

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the:

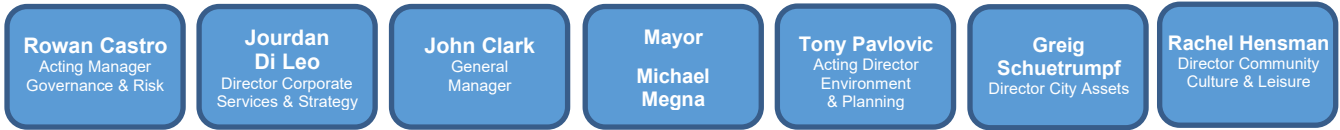
Council Chambers, City of Canada Bay Civic Centre, Drummoyne

Tuesday, 19 May 2026

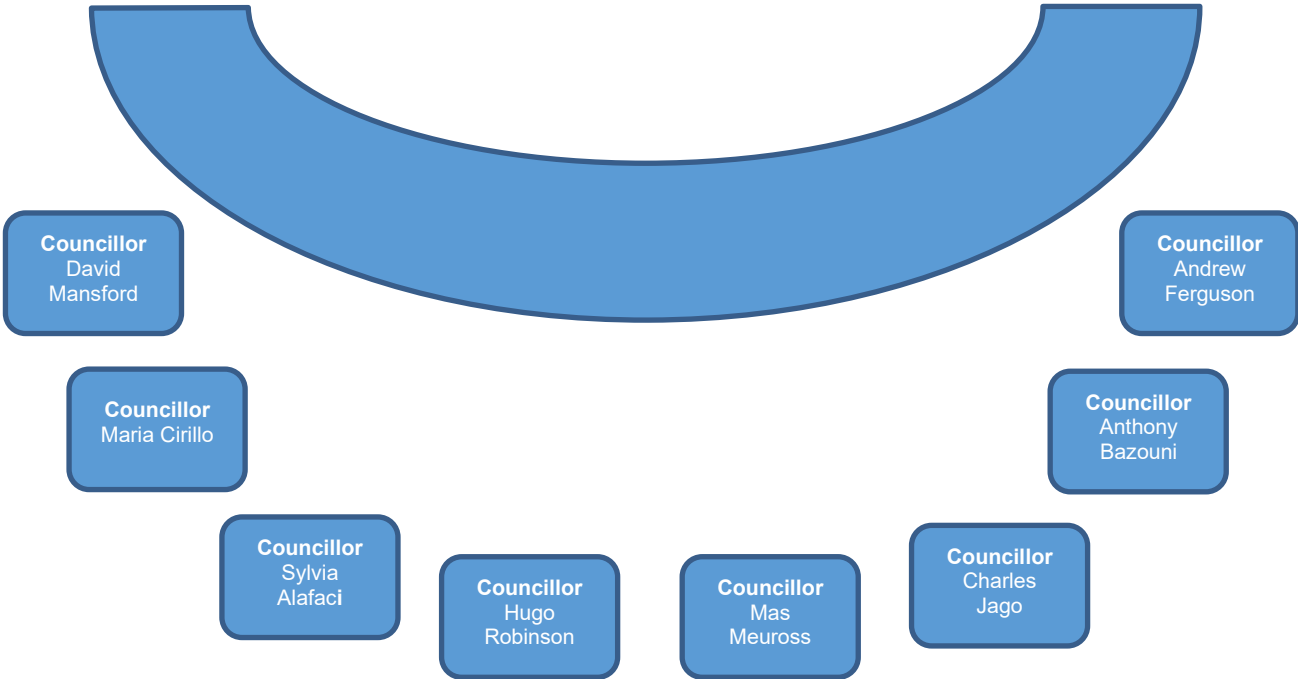
Beginning at 6:00 PM for the purpose of considering and determining matters included in this agenda.



John Clark
General Manager



**Councillors
 City of Canada Bay**



Statement of Ethical Obligations

The Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath/Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the City of Canada Bay and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act or any other Act, to the best of their skill and judgement.

It is also a requirement that the Mayor and Councillors disclose conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda or which are considered at this meeting in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.

Agenda for an Ordinary Council Meeting

to be held on Tuesday 19 May 2026

at the Council Chambers, City of Canada Bay Civic Centre, Drummoyne

Commencing at 6:00 PM

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Canada Bay acknowledges the Wangal clan, one of the 29 tribes of the Eora nation and the traditional custodians of this land.

The City's Council pays respect to Elders past and present and extends this respect to all Aboriginal people living in or visiting the City of Canada Bay.

2 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

In accordance with Part 5 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice a Councillor should submit an apology for the meetings they are unable to attend, state the reasons for their absence from the meetings and request that Council grant them a leave of absence from the relevant meetings. In response to any apology submitted, Council must determine by resolution whether to grant the Councillor a leave of absence for the meeting. If Council resolves not to grant a leave of absence for the meeting, it must state the reasons for its decisions in its resolution.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21 APRIL 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 April 2026 copies of which were previously circulated, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

In accordance with Part 16 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, all Councillors must disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting.

5 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

6 ITEMS RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION




In accordance with Part 13 of the Code of Meeting Practice, items that are dealt with by exception are items where the recommendations contained in the staff reports in the agenda are adopted without discussion.

7 EXECUTIVE SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORTS

8 ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING DIRECTORATE REPORTS

ITEM 8.1 STATEWIDE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN PUBLIC EXHIBITION AND SUBMISSION

Reporting Manager Manager Strategic Planning

- Attachments:
1. **Attachment A - City of Canada Bay Submission - Draft Statewide Community Consultation Plan (Provided in Attachment Booklet)** 
 2. **Attachment B - Draft Statewide Community Participation Plan (Provided in Attachment Booklet)** 
 3. **Attachment C - Discussion Paper - Draft Statewide Community Participation Plan (Provided in Attachment Booklet)** 

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

That the submission on the Statewide Community Participation Plan at Attachment A of the report be endorsed and forwarded to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to brief Council on the NSW Government's exhibition of the draft *Statewide Community Consultation Plan* which seeks to standardise public consultation requirements for planning matters across NSW. It tables a draft submission from the City of Canada Bay on the proposed changes and seeks endorsement of the submission at **Attachment A** as Council's formal submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Industry (DPHI).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The NSW Government is proposing changes to the community participation process as part of a series of reforms to make the planning system faster, fairer and more outcomes focused.

Currently, there are more than 120 different Community Participation Plans (CPP) across NSW (including Canada Bay Council's CPP), with a variety of requirements on how the public is engaged in planning decisions.

NSW Government is proposing to replace these with a single *Statewide Community Participation Plan* (SCPP), ensuring consultation requirements are consistent across the State and stakeholders have consistent opportunities to shape the communities where they live and work. The stated intent of the plan is to 'reduce unnecessary consultation for low risk or strategically assessed projects while preserving meaningful community input on significant developments.'

Council officers have prepared a submission to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) (**Attachment A**), outlining concerns with key elements of the SCPP (**Attachment B**). Issues and recommendations are detailed below; however critical concerns include:

- Failure to provide for community engagement that genuinely enables stakeholders to engage in matters that affect them and a misalignment of engagement levels with the scale and potential impacts of planning change.
- Paring back of consultation on a range of significant strategic planning functions, including some State Environmental Planning Policies and other NSW Government policy, legislation and guidelines, NSW Government and council masterplans for urban renewal areas, re-

exhibition of amended applications or strategic planning projects by the Department and councils and amendments to planning controls that are concurrent with a State Significant Development Application (SSDA).

- Removal of public exhibition requirements for certain development applications, including residential flat buildings and shop top housing (mixed use) that meet certain criteria, and reducing exhibition periods for larger, more complex development applications, such as SSDAs through the Housing Delivery Authority, to a 14 day consultation period.
- Failure to include criteria for exercising discretion and exemptions for consultation, for example listing types and scales of development this can/cannot be applied to, providing criteria for what will be considered an urgent matter requiring reduced exhibition.

It is recommended that Council endorse the attached submission and that the submission be forwarded to the Department of Planning, Housing and Industry.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 3: Vibrant Urban Living

Goal VUL 4: Ensure the built environment respect the unique neighbourhood character and responds deftly to evolving community needs

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 4: The City of Canada Bay community is well informed and eager to engage in issues and decisions that impact them

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Community Participation Plans

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act), currently requires Councils and relevant NSW Government authorities to prepare a Community Participation Plan (CPP), establishing how and when the community will be engaged when exercising planning functions. In accordance with the Act, Council currently includes consultation requirements for planning matters in the *City of Canada Bay Community Participation Plan*.

There are over 120 different CPPs and community engagement strategies in place across NSW, leading to inconsistent consultation practices and timeframes for public exhibition of planning changes. These inconsistencies mean that similar development proposals can require different consultation depending on location.

Planning reform

The NSW Government is now implementing legislative reforms with the intent of making the planning system faster, fairer and more outcomes focused. As part of these reforms, the NSW Government have prepared a new *Statewide Community Participation Plan* with the aim of standardising public exhibition requirements and providing certainty for all stakeholders who interact with the planning system. The SCPP will replace all planning related matters in Council CPPs across NSW.

Draft Statewide Community Participation Plan

On the 18 April 2026, the Department of Planning, Housing and Industry (DPHI) placed the *Statewide Community Participation Plan* (SCPP) on exhibition, with submissions due on 3 June 2026. The SCPP is provided at **Attachment B** and the accompanying Discussion Paper at **Attachment C**.

The SCPP proposes revised consultation requirements with the intent of reducing unnecessary consultation for low-risk planning decisions such as development applications that meet agreed upon LEP and DCP planning controls, while preserving meaningful community input on significant planning matters.

Key changes relevant to Council are:

- *Failure to embed meaningful engagement* – a shift away from best practice community consultation, with
 - an increase in types of development that do not require exhibition such as residential flat buildings and shop top housing that meet certain criteria,
 - a paring back of consultation on significant strategic planning and development applications.
 - an overreliance on the community to understand the importance of rezonings and masterplans to support reduced engagement at DA stages.
- *Strategic Planning* – Flexibility to remove exhibition requirements for some draft State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs); NSW Government legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines; NSW Government and council masterplans for urban renewal areas; and re-exhibition of any amended application or matter by the Department and councils. Where an SSDA has a recurrent rezoning/change of controls, exhibition for these changes is now to be 14 days, rather than the current 28 days for a planning proposal.
- *Development Applications* – Removal of public exhibition requirements for certain development applications, including residential flat buildings and shop top housing that meet certain criteria, limiting feedback on larger, complex development applications, such as State Significant Development Applications, to only a 14 day consultation period
- *Ambiguity* – failure to include criteria for where exclusions and discretion can be exercised.

A submission on the draft SCPP has been prepared. Key issues and recommendations outlined in the submission are summarised below.

Key Issues and recommendations

General

Issue	Key recommendations
Best practice community engagement	
The SCPP moves away from the intent of the plan as a framework that enables community engagement commensurate with the impact of a proposal and fails to establish best practice in community and stakeholder participation.	Align the SCPP with best practice frameworks such as IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum, the Office of Local Government's Handbook for NSW councils and the Planning Institute of Australia's submission on Economic reform.
Reduced transparency and accountability	
Important exhibition requirements are increasingly delegated to planning instruments that can be amended without public exhibition. This approach	Limit matters that can proceed without public exhibition to matters of a minor nature, with Councils and the

Issue	Key recommendations
<p>increases the complexity of the planning framework and reduces transparency.</p> <p>Short exhibition periods and limited engagement create uncertainty and risks diminishing community confidence in the planning system.</p>	<p>community consulted on the scope of these inclusions.</p>
<p>Over reliance on community engagement and knowledge at strategic planning stages</p>	
<p>The SCPP is developed around the assumption that strategic planning processes establish strong community understanding and engagement, and that this can be relied on to scale back engagement in subsequent stages. eg. DA's in LMR areas, shop top housing and RFB developments (if they meet certain criteria). This approach also assumes the community has time and capacity to interrogate extensive technical information and then prepare a submission.</p> <p>Given this, removal of meaningful engagement with communities, especially at the DA stage, is difficult to support. Genuine opportunity to comment on development that directly affects where people live should be reinstated.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove reliance on engagement with communities at the strategic planning stage to justify reduced engagement for significant development at the DA stage. 2. Ensure communities retain the ability to influence development applications through localised consultation practice. 3. Failing the above, assess the effectiveness of engagement at strategic planning stages in reaching individuals in communities, including how well individuals understand what is being proposed and how this will directly impact them. Develop amended engagement practices to address the findings of this review.
<p>Potential for development to proceed with little or no public engagement at policy and DA stage</p>	
<p>The proposed timeframes and exemptions create pathways for significant development to proceed with limited or no public exhibition. The suite of changes could result in sequential approvals of high-level instruments and then subsequent development applications without community scrutiny at any stage.</p> <p>For example: a non-exhibited SEPP amendment could be followed by no or minimal exhibition of a subsequent development application.</p>	<p>Review and amend community consultation pathways that have potential for planning changes to bypass exhibition requirements across each stage of the process – eg, exempt SEPPs and LEPs, followed by development applications requiring little or no exhibition.</p>

Strategic planning

Issue	Key recommendations
Exhibition periods for major strategic planning projects	
<p>Minimum exhibition requirements for key legislative and strategic planning matters largely align with the existing 28 to 60 day exhibition periods, depending on the type of project.</p> <p>However, for some strategic planning projects the SCPP introduces opportunity for exhibition to be “discretionary based on the urgency, scale or nature of the proposal” without providing definition or criteria for where this can be exercised. This discretion can be exercised for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Explanations of Intended Effects (EIEs) for State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) • Policies and guidelines • Departmental draft legislation, regulation, policies and guidelines, • Departmental and council masterplans for urban renewal areas, • Planning proposals to amend or create an LEP • Re-exhibition of any amended application or matter by the Department and councils. <p>This new, undefined provision is concerning given the extent of change these strategic instruments often propose and the SCPP’s aim of requiring exhibition timeframes that are proportionate with the level of impact and risk.</p>	<p>Remove any exhibition or notification requirements that are qualitative i.e. where a decision to not exhibit relies on undefined circumstances.</p> <p>or</p> <p>Define ‘urgency, scale and nature of a proposal’ and provide criteria for when discretion can be exercised, with Councils and the community consulted on the scope of these inclusions.</p>
Exhibition requirements for masterplans and significant renewal projects	
<p>The draft SCPP proposes a 42-day non legislated exhibition period for masterplans but allows this requirement to be waived on the basis of ‘urgency scale and nature of the proposal’.</p> <p>Given the strategic importance and potential impact of masterplans, it is difficult to envisage any circumstance where a masterplan would need to be made so urgently that avoiding or reducing public exhibition periods would be necessary.</p> <p>Given the shift to reducing consultation at development application stage, it is considered essential that the SCPP mandates studies and documents required to support a masterplan/renewal project and a prescribed level of detail be included for these.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Require a minimum 42 day exhibition period for Departmental and council masterplans for urban renewal areas and remove flexibility for a reduction or exemption from public consultation. 2. Mandate required studies and documents to support a masterplan or renewal project and include a prescribed level of detail for each. Include a requirement for Design Guides and Contributions Plans for State-led rezonings, whether master planned or site-specific, and a minimum exhibition period of 28 days.

Issue	Key recommendations
<p>A draft Design Guide and draft Contributions Plan should be essential documents prepared for exhibition, notably absent for the Burwood North Rezoning exhibition.</p>	<p>3. Require a minimum 28 day exhibition period for regionally significant development and amend the SCPP to reflect the removal of regional planning panels.</p>

Development Applications

Issue	Key recommendations
<p>SSDAs with concurrent amendments to strategic planning controls (eg. LEP/SEPP/DCP controls)</p>	
<p>Within the Housing Delivery Authority, SSDAs proposing concurrent planning instrument amendments (strategic planning elements) are currently required to be exhibited for 14 days. This is retained in the SCPP.</p> <p>This approach is inconsistent with community expectations for large, complex developments and limits meaningful participation. Short timeframes restrict the ability of stakeholders to assess proposals, obtain advice and prepare submissions, including Councils.</p> <p>This concern is particularly acute where SSD applications with concurrent rezonings facilitate development outcomes of significant scale, such as what we are seeing in Rhodes. These proposals often seek extensive variations to planning controls and affordable housing provisions, which can have long term implications.</p> <p>SSDAs with concurrent changes to planning controls should be exhibited consistent with notification periods for SEPP/LEP/DCP amendments (28 days).</p>	<p>Require SSDAs with concurrent planning control amendments to be exhibited consistent with notification periods for SEPP/LEP/DCP amendments (28 days).</p>
<p>SSDAs for in-fill affordable housing, build-to-rent, seniors housing, and development in a Transport Oriented Development precinct</p>	
<p>The SCPP proposes minimum exhibition of 14 days for state significant development that is in-fill affordable housing, build-to-rent, seniors housing, development in a Transport-Oriented Development. In the City of Canada Bay these types of developments can propose 30-40 storey towers containing over 1000 dwellings.</p> <p>A 14 day exhibition period is inconsistent with community expectation around opportunities to engage on large complex developments and significantly undermines meaningful engagement,</p>	<p>Amend the EP&A Regulations and the SCPP to require a 28 day exhibition timeframe for state significant development for in-fill affordable housing, build-to-rent, seniors housing, development in a TOD precinct.</p>

Issue	Key recommendations
<p>particularly where proposals have substantial and long-term local impacts. Shortened exhibition periods also limits the capacity of residents and stakeholders to understand proposals, seek independent advice and provide considered submissions, and are inconsistent with principles of transparency and procedural fairness.</p> <p>It is more appropriate to exhibit these types of SSDAs for 28 days.</p>	
Development types exempt from notification and exhibition (see p25 of draft SCPP)	
<p>The SCPP includes exemptions from exhibition for a range of development applications, generally on the basis that these are low impact developments, if the development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “is permissible in the relevant zone; and • meets the relevant planning controls in a local environmental plan, development control plan and/or state environmental planning policy; and • does not include a 4.6 variation.” <p>Examples of where this applies include commercial/retail change of use, take away premises, secondary dwellings, minor works on heritage items, boundary adjustments.</p> <p>More significantly the SCPP includes exhibition exemptions for shop top housing (mixed use developments) and residential flat buildings if they meet the above criteria, resulting in a neighbour/community being first aware of the development 7 days prior to works commencing, via a pre-commencement works notification. This can include development within an LMR area.</p> <p>The expression “relevant planning controls” is not clearly defined. It is unclear what controls are to be considered “relevant”, particularly where multiple instruments apply, including Local Environmental Plans (LEPs), Development Control Plans (DCPs) and State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs).</p> <p>Further, the criterion assumes that compliance with planning controls can be readily and objectively determined. In practice, this is not the case. Compliance is often dependent on detailed and iterative assessment, including consideration of qualitative matters such as design response, amenity</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove the criterion requiring development to “meet the relevant planning controls”. 2. Table 6 - Remove residential flat buildings and shop top housing developments from the proposed exemption from notification and exhibition provision. 3. Require exhibition of all residential flat building and shoptop housing developments for a minimum of 21 days. 4. Increase notification timeframe for mid-rise housing to 21 days. 5. Limit any exemption from notification to genuinely low-impact development where there is a high degree of certainty that no material planning issues arise. 6. Exclusion of exhibition requirements for applications for the removal of heritage listed trees.

Issue	Key recommendations
<p>impacts and the relationship between multiple controls.</p> <p>The exemption process also places pressure on councils to make early determinations of consistency on larger projects, before any detailed assessment is undertaken. This increases procedural risk and the risk of legal challenge, potentially undermining the intended efficiencies.</p> <p>Note: Where a development does not meet the set criteria, a 14 day exhibition period is proposed by the SCPP. The City of Canada Bay CPP currently requires a 21 day exhibition period. This is a more appropriate period given the impact of these types of developments.</p>	
Exhibition of development in LMR areas	
<p>The SCPP proposes minimum exhibition of 14 days for development in an LMR area. Council currently exhibits for 21 days, consistent with the Canada Bay CPP.</p> <p>Development under Low and Mid-Rise Housing provisions can include residential buildings of between 6 and 8 storeys. These developments will often be located in low density areas and have significant impacts on the neighbourhood.</p> <p>Providing 14 days for exhibition of residential flat buildings in LMR areas does not provide sufficient time for affected neighbours to understand and respond to proposals.</p>	<p>Increase the exhibition period for mid-low rise housing developments to 21 days. A notification period of 21 days would acknowledge the scale of impact of mid low rise housing development in lower density areas and align with Councils current approach established in the CB CPP.</p>

Findings and recommendations

While the SCPP seeks to standardise public consultation requirements for planning matters across NSW, the draft Plan raises a series of questions and issues that will impact Council's ability to consult effectively with the local community and for the community to be meaningfully engaged in matters that affect them. A submission outlining Council's concerns and recommendations has been prepared.

It is recommended that the submission on the Statewide Community Participation Plan (**Attachment A**) be endorsed and forwarded to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI).

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The draft SCPP (**Attachment B**) is currently on public exhibition by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) until 3 June 2026.

Council officers have prepared a submission (**Attachment A**) to DPHI outlining the concerns and recommendations highlighted in this report.

It is anticipated that the draft SCPP will be finalised by NSW Government in the second half of 2026.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

As required by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act).Part 2, Division 2.6 requires all planning authorities to prepare a Community Participation Plan that sets out how and when they will engage the community when exercising planning functions.

Council has adopted its own CPP, the City of Canada Bay Community Participation Plan.

When the *Statewide Community Consultation Plan* is finalised and published by NSW Government, the *City of Canada Bay Community Participation Plan* will become defunct and community engagement on planning matters will need to align with the SCPP.

ITEM 8.2 COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL BENCHMARKING**Reporting Manager** Manager Sustainability and Waste**Attachments:** Nil

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

That Council:

1. Notes the findings of the staff review of the Cities Race to Zero Program and its challenges for Council's continued participation.
 2. Authorises the Mayor to write to Cities Race to Zero formally withdrawing from the program on the basis that the costs in staff time outweigh the benefits.
 3. Develops more practical benchmarking opportunities including continued membership and reporting through the NSW Sustainability Advantage Program.
-

PURPOSE

Report on the benefits and challenges of Council's participation in the *Cities Race to Zero Program*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council resolved on 28 September 2021 to participate in the Cities Race to Zero program, which requires annual public reporting on climate mitigation and climate adaptation through the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). In August 2025, Council further resolved that staff review the effectiveness of this participation and report back with recommendations on future involvement.

The review has found that the Cities Race to Zero framework is not well aligned with the scale or operational responsibilities of a local council such as the City of Canada Bay. While CDP is widely used by large global cities and corporations, the reporting framework is primarily designed for metropolitan-wide jurisdictions with responsibility for transport systems and other major city-wide services. This limits its relevance and usefulness for Council.

Preparation of the annual CDP submission requires a substantial investment of staff time and relies heavily on complex datasets sourced from external agencies, including NSW Government departments, Ausgrid and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO). Council has limited control over many of the metrics assessed (such as grid decarbonisation, transport policy and mode shift, health and social policy including energy poverty and food security), constraining its ability to meaningfully influence outcomes or improve scores over time. The reporting process has also delivered limited actionable feedback to support continuous improvement within Council's direct sphere of influence.

Given the misalignment with Council's functions, the resourcing required, and the limited benchmarking value achieved, officers have determined that continued participation in Cities Race to Zero does not represent an efficient or effective use of staff resources. It is therefore recommended that Council formally withdraw from the program.

Council will continue to demonstrate leadership in sustainability through more relevant and practical benchmarking and improvement mechanisms, including ongoing participation in the NSW Government's Sustainability Advantage program. Council has been a member of Sustainability Advantage since 2021 and will make greater use of the program's peer-benchmarking, specialist support and recognition scheme, which enables members to achieve bronze, silver or gold recognition based on demonstrated sustainability performance and commitments.

This approach will enable Council to focus resources on initiatives that are aligned with Council's operations and capacity to deliver measurable sustainability outcomes.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 2: Sustainable and Thriving Environment

Goal STE 1: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Goal STE 2: Increase urban tree canopy

Goal STE 3: Reduce waste to landfill through avoidance and increased recycling and reuse

Goal STE 4: Enhance and protect native flora and fauna to support local biodiversity

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 1: Council is accountable, efficient, and ready to meet future challenges

Goal CL 4: The City of Canada Bay community is well informed and eager to engage in issues and decisions that impact them

Goal CL 3: Council works with partners to actively shape the City's future

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Council resolved on 28 September 2021 to join the Cities Race to Zero program as part of its commitment to climate leadership and emissions reduction. At the time, participation was intended to strengthen Council's transparency, align Council with leading climate-active jurisdictions, and provide a framework for benchmarking climate mitigation and adaptation activity through public disclosure.

Cities Race to Zero requires participating councils to report annually through the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) against a standardised global framework. The framework assesses performance across mitigation and adaptation metrics and assigns an overall score ranging from A (highest) to D (lowest). CDP is widely recognised and used by large cities, regions and corporations internationally.

Since commencing participation, Council officers have developed a detailed understanding of the program's scope, expectations and reporting requirements. The review in response to the August 2025 Council resolution has confirmed that the CDP framework is primarily designed for large metropolitan jurisdictions with responsibility for transport networks, energy systems and other major city-wide services. As a result, many of the indicators assessed are not well aligned with the scale, functions or operational responsibilities of a smaller local council such as the City of Canada Bay.

Preparation of the annual CDP submission requires a significant investment of staff time. Much of the data required for reporting is complex and must be sourced from external agencies, including NSW Government departments, Ausgrid and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO). Council has limited control over many of these datasets and over the performance outcomes assessed, which constrains Council's ability to meaningfully influence or improve its scores over time. The reporting process has also provided limited actionable feedback to support continuous improvement in areas within Council's direct control.

In addition, participation in Cities Race to Zero sits alongside Council's existing statutory and strategic reporting obligations under the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework. Council currently reports on environmental footprint and sustainability performance using the Trellis environmental management system for Council operations and the Resilient Sydney platform for community-wide resilience and sustainability outcomes. These reporting mechanisms are better aligned with Council's legislative responsibilities, operational scope and strategic decision-making processes, and already provide robust data to inform performance monitoring and reporting.

The resourcing required to complete annual CDP submissions is disproportionate to the benefits achieved, particularly given Council's limited ability to influence many of the assessed metrics. The report asks for progress towards actions that Council has little influence over. For example, grid decarbonisation, systemic public transport changes, water supply systems and social policies.

Council remains committed to climate action, transparency and continuous improvement. Officers recommend that Council withdraw from Cities Race to Zero and redirect staff effort to more relevant, practical and outcome-focused benchmarking and improvement activities. This includes continued participation in the [NSW Government's Sustainability Advantage program](#), of which Council has been a member since 2021. Sustainability Advantage offers targeted support for NSW councils, relevant peer benchmarking, and practical implementation guidance. Council will also actively use the program's recognition scheme, which enables members to achieve bronze, silver or gold recognition based on demonstrated sustainability performance and commitments.

Acknowledgement as Bronze, Silver and Gold Partners of Sustainability Advantage gives members credible market differentiation and signals sustainability commitments and ongoing achievements to competitors and customers.

To be recognised as a Sustainability Advantage Partner, member organisations must demonstrate:

- active participation
- leadership and commitment to sustainability
- planning and management systems to support sustainable practice, including processes for continuous improvement
- engagement for sustainable outcomes with employees, suppliers, customers, stakeholders and the wider industry
- evidence of achievements.

This approach will allow Council to focus resources on initiatives that are within its sphere of influence, deliver measurable outcomes, and support Council's strategic objectives, while maintaining strong accountability and leadership in sustainability.

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Submissions for the 2026 Cities Race to Zero reporting cycle open in June and close on 26 October 2026.

If Council resolves to withdraw from the program, it is preferable that formal withdrawal occur prior to the close of the 2026 reporting period to avoid unnecessary preparation of a submission and further expenditure of staff time.

There are no consultation requirements associated with this decision.

There are no material risks associated with withdrawal from the program.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no budget implications for participating in the Cities Race to Zero. However, ceasing the annual Carbon Disclosure Project Reporting System will free up the considerable staff hours required to complete it each year.

Council has been a member of Sustainability Advantage since 2021. Membership fee is currently budgeted and funded from the Sustainability Budget.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- a) City of Canada Bay *Environmental Strategy*
- b) City of Canada Bay *Emissions Reduction Action Plan*
- c) City of Canada Bay *Climate Resilience Framework*
- d) NSW Government position on Climate Change:
 - NSW Climate Change Policy Framework
 - NSW *Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023*

- NSW Climate Change Fund
- NSW Climate Adaptation Strategy
- State Disaster Mitigation Plan
- Net Zero Plan Stage 1 2020-2030
- NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy
- Draft Climate Change and Nature Hazards SEPP

ITEM 8.3 CITY OF CANADA BAY - ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES - 30 APRIL 2026**Reporting Manager** Manager Sustainability and Waste**Attachments:** 1. Minutes - Environment Advisory Committee - 30 April 2026  

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

That the Minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee held on 30 April 2026, attached to the report, be noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to present the minutes of the City of Canada Bay Environment Advisory Committee meeting held on 30 April 2026.

REPORT

This report provides Council with the minutes of the City of Canada Bay Environment Advisory Committee from the meeting held on 30 April 2026 (refer to Attachment 1).

The Committee's role is to advise and make recommendations on sustainability and waste issues as they relate to Council's operations, with a focus on the implementation of and achievement of targets in Council's Community Strategic Plan, Our Future 2036.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 2: Sustainable and Thriving Environment

Goal STE 1: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Goal STE 2: Increase urban tree canopy

Goal STE 3: Reduce waste to landfill through avoidance and increased recycling and reuse

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 3: Council works with partners to actively shape the City's future

Goal CL 4: The City of Canada Bay community is well informed and eager to engage in issues and decisions that impact them

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

There are no timing/consultation and/or risk considerations associated with this report.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council has adopted an *Environmental Strategy* and *Resource Recovery and Waste Strategy*.



Environment Advisory Committee Minutes

Thursday 30 April 2026 6.30pm – 8.00pm

Drummoyne Civic Centre - Halliday Room

Committee List: Belinda Snape (BS), Emma Pryor (EP), Mavis Clements (MC), Rolf Muller (RM), Thomas Lawson (TL), Tony Manning (TM), Chanelle-Marie Nader (CN), Sally Ash (SA)

APOLOGIES: Councillor David Mansford (ClrM), Deanne Smith (DS), Edward O'Brien (EO), Jansen Li (JL), Alessio Maiese (AM)

COUNCIL COMMITTEE STAFF: Tony Pavlovic (TP), Elin Dodd (ED), Gabriella Love (GL)

CHAIR: Councillor Charles Jago (ClrJ)

ITEMS:

Acknowledgement of Country

Clr Jago

ClrJ opened the meeting with Acknowledgement of Country

Announcements/Introductions

Clr Jago

The committee undertook introductions and sustainability updates.

ClrJ introduced TP as Acting Director of Environment and Planning for the next 6 weeks. Monica Cologna has moved to a position at Hawkesbury City Council.

Presentation – Waste and Recycling

Elin Dodd

ED presented on resource recovery and waste at City of Canada Bay including waste profile, services, behaviour change projects.

The following comments were made by the committee:

- The Community Recycling Centre was discussed and acknowledged as a good facility.
- BS asked about size and weight limits for recycling; ClrJ queried whether truck drivers sticker bins deemed too heavy.
- ClrJ confirmed that bags in recycling (including paper bags) are not opened; ED reiterated all recycling must be placed loose.
- The committee discussed ongoing public confusion about soft plastic packaging and the desire to recycle it.
- The committee discussed that blister packs cannot go in the yellow bin; alternatives include HomeCycle and participating local pharmacies such as Blooms Chemist and Pharmacy.
- MC noted the "Banish" shoebox style subscription recycling service.
- The committee discussed that polystyrene is not accepted in yellow bins; Council now accepts it at drop-off days, with the next event scheduled for September.
- BS highlighted the "What Goes Where" information available on Council's website.
- Members (CN, SA, MC) shared positive experiences using HomeCycle individually, as a group, and in apartment buildings.
- EP asked about batteries in electrical devices; GL advised taping batteries is best practice but not mandatory.
- EP queried usage of the recycling station at Concord Oval Rec; GL and ED confirmed stations are well used by the community.



- ClrJ raised concerns about donation bins going to waste-to-energy facilities and their environmental reputation; question taken on notice.
- EP advised that retailers such as JB Hi-Fi and Telstra may repurchase old mobile devices when a new device is purchased.
- There was interest from residents in multi unit dwellings regarding the Return and Earn trial.
- EP demonstrated Council's waste app, highlighting the map feature.
- ClrJ asked where to find the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL).
- BS informed the committee about the Concord Op Shop.
- RM raised concerns about garbage trucks accelerating during the fuel crisis; discussion included reducing collection frequency and trials of electric garbage trucks.
- EP promoted donation options for towels and sheets (Officeworks, RSPCA, vets, etc).
- ClrJ mentioned the "Framework" modular computer as easy to repair laptop option.
- BS encouraged use of "pay it forward" community pages.

Council Update**Gabriella Love**

GL informed the committee about upcoming sustainability workshops and events:

- Small space gardening workshop
- Home energy information pop up (Climate Action Canada Bay Burwood)
- Brays Bay planting day
- Community awards

General Business**ALL**

The committee has general discussion regarding the following topics:

- EV charging in apartment buildings
- Vehicle to grid/house charging
- Peer to peer trading

Next meeting topic

- The committee expressed interest in community energy for the next meeting topics including solar in apartment buildings and council facilities.

Standing Items

No standing items

Next Meeting – Thursday 25 June 2026

9 CITY ASSETS DIRECTORATE REPORTS

ITEM 9.1 CITY OF CANADA BAY LOCAL TRANSPORT FORUM MINUTES - 20 APRIL 2026

Reporting Manager Manager Roads and Traffic

Attachments: 1. Local Transport Forum - 20 April 2026 - Minutes [↓](#) 

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CITY ASSETS

That the minutes and recommendations of the City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum Meeting held 20 April 2026 attached to the report be adopted.

PURPOSE

To report the City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum minutes of 20 April 2026 to Council.

REPORT

The report contains the minutes for the City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum held on 20 April 2026 for Council's adoption.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 4: Infrastructure and Transport

Goal IT 2: Manage traffic and parking to minimise congestion and increase road safety

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations associated with the report.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum meetings are held in line with Transport for NSW guidelines.

CITY OF CANADA BAY LOCAL TRANSPORT FORUM MEETING

MINUTES

The meeting was held electronically via email.

Monday, 20 April 2026



Minutes of a City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum Meeting Held on Monday 20 April 2026

Voting Members Present:

Councillor Hugo Robinson - Chairperson
Sergeant Tohme - NSW Police
Kathryn Hawkins - Transport for NSW
Stephanie Di Pasqua - Local Member of Parliament

Non-voting Members Present:

Julius Villanueva - Transit Systems
David Martin - BayBUG - Canada Bay Bicycle Users Group
Tania Gamble - Community Development Manager (CCB Council) on behalf of the Access Committee

Officers in attendance:

F Guerrisi - CCB Council
R Ristevski - CCBC Council
C Grassi - CCBC Council
L Huang - CCBC Council
M Dizon - CCBC Council
S Tran - CCBC Council
M Saini - CCBC Council
C Johnson - CCB Council
Y Fu - CCB Council

NOTES

The meeting was held electronically via email.

Refer to the City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum Meeting Agenda papers in the attached booklet.



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1 WELCOME/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Canada Bay acknowledges the Wangal clan, one of the 29 tribes of the Eora nation and the traditional custodians of this land.

The City's Council pays respect to Elders past and present and extends this respect to all Aboriginal people living in or visiting the City of Canada Bay.

2 APOLOGIES**APOLOGIES**

Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

H Huynh – CCB Council

3 DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**4.1 Minutes of City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum Meeting held 12 March 2026**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the City of Canada Bay Local Transport Forum Meeting of 12 March 2026 copies of which were previously circulated, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

5 REPORTS

Nil

6 GENERAL BUSINESS**ITEM 6.1 GENERAL ITEM - ITEMS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATION**

The following items were approved under Delegation granted to Council from TfNSW.

-
1. Wellbank Street/Warbrick Street/Spring Street, Concord – Proposed intersection safety upgrades

Recommendation

That the following be implemented:

- 'Stop' control (comprising of signage and holding line) be installed on Warbrick Street/Spring Street at its approach to Wellbank Street, Concord as per the plan.
- 'Double unbroken dividing lines are installed at the intersection of Wellbank Street and Warbrick Street, Concord as per the plan
- 'No Stopping' restrictions (comprising of signage and yellow line marking) be installed on Wellbank Street and Warbrick Street, Concord as per the plan.

2. Victoria Place/Henricks Avenue, Drummoyne – Proposed 'No Stopping' restrictions and Double Barrier Linemarking

Recommendation

That the following be implemented:

- 'No Stopping' restriction signage along 105 metres of the northern side of Victoria Place, Drummoyne.
- 'No Stopping' restriction signage along 15 metres of the western side and 17 metres of the eastern side of Henricks Avenue, Drummoyne.
- 'No Stopping' restriction signage along 35 metres of the southern side of Victoria Place, Drummoyne.
- Extend existing 'Double Barrier' pavement line marking by 40 metres up to the intersection of Victoria Place and Henricks Avenue, Drummoyne.
- 18 metre 'Double Barrier' pavement line marking at the bend of Victoria Place, Drummoyne.
- 13 metre 'Double Barrier' pavement line marking on Henricks Avenue on approach to Victoria Place, Drummoyne.

CHAIRPERSON

10 COMMUNITY CULTURE AND LEISURE DIRECTORATE REPORTS

ITEM 10.1 RUSTY PRIEST KOKODA SCHOLARSHIP REVIEW

Reporting Manager Manager Library and Community Services

Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR COMMUNITY CULTURE AND LEISURE

That:

1. The Rusty Priest Leadership and Community Service Program as detailed in the report be implemented on an annual basis and replace the Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship.
 2. The budget allocation of \$15,000 for the Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship in the draft 2026/27 operational budget be applied to the Rusty Priest Leadership and Community Service Program, with a further \$2,000 to be allocated and funded from the Library and Community Services operational budget.
-

PURPOSE

Since 2016, Council has provided a Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship to commemorate Rusty Priest, the former Chair of the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway. A review of the Scholarship was undertaken in 2025, and the following report provides a recommendation to transition from a Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship to a Rusty Priest Leadership and Community Service Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To honour the legacy of Godfrey “Rusty” Priest AM, his community leadership and his involvement in the establishment of the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway, Council established a Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship in 2016. The Scholarship provided financial support for up to two senior school students from the local area to undertake the RSL Youth Leadership Challenge. This included a walk along the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea. A review of the Scholarship was undertaken in 2025 due to poor uptake in recent years. The review considered the reasons for poor uptake and possible alternative program options that may align with current community requirements.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 1: Connected Community

Goal CC 3: Provide the community with equitable access to a range of programs, services, and facilities

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In April 2016, Council resolved to support a Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship. \$15,000 was allocated each year to support two senior school students to participate in the RSL Youth Leadership Challenge which included a trek along the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea.

Program Review

A review of the Scholarship was undertaken in 2025. The review identified that no students had participated in the Scholarship since 2019, due to various factors including COVID-19, risks and unrest along the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea and high uptake in other similar programs such as the Duke of Edinburgh program.

Consultation with local schools noted that there were numerous programs both within the schools and via external channels for high achieving students and those interested in leadership. Schools identified a gap in programs for students that were at risk of disengagement. This gap was for programs to develop those students' leadership, employment and civic engagement skills.

Pilot Program

During 2025, Council received a grant from Department of Communities and Justice to offer a program to 27 Year 9 students at Concord High School that were at risk of disengagement. The program combined workshops on leadership, self-awareness and work readiness along with project-based learning opportunities.

The project-based learning involved students co-designing programming for Council's 2026 Youth Week activities. This resulted in students from the program participating in and volunteering at events held during Youth Week.

Along with this increased community participation, the program resulted in an increase in sense of belonging, communication skills, employment skills, resilience, self-efficacy and social skills for the participating students. 78% of students reported that they felt like coming to school more because of the program.

Consultation with the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway Board

In April 2026, the results of the pilot program were shared with the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway Board. A proposal to transition the program to a Rusty Priest Leadership and Community Service Program, that incorporated elements of leadership workshops and project-based learning linked to the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway, was shared with the Board. The Board unanimously supported this proposal.

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

If the revised program is endorsed by Council, it is anticipated that discussions will commence between the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway Board, Concord High School and Council to commence implementation of the program in Term 4 2026.

As this is a new program, it is proposed that it be reviewed on an ongoing basis with the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway Board. This is to ensure the program is continuing to meet the identified aims and objectives. If following a review, significant changes are recommended to the structure of the program, a report is to be brought back to Council.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council has previously allocated \$15,000 each year towards the Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship. Quotations obtained indicate that the cost of the proposed Rusty Priest Leadership and Community Service Program will be in the vicinity of \$17,000 per year. It is proposed that the budget allocation of \$15,000 for the Rusty Priest Kokoda Scholarship in the draft 2026/27 operational budget be applied to the Rusty Priest Leadership and Community Service Program, with a further \$2,000 to be allocated and funded from the Library and Community Services operational budget.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legislative or policy considerations for this program.

ITEM 10.2 CITY OF CANADA BAY ACCESS AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 16 APRIL 2026**Reporting Manager** Manager Library and Community Services**Attachments:** 1. **City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee Meeting Minutes - 16 April 2026**  

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR COMMUNITY CULTURE AND LEISURE

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee held on 16 April 2026, attached to the report, be noted.

PURPOSE

To present the minutes of the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee, so that they may be noted.

REPORT

This report provides Council with the minutes of the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee meeting held on 16 April 2026.

The Committee's role is to advise and make recommendations on access and inclusion issues as they relate to Council's operations, with a focus on the implementation and achievement of targets in Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 1: Connected Community

Goal CC 1: Foster an inclusive community where diversity is welcomed and celebrated

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

There are no timing, consultation or risk considerations associated with this report.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee Charter was endorsed by Council at the ordinary meeting held on 12 November 2024.

CITY OF CANADA BAY ACCESS AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Held at Concord Library, Concord.

Thursday, 16 April 2026



**Minutes of City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee Meeting
Held on Thursday, 16 April 2026
At the Concord Library, Concord.
Commencing at 2:00pm**

Present:

Mayor Michael Megna	Chairperson
Coral Arnold	Community Member
Nicole Bradshaw	Community Member
Jennifer Koutoulas	Community Member
Tailoi Ling	Community Member
Joanna Najdzion	Community Member
Corinne Pisanu	Community Member
Robyn Ryan	Community Member
Jennifer Smith	Community Member (Teams)

Officers in attendance:

Mary Ciantar	Community Development Officer
Philip Edney	Manager Library and Community Services
Tania Gamble	Community Development Manager
Rachel Hensman	Director Community, Culture and Leisure
Karen Judd	Senior Social Planner, Community Development
Louise Roberts	Corporate Planner, Corporate Strategy and Business Improvement

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 2pm and concluded at 3.05pm



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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Canada Bay acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, in particular the Wangal people, as the first inhabitants and traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

The City's Council pays respect to elders past present and emerging and extends this respect to all first nations people here today, and all Indigenous people around the world.

2 APOLOGIES

APOLOGIES

Maria Cirrillo	Councillor
Michelle Cullen	Community Member
Jill Hodder	Community Member
Rachael Jones	Community Development Support Officer

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

3 DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM 4.1 Minutes of the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee Meeting held on 29 January 2026

RESOLVED

1. That the minutes of the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee Meeting of 29 January 2026 copies of which were previously circulated, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Note: The minutes were acknowledged and adopted.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

6 REPORTS**ITEM 6.1 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

RESOLVED

1. That the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee members note the presentation.
-

Note: Louise Roberts, Corporate Planner, Corporate Strategy and Business Improvement, delivered a presentation outlining the five key directions of City of Canada Bay's Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Our Future, 2036 and the Delivery Program 2025-2029. Members were informed of the reporting and accountability requirements of the CSP and Delivery Program via the Annual Report, progress reports and six-monthly budget reviews.

The Committee was advised that the Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2026-2027 is open for public exhibition from 24 April–24 May. Louise advised the Committee on the options available for making a submission. The availability of an easy read version and screen reader accessibility for the Delivery Plan were highlighted.

Accessibility Projects amounting to \$2.2 million as part of the Delivery Plan for 2026–2027 were outlined. Feedback on the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan was discussed in relation to the CSP, which may also align with the Draft Disability Action Plan 2026-2030. The Committee members were encouraged to provide feedback.

ITEM 6.2 DRAFT DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN 2026-2030

RESOLVED

1. That the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee members note the presentation.
-

Note: Karen Judd, Senior Social Planner, provided an overview of the Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2026-2030. The draft Plan is to be presented to Council on 21 April and will be open for public exhibition and feedback from 24 April – 24 May.

The Committee discussed reviewing language, capturing issues of psychosocial disability such as loneliness, improving employment outcomes and exploring the Sunflower Campaign about hidden disability. Comments were noted and members were encouraged to review the draft Plan and provide feedback on specific actions as part of the public exhibition period.

The Committee also discussed ways to reach community members during the public exhibition period, and members suggested that Facebook and other social media platforms are important communication channels.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS**ITEM 7.1 IDEAS FOR GUEST SPEAKERS/ TRAINING – INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL**

RESOLVED

1. That the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee members note the discussion.
-

Note: Mary Ciantar, Community Development Officer, facilitated discussion about areas of focus for the Access and Inclusion Committee, including potential speakers for the remaining term of the Committee.

Suggestions included Livvi's Place, Ebenezer Mission, Council's Compliance team in relation to dogs off leash and high-power scooters, local employers of people with disability and Rotary.

The launch of Council's inaugural Community Awards, an annual event celebrating individuals, groups, businesses and organisations that make a positive contribution to the local community, was flagged with members. The award categories include Diversity and Inclusion with nominations closing at the beginning of May.

Members were encouraged to share insights about the work they do in the community regarding disability issues and Information Sharing was discussed as an agenda item.

Mary to send an email about the Community Awards to members of the Access and Inclusion Committee.

ITEM 7.2 NEXT MEETING

Note: The next meeting of the City of Canada Bay Access and Inclusion Committee is scheduled for 16 July 2026 at Concord Library Function Room from 2-4pm.

11 CORPORATE SERVICES AND STRATEGY DIRECTORATE REPORTS**ITEM 11.1 ALLIANCE FOR GAMBLING REFORM****Reporting Manager** Manager, Property Strategy and Leasing**Attachments:** Nil

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND STRATEGY

That:

1. Council establishes engagement and partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform to the extent of supporting specific initiatives on a case-by-case basis as described in the report with no financial contribution.
2. The engagement and partnership referred to in (1) above also include Council's name and logo being published in promotional and marketing material on a case-by-case basis.
3. The case-by-case engagement and partnership referred to in (1) and (2) above be approved by the General Manager.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to respond to Council's resolution of 21 April 2026 regarding the Alliance for Gambling Reform (the Alliance).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report outlines key considerations for Council regarding a potential partnership with the Alliance.

The Alliance is a national, independent advocacy organisation focused on reducing gambling harm through policy reform, public awareness, and coordinated campaigns. The Alliance operates as a coalition of councils, community organisations, and individuals, with no formal fee-based membership. Participation is generally non-financial and based on advocacy alignment.

The report identifies a range of risks and benefits to Council for participation and partnership with the Alliance for Council's consideration.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 1: Council is accountable, efficient, and ready to meet future challenges

Goal CL 3: Council works with partners to actively shape the City's future

Direction 1: Connected Community

Goal CC 3: Provide the community with equitable access to a range of programs, services, and facilities

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

At its meeting of 21 April 2026 Council considered a Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Mansford regarding the Alliance and resolved as follows:

1. *That Council supports in principle, the Purpose, Vision and Objectives of the Alliance for Gambling Reform (AGF)*
2. *That Council Officers investigate and submit a report to Council on:*
 - i. *Providing the Alliance for Gambling Reform permission to publish the City of Canada Bay name and logo in the Alliance for Gambling Reform advertising, listing Council as a supporter.*
 - ii. *Estimated financial, staff resource commitments and impacts on leases or third-party agreements related to participation in the Alliance for Gambling Reform Leadership Council program to support gambling harm minimisation, community wellbeing and public health outcomes within the City of Canada Bay Local Government Area.*

Gambling harm presents social, economic, and public health challenges that are often experienced at the local level. While regulatory responsibility primarily rests with the State and Federal Government, council's play a role in community wellbeing, advocacy, leasing and land use planning.

A review of available information regarding the Alliance indicates that it is a national advocacy body seeking to influence reform and reduce gambling harm. The following summaries the information gathered through the review:

Organisation Overview

The Alliance is a national, independent, not-for-profit advocacy organisation that:

- Promotes a public health approach to gambling harm
- Advocates for legislative and regulatory reform
- Works collaboratively with councils and community organisations
- Operates as a coalition network, rather than a traditional membership body

Objectives and Activities

The Alliance seeks to:

- Reduce gambling-related harm
- Influence public policy and legislative reform
- Raise awareness and shift public perception
- Build coordinated advocacy across multiple sectors

Governance and Structure of the Alliance

The Alliance is governed by a skills-based Board of Directors, managed by a CEO and small staff team. It is supported by a network of partner organisations (including councils and other entities listed in their Annual Report), individual supporters and people with lived experience from adverse impacts of addiction.

The Chief Advocate is Reverend Tim Costello. The Alliance is based in Victoria.

Membership Structure and Cost

There is no formal membership model, or standard fee and participation can be non-financial. The website for the Alliance does not currently display details of members or brands associated with the Alliance, however the Annual Report does disclose participating entities and their organisational

brand. Collateral on specific matters does appear to include names of participating entities but not brands.

Leadership Council Program

The Leadership Council Program (the Program) is a program operated by the Alliance and offered to local government. The program is described as voluntary and structured as a partnership between the Alliance and participating councils.

The Leadership Council Program documentation positions gambling harm as a public health issue in Australia and notes that local government's experience community-level impacts associated with gambling, including increased demand for social support services and community wellbeing responses. Local Government is identified as having a role in prevention, harm minimisation, community education, and local decision making, alongside state and federal government responsibilities.

The Leadership Council Program is described as:

- Voluntary,
- Non-prescriptive, and
- Designed to support informed local government decision making.

According to the available information, councils retain full autonomy over decisions, priorities and resourcing. Participation in the program does not direct or mandate specific actions by participating councils. More than twenty councils in Victoria, including the City of Melbourne, participate in the program.

The stated focus of the program includes:

- increasing understanding of gambling harm as a public health issue,
- building internal capability within councils,
- providing access to advice, research and evidence,
- facilitating learning between participating councils,
- supporting council consideration of community wellbeing and harm minimisation.

Participation may include access to:

- briefings or presentations for councillors and council officers,
- regular meetings involving council officers,
- learning and development opportunities,
- advice relating to policy development or review,
- support in relation to planning, licensing or leasing matters associated with gambling,
- assistance with community engagement or education,
- lived experience speakers,
- peer learning and collaboration with other councils,
- updates on gambling related research, data and policy developments.

Councils are not required to engage in all or any specific components of the program and participation in the Leadership Council Program does not require councils to:

- regulate or enforce gambling laws,
- take positions on specific gambling venues or developments,
- undertake lobbying or campaigning,

- engage in advocacy beyond council's own decisions,
- commit to actions outside the local government remit.

However, examples of actions that some councils have chosen to pursue, include:

- development or review of local gambling harm minimisation policies,
- review of planning, licensing or leasing processes,
- review of gambling advertising on council owned land or facilities,
- support for sporting clubs to reduce gambling related sponsorship,
- delivery of community education initiatives,
- consideration of gambling harm in broader council strategies.

The Program is measured using practical indicators rather than regulatory outcomes. Indicators may include:

- improved understanding among councillors and officers,
- participation in program activities,
- use of evidence to inform decision making,
- confidence in responding to gambling related matters,
- integration of gambling harm considerations into council policies or strategies,

Evaluation is described as flexible and proportionate, recognising that broader gambling outcomes are influenced by factors beyond local government control.

Participation in the program is subject to agreed terms and includes an annual membership fee. Any financial or in-kind contribution is stated to be subject to Council endorsement, budget processes and approval arrangements. Endorsement of participation does not commit Council to additional expenditure beyond what is approved through normal processes.

In assessing aspects of Council being involved in the program, several potential benefits, costs and risks have been identified as follows:

Benefits

- Alignment with community wellbeing objectives
- Stronger advocacy voice at State and Federal levels
- Access to research and policy resources
- Demonstration of leadership on a social issue

Costs and Risks

- Branding risks
- Reputational risks
- Conflict with local clubs and stakeholders
- Council has several leases with community sporting clubs that generate revenue and some form of reliance of gambling/gaming revenue (although not as their primary business)
- Resource availability
- Membership fee of approximately \$15,000 per annum

Whilst the objectives of the Alliance are consistent with Council's community wellbeing objectives reflected in the Community Strategic Plan, 'Our Future 2036', and worthy potential benefits have been identified, it is considered that the potential risks warrant particular focus as follows:

Use of Council Brand and Identity

A critical consideration in any partnership with the Alliance is whether, and how, Council's branding may be used in connection with the organisation's campaigns and public materials.

Use of Council's branding may imply formal endorsement of all the Alliance's positions, including specific policy proposals that Council has not formally adopted. Once associated publicly, Council may have limited control over how its brand is presented in campaign materials, media, or advocacy messaging and the messaging of the Alliance may evolve over time beyond Council's original intent.

Reputational Risk

Association with advocacy campaigns may attract criticism from local hotels and licensed clubs, and sections of the community with differing views to the Alliance, noting that differing views may be motivated by conflicting financial or other interests.

Stakeholder Relationship and Revenue Impacts

Use of Council branding in anti-gambling advocacy may strain relationships with Community Clubs and Sporting Organisations that receive either directly or indirectly revenue from gambling/gaming activities. Council has existing leases and licences in place with organisations that receive gambling/gaming revenue (not as their primary business) used to assist with their operations and in turn contribution to the community. Support of the Alliance may be inconsistent with this relationship, particularly given the Alliance has an advertised position of "No Pokies in Venues".

Whilst Council generally looks to eliminate direct revenue sources from gambling/gaming, it should be noted that existing tenants in Council owned properties, community groups, sporting clubs and event sponsors do receive financial support from these sources.

Governance and Compliance Risks

Governance and compliance risks include potential inconsistency with Council policies relating to use of corporate branding, external partnerships and contractual arrangements.

Participation Options for Consideration:

There are various options available to Council for potential engagement and partnership with the Alliance. These include:

- Full engagement and partnership with branding and financial contribution to the Local Government Leadership Program (highest influence, highest risk)
- Engagement and partnership without brand use (engagement in advocacy without public association)
- Issue-based engagement and partnership only with no financial contribution (supporting specific initiatives on a case-by-case basis). This would involve Council establishing a relationship with the Alliance and being notified of upcoming initiatives for consideration
- No formal involvement (maintaining independence while addressing gambling impacts through existing functions) recognising that Local Government has less levers than State and Federal Government to address problem gambling.

The report is recommending that Council consider adopting the issue-based engagement and partnership with no financial contribution. This option allows Council to build a relationship with the Alliance and support specific initiatives on a case-by-case basis.

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Risk considerations have been included in the body of the report.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

From information available, the financial contribution to the Alliance for annual membership fee is approximately \$15,000 per annum.

In addition to the membership fee, staff and other resource costs also require consideration, although unquantifiable at time of drafting the report.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

'Our Future 2036' City of Canada Bay Community Strategic Plan

Property Acquisition, Disposal and Leasing Policy (2025)

Sponsorship Policy (2023)

Gaming and Liquor Administration Act 2007

Gaming Machines Regulations (2019)

Community Gaming Regulation 2020

Gambling Act 2001

ITEM 11.2 RENTAL ASSISTANCE AND SUBSIDY GUIDELINES**Reporting Manager** Manager, Property Strategy and Leasing**Attachments:** 1. Rental Assistance and Subsidy Guideline 2026  

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND STRATEGY

That Council adopts the Guidelines attached to the report for assessing the application of rental assistance and subsidies for community organisations occupying Council owned and managed properties.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's adoption of proposed Guidelines to assist with the assessment and application of rental assistance and subsidies for community organisations occupying Council owned and managed properties.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has over time considered the establishment of a formalised mechanism to assess and apply rental assistance and subsidies to community organisations occupying Council owned or managed properties due to their operational status and in circumstances where market rent may be unaffordable.

The report outlines two (2) approaches for Council's consideration:

1. Policy based approach
2. Guideline based approach

A Policy based approach establishes fixed rules that direct decision making, whereas Guidelines provide structured discretion to enable context-based assessment.

It is recommended that Council adopt a Guidelines based approach for the application of rental assistance and subsidy, enabling transparent, consistent and context-driven decision-making while retaining flexibility and Council discretion to respond to varying community needs and circumstances.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 1: Council is accountable, efficient, and ready to meet future challenges

Direction 1: Connected Community

Goal CC 3: Provide the community with equitable access to a range of programs, services, and facilities

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Council owns and manages a range of properties occupied by not-for-profit and community-based organisations delivering recreational, cultural, sporting and community services.

In April 2009, Council considered a draft Rental Assessment and Subsidy Policy to formalise rental assistance. In December 2009, a further report identified key implementation issues, including:

- recognition of historical and future capital contributions by tenants,

- allocation of maintenance responsibilities, and
- refinement of assessment criteria

The Policy did not progress any further at that time.

A review undertaken by Council Officers in 2025 addressed historical issues and developed a structured and transparent assessment approach aligned with contemporary governance practices.

Historically, rental arrangements have varied significantly, with some tenants paying nominal or subsidised rent without a consistent or transparent methodology.

This has created a need to:

- ensure equitable and transparent allocation of Council resources,
- balance financial sustainability with community benefit outcomes, and
- establish a consistent yet adaptable assessment process

A key consideration for Council is determining the appropriate governance model for administering rental assistance and subsidy.

Policy Approach

A Policy establishes decision-making rules adopted by Council. Key characteristics include:

- Rule-based decision-making
- Consistent application across all applicants
- Measurable compliance
- Higher level of formality and review

A Policy approach provides certainty and uniformity, ensuring that similar circumstances result in similar outcomes. However, a Policy approach limits flexibility and may constrain Council's ability to respond to individual circumstances or evolving community needs.

Additionally, a Policy approach may create potential inconsistency with Council's existing leasing framework, which identifies market rent as the baseline for rental determination.

Guideline Approach

Guidelines establish structured principles to guide decision making rather than prescribe fixed outcomes.

Key characteristics of the Guideline approach include:

- Discretion within structured parameters
- Contextual, case-by-case assessment
- Lower administrative rigidity
- Outcome-focused decision-making

The proposed Guideline approach recognises rental assistance and subsidy as a discretionary support mechanism rather than an entitlement. The Guidelines approach enables Council to balance competing priorities, including financial sustainability, community benefit, and strategic objectives.

Additionally, the Guideline approach introduces a structured, transparent and consistent process for assessing rental assistance and subsidy, comprising the following key components:

1. *Establishment of Market Rental Value*

- Independent market rental valuations are obtained for all applicable properties
- Market rent establishes the baseline for determining any rental assistance or subsidy

2. *Consideration of Operating Costs*

- Council identifies the full cost of operating each asset or facility, including maintenance, depreciation, administration and capital improvements
- This ensures transparency in the true cost of providing community facilities

3. *Application and Information Submission*

- Community organisations submit detailed information, including:
 - financial statements
 - organisational structure
 - service delivery and community reach
 - funding sources
- Applicants also undertake a self-assessment against defined criteria which is taken into consideration when calculating the proposed rental assistance or subsidy. This allows applicants to be a part of the process.

4. *Criteria Based Assessment*

Applications are assessed against a structured set of criteria, including:

- Extent of community benefit and service provision
- Accessibility of the facility to the broader community
- Ability to generate income and access external funding
- Level of competition with private sector providers
- Alignment with Council's strategic objectives
- Contribution to maintenance and capital improvements
- Organisational structure and governance capacity

5. *Rental Assistance and Subsidy Assessment Panel*

- A panel of Council Officers independently assesses each application
- Panel members score applications against the criteria
- Applicant self-assessment is also considered

6. *Determination of Rental Assistance and Subsidy*

- Scores are averaged to determine a subsidy percentage
- Subsidies may range from 0% to 100% of market rent

The outcome informs lease or licence negotiations to be reported to Council for consideration.

Recently, Council has resolved to apply and grant several community organisations with rental assistance and subsidy utilising the Guideline approach as trial to test the criteria and process.

In these examples the rental assistance and subsidy provided ranged from 78% to 91% discount on market rent.

In all instances the community organisations were a party to the process and agreed with the assessment outcome. This demonstrates the ability to deliver transparent and evidence-based outcomes through the Guideline approach.

Each application presented unique circumstances, including historical use, community benefit and financial capacity, reinforcing the appropriateness of a Guidelines approach.

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The Guideline approach is recommended for implementation as part of Council's leasing and licensing processes where Council supports the application of an alternative rent to market rent.

Adoption of the Guideline approach mitigates risk by introducing clear assessment processes while retaining flexibility.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The proposed Guideline approach improves transparency in the allocation of rental assistance and subsidies. The Guidelines approach enables Council to better understand the financial implications of supporting community organisations.

While rental assistance and subsidies may reduce potential revenue, they represent a deliberate investment in community outcomes and services.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Crown Land Management Act 2016

Property Acquisition, Disposal and Leasing Policy

Rental Assessment & Subsidy Guidelines

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Guideline is to provide Council with a framework to assist with guiding the assessment and application of rental assistance and subsidies for community organisations occupying Council owned and managed properties where the application of market rent may not be in the public interest.

2. Scope

The Guideline applies to all Council owned and managed properties where Council considers at its discretion there are grounds not to apply market rent.

3. Definitions

Term	Meaning
Community Facilities	Council owned buildings/facilities and their immediate surrounds which are used by community-based not-for-profit groups to provide and organise recreational, cultural, sporting and community service activities. They are often, but not always, situated on Council Land and/or public open space or Crown Land for which Council has long-term management responsibility. Examples include community centres, sports facilities, children's services and club rooms
Council	City of Canada Bay
RASG	Rental Assessment and Subsidy Guideline
Community Group	Incorporated not-for-profit groups, registered charities, community interest organisations that provide and organise recreational, cultural, sporting, disability, health and wellbeing and other community service activities. Examples include but are not limited to community-based sporting groups, community-based childcare centres and community-based club providers

4. Guideline Principles

The following principles apply to management of community facilities:

- Financial contributions from users of Council properties should be used to cover the management, maintenance, and minor improvement costs of the facility, and for the development of activities or services associated with the facility.
- Council's properties will be managed to maintain and enhance their flexibility and accessibility to meet the current and future needs of the community as identified in the Community Strategic Plan.

- All financial arrangements will be documented, transparent and in accordance with legislative requirements.

5. Setting the Rental Value

Council recognises that community organisations play a pivotal role in service provision and improving the quality of life of residents. Whilst Council recognises the importance of community organisations, Council must take into consideration the operating costs associated with owned and managed properties.

As a principle, Council seeks to minimise operating costs across its property portfolio. For a leased or licensed property Council seeks to recover rent at market value although in some cases a Council recognises rental assistance and subsidy may be required.

Council's Land Acquisition, Disposal and Leasing Policy require Market Rent to be applied when determining rent. Council at its discretion, may assist community organisations by providing rental assistance and subsidies based on criteria as set out in this Guideline (Annexure 1)

Calculation of a Rental Subsidy:

The calculation of a rental subsidy will follow the steps outlined below.

Step 1: Market Rental Value

Council will obtain an independent market rental value for the property.

Step 2: Operating Costs

Council will determine the total cost of operating the property, including (but not limited to) depreciation, insurance, maintenance, administration, and capital improvements. While rent should generally recover the full cost of operating the facility, there may be circumstances—particularly for new properties—where the market rental value is below Council's total operating costs.

Step 3: Application and Self-Assessment

The prospective occupant or existing tenant will be provided with a Rental Assessment and Subsidy Application Form. Applicants must supply all required information and supporting documentation, including financial statements, membership data, and organisational structure. Applicants will also self-assess against the criteria in Section 12.1 of this Guideline. This self-assessment will be considered as part of the panel's evaluation.

Step 4: Panel Assessment and Determination of Subsidy

Upon receipt of the completed application and supporting documents, Council will convene an assessment panel to determine the level of rental assistance and subsidy. Each panel member will independently score the application against the established criteria, which will be communicated to potential occupants prior to entering into an agreement.

The criteria are detailed in Section 12.1 of this Guideline and may be supplemented by facility-specific criteria where relevant.

Once all panel scores are submitted, an average score (including the applicant's self-assessment) will be calculated. This average score directly corresponds to a subsidy percentage, as set out in the table in Section 12.1.

Subsidy Limits and Conditions

- Rental subsidies may range from 0% to 100% of the market rental value.
- This does not include any levies applicable to facilities on Crown Reserves, which are determined by the Minister for Lands.
- Where applicable, rent payable must always include the rent Council pays for the use of Crown land.

Capital Works and Maintenance Contributions

Where a community organisation undertakes major maintenance or upgrade works with Council's approval, these contributions will be considered when determining the subsidy and may result in a reduction to the market rental value.

General Criteria for Determining a Rental Subsidy

While the weighting of criteria may vary depending on the facility type or Council's strategic priorities, assessment will generally consider:

- Performance against the criteria in Section 12.1.
- The organisation's capacity to generate income, including:
 - Fees for services
 - Facility hire
 - Sponsorship
 - Government grants and subsidies
(Financial statements will be required.)
- Demonstrated social, community, and economic benefits arising from a reduced rent over an agreed period.
- Whether the subsidy would encourage or support cultural or community activities.
- The extent of benefit to the broader community, including the number of community members served.
- Alignment with identified community needs.
- Competitive neutrality considerations, particularly where a subsidy may advantage a user over private operator.
- The level of financial contribution by the user towards maintenance and major upgrades.

Facility Specific Criteria

Additional criteria may apply depending on the facility's use. For example, when assessing childcare facilities, Council may also consider:

- Number of approved places
- Residential location of enrolled children
- Level of government subsidies received
- Fees charged
- Provision for children with special needs

- Staff qualifications

Note that the criteria will not apply to non-exclusive tenants.

Fees and Charges

Unless exempt by legislation or Council resolution, applicants/tenants shall be responsible for the payment of the relevant administrative fees listed under the Council's adopted fees and charges as well as the payment of Council's legal costs associated with the preparation of lease or license agreements.

Outgoings

Operating costs include (but not limited to) cleaning, electricity, telephone, data, washroom, water usage, commercial waste, pest control, security, garden, maintenance, and any deemed outgoing under relevant legislation.

6. Criteria Table

Determine the Level of Subsidy

The level of subsidy will be determined by assessing each user against the criteria and evaluating their weighted distribution across the categories.

Criteria	Possible Range of an Organisation's Responses			
	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Reactive & Ongoing Maintenance	Takes responsibility for internal & external reactive maintenance as detailed in agreement.	Takes responsibility for almost all the internal & external reactive maintenance as detailed in agreement.	Takes responsibility for some of internal & external reactive maintenance as detailed in agreement.	Does not take responsibility for internal & external reactive maintenance even though detailed in agreement.
Extent of service provided by organisation (Organisation can be requested to identify groups they service, and the group and community need met as per the Social Plan)	Broad community (more than 40%) is a beneficiary of service provided by organisation.	Between 20% to 40% of the community is a beneficiary of the service provided by the organisation.	While the organisation provides direct service to less than 20% of local community, it forms part of a larger service provision.	Less than 10% of the community uses the service.
Extent of Accessibility of Facility to community.	Facilities are accessible to all members of the LGA.	The facilities are 80% of the time accessible to the members of the	Fees are charged.	Members only access charged.

4

Criteria	Possible Range of an Organisation's Responses			
	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
		community.		
Number /type of service providers	A unique community service in the LGA (only one of a kind)	One of a number of providers of a community service.	Provides a service of a limited community needs (less than 5% of the community would use the service).	Meets social and recreational needs only.
Ability to charge fees & raise income	No fees are charged.	Fees are charged but a subsidy scheme is available, or fees are regularly written off.	Fees are charged but the organization is not for profit.	Operates on a profit basis.
Access to other sources of Funding	No access to other funding sources.	Limited access to the other sources of funding (no more than 5% total.)	Access to other sources of funding – State, Federal or Local which provides 5-30% of total funding.	Access to other source of funding – State, Federal & Local which provides more than 30% of funding.
Do they provide direct competition to commercial ventures	No similar service is provided by a privately owned organization.	A similar service can be provided by a privately owned organisations, but no such organization is operating in the LGA.	While similar services are provided by privately owned organisations, the applicant provides added or differentiated services to users.	Similar services provided by privately owned organisations is available in the LGA.
Does their service impact on Council's need to provide similar service?	The service provided has been identified as a core responsibility of Council (as per Management Plan).	80% of the service provided has been identified as a core responsibility of Council (as per Management Plan).	Service is not core responsibility of Council by could be provided as is the case in neighboring Council areas.	Service is no responsibility of Council (as per Management Plan).
Organisational status and structure	The organization has a regional focus, is a locally based, not for profit and does not belong to a	The organisation is locally based, not for profit and does not belong to a larger not for profit	The organisation is a locally based service outlet or project that is part of a larger not for profit	The organisation is a locally based service, outlet or project that is part of a larger not for profit

Criteria	Possible Range of an Organisation's Responses			
	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
	larger not for profit organisation.	organisation. It has a voluntary management committee, comprises mainly of local area representatives.	organisation. It has a voluntary advisory committee and comprises partly of local area representatives.	organisation. There is limited, or no local area representation on advisory committee or similar.
Capacity to undertake range of administrative and management responsibilities	Dependent on assistance from volunteers for all administrative and management functions.	Paid staff undertake all of the administrative and management functions and volunteers assist with other tasks.	Staff undertake all administrative and management functions with additional assistance provided by umbrella organisation.	Umbrella organisation responsible for administrative and management functions.

Points	Subsidy	Points	Subsidy	Points	Subsidy	Points	Subsidy
1	0%	11	5%	21	54%	31	91%
2	0%	12	10%	22	58%	32	92%
3	0%	13	15%	23	62%	33	93%
4	0%	14	20%	24	66%	34	94%
5	0%	15	25%	25	70%	35	95%
6	0%	16	30%	26	74%	36	96%
7	0%	17	35%	27	78%	37	97%
8	0%	18	40%	28	82%	38	98%
9	0%	19	45%	29	86%	39	99%
10	0%	20	50	30	90%	40	100%

The table below provides a basis for Council to categorise the rental subsidy applied to its income producing premises:

Category	Level of Subsidisation	From (>)	To (<=)	Range
A	High	90%	100%	30-40
B	Medium	50%	90%	20-30
C	Low	0%	50%	10-20
D	None	0%	0%	0-9

Rental Subsidy Assessment Panel

To ensure consistency and transparency in the application of rental assistance and subsidies, Council will form a rental subsidy assessment panel comprising representatives from Council's Property team, a Manager and when required one other Council Officer.

All panel members will be required to declare any conflict of interest prior to the assessment process. Where a panel member declares a conflict of interest, the panel member will step down from the assessment panel and be replaced by another Council Officer with no conflict of interest.

Rental Subsidy Assessment

In conjunction with the process noted in 7.1, the Panel will meet and review the information supplied for the rental subsidy assessment. If required, subsequent meeting will be held to assess any further information supplied after the first assessment meeting if the initial information supplied is insufficient to make an assessment and recommendation based on the criteria in section 12.1 in this guideline. The Panel may also meet with the applicant for clarifications of any information or scoring provided in the Application Form.

Assessment of the rental subsidy request will be made using the response provided by the prospective tenant and the criteria in section 12.1 of this guideline.

Further information, including audited financial statements, may be requested by the panel if insufficient information is supplied by the prospective tenant in the rental subsidy application.

Upon finalisation of the subsidy assessment by the panel, a recommendation will be made to the General Manager and/or Council, seeking approval to enter the lease or licence.

The tenant will be notified of the outcome, and the lease or licence preparation will commence.

Negotiation Protocols

When negotiating licences and leases, Council Officers will adhere to the following protocols to ensure probity, integrity, and confidentiality in the process:

- Ensure confidentiality is adhered to for the information supplied by the prospective tenant;
- Declare any conflict-of-interest using Council's process to declare any interest prior to commencement of negotiations, or alternatively removal of the staff member from the negotiation process to ensure probity; and



- Adhere to this guideline and other related procedures.

Notwithstanding this Guideline, Council at its own discretion reserves its right to take into consideration any other information or factors applicable to the applicant and/or reject the application outcome and negotiate with the applicant.

ITEM 11.3 CASH AND INVESTMENTS REPORT - APRIL 2026**Reporting Manager Chief Financial Officer****Attachments:** 1. **Investment Report for April 2026 (Provided in Attachment Booklet)** 

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND STRATEGYThat the April 2026 Cash and Investments Report as attached to the report be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council's Investment portfolio performance for March 2026.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's investments are reported monthly to Council in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and Council's Investment Policy.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 1: Council is accountable, efficient, and ready to meet future challenges

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

This report incorporates the April 2026 Cash and Investments Reports, for Council's consideration.

Certification - Responsible Accounting Officer

Jourdan Di Leo as the Responsible Accounting Officer has certified that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 and clause 212 of the Local Government General Regulation 2021.

A non-compliance issue with Council's Investment Policy has arisen in relation to the proportion of the portfolio held in Approved Deposit Taking Institutions (ADI's) rated below AA- as limited by Council's Investment Policy.

The Policy limits Council's exposure to investments with ADI's rated "A+ to A- and below" to a maximum of 70%. At 30 April 2026 the amount invested in ADI's rated "A+ to A- and below" was 76.0% which amounted to \$137,100,801.29 of the total portfolio of \$180,400,801.29. At the current policy limit of 70%, the amount invested should not have exceeded \$126,280,000.

Council's portfolio remains well diversified from a credit ratings perspective with the portfolio spread across the investment grade spectrum. With respect to investments in the "A+ to A- and below" rating category, they comprise term deposits and senior ranked securities issued by APRA-regulated banks which are considered extremely low risk.

Council's current Investment Policy was adopted at its meeting of 19 August 2025. The main change to the policy involved increasing the proportion of the investment portfolio able to be held in lower rated and smaller ADIs (Approved Deposit taking Institutions), with the expected outcomes being better financial returns and more investment in non-fossil fuel lending institutions.

The adopted policy limits investments by credit ratings as follows:

Long Term Rating	Minimum Requirement	Maximum Limit
AAA to AA- or Major Banks and below	30%	100%
A+ to A- and below	0%	70%
BBB+, BBB, BBB- and below	0%	40%
Unrated ADI with a branch within the Canada Bay LGA	0%	\$250,000 or the prevailing Government Guaranteed Amount
TCorpIM Funds	0%	40%

Whilst the proportion of the portfolio able to be invested in BBB+, BBB, and BBB- increased from 30% to 40%, the policy maintained the minimum requirement to hold at least 30% of the portfolio in AAA to AA- or Major Banks.

As highlighted below, the minimum holding of AAA to AA- investments has fallen below 30%. This matter of non-compliance is being corrected through May 2026 by reinvesting maturing investments with the major banks.

Compliant	LT Ratings	Invested(\$)	% Invested per category	% Respective Accumulative	Minimum Limit %	% Maximum Limit per category
✘	AAA, AA-	\$43,300,000.00	24.00%	100.00%	30%	100%
✘	A+, A, A-	\$79,800,301.29	44.24%	76.00%	0%	70%
✔	BBB+, BBB, BBB-	\$57,300,500.00	31.76%	31.76%	0%	40%
✔	Unrated	\$0.00	0.00%	0.00%	0%	0%
	Total Portfolio	\$180,400,801.29	100.00%			

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Summary position as of 30 April 2026

The Cash at Bank and Cash Investments are summarised below:

Month	Cash At Bank	Cash Investments	Total Cash
30 April 2026	\$11,766,422.52	\$180,400,801.29	\$192,167,223.81

The detailed Schedule of Investments held as at 30 April 2026 is provided over the next page.

STATEMENT OF CASH INVESTMENTS							
Maturity Date	Bank/Issuer	Long Term Rating	Fair Value	Term	Interest	Issue Date	Investment Type
07/05/26	ING	A	\$4,000,000.00	371	4.18%	01/05/25	Term Deposits
20/05/26	Suncorp Bank	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	251	4.19%	11/09/25	Term Deposits
27/05/26	National Australia Bank (NAB)	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	252	4.15%	17/09/25	Term Deposits
03/06/26	Bank of Queensland	A-	\$2,500,000.00	196	4.33%	19/11/25	Term Deposits
10/06/26	MyState Bank	BBB	\$3,000,000.00	152	4.50%	09/01/26	Term Deposits
17/06/26	MyState Bank	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	146	4.40%	22/01/26	Term Deposits
24/06/26	Bank of Queensland	A-	\$3,000,000.00	208	4.39%	28/11/25	Term Deposits
25/06/26	National Australia Bank (NAB)	AA-	\$3,000,000.00	365	4.15%	25/06/25	Term Deposits
01/07/26	Heartland Bank Australia	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	258	4.30%	16/10/25	Term Deposits
01/07/26	Bank of Queensland	A-	\$3,000,000.00	210	4.39%	03/12/25	Term Deposits
08/07/26	Australian Military Bank	BBB+	\$2,000,000.00	182	4.61%	07/01/26	Term Deposits
15/07/26	Bank of Queensland	A-	\$2,000,000.00	161	4.56%	04/02/26	Term Deposits
22/07/26	Bank of Queensland	A-	\$2,000,000.00	166	4.63%	06/02/26	Term Deposits
29/07/26	Bank of Queensland	A-	\$2,500,000.00	168	4.72%	11/02/26	Term Deposits
31/08/26	ING	A	\$2,000,000.00	367	4.58%	29/08/24	Term Deposits
10/09/26	ING	A	\$2,000,000.00	374	4.63%	30/08/24	Term Deposits
17/09/26	National Australia Bank (NAB)	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	365	4.16%	17/09/25	Term Deposits
23/09/26	Heritage Bank	BBB+	\$2,500,000.00	222	4.81%	13/02/26	Term Deposits
07/10/26	Heartland Bank Australia	BBB	\$2,500,000.00	229	4.85%	20/02/26	Term Deposits
21/10/26	Heartland Bank Australia	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	232	4.95%	03/03/26	Term Deposits
28/10/26	ING	A	\$2,000,000.00	372	4.74%	21/10/24	Term Deposits
05/11/26	ING	A	\$16,500,000.00	372	4.94%	29/10/24	Term Deposits
16/12/26	National Australia Bank (NAB)	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	328	4.55%	22/01/26	Term Deposits
13/01/27	ING	A	\$2,000,000.00	334	4.84%	13/02/26	Term Deposits
20/01/27	ING	A	\$2,000,000.00	348	4.79%	06/02/26	Term Deposits
27/01/27	ING	A	\$3,000,000.00	362	4.78%	30/01/26	Term Deposits
04/02/27	ING	A	\$4,000,000.00	644	4.10%	01/05/25	Term Deposits
17/02/27	Heartland Bank Australia	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	365	5.00%	17/02/26	Term Deposits
03/03/27	Heartland Bank Australia	BBB	\$2,500,000.00	369	5.00%	27/02/26	Term Deposits
18/03/27	National Australia Bank (NAB)	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	678	4.09%	09/05/25	Term Deposits
01/04/27	ING	A	\$4,000,000.00	700	4.08%	01/05/25	Term Deposits
14/04/27	Heartland Bank Australia	BBB	\$2,500,000.00	411	5.05%	27/02/26	Term Deposits
21/04/27	Heartland Bank Australia	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	414	5.10%	03/03/26	Term Deposits
06/05/27	ING	A	\$2,500,000.00	728	4.03%	08/05/25	Term Deposits
12/05/27	Rabobank Aus Limited	A	\$2,000,000.00	730	4.22%	12/05/25	Term Deposits
20/05/27	National Australia Bank (NAB)	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	741	4.07%	09/05/25	Term Deposits
26/05/27	Beyond Bank	BBB+	\$2,500,000.00	447	5.10%	05/03/26	Term Deposits
09/06/27	Queensland Police Credit Union	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	454	5.30%	12/03/26	Term Deposits
23/06/27	Judo Bank	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	462	5.37%	18/03/26	Term Deposits
30/06/27	Beyond Bank	BBB+	\$2,500,000.00	482	5.10%	05/03/26	Term Deposits
07/07/27	Judo Bank	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	476	5.37%	18/03/26	Term Deposits
14/07/27	Judo Bank	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	476	5.55%	25/03/26	Term Deposits
21/07/27	Unity Bank	BBB+	\$2,000,000.00	476	5.65%	01/04/26	Term Deposits
04/08/27	Unity Bank	BBB+	\$2,000,000.00	482	5.67%	09/04/26	Term Deposits
01/09/27	Unity Bank	BBB+	\$2,000,000.00	510	5.67%	09/04/26	Term Deposits
29/09/27	Unity Bank	BBB+	\$2,000,000.00	531	5.60%	16/04/26	Term Deposits
29/10/27	ING	A	\$2,000,000.00	729	4.25%	30/10/25	Term Deposits
08/03/28	Judo Bank	BBB	\$2,000,000.00	721	5.40%	18/03/26	Term Deposits
11/05/28	Rabobank Aus Limited	A	\$2,000,000.00	1095	4.37%	12/05/25	Term Deposits
30/10/28	ING	A	\$2,000,000.00	1096	4.33%	30/10/25	Term Deposits
30/10/26	Westpac	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	183	4.30%	30/10/25	Tailored Deposit
15/05/26	Bendigo Adelaide Bank	A-	\$1,000,000.00	88	5.21%	15/05/23	Floating Rate Notes
15/06/26	Teachers Mutual Bank	BBB+	\$850,000.00	91	4.85%	16/06/21	Floating Rate Notes
19/08/26	ING Bank Covered	AAA	\$500,000.00	181	4.37%	19/08/21	Floating Rate Notes
14/09/26	Macquarie Bank	A+	\$1,600,000.00	182	5.02%	14/09/23	Floating Rate Notes
23/12/26	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$2,000,000.00	275	4.72%	23/09/21	Floating Rate Notes
22/03/27	ING	A	\$1,000,000.00	364	5.26%	22/03/24	Floating Rate Notes
14/05/27	Bendigo Adelaide Bank	A-	\$800,000.00	452	4.96%	14/05/24	Floating Rate Notes
18/08/27	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$1,100,000.00	546	4.99%	18/08/22	Floating Rate Notes
13/09/27	AMP	BBB+	\$1,300,000.00	549	5.45%	13/09/24	Floating Rate Notes
01/11/27	Great Southern Bank	BBB+	\$1,150,000.00	637	4.88%	01/11/24	Floating Rate Notes
13/01/28	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$1,500,000.00	640	5.49%	13/01/23	Floating Rate Notes
19/01/28	Rabobank Aus Branch	A+	\$1,000,000.00	639	5.51%	19/01/23	Floating Rate Notes
16/02/28	Westpac	AA-	\$1,000,000.00	729	4.94%	16/02/23	Floating Rate Notes
09/05/28	Bank of Queensland Covered	AAA	\$1,250,000.00	820	5.14%	09/05/23	Floating Rate Notes
17/08/28	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$1,250,000.00	912	4.91%	17/08/23	Floating Rate Notes
03/10/28	Teachers Mutual Bank	BBB+	\$2,000,000.00	910	5.27%	03/10/25	Floating Rate Notes
20/11/28	Bank of Queensland	A-	\$1,500,000.00	1004	4.76%	20/11/25	Floating Rate Notes
23/04/29	Bendigo Adelaide Bank	A-	\$500,000.00	1096	5.16%	23/04/26	Floating Rate Notes
20/08/29	ING	A	\$1,800,000.00	1277	5.01%	20/08/24	Floating Rate Notes
27/09/29	Suncorp Bank	AA-	\$2,100,000.00	1280	5.22%	27/09/24	Floating Rate Notes
18/03/30	National Australia Bank (NAB)	AA-	\$1,600,000.00	1461	5.09%	18/03/25	Floating Rate Notes
21/05/30	Suncorp Bank	AA-	\$700,000.00	1548	4.92%	21/05/25	Floating Rate Notes
19/06/30	Westpac	AA-	\$1,200,000.00	1553	5.10%	19/06/25	Floating Rate Notes
10/07/30	Rabobank Aus Branch	A+	\$1,000,000.00	1552	5.18%	10/07/25	Floating Rate Notes
17/07/30	Macquarie Bank	A+	\$1,100,000.00	1552	5.15%	17/07/25	Floating Rate Notes
15/08/30	ING	A	\$500,000.00	1641	4.74%	15/08/25	Floating Rate Notes
15/01/31	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$1,500,000.00	1736	5.06%	15/01/26	Floating Rate Notes
24/08/26	Suncorp Covered	AAA	\$2,000,000.00	181	3.25%	20/04/22	Fixed Rate Bond
21/01/30	Westpac	AA-	\$1,800,000.00	1461	4.95%	21/01/25	Fixed Rate Bond
21/05/30	Suncorp Bank	AA-	\$500,000.00	1642	4.60%	21/05/25	Fixed Rate Bond
17/07/30	Macquarie Bank	A+	\$1,000,000.00	1640	4.37%	17/07/25	Fixed Rate Bond
15/08/30	ING	A	\$500,000.00	1641	4.28%	15/08/25	Fixed Rate Bond
15/01/31	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$800,000.00	1826	5.03%	15/01/26	Fixed Rate Bond
	AMP	BBB+	\$4,000,000.00		4.75%		AMP
	AMP	BBB+	\$500.00		2.25%		AMP
	Macquarie Bank	A+	\$301.29		4.15%		Macquarie Bank
	Commonwealth Bank	AA-	\$5,000,000.00		4.10%		CBA BOS
30/04/26			\$180,400,801.29		4.7338%		
TOTAL INVESTMENTS at 31/03/2026			\$186,400,905.41		4.6310%		
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Investments			(\$6,000,104.12)		0.1028%		

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council's adopted budget for 2025-26 forecasts interest earnings of \$7.225M. The Budget was revised up by \$400,000 in the September Quarter Review and a further \$300,000 in the December Quarter Review increasing the forecast interest earnings to \$7.925M. The Third Quarter Budget Review being presented to Council on 19 May 2026 recommends a further revision up of \$800,000 resulting in a projected year end forecast of \$8,725,000. Investment income earned for April 2026 amounted to \$723,813.36 which is in line with the revised monthly phased budget.



The RBA met on 5 May 2026. As widely expected, cash interest rates were increased by 0.25% to 4.35%, as inflation continues at levels above RBA's target of 2%-3%.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council's investments are made in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993), the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and Council's Investment Policy. Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 states:

- (1) The responsible accounting officer of a council:
 - (a) must provide the council with a written report (setting out details of all money that the council has invested under section 625 of the Act) to be presented;
 - (i) if only one ordinary meeting of the council is held in a month, at that meeting, or
 - (ii) if more than one such meeting is held in a month, at whichever of those meetings the council by resolution determines, and
 - (b) must include in the report a certificate as to whether the investment has been made in accordance with the Act, the regulations and the council's investment policies.
- (2) The report must be made up to the last day of the month immediately preceding the meeting.

ITEM 11.4 THIRD QUARTER BUDGET REVIEW - JANUARY TO MARCH 2026**Reporting Manager Chief Financial Officer****Attachments:**

1. **3rd Quarterly Review Statement March 2026** (*Provided in Attachment Booklet*) 
2. **Capital Works Program as at 31 March 2026** (*Provided in Attachment Booklet*) 

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND STRATEGY

That the third quarter Budget Review for 2025/26, including the variations as identified in the report and attachments be adopted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the results of the third quarter budget review and what material changes to the annual budget have occurred from January 2026 to March 2026. Revised year end forecasts are based on financial performance and trends over the past nine months.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As at the end of Quarter 3, Council is forecasting an operating budget surplus of \$2,684K.

Budget adjustments proposed in this review will positively impact the forecast operating result (excluding capital items) by \$22K. Operating income has been revised up by \$1,277k with increased Operating Expenditure of \$1,255K being brought to account. Details relating to material revisions are provided in the report attachments.

The Quarterly Budget Review Statement is compiled for information of Council and the community and provides a summary of Council's financial position at the end of each quarter as to its progress against both the original Operational Plan and the last revised budget, as well as any recommended revisions identified as part of the budget review process.

The Operating Budget result has improved from the last revised quarter 2 budget surplus of \$2,662K to a surplus of \$2,684K, excluding capital income and reserves movements. Overall, the consolidated budget position incorporating the Capital Budget has not changed from a balanced budget.

Significant material Operational Plan revisions arising in the March 2026 quarter forecast are as follows:

Increase in Income: \$1,277K (Excluding Capital Grants and Contributions)

- Forecast reduction in rates and annual charges of \$141k. This is attributable to less than the anticipated number of rateable properties (\$165K) and small increase in waste management charges (\$24K).
- Forecast increase in User Fees and Charges of \$369K. This increase is attributable to better than anticipated road restorations fees (\$1,100K), road permit fees (\$46K) and planning certificates (\$30K) offset by reductions in revenue at the recreation centres (\$729K), development application income (\$20K) and hall hire fees at Rhodes recreation centre (\$20K).
- Forecast increase in interest and investment revenue of \$815K, resulting from favourable market conditions and more funds available to invest than anticipated. The investment portfolio held \$186.4M at the end of March 2026. Average investment returns on the portfolio of 4.63% are being achieved.

- Forecast increase in operating grants and contributions of \$108K. This is attributable to the department of planning funding being brought to account for the Five Dock Metro project
- Forecast increase in other revenue of \$126K. This increase is attributable to the Veolia education contribution of \$120K.

Increase in Expenditure: \$1,255K

- Forecast decrease in employee benefits and on costs of \$834K. This is attributable to roster management at the recreation centres to reflect current patronage resulting in savings of \$437K and salary savings of \$397K across other operational areas of Council.
- Forecast increase in materials and services of \$1,937k. Additional costs associated with restoration contractors and footpath and road maintenance (\$1,146K), agency personnel (\$240K), recreation centre costs (\$170K), drain and pit cleaning (\$75K), asset condition assessment consultants (\$43K), waste management (\$112K), insurance claims excess payments (\$80K) and tree contractors (\$60K).
- Forecast increase in depreciation of \$150K. This is attributable to increase costs for intangible assets.

Decrease in Capital Grants and Contributions: \$1,204K

- Capital Grants and Contributions are partly utilised to fund the current year's Capital Works Program and the remainder reserved to fund new facilities and infrastructure planned for the future.

Grants have been re-phased to 2026/27 for the following projects:

- Community Sports facility Upgrade – St Lukes Oval - \$831K
- Upgrade – Howley Park East - \$279K
- Sydney Metro Five Dock Placemaking - \$145K
- Five Dock Park multi court - \$80K

Additional and/or new funding for 2025/26 has been brought to account for the following projects:

- Greening our City 2025 Round 5 \$80K (New)
- Seawall Renewal – Sisters Bay to Birkenhead Point \$60K (additional funding utilised)

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 1: Council is accountable, efficient, and ready to meet future challenges

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The quarterly review of the 2025/26 Budget for the period January 2026 to March 2026 has been completed. Actual results for the third quarter are assessed to determine the need for revisions to the original budget. Explanations are included for recommended changes and any impact on Council's original Operational Plan, Delivery Program or Long-Term Financial Plan.

The Budget is comprised of two components:

- Continuing Operations Budget
- Capital Budget

A copy of the Quarterly Report is attached to this report.

Council's Original Budget for 2025/26, provided for an Operational surplus of \$88K which was revised up to \$2,711K in the first quarter budget review and in the second quarter review revised to \$2,662K.

The third quarter review reports a projected year end result of a surplus of \$2,684K.

This result includes the sale of the old Beaconsfield Depot and anticipates the advance payment of the financial assistance grant.

A summary of the Budget along with variations associated with the "Proposed March 2026 Variations" recommended as part of this review are included in the report attachment.

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Not later than two (2) months after the end of each quarter, the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the management plan that the council has adopted for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The consolidated budget summarised below incorporates the Operational Budget and Capital Budgets. The Funding movements section details transfers to and from Cash Reserves.

		Original Budget	Quarter 1 Changes	Quarter 2 Changes	Quarter 3 Proposed Changes	Proposed Quarter 3 Budget
Operational						
Income	<i>Rates and Annual Charges</i>	75,689,149	0	0	(141,140)	75,548,009
	<i>User Fees and Charges</i>	24,135,558	65,010	(157,296)	369,021	24,412,293
	<i>Other Revenue</i>	7,563,909	256,901	(9,073)	126,980	7,938,717
	<i>Grants and Contributions-Operational</i>	9,252,864	2,697,080	185,163	108,338	12,243,446
	<i>Interest</i>	7,500,000	400,000	300,000	815,000	9,015,000
	<i>Other Income/Rental Income</i>	4,986,035	0	109,719	(784)	5,094,970
	<i>Net Gain from disposal of assets</i>	0	2,525,000	0	0	2,525,000
	Total operating income	129,127,515	5,943,991	428,513	1,277,417	136,777,436
Expense	<i>Employee Costs</i>	56,257,897	(294,870)	230,112	(833,827)	55,359,312
	<i>Materials & Services</i>	44,429,799	3,227,790	259,543	1,937,352	49,854,484
	<i>Borrowings</i>	552,424	0	0	0	552,424
	<i>Other Expenses</i>	7,336,440	(13,061)	(123,444)	1,439	7,201,374
	<i>Net Loss from disposal of assets</i>	0	400,806	111,600	0	512,406
	<i>Depreciation</i>	20,463,000	0	0	150,000	20,613,000
		Total operating expenditure	129,039,560	3,320,665	477,811	1,254,964
Operational result - surplus/(deficit)		87,955	2,623,326	(49,298)	22,453	2,684,435
Capital						
Income	<i>Grants And Contributions-Capital</i>	21,580,852	566,527	7,693,034	(1,203,986)	28,636,426
	<i>New Loans</i>	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Proceeds From The Disposal Of Assets</i>	501,000	25,600,000	0	0	26,101,000
	Total Capital Income	22,081,852	26,166,527	7,693,034	(1,203,986)	54,737,426
Expense	<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	52,265,744	41,491,458	5,548,519	(19,253,820)	80,051,900
	<i>Capital Expenditure - Principal Loan</i>	826,456	0	0	0	826,456
	<i>Capital Expenditure - Other</i>	1,805,000	835,196	(59,172)	11,245	2,592,269
	Total capital expenditure	54,897,200	42,326,654	5,489,347	(19,242,575)	83,470,626
Capital result - surplus/(deficit)		(32,815,348)	(16,160,127)	2,203,687	18,038,589	(28,733,200)
Funding Movements						
	<i>Add Back Depreciation & Amortisation -</i>	20,463,000	0	0	150,000	20,613,000
	<i>Gain/Loss from disposal of assets</i>	0	(2,124,194)	111,600	0	(2,012,594)
	<i>Transfer From Reserve</i>	27,711,518	41,709,950	(1,251,295)	(17,444,618)	50,725,556
	<i>Transfer To Reserve</i>	(15,447,125)	(26,048,955)	(1,014,694)	(766,424)	(43,277,198)
			0	0		0
Total Funding Movements		32,727,393	13,536,801	(2,154,389)	(18,061,042)	26,048,764
Net result - surplus/(deficit)		(0)	0	0	0	0

This review recommends a number of changes to the Continuing Operations Budget and provides revised estimates for the full year. In some cases, the recommended changes to the budget are movements of funds across functions or activities of Council. The overall consolidated budget movement maintains unrestricted cash reserves at budget forecast balances.

Material variations highlighted during the quarter are detailed in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement attachment.

Capital Works Program

The Capital Budget includes the Capital Works Program comprising new and renewal infrastructure projects, planned purchases and disposals of major equipment, loan repayments and allocations to reserves. The capital expenditure program is funded from developer contributions, grants, funds drawn down from reserves and specific purpose income such as the Stormwater Management Charge.

The following table summarises variances to the original budget for Capital Expenditure:

Type	Original Budget \$'000	September Variations \$'000	December Variations \$'000	March Variations \$'000	Proposed Budget \$'000
Capital Expenditure	52,266	41,492	5,548	-19,254	80,052
Intangible Assets	1,805	835	-59	11	2,592
Loans	826	0	0	0	826
Total Capital	54,897	42,327	5,489	-19,243	83,470

The above table shows the net movement in the Capital Expenditure Program, decreasing by \$19.2M, of which, \$14.8m relates to the delayed affordable housing acquisitions.

Full details of the recommended variations to forecast budgets are shown in the third quarter Budget Review Capital Works Program in Attachment 2 to the report.

Cash & Investments

The Statement of Investments as at 31 March 2026 was presented at the Council Meeting of 21 April 2026. At the end of the third quarter, Council's Cash and Investments amounted to \$189,424,671.91. By comparison, at the end of the third quarter in March 2025, Cash and Investments amounted to \$191,345,887.13. These funds are invested in accordance with Council's Investment Policy.

A detailed Statement of Cash and Investments is incorporated in Attachment 1 to the report.

Cash flows from rate collections over the first nine months of the 2025/26 financial year amount to approximately \$60.8 million of the \$78 million rate debtor. This represents 78% of the total collectible compared to 78% for the same period last year.

Financial Assistance Grant

The budget also accounts for the ongoing payment in advance of the Financial Assistance Grant. The advance payment of Financial Assistance Grant would usually be paid in June 2026.

Failure to receive this grant will result in the forecast result being unachievable.

Financial Impact

The third quarter review forecasts a revised operating budget surplus of \$2,684K.

The capital program has been updated to reflect current budget phasing, with a decrease of \$19.2m in expenditure. The impact of these combined funding movements results in the revised capital works program being adjusted down from \$102.7m to \$83.5m.

The following statement is made in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for City of Canada Bay Council for the quarter ended 31/03/2026 indicates that Council's projected financial position as at 30 June 2026 will be satisfactory at the year end, having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure. This opinion focuses on Council's projected short-term liquidity position at year end. It does not extend to an opinion relating to Council's long-term financial position.

Jourdan Di Leo - Responsible Accounting Officer.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 requires that at the end of each quarter, a Budget Review Statement be prepared and submitted to Council that provides the latest estimate of Income and Expenditure for the current financial year.

ITEM 11.5 RESCISSION OF POLICIES
Reporting Manager Acting Manager Governance & Risk
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION OF DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND STRATEGY

 That the policies listed in the table within the report be rescinded.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present a list of policies that have been superseded or become redundant with the passing of time and to propose that they be formally rescinded.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This report supports Our Future 2036 outcome area:

Direction 5: Civic Leadership

Goal CL 4: The City of Canada Bay community is well informed and eager to engage in issues and decisions that impact them

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

A comprehensive review of Council policies has been undertaken by staff. As a result of this review, a list of policies that, due to the passing of time, have either been superseded or become redundant has been prepared with the listed policies now proposed for rescission. This list provided in the table below also includes a brief explanation of the reason(s) for the proposed rescission.

Policy Title	Policy Adoption Date (by Council Resolution)	Reason for Proposed Rescission
Communication Policy	21 March 2016	Policy superseded by recently adopted Media and Social Media policies
Contract Management Policy	20 July 2021	Provisions of Policy Incorporated into Procurement Procedures
Lease or Sale of Council Properties Policy	2 June 1997	Provisions superseded by recently adopted Property Acquisition, Disposal and Leasing Policy
Payment of Expenses of General Manager & Staff	20 September 2011	Superseded by Procurement Procedures and in accordance with financial delegations
Rainwater Reuse Policy	1 December 2005	Superseded by City of Canada DCP (dated 5 September 2025)
Rock Anchor Policy	1 October 2012	Provisions of policy addressed through "Application to install temporary Rock Anchors"

Policy Title	Policy Adoption Date (by Council Resolution)	Reason for Proposed Rescission
Safety of Shop Awnings Policy	18 November 2008	Matters relating to unsafe and unsound structures, including enforcement, are addressed through existing legislation.
Specification for the Management of Stormwater	20 June 2006	Superseded by City of Canada DCP (dated 5 September 2025)
Sustainable Event Management Policy	12 November 2013	Incorporated into the Community Event Policy
Sustainable Procurement Policy	15 June 2021	Incorporated into Procurement Procedures
Tree Preservation Order Policy	31 January 2006	Superseded by City of Canada DCP (dated 5 September 2025)

TIMING / CONSULTATION AND / OR RISK CONSIDERATIONS

There are no risk considerations associated with this.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 1993.

12 NOTICES OF MOTION

ITEM 12.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR FERGUSON - PUBLIC EV CHARGING ON COUNCIL LAND

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Ferguson

MOTION

That:

1. A review of the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy be undertaken with a view to establishing criteria requiring vehicles to vacate charging bays within a defined time.
 2. The proposed criteria referred to in (1) above also include requirements for improved signage in carparks, enforcement practices (where applicable), and for all future agreements with charging operators to address these requirements.
 3. A report be prepared and submitted to a future meeting of Council on the outcomes of (1) and (2) above.
-

BACKGROUND FROM COUNCILLOR ANDREW FERGUSON

To ensure equitable access, efficient utilisation, and appropriate management of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure installed in public car parking areas under council control, including chargers operated by third-party providers.

Rationale

1. Public Land Requires Fair and Efficient Use

EV charging bays located in council-controlled areas are:

- A publicly accessible resource
- Often located in high-demand parking areas
- Intended for active charging, not vehicle storage

Once charging is complete, continued occupation:

- Prevents other users from accessing essential infrastructure
- Undermines the purpose for which the space has been allocated

2. Rapid Growth in EV Uptake Is Increasing Demand

Electric vehicle adoption is accelerating:

- EV's now represent over 25% of new vehicle sales globally
- Annual global sales exceed 20 million vehicles
- Higher petrol prices and global energy instability are accelerating the shift to EVs

This growth is placing increasing pressure on limited public charging infrastructure, particularly in urban areas.

Inefficient Use Reduces Network Capacity

When vehicles remain after charging:

- Charger turnover is significantly reduced
- Fewer users can access the facility
- Queueing and user frustration increase

A single charger can serve multiple vehicles per hour only if vehicles vacate promptly once charging is complete.

3. Established Industry Practice Supports This Approach

Across Australia and internationally, EV charging operators commonly apply:

- Idle (overstay) fees, typically around \$0.50–\$1.00 per minute
- A short grace period (often 10–15 minutes)

These measures are specifically designed to:

- Encourage timely vehicle movement
- Maximise charger availability
- Promote fair access

Where council sites do not apply such measures, they risk:

- Encouraging inefficient behaviour
- Creating inconsistency with broader industry norms

4. Equity Considerations

Public EV charging infrastructure should be managed as a shared community resource.

Key considerations:

- Many EV owners have access to home charging
- EV-only bays already represent a priority allocation of public space
- Users who need charging to continue their journey should not be disadvantaged

Allowing vehicles to remain unnecessarily:

- Prioritises convenience over fairness
- Reduces access for others with genuine need

5. Alignment with Council Objectives

This policy supports typical council goals, including:

- Efficient use of public assets
- Sustainable transport transition
- Fair and equitable access to community infrastructure
- Reduction of congestion and user conflict in public car parks

6. Current Time-Based Parking Limits Are Insufficient

Existing signage (e.g. “2-hour limit”) does not address the core issue:

- A vehicle may complete charging in 20–40 minutes
- It may then occupy the space for the remainder of the allowed time

This results in:

- Underutilisation of infrastructure
- Reduced availability for other users

Conclusion:

Time limits alone are not an effective management tool.

Implementation Measures

Council may consider:

1. Policy and Contractual Requirements

- Require charging operators to implement:
 - Idle fees or equivalent deterrents, where feasible
 - Notifications to users when charging is complete

2. Signage

Clear signage stating:

The parking bay is for EV charging only.

“EV charging only. Vehicles must be moved within [10–15 minutes] of charging completion.”

3. Enforcement

- Align parking enforcement with “charging in progress”, not just time limits
- Consider penalties for non-compliance where practical

Conclusion

Given:

- Rapid growth in EV adoption
- Limited availability of public charging infrastructure
- Established industry practices discouraging overstay

It is both reasonable and necessary that:

Vehicles vacate EV charging bays promptly once charging is complete.

This ensures:

- Fair access for all users
- Efficient use of council-managed assets
- Alignment with best practice in EV infrastructure management

ITEM 12.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR MANSFORD - CLIMATE ACTION BURWOOD-CANADA BAY (CABCB)**Attachments:** 1. Home Energy Information  

Submitted by: Councillor David Mansford

MOTION

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the positive work and contribution by the local volunteer-run organisation, Climate Action Burwood-Canada Bay (CABCB).
2. Continues to support the work of Climate Action Burwood-Canada Bay (CABCB).
3. Notes that Climate Action Burwood-Canada Bay (CABCB) is directly assisting Canada Bay residents install solar and batteries in their homes which in turn contributes to downward pressure on power prices.

BACKGROUND FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID MANSFORD

Climate Action Burwood-Canada Bay (CABCB) is a volunteer-run organisation that conducts a range of activities in our area including:

Participation in Canada Bay community events:

- Clean Up Australia Day,
- Communities4Communities Fun Day,
- Sustainable Saturday,
- Cintra Park Farmers Market.

The following CABCB initiatives operate with support of Canada Bay Community Grants:

- Free Home Energy Consultations: Pop-ups Five Dock & on 23/5 Concord
- Information Evenings
- Earth Day & Solar for Apartments
- Smart Energy Expo, Drummoyne

Sustainability:

- Stitch It Don't Ditch It - basic sewing skills & repairs (as a Climate Week Sydney event)

Sustainability & Youth

- Speaking 4 the Planet to celebrate World Environment Day, held in host schools Domremy 2024 & Rosebank 2025

Attendance at CABCB events in Canada Bay does lag behind events in neighbouring LGAs like Burwood. CABCB would like to continue to work with the City of Canada Bay to increase engagement & interest within the Canada Bay community.

FREE Consultation
with a home energy expert



Supported by:



Home Energy Information

Want advice on going solar?

- ✓ solar panels
- ✓ batteries
- ✓ heat pumps
- ✓ EV charging

Find out how to reduce your
energy bills & save money.

This is your opportunity for a **FREE**
15 minute consultation with
home energy experts.



➤ **Saturday 23 May**
10am-2pm

➤ **Peter Woods Place,**
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ITEM 12.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR FERGUSON - HENLEY PARK DOGS OFF LEASH REVIEW

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Ferguson

MOTION

That in relation to the dog off-leash facility at Henley Park, Concord, Council Officers undertake a review of current arrangements, consult park users, consider best practice and report to Council on options to enhance safety, park amenity and suitability for park users.

BACKGROUND FROM COUNCILLOR ANDREW FERGUSON

Users of Henley Park Concord have several concerns regarding the current state and maintenance of Henley Park (for off leash dog usage) on Flavelle Street, Concord that require attention.

I have over many years witnessed the park's vital role in fostering a supportive and caring community of dog owners dedicated to the wellbeing of their pets and each other.

This community asset is so worthwhile and so it's critical that it is both safe and fit for purpose. Today it is neither and that is a dangerous situation.

With increased park usage, I have been advised of numerous potholes throughout the grounds. When the grass is longer these hazards are hidden and potholes are not being filled post-mowing nor is there any sand on site to let user's self-fill. Recently, a dog owner tripped and sprained their ankle due to these conditions, underscoring the safety risks involved.

The next issue is the fencing on Flavelle Street. While the surrounding fence has been effective in keeping dogs secure from running onto Flavelle Street, the gate on Flavelle Street requires frequent repairs, ranging from broken hinges, exposed screws and broken uprights raising concerns about both safety and maintenance costs.

Also, significant rust is evident along the fence line and main entrance, indicating material deterioration. The current design and fabrication is I believe inadequate for the park's heavy use. I have observed more durable gate and fence solutions at other dog parks that would better suit Henley such as that in Rhodes (Lower Phoenix Park) and Enfield.

The next issue is water access. The park's single water station, located at the Pitt Street end near the children's playground, is insufficient given the park's size and usage patterns. Most dog owners gather at the shaded Flavelle Street end, where benches are available and dogs are kept away from the playground. Although a bin was recently installed near the Flavelle Street gate, no water station was added, which seems inconsistent with the Pitt Street setup.

Another concern we have is the overall design. Henley Park attracts dogs of various breeds and sizes. Some owners, particularly those with smaller breeds or new puppies, feel intimidated by larger or more mature dogs, which can lead to unsafe interactions. The park's ample space could accommodate segregated areas in the left corner near Flavelle Street, away from the children's playground. Separate spaces for larger and smaller dogs would help manage these risks and likely increase park usage across the community.

Comparing facilities at other dog parks within and beyond Canada Bay Council reveals opportunities to enhance Henley Park's amenities for dogs and owners and enhance safety. For instance:

- Five Dock Park features a sandpit allowing owners to self-manage pothole repairs.
- Both Five Dock Park and Lower Phoenix Park have water stations at their entrances.
- Five Dock Park and Grant Park in Enfield provide two fenced areas for smaller and larger dogs.
- Blackman Park offers agility equipment and robust fencing for enrichment and security.
- Blackman Park and Grant Park also have more durable gates and fencing, improving safety and longevity.

Given Henley Park's high community use, I respectfully request that the Council review its current conditions and urgently undertake improvements to enhance safety, reduce maintenance costs, and align the park with other local facilities.

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In accordance with Part 14 of the Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson as soon as practicable. The resolution must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.
