

Meeting Date: Tuesday 29 April 2025
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.*

NOTICE OF BUSINESS

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LATE ITEMS**1 CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE HON. PRUE CAR MP REGARDING A
NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN MIDTOWN MACQUARIE PARK**

Report prepared by: Civic Services Manager
File No.: CLM/25/1/1/11 - BP25/324

CORRESPONDENCE:

Submitting correspondence from the Deputy Premier of New South Wales, Minister for Education and Early Learning and Minister for Western Sydney, The Hon. Prue Car MP dated 14 April 2025 in response to correspondence from Mayor Brown dated 26 February 2025 regarding the new primary school at Midtown Macquarie Park.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1** Letter from the Mayor Trenton Brown to the Hon. Prue Car MP dated 26 February 2025
- 2** Letter from the Hon. Prue Car MP to the Mayor Trenton Brown dated 14 April 2025

Report Prepared By:

Amanda Janvrin
Civic Services Manager

Report Approved By:

Graham Humphreys
Manager - Business Assurance and Governance

Wayne Rylands
Chief Executive Officer

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep

Hon. Prue Car, MP
Deputy Premier of NSW and
Minister for Education and Early Learning
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

26 February 2025

Our Ref: D25/27425

Dear Deputy Premier

I am writing in response to a recent media article announcing the commencement of construction for the new public primary school in Midtown, Macquarie Park. The article and accompanying photograph listed the official attendees as Ryde Councillor Lyndal Howison, NSW Department of Education Director of Educational Leadership Stacey Exner, Acting Minister for Education Steve Whan, and Federal Member for Bennelong Jerome Laxale. I have enclosed a copy of the article for your information.

As the publicly elected Mayor and designated representative of the City of Ryde, it is concerning that I was not invited to this event, nor was any contact made with the City of Ryde's Chief Executive Officer, Wayne Rylands. Given the significance of this project to our local community, the absence of any notification to myself or Council raises serious questions about the process undertaken in determining invitees.

I would appreciate your clarification as to why neither I nor the Council were informed of this event and whether an invitation was extended to the State Member for Ryde, Jordan Lane MP. The selective invitation and presence of predominantly Labor-aligned representatives, alongside the selective invitation of Labor Councillor, Ms Howison, suggests a politically motivated decision rather than a non-partisan acknowledgment of an important educational initiative for the City of Ryde community.

It is deeply concerning that a local Ryde Labor Councillor, Lyndal Howison, was invited and included in a promotional photograph with the Acting Minister for Education, while the elected Mayor was not afforded the same opportunity. This raises questions about the intent behind the event and whether it was designed to serve a broader political agenda rather than focus on the genuine interests of the local community.

Customer Service Centre
1 Pope Street, Ryde NSW 2112
(Within Top Ryde City shopping centre)

North Ryde Office
Level 1, Building 0, Riverview Business Park,
3 Richardson Place, North Ryde NSW 2113

Phone (02) 9952 8222 Fax (02) 9952 8070
Email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au
Post Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670
www.ryde.nsw.gov.au

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep

I trust you will appreciate the reasons that have prompted me to bring this disappointing matter to your attention and would anticipate that such an oversight from your Department (or any other NSW Government department) does not occur again.

I would appreciate your response on this matter at your earliest convenience. Should you wish to discuss this directly, I can be reached on 0435 652 272 or via email at trentonb@ryde.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Trenton Brown
Mayor, City of Ryde

CC: Jordan Lane MP, Member for Ryde

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PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Works begin on new Macquarie Park public school

THE GROWING Macquarie Park community is another step closer to benefiting from brand new education facilities as the Minns Labor Government marks the beginning of construction on the new public primary school in Midtown Macquarie Park.

Macquarie Park's first public school will cater for the area's rapidly growing community, which saw its population grow by more than a third in just five years.

Acting Minister for Education and Early Learning Steve Whan turned the sod on the project last Wednesday, along with Member for Bennelong Jerome Laxale, Ryde councillor Lyndal Howison and local Director of Education Leadership, Stacey Exner.

Mr Whan said he was pleased to see works progressing on the

new public school.

"We are committed to ensuring growing communities across NSW have the world-class public schools they need to flourish," he said.

"And that includes making sure we build new schools where we see rapid population growth."

Designed to cater for the area's growing community, the new public school will accommodate 750 students from Kindergarten to Year 6, with 33 modern classrooms, a canteen, a multipurpose hall, a library,

covered and landscaped outdoor learning areas, and administration and staff facilities.

The new school's design also includes play and outdoor space with an active area, a running track and additional adjoining covered and landscaped outdoor learning areas.

The school is due for completion in 2026, and once fully operational will create 46 new jobs for teachers and school-based staff.

Federal Member for Bennelong, Jerome Laxale said students would greatly benefit from the new primary school.

"I am glad to be here today to turn the first sod and get this much needed project underway," he said.

"The Macquarie Park area's primary school student projec-

tions are forecast to triple by 2041.

This targeted investment will ensure that students in this area get access to a world-class public education.

Midtown is a new urban neighbourhood being built on the site of the former Ivanhoe Estate in

Macquarie Park that will include social, affordable and private housing, community facilities, retail, and green space.

In August 2024, it was announced that Taylor Construction Group had been awarded the construction contract.

The NSW Department of Plan-

ning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) has approved the State

Significant Development (SSD- 56124984) and the conditions of consent can be viewed on the DPHI planning portal:

planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/ivanhoe-midtown-primary-school



☐ Artist impressions of the new school (images: NSW Govt)



☐ Ryde Councillor Lyndal Howison; NSW Department of Education Director Educational Leadership, Stacey Exner; Acting Minister for Education, Steve Whan; and Member for Bennelong, Jerome Laxale, turning the first sod on the Midtown Macquarie Park Public School. TWT On-the-Spot PHOTO (Michelle Haywood)

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 1 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 2

OFFICIAL

The Hon Prue Car MP

Deputy Premier of New South Wales
Minister for Education and Early Learning
Minister for Western Sydney



Ref: RML25/819

Clr Trenton Brown
Mayor - City of Ryde
Locked Bag 2069
NORTH RYDE NSW 1670
Email: trentonb@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter of 26 February 2025 expressing your concerns with invitations to events relating to the Minns Labor Government's record investment in school infrastructure.

While I acknowledge your disappointment about not being involved in a "promotional photograph", my priority and focus as NSW Minister for Education and Early Learning is delivering the schools that families in Ryde have been crying out for.

I am proud that the Minns Labor Government is delivering a new primary school in Midtown Macquarie Park to meet anticipated enrolment growth in the area. It is disappointing that the former Liberal National Government failed to deliver this school, despite 12 years in office.


The new primary school at Midtown Macquarie Park will accommodate 750 students from Kindergarten to Year 6. The new school will have modern classrooms, administration and staff facilities, a canteen, a multipurpose hall, a library and covered outdoor learning areas (COLAs).

I do acknowledge the work of City of Ryde Councillor Lyndal Howison who has long advocated on behalf of local parents for this school to be delivered. As a teacher, I know Ms Howison is passionate about ensuring all students have access to a world-class, quality education.

Updates on the progress of the new primary school are being made available on the department's School Infrastructure website at:
https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/m/macquarie_park_new_primary_school.html.

Finally, while unfortunately I was unable to attend the event to mark the start of construction on this important Minns Labor Government project, I am excited that the community of Ryde, who were denied this school by the former Liberal National Government, can finally see work underway. I am sure you would agree, that this is what is most important to local families, not invitations to media events.

Sincerely,



Prue Car MP
Deputy Premier of New South Wales
Minister for Education and Early Learning
Minister for Western Sydney

14 April 2025

52 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 5341 Sydney NSW 2001

02 7225 6010
nsw.gov.au/deputy-premier

1

OFFICIAL

2 MINISTERIAL MEDIA RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, DEPUTY PREMIER, MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING AND MINISTER FOR SPORT REGARDING CONSTRUCTION BEGINNING ON NEW WEST RYDE MULTI-SPORTS FACILITY

Report prepared by: Civic Services Manager
File No.: CLM/25/1/1/11 - BP25/325

CORRESPONDENCE:

Submitting Ministerial Media Release from the Premier, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning and Minister for Sport dated 28 April 2025 regarding Construction beginning on new West Ryde Multi-Sports Facility.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Ministerial Media Release regarding Construction beginning on new West Ryde Multi-Sports Facility - 28 April 2025

Report Prepared By:

Amanda Janvrin
Civic Services Manager

Report Approved By:

Graham Humphreys
Manager - Business Assurance and Governance

Wayne Rylands
Chief Executive Officer

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1



Construction begins on new West Ryde Multi-Sports Facility

 [nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dciths/ministerial-media-releases/construction-begins-on-new-west-ryde-multi-sports-facility](https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/dciths/ministerial-media-releases/construction-begins-on-new-west-ryde-multi-sports-facility)

28 April 2025

Published: 28 April 2025

Released by: The Premier, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, Minister for Sport

 [Listen](#)

The rapidly growing Ryde area is set to benefit from a huge new local multi-sports facility being delivered by the Minns Labor Government, with construction now underway on the site.

The facility is being built on the former site of Marsden High School following the relocation of the school to the Meadowbank Education Precinct in 2022.

Once complete the new facility will provide a range of community and sporting spaces with a focus on netball, one of NSW's highest participation sports, while also catering for growing sports such as basketball, futsal and badminton.

It will deliver a new 5,000 square metre indoor facility including 4 multipurpose courts and other indoor spaces, as well as outdoor facilities including 29 netball courts with amenities, communal space with open lawns, picnic tables and seating, and new car and bicycle parking spaces.

These new courts will replace existing rundown netball courts located on top of an old rubbish tip at Meadowbank Park.

As the NSW Government delivers more housing for young people and families, this project will also ensure that the community has access to world class sporting facilities and recreational spaces on their doorstep.

This multi-sports facility, was initially promised by the former Liberal National government in 2018 but they failed to even begin construction on the project. The facility will be delivered by the Minns

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

Labor Government in 2026.

This project is part of the Minns Labor Government's commitment to building a better NSW by providing the essential infrastructure growing communities deserve.

Premier of New South Wales Chris Minns said:

"This huge new facility that we're delivering will create much needed sports and recreational space for this rapidly growing community.

"With over 30 new outdoor and indoor courts to open space, picnic areas and parking, this will be a great community space that people can come and enjoy whether they play sport or not.

"For years, this block was left to sit vacant. Now we're turning it into a world class sporting facility that everyone will be able to use."

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning Prue Car said:

"We are pleased to have begun construction on this new multi-sports facility, which will benefit local students and the broader community alike after years of delays under the Liberals.

"The Minns Labor Government is committed to ensuring growing communities across NSW are equipped with the infrastructure they need – whether that's new or upgraded schools, or high quality sporting facilities for the whole community.

"Labor is committed to ensuring public assets continue to benefit the public, which is why we are redeveloping this former school site into a much-needed community sport facility."

Minister for Sport Steve Kamper said:

"We are focused on building better communities and that means ensuring everyone has access to grassroots sporting infrastructure.

"We look forward to this space becoming a vibrant community sporting hub for the entire community to enjoy."

Member for Bennelong Jerome Laxale said:

"With the state government committed to a new school at Melrose Park, this investment in sporting facilities for our region is crucial.

"Netball has long suffered in Ryde at substandard facilities in Meadowbank. This huge boost will support all players of all ages and provide much needed indoor sports facilities locally."

Councillor for City of Ryde Lyndal Howison said:

"I'm delighted that this regional sports facility will be located in Ryde. The Minns government is delivering a bright, community future for the former site of Marsden High School.

"Our community has waited long enough to see it come back to life and I thank local residents and ERNA for engaging so constructively in this long process. I want to reassure residents that I will keep listening to them as we watch this site take on an important new role."

Eastwood Ryde Netball Association (ERNA) President, Karen Waud said:

"Eastwood Ryde Netball Association are very excited about the commencing of the construction phase of our netball journey at our new facility.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE 2 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

“With 4 indoor courts, 29 outdoor courts, and café facilities, it will offer a fantastic experience for players and fans alike. This will be wonderful for our sports loving community in the City of Ryde.

“City of Ryde is growing, and so is the demand for quality sporting facilities.

“This is a big milestone for Eastwood Ryde Netball Association and all our members.”

Related ministerial articles

Ministerial media release

24 April 2025

[Port Stephens to take line honours as global sailing destination](#)

The Minns Labor Government is charting the course for Port Stephens to become a global sailing destination when Newcastle Airport’s upgraded international terminal opens in August 2025.



Ministerial media release

13 April 2025

[Off and Skating: Historic Canterbury Olympic Ice Rink to reopen better than ever](#)

The reopening of the iconic Canterbury Olympic Ice Rink is off and skating following approval of the Development

Application (DA) to restore the historic venue.



Ministerial media release

9 April 2025

[NSW Government and Paralympics Australia support inclusive sports program](#)

The Minns Labor Government has announced a \$250,000 funding boost for NSW school students that aims to increase

the number of Australian Para-athletes in the lead up to Brisbane 2032 and challenge stereotypes about people living with disability.



[See all ministerial articles](#)