

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Monday 23 February 2026

6:30 pm

Level 4 - Council Chambers

PHIVE

5 Parramatta Square, Parramatta

PRESENT - COUNCILLORS

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Martin Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Charles Chen, Councillor Kellie Darley, Councillor Anthony Ellard, Councillor Dr Hayley French, Councillor Dr Judy Greenwood, Cameron MacLean, Councillor Manning Jeffrey (online), Councillor Michael Ng, Councillor Sameer Pandey, Councillor Sreeni Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Patricia Prociv and Councillor Georgina Valjak.

PRESENT – STAFF

Acting Chief Executive Officer - George Bounassif, Executive Director City Engagement & Experience - Angela Jones-Blayney, Executive Director Corporate and Property Services - Brett Smith, Executive Director City Services & Projects - James Smallson, Executive Director City Planning & Design – Jennifer Concato, Executive Director Community & Culture - Jonathan Greig, Acting Group Manager Office of the Lord Mayor & CEO – Heidi Wenham, Chief People & Culture Officer - Brendan Clifton, Chief Financial Officer - Amit Sharma, Acting Chief Technology Officer – Graham Curley, Coordinator Secretariat Services - Marina Cavar, Crime Prevention and Security Team Leader – Andrew Taylor, City Culture Manager – Sophia Kouyoumdjian, Cultural Projects Manager – Suzanne Buljan, Secretariat Officer - Bianca Portelli, ICT Service Desk Officer - Kunal Aggarwa and ICT Service Desk Officer - Pulasthi Hewavitharana

OPENING MEETING

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, declared the meeting open at 6.37pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF LAND

The Lord Mayor acknowledged that we are here today on the land of the Dharug people. The Dharug people are the Traditional Owners of this land. [City of Parramatta] and also acknowledged the present Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who now reside within this area.

WEBCASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Lord Mayor advised that this public meeting is being recorded and streamed live on the internet. The recording will also be archived and made available on Council's website.

The Lord Mayor further advised that all care will be taken to maintain privacy, however as a visitor in the public gallery, the public should be aware that their presence may be recorded.

GENERAL RECORDING OF MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, the recording of a meeting of Council by the public using any device, audio or video, is only permitted with Council permission. Recording a meeting of Council without permission may result in the individual being expelled from the meeting.

APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLVED: Councillor Pillamarri and Councillor Ellard

That the apology on behalf of Councillor Issa and Councillor Raffoul be accepted and a leave of absence be granted.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

APPLICATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

RESOLVED: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Pillamarri

That Councillor Jeffrey be permitted to attend this meeting via audio-visual link.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Dr French disclosed a pecuniary interest in Item CON26-3 ITT 370 External Legal Panel Tender for the reason that she has recently been engaged as a sole trader by a firm recommended for Council's external legal panel, with the potential for a future engagement. As this is a pecuniary interest **Councillor Dr French** will leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or voting on this item.

Councillor Pandey disclosed a non-pecuniary less than significant interest in Item LMM 26-7 Western Sydney Corporate Charity Lunch 2026 for the reason that he has previously volunteered and supported fundraising activities coordinated by the Western Sydney Corporate Charity Lunch Committee. **Councillor Pandey** has indicated that he will leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or voting on this item.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MIN26-2 **Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting Held on 9 February 2026** (Report by the Coordinator Secretariat Services)

RESOLVED: Councillor Pillamarri and Councillor MacLean

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 9 February 2026, be taken as read and be accepted as a true record of the Meeting.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

MINUTES OF THE LORD MAYOR

LMM26-5 Strategic Planning for Greater Parramatta

(Report by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter)

RESOLVED: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter and Councillor Pillamarri

That the Lord Mayor write to the Hon. Paul Scully MP, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, requesting a meeting to discuss opportunities to strengthen the draft Sydney Plan by including:

- i. Clear, long-term housing and employment targets.
- ii. Alignment of infrastructure investment with employment growth.
- iii. Better clarity supporting liveability in infill areas of underutilised urban land.
- iv. Recognition of the 150,000 jobs target for Parramatta as a metropolitan priority.
- v. Preservation of Parramatta's commercial core and other areas with significant potential for jobs growth.
- vi. Strengthened place-based planning for Parramatta.
- vii. Alignment with City of Parramatta Council's Community Strategic Plan and long-term vision, Parramatta 2050.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Councillor Jeffrey left the meeting at 7.10pm.

LMM26-6 LMM26-6 Delivery of infrastructure to meet the needs of the Wentworth Point community

(Report by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter)

RESOLVED: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter and Councillor Ng

- (a) That the Lord Mayor write to the Hon. John Graham MLC, Minister for Transport and the State Member for Parramatta

Donna Davis MP, to advocate for a commitment to a clear timeframe and the funding to enable construction and delivery of Stage 2b of the Parramatta Light Rail (PLR) in time for the opening of the Sydney Olympic Park Metro Station.

- (b) That the Lord Mayor write to the Hon. Prue Car, Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning and the State Member for Parramatta Donna Davis MP, to advocate for a shared use agreement for the Wentworth Point High School Oval to be accessible to the community.
- (c) That the CEO write to Landcom and seek an update on the delivery of the Peninsula Park.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Councillor Pandey left the meeting 7.14 pm.

LMM26-7

Western Sydney Corporate Charity Lunch 2026

(Report by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter)

Councillor Pandey disclosed a non-pecuniary less than significant interest

RESOLVED: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter and Councillor Valjak

- (a) That Council recognises the exceptional efforts of The Salvation Army, The Westmead Institute for Medical Research and Mercy Works in Western Sydney who continue to go above and beyond in supporting families in need and vulnerable people in local communities.
- (b) That Council donate \$3,500 to the Western Sydney Corporate Charity Lunch to secure a 'We Want to Help' sponsorship package in support of the event charity partners, The Salvation Army, The Westmead Institute for Medical Research and Mercy Works in Western Sydney.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Councillor Pandey returned to the meeting at 7.15pm.

Note: Councillor Jeffrey returned to the meeting at 7.18pm.

LMM26-8 Cultural Celebrations in the City of Parramatta

(Report by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter)

RESOLVED: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter and Councillor DLM Councillor Chen

- (a) That Council acknowledge City of Parramatta as one of the most culturally diverse and vibrant communities in Australia, with 128 nationalities and over 117 languages spoken in our growing global City.
- (b) That Council recognise the following cultural celebrations observed across the City of Parramatta, including:
 - i. Lent – commencing 15 February or 18 February through to 4 April 2026 and Orthodox Lent from 23 February through to 11 April 2026.
 - ii. Lunar New Year – 17 February 2026
 - iii. Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr (Festival of Breaking the Fast) – 17 February through to 20 March 2026
 - iv. Holi (Festival of Colours) – 4 March 2026
- (c) That Council convey its well wishes to everyone across our City observing these cultural celebrations with their family, friends, colleagues, neighbours and communities.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

PROCEDURAL MOTION

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - ORDER OF BUSINESS

RESOLVED: Councillor Pillamarri and Councillor Ellard

That in accordance with Clause 8.2 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Council amend the Order of Business for this meeting, to allow for Item OCM26-19 to be considered as the next item of business.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Proxiv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-19 OCM26-19 Post Exhibition - Finalisation of All-Electric Building Controls

(Report by the Project Officer)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Dr Greenwood and Councillor Dr Proxiv

- (a) That Council approve Option 2 from the exhibited all-electric building controls (that would apply new controls to all new commercial and non-residential State Significant developments, and strata-subdivided residential development, including multi-dwelling housing, residential flat buildings and shop-top housing outside the Parramatta City Centre) and amend the Parramatta DCP 2023 section 5.4 Environmental Performance in accordance with Attachment 4. Noting that a transition period has been included so that new controls will not come into effect until 30 June 2027.
- (b) Further, that Council delegate authority to the CEO to correct any minor anomalies of a non-policy and administrative nature that may arise during the DCP amendment process.

AMENDMENT: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Valjak

That Council make no amendments to the Parramatta DCP 2023 until the NSW Government releases the NSW Gas Decarbonisation Roadmap.

Record of Voting:

For the Amendment: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak

Against the Amendment: Councillor Darley and Dr Greenwood

On being put to the meeting voting on this amendment was eleven (11) votes FOR and two (2) votes AGAINST the Amendment became the Motion

RESOLVED: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Valjak

That Council make no amendments to the Parramatta DCP 2023 until the NSW Government releases the NSW Gas Decarbonisation Roadmap.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Jeffrey, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak.

Against the Motion: Councillor Darley and Councillor Dr Greenwood

On being put to the meeting voting was eleven (11) votes FOR and two (2) vote AGAINST, the Motion was CARRIED.

Questions Taken on Notice (Councillor Jeffrey) regarding Item OCM26-19 Post Exhibition - Finalisation of All-Electric Building Controls

- On page 300 of the report, it says that there are 58 responses for option one and that that represents 42% of overall responses. It also says that option 2 got 57 responses but represents 45% of overall responses. Could I get some clarification?
- Is the company Ausgrid a resident of City of Parramatta
- Why are we getting responses from people in Merrylands then?

- Did we kind of do anything to verify the the 135 responses to confirm which ones were actually residents or did people just self select?

Note: Councillor Jeffrey left the meeting at 7.53pm and did not return.

PETITIONS

Councillor Pandey tabled the following Petition:

- Residents of Darcy Road Telecommunications Infrastructure.

A copy of this Petition is ON FILE. This Petition will be actioned in accordance with Council's [Petitions Policy](#).

Councillor Dr Greenwood tabled the following Petition:

- Protect Parramatta's Natural Riverbank.

A copy of this Petition is ON FILE. This Petition will be actioned in accordance with Council's [Petitions Policy](#).

PROCEDURAL MOTION SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS – DEALING WITH ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

RESOLVED: Councillor MacLean and Councillor Pillamarri

That, in accordance with Section 13 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Council resolve to adopt the following items in accordance with the recommendations as printed, without debate:

- **OCM26-11** Unconfirmed Minutes of the First Nations Advisory Panel Meeting held on 3 February 2026
- **OCM26-12** Unconfirmed Minutes of the Social Sustainability and Inclusion Advisory Panel Meeting held on 4 February 2026
- **OCM26-13** Delegation to the Lord Mayor and Acting Chief Executive Officer for the 2025/26 Recess Period
- **OCM26-15** Investment Report for January 2026

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-11 Unconfirmed Minutes of the First Nations Advisory Panel Meeting held on 3 February 2026

(Report by the Business Support Specialist)

RESOLVED: Councillor MacLean and Councillor Pillamarri

That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the First Nations Advisory Panel Meeting held on 3 February 2026 be noted by Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-12 Unconfirmed Minutes of the Social Sustainability and Inclusion Advisory Panel Meeting held on 4 February 2026

(Report by the Business Support Specialist)

RESOLVED: Councillor MacLean and Councillor Pillamarri

That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Social Sustainability and Inclusion Advisory Panel Meeting held on 4 February 2026 be noted by Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-13 Delegation to the Lord Mayor and Acting Chief Executive Officer for the 2025/26 Recess Period

(Report by the Coordinator Secretariat Services)

RESOLVED: Councillor MacLean and Councillor Pillamarri

That Council receive and note the report.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-15 OCM26-15 Investment Report for January 2026

(Report by the Treasury Tax & Accounts Payable Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor MacLean and Councillor Pillamarri

That Council receive and note the January 2026 investment portfolio performance report.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Ng, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Councillor Ng left the meeting at 8.06pm and did not return.

OCM26-14 Quarterly Budget Review Statement - Q2 December 2025

(Report by the Senior Finance Business Partner)

RESOLVED: Councillor Darley and Councillor MacLean

That Council adopt the December 2025 Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) and Responsible Accounting Officer's report at Attachment 1 noting;

- (a) The net operating result, including capital grants and contributions is a surplus of \$69.9 million;
- (b) Underlying net operating result, excluding capital grants and contributions and loss or gain from asset disposals, is a deficit of \$2.7 million;

- (c) Capital expenditure of \$162.4 million and
- (d) That Council approve the revised budget for the 2025/26 financial year

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-16 OCM26-16 Status of Outstanding Council Resolutions (As at 31 December 2025)

(Report by the Business Support Specialist)

RESOLVED: Councillor Darley and Councillor Dr Prociv

That Council receive and note the report.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Question Taken on Notice (Councillor Pandey) regarding Item OCM26-16 Status of Outstanding Council Resolutions (As at 31 December 2025)

- In the table within the report what does the 89.33% represent?

Note: Councillor Dr French left the meeting at 8:31pm.

OCM26-17 OCM26-17 Public Exhibition of Draft 10 Year Waste and Circular Economy Strategy

(Report by the Group Manager Waste & Cleansing)

RESOLVED: Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak

- (a) That Council endorse the draft Waste & Circular Economy Strategy to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- (b) That the Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to make amendments of a minor, administrative and/or non-policy nature to the draft Waste & Circular Economy Strategy to enable implementation of the public exhibition.
- (c) That upon conclusion of the public exhibition period, the outcomes of the exhibition and the final Waste & Circular Economy Strategy will be presented to Council for consideration.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Councillor Dr French returned at 8:36pm.

OCM26-18 OCM26-18 Public Exhibition of Draft Councillor Workshops Policy (Report by the Governance and Procurement Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Darley and Councillor MacLean

- (a) That the draft Councillor Workshops Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
 - i. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary editorial and content changes to the draft Councillor Workshops Policy for public exhibition to give effect to Council's resolution, including but not limited to;
 - i. wording to be amended in paragraph 3 (Policy); Workshops provide an avenue for Council staff to provide Councillors background information or context to matters requiring councillor feedback in line with the model code.
 - ii. *And* amend 5.1 (a) (procedure) for item not on a future agenda a minimum of 3 councillors and as approved by the CEO.
- (b) That staff prepare a report to Council following the exhibition period to present the final Councillor Workshops Policy for adoption.

- (c) That future draft policies presented to the Chamber are accompanied with a tracked changes document.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-20 OCM26-20 Formation of a Council Finance Advisory Committee
(Report by the Chief Financial Officer)

RESOLVED: Councillor MacLean and Councillor Pillamarri

That Council:

- (a) That Council appoint the following Councillors to the newly established Committee
- i. Five (5) Councillors as voting members of the Finance Advisory Committee;
 - Councillor Darley
 - Councillor Dr Greenwood
 - Councillor Jeffrey
 - Councillor MacLean
 - Councillor Pandey
 - ii. Two (2) Councillor alternatives;
 - Councillor Dr French
 - Councillor Dr Prociv
- (b) Delegates the scheduling of the initial meeting to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Finance Advisory Committee members.
- (c) Note that the Committee's work will be based on existing Council financial reporting, including:
- i. Council's monthly financial report (as presented to Council),

- ii. Quarterly Budget Review Statements prepared under c.203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021,
 - iii. Annual financial statements and outcomes of the external audit process.
- (d) That the Terms of Reference are presented to the first Council meeting following the initial Finance Advisory Committee Meeting.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-21 OCM26-21 Adoption of Parramatta Transport Forum Terms of Reference

(Report by the Traffic & Transport Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Valjak and Councillor Ellard

That Council adopt the updated Terms of Reference for the Parramatta Transport Forum provided at Attachment 2.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-22 OCM26-22 Internship and Work Experience Review

(Report by the Executive Assistant)

RESOLVED: Councillor Dr French and Councillor Valjak

- (a) That Council receives and notes this report.

- (b) That Council is provided an annual report on the number of trainees and apprentices employed by Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Chen left at 8.56pm.

Note: Councillor Pillamarri left at 9.02pm.

OCM26-23 OCM26-23 Public Art Strategic Documents
(Report by the Cultural Projects Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Pandey and Councillor Darley

- (a) That Council endorse the proposed scope and timeline to develop a new overarching Public Art Strategy and review associated public art documents, to guide the commissioning and delivery of high-quality public art across the City of Parramatta; and
- (b) That Council note that funding required to deliver this work will be considered as part of the FY27 and FY28 budget approval processes.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

OCM26-24 OCM26-24 Report on Carbon Credits for Planting Urban Trees
(Report by the Group Manager Environment & Sustainability)

RESOLVED: Councillor Dr Greenwood and Councillor MacLean

- (a) That Council receive and note this report.

- (b) That Council staff continue to lobby the Clean Energy Regulator to investigate the inclusion of planting urban trees under the reforestation and afforestation method that can earn Australian carbon credit units (ACCU).

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen returned to the meeting at 9.04pm.

Note: Councillor Pillamarri returned to the meeting at 9.05pm.

OCM26-25 OCM26-25 Draft Submission to Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure - Discussion Paper (NSW Planning System), Draft Sydney Plan and Draft Statewide Industrial Lands Policy

(Report by the Land Use Planning Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Darley

That Council approves the submissions at Attachment 1 and Attachment 2 for lodgement with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure by the due date of 27 February 2026.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

NOTICES OF MOTION

NOM26-5 Exploring Smart Technology to Detect Potholes Using Waste Collection Vehicles (Cr Pandey)

(Motion of Councillor Pandey)

RESOLVED: Councillor Pandey and Councillor Ellard

That Council:

- (a) Request the CEO to investigate and report on the feasibility of installing camera or sensor technology on Council waste collection vehicles to identify and record potholes and road surface defects during routine garbage collection runs.
- (b) That the report include:
 - i. An overview of available technologies currently used by councils (including AI enabled cameras),
 - ii. Capital and ongoing operational costs,
 - iii. Potential efficiency gains, including earlier detection of road defects, improved maintenance planning, and cost savings,
 - iv. Opportunities for pilot programs, partnerships, or grant funding.
- (c) That the findings be presented to Council for consideration, including recommendations on whether a pilot program should be implemented in June 2026.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

NOM26-6 Light Up for Rare Diseases Day and PHIVE Calendar of Lighting (Cr Darley)

(Motion of Councillor Darley)

RESOLVED: Councillor Darley and Councillor MacLean

- (a) That Council acknowledges Rare Disease Day taking place on 28th February which aims to shine a light on the 10,000 plus rare diseases that impact over 300 million people globally, including people living in our City.
- (b) That Council participates in the 'Global Chain of Lights' for Rare Diseases Day by lighting up PHIVE and the Town Hall façade in blue, green, purple and pink on 28th February, joining thousands of buildings and monuments across more than 100 countries.
- (c) Further, that the CEO makes available a calendar on the PHIVE website of the different activities, events and causes for which Council lights up PHIVE throughout the year.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

NOM26-7 Internal Audit Function (Cr Darley)

(Motion of Councillor Darley)

RESOLVED: Councillor Darley and Councillor Ellard

- (a) That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), in consultation with the CEO, conduct a strategic assessment of Council's Internal Audit function, including:
 - i. The independence of the internal audit function
 - ii. Whether resourcing is sufficient to effectively carry out its work
 - iii. Whether it complies with the Local Government Regulation, Office for Local Governments Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW guidelines (2023), OLGs model Internal Audit Charter

(2023) and the International Professional Practices Framework

- iv. The appropriateness of annual and strategic work plans based on the risks facing Council
 - v. Progress against key performance indicators
 - vi. Whether the internal audit function adds value and delivers outcomes for Council,
 - vii. The appropriateness of the internal audit charter; and
 - viii. The views of an independent external party with strong knowledge of internal audit operation [as per the OLG Guidelines, page 65]
- (b) That the CEO and/or the ARIC Chair report back to Council on the findings and recommendations of the assessment of Councils Internal Audit function, and include the current 4-year Internal Audit plan and budget.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Question Taken on Notice (Councillor Ellard) regarding Item NOM26-7 Internal Audit Function

- In relation to the quote for the review have we estimated about, how many hours that would take and is that an appropriate quote?

NOM26-8 Data Breach (Cr Darley)

(Motion of Councillor Darley)

RESOLVED: Councillor Darley and Councillor Ellard

- (a) That Council notes the data breach recently discovered via media reports of the unauthorised disclosure of several confidential Council documents between October 2023 and October 2025 via Docs Published, Councils business papers website, and that no personal information was disclosed.

- (b) That the CEO provide an update to Council on the status of the containment and assessment of the data breach, including steps taken, associated costs, extent of the data breach and relevant reporting.
- (c) That Council requests the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) prioritise Councils externally appointed internal auditors conducting the scheduled audit of Councils record and document management, including compliance with the state records Act, this financial year.
- (d) That the CEO reviews the implementation of, and compliance with, Councils Data Breach Policy, including internal capabilities and necessary staff training (such as that set out in the NSW Data Sensitivity Guidelines), and reports back the findings and recommendations to Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Question Taken on Notice (Councillor Pandey) regarding Item NOM26-8 Data Breach

- Could you confirm if we have a cybersecurity policy around any incidents of hacking, any incidents of other kinds of breaches.

MATTER OF URGENCY

Epping Aquatic Centre

Councillor Darley sought a Suspension of Standing Orders to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding Epping Aquatic Centre.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS - MATTER OF URGENCY

RESOLVED; Councillor Darley and Councillor Dr Greenwood

That Council agree that the matter Councillor Darley wishes to raise is a Matter of Urgency and should be considered by Council.

Record of Voting

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

MOU26-1 MATTER OF URGENCY: Epping Aquatic Centre

(Urgency Motion of Councillor Darley)

RESOLVED: Councillor Darley and Councillor MacLean

- (a) That Council notes Epping Aquatic Centre has been closed for almost two years, due to the previously planned redevelopment now not able to proceed.
- (b) That Council notes our grant variation request to use the NSW Government Stronger Communities grant funding for the endorsed Epping Aquatic Centre renewal works is still pending (although the CEO has been verbally advised that the Office for Local Government has been unable to identify a mechanism to vary the grant as proposed), with determination to be made by the NSW Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Ron Hoenig MP.
- (c) That the Lord Mayor and Acting CEO seek an urgent meeting with the NSW Minister for Local Government to discuss use of the NSW Government Stronger Communities funding for Council's endorsed renewal works at Epping Aquatic Centre to ensure this much-loved community asset reopens by spring 2027.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

QUESTIONS REPORTS

QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

QWN26-9 Accidents at the Corner of Albert and O'Connell Streets North Parramatta (Cr Dr Greenwood)

(Question of Councillor Dr Greenwood)

Could Council please advise the number of accidents at the intersection of O'Connell Street and Albert St North Parramatta.

1. That have involved vehicles only
2. That have involved pedestrians and vehicles
3. That have involved damage to infrastructure and property adjoining the intersection Annually, for each calendar year 2020 - 2025.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY PLANNING & DESIGN RESPONSE:

A summary of the available reported accident data for 2020 to 2025 for the intersection of O'Connell Street and Albert Street, North Parramatta is provided below:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*
Vehicle(s) only	2	3	3	2	2	1
Pedestrian and vehicle	0	0	0	1	0	0
Damage to infrastructure/property	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	3	3	3	2	1

* only Q1 data is currently available for 2025

Generally most crashes that only involve damage to infrastructure or property (no injury) are not reported. Furthermore, for crashes that involve injuries there is not a record of whether property damage also occurred.

Property or infrastructure damage can be implied from the type of crash, for example 'run off road into object', however, there were no such accidents at this location within this timeframe.

QWN26-10 Missing Kerb Ramps (Cr Darley)

(Question of Councillor Darley)

1. How many footpaths end without a ramp to the kerb at intersections/ crossroads in each ward across the LGA?
2. What is the program of work to complete these footpaths and improve accessibility in our City?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY PLANNING & DESIGN RESPONSE:

1. At present, Council does not hold a validated, ward-by-ward, dataset identifying the number and location of footpaths that terminate without a kerb ramp at intersections or crossroads. This information would need to be gathered through a comprehensive audit; Council's next planned footpath audit is scheduled for 2028/29.
2. Improving pedestrian accessibility, including the provision of compliant kerb ramps, is currently addressed through Council's existing strategic and delivery frameworks including:
 - o Parramatta Ways Walking Strategy and Public Domain Upgrades, where accessibility outcomes are embedded within major corridor and place-based projects.
 - o Roads Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (2025-2034), which guides lifecycle renewal and upgrade of footpaths and associated pedestrian infrastructure.
 - o Council's annual capital work programs, including the **Pedestrian Access and Mobility Program (PAMP)** and **Footpath Renewal Program**, which target non-compliant footpaths and kerb ramps based on safety, accessibility, risk, condition and available funding.
 - o Development assessment and referral processes, where new private development interfaces with Council's public domain or footpath assets, enabling delivery of compliant accessibility upgrades.

QWN26-11 Epping Aquatic Centre Renewal Works (Cr Darley)

(Question of Councillor Darley)

1. What is the status of the renewal works for Epping Aquatic Centre, which are currently subject to securing a variation of the NSW Government Stronger Communities Funding grant?
2. What is the updated timeframe for reopening Epping Pool?
3. What other steps can Council take to progress the renewal works?

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS
RESPONSE:**

1. Approval from the Office of Local Government for Council's grant variation request to use the funding for the facility's renewal is still pending, although the CEO has been verbally advised that the OLG has been unable to identify a mechanism to vary the grant as proposed. Formal advice will be provided to Council once a determination has been made by the Minister's Office.
2. The timeframe for reopening Epping Pool is dependent on the availability of funding. At this stage, no funding has been allocated for the renewal of the facility. An assessment undertaken in October 2025 indicated that the proposed renewal works would take approximately 18 months to complete from contractor engagement, however, this timeframe is likely to extend while the facility remains vacant and continues to deteriorate.
3. If the NSW Government Stronger Communities Funding grant variation is unsuccessful, Council may elect to fund the renewal works, however, this would require the allocation of funding in future budgets. As the works constitute a renewal project, any reallocation of funding would impact the delivery of other critical renewal programs, including roads, playgrounds and building renewals.

Council officers are continuing to explore alternative grant opportunities to support the renewal of the facility.

QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

QON26-2 **QON26-2 Questions Taken on Notice at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 9 February 2026** (Report by the Coordinator Secretariat Services)

Councillor Darley asked a question on **OCM26-7 Referral of Inspection Reports by Fire and Rescue NSW.**

- In relation to the Somerset Apartments, has the combustible cladding been investigated by Council, and which legal framework has been utilised for the remediation?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY PLANNING & DESIGN RESPONSE:

Yes, this matter has been investigated. A test report dated 23 October 2020 was submitted to Council in response to a Development Control Order dated 22 July 2020. The report confirmed the cladding at the premises comprised of a bonded aluminium panel with a profiled aluminium core in lieu of a flammable core material and therefore considered non-combustible and not a banned product. As a result of this finding, the building was cleared and the investigation closed.

Councillor Pandey asked a question on **OCM26-7 Referral of Inspection Reports by Fire and Rescue NSW.**

- Can staff provide an update on how many buildings with flammable cladding currently exist in the LGA, and where Council is up to in terms of remediation actions, including any notices issued?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY PLANNING & DESIGN RESPONSE:

From 181 buildings on Council's potentially combustible cladding register, there are currently 18 buildings at various stages of the cladding removal process, as follows:

1. 2 buildings have initiated legal action against the developer.
2. 3 buildings have been issued with an order to test and replace. Council officers are working with the building owners to obtain relevant documentation to enable the commencement of remediation works.

3. 13 buildings are currently progressing with removal and replacement works.

Councillor Pandey asked a question on **NOM26-3 Public Amenity Along Parramatta River (Cr Darley)**.

- Can an update be provided in relation to the lighting of the Parramatta River foreshore?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

Council issued an RFQ for the Parramatta River Foreshore Effect Lighting Masterplan in September 2025 and subsequently engaged Arup in November 2025 to prepare the Masterplan. Design development is well underway with the Masterplan anticipated to be complete by the end of April 2026. A key deliverable of the Masterplan is to recommend a pilot project to be delivered as an initial capital works project within the existing available budget. Council officers will seek Parramatta Ward Councillors direction at the next Ward Workshop.

Councillor Darley asked a question on **Item QWN26-4 Waste Reduction Initiatives (Cr Darley)**.

- For Questions 2 and 3, can staff provide a breakdown by year of the 22 repair cafes held over the last three years, and a yearly breakdown of the figures referred to in question 3, to clarify when these occurred?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

In response to the Question with Notice the table below shows the number of Repair Café and Clothing Swaps undertaken per calendar year.

Calendar Year	Repair cafe	Clothing swap
2025	10	2
2024	2	1
2023	10	0

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON MATTERS PUBLISHED IN THE BUSINESS PAPER

Councillors can request information from the CEO about meeting matters as long as the information is publicly available and the request doesn't involve discussion. If a Councillor needs clarification about something in a published business paper, they can submit a written question. All submitted questions and consolidated responses will be in a supplementary business paper issued before the meeting begins.

Councillor Darley submitted two (2) questions in relation to **OCM26-18 Public Exhibition of Councillor Workshops Policy**

1. Can a marked-up copy of the policy with tracked changes please be provided?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MANAGER OFFICE OF THE LORD MAYOR & CEO RESPONSE:

Please see attachment 1 to this report.

2. The language in paragraph 3 (Policy) seems to be inconsistent with the new Code of Meeting Practice regarding briefing sessions (where background information and context is provided) not being allowed but workshops are as they gather feedback/ input from Councillors. Can you please clarify this?

MANAGER OFFICE OF THE LORD MAYOR & CEO RESPONSE:

Paragraph 3 will be amended to read as follows "*Workshops provide an avenue for Council staff to provide Councillors background information or context to matters requiring councillor feedback*" in line with the model code.

Councillor Darley submitted three (3) questions in relation to **OCM26-20 Formation of a Council Finance Advisory Committee**.

1. It is not clear in the Terms of Reference whether this meetings of the Finance Committee will be public, as they have been this term of Council. Can you please clarify how the meeting will be held and how this relates to the new Code of Meeting Practice?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

The proposed Finance Advisory Committee comprises both councillors and council staff, consistent with the Finance Committee previously established by Council.

Under the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW, the Code applies only to committees comprised solely of councillors. As a mixed membership committee, the Finance Advisory Committee is not subject to the Code and is intended to operate as a non public committee to support focused, technical discussion of financial management matters, in accordance with its Terms of Reference and consistent with previous arrangements.

2. The sequencing of the Finance Committee meetings with Council meetings is unclear. Given Council papers are now distributed only 3 business days prior to a Council meeting, how will the Finance Committee meet to discuss say the QBRS to inform the Council meeting without the report being made available prior to distribution of the Council papers? Or is the proposal that the Finance Committee meets on the Thursday or Friday prior to the Council meeting? In which case, is that enough time to ensure the minutes are presented to the Council meeting?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

In accordance with the Terms of Reference, the Finance Advisory Committee will meet quarterly, with additional meetings convened where required to provide timely advice on matters with material financial impact. Where items such as the QBRS are scheduled for Council consideration, meeting timing and reporting will be managed to support informed discussion and reporting to Council as soon as practicable.

3. Is the intent that the 2 Councillor alternatives are voting members of the Finance Committee?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

The two Councillor alternatives are intended to act as substitutes where a substantive Councillor member is unable to attend. They would only have voting rights when formally substituting for a Councillor member at a meeting; otherwise, they do not have voting rights.

Councillor Darley submitted nineteen (19) questions in relation to **OCM26-14 Quarterly Budget Review Statement - Q2 December 2025**.

1. What is the breakdown of the \$1.6m increase in legal fees proposed in the QBRS?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

The Council has revised its legal cost projections following a review of the previous six months' legal expenditure, which exceeded the budget by \$0.9 million. The higher costs are primarily attributable to litigation associated with NSW Supreme Court matters, legal expenses related to major infrastructure projects, and ongoing dispute cases.

2. [What is the impact of the \\$61.4m reduction in Capital Expenditure on the capitalisation of employee costs? What is now the forecast capitalisation of employee costs?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

The \$61.4 million reduction is not expected to affect the full-year capitalisation forecast. This is because most of the reduced capital expenditure relates to materials, contractors, and consultants involved in project delivery. As a result, employee costs are still anticipated to be capitalised, so there should be no significant change. The situation will be reassessed in Q3 and adjusted if necessary

3. [What is the reason for the \\$57.2m increase in General Reserves \(PYE\) in the QBRS Q2?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

The stronger FY26 cash position is mainly due to improved cash flow, aided by \$11.0m in grants, \$15.58m in developer contributions, and shifting \$41.6m in Q2 capital expenses to FY27 and later.

4. [What is driving the \\$3m increase in Materials and Contracts?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

Legal expenses (-\$1.6m), Sydney Water breakthrough project costs (-\$1m, with anticipated revenue included in the FY27 Draft Budget), and restoration expenditures (-\$0.8m) were offset by an increase in restoration revenue. Additionally, there was a partial offset from the deferral of CRC operations (+\$0.4m), which has been incorporated into the FY27 Draft Budget.

5. What is the impact of the \$1.7m in 'savings' from prioritising vacant roles?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

Some services have been affected due to prioritising vacant roles, including: weekly paver washing at main centres; conducting proactive inspections and cleaning of residential streets on a five-week cycle; bi-annual weed management at local and neighbourhood centres and traffic islands; programmed litter picking in neighbourhood and local centres, with completion around 85%; park maintenance becoming more reactive instead of proactive; reduced strategic planning activities in the tree team; and increased use of contractors for tree maintenance work.

It also impacted the ability to meet statutory obligations in accordance with SLAs and KPIs (including ministerial KPIs) in a sustained manner, and delays in the delivery of DPOP actions.

6. Why has the funding proportion of Capital Expenditure program from 'rates and other untied funding'/ General Reserve increased from 30% to 37%?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

Capital expenditure funded by rates and other untied sources, including the General Reserve, has decreased by 9%—equivalent to \$6.3 million—when compared to the Q1 forecast.

7. The formatting in the Cash & Investments Budget Review Statement appears incorrect, or is it correct that Other Externally Restricted Reserves are subpoints of Storm Water Management?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

Other Externally Restricted Reserves are separate from Stormwater Management. The formatting for these restricted funds was incorrect, but it will be corrected before submitting the final version to the OLG.

8. Does interest from Developer Contributions go back into that restricted reserve?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

Yes, interest earned from Developer Contributions is allocated to the restricted reserve.

9. Why has there been a delay in the Belmore Stage 1 project?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

The Belmore Park project has experienced delays primarily due to the project cost exceeding the approved budget, which has required a rescoping of works and subsequent amendments to the project documentation before it can progress to tender. In parallel, the project remains dependent on receiving formal approvals from Sydney Water and Endeavour Energy, both of which are required due to the presence of utility assets within the site and associated easements. These approval timeframes are outside Council's direct control and must be finalised before the design can be completed and construction commenced.

10. How is parking revenue tracking against budget?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

Compared to the FY26 Original Budget, as of YTD Jan, car parking revenue was (\$0.5m) behind the budget. Justice Precinct (\$0.3m) and East St (\$0.2m)

11. Please explain why \$400k for tree maintenance has not been incorporated into the QBRS is identified as a risk (page 105)?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

Compared to Q1, the budget has increased by \$100k. However, due to recent weather events and the existing backlog, there remains a residual risk of up to \$400k. This risk has not been included in Q2 at this stage, as we are seeking greater clarity on the actual workload and the likelihood of the risk to fully materialise, while also investigating alternative delivery options, including the use of internal resources. This will be reviewed in Q3 and budgeted adjusted accordingly.

12. Why has the Integrated Parking Solutions Program been rephased \$1.9m?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

The project budget was allocated at Q1, and the full project budget was required to be allocated in the FY26 budget to ensure that it was fully accounted for. This has now been rephased in the FY27 budget and Long-term Financial Plan to align with the project delivery schedule.

13. Why has WICR346 Duck River Nature Trail been rephased \$1.5m?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

This is to align the budget with anticipated timing of expenditure. Detailed design is well progressed, and the project is currently seeking formal environmental

approval of the Environmental Impact Statement for specific sections of the project. This process is likely to take a further 3 to 6 months.

14. [How can the 'Phillip Street Smart St Stage 2' project be on track if \\$2.7m \(or 80%\) is being rephased to FY27?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

Phillip Street Smart Street Stage 2 is on track for completion this FY (pending external approvals from Endeavour Energy). The majority of works are complete with some minor works outstanding, including the design and construction of a raised pedestrian crossing, installation of CCTV, fibre and smart elements, and decommissioning of Endeavour Energy poles. The Q1 budget incorporated an incorrect rollover allocation, this was corrected at Q2. The Q2 budget adjustments accurately reflect the remaining works.

15. [How can the 'BNP 2024 Waratah Shops upgrade' be on track if \\$400k \(or 42%\) is being rephased to FY27 and it's a 2024 project?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

There has been a minor delay to this project. This is related to the expansion of the stage 1 scope to include the public domain works (as well as lighting and CCTV) following the allocation of the Development Contributions funding. In order to ensure the full budget was accounted for at all times, the Development Contributions were allocated at Q1 and then rephased at Q2 when the FY27 budget opened.

16. [Why is the Fennell St Car Park Redevelopment only being added to the Q2 QBRS when \\$250k was approved in May 2025? Why have the costs increased for this project to \\$474k?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORPORATE & PROPERTY SERVICES RESPONSE:

The \$250k was included in the Q1 QBRS as operational expenses. Based on the scope of work, we have identified these costs as capital in nature, therefore have classified as capital expenses in Q2 QBRS

Increase in costs:

In the Q1 QBRS, costs did not account for makegood or site preparation work, since these were initially to be covered by Transport for NSW. However, it was later decided that the Council would complete the makegood work and then invoice TfNSW for their share of the expenses. The amount recoverable from TfNSW has now been included as capital contribution revenue in the Q2 QBRS.

17. How can the 'WICR1040 Strengthening the Heart of Play' project be on track if \$1.7m (or 80%) is being rephased to FY27?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

The project remains on track in line with the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grant funding deed. The initial budget phasing ensured that the full budget was accounted for in the financial system. The budget has now been reforecast to accurately reflect the project delivery schedule.

18. Why has the WILGA211 Active Youth are Healthy Youth project been delayed?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

The WILGA211 Active Youth are Healthy Youth project was delayed as construction could not commence until a final site was endorsed, which has now been completed. At the time of funding approval, no site had been confirmed, requiring further assessment and engagement to inform the concept plan. Community consultation will commence once the concept plan has been agreed. These steps were necessary to ensure the project meets community needs and funding requirements prior to progressing to construction.

19. Where is the increase in costs of the Hunts Creek Culvert project being funded from?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

General Revenue

Councillor Darley submitted a question in relation to **NOM26-6 Light Up for Rare Diseases Day and PHIVE Calendar of Lighting.**

- Is it possible to light up PHIVE for Mardi Gras in the days leading up to 28th February?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY & CULTURE AND CITY ENGAGEMENT & EXPERIENCE RESPONSE:

PHIVE can be lit up commencing Tuesday 24 February to Friday 27 February to recognise Mardi Gras and lit on Saturday 28 February to recognise Rare Disease Day.

Councillor Darley submitted two (2) questions in relation to **QWN26-10 Missing Kerb Ramps**.

1. [How many footpaths is Council aware of \(given a full audit is yet to be done\) that end at intersections/ cross roads without a ramp to the kerb?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

At present, Council does not hold a verified or consolidated count of footpaths that terminate at intersections or crossroads without a kerb ramp.

Council undertakes formal footpath condition assessments on a 4 yearly cycle to inform long term asset management, renewal and upgrade planning. The most recent assessment (2025) focused on overall asset condition and structural performance and did not include a specific attribute recording the presence or absence of kerb ramps at intersections or crossroads. As such, the outcomes of that assessment cannot be used to retrospectively determine an accurate LGA wide number.

While Council officers may be aware of isolated locations identified through service requests, project scoping or site inspections, these instances are not captured within a consistent LGA-wide dataset and therefore cannot be reliably aggregated or reported as a total figure.

Council intends to incorporate consideration of kerb ramp presence into future scheduled condition assessments, including the next 4-yearly review, to enable more comprehensive and consistent reporting over time.

2. [Given that a full audit hasn't been completed, will this work now be included in the refreshed Disability Inclusion Action Plan?](#)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CITY SERVICES & PROJECTS RESPONSE:

The Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan has been finalised in order to advance a Council report on its public exhibition. In the drafting of that document, work regarding kerb ramps has been considered as a business as usual item managed by the relevant service area. Inclusion of an action related to this can be worked on by that service area for noting within the public exhibition and final incorporation into the document at the completion of the public exhibition.

PROCEDURAL MOTION MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Note: Prior to moving into Closed Session, the Lord Mayor invited members of the public gallery to make representations as to why any item had been included in Closed Session. No member of the gallery wished to make representations.

RESOLVED: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Darley

That at this time of the meeting, being 9.52pm, the Chair advised that the meeting would move into Closed Confidential Session to allow consideration of matters in Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A of the Local Government Act 1993.

Accordingly, members of the press and public were excluded from the closed session and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session will be withheld. This action was taken to discuss:

- **CON26-2 Payment of Legal Fees**

This report is confidential in accordance with section 10A (2) (g) of the Local Government Act 1993 as the report contains advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

That in accordance with Section 10D it is considered that if the matter were discussed in an open Council Meeting, it would on balance, be contrary to the public interest as its advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

- **CON26-3 ITT 370 External Legal Panel Tender**

This report is confidential in accordance with section 10A (2) © of the Local Government Act 1993 as the report contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

That in accordance with Section 10D it is considered that if the matter were discussed in an open Council Meeting, it would on balance, be contrary to the public interest as its information that would if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Council moved into Closed Session at 9.53pm.

15 CLOSED SESSION

CON26-2 Payment of Legal Fees

(Report by the Principal Solicitor)

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Pillamarri

- (a) That Council approve payment for the Counsel costs of former Lord Mayor Councillor Mr Wilson as listed in the confidential report.
- (b) That prior to Council making any further payment that Council staff review the solicitor invoices in line with the Councillor Expenses and Facilities policy and report the outcomes back to Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Councillor Dr French left the meeting at 10.03pm and did not return.

CON26-3 ITT 370 External Legal Panel Tender

(Report by the Governance and Procurement Manager)

Councillor French disclosed a Pecuniary interest.

RECOMMENDATION: Councillor Pandey and Councillor Dr Prociv

That Council:

- (a) Accept the tenders listed in Table 2 and establish an External Legal Panel at the proposed rates for an initial term of three (3) years, with two (2) optional one (1)-year extensions;
- (b) Notify all unsuccessful tenderers of Council's decision; and
- (c) Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer authority to finalise and execute all documents necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Question Taken on Notice (Councillor Pandey) regarding Item CON26-3 ITT 370 External Legal Panel Tender

**PROCEDURAL MOTION
RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

RESOLVED: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Valjak

That Council return to Open Session, the time being 10.33pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

Note: Council returned to Open Session at 10.33pm.

**17 CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CLOSED
SESSION**

RESOLVED: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Pillamarri

That the recommendations in relation to the following items:

- **CON26-2 Payment of Legal Fees**
- **CON26-3 ITT 370 External Legal Panel Tender**

be received and noted as resolutions of Council without any alteration and amendments thereto.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

CON26-2 Payment of Legal Fees

(Report by the Principal Solicitor)

RESOLVED: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Pillamarri

- (a) That Council approve payment for the Counsel costs of former Lord Mayor Councillor Mr Wilson as listed in the confidential report.
- (b) That prior to Council making any further payment that Council staff review the solicitor invoices in line with the Councillor Expenses and Facilities policy and report the outcomes back to Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

CON26-3 ITT 370 External Legal Panel Tender

(Report by the Governance and Procurement Manager)

RESOLVED: Councillor Ellard and Councillor Pillamarri

That Council:

- (a) Accept the tenders listed in Table 2 and establish an External Legal Panel at the proposed rates for an initial term of three (3) years, with two (2) optional one (1)-year extensions;
- (b) Notify all unsuccessful tenderers of Council's decision; and
- (c) Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer authority to finalise and execute all documents necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Lord Mayor, Councillor Zaiter, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chen, Councillor Darley, Councillor Ellard, Councillor Dr French, Councillor Dr Greenwood, Councillor MacLean, Councillor Pandey, Councillor Pillamarri, Councillor Dr Prociv and Councillor Valjak (Unanimous)

CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 10:35pm.

This page and the preceding 40 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 February 2026 and will be confirmed at the next Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 9 March 2026.



Signature of the Chairperson