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CITY OF RYDE PAYS TRIBUTE TO ROY NEWSOME

The City of Ryde has paid tribute to Roy Newsome, who will retire from Council at the end of the month.

Mr Newsome has worked at the City of Ryde as Director Corporate Services since 2001, and has more than 40 years' experience in local government having previously worked at Burwood and Liverpool councils.

During his time at Ryde, Mr Newsome has been responsible for Council's finances, auditing requirements, information technology, procurement policies and human resources. He has also been responsible for introducing and managing robust governance frameworks for the entire organisation.

On two occasions Mr Newsome also served as Acting General Manager between August 2013 – August 2014 and May 2016 – May 2017.

During his time as Acting General Manager, Mr Newsome was required to lead Council through a number of major developments. This includes the NSW Government's proposed council merger, in which Mr Newsome was required to ensure day-to-day operations continued to be delivered at a high standard while also undertaking what was necessary to plan for the merger.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said Mr Newsome was deeply respected by all of his work colleagues and all members of the Ryde community that interacted with him.

"People of Roy's calibre, dedication and knowledge do not come around too often. His understanding of local government and governance principles is second to none," Cllr Laxale said.

"Through his tenure Roy has steered the Council through some of its most challenging periods and has also introduced internal procedures to the organisation that are viewed by many to be the gold standard for local government – a legacy that has put Ryde on a solid footing for years to come."

City of Ryde General Manager George Dedes also paid tribute to Mr Newsome.

"Roy will be sorely missed by all at the City of Ryde. He is a valued colleague whose counsel is regularly sought from all areas of the organisation," Mr Dedes said.

"On behalf of everyone at the City of Ryde, we wish him the best in retirement."