.
- (c) That Council rejects the proposed planning controls from the Explanation of Intended Effects: Changes to Create Low and Mid Rise Housing to Council's R2 – Low density residential zones.
- (d) That the Mayor write to the NSW Premier, the Hon. Chris Minns MP; the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Paul Scully MP; the Minister for Housing, the Hon. Rose Jackson MLC and the Minister for Transport, the Hon. Jo Haylen MP calling on them to:
 - i) Take a genuinely collaborative approach to working with Councils to resolve the current housing crisis in a well-balanced planning manner.
 - ii) Work with Councils to deliver balanced outcomes for their communities alongside increased housing, specifically: infrastructure, essential services, open space and employment opportunities for new and existing residents.
 - iii) Consider the NSW Government having a larger role in the provision of public and affordable housing instead of incentivizing Build-to-Rent for developers.
 - iv) Work with the Federal Government to explore other policy levers surrounding the current housing crisis (i.e., focus on other potential improvements beyond housing planning controls, including improved pathways for more well-trained builders and tradesmen, improving supply of building materials).

On being put to the meeting, Councillor Maggio abstained from voting and accordingly his vote was recorded Against the Motion. The voting on the Amendment was four (4) For and eight (8) Against. The Amendment was **LOST**.

Record of Voting:

For the Amendment: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Amendment: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

FURTHER AMENDMENT: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Pedersen)

That the Mayor write to the NSW Premier, the Hon. Chris Minns MP; the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Paul Scully MP; the Minister for Housing, the Hon. Rose Jackson MLC and the Minister for Transport, the Hon. Jo Haylen MP calling on them for an extension.

On being put to the meeting, the voting on the Amendment was five (5) For and seven (7) Against. The Further Amendment was **LOST**. The Motion was then put and **CARRIED**.

Record of Voting:

For the Amendment: Councillors Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Amendment: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson and Li

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Lara-Watson and Brown)

- (a) That Council Endorse the City of Ryde submission to the NSW Government in Attachment 1.
- (b) That Council informs the NSW Government that it opposes the implementation of the Explanation of Intended Effects: Changes to Create Low and Mid-Rise Housing as it provides no evidence-based plans on how this increased housing density can be serviced through the existing provision of infrastructure and other essential services.
- (c) That Council rejects the proposed planning controls from the Explanation of Intended Effects: Changes to Create Low and Mid Rise Housing to Council's R2 – Low density residential zones.
- (d) That Council authorise the CEO to take all action necessary to implement this resolution and otherwise take any action required on the EIE in the interests of the City of Ryde.
- (e) That the Mayor write to the NSW Premier, the Hon. Chris Minns MP; the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Paul Scully MP; the Minister for Housing, the Hon. Rose Jackson MLC and the Minister for Transport, the Hon. Jo Haylen MP calling on them to:
 - i) Take a genuinely collaborative approach to working with Councils to resolve the current housing crisis in a well-balanced planning manner.

ITEM 5 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

- ii) Work with Councils to deliver balanced outcomes for their communities alongside increased housing, specifically: infrastructure, essential services, open space and employment opportunities for new and existing residents.
- iii) Consider the NSW Government having a larger role in the provision of public and affordable housing instead of incentivizing Build-to-Rent for developers.
- iv) Work with the Federal Government to explore other policy levers surrounding the current housing crisis (i.e., focus on other potential improvements beyond housing planning controls, including improved pathways for more well-trained builders and tradesmen, improving supply of building materials).

On being put to the meeting, Councillors Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song abstained from voting and accordingly their votes were recorded Against the Motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillors Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson and Li

Against the Motion: Councillors Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

The meeting closed at 7.54pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024

Chairperson

6 2022/23 DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Report prepared by: Financial Controller**File No.:** GRP/23/11 - BP23/652

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the Draft Financial Statements FY22/23 for certification. At this meeting, Council will be asked to resolve to sign the Financial Statements pursuant to Section 413 (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993. The Auditor's opinion and reports will be issued once this certification is received.

Council officers prepared the Draft FY22/23 Statutory Financial Statements in accordance with the Act, the Regulations, the Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Council at its 26 September 2023 meeting resolved to refer these statements for External Audit as per Section 413 of the Local Government Act 1993 and this audit is now complete.

Originally, the NSW Audit Office was scheduled to provide audit clearance on 5 October 2023 to ensure Financial Statements could be presented to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) for endorsement at its meeting on 9 October 2023. However due to the NSW Audit Office requiring more time to work through their advice from the Crown Solicitor regarding Restricted Reserves they had informed Council that audit clearance would not be provided on 5 October 2023. ARIC was informed about this delay in timelines and subsequently its meeting on 9 October 2023 was postponed.

In normal circumstances, following this certification a copy of the Audited Financial Statements (including the Auditor's Reports) must be submitted to the Office of Local Government (OLG) in accordance with Section 417 (5) of the Local Government Act 1993 no later than 31 October 2023. However due to the delays stated above, Council requested an extension with the OLG to submit by 30 November 2023. This request was granted by the OLG on 30 October 2023.

Following this, the NSW Audit Office had scheduled an Audit Clearance meeting on 7 November 2023 however on 6 November 2023 this meeting was cancelled by the NSW Audit Office without a valid reason provided to Council. Due to these circumstances, Council was unable to present the Statements to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) and to present its Financial Statements to Council at its meeting on 29 November 2023 which ultimately resulted in not meeting the revised OLG deadline. Considering that Council's last Ordinary Meeting of the year was 12 December 2023, Council sought a further extension with the OLG to submit by 29 February 2024. This request was granted by the OLG on 5 December 2023.

ITEM 6 (continued)

The NSW Audit Office have now provided audit clearance on 14 February 2024 and the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) was provided with the Draft Financial Statements on 19 February 2024 where the external auditors presented their findings. At this meeting, ARIC resolved that the Draft Financial Statements be presented to Council on 27 February 2024 for certification.

Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires that Council, as soon as practical after receiving a copy of the Auditor's Reports, fix a date for a meeting, proposed to be 26 March 2024 where the Audited Financial Statements together with the Auditor's Reports will be presented to the public. Council must also give public notice of the date so fixed and the council meeting must be at least 7 days after the date on which this notice was given.

Furthermore, Section 420 of the Local Government Act 1993 provides that any person may make submissions to the Council with respect to the Financial Statements and/or Auditor's Reports and those submissions must be in writing and lodged with the Council within seven days of the 26 March 2024 Council meeting. Any public submissions received will be referred to the Auditor in accordance with the Act.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive Officer and the Responsible Accounting Officer sign the 'Statement by Councillors and Management' for both the General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements, as contained in the FY22/23 Draft Financial Statements, pursuant to Section 413 (2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.
- (b) That upon receiving the Auditor's Reports:-
 - a copy of the Audited Financial Statements be submitted to the Office of Local Government in accordance with Section 417 (5) of the Local Government Act 1993; and
 - the Audited Financial Statements be reported to Council at the next available Council meeting being 26 March 2024 and that public notice be given in accordance with Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 City of Ryde Draft FY22/23 Financial Statements - CIRCULATED UNDER SEPARATE COVER

Report Prepared By:
Sacha Thirimanne
Financial Controller

Report Approved By:
Aneesh Zahra
Chief Financial Officer

ITEM 6 (continued)





Discussion

FY22/23 Draft Financial Statements

The NSW Audit Office remains responsible for all of NSW Councils' financial audits, their performance and issuing an Independent Auditor's Report. Grant Thornton has been appointed by the Auditor-General as their contract Audit Agent. Kenneth Leung, Audit Leader from the Audit Office have been appointed to oversee the audit. The level of Audit Office involvement will vary depending on the size, nature, complexity, and risk of the audit.

The **Attachment - Circulated Under Separate Cover** details the financial position and performance as at 30 June 2023 and is summarised in table below.

Financial Position & Performance Snapshot as at 30 June 2023

Income Statement		
Total Income from Continuing Operations	\$ 173.7	
Total Expenditure from Continuing Operations	\$ 142.6	
Net Operating Result for the Year	\$ 31.1	
Net Operating Result for the Year before Capital Grants and Contributions	\$ 8.5	
Capital Expenditure		
New Capital Works	\$ 22.8	
Renewal Capital Works	\$ 14.9	
Total Capital Expenditure	\$ 37.7	
Financial Position		
Total Assets	\$ 2,235.3	
Total Liabilities	\$ 67.2	
Net Assets	\$ 2,168.1	
Cash & Investments		
	\$ 247.7	
Less External Restrictions	\$ 130.6	
Less Internal Restrictions	\$ 108.6	
Unrestricted Cash	\$ 8.5	
Performance Indicators		
Financial Ratios		
Operating Performance Ratio	7.63%	
Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio	82.08%	
Unrestricted Current Ratio	6.8	
Debt Service Cover Ratio	14.67	
Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio	3.31%	
Cash Expense Cover Ratio	11.63	
Infrastructure Asset Performance Ratios		
Buildings and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio	69%	
Infrastructure Backlog Ratio	1.92%	
Asset Maintenance Ratio	115.94%	

ITEM 6 (continued)

Operating Result

The Operating Result as at 30 June 2023 including capital grants and contributions amounted to a surplus of **\$31.1m** compared to **\$34.1m** in the previous year. This is a decrease of **\$3.0m** and is mainly due to a combination of factors such as fair value on investment properties, capital grants and contributions and depreciation. The Net Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions is **\$8.5m**.

Capital Expenditure

Council delivered **\$37.7m** of capital projects of which **\$14.9m** was for renewal of Council's existing asset base. There were no dedications of assets from developers this Financial Year.

Financial Position

Council's total assets grew from **\$1.9bn** to **\$2.2bn**. The majority of Council's assets are classified as Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment (IPPE) which increased from **\$1.4bn** to **\$1.8bn** as at 30 June 2023. The table below details revaluation increments by asset class which totals to **\$388.6m**.

	Revaluation Increase/(Decrease) \$m
Land	
Operational	174,464
Community	45,642
Crown Land	20,362
	240,468
Infrastructure	
Roadside Structures	1,212
Foreshore Assets	899
Carparks	2,083
Traffic Facilities and devices	3,965
Buildings	17,283
Roads, Kerbs, Bridges, Footpaths & Cycleways	37,556
Stormwater and Drainage	75,452
Recreation and Land Improvements	9,715
	148,165
Total Revaluation Increase FY22/23	388,633

ITEM 6 (continued)

The most significant revaluation increment relates to operational land of **\$174.5m** as a result of applying index rates from the latest Valuer General land values. Increases in infrastructure assets have been derived by assessing unit rates within Council's Asset Management System. Unit rates have been adjusted by analysing current rates from local projects, current contractor rates, Rawlinson's Construction Handbook in regard to construction materials and the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI). The most material infrastructure classes were Council's stormwater, road and building assets. Increases in stormwater and road assets was mainly due to substantial increases in the material cost of pipes and increases in contract prices relating to road projects. Building assets were revalued by an external valuer and reflected changes in both the market and prices of materials. Further details can be found in **(Note C1-6 in the Attachment)**

Cash Position

Council's overall cash position increased from **\$219.9m** to **\$247.7m** and this is mainly due to greater than anticipated Developer Contributions received this Financial Year.

Council's Unrestricted Cash remains at **\$8.5m**. These funds are held to cover day to day operational needs and is considered Council's working capital. In addition, these funds are required to meet any unknown or unexpected costs and should not be reallocated for other purposes.

The increase in externally restricted reserves relating to Developer Contributions and the corresponding decrease in internal reserves, is mainly due to correction of transfers completed in 2020 that were not in accordance with legislation.

In late 2022, Council's Executive Leadership Team identified various movements of funds from Council's Externally Restricted Reserves to other Internally Restricted Reserves including the Ryde Central project which occurred in the FY20/21 Financial Year. These transactions should not have occurred. Subsequently this matter was referred to the Office of Local Government (OLG), Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and the NSW Audit Office. Council's Executive Team acted quickly and decisively to implement corrective measures. On 27 June 2023, Council resolved to return these funds to the correct Restricted Reserves and adopted a new Cash Reserves Policy to ensure these actions do not occur again. These movements have been reflected in FY22/23 Draft Financial Statements and disclosure notes are contained in the relevant notes. **(Note B2-5, C1-3, F3-1, F3-2 in the Attachment)** Total Cash and Investments remain unchanged following the correction of these movements.

ITEM 6 (continued)

Performance Indicators

Council has achieved all the financial ratios within the benchmarks. However, of Council's infrastructure asset performance ratios, the renewal ratio was not met this Financial Year. This is mainly due to large scale projects requiring to be carried over due to protracted negotiations with utility providers, availability of contractors, staff vacancies during the year and price escalations within the construction industry requiring additional funding or a change in project scope.

Performance Against Original Budget

Original Budget projections on which the assumptions had been based have been affected by several factors. These include State and Federal decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors and decisions made by Council.

During the year as required by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the adopted income and expenditure is reviewed against the actual income and expenditure and any variations are reported against the adopted budget to Council on a quarterly basis. The General Purpose Financial Statements (GPFS) require the original budget adopted by Council to be included to compare to the actual result at the end of the year.

A notable variation from the Original Budget was Capital Grants and Contributions of **\$14.5m**. This is a result of greater than anticipated Developer Contributions received due to increased development during the Financial Year.

Detail of other material budget variations are in **Note B5-1 in the Attachment** which provides further information between the Original Budget and actuals for variances greater than 10%.

Financial Implications

Adoption of the recommendation will have no financial impact.

7 DECEMBER QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AND OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Report prepared by: Financial Controller

File No.: FIM/23/46/1 - BP24/4

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to review the adopted income and expenditure on a quarterly basis and to consider any variations against the Adopted Budget as required by the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, and associated regulations.

Council's financial position is satisfactory, and the December 2023 Quarterly Review shows that actuals are on track to meet the results forecasted in the Revised Budget.

The budget variations proposed in this Review will not change the projected Unrestricted Cash balance of **\$8.7m** as at 30 June 2024. These funds are held to cover day to day operational needs and is considered Council's working capital. In addition, these funds are required to meet any unknown or unexpected costs and should not be reallocated for other purposes.

The progress of delivery on Councils adopted Delivery Program 2023-27 and Operational Plan 2023-24 is provided within this document and ***Operational Plan 2023/24 2nd Quarter Progress Report*** to be published on Council's website.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following are key financial highlights which demonstrates sustainable financial performance:

- ✓ Unrestricted cash is projected to be maintained at **\$8.7m**
- ✓ Budgeted Infrastructure Spend of **\$89.1m** to renew and replace assets
- ✓ Cash & Investments earning above benchmark rates of return
- ✓ Rates and Annual Charges collected on track at **56.6%**
- ✓ Debt service ratio well above benchmark
- ✓ Maintaining current levels of service

RECOMMENDATION:

That the proposed budget variations as detailed in **ATTACHMENT 1** to this report be endorsed by Council.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 QBR2 Review Reports
- 2 Operational Plan 2023/24 2nd Quarter Progress Report - CIRCULATED UNDER SEPARATE COVER

ITEM 7 (continued)

Report Prepared By:

Sacha Thirimanne
Financial Controller

Report Approved By:

Aneesh Zahra
Chief Financial Officer

ITEM 7 (continued)

Discussion

To ensure Council is informed of key deliverables and the tracking of these deliverables, the progress report '**Operational Plan 2023/24 2nd Quarter Progress Report**' is provided in the **ATTACHMENT 2 - CIRCULATED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**. This report addresses the delivery of Council's functions and projects as at the end of the quarter for the period October to December 2023 in accordance with the adopted 2023-27 Delivery Program and 2023-24 Operational Plan which includes the following:

- General Manager's Introduction – including financial management and corporate performance overview, providing a 'snapshot' of Council's performance during the quarter.
- Program Summaries – including overview, operational indicators, performance measures and a summarised progress status of all of Council's capital and non-capital projects.

Budget 2023/2024

Council's Operational Plan 2023/2024 was adopted by Council on 27 June 2023.

Since the adoption of the Original Budget, initial forecasts have been affected by various factors. These factors include Federal and State Government policy, changes in the industry and economic activity, unexpected grant income, and decisions made by Council since the budget was originally set.

Budget variations proposed in this Review will not impact on Council's projected Unrestricted Cash balance of **\$8.7m** as at 30 June 2024. These funds are held to cover day to day operational needs and is considered Council's working capital. In addition, these funds are required to meet any unknown or unexpected costs and should not be reallocated for other purposes.

It is expected that Council will spend a total of **\$246.9m** this Financial Year on both recurrent expenditure for the provision of a range of services to the community and for capital expenditure for community assets including loans and leases.

Operating Budget

The adopted Original Budget forecasted an Operating Surplus including Capital Grants and Contributions of **\$25.1m** Statutory Format. The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting requires the inclusion of all income received as income for the year, even though the associated expenditure may be incurred in future periods. As the Statutory Format reflects a somewhat misleading result, the Management Reporting Format which takes into consideration the matching principles is used on a regular basis to monitor Council's financial performance. The adopted Approved Budget forecasts an Operating Surplus of **\$161k** (Management Format) and this Operating Surplus remains unchanged as a result of variations proposed this Review.

ITEM 7 (continued)

Capital Budget

The adopted Original Capital Works Budget including loans and leases totalled **\$48.0m**.

With the addition of carryover funds from FY22/23 and September Quarterly Budget Review, the Capital Works Budget increased from **\$48.0m** to **\$84.6m**.

Variations proposed in this Review of **\$4.6m** will result in an increase in the Capital Works Budget to **\$89.1m**, this is mainly due to property acquisition as per Council Resolution dated 23 May 2023.

Cash & Investments

As per the unaudited Financial Statements at 30 June 2023, cash and investments totalled **\$247.7m**.

Due to movements as a result of the original budget for FY23/24 and carryover funds from FY22/23 and September Quarterly Budget Review cash and investments have decreased from **\$247.7m** to **\$236.3m**. It is projected that following this review, due to net Capital Works variations of \$276k cash & investments will result in a revised balance of **\$236.0m**.

It is anticipated that the Unrestricted Cash will remain at **\$8.7m** as at 30 June 2024. Further details regarding Externally and Internally Restricted Reserves are provided in **ATTACHMENT 1** and are in accordance with Council's Adopted Cash Reserve Policy.

The table below is a summary of the proposed changes in the September Quarterly Budget Review and details of all movements are in **ATTACHMENT 1**.

ITEM 7 (continued)

The following details proposed variations to the budget and have been indexed to the table below:

Statutory Format		Description	Management Reporting Format (Matching Principles)									Ref
Approved Budget (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)		Original Budget (\$'000)	Carry Over Budget (\$'000)	September Review (\$'000)	Approved Budget (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)	Matching Variations (\$'000)	Proposed Variations (\$'000)	Total Proposed Variations (\$'000)	Revised Budget (\$'000)	
Income From Continuing Operations												
109,718	110,269	Rates and annual charges	109,718	-	-	109,718	110,269	-	-	-	109,718	
18,377	11,757	User charges and fees	18,410	-	(33)	18,377	11,757	-	-	-	18,377	
5,477	6,333	Interest and investment revenue	5,477	-	-	5,477	6,333	-	5,613	5,613	11,090	
12,747	5,377	Other Revenue	12,535	-	212	12,747	5,377	-	(344)	(344)	12,403	
2,576	1,241	Grants and Contributions - Operating	6,040	50	(3,514)	2,576	1,241	-	23	23	2,599	
49,958	30,362	Grants and Contributions - Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1,226	1,321	Gain/(Loss) on Asset Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
-	-	Trf From Internal Restrictions	1,332	1,183	5,161	7,677	7,677	-	628	628	8,305	
-	-	Trf From External Restrictions	26,586	497	(60)	27,023	27,023	-	(558)	(558)	26,465	
200,081	166,661	Total Revenue	180,099	1,730	1,767	183,596	169,677	-	5,363	5,363	188,958	
Expenses from Continuing Operations												
63,936	33,024	Employee benefits and on-costs	64,275	-	(339)	63,936	33,024	(388)	-	(388)	63,548	
108	8	Borrowing costs	108	-	-	108	8	-	-	-	108	
56,208	24,016	Materials and contracts	53,163	1,730	1,315	56,208	24,016	388	1,027	1,416	57,624	
28,820	13,446	Depreciation and Amortisation	28,820	-	-	28,820	13,446	-	-	-	28,820	
7,655	2,743	Other expenses	6,864	-	791	7,655	2,743	-	-	-	7,655	
156,727	73,237	Total Expenditure	153,230	1,730	1,767	156,727	73,237	-	1,027	1,027	157,754	
43,354	93,423	Operating Result (Surplus)/Deficit	26,869	-	-	26,869	96,440	-	4,335	4,335	31,204	
Add back Non Cash Items:												
		- Depreciation and Amortisation	28,820	-	-	28,820	13,446	-	-	-	28,820	
		Budget Surplus before Transfer to Reserves	55,689	-	-	55,689	109,886	-	4,335	4,335	60,024	
		Transfer to Asset Related Reserves	(29,590)	-	-	(29,590)	(29,590)	-	(4,335)	(4,335)	(33,926)	
		Transfer to Other Reserves	(25,937)	-	-	(25,937)	(25,937)	-	-	-	(25,937)	
43,354	93,423	Budget Result (Surplus)/Deficit	161	-	-	161	54,358	-	(0)	(0)	161	

Operating Income – Net Increase \$5.3m:

1. Interest on Investment Income – Increase \$5.6m

Greater than anticipated interest on investment income as result of recent interest rate increases resulting in favourable interest rates available in the market for investing. At the time of setting the Original Budget an average interest rate of 3.55% was assumed, however as of December 2023 average interest rates are at 4.60%. Of this \$3.0m relates to interest earned on Externally Restricted Funds for Section 7.11 Contributions and is proposed to be transferred to the respective Section 7.11 Reserves.

2. Porters Creek Construction Recycling Income – Decrease \$350k

Decrease in income as a result of an industry wide shortage of concrete available for processing resulting in a decrease in sales income. Significant infrastructure projects within NSW such as the Badgerys Creek International Airport has affected supply within the industry.

3. Lunar New Year Event Income – Increase \$21k

Increase in income for Council's Lunar New Year Event, of this \$15k relates to grant received from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the installation of lanterns to 'light up Korea Town' and an additional \$6k due to anticipated income for rides at the event.

ITEM 7 (continued)

4. Community Heritage Grant – Increase \$8k

Grant funding received from the Department of Planning & Environment for digitisation of Council's heritage walking trails. This will allow greater accessibility to heritage walking trail information and provide an interactive experience for residents.

Operating Expenditure – Net Increase \$1.0m:

5. Techone SAAS Implementation – Increase \$445k

\$445k increase in operating expenditure required for the Techone SAAS Implementation project. It is proposed to reallocate these funds from the ICT Strategy Implementation capital project which was originally funded from Asset Replacement Reserve. This variation will have no impact on Council's overall budget.

6. Action Plan relating to use of Restricted Reserves – Increase \$360k

As per the CEO's public statement on 23 May 2023, after the discovery of various transfers of funds obtained from developer contributions which had been placed in Internally Restricted Reserves it was determined to undertake an investigation into these matters:

- \$309k for engaging accounting and legal experts to examine these issues as these funds were required to be held by Council and spent for the purposes for which they were collected from developers in line with Council's Contributions Plan and the legislation imposes strict obligations on how these funds are to be managed.
- \$51k for an independent capability review of the systems, processes and function of the Risk Management, Insurance, Internal Audit and Governance function to address action item within the City of Ryde Action Plan and business assurance for the Executive and the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC). The review is necessary to respond to an evolving and more sophisticated regulatory environment.

7. Work Health & Safety (WHS) Initiatives – Increase \$128k

Increase in expenditure for WHS initiatives as a result of responses to Safe Work NSW notices regarding excavation training, psychosocial hazard procedures and ensuring Council satisfies its legal obligations. Council receives Member Benefit Funding of \$130k each year from its workers compensation provider to complete WHS initiatives. In previous years these funds have been held in the WHS Reserve therefore it is proposed to transfer these funds from WHS Reserve.

8. Revolving Energy Project - Increase \$55k

As per Council Resolution dated 27 July 2021, the Revolving Energy fund reinvests energy savings generated and reinvests these funds into further energy saving initiatives within the LGA. These funds will be utilised to install Solar Power Systems in various Council's Buildings and is proposed to be transferred from Revolving Energy Reserve.

ITEM 7 (continued)**9. Lunar New Year Expenditure – Net Increase \$21k**

Increase in expenditure of \$45k due to both significant increases in costs relating to event infrastructure such as staging and installation of lanterns due to grant received as per Note 3 above. This increase in expenditure has been offset by savings of \$24k in other events.

10. Household Problem Waste Collection Service – Net Increase \$10k

Increase in expenditure for household problem waste collection service as per Council Resolution dated 26 September 2023. It is proposed to reallocate funding of \$45k from existing Circular Economy projects and the remaining \$10k is proposed to be transferred from Domestic Waste Reserve.

11. Heritage Walking Trail Digitisation – Increase \$8k

Increase in expenditure for digitisation of Council's heritage walking trails due to grant received as per Note 4 above.

12. Internally & Externally Restricted Reserves (Operating):

It is proposed to transfer to/from Internal and External Reserves an amount of **\$4.3m** for the following:

- \$3.0m Transfer to Section 7.11 Externally Restricted Reserves due to increase in interest on investment income as per Note 1 above.
- \$1.4m Transfer to Assets Replacement Reserve due to Quarter 2 Budget Surplus to date due to a depleted balance during the Financial Year.
- \$568k Transfer to Domestic Waste Reserve to correct funding of operating costs for the Porters Creek Commercial Facility. As per Local Government Act 1993, expenditure must be directly attributable to domestic waste services provided to residential ratepayers, and therefore these costs have been funded from General Revenue.
- \$445k Transfer from Asset Replacement Reserve due to reallocation of funds from ICT Strategy Implementation capital project as per Note 5 above.
- \$128k Transfer from WHS Reserve due to initiatives to satisfy Safe Work NSW notices and legal obligations as per Note 7 above.
- \$55k Transfer from Revolving Energy Reserve to fund energy saving initiatives within the LGA as per Note 8 above.
- \$10k Transfer from Domestic Waste Reserve due to Household Problem Waste Collection service as per Note 10 above.

ITEM 7 (continued)

Capital Budget

Capital Expenditure and Repayments to Liability

Description	Management Reporting Format (Matching Principles)						
	Original Budget (\$'000)	Carry Over Budget (\$'000)	September Review (\$'000)	Approved Budget (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)	Proposed Changes (\$'000)	Revised Budget (\$'000)
Capital Expenditure and Repayments to Liability							
Capital - Expansion	16,438	23,294	704	40,436	4,231	4,914	45,350
Capital - Renewal	28,800	10,597	1,965	41,362	6,280	(358)	41,005
Loan Repayment	364	-	-	364	180	-	364
Lease Payment	2,420	-	-	2,420	1,380	-	2,420
Total Expenditure	48,022	33,891	2,669	84,582	12,071	4,556	89,139
Capital Funding							
Transfer from Internally Restricted Reserve	(19,614)	(9,648)	235	(29,026)	(29,026)	(4,547)	(33,573)
Transfer from Externally Restricted Reserves							
Development Contributions Reserves	(3,751)	(3,186)	(208)	(7,144)	(7,144)	-	(7,144)
Other Contribution	-	(825)	-	(825)	(825)	-	(825)
Domestic Waste Management Reserve	-	(1,448)	-	(1,448)	(1,448)	-	(1,448)
Macquarie Park Corridor Special Rate Rese	(47)	(786)	-	(833)	(833)	-	(833)
Stormwater Management Reserve	(1,191)	(462)	-	(1,653)	(1,653)	-	(1,653)
Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve	(14,319)	(4,236)	(139)	(18,694)	(18,694)	6	(18,688)
Grants and Contributions	(9,101)	(13,301)	(2,557)	(24,958)	(5,857)	(16)	(24,974)
Total Capital Funding	(48,022)	(33,891)	(2,669)	(84,582)	(65,481)	(4,556)	(89,139)

Variations proposed to the Capital Works Budget will result in a net increase in capital expenditure by **\$4.6m**, these variations are detailed below:

New Projects – Net Increase \$5.0m

- \$5.0m increase for property acquisition as per Council Resolution dated 23 May 2023. It is proposed to be funded from Investment Property Reserve.

Increased Funds for Existing Projects – Increase \$858k

- \$300k increase for Dunbar Park Amenities Upgrade project due to additional structural works required to the building extension such as demolition and replacement of the existing slab which was not anticipated in the initial concept designs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
- \$290k increase for Gannan Park Amenities Building project due to the relocation of the irrigation tank and associated works. This additional scope of works is required to enable preparation for the Gannan park Masterplan project and will prevent potential demolition of newly constructed slabs that form part of the amenities and will enable improved access for machinery and plant around the building. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
- \$50k increase for Church Street (Blaxland Road - Gowrie Street) Road Resurfacing Renewal project unforeseen costs associated with the repair and construction of heritage sandstone kerb and gutter, and other ancillary works such as investigation and testing prior to works being undertaken. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.

ITEM 7 (continued)

- \$50k increase for Kokoda Street (Cutler Parade to Edmondson Street) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
- \$40k increase for Operational Buildings Renewal Program required for cantilevered awning at the rear of Council's Operations Centre Building. This increase is due to advice provided by the Structural Engineer based on the proposed design. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
- \$38k increase for Terry Road (Ryedale Road to Orchard Street) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
- \$28k increase for Waterloo Park Playground Renewal project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
- \$21k increase for Frederick Street (Potts Street to Arnold Street) Footpath Replacement project due to additional Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) 3 grant funding received.
- \$19k increase for Abuklea Road (Longview Street to Balaclava Road) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
- \$15k increase for Brabyn Street (Denistone East Public School) Turnaround Facility project due to additional Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) 3 grant funding received.
- \$7k increase for Heatly Reserve (Sagar Place East Ryde) Playground upgrade project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.

Decreased Funds for Existing Projects – Decrease \$1.3m

- \$445k decrease for ICT Strategy Implementation project as it is proposed to reallocate these funds to the Techone SAAS Implementation project which is in the operating budget. This was originally funded from Asset Replacement Reserve. This variation will have no impact on Council's overall budget as per Note 5 above.
- \$396k decrease for Magdala Road Stormwater Improvement Works project. This project is proposed to be deferred as further investigation and design works are required. Following the completion of these works and subject to availability of funding, the project will be brought in and reflected in a future Budget Review. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Replacement Reserve.
- \$306k decrease for Waterloo Park Amenities Upgrade project. This project is proposed to be deferred to FY24/25 due to other priority projects requiring funding such as the Dunbar Park Amenities Upgrade as detailed above. It is proposed that funds be returned to the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.

ITEM 7 (continued)

- \$60k decrease for Arthur Street Kerb Ramp project due to savings resulting from a reduced scope of works. Portion of the initially planned works which included the bus shelter upgrade is scheduled in Council's Bus Shelter Program. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.
- \$40k decrease for West Ryde Community Centre Hydraulic Solutions project. The required scope of works of this project has already been scheduled as part of the West Ryde Community Centre waterproofing upgrade works and as a result these funds are no longer required. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Replacement Reserve.
- \$35k decrease for Ryde Park Playground Renewal project due to savings resulting from revising the drainage scope. It is proposed that funds be returned to the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
- \$27k decrease for Bidgee Road (Bidgee Park to Garderner Avenue) Footpath Expansion project due to savings upon completion of the project. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.
- \$20k decrease for Bowden Street Footpath Design project due to savings achieved in the completion of the design. It is proposed that funds be returned to the department of Transport for NSW under the Get NSW Active 2022/23 grant program.
- \$12k decrease for Abuklea Road Stormwater Improvement project due to savings upon completion of the project. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.

Source Funds for Capital Projects:

The table below details the movement in both Externally Restricted Reserves and Internally Restricted Reserves by Capital Project. Further detail of Reserve movements can be found in **ATTACHMENT 1**:

ITEM 7 (continued)

	EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED RESERVES		INTERNALLY RESTRICTED RESERVES		
	Infrastructure Special Rate	Grants	Asset Expansion	Asset Replacement	Investment Property
New Projects					
Property Acquisition	-	-	-	-	5,040
Increased funds for Existing Projects					
Dunbar Park Amenities Upgrade	300	-	-	-	-
Gannan Park Amenities Building	-	-	-	290	-
Church Street (Blaxland Rd - Gowrie St) Road Resurfacing Renewal	-	-	-	50	-
Kokoda Street (Cutler Pde - Edmondson St) Footpath Expansion	-	-	-	50	-
Buildings Renewal Program	-	-	-	40	-
Terry Road (Ryedale Rd - Orchard St) Footpath Expansion	-	-	-	38	-
Waterloo Park Playground Renewal	28	-	-	-	-
Frederick Street (Potts St to Arnold St) Public Footpath Expansion	-	21	-	-	-
Abuklea Road (Longview Street - Balaclava Rd) Footpath Expansion	-	-	-	19	-
Brabyn Street (Denistone East PS) Turnaround Facility	-	15	-	-	-
Heatly Reserve Sagar Place East Ryde	7	-	-	-	-
	335	36	0	487	5,040
Decreased funds for Existing Projects					
ICT Strategy Implementation	-	-	-	(445)	-
Magdala Road Stormwater Improvement Works	-	-	-	(396)	-
Waterloo Park Amenities Upgrade	(306)	-	-	-	-
Arthur Street Kerb Ramp	-	-	(60)	-	-
West Ryde Community Centre Hydraulic Solutions	-	-	-	(40)	-
Ryde Park Playground Renewal	(35)	-	-	-	-
Bidgee Road (Bidgee Park to Garderner Av) Footpath Expansion	-	-	(27)	-	-
Bowden Street Footpath Design	-	(20)	-	-	-
Abuklea Road Stormwater Improvement Works	-	-	(12)	-	-
	(341)	(20)	(99)	(881)	0
NET MOVEMENTS IN RESERVES	(6)	16	(99)	(394)	5,040

Financial Implications

As a result of the Quarterly Review as at 31 December 2023, Council's available Unrestricted Cash balance is projected to remain at **\$8.7m** as at 30 June 2024. These funds are held to cover day to day operational needs and is considered Council's working capital. In addition, these funds are required to meet any unknown or unexpected costs and should not be reallocated for other purposes.

Conclusion

The following statement is made in accordance with the Clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021:

"It is in my opinion that the Budget Review Statement for City of Ryde for the period ended 31 December 2023 indicates that the Council's projected financial position as at 30 June 2024 is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimates of income and expenditure".

Aneesh Zahra
 Chief Financial Officer
 Responsible Accounting Officer
 15 February 2024

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Quarterly Review Report October - December 2023
Financial Management Summary Report for the Period Ended - December 2023

Statutory Format		Description	Management Reporting Format (Matching Principles)									Ref
Approved Budget (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)		Original Budget (\$'000)	Carry Over Budget (\$'000)	September Review (\$'000)	Approved Budget (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)	Matching Variations (\$'000)	Proposed Variations (\$'000)	Total Proposed Variations (\$'000)	Revised Budget (\$'000)	
Income From Continuing Operations												
109,718	110,269	Rates and annual charges	109,718	-	-	109,718	110,269	-	-	-	109,718	
18,377	11,757	User charges and fees	18,410	-	(33)	18,377	11,757	-	-	-	18,377	
5,477	6,333	Interest and investment revenue	5,477	-	-	5,477	6,333	-	5,613	5,613	11,090	1
12,747	5,377	Other Revenue	12,535	-	212	12,747	5,377	-	(344)	(344)	12,403	2,3
2,576	1,241	Grants and Contributions - Operating	6,040	50	(3,514)	2,576	1,241	-	23	23	2,599	3,4
49,958	30,362	Grants and Contributions - Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1,226	1,321	Gain/(Loss) on Asset Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
-	-	Trf From Internal Restrictions	1,332	1,183	5,161	7,677	7,677	-	628	628	8,305	12
-	-	Trf From External Restrictions	26,586	497	(60)	27,023	27,023	-	(558)	(558)	26,465	12
200,081	166,661	Total Revenue	180,099	1,730	1,767	183,596	169,677	-	5,363	5,363	188,958	
Expenses from Continuing Operations												
63,936	33,024	Employee benefits and on-costs	64,275	-	(339)	63,936	33,024	(388)	-	(388)	63,548	
108	8	Borrowing costs	108	-	-	108	8	-	-	-	108	
56,208	24,016	Materials and contracts	53,163	1,730	1,315	56,208	24,016	388	1,027	1,416	57,624	5-11
28,820	13,446	Depreciation and Amortisation	28,820	-	-	28,820	13,446	-	-	-	28,820	
7,655	2,743	Other expenses	6,864	-	791	7,655	2,743	-	-	-	7,655	
156,727	73,237	Total Expenditure	153,230	1,730	1,767	156,727	73,237	-	1,027	1,027	157,754	
43,354	93,423	Operating Result (Surplus)/Deficit	26,869	-	-	26,869	96,440	-	4,335	4,335	31,204	
Add back Non Cash Items:												
		- Depreciation and Amortisation	28,820	-	-	28,820	13,446	-	-	-	28,820	
		Budget Surplus before Transfer to Reserves	55,689	-	-	55,689	109,886	-	4,335	4,335	60,024	
		Transfer to Asset Related Reserves	(29,590)	-	-	(29,590)	(29,590)	-	(4,335)	(4,335)	(33,926)	12
		Transfer to Other Reserves	(25,937)	-	-	(25,937)	(25,937)	-	-	-	(25,937)	
43,354	93,423	Budget Result (Surplus)/Deficit	161	-	-	161	54,358	-	(0)	(0)	161	

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Quarterly Review Report October - December 2023
Financial Management Summary Report for the Period Ended - December 2023

Description	Management Reporting Format (Matching Principles)						
	Original Budget (\$'000)	Carry Over Budget (\$'000)	September Review (\$'000)	Approved Budget (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)	Total Proposed Variations (\$'000)	Revised Budget (\$'000)
Capital Expenditure and Repayments to Liability							
Capital - Expansion	16,438	23,294	704	40,436	4,231	4,914	45,350
Capital - Renewal	28,800	10,597	1,965	41,362	6,280	(358)	41,005
Loan Repayment	364	-	-	364	180	-	364
Lease Payment	2,420	-	-	2,420	1,380	-	2,420
Total Expenditure	48,022	33,891	2,669	84,582	12,071	4,556	89,139
Capital Funding							
Transfer from Internally Restricted Reserve	(19,614)	(9,648)	235	(29,026)	(29,026)	(4,547)	(33,573)
Transfer from Externally Restricted Reserves							
Development Contributions Reserves	(3,751)	(3,186)	(208)	(7,144)	(7,144)	-	(7,144)
Other Contribution	-	(825)	-	(825)	(825)	-	(825)
Domestic Waste Management Reserve	-	(1,448)	-	(1,448)	(1,448)	-	(1,448)
Macquarie Park Corridor Special Rate Rese	(47)	(786)	-	(833)	(833)	-	(833)
Stormwater Management Reserve	(1,191)	(462)	-	(1,653)	(1,653)	-	(1,653)
Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve	(14,319)	(4,236)	(139)	(18,694)	(18,694)	6	(18,688)
Grants and Contributions	(9,101)	(13,301)	(2,557)	(24,958)	(5,857)	(16)	(24,974)
Total Capital Funding	(48,022)	(33,891)	(2,669)	(84,582)	(65,481)	(4,556)	(89,139)

Quarterly Review Report October - December 2023
Cash and Investment Management Summary Report for the Period Ended - December 2023

Description	Opening Balances (\$'000)	Original Budget (\$'000)	Carry Over Budget (\$'000)	September Review (\$'000)	Approved Budget (\$'000)	Approved Budget Balance (\$'000)	Total Proposed Variations (\$'000)	Revised Budget Balance (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)
Internally Restricted Reserves									
Employee Leave Entitlements Reserve	4,556	-	-	-	-	4,556	-	4,556	4,556
Refundable Deposits Reserves	17,652	-	-	-	-	17,652	-	17,652	17,652
Interest on Refundable Deposits Reserve	224	-	-	-	-	224	-	224	224
Asset Replacement	10,588	(55)	(6,238)	(120)	(6,413)	4,175	1,299	5,474	4,175
Plant Replacement	7,440	281	-	-	281	7,722	-	7,722	7,722
Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre	-	500	-	-	500	500	-	500	500
Council Election	845	360	-	-	360	1,205	-	1,205	1,205
Investment Property	21,632	135	-	-	135	21,767	(5,040)	16,727	21,767
Ryde Central	9,375	(6,375)	(524)	-	(6,899)	2,476	-	2,476	2,476
Carryover Works	601	-	(601)	-	(601)	0	-	0	0
Accommodation	16,488	(1,726)	-	(341)	(2,067)	14,420	-	14,420	14,420
Public Art	18	-	-	-	-	18	-	18	18
Community Grants	128	-	-	-	-	128	-	128	128
Synthetic Sports Surface	908	239	-	-	239	1,147	-	1,147	1,147
Transport & Pedestrian Initiatives MP	241	-	-	-	-	241	-	241	241
Insurance Fluctuation	291	200	-	-	200	491	-	491	491
Risk Management, WHS & Injury Management	588	123	(168)	-	(45)	543	(128)	415	543
Planning Proposal	267	(3)	-	-	(3)	263	-	263	263
Affordable Housing	1,521	602	-	-	602	2,124	-	2,124	2,124
Workers Compensation	3,000	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Heritage	385	-	-	-	-	385	-	385	385
Asset Expansion Reserve	4,779	(385)	(3,300)	-	(3,686)	1,093	99	1,192	1,093
Financial Assistance Grant	4,465	-	-	(4,465)	(4,465)	-	-	-	-
Revolving Energy Fund	122	-	-	-	-	122	(55)	66	122
Information Technology Reserve	2,195	200	-	-	200	2,395	-	2,395	2,395
Legal	292	100	-	-	100	392	-	392	392
Total - Internally Restricted Reserves	108,600	(5,805)	(10,831)	(4,926)	(21,562)	87,038	(3,825)	83,213	87,038
Externally Restricted Reserves									
S7.11 Stormwater Management Facilities Reserve	477	-	-	-	-	477	-	477	477
S7.12 Plan 2020 Fixed Development Consent	2,566	65	-	-	65	2,631	-	2,631	2,631
S7.11 Plan 2020 Plan Administration Reserve	541	(189)	-	454	265	805	-	805	805
S7.11 Plan 2020 Roads & Traffic Management	2,355	650	-	984	1,634	3,989	-	3,989	3,989
S7.11 Plan 2020 Open Space & Recreation Facilities	39,655	(1,511)	(3,284)	12,367	7,572	47,227	2,985	50,213	47,227
S7.11 Plan 2020 Community & Cultural Facilities	18,654	1,125	(23)	6,862	7,964	26,618	-	26,618	26,618
Voluntary Planning Agreement	14,525	-	-	-	-	14,525	-	14,525	14,525
Other Contribution	825	-	(825)	-	(825)	-	-	-	-
Domestic Waste Management Reserve	22,207	-	(1,514)	-	(1,514)	20,693	558	21,251	20,693
Macquarie Park Corridor Special Rate Reserve	3,706	1,783	(786)	-	997	4,704	-	4,704	4,704
Stormwater Management Reserve	1,009	(274)	(712)	-	(986)	23	-	23	23
Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve	9,818	(720)	(4,296)	(139)	(5,155)	4,663	6	4,669	4,663
Consolidated Grant Reserve	14,261	-	-	-	-	14,261	-	14,261	14,261
Total - Externally Restricted Reserves	130,599	928	(11,440)	20,528	10,016	140,616	3,549	144,165	140,616
Unrestricted Cash (ie. available after the above Restrictions) ⁽¹⁾	8,499	161	-	-	161	8,660	-	8,660	70,953
Total - Cash & Investments	247,698	(4,716)	(22,271)	15,602	(11,385)	236,313	(276)	236,037	298,607

(1) Council's unrestricted actual cash position is currently higher than the year end projected balance. The unrestricted balance will continue to fluctuate as Council expends on operational costs and capital projects during the financial year. It is anticipated that all budgeted income and expenditure will be realised so that the projected unrestricted cash balance will remain at \$8.7m. These funds have been invested in accordance with Council's investment policy.

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

**Quarterly Review Report October - December 2023
Financial Management Summary Report for the Period Ended - December 2023**

Statutory Format	Description	Management Reporting Format (Matching Principles)						
		Original Budget (\$'000)	Carry Over Budget (\$'000)	September Review (\$'000)	Approved Budget (\$'000)	YTD Actual (\$'000)	Total Proposed Variations (\$'000)	Revised Budget (\$'000)
Approved Budget (\$'000)								
Income from Continuing Operations								
27,287	City Development	2,550	-	-	2,550	1,491	8	2,558
8,000	Community Safety and Amenity	8,000	-	-	8,000	3,258	-	8,000
18,196	City Sports and Recreation	9,085	217	(60)	9,242	5,165	-	9,242
567	Library	467	-	100	567	460	-	567
-	City Economy	206	-	-	206	206	-	206
1,137	Resilience and Sustainability	484	136	158	778	619	55	833
2,413	Catchment Waterway	261	686	-	946	936	-	946
27,545	Waste and Recycling	52,055	40	-	52,095	50,924	(908)	51,187
6,285	Traffic and Transport	2,155	100	-	2,255	863	-	2,255
7,100	Roads	3,363	-	143	3,506	4,764	-	3,506
3,145	Paths and Cycleways	458	214	-	672	464	-	672
1,855	Community Inclusion and Wellbeing	1,392	50	190	1,632	1,081	-	1,632
403	Community Connectedness and Engagement	375	120	28	523	403	21	544
3,268	Strategic Property	4,217	-	341	4,558	2,936	-	4,558
2,170	Service Delivery Support	1,632	-	-	1,632	1,163	-	1,632
90,709	Governance & Corporate Services	93,399	168	867	94,434	94,946	6,186	100,620
200,081		180,099	1,730	1,767	183,596	169,677	5,363	188,958
Expenses from Continuing Operations								
6,494	City Development	6,514	-	(20)	6,494	3,214	31	6,526
6,675	Community Safety and Amenity	6,675	-	-	6,675	3,514	26	6,702
21,616	City Sports and Recreation	21,606	217	(207)	21,616	11,120	109	21,724
8,043	Library	7,963	-	80	8,043	3,848	(60)	7,983
2,008	City Economy	2,263	-	(255)	2,008	876	-	2,008
3,992	Resilience and Sustainability	3,654	136	203	3,992	1,806	57	4,049
7,503	Catchment Waterway	7,082	686	(265)	7,503	3,582	-	7,503
26,072	Waste and Recycling	26,033	40	-	26,072	10,165	10	26,082
6,053	Traffic and Transport	5,729	100	225	6,053	2,564	(81)	5,973
12,092	Roads	12,120	-	(28)	12,092	5,527	(150)	11,942
4,166	Paths and Cycleways	4,026	214	(74)	4,166	2,219	(169)	3,997
6,064	Community Inclusion and Wellbeing	5,804	50	210	6,064	2,425	3	6,067
6,321	Community Connectedness and Engagement	6,103	120	97	6,321	2,929	(243)	6,077
7,697	Strategic Property	7,393	-	304	7,697	2,249	(28)	7,669
4,755	Service Delivery Support	4,687	-	68	4,755	3,892	86	4,841
27,175	Governance & Corporate Services	25,578	168	1,429	27,175	13,309	1,436	28,612
156,727		153,230	1,730	1,767	156,727	73,237	1,027	157,754

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

**Quarterly Review Report October - December 2023
Proposed Budget Changes**

	Matching Variations	Proposed Variations	Total Qtr 2 Variations	December Quarter 2023 Comments
Grand Total	0	0	0	
Interest and investment revenue (+ve is an increase in Revenue)	0	5,613,490	5,613,490	
Investment Income		5,613,490	5,613,490	Greater than anticipated interest on investment income as result of recent interest rate increases resulting in favourable interest rates available in the market for investing. At the time of setting the Original Budget an average interest rate of 3.55% was assumed, however as of December 2023 average interest rates are at 4.60%. Of this \$3.0m relates to interest earned on Externally Restricted Funds for Section 7.11 Contributions and is proposed to be transferred to the respective Section 7.11 Reserves.
Other revenues (+ve is an increase in Revenue)	0	-344,354	-344,354	
Construction Recycling		-350,354	-350,354	Decrease in income as a result of an industry wide shortage of concrete available for processing resulting in a decrease in sale income. Significant infrastructure projects within NSW such as the Badgerys Creek International Airport has affected supply within the industry.
Lunar New Year		6,000	6,000	Additional income anticipated from rides at the Lunar New Year Event
Grants and Contributions - Operating (+ve is an increase in Revenue)	0	23,000	23,000	
Community Heritage Grant - Interactive Heritage Walking Trails		8,000	8,000	Grant funding received from the Department of Planning & Environment for digitisation of Council's heritage walking trails. This will allow greater accessibility to heritage walking trail information and provide an interactive experience for residents.
Lunar New Year		15,000	15,000	Increase in income for Council's Lunar New Year Event, of this \$15k relates to grant received from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the installation of lanterns to 'light up Korea Town'
Grants and Contributions - Capital (+ve is an increase in Revenue)	0	15,524	15,524	
Bowden Street Footpath (Forward Planning)		-20,403	-20,403	Decrease for Bowden Street Footpath Design project due to savings achieved in the completion of the design. It is proposed that funds be returned to the department of Transport for NSW under the Get NSW Active 2022/23 grant program.
LRCI Phase 3 - Public Footpath Federick St Ryde (Potts St - Arnold St)		20,528	20,528	Additional LRCI 3 Grant received for Traffic Facilities Expansion program
LRCI Phase 3 - Brabyn St Denistone East Public School Turnaround facility		15,399	15,399	Additional LRCI 3 Grant received for Traffic Facilities Expansion program
Employee benefits and on-costs (+ve is an increase in Expenditure)	-388,390	0	-388,390	
Salary savings to date in various programs	-388,390	0	-388,390	Salary and wages savings to date as a result of vacant positions held during the year
Materials and contracts (+ve is an increase in Expenditure)	388,390	1,027,488	1,415,878	

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

	Matching Variations	Proposed Variations	Total Qtr 2 Variations	December Quarter 2023 Comments
Techone SAAS Implementation		445,000	445,000	Increase in operating expenditure required for the Techone SAAS Implementation project. It is proposed to reallocate these funds from the ICT Strategy Implementation capital project which was originally funded from Asset Replacement Reserve. This variation will have no impact on Council's overall budget.
Waste Wise Ryde - Towards Zero Waste		-25,000	-25,000	Reallocation of funding to Household Problem Waste Collection Service as per Council Resolution dated 26 September 2023.
Community Recycling Drop-off		-20,000	-20,000	Reallocation of funding to Household Problem Waste Collection Service as per Council Resolution dated 26 September 2023.
Household Problem Waste Collection Service		55,000	55,000	Increase in expenditure for household problem waste collection service as per Council Resolution dated 26 September 2023. It is proposed to reallocate funding of \$45k from existing Circular Economy projects and the remaining \$10k is proposed to be transferred from Domestic Waste Reserve
Action Plan relating to use of Restricted Reserves		360,408	360,408	As per the CEO's public statement on 23 May 2023, after the discovery of various transfers of funds obtained from developer contributions which had been placed in Internally Restricted Reserves it was determined to undertake an investigation into these matters: -\$309k for engaging accounting and legal experts to examine these issues as these funds were required to be held by Council and spent for the purposes for which they were collected from developers in line with Council's Contributions Plan and the legislation imposes strict obligations on how these funds are to be managed. -\$51k for an independent capability review of the systems, processes and function of the Risk Management, Insurance, Internal Audit and Governance function to address action item within the City of Ryde Action Plan and business assurance for the Executive and the ARIC. The review is necessary to respond to an evolving and more sophisticated regulatory environment.
Work Health & Safety (WHS) Initiatives		127,700	127,700	Increase in expenditure for WHS initiatives as a result of responses to Safe Work NSW notices regarding excavation training, psychosocial hazard procedures and ensuring Council satisfies its legal obligations. Council receives Member Benefit Funding of \$130k each year from its workers compensation provider to complete WHS initiatives. In previous years these funds have been held in the WHS Reserve therefore it is proposed to transfer these funds from WHS Reserve.
Temporary/Agency Staff various programs	388,390	0	388,390	Increase funding for Temporary Staff due to vacant positions, offset by salary savings
Revolving Energy Project		55,380	55,380	As per Council Resolution dated 27 July 2021, the Revolving Energy fund reinvests energy savings generated and reinvests these funds into further energy saving initiatives within the LGA. These funds will be utilised to install Solar Power Systems in various Council's Buildings, and is proposed to be transferred from Revolving Energy Reserve.
Community Heritage Grant - Interactive Heritage Walking Trails		8,000	8,000	Increase in expenditure for digitisation of Council's heritage walking trails due to grant received
Lunar New Year		45,000	45,000	Increase in expenditure due to both significant increases in costs relating to event infrastructure such as staging and installation of lanterns due to grant received
Cinema in the Park		-24,000	-24,000	Savings identified in this event program to assist with additional costs for event infrastructure for major events such as Lunar New Year.
Promotions - Library	-17,000	0	-17,000	Reallocating Promotions - Library funding to AUSLAN
Library Programme - Australian Sign Language (AUSLAN)	17,000	0	17,000	AUSLAN funding reallocated from Promotions - Library

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

	Matching Variations	Proposed Variations	Total Qtr 2 Variations	December Quarter 2023 Comments
Reserves Drawdown for Operating (-ve is an increase in Reserve Drawdown)	0	4,264,648	4,264,648	
Externally Restricted Reserve				
Section 7.11 Plan - Open Space & Recreation Facilities				
Investment Income		2,985,400	2,985,400	Greater than anticipated interest on investment income as result of recent interest rate increases resulting in favourable interest rates available in the market for investing. At the time of setting the Original Budget an average interest rate of 3.55% was assumed, however as of December 2023 average interest rates are at 4.60%. Of this \$3.0m relates to interest earned on Externally Restricted Funds for Section 7.11 Contributions and is proposed to be transferred to the respective Section 7.11 Reserves.
Domestic Waste Management Reserve				
Construction Recycling		567,600	567,600	Transferred to Domestic Waste Reserve to correct funding of operating costs for the Porters Creek Commercial Facility. As per Local Government Act 1993, expenditure has to be directly attributable to domestic waste services provided to residential ratepayers, and therefore these costs have been funded from General Revenue.
Waste Wise Ryde - Towards Zero Waste		25,000	25,000	reallocation of funding to Household Problem Waste Collection Service as per Council Resolution dated 26 September 2023.
Community Recycling Drop-off		20,000	20,000	reallocation of funding to Household Problem Waste Collection Service as per Council Resolution dated 26 September 2023.
Household Problem Waste Collection Service		-55,000	-55,000	As per Council Resolution dated 27 July 2021, the Revolving Energy fund reinvests energy savings generated and reinvests these funds into further energy saving initiatives within the LGA. It is proposed to install Solar Power System in various Council's Buildings and this is proposed to be transferred from Revolving Energy Reserve.
Internally Restricted Reserve				
Quarter 2 Budget Surplus to date		1,349,728	1,349,728	Transfer to Assets Replacement Reserve for Quarter 2 Budget surplus to date due to a depleted balance during the Financial Year.
Techone SAAS Implementation		-445,000	-445,000	Increase in operating expenditure required for the Techone SAAS Implementation project. It is proposed to reallocate these funds from the ICT Strategy Implementation capital project which was originally funded from Asset Replacement Reserve. This variation will have no impact on Council's overall budget.
Work Health & Safety (WHS) Initiatives		-127,700	-127,700	Increase in expenditure for WHS initiatives as a result of responses to Safe Work NSW notices regarding excavation training, psychosocial hazard procedures and ensuring Council satisfies its legal obligations. Council receives Member Benefit Funding of \$130k each year from its workers compensation provider to complete WHS initiatives. In previous years these funds have been held in the WHS Reserve therefore it is proposed to transfer these funds from WHS Reserve.
Revolving Energy Project		-55,380	-55,380	As per Council Resolution dated 27 July 2021, the Revolving Energy fund reinvests energy savings generated and reinvests these funds into further energy saving initiatives within the LGA. These funds will be utilised to install Solar Power Systems in various Council's Buildings, and is proposed to be transferred from Revolving Energy Reserve.
Capital Expenditure (+ve is an increase in Expenditure)	0	4,556,456	4,556,456	

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

	Matching Variations	Proposed Variations	Total Qtr 2 Variations	December Quarter 2023 Comments
Gannan Park - New Amenities Building		290,000	290,000	Increase for Gannan Park Amenities Building project due to the relocation of the irrigation tank and associated works. This additional scope of works is required to enable preparation for the Gannan park Masterplan project and will prevent potential demolition of newly constructed slabs that form part of the amenities and will enable improved access for machinery and plant around the building. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Waterloo Park - Amenities Upgrade		-306,338	-306,338	Decrease for Waterloo Park Amenities Upgrade project. This project is proposed to be deferred to FY24/25 due to other priority projects requiring funding such as the Dunbar Park Amenities Upgrade as detailed above. It is proposed that funds be returned to the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Dunbar Park - Amenities Upgrade		300,000	300,000	Increase for Dunbar Park Amenities Upgrade project due to additional structural works required to the building extension such as demolition and replacement of the existing slab which was not anticipated in the initial concept designs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Waterloo Park Playground Renewal		28,000	28,000	Increase for Waterloo Park Playground Renewal project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Heatly Reserve (Sagar Place East Ryde)		7,000	7,000	Increase for Heatly Reserve (Sagar Place East Ryde) project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Ryde Park		-34,596	-34,596	Decrease for Ryde Park Playground Renewal project due to savings resulting from revising the drainage scope. It is proposed that funds be returned to the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Church Street (Blaxland Road - Gowrie Street)		50,000	50,000	Increase for Church Street (Blaxland Road - Gowrie Street) Road Resurfacing Renewal project unforeseen costs associated with the repair and construction of heritage sandstone kerb and gutter, and other ancillary works such as investigation and testing prior to works being undertaken. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Abuklea Road, Marsfield		-11,863	-11,863	Decrease for Abuklea Road Stormwater Improvement project due to savings upon completion of the project. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.
Magdala Road, North Ryde		-396,271	-396,271	Decrease for Magdala Road Stormwater Improvement Works project. This project is proposed to be deferred as further investigation and design works are required. Following the completion of these works and subject to availability of funding, the project will be brought in and reflected in a future Budget Review. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Replacement Reserve.
Abuklea Road (Longview Street - Balaclava Rd)		19,000	19,000	Increase for Abuklea Road (Longview Street to Balaclava Road) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Terry Road (Ryedale Road - Orchard Street)		38,000	38,000	Increase for Terry Road (Ryedale Road to Orchard Street) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Kokoda Street (Cutler Pde - Edmondson Street)		50,000	50,000	Increase for Kokoda Street (Cutler Parade to Edmondson Street) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Bidgee Rd (Bidgee Park to Garderner Avenue)		-27,000	-27,000	Decrease for Bidgee Road (Bidgee Park to Garderner Avenue) Footpath Expansion project due to savings upon completion of the project. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.
Arthur St Kerb Ramp		-60,000	-60,000	Decrease for Arthur Street Kerb Ramp project due to savings resulting from a reduced scope of works. Portion of the initially planned works which included the bus shelter upgrade is scheduled in Council's Bus Shelter Program. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

	Matching Variations	Proposed Variations	Total Qtr 2 Variations	December Quarter 2023 Comments
Bowden Street Footpath (Forward Planning)		-20,403	-20,403	Decrease for Bowden Street Footpath Design project due to savings achieved in the completion of the design. It is proposed that funds be returned to the department of Transport for NSW under the Get NSW Active 2022/23 grant program.
LRCI Phase 3 - Public Footpath Frederick St Ryde (Potts St - Arnold St)		20,528	20,528	Increase for Frederick Street (Potts Street to Arnold Street) Footpath Replacement project due to additional Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) 3 grant funding received.
LRCI Phase 3 - Brabyn St Denistone East Public School Turnaround facility		15,399	15,399	Increase for Brabyn Street (Denistone East Public School) Turnaround Facility project due to additional Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) 3 grant funding received.
West Ryde Community Centre - Hydraulic solutions		-40,000	-40,000	Decrease for West Ryde Community Centre Hydraulic Solutions project. The required scope of works of this project has already been scheduled as part of the West Ryde Community Centre waterproofing upgrade works and as a result these funds are no longer required. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Replacement Reserve.
Operational Buildings Renewal		40,000	40,000	Increase for Operational Buildings Renewal Program required for cantilevered awning at the rear of Council's Operations Centre Building. This increase is due to advice provided by the Structural Engineer based on the proposed design. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Property Acquisition - City Space		5,040,000	5,040,000	Increase for property acquisition as per Council Resolution dated 23 May 2023. It is proposed to be funded from Investment Property Reserve.
ICT Strategy Implementation		-445,000	-445,000	Decrease for ICT Strategy Implementation project as it is proposed to reallocate these funds to the Techone SAAS Implementation project which is in the operating budget. This was originally funded from Asset Replacement Reserve.
Reserves Drawdown for Capital (-ve is an increase in Reserve Drawdown)	0	-4,540,932	-4,540,932	
Externally Restricted Reserve				
Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve				
Waterloo Park - Amenities Upgrade		306,338	306,338	Decrease for Waterloo Park Amenities Upgrade project. This project is proposed to be deferred to FY24/25 due to other priority projects requiring funding such as the Dunbar Park Amenities Upgrade as detailed above. It is proposed that funds be returned to the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Dunbar Park - Amenities Upgrade		-300,000	-300,000	Increase for Dunbar Park Amenities Upgrade project due to additional structural works required to the building extension such as demolition and replacement of the existing slab which was not anticipated in the initial concept designs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Waterloo Park - Playground Renewal		-28,000	-28,000	Increase for Waterloo Park Playground Renewal project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Healty Reserve Sager Place East Ryde		-7,000	-7,000	Increase for Healty Reserve (Sager Place East Ryde) project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Ryde Park		34,596	34,596	Decrease for Ryde Park Playground Renewal project due to savings resulting from revising the drainage scope. It is proposed that funds be returned to the Infrastructure Special Rate Reserve.
Internally Restricted Reserve				
ICT Strategy Implementation		445,000	445,000	Decrease for ICT Strategy Implementation project as it is proposed to reallocate these funds to the Techone SAAS Implementation project which is in the operating budget. This was originally funded from Asset Replacement Reserve.

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

	Matching Variations	Proposed Variations	Total Qtr 2 Variations	December Quarter 2023 Comments
Gannan Park - New Amenities Building		-290,000	-290,000	Increase for Gannan Park Amenities Building project due to the relocation of the irrigation tank and associated works. This additional scope of works is required to enable preparation for the Gannan park Masterplan project and will prevent potential demolition of newly constructed slabs that form part of the amenities and will enable improved access for machinery and plant around the building. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Abuklea Road, Marsfield		11,863	11,863	Decrease for Abuklea Road Stormwater Improvement project due to savings upon completion of the project. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.
Magdala Road, North Ryde		396,271	396,271	Decrease for Magdala Road Stormwater Improvement Works project. This project is proposed to be deferred as further investigation and design works are required. Following the completion of these works and subject to availability of funding, the project will be brought in and reflected in a future Budget Review. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Replacement Reserve.
Abuklea Road (Longview Street - Balaclava Rd)		-19,000	-19,000	Increase for Abuklea Road (Longview Street to Balaclava Road) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Terry Road (Ryedale Road - Orchard Street)		-38,000	-38,000	Increase for Terry Road (Ryedale Road to Orchard Street) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Kokoda Street (Cutler Pde - Edmondson Street)		-50,000	-50,000	Increase for Kokoda Street (Cutler Parade to Edmondson Street) Footpath Replacement project due to greater than anticipated construction costs. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Church Street (Blaxland Road - Gowrie Street)		-50,000	-50,000	Increase for Church Street (Blaxland Road - Gowrie Street) Road Resurfacing Renewal project unforeseen costs associated with the repair and construction of heritage sandstone kerb and gutter, and other ancillary works such as investigation and testing prior to works being undertaken. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Bidgee Rd (Bidgee Park to Garderner Avenue)		27,000	27,000	Decrease for Bidgee Road (Bidgee Park to Garderner Avenue) Footpath Expansion project due to savings upon completion of the project. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.
Arthur St Kerb Ramp		60,000	60,000	Decrease for Arthur Street Kerb Ramp project due to savings resulting from a reduced scope of works. Portion of the initially planned works which included the bus shelter upgrade is scheduled in Council's Bus Shelter Program. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Expansion Reserve.
West Ryde Community Centre - Hydraulic solutions		40,000	40,000	Decrease for West Ryde Community Centre Hydraulic Solutions project. The required scope of works of this project has already been scheduled as part of the West Ryde Community Centre waterproofing upgrade works and as a result these funds are no longer required. It is proposed that funds be returned to Asset Replacement Reserve.
Operational Buildings Renewal		-40,000	-40,000	Increase for Operational Buildings Renewal Program required for cantilevered awning at the rear of Council's Operations Centre Building. This increase is due to advice provided by the Structural Engineer based on the proposed design. It is proposed to be funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve.
Property Acquisition - City Space		-5,040,000	-5,040,000	Increase for property acquisition as per Council Resolution dated 23 May 2023. It is proposed to be funded from Investment Property Reserve.

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Financial Performance Indicators

	Revised Budget	Benchmark
Operating Performance Ratio ⁽¹⁾	-2.31%	>0.00%
Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio	73.81%	>60.00%
Debt Service Cover Ratio	27.06x	>2.0x
Asset Renewals Ratio	187%	>=100%

(1) The Operating Performance Ratio has not met the benchmark as at December Quarter. It has improved from -5.26% from the September Quarterly Budget Review to -2.31% after December Quarterly Budget Review. This is due to \$5.6m increase in Investment income which has made the ratio more favorable. It is anticipated that during the year, savings in expenditure and additional income generated will result in improvements in this ratio. This will continue to be monitored and reported to Council in future quarterly budget review. This has a NIL impact to Council's unrestricted cash position.

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Contracts Awarded for Quarterly Review Report October 2023 - December 2023

Contract Name	Purpose of Contract	Contract Form	Contract Value	Commencement Date	Contract Options	Duration of the Contract	End Date	Included in Budget?	Is this a lease under AASB 16
Optimal Stormwater Pty Ltd	Emergency Repairs	LGP1208-3 Professional Consulting Services	\$ 10,000	03-Oct-23	None	1 month	03-Nov-23	Yes	N
LT Urban Engineering Pty Ltd	Constitution Rd West, Meadowbank –Raised Pedestrian Threshold Re-Design & Flood Modelling	LGP1208-3 Professional Consulting Services	\$ 11,849	04-Oct-23	None	1 month	04-Nov-23	Yes	N
Treeserve Pty Ltd	Tree Pruning Services	2302/1402 Tree Pruning and Associated Services	\$ 11,149	06-Oct-23	None	1 month	06-Nov-23	Yes	N
MFS Contracting	Pedestrian Lighting (re tender)	AS4000 Major Works Construct	\$ 241,770	09-Oct-23	None	3 months	15-Jan-24	Yes	N
Forms Express Pty Ltd	Process and Distribution of Rates Notices	Procurement Australia	\$ 299,453	16-Oct-23	2 x 1 year	12 months	30-Nov-24	Yes	N
Northshore Mitsubishi	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	SCM0653 Motor Vehicles Scheme	\$ 41,664	18-Oct-23	None	6 months	18-Apr-24	Yes	N
Synthetic Grass & Rubber Surfaces	Playground Equipment	LGP308-3 Playgrounds, Open Spaces, Modular Structures, Exter	\$ 5,485	01-Nov-23	None	1 month	01-Nov-23	Yes	N
Baker Built Pty Ltd	Design & Construct kayak launching platform next to Wharf Rd boat ramp	LGP 420 Minor + Major Civil Works + Materials	\$ 86,495	01-Nov-23	None	1 month	01-Dec-23	Yes	N
Hays Specialist Recruitment Aust Pty Ltd	Recruitment of Temporary Staff	LGP808-3 HR Perm&Temp Placements & Associated Services	\$ 33,336	02-Nov-23	None	5 months	02-Apr-24	Yes	N
Sandstone Wall Solutions	Kissing Pt Park Foreshore Protection Works	AS4000 Major Works Construct	\$ 417,680	03-Nov-23	None	3 months	07-Feb-25	Yes	N
Northshore Mitsubishi	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	SCM0653 Motor Vehicles Scheme	\$ 41,521	06-Nov-23	None	6 months	06-May-24	Yes	N
Northshore Mitsubishi	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	SCM0653 Motor Vehicles Scheme	\$ 43,217	06-Nov-23	None	6 months	06-May-24	Yes	N

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Contracts Awarded for Quarterly Review Report October 2023 - December 2023

Contract Name	Purpose of Contract	Contract Form	Contract Value	Commencement Date	Contract Options	Duration of the Contract	End Date	Included in Budget?	Is this a lease under AASB 16
Grillex Pty Ltd	Grillex Shelter at Santa Rosa Park	LGP308-3 Playgrounds, Open Spaces, Modular Structures, Exter	\$ 16,808	07-Nov-23	None	1 month	07-Dec-23	Yes	N
GHD Pty Ltd	Update IFC Drawings and Construction Support	LGP1208-3 Professional Consulting Services	\$ 17,628	29-Nov-23	None	1 month	29-Dec-23	Yes	N
Workforce Road Services Pty Ltd	Line Marking	LGP 113-2 Traffic Management Services	\$ 25,000	01-Dec-23	None	1 month		Yes	N
Hays Specialist Recruitment Aust Pty Ltd	Employment of Permanent and Temporary Staff	LGP808-3 HR Perm&Temp Placements & Associated Services	\$ 33,336	07-Dec-23	None	5 months	07-Apr-24	Yes	N
Hays Specialist Recruitment Aust Pty Ltd	Employment of Permanent and Temporary Staff	LGP808-3 HR Perm&Temp Placements & Associated Services	\$ 33,336	07-Dec-23	None	5 months	07-Apr-24	Yes	N
Northrop Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd	Engineering services to support approval of proposed boardwalk over utilities owned by Sydney Water, Ausgrid and Jemena.	LGP1208-4 Professional Consulting Services	\$ 71,610	08-Dec-23	None	1 month	13-Dec-23	Yes	N
Ryde Automotive Group Pty Ltd	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	SCM0653 Motor Vehicles Scheme	\$ 53,375	08-Dec-23	None	6 months	08-Jun-24	Yes	N
Workforce Road Services Pty Ltd	Linemarking	LGP120 Line/Road Marking Works & Services	\$ 15,000	13-Dec-23	None	1 month	20-Dec-23	Yes	N
HP PPS Australia Pty Ltd	Purchase of IT Hardware	C9826 ICT End User Devices and Services Contract - PWP	\$ 11,821	14-Dec-23	None	1 month	27-Dec-23	Yes	N
HP PPS Australia Pty Ltd	Purchase of IT Hardware	C9826 ICT End User Devices and Services Contract - PWP	\$ 41,655	18-Dec-23	None	1 month	27-Dec-23	Yes	N
Bitzios Consulting	Consultant to review the feasibility of the Anzac Ave of the route.	LGP1208-4 Professional Consulting Services	\$ 45,221	19-Dec-23	None	1 month	28-Dec-23	Yes	N
Workforce Road Services Pty Ltd	Linemarking	LGP120 Line/Road Marking Works & Services	\$ 913	20-Dec-23	None	1 month	27-Dec-23	Yes	N
HP PPS Australia Pty Ltd	Purchase of IT Hardware	C9826 ICT End User Devices and Services Contract - PWP	\$ 15,304	21-Dec-23	None	1 month	27-Dec-23	Yes	N

ITEM 7 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Legal & Consultancy Expenses as at 31 December 2023

Expenses	Expenditure YTD	Budgeted (Y/N)
Legal Fees	\$ 318,111.85	Y
Consultancy Fees	\$ 689,610.00	Y

**8 2024 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
(ALGWA) NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 14 TO 16 MARCH 2024**

Report prepared by: Civic Support Officer
File No.: CLR/24/16/2 - BP24/62

REPORT SUMMARY

This report is presented to Council for its consideration of Councillor attendance at the 2024 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) NSW Annual Conference, to be held at MGSM Executive Hotel, Macquarie Park on Thursday, 14 March 2024 to Saturday, 16 March 2024.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council consider Councillor Pedersen's request to attend the 2024 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) NSW Annual Conference, including attendance fees and other associated expenses.
- (b) That Council determine whether other Councillors are to attend, and if so, who are to be the nominated participants.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 2024 ALGWA Conference Program
- 2 Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy

Report Prepared By:

Kathryn Fleming
Civic Support Officer

Report Approved By:

Graham Humphreys
Manager - Business Assurance and Governance

Wayne Rylands
Chief Executive Officer

ITEM 8 (continued)**Discussion**Conference

The 2024 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) NSW Annual Conference will be held from 14 to 16 March 2024 at the MGSM Executive Hotel, Macquarie Park and will be hosted by City of Ryde Council. A draft copy of the Conference Program is provided for in **ATTACHMENT 1**.

The Australian Local Government Women's Association is the peak body for women in local government. It is a voluntary run organisation, that support both employees and elected representatives.

The 2024 ALGWA Annual Conference is designed to provide training and support for Councillors and staff, whether they are new to local government or have experience in the industry. It is an opportunity to learn and grow from speakers and from each other.

A notice was placed in the Councillor Information Bulletin dated 13 February 2024 inviting Councillors to indicate their interest to attend the Conference by 19 February 2024. As a result, an expression of interest was received from Councillor Pedersen in relation to attending the Conference.

Attendance at the Conference

Councillors can attend the Conference using their own vehicle and receive reimbursement on the travel expenses per kilometre should they wish to drive. Alternatively, Councillors may prefer to catch public transport to and from the Conference and receive reimbursement for fares or taxi e-tickets can be issued to Councillors for travel to and from the Conference.

As the Conference is held in the Sydney Metropolitan area, accommodation will not be provided.

Financial Implications

The following is a summary of costs that would be incurred per person for attendance to the Conference:-

- Registration \$1,300
(includes Welcome Cocktail Reception and Gala dinner at Curzon Hall)

In the 2023/2024 Budget there is an allocation of \$34,800 for the Mayor and Councillors to attend conferences. There is currently a balance of \$29,250 remaining and is subject to Council's resolution on the number of Councillors participating in this Conference.

ITEM 8 (continued)

Policy Implications

There is no policy implication through adoption of the recommendation. The Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy provided for in **ATTACHMENT 2** sets out the entitlements for Councillors attending such Conferences.

ITEM 8 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



**CONFERENCE
PROGRAM**

THURSDAY 14 MARCH –
SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024


Venue: MGSM Executive Hotel
99 Talavera Road, Macquarie Park



**AUSTRALIAN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**
NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

ORGANISED BY

 City of Ryde


Lifestyle and opportunity
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ITEM 8 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Introduction

The Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) is the peak body for women in local government. A voluntary-run organisation, ALGWA supports both employees and elected representatives.

The 2024 ALGWA NSW Annual Conference is designed to provide training and support for councillors and staff, whether they are new to local government or have been around for a long time. It's an opportunity to learn and gain valuable insights from our guest speakers along with networking with other delegates from across NSW. The City of Ryde is proud to host this important event in 2024.

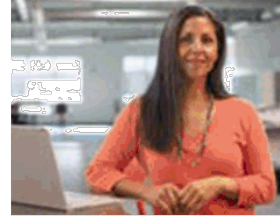
SILVER SPONSOR



The World Belongs to Optimists

In an era marked by rapid change it's the optimists that see beyond immediate challenges and envisage a world where technological advances compliment human endeavours and elevates them to new heights. Together let's delve deeper to explore the economic impacts to society, the potential, and embrace opportunities to shape our future communities.

Optimism is the most powerful tool a Leader has. Our NIDA masterclass will help you master intentional optimism as you pay close attention to the energy and language you are bringing into the space in leading your communities.



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ATTACHMENT 1

Schedule

THURSDAY 14 MARCH

- 2.00 - 4.00pm Guests to check in at hotels
- 4.00 - 5.30pm Registrations open
- 6.00 - 8.00pm Mayors Welcome Cocktail Party - Ubar - Macquarie University



Guest speaker:

JUANITA PHILLIPS

For 21 years, Juanita Phillips anchored the ABC's flagship 7.00pm News in Sydney, making her the public broadcaster's longest-serving prime-time female TV news presenter. She resigned from the ABC in 2023 to focus on her writing and speaking work. She specialises in gender equality, business, fintech and cyber security, but has a wide range of both business and government clients, including the mining and banking industries, local and state governments, and the finance and technology sector.

FRIDAY 15 MARCH – "Artificial Intelligence"

- 7.00am Morning Activity
- 8.00 - 8.45am Registrations
- 8.30am Office bearer nominations open
- 8.45 - 9.30am MC Welcome - Juanita Phillips
ALGWA NSW President Welcome - Clr Dianna Baker – B.U.R.P.(Hons) J.P.
Mayor Welcome - Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM, City of Ryde Mayor

9.30 - 10.30am

Guest speaker:

MELISSA NEIGHBOUR



Melissa is an environmental town planner, community builder and sustainability specialist. She is the Owner of Sky Town Planning, a purpose-driven town planning consultancy based in Sydney. She has developed and implemented award-winning sustainable development projects across Australia, and is on a mission to activate sustainable forms of living in urban spaces of the future. She is a founding member of the World Economic Forum Sydney Shaper Hub, and was the National Convener for the United National Association of Australia Young Professionals Network.

10.30am

Office bearer nominations close

10.30 - 11.00am

Morning tea

11.00 - 12.00pm

Guest speaker:

EFFIE ZAHOS



Effie Zahos is one of Australia's leading personal finance commentators. Known for her no-nonsense approach, she has a knack for making money matters simple. Effie is also the author of a A Real Girl's Guide to Money, Ditch the Debt & Get Rich and The Great \$20 Adventure. She is the host of Channel 9's "Your Money" segments on the Today Show and regularly speaks with media across Australia.

**Speakers are subject to change*

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ATTACHMENT 1

Schedule

FRIDAY 15 MARCH – “Artificial Intelligence”

...continued

12.00 - 12.30pm Office bearer voting open

12.30 - 1.30pm Lunch

1.30 - 3.00pm **Guest speaker:**



AMANDA JOHNSTONE

Amanda Johnstone is the CEO of Transhuman and is one of Australia's most globally recognised AI technologists and emerging technology communicators. TIME have awarded her as a Next Generation Leader for her work in social impact technology, The CEO Magazine awarded her as Start-up Executive of the Year. She's been highlighted by peak bodies including GSMA and Singularity and has been appointed an expert keynote speaker and panellist on emerging technologies for YPO, Allianz, Stanford, Google, Optus, The Australian Government, Commonwealth Bank, The Education Department, MYOB, Zoom and more.

3.00 - 3.30pm Afternoon Tea

3.30 - 4.30pm Panel discussion

4.30pm Returning officer or nominee presents election of Front Bench

4.30 - 5.30pm Networking, drinks and entertainment

6.00pm Explore Eastwood

**Speakers are subject to change*

SATURDAY 16 MARCH – “Professional Development”

7.00am Morning Activity

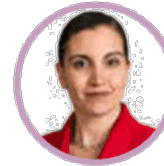
9.00 - 11.00am NIDA Corporate Training: Executive Voice

NIDA Corporate Training will join us to deliver the 'Owning the Space' course to assist you in achieving the following outcomes:

- To build participants knowledge of the power of visual and vocal signals when presenting
- To help manage nerves when talking to large groups
- To feel comfortable and authentic networking and meeting new people
- To be confident presenting delivering formal and informal presentations.
- To experience using Improvisation techniques to stay present and focused while presenting and manage uncertain moments.

11.00 - 11.30am Morning Tea

11.30 - 12.30pm **Guest speaker:**



DEBBIE HASKI-LEVENTHAL

Author of the bestselling book *Make it meaningful*, Debbie is an awarded and well-published professor of business management and the MBA Director at Macquarie University, Australia. With over sixty academic articles, five books and a TED talk, she dedicates her teaching, research, and knowledge to creating impact and enabling others to find meaningfulness and purpose.

12.30 - 1.00pm Bidding

1.00 - 2.00pm Lunch

2.00 - 3.00pm ALGWA hotspots

3.00 - 3.30pm Afternoon Tea

3.30 - 4.30pm ALGWA NSW General Meeting- Returning Officer to announce election of executive team

4.30 - 6.00pm Refreshments and live music

6.00pm Bus to Curzon Hall

6.30 - 10.30pm Gala dinner featuring *The Cockroaches*

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Additional Information

Accommodation options

MGSM Executive Hotel (Limited rooms are available)

Mercure Sydney Macquarie Park (2 minute walk from venue)

Other hotel options are available within the Macquarie Park precinct.

Transport options

Car

The Macquarie Park Executive Centre is an easy, 20 minute drive from Sydney's CBD and approximately a 35-minute drive from Sydney's Domestic and International Airport. There is ample on-site parking, free of charge, for MGSM Executive Accommodation and conference centre guests. Parking is available at the rear of the MGSM Executive Hotel off Executive Road and through the boomgate (at the boomgate speaker, mention you are a conference participant).

Train

Macquarie University train station is just a few minutes' walk from the Macquarie Park Executive Centre. Trains to Sydney's CBD (and Epping line) depart every few minutes. Macquarie University to Sydney's CBD takes approximately 25 minutes and approximately 4 minutes to Epping.

Bus

Buses arrive and depart just a few minutes' walk from the Macquarie Park Executive Centre and travel to and from many Sydney Metropolitan areas, including the City, Hills District, North Shore, Chatswood, Manly, the Ryde and Carlingford areas, and the Western Suburbs.

Pricing

All inclusive price for the Conference includes:

- Welcome Reception Party on Thursday night
- Conference Friday and Saturday
- Transport to Eastwood on Friday night
- Dinner Saturday night (including transfers to Curzon Hall)

ALGWA NSW member offer until registration closes 1 March 2024
- \$1,200.00pp

Non-ALGWA NSW members ticket price - \$1,300.00pp

Bookings

To book, [register online](#) or scan the QR code.



SCAN TO BOOK

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ATTACHMENT 2



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Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy

April 2023

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ATTACHMENT 2

**Councillor Expenses
and Facilities Policy**

Document Version Control

Document Name:	Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy
CM Reference WORD:	D23/107446
CM Reference PDF:	D23/107455
Document Status:	Approved by Council
Version Number:	Version 1.4
Review Date:	April 2023
Owner:	City of Ryde
Endorsed By:	Council on 25 July 2023
Distribution:	Internal and External

Change History

Version	Review Date	Author	Reason for Change
1.0	August 2018	Corporate Governance	Council adopted Policy on 24 August 2018
1.1	12 April 2021	Corporate Governance	Review of the Policy and minor amendments
1.2	September 2022	Corporate Governance	Review and amendments to Policy – endorsed by Council on 27 September 2022 for public exhibition Policy adopted by Council on 22 November 2022 following public exhibition
1.3	February 2023	Corporate Governance	Amendments to Policy following Mayoral Minute 39/22 (13 December 2022) – endorsed by Council on 28 February 2023 for public exhibition Policy adopted by Council on 26 April 2023 following public exhibition
1.4	April 2023	Corporate Governance	Amendments made to Policy at Council meeting of 26 April 2023 and endorsed for public exhibition Policy adopted by Council on 25 July 2023 following public exhibition

Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy		
Owner: Corporate Governance	Accountability: Corporate Services	Adopted: 25 July 2023
CM Reference: D23/107455	Last review date: April 2023	Next review date: June 2025

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**Councillor Expenses
and Facilities Policy**

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**Councillor Expenses
and Facilities Policy**

Policy Summary

This policy enables the reasonable and appropriate reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors to help them undertake their civic duties.

It ensures accountability and transparency, and seeks to align Councillor expenses and facilities with community expectations. Councillors must not obtain private or political benefit from any expenses or facility provided under this Policy.

The Policy has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) and complies with the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the payment of expenses and provision of facilities to Mayors and Councillors in NSW.

The Policy sets out the maximum amounts Council will pay for specific expenses and facilities. Expenses not explicitly addressed in this Policy will not be paid or reimbursed.

The main expenses and facilities dealt with in the Policy are in the table below. All monetary amounts are exclusive of GST.

Expense or Facility	Maximum Amount	Frequency
Accommodation	As outlined in Section 9.5 of the policy	
Professional Development	\$4,000 per Councillor	Per year
Conferences and Seminars (Clause 9.2)	\$30,400 total for all Councillors Additional \$2,380 for the Mayor	Per year
Attendance at dinners and functions (Clause 9.10)	\$300	Per year
Communications expenses	\$300 per month per Councillor, \$3,600 per year per Councillor, Additional \$250 per month for the Mayor	Per month/year
Carer expenses (Clause 9.11)	\$4,000 per Councillor	Per year
Special needs (Councillors refer 9.11 (4), (5) and (6))	\$4,000	Per year
Expenses for spouses, partners and accompanying persons (directly related to the role of the Councillor in performance of the duties in the Ryde local government area) Clause 9.12)	\$300	Per year
Business cards (Clause 12.1)	500 business cards per Councillor, 1000 business cards for the Mayor	Per year

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**Councillor Expenses
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Expense or Facility	Maximum Amount	Frequency
Stationery and other items (Clause 12.1)	letterhead, to be used only for correspondence associated with civic duties a reasonable supply of plain white A4 paper 500 plain white DLE envelopes per Councillor 50 Christmas or festive cards per Councillor	Per year
Information Technology (IT) Equipment (Clause 12.2)	A set allowance up to a maximum of \$5,000 per Councillor to purchase their own IT equipment for the primary purpose of conducting Council related business. Alternatively, Councillors can elect to receive IT equipment provided by Council's Information Technology department	Per term
Christmas or festive cards (Clause 13.5)	200 for the Mayor	Per year
The maximum value of cash in advance (Clause 8.5)	\$500 (reconcile within 1 week)	Not relevant
Incidental expenses (Clause 9.6)	\$20	Per day
Access to facilities in a Councillor common room	Provided to all Councillors	Not relevant
Council vehicle and fuel card	Provided to the Mayor	Not relevant
Reserved parking space at Council offices	Provided to the Mayor	Not relevant
Furnished office	Provided to the Mayor	Not relevant
Number of exclusive staff supporting Mayor and Councillors	One staff member provided to the Mayor and Councillors	Not relevant

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Additional costs incurred by a Councillor in excess of these limits are considered a personal expense that is the responsibility of the Councillor.

Councillors must provide claims for reimbursement within three months of an expense being incurred. Claims made after this time cannot be approved.

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

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**Councillor Expenses
and Facilities Policy**

Part A – Introduction

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The provision of expenses and facilities enables Councillors to fulfil their civic duties as the elected representatives of City of Ryde Council.
- 1.2 The community is entitled to know the extent of expenses paid to Councillors, as well as the facilities provided.
- 1.3 The purpose of this Policy is to clearly state the facilities and support that are available to Councillors to assist them in fulfilling their civic duties.
- 1.4 Council staff are empowered to question or refuse a request for payment from a Councillor when it does not accord with this Policy.
- 1.5 Expenses and facilities provided by this policy are in addition to fees paid to Councillors. The minimum and maximum fees a Council may pay each Councillor are set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal as per Section 241 of the Act and reviewed annually. Council must adopt its annual fees within this set range.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1 This Policy, and associated procedures and guidelines, may be cited as the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy, and is effective from 25 July 2023.
- 2.2 In this Policy, and associated procedures and guidelines, unless otherwise stated, the expression "Councillor" refers to all Councillors of the City of Ryde, including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

3. PURPOSE

- 3.1 This Policy ensures that Councillors have adequate access to the facilities and support required to fulfil their civic duties as elected representatives. It also aims to ensure that the facilities provided to Councillors to carry out their civic functions are equitable and in keeping with legislative requirements.
- 3.2 In addition, the purpose of this Policy, and associated procedures and guidelines, is to ensure that there is accountability and transparency in the payment and reimbursement of expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Councillors while undertaking their civic duties.
- 3.3 Council may disburse money only if the disbursement is authorised by the Local Government Act, either expressly or because it is supplemental, incidental to or consequential upon the exercise of its functions.

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and Facilities Policy**

4. POLICY OBJECTIVES

4.1 The objectives of this Policy are to:-

- enable the reasonable and appropriate reimbursement of expenses incurred by Councillors while undertaking their civic duties.
- enable facilities of a reasonable and appropriate standard to be provided to Councillors to support them in undertaking their civic duties.
- ensure accountability and transparency in reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors.
- ensure facilities and expenses provided to Councillors meet community expectations.
- support a diversity of representation.
- fulfil the Council's statutory responsibilities.

5. PRINCIPLES

5.1 Council commits to the following principles:-

- **Proper conduct:** Councillors and staff acting lawfully and honestly, exercising care and diligence in carrying out their functions.
- **Reasonable expenses:** providing for Councillors to be reimbursed for expenses reasonably incurred as part of their role as Councillor.
- **Participation and access:** enabling people from diverse backgrounds, underrepresented groups, those in carer roles and those with special needs to serve as a Councillor.
- **Equity:** there must be equitable access to expenses and facilities for all Councillors.
- **Appropriate use of resources:** providing clear direction on the appropriate use of Council resources in accordance with legal requirements and community expectations.
- **Accountability and transparency:** clearly stating and reporting on the expenses and facilities provided to Councillors.

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6. PRIVATE OR POLITICAL BENEFIT

- 6.1 Councillors must not obtain private or political benefit from any expense or facility provided under the Policy.
- 6.2 Private use of Council equipment and facilities by Councillors may occur from time to time. For example, telephoning home to advise that a Council meeting will run later than expected.
- 6.3 Such incidental private use does not require a compensatory payment back to Council.
- 6.4 Councillors should avoid obtaining any greater private benefit from Council than an incidental benefit. Where there are unavoidable circumstances and more substantial private use of Council facilities does occur, Councillors must reimburse the Council.
- 6.5 Campaigns for re-election are considered to be a political benefit. The following are examples of what is considered to be a political interest during a re-election campaign:-
- production of election material.
 - use of Council resources and equipment for campaigning.
 - use of official Council letterhead, publications, websites or services for political benefit.
 - fundraising activities of political parties or individuals, including political fundraising events.

7. REVIEW PROCESS AND ENDORSEMENT

- 7.1 Council is required, under Section 252 of the Local Government Act (the Act), to adopt a policy on the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities to the Mayor and other Councillors within the first 12 months of each term of a Council.
- 7.2 Section 253 of the Act requires that Council give public notice of at least 28 days of its intention to adopt or amend this policy, even if there is no proposed change to the policy.
- 7.3 Council may amend and adopt the policy at other times of the year without public notice, if Council is of the opinion that the amendments are "not substantial" (Section 253 of the Act and Office of Local Government Guidelines).

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Part B – Expenses and Use of Resources

8. GENERAL EXPENSES

- (1) All expenses provided under this Policy will be for a purpose specific to the functions of holding civic office. Allowances for general expenses are not permitted under this policy.
- (2) Expenses not explicitly addressed in this Policy will not be paid or reimbursed.

8.1 MONETARY LIMITS

- (1) Monetary limits are stated in this Policy against each expense category as required. These monetary limits set out the maximum amount payable in respect of any facility or expense. Any additional cost incurred by a Councillor in excess of any limit set shall be considered a personal expense that is the responsibility of the Councillor. All monetary amounts stated are exclusive of GST.
- (2) Where expense limits are specified in this Policy, these given limits and requirements apply whether the item is purchased via direct payment by Council or reimbursement to the Councillor.
- (3) For the purposes of transparency and accountability, monetary limits are highlighted throughout this document where appropriate and also summarised in the table in the 'Policy Summary' section of this Policy.

8.2 TIME LIMITS

- (1) Reimbursement of costs and expenses to Councillors must be made within three (3) months of the cost or expense being incurred.

8.3 PAYMENT OF COUNCILLOR FEES

- (1) An annual fee is paid to each Councillor by the Council. The fee is the amount fixed by the Council under Division 5 of Part 2 of Chapter 9 of the Act in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.
- (2) Unless otherwise provided for in this Policy, the annual fee paid to each Councillor is intended to offset the costs involved in discharging the functions of civic office including, but not limited to, all incidental and out-of-pocket expenses relating to transport, clothing, home office, home telephone and postage costs.
- (3) All fees payable under this policy shall be paid monthly in arrears for each month (or part of a month) for which the Councillor holds office.
- (4) Unless otherwise stated, no entitlement under this Policy shall be treated as being a private benefit that requires a reduction in a Councillor's Fee.

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8.4 PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE

- (1) Councillors may request an advance payment for the cost of any service or facility covered by the Policy.
- (2) Councillors may request payment in advance in anticipation of expenses to be incurred in attending conferences, seminars and training away from home.
- (3) Councillors must fully reconcile all expenses against the cost of the advance within one (1) week of their return, with receipts, and submit these details to the Chief Executive Officer or his/her delegated employee for verification. Any unspent money is required to be returned at this time.
- (4) The maximum value of a cash advance is \$500.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Reconcile within 1 week	\$500.00

9. SPECIFIC EXPENSES

9.1 TRAINING AND EDUCATION EXPENSES

- (1) An induction program shall be conducted by the Chief Executive Officer for Councillors upon election to Council and every subsequent re-election. This program may include the provision of resources and the attendance at training courses.
- (2) Provision for other training and education for Councillors will be made separately in Council's budget via the adopted Delivery Plan. All Councillors will be offered the same access to the same training in accordance with the budget allocated.

9.2 ATTENDANCE AT SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

- (1) Prior Council approval is required for Councillors to attend seminars or conferences on behalf of the Council. A report must be included in the Council business papers and should give the purpose of the seminar, conference and training course, expected total costs, expected benefits for Councillors to attend and the names of Councillors who have indicated an interest to attend. For other professional development opportunities, refer to Section 9.3 of this Policy.
- (2) When determining attendance at conferences and seminars, consideration will be given to the Councillor Attendance at Conference Guidelines.
- (3) Where a Councillor is no longer able to attend a conference or seminar for which endorsement has been given, they must advise the Chief Executive Officer as soon as practicable, to facilitate the attendance of an alternate Councillor.
- (4) Where a Councillor provides less than 24 hours notice with regard to clause (3) above, and where no sufficiently substantial reason is provided, the Councillor may be liable, by way of Council resolution, for any related costs Council is unable to recover.

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**Councillor Expenses
and Facilities Policy**

- (5) After returning from the seminar, conference or training course, the Councillor/s, or accompanying member of Council staff, shall provide a written report to Council on the aspects of the event relevant to Council business and/or the local community within two (2) months of the event. This report will be included in the Councillors' Information Bulletin.

No written report is required for the annual Local Government NSW Conference, the Australian Local Government Association Conference or for compulsory training courses or seminars required by any Government agency.

- (6) With the exception of the LGNSW Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government Conference and the Australian Council of Local Government, Council will pay the seminar, conference or training course registration fees charged by the organisers including the costs of related official meals and associated tours where they are relevant to the business and interests of Council. Any time and costs incurred in undertaking activities not related to attendance at the event shall not be included in the expenses paid by Council.
- (7) With the exception of the LGNSW Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government Conference and the Australian Council of Local Government, Council will also meet the cost of meals (and reasonable cost of drinks) when they are not otherwise included in the training, conference or seminar fees. Each Councillor is entitled to seek reimbursement for up to three (3) meals per day to a maximum of \$100 a day. Official receipts will be required for reimbursement under this clause.

Quantity	Maximum amount
Up to 3 meals per day	\$100 per day

- (8) No payment shall be reimbursed for any component of a ticket that is additional to the cost of the function, such as a donation to a political party, candidate's electoral fund or some other private benefit.
- (9) With the exception of the LGNSW Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government Conference and the Australian Council of Local Government, Council will meet the reasonable cost of transportation associated with attendance at the seminar, conference or training course.
- (10) Councillors cannot incur accommodation-related expenses. There is no scope for Council to pay or reimburse any costs related to accommodation.
- (11) With the exception of the LGNSW Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government Conference and the Australian Council of Local Government, Council shall provide Councillors with taxi vouchers for travel to a seminar, conference or training course. Councillors must ensure that any unused vouchers and the receipts of used vouchers are returned to Council within seven (7) days of the event.
- (12) Alternatively, with the exception of the LGNSW Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government Conference and the Australian Council of Local Government, Council will meet the actual costs for public transport, taxis or hire-cars for travel on Council related business.

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- (13) With the exception of the LGNSW Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government Conference and the Australian Council of Local Government, Council shall reimburse transport expenses incurred by a Councillor while using their own private vehicle for Council related business.

This will be by way of a reimbursement for each kilometre travelled for the specific journey, plus any road tolls and parking fees necessarily incurred. The rate of reimbursement for kilometres travelled shall be equivalent to the rates prescribed in the relevant legislation or policies applicable to employees of the Council.

- (14) Council is not liable and will not pay for any traffic, parking or transport fines, administrative charges for road toll accounts, or costs of petrol, oil, depreciation, repair, maintenance, insurance or registration incurred by Councillors while using their private vehicles on Council related business.

9.2.1 ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES – SUPPLEMENTARY CITY OF RYDE PROVISION

- (15) Council acknowledges the value of Councillor attendance at conferences to enable them to be both knowledgeable and current on issues affecting the City of Ryde. In order to ensure that attendance at conferences is equitable, transparent and consistent, attendance will be limited as follows:-
- (a) Local Government NSW Annual Conference – the number of voting delegates plus one (to a maximum of eight Councillors). Details of the delegates and attendee are to be determined by resolution of Council.
 - (b) Australian Local Government Association Conference.
 - (c) In addition, to (a) and (b) above, every Councillor is entitled to attend one conference in either NSW, Canberra, metropolitan Brisbane or metropolitan Melbourne. The conference must directly relate to the business of Council. More than one Councillor may attend the same conference if Council resolves that this will be beneficial for both Council and the Councillors concerned.
 - (d) Within two (2) months following the conference the attending Councillor must report to Council on the proceedings of the conference. That report will be included in the Councillors' Information Bulletin. This action is not required for the Local Government NSW Annual Conference or the Australian Local Government Association Conference.
 - (e) No Councillor can attend a conference at Council's expense without the prior approval of Council, subject to the provisions of Part B Section 9.2. Reports to Council are to include details of the conference and an estimate of the associated costs including registration and transport.
 - (f) Council may resolve that a Councillor can attend more than one (1) conference per year but this determination will be dependent on budgetary constraints and with an emphasis on ensuring that all Councillors have equal access to conferences.

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9.3 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- (1) Council will set aside \$4,000.00 per Councillor annually in its budget to facilitate professional development of Councillors through programs, training, education courses and membership of professional bodies. Staff will consult with Councillors, through an Information Report, prior to incurring costs associated with professional development, except for Councillors' attendance at seminars and conferences on behalf of Council as these events are subject to the requirements in Section 9.2(1).
- (2) Where a Councillor does not expend the entirety of the funds allocated to them, these funds may be utilised by other Councillors for professional development requirements.
- (3) In the first year of a new Council term, Council will provide a comprehensive induction program for all Councillors which considers any Guidelines issued by the Office of Local Government (OLG). The cost of the induction program will be in addition to the ongoing professional development funding.
- (4) Annual membership of professional bodies will only be covered where the membership is relevant to the exercise of the Councillor's civic duties, the Councillor actively participates in the body and cost of membership is likely to be fully offset by savings from attending events as a member.
- (5) Approval for professional development activities is subject to a prior written request to the Chief Executive Officer outlining the:-
 - Details of the proposed professional development.
 - Relevance to Council priorities and business.
 - Relevance to the exercise of the Councillor's civic duties.
- (6) In assessing a Councillor request for a professional development activity, the Chief Executive Officer or delegated employee must consider the factors set out in Clause (4) above, as well as the cost of the professional development in relation to the Councillor's remaining budget.

9.4 TRAVEL

9.4.1 LOCAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND EXPENSES

- (1) Council shall reimburse travel expenses incurred by Councillors for travel on Council related business (noting the restrictions of Part B Section 9.2).
- (2) Under normal circumstances, Councillors are expected to provide their own transport to and from the Council Offices and the Councillor's home and/or place of work for the purpose of undertaking Council business.
- (3) Transport to and from the Council Offices and a Councillor's home and/or place of work may be provided by Council at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer having regard to the circumstances, if it is not practicable for a Councillor to use his or her normal method of transport.

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- (4) Travel expenses include use of private vehicle, use of public transport, taxis, ride share, hire cars, travel using a Council vehicle and associated costs such as parking and road tolls. Private vehicle expenses will be reimbursed using the kilometre rate prescribed in the relevant legislation or policies applicable to employees of the Council. Actual costs will be reimbursed for other travel expenses.
- (5) Council is not liable and will not pay for any traffic, parking or transport fines, administrative charges for road toll accounts, or costs of petrol, oil, depreciation, repair, maintenance, insurance or registration incurred by Councillors while travelling on Council related business.
- (6) A Council vehicle (with or without a driver), a hire car, ride share or a taxi voucher may be provided to a Councillor for the purpose of attending any Council related event at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer having regard to the circumstances.
- (7) Nothing in this Policy prevents a Councillor from travelling in a Council vehicle with a staff member who is also attending any Council related event.

9.4.2 INTRASTATE TRAVEL

- (1) Council shall reimburse Council business related travel expenses by a Councillor while using their own private vehicle, by way of a reimbursement for each kilometre travelled for the specific journey, plus any road tolls and parking fees necessarily incurred (noting the restrictions of Part B Section 9.2). The rate of reimbursement for kilometres travelled shall be equivalent to the rates prescribed in the relevant legislation or policies applicable to employees of the Council.
- (2) Council is not liable and will not pay for any traffic, parking or transport fines, administrative charges for road toll accounts, or costs of petrol, oil, depreciation, repair, maintenance, insurance or registration incurred by Councillors while using their private vehicles on Council related business.
- (3) Councillors travelling into country NSW may choose the mode of transport that is most suitable, considering economy and convenience. Air travel will require prior approval.

9.4.3 INTERSTATE TRAVEL (INCLUDING ACT)

- (1) Prior Council approval is required for interstate travel for which reimbursement or payment is sought by Councillors (noting the restrictions of Part B Section 9.2). Any proposal for Councillors to travel interstate is to be included in the non-confidential business papers of Council, for which due public notice has been given. Such a proposal cannot be considered in a late report or Mayoral Minute.
- (2) Applications for interstate travel must be made in writing, giving full details of the travel including: itinerary, expected total costs, reasons for the travel and expected benefits. Council does not allow the retrospective approval of reimbursement of such travel expenses, therefore all expenses must be approved in advance.
- (3) Upon return from interstate travel, the Councillor, or an accompanying member of Council staff, shall provide a written report to Council on the aspects of the trip relevant to Council business and/or the local community, within two (2) months of the trip. This report will be included in the Councillors' Information Bulletin.

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- (4) Economy class air travel will be provided as standard for travel within Australia. The cost of any upgrade shall be the responsibility of the Councillor. Councillors are not entitled to receive private benefits relating to travel bonuses such as frequent flyer schemes and other loyalty programs.
- (5) Where trains are used, first class train travel will be provided, with the exception of sleeping berths.
- (6) Council shall meet the cost of any transfers between a Councillor's residence and a transport interchange (i.e.: airport) and between the transport interchange and hotel or venue. These costs are not to exceed the cost of taxi fares.

9.4.4 OVERSEAS TRAVEL

- (1) Council approval is required for overseas travel for which reimbursement is sought by Councillors. Any travel proposals for Councillors to travel overseas are to be included in the non-confidential business papers of Council for which due public notice has been given. Such proposals cannot be considered in a late report or Mayoral Minute.
- (2) Applications for overseas travel must be made in writing, giving full details of the travel including itinerary, expected total costs, reasons for the travel and expected benefits. Council does not allow the retrospective reimbursement of such travel expenses therefore expenses must be approved in advance.
- (3) Upon return from overseas travel, the Councillor, or an accompanying member of Council staff, shall provide a written report to Council on the aspects of the trip relevant to Council business and/or the local community, within two (2) months of the trip. This report will be included in the Councillors' Information Bulletin.
- (4) Economy air class will be provided for approved overseas travel. Councillors are not entitled to receive private benefits relating to travel bonuses such as frequent flyer schemes and other loyalty programs.
- (5) Council shall meet the cost of any transfers between a Councillor's residence and the airport and between the airport and hotel or venue. These costs are not to exceed the cost of taxi fares.
- (6) Independently funded travel - Council officials who travel to cities that have a Friendship or Partnership relationship with the City of Ryde, are only able to present themselves as representing Council, if this representation has been endorsed by Council prior to the visit.

9.5 ACCOMMODATION COSTS

- (1) Councillors cannot incur accommodation-related expenses. There is no scope for Council to pay or reimburse any costs related to accommodation.

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9.6 INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

- (1) With the exception of the LGNSW Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government Conference and the Australian Council of Local Government, Council shall reimburse reasonable out of pocket or incidental expenses associated with attending conferences, seminars or training courses, and other prior approved travel, incurred by Councillors.
- (2) Each Councillor is entitled to seek reimbursement up to \$20 per day for the purposes of Clause 9.6.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per day	\$20

9.7 LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS AND EXPENSES

- (1) Council may, if requested, indemnify or reimburse the reasonable legal expenses of:-
 - (a) a Councillor defending an action arising from the performance in good faith of a function under the Local Government Act; or
 - (b) a Councillor defending an action in defamation, provided the statements complained of were made in good faith in the course of exercising a function under the Act;
 - (c) a Councillor for proceedings before an appropriate investigative or review body, provided the subject of the proceedings arises from the performance in good faith of a function under the Act and the investigative or review body makes a finding substantially favourable to the Councillor.

Clause (c) applies only when the subject of the inquiry, investigation or hearing arises from the performance in good faith of a Councillor's functions under the Act and the matter before the investigative or review body has proceeded past any initial assessment phase to a formal investigation or review.
- (2) In the case of a conduct complaint made against a Councillor, legal costs will only be made available where:-
 - (a) the matter has been referred by the Chief Executive Officer to a conduct reviewer or conduct review panel to make formal enquiries into that matter in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct; and
 - (b) the conduct reviewer or the conduct review panel makes a finding that is not substantially unfavourable to the Councillor.
- (3) In the case of a pecuniary interest or misbehaviour matter, legal costs will only be made available where a formal investigation has been commenced by the Office of Local Government.

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- (4) Legal expenses incurred in relation to proceedings arising out of the performance by a Councillor of his or her functions under the Act are distinguished from expenses incurred in relation to proceedings arising merely from something that a Councillor has done during his or her term in office. For example, expenses arising from an investigation as to whether a Councillor acted corruptly would not be covered by this section.
- (5) Council will not meet the costs of an action in defamation taken by a Councillor as plaintiff in any circumstances and will not meet the costs of a Councillor seeking advice in respect of possible defamation, or in seeking a non-litigious remedy for possible defamation.
- (6) Council will not meet the legal costs of legal proceedings initiated by a Councillor under any circumstance.
- (7) Reimbursement of expenses for reasonable legal expenses must have Council approval by way of a resolution of Council at a Council meeting prior to costs being incurred.

9.8 INSURANCE

- (1) In accordance with Section 382 of the *Local Government Act*, Council is insured against public liability and professional indemnity claims. Councillors are included as a named insured on this Policy.
- (2) Councillors are provided additional liability protection by way of the Councillors and Officers Liability Policy, and personal injury protection by way of the Personal Accident Policy.
- (3) Insurance protection is only provided if a claim arises out of or in connection with the Councillor's performance of his or her civic duties, or exercise of his or her functions as a Councillor. All insurances are subject to any limitations or conditions set out in the policies of insurance.
- (4) Council shall pay the insurance policy excess in respect of any claim accepted by Council's insurers, whether defended or not.

9.9 COMMUNICATION EXPENSES

- (1) Councillors are entitled to seek reimbursement for communications costs and expenses covering the areas of email, internet, telephone (both fixed and mobile), website and postage.
- (2) Each Councillor is entitled to seek reimbursement up to \$300 per month (\$3,600 per annum) for the purposes of this clause.
- (3) Where the communication costs include the provision of a communication device through a communication plan, Council shall reimburse the costs associated with the plan, including email, internet and telephone access and usage. Communication costs also include expenses incurred by a Councillor for the proportion of leasing, renting or repayment costs associated with any communication device used by a Councillor in undertaking their role as a Councillor.

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- (4) Council may provide Councillors with a mobile phone and call plan in lieu of the individual Councillor seeking reimbursement for mobile telephone costs. It is noted that there may be a small proportion of incidental private/personal use.
- (5) Reimbursement of costs and expenses to Councillors under 'Communication costs' will only be made upon the production of appropriate receipts, tax invoices, credit card statements or receipt numbers in the name of the Councillor, and the completion of the "Request for Councillor Reimbursement" form.
- (6) Councillors are not entitled to claim any communication costs associated with the production or dissemination of personalised pamphlets, newsletters and the like.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	\$3,600
example average (per month)	\$300

9.10 ATTENDANCE AT DINNERS AND OTHER NON-COUNCIL FUNCTIONS

- (1) Councillors are entitled to seek reimbursement for attendance at dinners and other non-Council functions that provide briefings to Councillors from key members of the community, politicians and business.
- (2) Approval for reimbursement in accordance with the above should be sought prior to the event and be done in writing to the Chief Executive Officer.
- (3) Each Councillor is entitled to seek reimbursement up to \$300 per annum for the purpose of this section. Official receipts are required to claim reimbursement under this clause.
- (4) No payment shall be reimbursed for any component of a ticket that is additional to the cost of the function, such as a donation to a political party, candidate's electoral fund or some other private benefit.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	\$300

- (5) Councillors who are Executive Members of an organisation of interest to Council as indicated in a Council resolution, shall be entitled to seek reimbursement and support for their attendance at the Executive Meetings held by the organisation.

Council will meet the cost of the Councillor's transportation expenses, including the cost of meals. The support provided to Councillors in their capacity as an Executive Member of an organisation shall only be valid for the period they hold such a position.

9.11 CARE AND OTHER RELATED EXPENSES

- (1) Where a Councillor has responsibilities for the care and support of any relative, the Council may reimburse the actual cost incurred by the Councillor to engage professional care for the relative whenever considered necessary by the Councillor in order for the Councillor to discharge the functions of civic office.

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- (2) In this clause, *relative* shall have the same meaning as set out in the Dictionary in the Local Government Act.

Relative, in relation to a person, means any of the following:

- (a) *the parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child of the person or of the person's spouse;*
(b) *the spouse or de facto partner of the person or of a person referred to in paragraph (a)*

- (3) The total amount paid to a Councillor under sub-clause (1) shall not exceed \$4,000.00 in the 12 month period from October to September. Official receipts are required to claim reimbursement under this clause.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	\$4,000.00

- (4) Council encourages wide participation and interest in civic office. It will seek to ensure council premises and associated facilities are accessible, including provision for sight or hearing impaired Councillors and those with other disabilities.
- (5) Where a Councillor has a special requirement, such as disability and access needs, Council shall meet reasonable costs and expenses required in order for that Councillor to discharge the functions of civic office.
- (6) The total amount paid to a Councillor under sub-clause (5) shall not exceed \$4,000.00 in the 12 month period from October to September. Official receipts are required to claim reimbursement under this clause. It should be noted however, that Council can approve additional expenditure in extenuating circumstances.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	\$4,000.00

- (7) Each application for care and support of a relative or for meeting the special requirements of a Councillor is to be made in writing to the Chief Executive Officer or his/her delegated officer and will be assessed on its merits. The Chief Executive Officer may use his/her discretion to refer the matter to Council for determination.

9.12 EXPENSES FOR SPOUSES, PARTNERS AND ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

- (1) In limited circumstances, Council shall meet certain costs incurred by a Councillor on behalf of their spouse, partner or accompanying person that are properly and directly related to the role of the Councillor in the performance of his or her duties, in the Ryde local government area. For example, attendance at official Council functions that are of a formal and ceremonial nature when accompanying Councillors.
- (2) Costs and expenses incurred by the Councillor on behalf of their spouse, partner or accompanying person will be met if the cost or expense relates specifically to the ticket, meal and/or direct cost of attending the function referred to in clause (1) above, including carer costs. Peripheral expenses such as grooming, special clothing and transport are not considered reimbursable expenses.

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- (3) In recognition of the importance of a good work and family balance, spouses, partners or accompanying persons are welcome to join Councillors while attending events away from home. In such circumstances, Council will not require reimbursement of costs if no additional travel expenses are incurred over and above what would have been expended by the individual Councillor. For example, if the person travels as a passenger in the Councillor's vehicle, it will be considered that no additional cost has been incurred by Council.
- (4) Each Councillor is entitled to seek reimbursement of up to \$300 per annum total under this clause. Official receipts are required to claim reimbursement under this clause.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	\$300

10. ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE MAYOR

10.1 MAYORAL FEE

- (1) An annual fee is paid to the Mayor by the Council. The fee is the amount fixed by the Council under Division 5 of the Local Government Act in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.
- (2) Unless otherwise provided for in this Policy, the annual fee paid to the Mayor is intended to offset the additional costs involved in discharging the functions of the Mayoral Office over and above the costs incurred by other Councillors.
- (3) In the event that the Council resolves to pay a fee to the Deputy Mayor to undertake the roles and responsibilities of the office of the Mayor, the amount of such fee shall be deducted from the amount determined to be paid to the Mayor on a pro rata basis for the relevant period.
- (4) All fees payable under this Policy shall be paid monthly in arrears for each month (or part of a month) for which the Mayor holds office.
- (5) Unless otherwise stated, no entitlement under this Policy shall be treated as being a private benefit that requires a reduction in the Mayoral Fee.

10.2 CIVIC EXPENSES

- (1) Council shall meet the cost of providing refreshments and associated expenses for civic functions, civic receptions and any other formal event hosted by the Mayor, subject to adequate funds being allocated and available in the Council's adopted Delivery Plan.

10.3 COMMUNICATION COSTS AND EXPENSES

- (1) Council shall reimburse up to an additional \$250 per month (\$3,000 per annum) for communication costs and expenses for the Mayor, over and above the monthly expenditure limit prescribed in clause 9.9 – Communication Expenses.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	\$3,000
(Per month)	(\$250)

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Part C – Facilities

11. GENERAL FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR ALL COUNCILLORS

- (1) Facilities, equipment and services shall be provided to Councillors to support them in undertaking their role as elected members of the Council.
- (2) The equipment supplied under sub-clause (1) shall be of adequate capacity and functionality to generally undertake the role of Councillor.
- (3) Unless otherwise resolved by the Council, or subject to the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, the equipment shall be provided to a Councillor only once during the term of each Council. Council remains in ownership of the equipment and all equipment is required to be returned at the end of the term of each Councillor. At the conclusion of their term, Councillors shall be offered the option to purchase the equipment that they have been in possession of, at current market value. Unless stated otherwise, the Councillor shall be responsible for all other costs of operating this equipment.
- (4) Part 7 of the Code of Conduct describes the responsibilities and obligations of Council officials when using Council resources, particularly in terms of misuse and private use.
- (5) Councillors, where their allocated equipment is damaged, lost or destroyed, are required to report this to Council urgently. If there are repeated instances requiring the equipment to be repaired or replaced, this may be at the Councillors cost.

11.1 PRIVATE USE OF FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

- (1) Council facilities, equipment and services are not to be used for private purposes unless the use is incidental, unavoidable and of a minor nature.
- (2) Should a Councillor obtain substantial private benefit, the Councillor is required to advise the Chief Executive Officer in writing detailing the extent of the private benefit. Council will determine the value of the benefit that is to be invoiced to the Councillor in a non-confidential session of a Council Meeting. The Councillor shall then repay Council the value within four (4) weeks of the determination.
- (3) Council facilities, equipment and services are not to be used to produce election material or for any other political purposes.
- (4) Unless otherwise stated, no entitlement under this Policy shall be treated as being a private benefit that requires a reduction in the Mayoral or Councillor fees.

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12. SPECIFIC PROVISION OF FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR ALL COUNCILLORS

12.1 STATIONERY AND OTHER ITEMS

(1) Each Councillor may receive:-

- (a) letterhead, to be used only for correspondence associated with civic duties;
- (b) a reasonable supply of plain white A4 paper per year;
- (c) 500 plain white DLE envelopes per year;
- (d) 500 business cards per year in a format agreed by each Councillor;
- (e) 50 Christmas or festive cards per year;

the year commencing from the date of election to Council and each subsequent anniversary.

Additional supplies of the above stationery items may be provided by the Chief Executive Officer if considered warranted having regard to the particular needs of any Councillor.

- (2) Each Councillor may be issued from time to time with name badges, security access cards, ties/scarves and other corporate apparel or accessories for personal use. Security access cards are required to be returned when the Councillor ceases to hold office.
- (3) Stationery is not to be used to produce election material or for any other political purpose.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	a reasonable supply of plain white A4 paper
Per annum	500 plain white DLE envelopes
Per annum	500 business cards
Per annum	50 Christmas or festive cards

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12.2 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) EQUIPMENT

- (1) Each Councillor will receive a set allowance per term (currently set at a maximum of \$5,000.00) to purchase their own IT equipment for the primary purpose of conducting Council related business.
- (2) This equipment may consist of:-
 - Computer (either desktop or laptop).
 - An iPad or similar tablet device.
 - A smart phone.
 - A printer (multi-function device) allowing printing/scanning etc.
 - Accessories for the above such as keyboard, mouse, protective case, screen protector and headset etc.

Other devices such as smart watches will be assessed for reimbursement within this allowance on an individual basis.
- (3) Alternatively, Councillors can elect to receive IT equipment provided by Council's Information Technology department. Such equipment will be in line with Council's current standard IT equipment.
- (4) Councillors can purchase the equipment and receive reimbursement upon production of appropriate tax invoices and receipts. Alternatively, Council may purchase the nominated equipment on behalf of a Councillor if requested.
- (5) It is important that all IT equipment is purchased with adequate warranty and support agreement from the retailer. Council's Information Technology department will not provide any hardware or support, therefore Councillors must contact the nominated service provider for assistance. In the event of any damage to the equipment or other out of warranty events, Councillors will be responsible to cover additional repair expenses.
- (6) Maintenance, troubleshooting problems and upgrades to IT equipment will be the responsibility of individual Councillors and Council's Information Technology department will not be carrying these support activities. Council's Information Technology department will provide limited technical support for Council emails, BoardVantage and Zoom.
- (7) Any equipment purchased under this allowance must be in accordance with the minimum specification as advised from time to time by Council's Information Technology Department.
- (8) Councillors using a device to access Council systems must abide by the relevant Council Policies.

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12.3 PARKING

- (1) Councillors shall be provided with allocated parking at the Council offices for attendance at meetings and functions in the performance of their role as a Councillor and be provided with a parking permit sticker for use when parking in the North Ryde Office Car Park. Council will not indemnify Councillors for any damage to their vehicles while utilising this facility.
- (2) No other parking concessions within the City of Ryde will be granted.

12.4 SECRETARIAL SUPPORT

- (1) Secretarial support may be provided at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer for each Councillor at the Pope Street, Ryde and/or North Ryde Offices. This may include typing, photocopying or use of a telephone. All expenses incurred, including the cost of staff, shall be met by the Council.

12.5 DELIVERY OF MATERIAL

- (1) At least once each week, each Councillor may receive a delivery of material from Council including business papers, correspondence, newspapers etc. delivered to one property address nominated by the Councillor.

12.6 COUNCIL MEETING CHAMBER AND LIBRARY MEETING ROOMS

- (1) Councillors may use the Council Meeting Chamber or access the meeting rooms at the library as available and in accordance with the relevant booking process, for the purposes of meeting with the public during operating hours and free of charge. The nature of the meeting must relate to Council business.
- (2) Council facilities are not to be used for any political purpose.

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**Councillor Expenses
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13. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR THE MAYOR

13.1 MAYORAL OFFICE

- (1) A furnished Mayoral Office shall be provided by the Council at the Pope Street, Ryde and North Ryde Offices, including a computer with office and related software (including access to email and internet).

13.2 SECRETARIAL SUPPORT

- (1) Secretarial support shall be provided by the Council. All necessary staff, office equipment, furnishings, printing, stationery, postage and other general office expenses shall be met by the Council, subject to adequate funds being available in the Council's adopted Delivery Plan.

13.3 MOTOR VEHICLE AND OTHER TRAVEL FACILITIES

- (1) An appropriate vehicle shall be provided in accordance with Council's available list and shall be fully maintained for use by the Mayor for Council related business. The vehicle may be used for incidental private purposes by the Mayor.
- (2) Should substantial private use occur, the Mayor is to reimburse to Council the cost of this private use, which will be calculated using the mileage rates prescribed in the relevant legislation, policies or calculations applicable to employees of Council.
- (3) A car parking space shall be allocated at the Pope Street Top Ryde and North Ryde office for the Mayoral vehicle.
- (4) Should the Mayor elect not to make use of the vehicle for the length of their term, it will be disposed of appropriately. The Mayor will be entitled to reimbursement for all Council related travel expenses in accordance with the mileage rates prescribed in the relevant legislation or policies applicable to employees of Council.
- (5) Reimbursements will be made upon the production of an appropriate vehicle mileage log and the completion of a "Request for Councillor Reimbursement" form.
- (6) Additionally, the Mayor is entitled to a Cabcharge card for travel on Council related business. The card is not to be used for private travel and the card is not to be used to provide gratuities to drivers.

The Cabcharge card is to be used in accordance with the City of Ryde Credit Card policy. Cabcharge receipts are to be collected and submitted to Council for reconciliation against monthly statements, and the cardholder is required to immediately inform Council should the card be lost or stolen.

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**Councillor Expenses
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13.4 CEREMONIAL CLOTHING

- (1) The Mayor shall be supplied with a suitable robe and chains of office.

13.5 OTHER EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

- (1) In addition to equipment and facilities already provided to the Mayor as a Councillor, the Mayor shall be entitled to the following equipment and facilities:-
- (a) an additional 500 business cards per year of term in a format agreed by the Mayor,
 - (b) 200 Christmas Cards per year of term,
 - (c) corporate attire and presentation gifts for use in connection with civic and ceremonial functions for example: tie, scarfs, mementos
- (2) The Chief Executive Officer shall have discretion to provide the Mayor with further equipment and facilities, not otherwise specified in this Policy, subject to funding being made available in the adopted Delivery Plan, and that the provision of such equipment or facilities is reasonable for the efficient and effective performance of the Office of the Mayor. Should the Chief Executive Officer exercise his/her discretion to provide the Mayor with further equipment and facilities, not otherwise specified in this Policy, a report detailing the provision shall be presented to Council.

Timeframe	Maximum amount
Per annum	200 Christmas cards
Per annum	Additional 500 business cards

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**Councillor Expenses
and Facilities Policy**

Part D – Processes

14. APPROVAL, PAYMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- (1) All expenses and costs incurred must be in accordance with the requirements of this Policy.
- (2) Reimbursement of costs and expenses to Councillors will only be made upon the production of appropriate receipts and tax invoices, and the completion of the "Request for Councillor Reimbursement" form *[Appendix III]*.
- (3) If receipts and tax invoices are not able to be submitted, a Councillor shall be required to sign a Statutory Declaration to confirm that the expense was incurred. If a Statutory Declaration is provided in lieu of receipts and tax invoices, Councillors are required to personally retain any supporting documentation for audit purposes and shall be required to produce this documentation to Council upon request. Councillors are advised that Council is unable to claim the GST on the purchase if a tax invoice is not submitted, thus increasing the real cost of the item.
- (4) Claims for reimbursement of "Communication costs" and "Information Technology" will only be made upon the production of appropriate receipts, tax invoices, credit card statements or receipt numbers, in the name of the Councillor – a Statutory Declaration is not appropriate.
- (5) Payments made to Councillors by way of reimbursement in accordance with this Policy will only be made to personal accounts on which the Councillor is a named account holder and not to third parties.
- (6) The Chief Executive Officer or a delegated employee shall assess all such claims and if considered to be reasonable and to be legitimately payable under this Policy, shall approve the claim for payment and payment shall be made within seven (7) days.
- (7) Should the Chief Executive Officer or delegated employee decide that the claim should not be paid, the Chief Executive Officer shall explain such decision to the Councillor and should the Councillor still consider that the claim should be paid, it shall be considered that a dispute exists and the provisions of clause 15 shall apply.
- (8) Council may pay a cash advance for Councillors attending approved conferences, seminars or professional development. The maximum value of cash advance is \$500 which should be reconciled within one (1) week of incurring the cost and/or returning home. This includes providing to Council:-
 - A full reconciliation of all expenses including appropriate receipts and/or tax invoices.
 - Reimbursement of any amount of the advance payment not spent in attending to official business or professional development.
- (9) If a claim is refused, Council will inform the Councillor in writing that the claim has been refused and the reason for the refusal.

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**Councillor Expenses
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15. DISPUTES

- (1) Should any Councillor consider that a dispute exists at any time regarding this Policy, the parties to the dispute shall provide a written report on the nature of the dispute and the Chief Executive Officer shall submit such reports to the next meeting of the Council to have the dispute determined by a resolution of the Council having regard to this Policy, the Act and any other relevant law. The decision of the Council shall be binding on all of the parties.
- (2) If the Councillor and the Chief Executive Officer cannot resolve the dispute, the Councillor may submit a Notice of Motion to a Council meeting seeking to have the dispute resolved.

16. ACQUISITION AND RETURN OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES BY COUNCILLORS

- (1) Prior to the conclusion of a Council term, or if a Councillor leaves civic office prior to the expiration of the term of Council, Councillors will be invited to indicate if they wish to purchase any IT equipment utilised during the term.
- (2) Councillors will be advised of the written down value of each item prior to seeking the above indication.
- (3) Where possible, payment for any items a Councillor wishes to purchase will be deducted from the Councillor's fee. Where this is not possible, an invoice will be prepared for the Councillor to make the appropriate payment.
- (4) Councillors no longer holding a position as Councillor will be required to return all equipment not purchased within one (1) week of the declaration of the polls to the Chief Executive Officer or delegated employee at Council's North Ryde Office.

17. PUBLICATION

- (1) This policy will be published on Council's website.

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**Councillor Expenses
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18. REPORTING

- (1) Council will report on the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors as required in the Act and Regulations.
- (2) Detailed reports on the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors will be publicly tabled at a Council meeting every six months and published in full on Council's website. These reports will include expenditure summarised by individual Councillor and as a total for all Councillors.

19. AUDITING

- (1) The operation of this Policy, including claims made under the Policy, will be included in Council's audit program and an internal audit will be undertaken once every two years.
- (2) The outcomes of the internal audit reviews are reported to the Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

20. BREACHES

- (1) Suspected breaches of this Policy are to be reported to the Chief Executive Officer.
- (2) Alleged breaches of this Policy shall be dealt with by following the processes outlined for breaches of the Code of Conduct, as detailed in the Code and in the Procedures for the Administration of the Code.

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**Councillor Expenses
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PART E – Appendices

APPENDIX I: RELATED LEGISLATION, GUIDANCE AND POLICIES

Relevant legislation and guidance:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2021
- Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Mayors and Councillors in NSW, 2009
- Local Government Circular 09-36 Guidelines for Payment of Expenses and Facilities
- Local Government Circular 17-17 Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy – Better Practice Template
- Local Government Circular 05-08 legal assistance for Councillors and Council Employees.

Related Council policies:

- City of Ryde *Code of Conduct – Policy, Standards of Conduct, and Complaints Procedure*;
- City of Ryde *'Thank you is Enough' - Gifts and Benefits Policy*;
- City of Ryde *Code of Meeting Practice*;
- City of Ryde *Corporate Credit Card Policy*.

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**Councillor Expenses
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APPENDIX II: DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply throughout this policy:-

Term	Definition
accompanying person	Means a spouse, partner or de facto or other person who has a close personal relationship with or provides carer support to a Councillor
appropriate refreshments	Means food and beverages, excluding alcohol, provided by council to support Councillors undertaking official business
Act	Means the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)
clause	Unless stated otherwise, a reference to a clause is a reference to a clause of this policy
Code of Conduct	Means the Code of Conduct adopted by Council or the Model Code if none is adopted
Councillor	Means a person elected or appointed to civic office as a member of the governing body of council who is not suspended, including the Mayor
Chief Executive Officer	Means the Chief Executive Officer of Council and includes their delegate or authorised representative
incidental personal use	Means use that is infrequent and brief and use that does not breach this policy or the Code of Conduct
long distance intrastate travel	Means travel to other parts of NSW of more than three hours duration by private vehicle
maximum limit	Means the maximum limit for an expense or facility provided in the text and summarised in Appendix 1
official business	Means functions that the Mayor or Councillors are required or invited to attend to fulfil their legislated role and responsibilities for council or result in a direct benefit for council and/or for the local government area, and includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meetings of council and committees of the whole • meetings of committees facilitated by council • civic receptions hosted or sponsored by council • meetings, functions, workshops and other events to which attendance by a Councillor has been requested or approved by council
professional development	Means a seminar, conference, training course or other development opportunity relevant to the role of a Councillor or the Mayor
Regulation	Means the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW)
year	Means the financial year, that is the 12 month period commencing on 1 July each year

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**Councillor Expenses
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APPENDIX III: COUNCILLOR REIMBURSEMENT FORM

COUNCILLOR REIMBURSEMENT

About this form

This form is used to make a claim for reimbursement for expenses as a Councillor of the City of Ryde.

Policy Requirements

Section 252 of the *Local Government Act 1993* authorises payment or reimbursement of actual expenses incurred by Councillors in carrying out their civic duties.

Claims must be made in accordance with Council's **Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy** and must be made within 3 months of the date of the expenditure. All receipts/tax invoices must be attached.

Councillor Helpdesk

Riverview Business Park, Building 0, Level 1,
3 Richardson Place, North Ryde
Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670
Email helpdesk@ryde.nsw.gov.au
Phone 9952 8200 Fax 9952 8070

PART 1: COUNCILLOR DETAILS

Councillor Name*

Claim Period* to

Address*

PART 2: SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

Date	Claim Description	Amount	OFFICE USE ONLY
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total claim amount		\$ <input type="text"/>	

PART 3: DECLARATION

I certify that the details provided in relation to the above claims are correct and the expenses were reasonably incurred.

Signature* Date*

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9 INVESTIGATION OF ADEQUACY OF CURRENT PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL REMOVAL OF VEGETATION

Report prepared by: Manager - Parks and Open Spaces

File No.: GRP/24/36 - BP24/36

REPORT SUMMARY

This report has been prepared in response to a request received on the 9 January 2024 from Lane Cove Council to support them in lobbying the New South Wales State Government to increase financial penalties associated with the illegal removal of vegetation and causing environmental damage.

The City of Ryde is required to manage Tree and Vegetation Preservation in accordance with the New South Wales State Government's planning policies.

Unauthorised vandalism or removal of trees or vegetation is regulated through the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

Significant offences under the EP&A Act 1979, can attract either a Tier 1 penalty maximum up to \$5 million for a corporation and \$1 million for an individual. Or if the circumstances do not warrant a Tier 1 penalty, a Tier 2 maximum penalty applies up to \$2 million for a corporation and \$500,000 for an individual.

Lesser offences attract Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs), and the maximum monetary penalty is \$6,000 for a corporation and \$3,000 for an individual and has not been increased since 2017.

City of Ryde records indicate reported incidents are typically lesser offences, and there has been a 40 percent increase over the last 5 years. This raises concern on the effectiveness of PINs to function as a deterrent to these events.

Additionally, the loss of trees on private and or public land has a negative impact on the City of Ryde's ability to reach the New South Wales State Government urban canopy target of 40 percent.

To enhance the efficacy of deterring tree vandalism or unlawful removal, it would be reasonable for the City of Ryde to advocate for an increase in fines associated with Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs).

If Council resolves to support Lane Cove Council request to seek increases in Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs), Council staff will provide a report to the New South Wales Government explaining how this issue affects the City of Ryde.

ITEM 9 (continued)

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council note the current fines applicable for unlawful tree and vegetation related matters are as follows:
 - a. Tier 1 penalty maximum up to \$5 million (corporation), \$1 million (individual)
 - b. Tier 2 maximum up to \$2 million (corporation), \$500,000 (individual).
 - c. Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs) maximum is \$6,000 (corporation) and \$3,000 (individual) with no increases since 2017.
- (b) That Council staff prepare a report for state government, supporting an increase in the current fines structure as a means of effectively deterring lesser offences such as tree vandalism and removal.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

Scott Wilkie
Manager - Parks and Open Spaces

Report Approved By:

Meroeh Suesser
Manager - Engineering and Project Delivery

Luke Homann
General Manager - Business and Operations

ITEM 9 (continued)

Background

On 9 January 2024 City of Ryde received a request from Lane Cove Council to support them in lobbying the New South Wales State Government to increase financial penalties associated with unlawful removal of trees and vegetation causing environmental damage.

This report investigates the applicable legislation and associated penalties for unlawful tree and vegetation removal and how this is administered in the City of Ryde. The purpose is to determine if it is reasonable for Council to lobby State Government for an increase in the fines, in support of Lane Coves Council's request.

Discussion

Legislative Requirements and associated Penalties

Tree and Vegetation Preservation is administered by City of Ryde through the Local Environment Plan and Development Control Plan in accordance with the New South Wales State Government's, Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), Principal Local Environment Plan Policy (2006) and the Biodiversity and Conservation State Planning Policy (2021).

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) defines the clearing of vegetation as development. As a result, a land holder is required to obtain either a development consent or a tree permit to undertake the removal of trees and vegetation. Instances where trees are removed without a consent or permit is considered prohibited development.

Council regulates unauthorised removal of trees or vegetation through the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

Under the EP&A Act, it is an offence to carry out development that is prohibited. This offence attracts a Tier 1 monetary penalty in circumstances where the offence was committed intentionally and caused or was likely to cause significant harm to the environment or caused the death of or serious injury or illness to a person.

A Tier 1 maximum penalty is up to \$5 million for a corporation and \$1 million for an individual. If the circumstances do not warrant a Tier 1 monetary penalty, a Tier 2 maximum penalty applies, which is up to \$2 million for a corporation and \$500,000 for an individual.

These penalties can only be imposed by the court (local or Land and Environment), where it is satisfied, *beyond a reasonable doubt*, that the offence has been committed. Importantly the maximum fines can be reduced at the discretion of the relevant court, when taking into account the circumstances of the event.

ITEM 9 (continued)

In addition to, or instead of, the maximum monetary penalty, the court dealing with the offence can impose a range of other penalties, including an order to make good any resulting damage and to plant new vegetation and maintain that vegetation to a mature growth.

Penalties can also be issued through Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs). Pins are issued for lesser offences to penalise offenders for unlawful clearing and can be issued to anyone undertaking prohibited development. The maximum monetary penalty that can issued under a PIN is \$6,000 for a corporation and \$3,000 for an individual and has not been increased since 2017.

Tree Vandalism and Unlawful Removal within City of Ryde LGA

City of Ryde records indicates there has been no Tier 1 or Tier 2 events occurring. Typically, the reported incidents are lesser offences, such as the unlawful vandalism or removal of one or two trees, which indicate a 40 percent increase in reported vandalism and unlawful removals over the last 5 years. This raises concern on the effectiveness of the PINs to function as a deterrent to unlawful tree vandalism or removal within the Ryde LGA.

Additionally, unlawful tree vandalism or removal, whether on private or public land, significantly hinders the City of Ryde's progress towards attaining the New South Wales State Government urban canopy target of 40 percent.

Achieving this goal requires a combined approach, including the prevention of tree vandalism and unlawful removal, preservation of trees on both public private lands, and, when lawful removal is unavoidable, the replacement of such trees with suitable alternatives to restore the diminished canopy.

In conclusion, to enhance the efficacy of deterring tree vandalism or unlawful removal, it would be reasonable for the City of Ryde to advocate for an increase in fines associated with Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs).

Next steps

If Council resolves to support Lane Cove Council request to seek increases in Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs), Council staff will provide a report to the New South Wales Government explaining how this issue affects the City of Ryde.

10 ESTABLISHMENT OF PARKRUN IN THE CITY OF RYDE

Report prepared by: Parks Officer**File No.:** GRP/09/3 - BP23/680

REPORT SUMMARY

This report has prepared in response to part (c) of the Council resolution below from 26 September 2023:

- (a) *That Council investigates the establishment of a 'Parkrun' site in the Ryde Local Government Area to foster community cohesion and to promote physical and mental wellbeing.*
- (b) *That the following be included as part of the investigation: -*
 - i. *Liaising with Parkrun Australia to gain insights and guidance for identifying and setting up a successful Parkrun site for a weekly community running event.*
 - ii. *Engaging with the local community through online consultations and feedback sessions to identify a safe and suitable 5km running course within the Ryde Local Government Area.*
- (c) *That a report be presented back to Council by December 2023 outlining the findings of the investigation listed in parts (a) and (b) including funding required and opportunities for potential sponsorships and partnerships with local businesses.*
- (d) *That subject to the findings of the investigation including costings and a relevant funding source, that Ryde Parkrun be established by early 2024.*

Council staff contacted Parkrun in November 2023, to gain insights and guidance for identifying and setting up a successful Parkrun site to host a weekly community running event.

To establish a Parkrun course, there are criteria and guidelines which ultimately determine the suitability of a site to host a Parkrun event.

Council applied the Parkrun criteria and guidelines to Council parks considered to have capacity to host an event in the City of Ryde. This created a shortlist namely Meadowbank Park, North Ryde Common, the Riverside Walk from Kissing Point Park to Anderson Park and the Shrimptons Creek pathway.

As result of this process, it was determined that each site did not comply with the necessary criteria to be eligible on the basis the parks did not have sufficient space, adequate facilities, parking or are heavily used by sporting user groups.

ITEM 10 (continued)

Council identified the Macquarie University campus as a suitable location in the City of Ryde that aligns with both the criteria and guideline requirements of Parkrun to host an event.

As a result, Council have engaged in discussions with representatives from Macquarie University, who have indicated an interest in developing a Parkrun event within their grounds.

Council consulted with parkrun and community representatives interested in establishing Parkrun in the City of Ryde to discuss the outcome of the investigations. In this process, it was agreed Council will continue with establishing a Parkrun event at the Macquarie University campus and investigate the future use of the Riverside Walk from Kissing Point Park to Anderson Park.

Parkrun Australia requires a start-up cost of \$7,000 to fund the event and this initial startup cost can be accommodated within existing Parks and Open Spaces budget for the 2023/24 Financial Year.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council notes based on the Parkrun Australia specific course criteria listed in this report, there are no suitable Council owned Parks in the City of Ryde and the investigation process identified Macquarie University as the most suitable site to host an event.
- (b) That Council continue liaising with Macquarie University to assist the establishment of a 5km Parkrun event within the university campus grounds 2024.
- (c) That Council continue investigating the potential for using the Riverside Walk from Kissing Point Park to Anderson Park to establish a Parkrun event.
- (d) That Council notes Parkrun Australia has indicated an initial startup cost of \$7000 is required to establish an event and this initial startup cost can be accommodated within existing Parks and Open Spaces budget in the 2023/24 financial year.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

ITEM 10 (continued)

Report Prepared By:

**Dale Fillingham
Parks Officer**

Report Approved By:

**Scott Wilkie
Manager - Parks and Open Spaces**

**Meroeh Suesser
Manager - Engineering and Project Delivery**

**Charles Mahfoud
Executive Manager - City Infrastructure**

**Luke Homann
General Manager - Business and Operations**

ITEM 10 (continued)

Background

Parkrun is a volunteer managed event that facilitates a 5km course every Saturday morning, and a Junior 2km course every Sunday morning, where participants can walk, jog, run, volunteer, or spectate.

There are currently five established Parkrun courses located within 5km of the Ryde LGA, **Parramatta Parkrun** – George Kendall Riverside Park, Spofforth St, Ermington (temporarily at Eric Primrose Res, Rydalmere), **Wentworth Common** - Marjorie Jackson Parkway, Sydney Olympic Park, **Rhodes** - Victoria Ave, West Concord, **Willoughby** – Artarmon Reserve, Burra Road, Artarmon, **GreenWay** – Richard Murden Reserve, Hawthorn Parade, Haberfield.

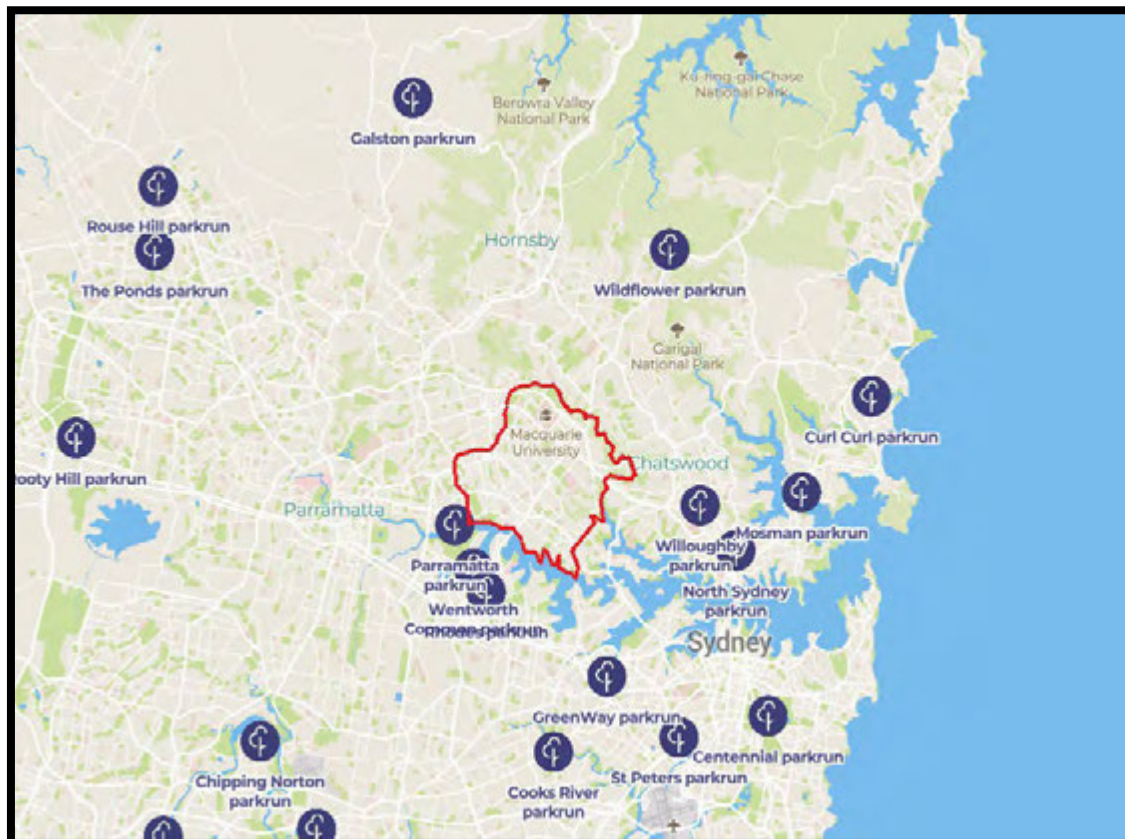


Image 1. Map of Park Run sites in Sydney Basin

ITEM 10 (continued)

Discussion

Requirements to Establish a Parkrun Course

Parkrun Australia is operated through its official website, which contains course information, assessment criteria and guidelines to determine the suitability and selection of a park to host an event.

Some of the site criteria and guidelines includes, but is not limited to the following:

- availability/space for a continuous 5km course
- the course must not cross any roads or car parks.
- provision of adequate parking.
- provision of suitable amenities (e.g., toilets, access to water etc).
- the ability to operate all year round, preferably without the need for an alternate route.
- must be safe for everyone who uses space and bring minimal disruption to the local area.
- course must be accessible and inclusive (although not all parkrun events can be fully accessible, all participants must be able to access the event in a safe manner).
- if possible, accessible by public transport.
- consideration of other users and use of the proposed area.

Potential Sites in the City of Ryde

Council applied the Parkrun criteria and guidelines to Council parks considered to have capacity to host an event in the City of Ryde. This created a shortlist namely Meadowbank Park, North Ryde Common, the Riverside Walk from Kissing Point Park to Anderson Park and the Shrimptons Creek pathway and the Shrimptons Creek pathway.

As result of this process, it was determined that each site did not comply with the necessary criteria to be eligible. Some of the Parkrun criteria shortfalls are outlined below:

Meadowbank Park

Meadowbank Park is one of Council's largest parks and heavily used all year round on Saturdays and Sundays by a range of sporting competitions, and residents accessing the regional playground, the skate park and tennis courts. However, it was considered ineligible on the basis the parking, facilities and sport fields are already at maximum capacity.

Additionally, Meadowbank Park is near Parramatta Parkrun, which is held in George Kendall Riverside Park, Ermington.

ITEM 10 (continued)**North Ryde Common**

North Ryde Common was considered ineligible due to the lack of public toilets and other park infrastructure (such as water bubblers/stations) to support the participants of a Parkrun.

Additionally, North Ryde Common is used for community events that can restrict site access and prevents the creation of an all-year-round course layout.

Shrimptons Creek pathway

The Shrimpton's Creek shared pathway was considered ineligible as there a several sections which have road crossings, and the shared user path (Shrimptons Creek) is a highly activated active transport corridor and would likely result in user conflicts between Parkrun participants, cyclist, and other path users.

The Riverside Walk from Kissing Point Park to Anderson Park

Council considers continuing investigating the potential for using the Riverside Walk from Kissing Point Park and Anderson Park to establish a Parkrun event. There are currently a number of constraints that need to be resolved to establish a parkrun event. These constraints include conflicting community events, insufficient parking, and traffic congestion as well the future development at 20 Waterview Street.

Alternative locations in the City of Ryde

Council staff identified Macquarie University as a suitable location in the City of Ryde that aligns with both the criteria and guideline requirements of Parkrun to host an event. In November 2023 Council staff engaged in discussions with representatives from Macquarie University, which campus can provide a continuous 5km course, secure commuter car parking and has sufficient amenities such as toilets and water stations for participants. Additionally, the location of Macquarie University places it outside the Parkrun catchment areas for Parramatta Parkrun (Ermington), Willoughby Parkrun and Wildflower Parkrun, filling an obvious gap in the distribution of courses.

Community Consultation

Council consulted with parkrun and community representatives interested in establishing Parkrun in the City of Ryde to discuss the outcome of the investigations.

From this process, it was agreed Council will continue with establishing a Parkrun event at the Macquarie University campus and investigate the opportunity of using the Riverside Walk from Kissing Point Park to Anderson Park for a Parkrun event.

ITEM 10 (continued)**Financial Implications**

Parkrun Australia requires event organisers to provide \$7,000 to fund the event start-up costs, which includes the provision of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the event. Council will continue to work with Macquarie University to support the creation of a Parkrun event and determine Council's role in assisting opportunities for potential sponsorships and partnerships with local businesses.

LATE COUNCIL REPORT

11 STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE: CITY OF RYDE SUBMISSION TO THE NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, HOUSING AND INDUSTRY'S MACQUARIE PARK INNOVATION DISTRICT STAGE 1 REZONING PROPOSAL

Report prepared by: Michal Galderisi – General Manager, City Shaping

Report approved by: Wayne Rylands – Chief Executive Officer

Note: The Council report for this Item will be issued on Friday, 23 February 2024.

INFORMATION REPORTS

12 REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL - INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Report prepared by: Financial Controller
File No.: GRP/24/36 - BP24/14

REPORT SUMMARY

This report details Council's performance of its investment portfolio as at 31 December 2023, and compares it against key benchmarks. The report includes Council's loan liabilities.

Council's rate of return on investments for the reporting period is 4.60%, which is 0.17% above the benchmark figure of 4.43%.

Income from interest on investments is budgeted at \$5,387k and as at 31 December 2023 funds of \$5,996k have been earned. Majority of this income, is interest earned on Externally Restricted Reserves held and must be returned to these respective reserves. A variation to this budget has been proposed in the December Quarterly Budget Review which is contained elsewhere in this Business Paper.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

Sacha Thirimanne
Financial Controller

Report Approved By:

Aneesh Zahra
Chief Financial Officer

ITEM 12 (continued)

Background

Council's Responsible Accounting Officer is required to report monthly on Council's Investment Portfolio as per the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 Section 212 and certify that the Investments are held in accordance with Council's Investment Policy and Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The **preservation of capital is the principal objective** of Council's Cash Investment Policy. Investments are to be placed in a manner that safeguards the investment portfolio and risk tolerances are prescribed to ensure the best financial outcome for residents.

Funds are to be invested at the most favorable interest rate available at the time, whilst having due consideration of the following parameters to mitigate risk:

- **Liquidity:** Investment terms should be sufficient to meet cash flow requirements of Council operations.
- **Legislative Compliance:** Council is guided by both the Local Government Act 1993, Local Government Regulations 2021 and to the most current Ministerial Investment Order that has been issued by the NSW Minister for Local Government.
- **Institutional Limitations:** Council is not permitted to invest in Authorised Deposit taking Institutions (ADI) that is an Australian subsidiary of a foreign bank, all ADI's Council invests with must comply to ratios monitored by Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).
- **Overall Portfolio Limits:** In order to diversify risk of Council's Investment Portfolio, maximum limits apply based on Standard & Poor (S&P) credit rating. Council is not permitted to invest in any ADI which is BBB- or less.
- **Term to Maturity:** maximum limits apply to term deposit terms that are between 1 - 3 years and greater than 3 years.

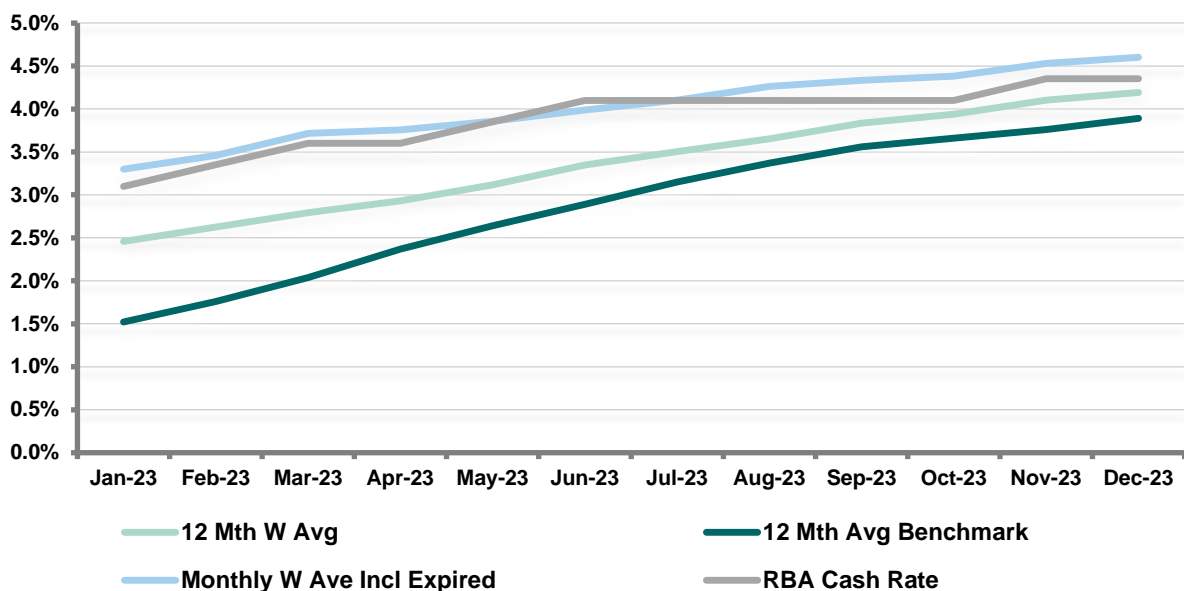
Standard & Poor (S&P) Rating Scale:

AAA	An obligor has extremely strong capacity to meet its financial commitments
AA+	An obligor has very strong capacity to meet its financial commitments. It differs from the highest rated obligors only to a small degree
AA	
AA-	
A+	An obligor has strong capacity to meet its financial commitments but is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligors in higher rated categories
A	
A-	
BBB+	An obligor has adequate capacity to meet its financial commitments. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity for the obligor to meet its financial commitments
BBB	
BBB-	

ITEM 12 (continued)
Investment Performance Commentary

Council's performance against the benchmark for returns of its investment portfolio for December 2023 and the past 12 months are as follows:

	Dec	12 Month	FYTD
Council Return	4.60	4.19	4.44
Benchmark	4.43	3.89	4.31
Variance	0.17	0.30	0.13

Performance - All Investments


Council's investment portfolio as at 31 December 2023 was as follows:

Cash/Term Deposits	\$147.26M	49.43%
Floating Rate Notes	\$77.91M	26.15%
Fixed Bonds	\$72.72M	24.41%
Total Investments	\$297.89M	

Council continues to utilise the Federal Government's current guarantee (\$250k) investing in Term Deposits with a range of Authorised Deposit Taking Institutions (ADI's) on short to medium term investments (Generally 30 days to 180 days maturity) where more competitive rates are available.

Council's income from investments continues to exceed original budgeted expectations, primarily due to Council's cash reserves balances being higher than anticipated and higher interest rates being offered reflective of recent economic conditions.

ITEM 12 (continued)**Loan Liability**

Council's loan liability as at 31 December 2023 is \$231k, which represents the balance of two loans which were established under the Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme (LIRS). Council receives a 3% interest subsidy payment from the OLG twice a year.

1. A \$1.5m 10 year loan drawn down 31 January 2014 at 180 day Bank Bill Swap rate (BBSW) of +175 basis points for the Children's Play Implementation Plan, which was approved for an LIRS subsidy in Round 2. The interest rate for this loan is reset every six months.
2. A \$1.5m 10 year loan drawn down 1 September 2014 at 4.95% for Phase 2 of the Children's Play Implementation Plan, which was approved for an LIRS subsidy in Round 3.

ITEM 12 (continued)

INVESTMENT SUMMARY AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Issuer	Investment Name	Investment Rating	Fossil Fuel Free	Invested at 31-Dec-23 \$000's	Annualised Period Return (%)	12 Month Average Return	Return since 01 July 2023	% of Total Invested	Maturity	Tenor
Bank of Queensland	1. Bank of Queensland Floating Rate Note	AAA	Y	1,200	5.60	4.99	5.34	0.40	14/05/2025	1826
Bank of Queensland	2. BoQ FRN	AAA	Y	2,000	5.59	4.98	5.34	0.67	14/05/2025	1051
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	3. Bendigo FRN (Covered)	AAA	Y	4,000	5.48	4.87	5.22	1.34	11/11/2025	1096
Suncorp-Metway	4. Suncorp Covered Bond	AAA	Y	3,974	3.56	3.56	3.59	1.33	24/08/2026	1593
Westpac Banking Corporation	5. WBC Covered Bond	AAA	N	3,196	3.94	3.95	3.95	1.07	20/05/2025	1096
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	6. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,000	3.13	3.13	3.16	1.01	8/02/2024	1826
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	7. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,000	1.56	1.56	1.56	0.67	29/08/2024	1827
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	8. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	1,999	1.67	1.67	1.67	0.67	29/08/2024	1805
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	9. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	1,999	1.69	1.70	1.70	0.67	16/01/2025	1827
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	10. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,996	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.01	29/08/2024	1612
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	11. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,000	4.09	4.10	4.03	0.67	12/05/2025	1096
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	12. ANZ FRN	AA-	N	1,200	5.32	5.23	5.42	0.40	31/03/2028	1827
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	13. ANZ FRN	AA-	N	2,800	5.32	5.20	5.20	0.94	11/09/2028	1827
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	14. CBA Business Online Saver	AA-	N	21,249	4.43	4.00	4.26	7.13		
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	15. CBA Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,500	3.23	3.23	3.25	1.17	11/01/2024	1826
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	16. CBA Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,998	4.30	4.29	4.38	1.01	18/08/2025	1096
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	17. CBA Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,894	5.38	5.39	5.47	1.31	18/08/2027	1756
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	18. CBA FRN	AA-	N	2,400	5.40	5.08	5.45	0.81	13/01/2028	1826
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	19. CBA	AA-	N	2,500	5.44	5.29	5.29	0.84	17/08/2028	1827
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	20. CBA Term Deposit	AA-	N	2,000	5.16	4.43	4.49	0.67	13/08/2024	256
National Australia Bank	21. NAB Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,000	2.95	2.93	2.96	1.01	26/02/2024	1826
National Australia Bank	22. NAB Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,494	2.98	2.98	3.04	1.17	25/02/2027	1826
National Australia Bank	23. NAB Floating Rate Note	AA-	N	2,000	5.25	4.88	5.25	0.67	19/06/2024	1827
National Australia Bank	24. NAB FRN	AA-	N	3,000	5.53	5.21	5.27	1.01	12/05/2028	1827
National Australia Bank	25. NAB FRN	AA-	N	3,200	5.53	5.53	5.53	1.07	16/11/2028	1827
National Australia Bank	26. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.27	4.80	4.90	1.34	22/10/2024	362
National Australia Bank	27. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.00	4.66	5.00	1.34	26/02/2024	367
National Australia Bank	28. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.27	5.27	5.27	1.34	1/05/2024	184
National Australia Bank	29. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	2,000	5.27	5.14	5.16	0.67	26/09/2024	365
National Australia Bank	30. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	3,000	5.25	5.13	5.14	1.01	3/10/2024	365
National Australia Bank	31. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.18	5.18	5.18	1.34	19/06/2024	288
National Australia Bank	32. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.32	5.32	5.32	1.34	9/10/2024	345
National Australia Bank	33. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	4.52	4.52	4.52	1.34	11/01/2024	365
National Australia Bank	34. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.18	3.96	4.57	1.34	17/09/2024	365
National Australia Bank	35. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.24	5.24	5.24	1.34	9/04/2024	249
Westpac Banking Corporation	36. Westpac Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,499	3.25	3.25	3.24	0.84	24/04/2024	1917
Westpac Banking Corporation	37. Westpac Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,599	2.76	2.77	2.72	0.87	17/03/2025	1096
Westpac Banking Corporation	38. Westpac FRN	AA-	N	2,600	5.27	5.10	5.10	0.87	10/08/2026	1096
Westpac Banking Corporation	39. WBC FRN	AA-	N	3,500	5.26	5.19	5.19	1.17	19/09/2028	1827
Westpac Banking Corporation	40. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.43	5.43	5.43	1.34	5/11/2024	371
Westpac Banking Corporation	41. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.41	5.41	5.41	1.34	29/10/2024	365
Westpac Banking Corporation	42. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.14	4.43	4.94	1.34	9/08/2024	366
Westpac Banking Corporation	43. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	2,000	5.18	4.46	4.97	0.67	19/08/2024	367
Westpac Banking Corporation	44. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.34	16/02/2024	729
Westpac Banking Corporation	45. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.43	5.43	5.43	1.34	10/12/2024	406
Westpac Banking Corporation	46. Westpac TD	AA-	N	4,000	5.28	5.28	5.28	1.34	17/12/2024	379
Macquarie Bank	47. Macquarie Bank Fixed Bond	A+	N	4,000	1.71	1.70	1.72	1.34	12/02/2025	1827
Macquarie Bank	48. Macquarie Bank FRN	A+	N	3,200	5.21	5.11	5.11	1.07	14/09/2026	1096
Suncorp-Metway	49. Suncorp-Metway Fixed Bond	A+	Y	3,594	2.58	2.58	2.60	1.21	25/01/2027	1826

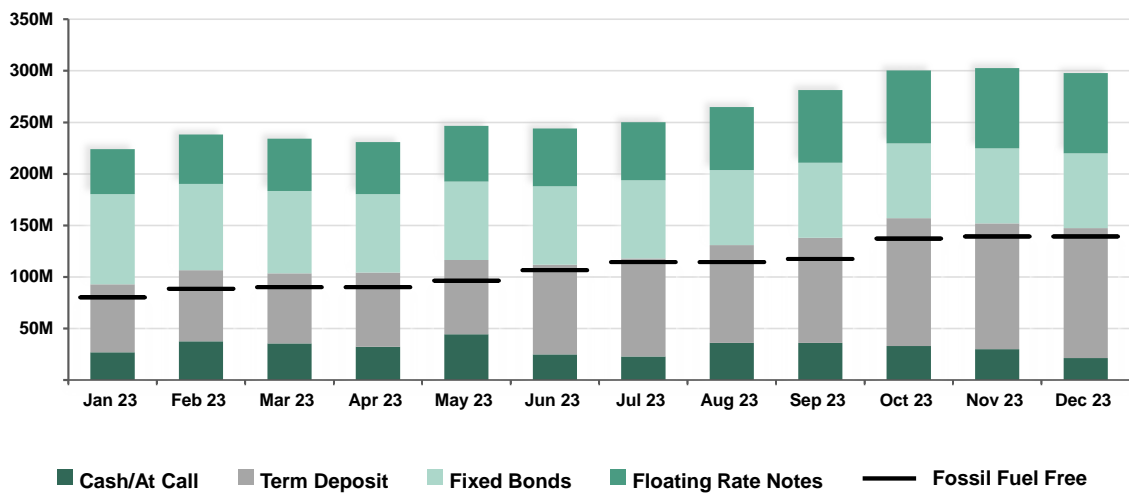
ITEM 12 (continued)

Issuer	Investment Name	Investment Rating	Fossil Fuel Free	Invested at 31-Dec-23 \$000's	Annualised Period Return (%)	12 Month Average Return	Return since 01 July 2023	% of Total Invested	Maturity	Tenor
Suncorp-Metway	50. Suncorp Fixed Bond	A+	Y	3,888	3.60	3.60	3.62	1.31	25/01/2027	1763
Suncorp-Metway	51. Suncorp Fixed Bond	A+	Y	1,393	5.49	5.49	5.51	0.47	25/01/2027	1683
Suncorp-Metway	52. Suncorp-Metway Floating Rate Note	A+	Y	1,200	5.45	5.03	5.45	0.40	24/04/2025	1823
Suncorp-Metway	53. Suncorp FRN	A+	Y	2,572	5.56	5.10	5.54	0.86	25/02/2027	1711
Suncorp-Metway	54. Suncorp FRN	A+	Y	2,200	5.63	5.19	5.55	0.74	14/12/2027	1826
Suncorp-Metway	55. Suncorp FRN	A+	Y	3,000	5.54	5.25	5.30	1.01	18/05/2026	1096
Australian Unity Bank	56. Australian Unity Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.75	4.95	5.75	0.67	17/07/2024	364
Australian Unity Bank	57. Australian Unity Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	4.50	4.50	4.50	0.67	1/02/2024	365
Australian Unity Bank	58. Australian Unity Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.56	5.56	5.56	1.34	16/01/2024	210
Auswide Bank	59. Auswide FRN	BBB+	Y	3,000	5.86	5.67	5.85	1.01	17/03/2026	1096
B&E (T/as Bank of Us)	60. Bank of us Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.12	5.11	5.12	0.67	17/10/2024	365
B&E (T/as Bank of Us)	61. Bank of us Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.29	4.63	5.13	0.67	5/02/2024	181
Bank of Queensland	62. ME Bank At Call Account	BBB+	Y	5	1.01	1.28	1.17	0.00		
Bank of Queensland	63. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	3,797	2.14	2.14	2.14	1.27	27/10/2026	1826
Bank of Queensland	64. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	1,895	4.06	4.06	4.06	0.64	6/05/2026	1496
Bank of Queensland	65. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	742	5.26	5.26	5.25	0.25	27/10/2026	1498
Bank of Queensland	66. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	474	5.22	5.22	5.22	0.16	27/10/2026	1495
Bank of Queensland	67. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	2,503	5.14	5.14	5.14	0.84	6/05/2026	1321
Bank of Queensland	68. Bank of Queensland Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	3,000	5.51	5.08	5.51	1.01	16/04/2024	264
Bank of Queensland	69. Bank of Queensland Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	2.55	2.55	2.55	0.67	13/06/2024	1827
Bank of Queensland	70. Bank of Queensland Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.33	5.33	5.33	1.34	25/06/2024	239
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	71. Bendigo Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	3,747	3.10	3.11	3.06	1.26	17/03/2025	1096
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	72. Bendigo Bank Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	995	3.44	3.45	3.40	0.33	17/03/2025	1088
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	73. Bendigo Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	2,545	3.26	3.26	3.25	0.85	6/09/2024	882
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	74. Bendigo Bank FRN	BBB+	Y	3,500	5.77	5.47	5.53	1.17	15/05/2026	1096
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	75. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	3,000	4.45	4.45	4.45	1.01	30/01/2024	365
Heritage and People's Choice	76. Heritage Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.75	5.75	5.75	1.34	12/07/2024	365
Heritage and People's Choice	77. Heritage Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.68	5.68	5.68	1.34	7/05/2024	295
Hume Bank	78. Hume Bank TD	BBB+	Y	2,000	4.60	4.60	4.60	0.67	1/02/2024	365
IMB Bank	79. IMB Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.21	5.12	5.13	1.34	17/07/2024	211
Members Banking Group	80. RACQ FRN	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.77	5.15	5.49	0.67	23/05/2025	1096
Members Banking Group	81. RACQ FRN	BBB+	Y	3,100	6.01	5.54	5.75	1.04	24/02/2026	1096
MyState Bank	82. MyState FRN	BBB+	Y	1,500	4.96	4.60	4.96	0.50	16/06/2025	1461
MyState Bank	83. MyState Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	1.69	1.69	1.69	0.67	4/03/2024	732
MyState Bank	84. MyState Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.19	4.62	4.73	0.67	30/04/2024	181
AMP	85. AMP At Call Account	BBB	N	11	2.67	1.58	2.64	0.00		
AMP	86. AMP FRN	BBB	N	2,000	5.92	6.00	6.00	0.67	29/06/2026	1096
AMP	87. AMP Term Deposit	BBB	N	1,000	5.25	4.23	4.96	0.34	2/08/2024	366
Auswide Bank	88. Auswide Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	1.24	1.24	1.24	0.67	5/02/2024	720
Beyond Bank	89. Beyond Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	5.40	5.13	5.13	0.67	17/12/2024	371
Credit Union Australia	90. Great Southern Bank Floating Rate Note	BBB	Y	1,000	5.45	5.03	5.45	0.34	24/10/2024	1827
Credit Union Australia	91. Great Southern Bank FRN	BBB	Y	1,200	6.19	5.70	5.96	0.40	9/02/2027	1461
Defence Bank	92. Defence Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.67	8/02/2024	730
G&C Mutual Bank	93. G&C Mutual Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	5.11	4.38	4.75	0.67	12/03/2024	187
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	94. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	2,000	5.06	4.52	4.86	0.67	4/03/2026	1826
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	95. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	3,241	5.22	4.67	5.01	1.09	4/03/2026	1458
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	96. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	3,709	5.99	5.37	5.74	1.25	10/02/2027	1720
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	97. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	986	6.10	5.54	5.85	0.33	10/02/2027	1482
Police & Nurses Limited	98. P&N Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	1,000	5.20	3.78	4.07	0.34	2/04/2024	152
Police & Nurses Limited	99. P&N Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	1.52	1.52	1.52	0.67	31/01/2024	730
Police & Nurses Limited	100. P&N Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	5.36	5.36	5.36	0.67	2/07/2024	237
Police Bank	101. Police Bank FRN	BBB	Y	2,000	6.02	5.41	5.76	0.67	21/11/2025	1096
Police Bank	102. Police Bank FRN	BBB	Y	4,000	6.07	6.07	6.07	1.34	17/11/2026	1096
Police Financial Services	103. BankVic Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	4.80	4.66	4.80	0.67	24/03/2024	369
Police Financial Services	104. BankVic TD	BBB	Y	3,000	5.21	5.21	5.21	1.01	10/09/2024	371
Teachers Mutual Bank	105. Teachers Mutual Bank FRN	BBB	Y	1,100	5.00	4.63	4.98	0.37	16/06/2026	1826
QPCU	106. QBank FRN	BBB-	Y	1,000	5.06	4.69	5.07	0.34	22/03/2024	1096
				297,894	4.60	4.33	4.47	100		

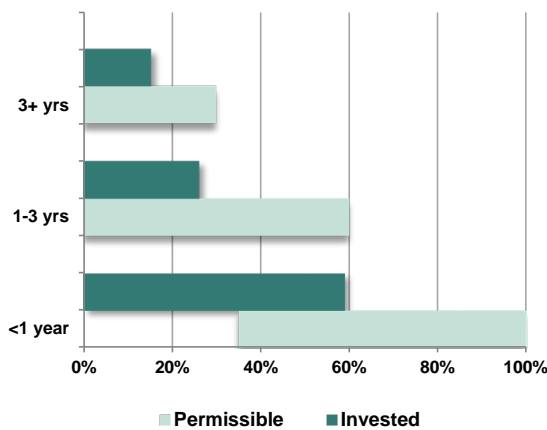
ITEM 12 (continued)

	<365 days	>365 days
Cash/TDs	\$147.3M	\$0.0M
FRNs	\$4.0M	\$73.9M
Fixed Bonds	\$21.5M	\$51.2M
	\$172.8M	\$125.1M

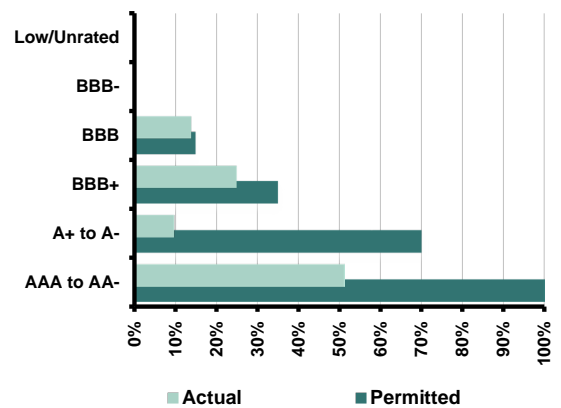
Total Funds Invested



Policy Limits on Maturities



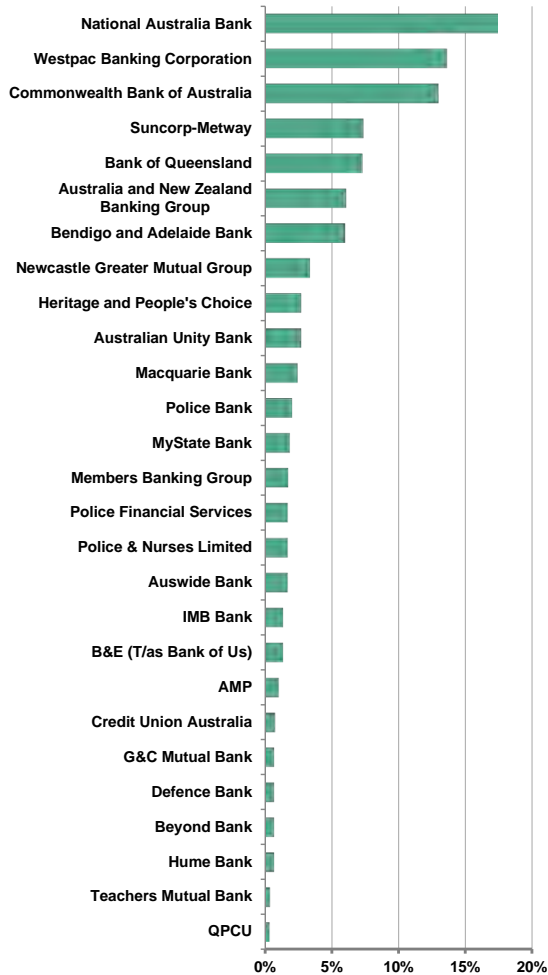
Investment Summary by Rating



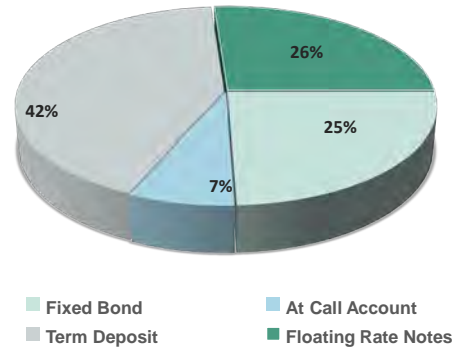
Note: Portion of deposits covered by Federal Guarantee are rated 'AAA'

ITEM 12 (continued)

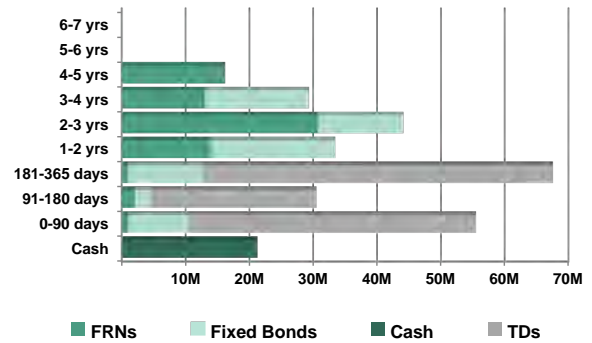
Active Investment by Institution



Summary by Investment Type



Summary by Duration



ITEM 12 (continued)

Divestment of Fossil Fuel Aligned Financial Institutions

Council uses the entity Market Forces to validate its classes of investments into either fossil fuel or non-fossil fuel aligned institutions. Market Forces is a publicly available website and is not a contractor that Council has engaged for this information.

As at 31 December 2023, Council had a total amount of \$139m invested in non-fossil fuel aligned financial institutions, which is 46.68% of its total investment portfolio.

Whilst Council has a preference for non-fossil fuel aligned institutions, these institutions are often rated at the lower end of the (S&P) rating scale and in order to manage risk, Council's Investment Policy places limits on BBB+ (35%) BBB (15%) and Council cannot risk divesting 100% in these institutions as adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity for the obligor to meet its financial commitments. The Investment Policy ensures that the divestment in these categories are restricted to minimise risk and ensure preservation of capital. Council cannot breach its Policy, and any losses of income experienced as a result of poor investment decisions is ultimately Council's responsibility.

Financial Implications

Council's return for the reporting period is 4.60%, which is 0.17% above the benchmark figure of 4.43%.

The budget for interest income from investments is \$5,387k and as at 31 December 2023 funds of \$5,996k have been earned. Majority of this income, is interest earned on Externally Restricted Reserves held and must be returned to these respective reserves. A variation to this budget has been proposed in the December Quarterly Budget Review which is contained elsewhere in this Business Paper.

Summary

Council's investment portfolio continues to perform well and is consistent with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, which deals with the investment of surplus funds by Councils.

Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer (Responsible Accounting Officer)

I certify that as at the date of this report, the investments listed have been made and are held in compliance with Council's Investment Policy and applicable legislation.

Aneesh Zahra
Chief Financial Officer

**13 REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL - INVESTMENT REPORT
AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024**

Report prepared by: Financial Controller
File No.: GRP/24/36 - BP24/51

REPORT SUMMARY

This report details Council's performance of its investment portfolio as at 31 January 2024, and compares it against key benchmarks. The report includes Council's loan liabilities.

Council's rate of return on investments for the reporting period is 4.65%, which is 0.21% above the benchmark figure of 4.44%.

Income from interest on investments is budgeted at \$5,387k and as at 31 January 2024 funds of \$7,116k have been earned. Majority of this income, is interest earned on Externally Restricted Reserves held and must be returned to these respective reserves. A variation to this budget has been proposed in the December Quarterly Budget Review which is contained elsewhere in this Business Paper.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

Sacha Thirimanne
Financial Controller

Report Approved By:

Aneesh Zahra
Chief Financial Officer

ITEM 13 (continued)

Background

Council's Responsible Accounting Officer is required to report monthly on Council's Investment Portfolio as per the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 Section 212 and certify that the Investments are held in accordance with Council's Investment Policy and Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The **preservation of capital is the principal objective** of Council's Cash Investment Policy. Investments are to be placed in a manner that safeguards the investment portfolio and risk tolerances are prescribed to ensure the best financial outcome for residents.

Funds are to be invested at the most favorable interest rate available at the time, whilst having due consideration of the following parameters to mitigate risk:

- **Liquidity:** Investment terms should be sufficient to meet cash flow requirements of Council operations.
- **Legislative Compliance:** Council is guided by both the Local Government Act 1993, Local Government Regulations 2021 and to the most current Ministerial Investment Order that has been issued by the NSW Minister for Local Government.
- **Institutional Limitations:** Council is not permitted to invest in Authorised Deposit taking Institutions (ADI) that is an Australian subsidiary of a foreign bank, all ADI's Council invests with must comply to ratios monitored by Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA).
- **Overall Portfolio Limits:** In order to diversify risk of Council's Investment Portfolio, maximum limits apply based on Standard & Poor (S&P) credit rating. Council is not permitted to invest in any ADI which is BBB- or less.
- **Term to Maturity:** maximum limits apply to term deposit terms that are between 1 - 3 years and greater than 3 years.

Standard & Poor (S&P) Rating Scale:

AAA	An obligor has extremely strong capacity to meet its financial commitments
AA+	An obligor has very strong capacity to meet its financial commitments. It differs from the highest rated obligors only to a small degree
AA	
AA-	
A+	An obligor has strong capacity to meet its financial commitments but is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligors in higher rated categories
A	
A-	
BBB+	An obligor has adequate capacity to meet its financial commitments. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity for the obligor to meet its financial commitments
BBB	
BBB-	

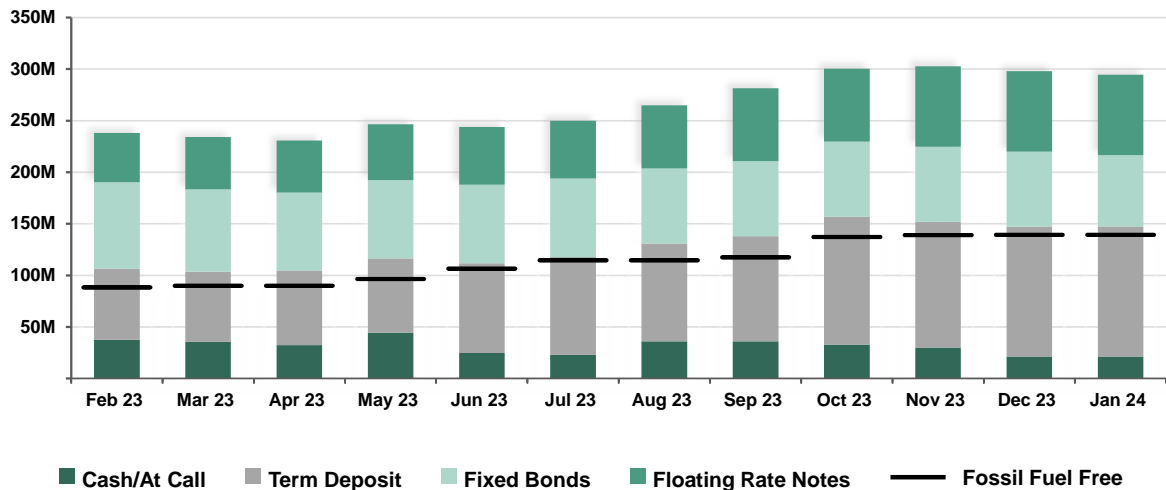
ITEM 13 (continued)

Investment Performance Commentary

Council's performance against the benchmark for returns of its investment portfolio for January 2024 and the past 12 months are as follows:

	Jan	12 Month	FYTD
Council Return	4.65	4.29	4.47
Benchmark	4.44	4.00	4.33
Variance	0.21	0.29	0.14

Total Funds Invested



Council's investment portfolio as at 31 January 2024 was as follows:

Cash/Term Deposits	\$147.34m	50.03%
Floating Rate Notes	\$77.91m	26.46%
Fixed Bonds	\$69.25m	23.51%
Total Investments	\$294.50m	

Council continues to utilise the Federal Government's current guarantee (\$250k) investing in Term Deposits with a range of Authorised Deposit Taking Institutions (ADI's) on short to medium term investments (Generally 30 days to 180 days maturity) where more competitive rates are available.

Council's income from investments continues to exceed original budgeted expectations, primarily due to Council's cash reserves balances being higher than anticipated and higher interest rates being offered reflective of recent economic conditions.

ITEM 13 (continued)**Loan Liability**

Council's loan liability as at 31 January 2024 is \$140k, which represents the balance of a \$1.5m loan drawn down on 1 September 2014 at 4.95% for Phase 2 of the Children's Play Implementation Plan, which was established under the Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme (LIRS). Council receives a 3% interest subsidy payment from the OLG twice a year.

ITEM 13 (continued)
INVESTMENT SUMMARY AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024

Issuer	Investment Name	Investment Rating	Fossil Fuel Free	Invested at 31-Jan-24 \$'000's	Annualised Period Return (%)	12 Month Average Return	Return since 01 July 2023	% of Total Invested	Maturity	Tenor
Bank of Queensland	1. Bank of Queensland Floating Rate Note	AAA	Y	1,200	5.60	5.11	5.38	0.41	14/05/2025	1826
Bank of Queensland	2. BoQ FRN	AAA	Y	2,000	5.59	5.10	5.38	0.68	14/05/2025	1051
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	3. Bendigo FRN (Covered)	AAA	Y	4,000	5.48	4.99	5.26	1.36	11/11/2025	1096
Suncorp-Metway	4. Suncorp Covered Bond	AAA	Y	3,974	3.56	3.56	3.59	1.35	24/08/2026	1593
Westpac Banking Corporation	5. WBC Covered Bond	AAA	N	3,197	3.94	3.95	3.95	1.09	20/05/2025	1096
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	6. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,000	3.13	3.13	3.16	1.02	8/02/2024	1826
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	7. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,000	1.56	1.56	1.56	0.68	29/08/2024	1827
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	8. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	1,999	1.67	1.67	1.67	0.68	29/08/2024	1805
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	9. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	1,999	1.67	1.69	1.69	0.68	16/01/2025	1827
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	10. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,996	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.02	29/08/2024	1612
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	11. ANZ Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,000	4.09	4.10	4.04	0.68	12/05/2025	1096
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	12. ANZ FRN	AA-	N	1,200	5.53	5.26	5.43	0.41	31/03/2028	1827
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	13. ANZ FRN	AA-	N	2,800	5.39	5.24	5.24	0.95	11/09/2028	1827
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	14. CBA Business Online Saver	AA-	N	21,328	4.43	4.07	4.28	7.24		
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	15. CBA Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,998	4.30	4.29	4.37	1.02	18/08/2025	1096
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	16. CBA Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,897	5.38	5.39	5.46	1.32	18/08/2027	1756
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	17. CBA FRN	AA-	N	2,400	5.53	5.15	5.46	0.81	13/01/2028	1826
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	18. CBA	AA-	N	2,500	5.44	5.31	5.31	0.85	17/08/2028	1827
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	19. CBA Term Deposit	AA-	N	2,000	5.16	4.49	4.59	0.68	13/08/2024	256
National Australia Bank	20. NAB Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,000	2.95	2.93	2.96	1.02	26/02/2024	1826
National Australia Bank	21. NAB Fixed Bond	AA-	N	3,495	2.98	2.98	3.03	1.19	25/02/2027	1826
National Australia Bank	22. NAB Floating Rate Note	AA-	N	2,000	5.39	4.98	5.27	0.68	19/06/2024	1827
National Australia Bank	23. NAB FRN	AA-	N	3,000	5.53	5.24	5.31	1.02	12/05/2028	1827
National Australia Bank	24. NAB FRN	AA-	N	3,200	5.53	5.53	5.53	1.09	16/11/2028	1827
National Australia Bank	25. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.27	4.85	4.95	1.36	22/10/2024	362
National Australia Bank	26. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.00	5.00	5.00	1.36	26/02/2024	367
National Australia Bank	27. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.27	5.27	5.27	1.36	1/05/2024	184
National Australia Bank	28. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	2,000	5.27	5.16	5.18	0.68	26/09/2024	365
National Australia Bank	29. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	3,000	5.25	5.14	5.16	1.02	3/10/2024	365
National Australia Bank	30. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.18	5.18	5.18	1.36	19/06/2024	288
National Australia Bank	31. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.32	5.32	5.32	1.36	9/10/2024	345
National Australia Bank	32. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.17	4.57	4.61	1.36	11/07/2024	182
National Australia Bank	33. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.18	4.11	4.66	1.36	17/09/2024	365
National Australia Bank	34. NAB Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.24	5.24	5.24	1.36	9/04/2024	249
Westpac Banking Corporation	35. Westpac Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,499	3.25	3.25	3.24	0.85	24/04/2024	1917
Westpac Banking Corporation	36. Westpac Fixed Bond	AA-	N	2,599	2.76	2.77	2.73	0.88	17/03/2025	1096
Westpac Banking Corporation	37. Westpac FRN	AA-	N	2,600	5.27	5.13	5.13	0.88	10/08/2026	1096
Westpac Banking Corporation	38. WBC FRN	AA-	N	3,500	5.40	5.24	5.24	1.19	19/09/2028	1827
Westpac Banking Corporation	39. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.43	5.43	5.43	1.36	5/11/2024	371
Westpac Banking Corporation	40. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.41	5.41	5.41	1.36	29/10/2024	365
Westpac Banking Corporation	41. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.14	4.54	4.97	1.36	9/08/2024	366
Westpac Banking Corporation	42. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	2,000	5.18	4.56	5.00	0.68	19/08/2024	367
Westpac Banking Corporation	43. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.36	16/02/2024	729
Westpac Banking Corporation	44. Westpac Term Deposit	AA-	N	4,000	5.43	5.43	5.43	1.36	10/12/2024	406
Westpac Banking Corporation	45. Westpac TD	AA-	N	4,000	5.28	5.28	5.28	1.36	17/12/2024	379
Macquarie Bank	46. Macquarie Bank Fixed Bond	A+	N	4,000	1.71	1.70	1.71	1.36	12/02/2025	1827
Macquarie Bank	47. Macquarie Bank FRN	A+	N	3,200	5.31	5.15	5.15	1.09	14/09/2026	1096
Suncorp-Metway	48. Suncorp-Metway Fixed Bond	A+	Y	3,594	2.45	2.58	2.58	1.22	25/01/2027	1826
Suncorp-Metway	49. Suncorp Fixed Bond	A+	Y	3,891	3.47	3.60	3.60	1.32	25/01/2027	1763
Suncorp-Metway	50. Suncorp Fixed Bond	A+	Y	1,396	5.34	5.49	5.49	0.47	25/01/2027	1683
Suncorp-Metway	51. Suncorp-Metway Floating Rate Note	A+	Y	1,200	5.49	5.13	5.46	0.41	24/04/2025	1823

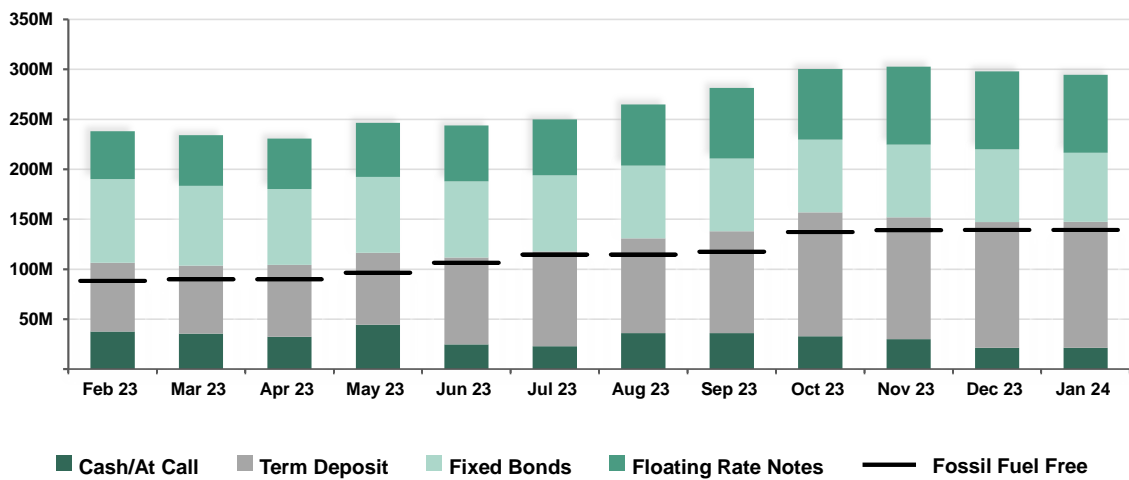
ITEM 13 (continued)

Issuer	Investment Name	Investment Rating	Fossil Fuel Free	Invested at 31-Jan-24 \$000's	Annualised Period Return (%)	12 Month Average Return	Return since 01 July 2023	% of Total Invested	Maturity	Tenor
Suncorp-Metway	52. Suncorp FRN	A+	Y	2,573	5.59	5.20	5.55	0.87	25/02/2027	1711
Suncorp-Metway	53. Suncorp FRN	A+	Y	2,200	5.72	5.30	5.58	0.75	14/12/2027	1826
Suncorp-Metway	54. Suncorp FRN	A+	Y	3,000	5.54	5.28	5.33	1.02	18/05/2026	1096
Australian Unity Bank	55. Australian Unity Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.75	5.08	5.75	0.68	17/07/2024	364
Australian Unity Bank	56. Australian Unity Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	4.50	4.50	4.50	0.68	1/02/2024	365
Australian Unity Bank	57. Australian Unity Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.10	5.50	5.49	1.36	14/01/2025	364
Auswide Bank	58. Auswide FRN	BBB+	Y	3,000	5.99	5.70	5.87	1.02	17/03/2026	1096
B&E (T/as Bank of Us)	59. Bank of us Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.12	5.12	5.12	0.68	17/10/2024	365
B&E (T/as Bank of Us)	60. Bank of us Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.29	4.80	5.15	0.68	5/02/2024	181
Bank of Queensland	61. ME Bank At Call Account	BBB+	Y	5	0.93	1.32	1.14	0.00		
Bank of Queensland	62. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	3,797	2.14	2.14	2.14	1.29	27/10/2026	1826
Bank of Queensland	63. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	1,898	4.06	4.06	4.06	0.64	6/05/2026	1496
Bank of Queensland	64. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	744	5.26	5.26	5.25	0.25	27/10/2026	1498
Bank of Queensland	65. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	475	5.22	5.22	5.22	0.16	27/10/2026	1495
Bank of Queensland	66. BoQ Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	2,510	5.14	5.14	5.14	0.85	6/05/2026	1321
Bank of Queensland	67. Bank of Queensland Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	3,000	5.51	5.12	5.51	1.02	16/04/2024	264
Bank of Queensland	68. Bank of Queensland Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	2.55	2.55	2.55	0.68	13/06/2024	1827
Bank of Queensland	69. Bank of Queensland Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.33	5.33	5.33	1.36	25/06/2024	239
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	70. Bendigo Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	3,747	3.10	3.11	3.06	1.27	17/03/2025	1096
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	71. Bendigo Bank Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	996	3.44	3.45	3.41	0.34	17/03/2025	1088
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	72. Bendigo Fixed Bond	BBB+	Y	2,548	3.26	3.26	3.25	0.87	6/09/2024	882
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	73. Bendigo Bank FRN	BBB+	Y	3,500	5.77	5.50	5.56	1.19	15/05/2026	1096
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	74. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	3,000	5.06	4.50	4.54	1.02	29/10/2024	273
Heritage and People's Choice	75. Heritage Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.75	5.75	5.75	1.36	12/07/2024	365
Heritage and People's Choice	76. Heritage Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.68	5.68	5.68	1.36	7/05/2024	295
Hume Bank	77. Hume Bank TD	BBB+	Y	2,000	4.60	4.60	4.60	0.68	1/02/2024	365
IMB Bank	78. IMB Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	4,000	5.21	5.14	5.14	1.36	17/07/2024	211
Members Banking Group	79. RACQ FRN	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.77	5.26	5.53	0.68	23/05/2025	1096
Members Banking Group	80. RACQ FRN	BBB+	Y	3,100	6.01	5.58	5.78	1.05	24/02/2026	1096
MyState Bank	81. MyState FRN	BBB+	Y	1,500	5.11	4.70	4.98	0.51	16/06/2025	1461
MyState Bank	82. MyState Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	1.69	1.69	1.69	0.68	4/03/2024	732
MyState Bank	83. MyState Bank Term Deposit	BBB+	Y	2,000	5.19	4.67	4.80	0.68	30/04/2024	181
AMP	84. AMP At Call Account	BBB	N	11	1.05	1.61	2.41	0.00		
AMP	85. AMP FRN	BBB	N	2,000	6.14	6.02	6.02	0.68	29/06/2026	1096
AMP	86. AMP Term Deposit	BBB	N	1,000	5.25	4.38	5.00	0.34	2/08/2024	366
Auswide Bank	87. Auswide Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	1.24	1.24	1.24	0.68	5/02/2024	720
Beyond Bank	88. Beyond Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	5.40	5.19	5.19	0.68	17/12/2024	371
Credit Union Australia	89. Great Southern Bank Floating Rate Note	BBB	Y	1,000	5.49	5.13	5.46	0.34	24/10/2024	1827
Credit Union Australia	90. Great Southern Bank FRN	BBB	Y	1,200	6.19	5.74	5.99	0.41	9/02/2027	1461
Defence Bank	91. Defence Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.68	8/02/2024	730
G&C Mutual Bank	92. G&C Mutual Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	5.11	4.47	4.80	0.68	12/03/2024	187
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	93. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	2,000	5.09	4.63	4.89	0.68	4/03/2026	1826
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	94. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	3,242	5.25	4.79	5.05	1.10	4/03/2026	1458
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	95. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	3,710	5.99	5.49	5.77	1.26	10/02/2027	1720
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group	96. NPBS FRN	BBB	Y	986	6.10	5.62	5.89	0.33	10/02/2027	1482
Police & Nurses Limited	97. P&N Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	1,000	5.20	3.93	4.23	0.34	2/04/2024	152
Police & Nurses Limited	98. P&N Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	5.15	1.82	2.04	0.68	30/01/2025	365
Police & Nurses Limited	99. P&N Bank Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	5.36	5.36	5.36	0.68	2/07/2024	237
Police Bank	100. Police Bank FRN	BBB	Y	2,000	6.02	5.52	5.79	0.68	21/11/2025	1096
Police Bank	101. Police Bank FRN	BBB	Y	4,000	6.07	6.07	6.07	1.36	17/11/2026	1096
Police Financial Services	102. BankVic Term Deposit	BBB	Y	2,000	4.80	4.73	4.80	0.68	24/03/2024	369
Police Financial Services	103. BankVic TD	BBB	Y	3,000	5.21	5.21	5.21	1.02	10/09/2024	371
Teachers Mutual Bank	104. Teachers Mutual Bank FRN	BBB	Y	1,100	5.14	4.73	5.01	0.37	16/06/2026	1826
QPCU	105. QBank FRN	BBB-	Y	1,000	5.22	4.79	5.09	0.34	22/03/2024	1096
				294,504	4.66	4.41	4.52	100		

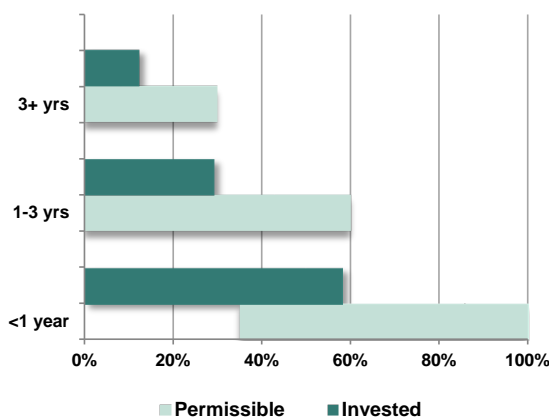
ITEM 13 (continued)

	<365 days	>365 days
Cash/TDs	\$147.3M	\$0.0M
FRNs	\$4.0M	\$73.9M
Fixed Bonds	\$20.0M	\$49.2M
	\$171.4M	\$123.1M

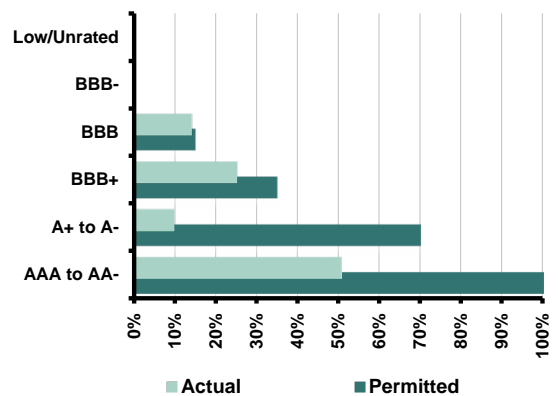
Total Funds Invested



Policy Limits on Maturities



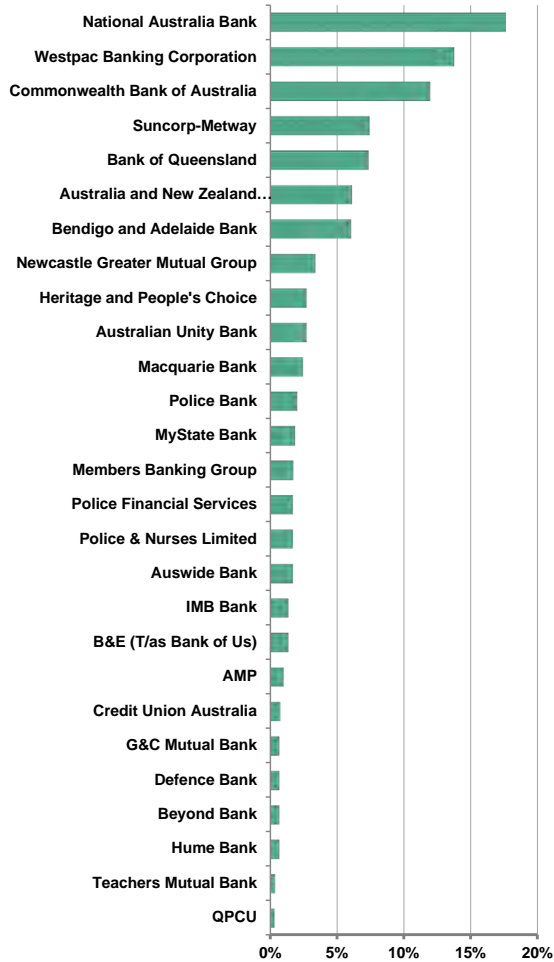
Investment Summary by Rating



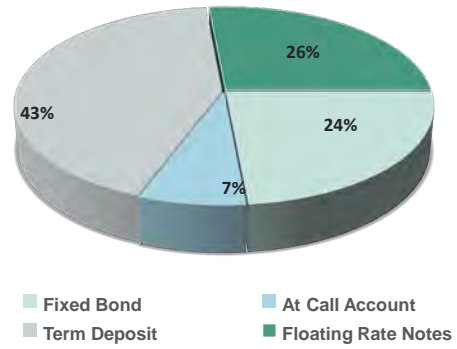
Note: Portion of deposits covered by Federal Guarantee are rated 'AAA'

ITEM 13 (continued)

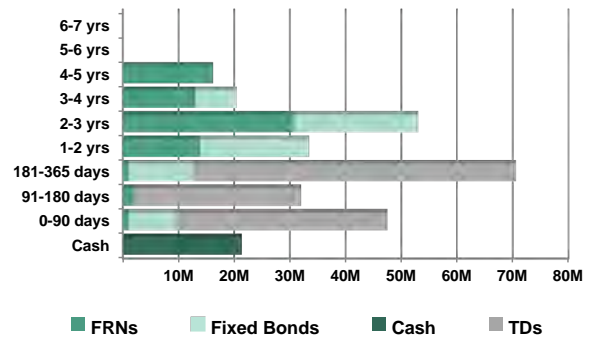
Active Investment by Institution



Summary by Investment Type



Summary by Duration



ITEM 13 (continued)**Divestment of Fossil Fuel Aligned Financial Institutions**

Council uses the entity Market Forces to validate its classes of investments into either fossil fuel or non-fossil fuel aligned institutions. Market Forces is a publicly available website and is not a contractor that Council has engaged for this information.

As at 31 January 2024, Council had a total amount of \$139m invested in non-fossil fuel aligned financial institutions, which is 47.23% of its total investment portfolio.

Whilst Council has a preference for non-fossil fuel aligned institutions, these institutions are often rated at the lower end of the (S&P) rating scale and in order to manage risk, Council's Investment Policy places limits on BBB+ (35%) BBB (15%) and Council cannot risk divesting 100% in these institutions as adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity for the obligor to meet its financial commitments. The Investment Policy ensures that the divestment in these categories are restricted to minimise risk and ensure preservation of capital. Council cannot breach its Policy, and any losses of income experienced as a result of poor investment decisions is ultimately Council's responsibility.

Financial Implications

Council's return for the reporting period is 4.65%, which is 0.21% above the benchmark figure of 4.44%.

The budget for interest income from investments is \$5,387k and as at 31 January 2024 funds of \$7,116k have been earned. Majority of this income, is interest earned on Externally Restricted Reserves held and must be returned to these respective reserves. A variation to this budget has been proposed in the December Quarterly Budget Review which is contained elsewhere in this Business Paper.

Summary

Council's investment portfolio continues to perform well and is consistent with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, which deals with the investment of surplus funds by Councils.

Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer (Responsible Accounting Officer)

I certify that as at the date of this report, the investments listed have been made and are held in compliance with Council's Investment Policy and applicable legislation.

Aneesh Zahra
Chief Financial Officer

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

1 NSW URBAN DENSITY MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT 2024

Report prepared by: Executive Assistant
File No.: MYR/07/10/7 - BP24/44

CORRESPONDENCE:

Submitting correspondence from Neighbourhood Watch Rhodes, dated 29 January 2024, regarding NSW Urban Density Management Recommendations Report 2024.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Comment on NSW Urban Density Management Recommendations Report 2024

Report Prepared By:

Linda Smith
Executive Assistant

Report Approved By:

Carmelina Loughland
Executive Officer to the Chief Executive Officer

Wayne Rylands
Chief Executive Officer

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

NSW Urban Density Management Recommendations Report 2024 - 17/12/23.

To the Offices of:

Chris Minns,
John Kinsella,
Sally Sitou,
Stephanie Di Pasqua,
Donna Davis,
Jordan Lane,
Catherine King,
Jo Haylen,
Rose Jackson,
Yasmin Catley,
Jihad Dib,
Michael Megna & Canada Bay Councillors,
Sarkis Yedelian,
Pierre Esber.

Good Morning, and thank you all for the work, development and the difficult issues you all face that makes a difference and keeps Australia a great country. My name is Ramee Florentino from Neighbourhood Watch Rhodes. Some of you may know me or have heard of me. We are a non political volunteer organisation that focuses on Community Safety. I work with several PAC's and Council in the dense precincts of Rhodes, Wentworth Point, SOP and Meadowbank. I am writing to you all in regards the above issues and the current NSW Government directives of building fifteen minute cities (FMC) and the impacts towards Australian communities. Because these are the directives of the NSW Government, solutions are needed to solve density, its future success & sustainability. I believe Rhodes, Sydney Olympic Park, Wentworth Point & Meadowbank can be a great example of a successful outcome of good governance and development in these precincts to make sure working families are a priority in dense communities for a smart city that make strong economies.

Although dense communities can be efficient and convenient, it does come with its problems and compounding effects that collectively affect all. We wish to include everyone to benefit our Communities, Developers, Council, State, Federal, Ministers, NSW Services and our NSW Government.

The purpose of this email is to advocate emerging density issues, reduce crime, reduce Police/ NSW Services call outs, increase morale, increase response time for first responders, increase safety and social cohesion for the community. Collective information comes from the voices of dense communities, Education, Mental Health, Police Area Commands and Councils with general public information. Although there are more, I believe the below emerging issues can make a huge impact on density issues are:

1. E-Bike & PEVs (Personal Electric Vehicles/ Micro Electric Vehicles) E-Bike lanes for dense communities - Regulation & Law Reform.
2. Police, Fire & Ambulance Stations/ Crimes in dense areas (Mini Combined Districts & Cross Training).
3. Safety Infrastructure considerations - Rhodes Overhead Footbridge/ Safety Pedestrian Crossings / Speed Calming devices / Noise Cameras.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

1. E-Bike (Personal E Vehicles - PEVs) Issues: Local Council, State, Federal, Transport, Emergency & Police Minister & NSW Government

The e-Bike/ e-Scooter/ e-Board is a \$5 billion dollar industry (2023-2030). This explosion of sales of personal electric vehicles is pumping billions into our economy but also causing great harm to the community due to the deficiencies of laws. The speed of these micro electric vehicles has a high potential to cause harm to users & the community and will only continue to rise. Speeding, riding under the influence, riding on footpaths, roads, and weaving in and out of traffic with no regard for road rules, pedestrians, safety crossings or traffic lights in very dense communities causing injuries and death. Batteries can also explode and is something that is concerning to dense living in high rise apartments. There is currently no complete data that captures the rates of injuries or fires relating to PEVs or electric micro vehicles as this is still a maturing issue that needs to be significantly regulated for safety. The Australian Government also needs to reap the benefits of this 5 billion dollar industry.

The current speed for these e bikes and scooters out of the box can reach up to 70-80km per hour. The speed restriction device can be easily removed with a simple cut of a wire to reach up to 100kms and over 120kms with little modifications. Once modified it has a high potential to explode. These are very irresponsible speeds on our roads and footpaths. It is important that our Government regulate its speed and calculate the cost to our economy if accidents and deaths are to continue.

Benefits:

Multi Billion Dollar Industry - Monetary, social, health (physical and mental), environmental value for governments to reform laws. Energy efficient as a fair form of travel - 20-30c electricity per 25km distance travelled. (2 hour charge).*

Report AAP. Bray Roland - November 15, 2023: <https://apple.news/ATY6Ttx6WSIOU7PYHAXoz6A>

Considerations:

1. Create a separate simple "online" compulsory PEVs/Electric Micro Vehicle Registration, Testing and Licensing Department for over 16 or 18 years old (recreational/ business) before purchase. A simple online PEVs-RTA should be created so users can be educated with simple/basic road testing and e-vehicle registration to be identified for road safety education and enforcement purposes. PEVs are also being used for crimes due to its portability, speed, silent nature and also being targeted to be stolen and sold on social media sites by criminals so it is important that they be registered devices using their ID/Chassis/VIN frame number.
2. Regulate manufacturers to make sure there are compulsory locking & tracking devices as they are targeted by criminals to reduce theft and service call outs. Strata rules to have a no charging law in apartments but can be charged in car parks. Or Battery & Charger regulation laws to stop importation of low quality batteries & chargers with no voltage cut off function that lead to explosion. E Bike Company insurance has to meet a certain monetary threshold to meet Australian laws & standards for importation rights.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

3. A 10km Speed Limit suggestion in busy footpaths & 20km limit on roads that Police can enforce via fines or confiscation of PEVs (like European countries). Falling off at speeds of 20km and over without a helmet can cause death if the first impact is head to pavement, an oncoming vehicle or any hard or sharp surface (age dependant). This could also manage food & parcel delivery e bike companies to have better standards on roads, avoid accident counts and gain revenue from fines. The public cannot be made to think that riding at full speed on footpaths is safe. Any one of us or someone we know can be hit at full speed by just walking out of a cafe that can have irreversible effects and even death if under the influence.
4. E-Bike (PEVs) Seperate lanes and parking spaces with rules and regulations on the streets/ footpaths that are happening in the city of Melbourne and New York for e-delivery drivers and PEVs users. We need them off foot paths as they cause accidents with the elderly, families and kids just by walking out of shops. E-bikes use the footpaths because they don't feel safe in streets. Providing a path for them will help in their safety and the encouragement of following laws and reducing confusion and accidents both on footpaths and roads for all.

If 15 minute cities are meant to be a walkable city then new laws and regulations for E Bikes & PEVs should be highly considered as a fair form of transport to reduce carbon emissions to a more efficient, safe & smart city. This multi billion dollar industry should also be taken advantage of by our government. We have a contact of an expert on the E-Bike authority that is happy to assist further but we are sure you have your own contacts.

2. Mini Police, Fire & Ambulance Districts Consolidation & Crime Issues for Dense Communities: Wholistic approach as a Woven Future Proof City - Developers, Local & State Government, Police & Emergency Minister & Youth Minister.

Collecting data from our NSW Police the number one call outs for Police are Domestic Violence. Top crimes in dense communities are Storage Cage and Parcel Theft (besides narcotics in dense communities). Due to their inability to respond in dense communities are: low Police Recruitment and large area commands.

Considerations:

1. Consolidation and cross training for Police, Fire & Ambulance for Dense Communities. This means our first responders will be cross trained in "basic" Police, Fire & Ambulance duties to reduce multiple call outs and save resources for bigger issues.
2. Mini Police/ Fire & Ambulance Hub: What the community is continually seeing due to the lack of Police visibility leads to law breaking with no consequences that leads to Community, Council and Police frustrations, loss of relationships with our authorities and government, social cohesion with the community and wasted resources spent in dense communities. Police visibility is a great deterrent of crime. Mini Police Districts/ Stations like they have in the City of Sydney helps to deal with density, large area commands and time constraints. Past strategies in crime infested areas like Cabramatta in the 1990s proved to be very effective by moving Police (PACs) directly where crimes have grown. With the current Rhodes Place Strategy 2021 Plan of upgrading the Rhodes Fire Station in Rhodes East, it would be a great opportunity to combine Police, Fire & Ambulance mini area commands as a trial or pilot. It is a chance to consolidate and cross train (not cut jobs).

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Every First Responder knows that time is the most critical resource to save lives. This has worked in the UK and parts of the US and has had many good results of response, morale, resource sharing and cost reduction. A wholistic approach as a woven city. I believe over time this will prove to be good ideas to deal with density. Is it possible to consider Combined Mini Police Fire and Ambulance Mini Area Commands in dense areas due to traffic and time constraints by our Council, Developers, Police & Emergency Ministers & our Government?



Above: Rhodes Place Strategy 2021 Plan of upgrading the Rhodes Fire Station in Rhodes East would be a great opportunity to combine Police, Fire & Ambulance as a lite Pilot or a Trial. Campaign Link: https://www.change.org/p/police-fire-ambulance-service-hubs?source_location=search

Report Link US: <https://www.policechiefmagazine.org/a-package-deal-police-fire-and-ems/>

Consultation & Proposal Link UK: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a806b2ae5274a2e8ab50086/Consultation_-_Enabling_closer_working_between_the_Emergency_Services_w_2_.pdf

3. Police on e-scooters/ e-bikes to catch offenders and make patrolling easier in dense communities making response faster and more efficient and reduce unnecessary vehicle resources that are ineffective in dense communities due to 1-2 roads choke entry points and generally a better ability and mobility to access crime on the spot.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

4. E-Bike Parking and charging in apartments and shopping malls & places of interest (requested by residents and businesses): It would be great to see our Developers and our Council build an e-bike parking and charging stations for their residents as e-bikes and e scooters are an evolving future of travel in dense communities that save energy and are good for the environment when its regulated and treated like lite vehicles with considerations made to the elderly.
5. Parcel Theft: One of the main issues of dense living are storage cage and parcel theft call outs. I believe Billbergia has commendably worked with Amazon & Australia Post putting parcel lockers outside their Buildings that is saving both the residents and NSW Services call outs and issues. I believe it needs to be extended to all buildings and other types of Parcels and other forms of deliveries in apartments. Can our Developers and Council make it mandatory and consider to implement a dedicated package & parcel storage pick up area inside/outside the foyer with CCTV in their buildings? The problems of small Parcel theft will continue to rise and stretch services due to the acceptance of technology & lifestyle evolution. These technologies can assist in reducing service calls and increase security for families & investors.

<https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2017/07/amazon-made-a-package-delivery-locker-specifically-for-apartments/>



6. Storage Cage Theft: Storage cage theft is a major issue in apartments with stranger walk in's or tail gating on Carpark entrances: CCTV Software for tailgating to catch offenders/poi that can be passed to Strata. Premium covered storage cages that is wire free so criminals cannot window shop or cut wired cages. Embedded Disc or closed shackle locks that cannot be easily be bolt cut or angle grinded as standard in Storage Cage Technology. A secure building is highly valued to investors and the community that results in less call outs for our NSW Services. Apologies if Billbergia has already addressed these issues with their own technology.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

News Link: <https://spacecommander.com.au/storage-cage-theft-on-the-rise-as-apartment-towers-go-up/>

<https://www.9news.com.au/national/fears-apartment-theft-on-the-rise-as-people-return-to-the-office/af85aeeb-6a57-4591-a795-8c733bea3b88>

Below: Covered Storage Cages that are difficult to cut or access for opportunistic criminal window shoppers and could be considered by all Developers & Council to increase security to reduce Police call outs as this is one of the main issues with dense urban living.



PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

7. Low Police Recruitment & Domestic Violence: The NSW Police has discussed issues of low Police Recruitment and stretched commands due to low wages and large area commands. The dominant character of Australia is how safe we are as a country and how our Officers are committed to serve with their lives. We understand that recently the NSW Police Force are now paying recruits to study which is a commendable effort and should have great results. I do not have all the necessary information but looking at their Marketing and Advertising unit there is much to be done in inspiring the next generation of crime fighters. My discussions with frontline Mental Health, Primary & High Schools Teachers & Police that the PCYC maybe a great resource to intervene and prevent crime & domestic violence so our youths are cultivated towards the right path. We recommend that more resources be channeled to our PCYC & possibly the Police Market & Advertising Unit that help recruit youths from an early age. Following the 2023 Police Report on 19,256 violent school call outs, it is far better when intervention happens from youth by Police rather than recruitment from Drug Dealers & Gangs. Kids will always be impressionable and will always comeback to a path to what they learn from a young age. When youths have good influences they have a good chance to give back to society that can immensely benefit the future and the success of Australia. Domestic Violence: We advocate and request for considerations towards funding and supporting organisations like CaringDads.Org and KidsFirstAustralia.Org.Au to assist and reduce violence & deaths through intervention and prevention by these organisations in hopes to reduce NSW Services.
8. Noise Cameras: One of our most complained about issue are motorcycle, car hoon driving and gunshot exhaust in dense communities that waste Police resources and frustrate the community. We understand that there are already trials in upper areas for Noise Cameras. We believe it is far better to go where the sources of areas are to prevent this behaviour from growing to other suburbs. When areas are favoured for more policing and management it creates safe havens for this behaviour to grow in low policed suburbs and out to the upper areas of Sydney. "The sound of motorbikes and hotted-up vehicles doesn't only disturb sleep, it also make us cranky and upset that has negative effects on our behaviour with our families, friends, our community and work."
- Resident.

*Please note our residents are generally okay with any noise in the day, just not in the evenings. It has been reported that hoon's (not machine enthusiast) are intentionally trying to scare or run over residents.

<https://www.drive.com.au/news/hoons-on-notice-in-sydney-noise-activated-cameras-installed-at-hot-spots/>

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/traffic-noise-it-sounds-like-gunshots-it-wakes-up-dogs-it-wakes-up-babies-20220225-p59zn0.html>

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

3. Finally: Safety Infrastructure - Rhodes Overhead Bridge/ Safety Pedestrian Crossings / Signage for Pedestrian, Motorists - Local & State, Federal, NSW Government, Emergency & Police Minister, TfNSW Catherine King, Jo Haylen/ TAHE.

Fifteen Minute Cities (FMC) are designed to be walkable cities. If our NSW Government are building walkable dense communities and discouraging cars then priority for the safety of pedestrians must be considered for future planning in generations to come.

Wentworth Point with only one road in and out that can be blocked when it floods has a population of 15,060 (2023) and density of 24,000 per square metre (2022) Projected population of 18,583 by 2040. Rhodes, with only 2 roads in and out, a population of 13,672 (2023) and density of 13,000 per square metre with a projected population 22,549 (2040) -
*These are public records and are not accurate.

With these numbers, there needs to be considerable effort to prioritise pedestrians with simple safety pedestrian crossings, speed calming devices, overhead bridges, pedestrian & bike lanes following TfNSW aspirations towards zero trauma & serious injuries to reduce density issues and congestion. When you purchase a vehicle there are mandatory laws that manufacturers abide by to reduce death and injuries like seatbelts. Safety features for the community should not be a luxury option or should not come after accidents. It should be law otherwise we will be no better than developing countries. If our Government is approving density TfNSW MUST build safety infrastructures to ease congestion and achieve pedestrian safety and not stretch our already strained First Responders and the Community. When our residents are continually in danger of walking to essential places combined with noise, traffic congestion etc, it significantly reduces its social cohesion adding to its frustrations with each other. If the community continues to be unheard and issues unaddressed it weakens their relationship and trust in our Governments, our Authorities and their ability to govern. It can be restored with simple solutions when families feel safe and considered. (Tolosa Enquiry 2023 & Social Cohesion Report 2022).

Considerations:

1. One of the most important issues in Rhodes currently is the Rhodes Overhead FootBridge that will solve a critical part of congestion and increase safety for all whilst keeping the economy moving. The Rhodes Train Station services at least 4 surrounding suburbs. Currently, people crossing Walker St. at peak hour is 5000 persons in 2 hours and increasing with even more density and visitors coming when more buildings are completed in 2024. TfNSW and our Council has revealing numbers that states the dangers of this inadequate crossing in Rhodes. The continuing & constant frustration of getting to essential places without any safety passages is a main stressor for dense communities. We see our Governments building parks and places of interest to activate and distribute density but with no thought of pedestrians getting there safely in consideration to traffic or density. Would a good parent give their kids cigarettes knowing the harm it will do to them? This can be considered as forced routing for injuries to occur. If impacted families are continually stressed or injured and is made to continue there will be a loss to the circular economy and the workforce commodity. *Rhodes was at one time considered to be the 2nd highest educated suburb in all of Sydney (2016 Census Report).

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

We ask all in governance to prevent the consequences and have considerations for future planning of safety standards in identified places of hazards to reflect fairly for innocent hard working families.

Currently originations like Billbergia have built bridges, given 70 million dollars to our Local Government, provide jobs, housing, free green energy buses, willing to fund the metro to ease congestion, other community services and worthwhile causes. We understand that there are government incentives for companies to donate. We may not agree with Billbergia on gambling machines and density, (although we understand there is a need for housing and there are some residents that want density) but there is a return with Billbergia's many contributions that makes a measurable and meaningful difference to the community, the economy and our Government that is factual and relevant to this issue. What more can they do? Are they going above and beyond then also given the responsibility to be an authority on road & pedestrian safety and govern as well? I don't know who this message goes to but it is unhealthy for all when there is a culture or influence that is so unreasonably demanding and want unrealistic results that lack so much empathy and morals that it devalues the heartbeat of the people resulting in an un-cohesive, unsafe community and a negative economy.

The voices of dense communities would like to ask TfNSW, TAHE and our Transport Minister Catherine King and Jo Haylen to please address these issues with Carla Ronda from TAHE and save accidents by building the Rhodes Overhead Bridge or accept the Council & the Developers proposals as it is already past due and not hold up construction for any reason. If TfNSW & TAHE stands for road & pedestrian safety there should be no intent or conduct to deliberately hold up safety that endangers the weak and vulnerable when they know it will continue to increase and endanger more innocent lives. We ask that TfNSW & TAHE to remove their "Non Negotiable" stance and that the only "Non Negotiable" principle that TfNSW & TAHE should stand for is protecting lives on roads and footpaths. The Rhodes Overhead Footbridge is a critical & a major essential public asset and should not be a further monetised or a private issue as there are already funds there and it is a public safety infrastructure in nature. In the end, it is a humanitarian and social issue that has benefits for fire safety, pedestrian safety, disability safety, congestion relief for both traffic and pedestrians, social cohesion, and to keep the economy moving with families getting to essential places and their workplace on time and alive. There MUST be considerations given to peoples lives and it must be built as soon as possible by end of 2024.

We ask our Local, State, Federal, Ministers and NSW Governments to please intervene with TAHE & TfNSW for decency and mediation in this matter. If TAHE still choose to withhold community safety & not address this issue appropriately and on time knowing that serious injuries and deaths are irreversible that devastate families and a cost to our economy. We continue to document, count and video these close/ serious accidents and, if a life is lost, our community and our First Responders will look to our Government for answers. We thank and commend all in governance and whoever wishes to support considerations towards safety as there needs to be responsibility taken to make a difference and focus on lives and basic pedestrian safety for families. Our Council, NSW Government and TfNSW are critical in the failure or success of dense communities to take care of families for a strong moving economy.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Rhodes families on Australia Clean Up Day that was organised by Neighbourhood Watch Rhodes. It was the biggest turn out in history of all of Canada Bay Council LGA of more than 110 volunteers in Rhodes (2023). These growing families love their place and look to our Governments, NSW Services and Developers to listen to their concerns for a bright future for their young families to get to essential places safely.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

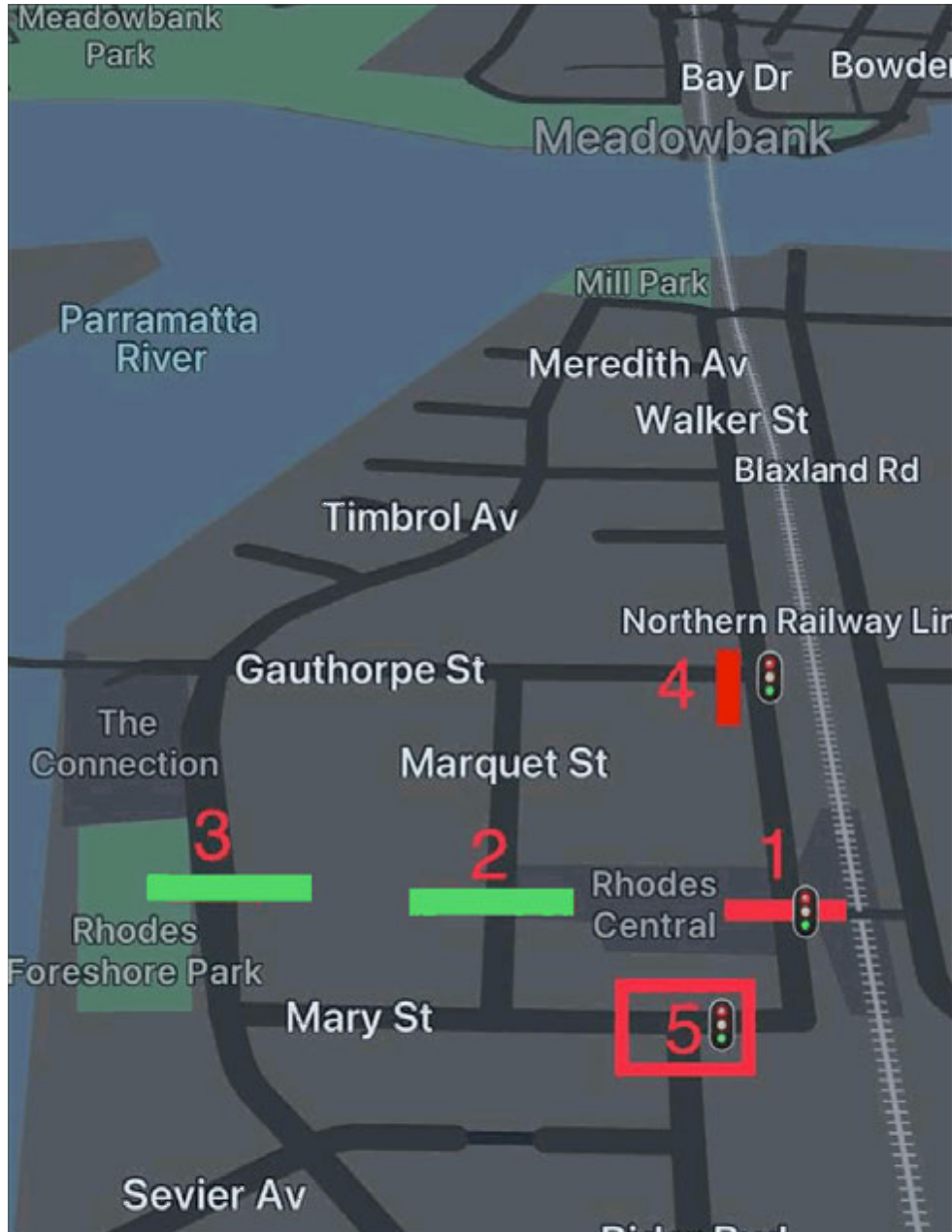
ATTACHMENT 1



Over 5000 residents dangerously crossing Rhodes Train Station in 2 hours with inadequate to no safety infrastructure. Campaign link: <https://www.change.org/p/foot-bridge-from-rhodes-centre-to-station>

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Lack of Safety Pedestrian Crossing, speed calming and Safety Overhead Bridge with one of the most densest population in Australia that is being compared to developing countries on: 1, 5 & 4. Also on Rider Boulevard/Shoreline Drive, Rhodes & Constitution Rd, Meadowbank and many more identified as unsafe in the areas of Rhodes, WWP, SOP & Meadowbank.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

The community of Rhodes, Wentworth Point, SOP and Meadowbank or any dense future communities would like to ask you all to please highly consider and address these emerging issues and considerations in dense communities. We hope that it can greatly improve and benefit everyone involved to create a continued meaningful legacy that will be remembered by generations of good governance and bold technical development to serve the Australian people in the future to come to assure their safety, preserve a strong moving economy and the Australian way of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Apologies if any of these issues are already being addressed. I do not have all the available data nor the correct contacts in Government to make a full informed recommendation and perspectives maybe incomplete.

Yours Sincerely,

Ramee Florentino.
Neighbourhood Watch Rhodes/ SOP/ Wentworth Point/ Meadowbank
Rhodes Community Committee for Canada Bay Council

*Collective Assistance to identify Local Crime & Safety Issues with: the Community of Rhodes/ WWP/ Meadowbank & SOP/ Burwood PAC/ Ryde PAC/ Canada Bay Council/ Ryde Council/ Public & High School Teachers and Mental Health organisations (2023).

**2 RESPONSE BY MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT - CUTS TO ESSENTIAL
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Report prepared by: Executive Assistant

File No.: MYR/07/10/7 - BP24/55

CORRESPONDENCE:

Submitting correspondence from Federal Minister for Transport, dated 29 January 2024, regarding cuts to funding for essential infrastructure projects.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Response by Federal Minister for Transport - cuts to essential infrastructure projects

Report Prepared By:

Linda Smith
Executive Assistant

Report Approved By:

Carmelina Loughland
Executive Officer to the Chief Executive Officer

Wayne Rylands
Chief Executive Officer

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



The Hon Catherine King MP

**Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
Member for Ballarat**

Ref: MC24-000099

Cr Sarkis Yedelian OAM
Mayor
City of Ryde
Locked Bag 2069
NORTH RYDE NSW 1670

via: mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter of 19 December 2023, expressing your concerns in relation to the Australian Government's decision to withdraw funding from a number of projects in New South Wales (NSW), including the Blaxland Road and Balaclava Road Intersection Improvements project. I note that you have also written to the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, on this matter. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The Government remains committed to a 10 year, \$120 billion pipeline of infrastructure investment. We are not cutting a cent from infrastructure spending. We are making necessary changes to how we fund infrastructure to ensure that we can deliver projects that will benefit Australian communities.

In May 2023, the Government commissioned an independent review (the Review) of the Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP). The Review was an important step in the Government's commitment to transitioning the IIP to a more sustainable and responsible footing.

The Review found that there were projects that did not demonstrate merit, lacked any national strategic rationale and did not meet the Government's national investment priorities. The Liberals and Nationals infrastructure legacy set the nation on a path of \$33 billion of cost blow outs and an inability to add any new projects to the infrastructure pipeline until 2033. These are the findings of the independent review. The Liberals and Nationals need to reflect on how they left the commonwealth infrastructure program in such a state of disrepair.

As a result of this process, and following consultation with the NSW Government, the Blaxland Road and Balaclava Road Intersection Improvements project will no longer proceed with Government funding at this time.

PO Box 6022 Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 | Tel: (02) 6277 7520

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Whilst individuals and communities may be disappointed with some of the decisions taken to ensure the sustainability of our infrastructure pipeline, we have made the tough and responsible decisions to ensure that Australia gets the infrastructure it needs. The Albanese Labor Government has reformed Australia's infrastructure pipeline, ensuring our investment in the nation's infrastructure grows the economy, improves productivity and takes pressure off inflation.

The Government understands that communities across Australia need more investment in infrastructure and continues to work in partnership with stakeholders to ensure the pipeline of projects is affordable, sustainable and deliverable over the long term, which is vital when considering and implementing road investment.

Should the New South Wales Government wish to raise this project again in the future, once planning works have been completed and the costs of the project are understood, the request will be considered in the context of future budgets.

The Government will continue to work with state, territory and local governments to ensure investment settings are sustainable, well-targeted and aligned to market capacity and resource availability.

Thank you for taking the time to write on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Catherine King MP

29 / 1 / 2024

cc Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP

NOTICES OF MOTION

1 RATES INCENTIVE SCHEME - Councillor Roy Maggio

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/18

MOTION:

- (a) That Council explore rates incentives options for residential ratepayers who pay on time such as movie tickets, free swimming lessons, food vouchers and other options in light of recent increased cost of living pressures.
- (b) That the rates incentive options be investigated ensuring minimal financial impact to Council.
- (c) That a report be presented back to Council with the view to implementation next financial year.

2 RECOGNITION OF COMMONWEALTH SENIORS HEALTH CARE CARD AT RYDE AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE - Councillor Roy Maggio

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/90

MOTION:

That staff investigate the ability to recognise the Commonwealth Seniors Health Care Card for 1 free entry per week, Monday to Friday, at the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre and report back to Council at the March meeting with expected costs and a funding source.

3 RESTORATION OF BOWLING GREENS AT RYDE CITY BOWLING CLUB AND PUTNEY BOWLING CLUB - Councillor Roy Maggio

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/91

MOTION:

- (a) That Council investigate the restoration of the bowling greens at Ryde City Bowling Club and Putney Bowling Club for an interim period for use by the Denistone bowlers and report back to Council.
- (b) That Council liaise with the Denistone bowlers for support to assist with the maintenance and restoration of the greens.

**4 REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR YOUTH THEATRE IN CITY OF RYDE -
Councillor Penny Pedersen**

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/85

BACKGROUND:

In the December 2023 Councillor Information Bulletin (CIB), just before Christmas, Councillors were informed that the City of Ryde would cease to fund Shop Front Theatre Co-op for the provision of Youth Theatre in Ryde.

The CIB report included reference to the following resolution of Council in February 2020 - resolving to explore a partnership with an established not for profit who might help expand participation in youth theatre, namely to allow for more socio-economic diversity of participants.

Resolution February 2020:-

- (a) *That Council explores a partnership with established not-for-profit arts organisations to help deliver wider LGA participation, opportunity and larger audiences for Ryde Youth Theatre, commencing 2020/21.*
- (b) *That Council calls for tenders from established not-for-profit arts organisations to help deliver Ryde Youth Theatre for the next four years.*
- (c) *That Council commits \$75,000 per year for the period 2021/22 to 2024/25. During this period staff from Community & Ranger Services are to work with the NFP organisations to identify suitable grants and other sources of funding to support Ryde Youth Theatre.*
- (d) *That Council ensures that as part of the request for tender there is a requirement for any new partner organisations to ensure the existing strengths of Ryde Youth Theatre, most notably a play writing workshop and use of these plays for productions, is maintained as an essential element.*
- (e) *That Council continues to provide free venue hire for the delivery of Ryde Youth Theatre workshops and productions.*
- (f) *That an evaluation of Ryde Youth Theatre is undertaken in late 2023 and the findings be presented to Council.*
- (g) *That Council notes that this partnership does not necessarily exclude the current organisers, as continuity is advantageous, particularly to the unique writing component of the program.*
- (h) *That as part of the tender process that Council also invite CALD organisations to apply.*

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

The December 2023 CIB report goes on to explain that Council entered into a contract in December 2020 to award the tender to shopfront theatre co-op for a period of three years ending in 2023 after an evaluation is presented to Council for consideration.

A further resolution of Council in November 2020 recommending Shop front be awarded the tender is below:

- (a) *That pursuant to Clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Council accepts the tender from Shopfront Youth Arts CoOp for the delivery of Ryde Youth Theatre for \$75,000 (excluding GST) per annum from 2020/21 to 2024/25.*
- (b) *That Council delegate the General Manager the authority to enter into a contract with Shopfront Youth Arts CoOp for COR-RFT-04- 20 for the delivery of Ryde Youth Theatre on the terms contained within the tender and for minor amendments to be made to the contract documents that are not of a material nature.*
- (c) *That Council advise all the respondents of Council's decision.*

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MOTION:

1. Council notes that:
 - i) It was resolved unanimously, on 25 February 2020 in Item 4.4 "That an evaluation of Ryde Youth Theatre is undertaken in late 2023 and the findings **be presented to Council.**"
 - ii) Funding was allocated by a resolution of Council to Youth Theatre. A unanimous resolution of Council dated 24 November 2020, stated that the funding of \$75,000 (excluding GST) per annum was for Youth Theatre services from 2020/21 to 2024/25, **meaning funding still exists for the provision of theatre workshops in 24/25.**
 - iii) Covid lockdowns meant that in 2020/21 for a large part of the contract with Shop Front, that they were forced to deliver workshops online, meaning participation dropped off and like most activities were slow to recover.

- iv) That the February 2020 resolution 4.4 states:

"(b) That Council calls for tenders from established not-for-profit arts organisations to help deliver Ryde Youth Theatre for the next four years."

"(e) That Council continues to provide free venue hire for the delivery of Ryde Youth Theatre workshops and productions."

- v) That publicly funded performing arts workshops for young people provide:

- (a) an opportunity for teens and younger people to build interpersonal skills, prevent isolation and help prevent mental health issues - regardless of gender; physical ability and socio - economic status.
- (b) Opportunities for young people seeking careers as writers, sound/lighting technicians, designers, producers as well as performers.

- vi) That the City of Ryde spends millions of dollars on the provision of sporting facilities and not all young people excel or feel comfortable playing organised sport.

2. That Council:

- i) Call for tenders to provide services to deliver the remaining 24/25 Ryde Youth Theatre program, as resolved at the February 2020 meeting in item 4.4 part b. and that the program be reviewed and presented to a Council meeting in December 2025.
- ii) Advertise using all of Councils networks that the Ryde Youth Theatre program is running for 24/25 as resolved in 2020 - including notices in the Mayors column, rate notices, social media; letters/emails to different cultural groups; school drama clubs; sports clubs; housing providers; Headspace; community service providers; community social media groups and community youth organisations.
- iii) Supply a report to the CIB that includes:
 - (a) Where the Shop Front Program was advertised by Council; what venue Shop Front used in the Ryde LGA for workshops and whether travel to Carlton was expected of participants.
 - (b) Why the evaluation and decision to cease provision of youth theatre workshops was made by staff and why it was not "presented to Council" with two years of funding remaining.
 - (c) Why there was no notice sent by the Helpdesk to Councillors with a link to the December CIB as per usual practice.

5 COMMUNITY ENERGY UPGRADES FUND - Councillor Penny Pedersen

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/86

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Government has opened Round 1 of the Community Energy Upgrades Fund. Round 1 will offer \$50 million to help local governments deliver energy upgrades and bill savings for community facilities like public swimming pools, libraries, sporting clubs and community centres.

One-off grants of between \$25,000 and \$2.5 million will be available to Councils across Australia, enabling them to take energy-saving measures, such as replacing swimming pool heating systems with electric heat pumps, battery storage at sporting fields, and installing electric vehicle chargers for Council fleets.

I would like to ensure that Council makes an application for a suitable grant by the deadline of 30 April 2024.

MOTION:

- (a) That Council staff identify potentially suitable community facilities for energy upgrades, with a focus on steps that could be taken to transition Ryde Aquatic and Leisure Centre (along with other Council spaces) from gas to electricity and heat pumps.
- (b) That Council make an application for a grant from the Federal Government under Round 1 of the Community Energy Upgrades Fund.
- (c) That the application be made before the deadline of 30 April 2024.

6 URGENT NEED TO MEET DISABILITY STANDARDS FOR ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT - Councillor Penny Pedersen

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/87

BACKGROUND:

City of Ryde has over 9% of residents who identify as living with a disability and 4.6% needing assistance each day and 1 January 2023 is when 100% of all public transport services (except trains and trams) were required to fully comply with the Australian Human Rights commission's relevant Accessible public Transport Standards.

In 2022 the City of Ryde applied but was refused, a 5 year exemption from the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992 (Cth), from Australian Human Rights Commission citing the reasons below for not complying with Section 55 Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (Cth), Section 33A.1.

The City of Ryde application for exemption included the following reasons:

- **City of Ryde has Hills:** City of Ryde's application to the Human Rights Commission stated that 'some topography in the City of Ryde LGA is not level. This includes naturally steep and hilly areas and areas where it is not always possible to excavate and re-build the land on which a particular bus stop is located. Changing the levelness would require changing the gradient of the roadway and kerb, or else the conditions of the adjacent lots, or potentially both. There may be environmental and technological factors making such actions unsound (e.g. for drainage or inground services issues) or fraught with legality and ownership issues (such as for roadways and kerbs which are not under the applicant's ownership but nonetheless have a fundamental influence on the potential for accessibility at any given bus stop location).'
- **Legacy Infrastructure:** 'Most of the bus stops within the City of Ryde LGA are legacy infrastructure. The City of Ryde itself was established some 150 years ago. The locations of the bus stops predate the entry into effect of the Transport Standards by many decades. Further, the design of the bus stop infrastructure pre-dates the accessibility criteria of the Transport Standards.'
- **State Government didn't help prior to 2022:** 'The City of Ryde Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) aims to be well aligned with the Transport for NSW DIAP in this regard. In practice, however, the degree of coordination with State authorities over the years has been lower than would be desirable. This has resulted in delays in the understanding of needs and priorities. This in turn has impacted the City of Ryde Council's ability to meet the Transport Standards' target dates.'
- **Council Amalgamations:** 'During 2015–2016, the State of NSW considered the possibility of amalgamating local councils. The possibility of an amalgamation between the City of Ryde and another LGA created uncertainty' for the bus stop work.
- **Covid-19 Pandemic:** 'More recently, the City of Ryde Council has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, starting from early in the year 2020 and extending until the present day. This has resulted in a significant impact on funding and budgetary commitments, in part due to reductions in revenue from developer levies.'

MOTION:

That Council prepare a report and a Councillor workshop outlining:

- (a) The requirements of the act as it pertains to accessible public transport.
- (b) The City of Ryde exemption application submission and the Commission's reasons for refusal.
- (c) The ramifications for City of Ryde (beside making life really hard for some of our ratepayers) for not complying with the Act and what this will cost Council.
- (d) An indication on how other hilly Councils with legacy infrastructure who might have been granted exemptions or what they did in order to comply.
- (e) What Council is now doing to try and meet the requirements of the DDA section 55/33a.1.
- (f) The number of these non-compliant bus stops that are still to be addressed.
- (g) A copy of where this information about the exemption application was shared with Councillors in 2022 or in the 22/23 Annual Report.
- (h) Whether there is a list of non-complying bus stops on Council's website's to warn people with mobility issues and their carers that there is an access issue.

7 ANDERSON PARK PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS - Councillor Sophie Lara-Watson

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/88

MOTION:

- 1. That Council note:
 - (a) The significant increase in foot traffic along Belmore Street due to Sunday Markets and popularity of the Meadowbank Foreshore Walk.
 - (b) Since the last traffic study, which was pre-Covid, more cars are using the Meadowbank slip road to avoid delays on Church Street and turn onto Morrison Road. This causes significant noise during all hours and increases traffic congestion.
 - (c) Further, there are several cars speeding out of the roundabout causing motor noises to echo through Belmore Street.
 - (d) The children's play equipment is not enclosed, and it is possible for children to walk onto the road.

2. That Council staff investigate and report back within 2 months of this meeting with the following assessment:
 - (a) The installation of a pedestrian crossing at Belmore Street.
 - (b) Possible solutions to reducing noise from speeding cars.
 - (c) Enhancing the safety of children by enclosing the Anderson Park equipment.

8 SUPPORTING LOCAL FOOD TRUCKS - Councillor Sophie Lara-Watson

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/6 - BP24/89

MOTION:

1. That Council notes there are several successful food trucks operating within the City of Ryde however, operators have reported many of the car parks do not have safe locations for people to access the food trucks.
2. That Council staff investigate and report back to Council within 3 months of this meeting with the following assessment:
 - (a) The number of car parks / streets suitable for food trucks.
 - (b) Whether safety enhancement such as elevated steps or clear ways could be added on a trial basis for some car parks to make food trucks more accessible.

QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS AS PER POLICY

1 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE - Councillor Roy Maggio

File Number: CLM/24/1/1/10 - BP24/84

Question 1:

How much has been spent on the Civic Centre project since its commencement till now including all related consultants, designs, contractors, legal, marketing, planning etc.?