

Wednesday 24 September 2025

Clr Sophie Lara-Watson re-elected Deputy Mayor

City of Ryde Councillor Sophie Lara Watson was re-elected for a second term as Deputy Mayor during Council's 23 September 2025 Ordinary Meeting.

In a Councillor ballot determined by a show of hands, Clr Lara-Watson defeated the only other nominee, Clr Penny Pedersen. Clr Lara-Watson had previously been elected for an initial one-year term on 15 October 2024.

Clr Lara-Watson is a Chartered Accountant and experienced auditor who has lived in Ryde her entire life.

As a Councillor, she brings her professional expertise to local government, with a strong focus on responsible financial management, enhancing infrastructure, and preserving Ryde's green spaces.

In this term, Clr Lara-Watson is prioritising the efficiency of Council's budget, improving the sustainability and quality of public infrastructure, and ensuring the conservation of Ryde's parks and recreational areas.

She remains deeply committed to the wellbeing of her community and the long-term sustainability of the City of Ryde.

City of Ryde Mayor Trenton Brown welcomed Clr Lara-Watson's re-election.

"Sophie has already done a wonderful job as Deputy Mayor," he said. "She has a life-long relationship with the people of this City and brings a knowledge and passion for her community, combined with terrific strategic thinking and an unwavering commitment to getting things done."

"I look forward to working with her once again over the coming year."

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