

Wednesday 30 September 2020

## **STATEMENT ON RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES IN REPUBLIC OF ARTSAKH/NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, and Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM have condemned Azerbaijan's resumption of hostilities against the indigenous Armenians of the Republic of Artsakh/Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, including in the City of Ryde's Friendship City of Stepanakert.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, encouraged both sides of the conflict to immediately cease military action.

"The loss of life since hostilities resumed in this conflict is deeply concerning. I would encourage all hostilities to immediately cease. War and aggression should never be a solution, and peaceful negotiations must commence immediately," Clr Laxale said.

Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM said: "Given the City of Ryde's close association with Stepanakert, Azerbaijan's attacks causing a resumption of the conflict within the city and the region, as well as the loss of life is an avoidable tragedy. I call for an immediate end to Azerbaijan's offensive, supported by Turkey, and a respect for the ceasefire agreement and protection of all civilians in the region."

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