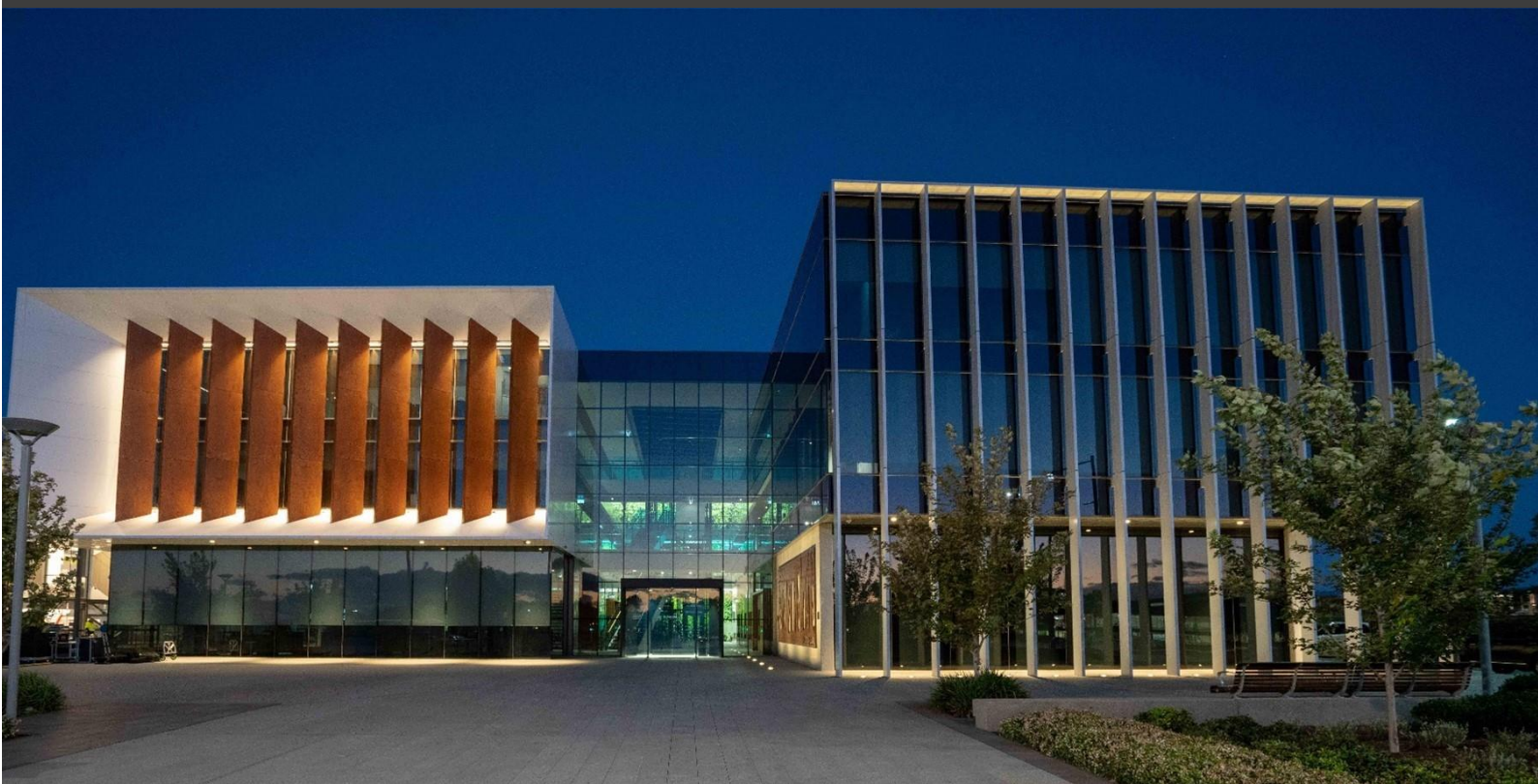


Business Paper

Ordinary Council Meeting

Camden Council
Administration Centre
70 Central Avenue
Oran Park

14 March 2023

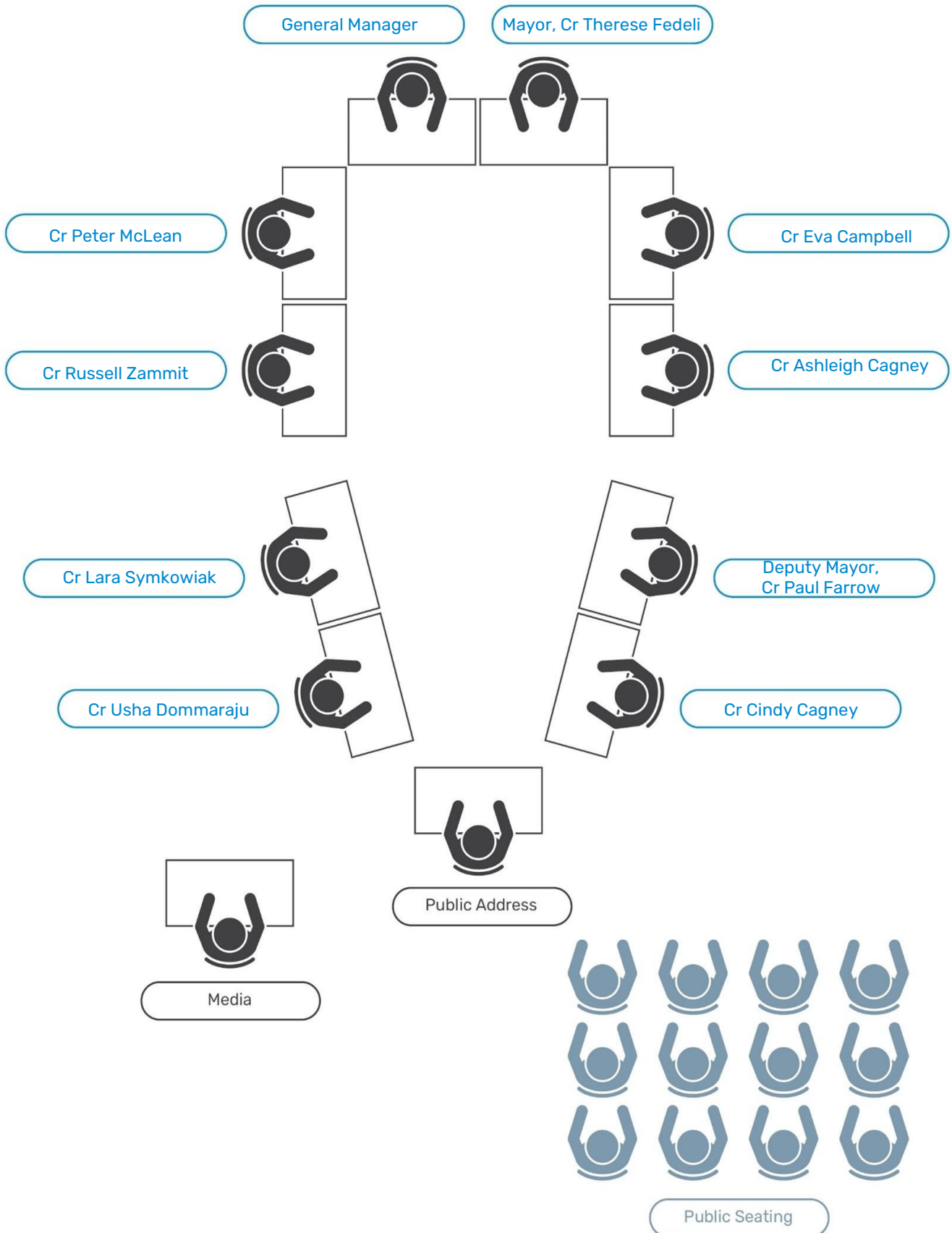


The public can also view the meeting via Council's webcast. A link to this webcast can be found on Council's webpage - <http://webcast.camden.nsw.gov.au/video.php>

camden
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COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
AHD	Australian Height Datum
CLEP	Camden Local Environmental Plan
CP	Contributions Plan
DA	Development Application
DCP	Development Control Plan
DPE	Department of Planning & Environment
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
FPL	Flood Planning Level
GCC	Greater Cities Commission
LAP	Local Approvals Policy
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LSPS	Local Strategic Planning Statement
NCC	National Construction Code
REP	Regional Environmental Plan
PoM	Plan of Management
RL	Reduced Levels
S10.7 CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to zoning and planning restrictions on properties
S603 CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to Rates and Charges outstanding on a property
S73 CERTIFICATE	Certificate from Sydney Water regarding Subdivision
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SREP	Sydney Regional Environmental Plan
STP	Sewerage Treatment Plant
VMP	Vegetation Management Plan
VPA	Voluntary Planning Agreement



OATH AND AFFIRMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

In accordance with section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, all elected Councillors must take an oath of office or make an affirmation of office at or before the first meeting of the Council.

The oath or affirmation may be taken or made before the General Manager, an Australian legal practitioner or a Justice of the Peace.

A Councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath of office or make an affirmation of the office in accordance with the Act is not entitled to attend a meeting as a Councillor, until the Councillor has taken the oath or made the affirmation.

OATH

“I [*name of councillor*] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Camden Local Government Area and the Camden Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment”.

AFFIRMATION

“I [*name of councillor*] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Camden Local Government Area and the Camden Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment”.

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SUBJECT: PRAYER

PRAYER

Almighty God, bless all who are engaged in the work of Local Government. Make us of one heart and mind, in thy service, and in the true welfare of the people we serve: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Almighty God, give thy blessing to all our undertakings. Enlighten us to know what is right, and help us to do what is good: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Almighty God, we pause to seek your help. Guide and direct our thinking. May your will be done in us, and through us, in the Local Government area we seek to serve: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

AFFIRMATION

We affirm our hope and dedication to the good Government of Camden and the well being of all Camden's residents, no matter their race, gender or creed.

We affirm our hope for the sound decision making by Council which can improve the quality of life in Camden.

Either – “So help me God” or “I so affirm” (at the option of councillors)

We pledge ourselves, as elected members of Camden Council, to work for the provision of the best possible services and facilities for the enjoyment and welfare of the people of Camden.

Either – “So help me God” or “I so affirm” (at the option of councillors)

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet and pay our respect to elders both past and present.

SUBJECT: WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

In accordance with Camden Council's Code of Meeting Practice and as permitted under the *Local Government Act 1993*, this meeting is being live streamed and recorded by Council staff for minute taking and webcasting purposes. The recording will also be made publicly available on Council's website.

No other webcasting or recording by a video camera, still camera or any other electronic device capable of webcasting or recording speech, moving images or still images is permitted without the prior approval of Council. Council has not authorised any other webcasting or recording of this meeting.

I remind those that are participating in this meeting that your image and what you say will be broadcast live to the public and will also be recorded so please be mindful of your actions and comments. You should avoid making statements that might defame or offend, or that release any personal information about another individual without their consent. Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from your actions and comments.

Under Council's Code of Meeting Practice, individuals acting in a disorderly manner can be asked by the Chairperson to leave the meeting.

SUBJECT: LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Leaves of absence tendered on behalf of Councillors from this meeting.

RECOMMENDED

That leaves of absence be granted.

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO ATTEND BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

Requests by Councillors to attend and participate in Council meetings by audio-visual link.

A decision whether to approve a request must be made by a resolution of Council. A resolution must state:

- The meetings the resolution applies to, and
- The reason why the Councillor is being permitted to attend the meetings by audio-visual link (unless the ground is illness, disability, or caring responsibilities).

RECOMMENDED

That the requests to attend and participate by audio-visual link be granted for the meetings as determined by Council and for the reasons noted.

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Council's Code of Conduct also deals with pecuniary and non-pecuniary conflict of interest and Political Donations and how to manage these issues (Clauses 4.28-5.19).

Councillors, and where applicable, all other persons, must be familiar with the conflicts of interest provisions contained in the Code of Conduct.

This item of business provides an opportunity for Councillors to declare and manage any conflicts of interest that they may have in matters being considered at this meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDED

That the declarations be noted.

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ADDRESSES

The Public Address session in the Council Meeting provides an opportunity for people to speak publicly on any item on Council's Business Paper.

The Public Address session will be conducted in accordance with the Public Address Guidelines.

Where a member of the public raises a question during the Public Address session, a response will be provided where Councillors or staff have the necessary information at hand; if not, a reply will be provided at a later time. There is a limit of one question per speaker per meeting.

All speakers are limited to four minutes, with a one minute warning given to speakers prior to the four minute time period elapsing. The commencement and conclusion of time shall be advised by the Mayor/Chairperson.

It should be noted that speakers at Council meetings do not enjoy any protection from parliamentary-style privilege. Therefore they are subject to the risk of defamation action if they make comments about individuals. In the event that a speaker makes potentially offensive or defamatory remarks about any person, the Mayor/Chairperson will ask them to refrain from such comments.

The Mayor/Chairperson has the discretion to withdraw the privilege to speak where a speaker continues to make inappropriate or offensive comments about another person, or make a point of order ruling if a speaker breaches the Guidelines.

Only the audio recording of the public address speakers will be heard on Council's webcast. Visual images of the speaker will not be captured as part of that webcast.

RECOMMENDED

That the public addresses be noted.

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirm and adopt Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 14 February 2023.

RECOMMENDED

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 14 February 2023, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted.

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE

Consideration of Mayoral Minute (if any).

ORD01**ORD01**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - WESTINVEST
FROM: Director Planning & Environment
EDMS #: 23/134593

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the offer of \$131,992,694 (excl. GST) in funding through the NSW Government's WestInvest Program, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

The WestInvest Program is a \$5 billion program administered by the NSW Government to fund infrastructure projects that improve liveability across Western Sydney. Under the program, \$3 billion was allocated to NSW Government agencies, whilst \$2 billion was allocated to community projects.

Within the community project fund, \$400 million was allocated to 15 Local Government Areas for local projects, with each council being eligible based on population size. Camden Council was allocated \$24.097 million under the Local Government Allocation.

The remaining \$1.6 billion was allocated through a competitive round of grants which was open to non-government organisations as well as councils. To qualify, projects were assessed across six focus areas including: quality green and open space, community infrastructure, school modernisation, arts and cultural facilities, high street activations and local traffic programs.

Council officers submitted several detailed funding applications, including two applications under the Local Government Allocation and several applications under the competitive round of grants.

In total, over 680 applications worth more than \$7.9 billion were received for the \$1.6 billion competitive round of grants.

Council was successful in being offered funding for 11 projects under the WestInvest Program, including two under the Local Government Allocation and nine under the competitive round of grants.

Councillors were briefed on the WestInvest Program and Council's funding applications on 5 and 12 July 2022.

MAIN REPORT

The NSW Government has advised Council that it has been successful in obtaining grant funding for 11 projects under the WestInvest Program to a total value of \$131,992,694 (excl. GST).

Community Projects Grants - Local Government Allocation

In late 2022, the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) advised that Council was successful in obtaining funding for the two projects submitted under the Local Government Allocation, being:

- Camden Animal Care Shelter - \$9,985,000
- Cut Hill Reserve Sports Field Redevelopment - \$13,954,000

Community Projects Grants - Competitive Round

On 4 February 2023, the DPC advised that Council was successful in receiving funding through the Community Project Grants Competitive Round for nine projects, being:

- Scalabrini East - Pat Kontista Active Open Space and Community Facilities - \$21,340,562
- Scalabrini North - Leppington Town Centre Open Space and Riparian Corridor - \$24,724,941
- Liz Kernohan Drive Intersection Upgrade with Camden Valley Way and Kirkham Lane - \$14,930,000
- Camden Town Centre Enhancements - John Street Public Domain Upgrade and Activation - \$23,139,708
- Ultimate Nature Challenge - Wild and Free - \$993,430
- Camden Community Nursery - \$4,024,727
- Camden Civic Centre Renewal and Upgrade - \$7,747,000
- Camden Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) - \$1,452,581
- Narellan Town Centre Improvements - \$9,700,745

Future Councillor briefings will be held to discuss the detailed design and delivery of the successful projects as they progress. Each project will be subject to a funding deed and funding agreement, with payments made at agreed milestones throughout the delivery of the project.

Council projects that were unsuccessful for funding under the WestInvest Program will be considered as part of Council's annual budget process, or as other grant funding opportunities become available.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in securing grant funding under the WestInvest Program to a total value of \$131,992,694 (excl. GST). Upon confirmation of the works programs and delivery timeframes, it is proposed that the funding will be included in Council's Capital Works Program as part of adopting the 2023/24 budget.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for 11 grants under the WestInvest Program, to a total value of \$131,992,694 (excl. GST). The funding will be used to improve liveability across the Camden Local Government Area.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$131,992,694 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's WestInvest Program, as detailed in the report, and allocate the funding in the Capital Works Program in the 2023/24 Budget;**
- ii. write to the Hon. Matt Kean MP, Treasurer and Minister for Energy, thanking him for the grant funding; and**
- iii. write to Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**

ORD01

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - DICKSON ROAD PROJECT
AND WOOLGEN PARK ROAD PROJECT**

FROM: Director Community Assets

EDMS #: 23/129898

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's acceptance of grant funding in the sum of \$21.77 million (excl. GST) from the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), under the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund (AIF) – Round 3.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government established the AIF to support local councils to deliver essential local infrastructure in areas experiencing high rates of growth within Western Sydney.

The objectives of the AIF are to:

- Fund infrastructure that unblocks development approvals and enables development activity;
- Stimulate construction activity by investing in infrastructure projects that can be brought forward quickly;
- Encourage developers to enact development approvals and invest in construction; and
- Encourage local councils to bring forward expenditure of local developer contributions to accelerate infrastructure delivery.

Council has been successful in receiving funding of \$21.77 million (excl. GST) towards the Dickson Road and Woolgen Park Road projects.

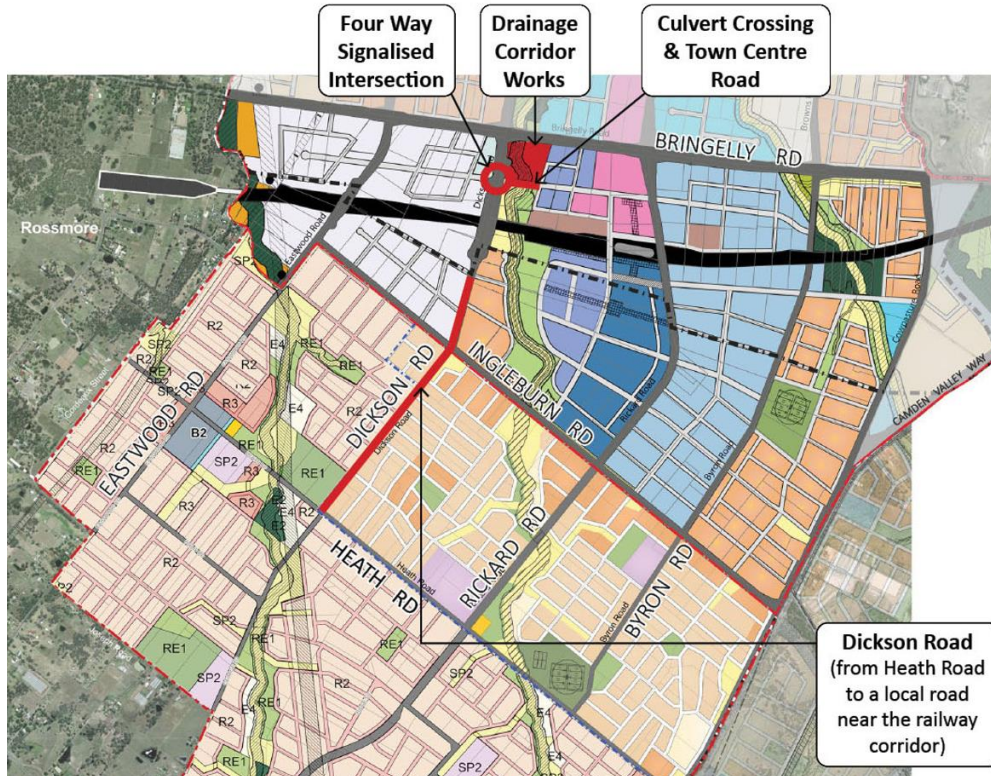
MAIN REPORT

The Department of Planning and Environment allocated grant funding to Council to assist in progressing the following two projects within Leppington:

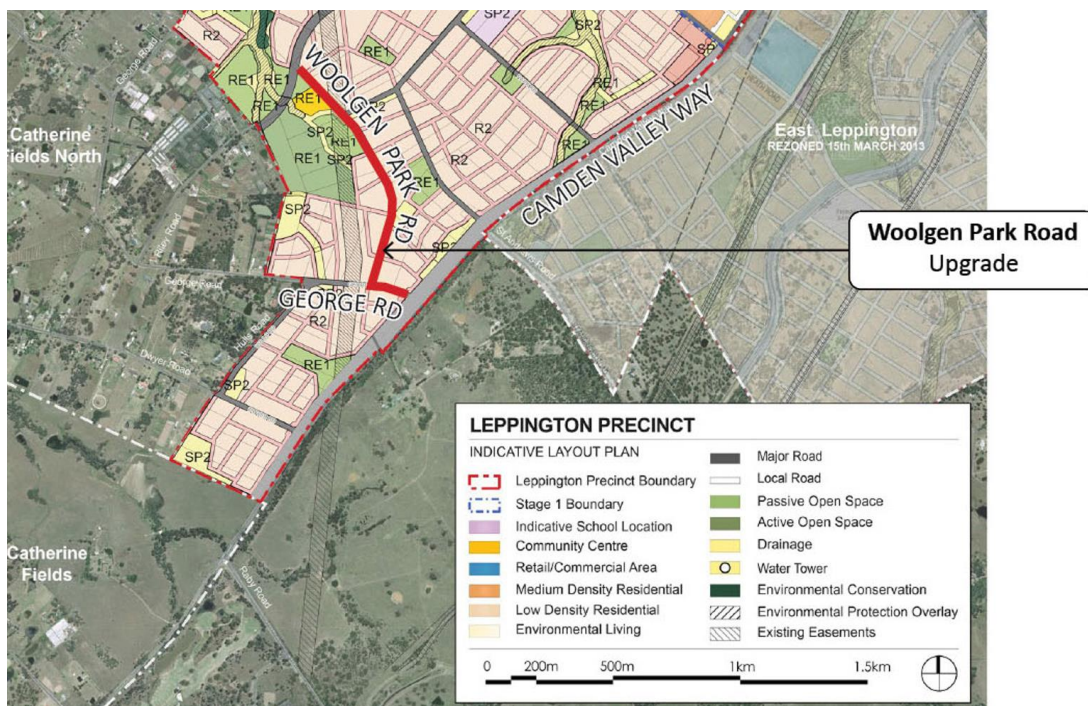
1. Dickson Road; and
2. Woolgen Park Road.

The scope of the projects include:

- Dickson Road** - The design and construction of a signalised intersection on Dickson Road, a town centre road, creek crossing, drainage basin and local park, as well as a pavement upgrade along Dickson Road North and a half-road urban upgrade along Dickson Road South.



- Woolgen Park Road** - Upgrade Woolgen Park Road from existing rural road to urban collector road.



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The revised project costs for the Woolgen Park Road Project and Dickson Road Project are summarised in the table below:

Project	Section 7.11 Funding	AIF Round 3 Funding	SIC Funding	Total Projected Cost
Dickson Road	\$29.44 million	\$18.06 million	\$1.82 million	\$49.32 million
Woolgen Park Road	\$6.21 million	\$3.71 million	-	\$9.92 million
Total Funding	\$35.65 million	\$21.77 million	\$1.82 million	\$59.24 million

It is important to note that a grant of \$1.82 million to assist with the detailed design of this project was previously provided by DPE through the Special Infrastructure Contribution (SIC) fund.

Funding adjustments to reflect the secured grant funding will be included in the draft 2023/24 annual budget and capital works program, which will be presented to Council for endorsement for the purposes of public exhibition on the 11 April 2023.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in securing grant funding from DPE, under the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund Round 3, to assist in progressing the design and construction of the Dickson Road Project and the Woolgen Park Road Project. The total amount of grant funding is \$21.77 million (excl. GST).

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$21.77 million (excl. GST) from the Department of Planning and Environment’s Accelerated Infrastructure Fund, and allocate the funding as identified within the report;**
- ii. write to The Hon. Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning and Homes, thanking him for the grant; and**
- iii. write to Mr Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**

ORD03

ORD03

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROAD REPAIR PROGRAM

FROM: Director Community Assets

EDMS #: 23/134782

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s acceptance of grant funding in the sum of \$8,242,962 (excl. GST) for the purpose of repairs to Council’s road network under the Regional and Local Roads Repair Program administered by Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government’s Regional and Local Roads Repair Program (RLRRP), administered by TfNSW will support Council in repairing its road network following the 2022 Storm and Flood Events (AGRN 1012 & AGRN 1025).

Council submitted a grant application under RLRRP for repairs to its road network across the LGA.

MAIN REPORT

TfNSW has advised Council of its successful grant application in an amount of \$8,242,962 (excl. GST). These funds can be used for road repairs and maintenance as eligibility requirements allow.

A draft breakdown of the program is provided in the table below.

Program Breakdown	Cost Breakdown (excl. GST)
Program / Project Management	\$142,962
Patching & Minor Rehabilitation	\$5,670,000
Shoulder Maintenance	\$1,620,000
Culvert Clearing	\$810,000
Total	\$8,242,962

All works are required to be completed and open to traffic by 29 February 2024.

The funding will support Council in repairing its road network following storm and flood damage across the LGA.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has received a total of \$8,242,962 (excl. GST) through the RLRRP. This funding will be used to fund project management and contracts to deliver the works to minimise financial and resource implications to Council. It is proposed that \$4,000,000 will be allocated in the 2022/23 Budget and \$4,242,962 will be allocated in the 2023/24 Budget.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in securing grant funding under the NSW Government's Regional and Local Road Repair Program. The funding will be utilised for various road repairs and maintenance works across the LGA.

It is therefore recommended that Council accept the grant in the sum of \$8,242,962 (excl. GST) through the RLRRP to support repairs and maintenance works to Council's road network.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$8,242,962 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Regional and Local Road Repair Program for urgent repairs of Council's road network, and allocate the funding as identified within the report;**
- ii. write to The Hon. Sam Faraway MP, Minister for Regional Roads and Transport and Minister for Metropolitan Roads, thanking him for the grant; and**
- iii. write to Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**

ORD04**ORD04**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - FEMALE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SPORT FACILITIES AND LIGHTING UPGRADES PROGRAM 2022/23

FROM: Acting Director Sport, Community and Activation

EDMS #: 23/142267

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application of \$500,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Office of Sport's Female Friendly Community Sport Facilities and Lighting Upgrades Program, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

The Female Friendly Community Sport Facilities and Lighting Upgrades Program is administered by the NSW Office of Sport and supports the improvement of sports facilities across NSW with a specific focus on improvements to female access and participation.

The funds provided under this grant program will enable Council to upgrade change room facilities and floodlighting at Rotary Cowpasture Reserve.

MAIN REPORT

The NSW Office of Sport has advised Council that it has been successful in securing \$500,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Office of Sport Female Friendly Community Sport Facilities and Lighting Upgrades Program.

The funding will support Council in undertaking improvement works to make the changerooms more female friendly, and upgrade flood lighting to improve match and training outcomes for Softball at Rotary Cowpasture Reserve.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for a \$500,000 (excl. GST) grant. As part of the grant funding guidelines, Council is required to match this funding, with funding already allocated within Council's existing Community Support Package Stage 3 budget.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for \$500,000 (excl. GST) for the Female Friendly Community Sport Facilities and Lighting Upgrades Program. The funding will be used to improve the change rooms and floodlighting at Rotary Cowpasture Reserve.

ORD04

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **accept the grant funding of \$500,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Female Friendly Community Sport Facilities and Lighting Upgrades Program for improvement works at Rotary Cowpasture Reserve, and allocate the funding in the 2023/24 Budget;**
- ii. **write to The Hon. Alister Henskens SC MP, Minister for Sport, thanking him for the grant; and**
- iii. **write to Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**

ORD05**ORD05**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - PRECINCT PLANNING - SOUTH WEST GROWTH AREA
FROM: Director Planning & Environment
EDMS #: 23/120534

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the offer of \$210,000 (excl. GST) in grant funding from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to assist with precinct planning in the South West Growth Area (SWGA), and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

In late 2022, the DPE was allocated funding under a New Planning Policy (NPP) program to deliver more homes and jobs for NSW.

Council is currently the lead authority for progressing Planning Proposals for land within the SWGA (both proponent and Council-led), given the new approach to precinct planning as announced by the (then) Minister for Planning and Public Spaces in November 2019.

Council officers are currently assessing several, large-scale Planning Proposals within the SWGA, and the DPE has offered to provide funding to Council to assist with precinct planning for the urban development of Camden's portion of the SWGA.

MAIN REPORT

The DPE has advised Council that it is offering \$210,000 (excl. GST) in funding to support precinct planning, with the funding to be used to assist with the assessment of Planning Proposals within the SWGA.

Under the terms of the funding agreement, Council has 18 months to spend the funds, with any unspent funds to be returned to the DPE after this time.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been offered \$210,000 (excl. GST) in funding from the DPE. It is proposed that this funding be allocated in the 2023/24 Budget to assist in resourcing precinct planning work in the SWGA.

CONCLUSION

Council has been offered \$210,000 (excl. GST) in funding from the DPE to assist with precinct planning (in the form of additional resources) for the SWGA.

ORD05

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$210,000 (excl. GST) from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for resources to assist with precinct planning in the South West Growth Area, and allocate the funding in the 2023/24 Budget;
- ii. write to The Hon. Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes, thanking him for the grant funding; and
- iii. write to Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.

ORD06**ORD06**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - NSW FOOTBALL LEGACY FUND
FROM: Acting Director Sport, Community and Activation
EDMS #: 23/142316

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application for \$125,000 (excl. GST) from the NSW Government's Office of Sport's Football Legacy Fund and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Football Legacy Fund is administered by the NSW Office of Sport and supports the improvement of football facilities and sporting infrastructure across NSW.

The fund aims to improve football facilities, support infrastructure and increase participation opportunities

The funds provided under this grant program will enable Council to undertake improvement works at Nugget Beames Reserve, Narellan Vale.

MAIN REPORT

The NSW Office of Sport has advised Council that it has been successful in securing \$125,000 (excl. GST) under the NSW Government's Football Legacy Fund.

The funding will support Council in undertaking field and drainage improvement works to enhance the facilities at Nugget Beames Reserve, Narellan Vale.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for a \$125,000 (excl. GST) grant. As part of the grant funding guidelines, Council is required to match the funds, with funding already allocated within Council's existing Community Support Package Stage 3 budget.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its grant application for \$125,000 (excl. GST) for grant funding under the NSW Government's Football Legacy Fund. The funding will be used for field improvements and drainage works to Nugget Beames Reserve.

ORD06

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **accept the grant funding of \$125,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Football Legacy Fund for field and drainage improvement works at Nugget Beames Reserve, and allocate the funding in the 2023/24 Budget;**
- ii. **write to The Hon. Alister Henskens SC MP, Minister for Sport, thanking him for the grant; and**
- iii. **write to Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**

ORD07**ORD07**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - SAVING OUR SPECIES PROGRAM - ELDERSLIE BANKSIA SCRUB FOREST AND CAMDEN WHITE GUM

FROM: Director Community Assets

EDMS #: 23/123822

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the offer of grant funding to a total value of \$27,500 (excl. GST) from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's Saving our Species program, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

Saving our Species (SoS) is a NSW Government conservation program that aims to maximise the number of threatened species that can survive securely in the wild in NSW. The program is designed to develop partnerships with organisations and researchers to align conservation work.

SoS is a targeted conservation program and funds are not provided through a competitive application process. Instead, offers of funding are provided directly to landholders to conserve threatened species and communities in NSW.

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) is seeking Council's ongoing support for delivery of the program in the current financial year through delivery of Stage 6 works for the Elderslie Banksia Scrub Forest (EBSF) at Spring Farm and Stage 1 works for the conservation of the Camden White Gum (*Eucalyptus benthamii*).

Elderslie Banksia Scrub Forest

EBSF is listed as critically endangered under both NSW and Commonwealth legislation and a targeted strategy for managing this ecological community at the Spring Farm management site has been developed under the SoS program.

Council has been working with the NSW Government through the SoS program on the conservation of the EBSF located at Spring Farm since 2017, with funding to date totalling \$125,800.

Works completed to date have included:

- Installation of temporary and permanent fencing around the project site;
- Design and installation of site signage;
- Seed collection and propagation of plants for the site;
- Establishment of a Bushcare group for the site and work to plant and maintain the site;
- Primary and secondary weed control by contractors;
- Rabbit control; and
- Removal of dumped rubbish and litter.

In addition, Council's Natural Areas team has provided in-kind support maintaining the project site.

Camden White Gum

The Camden White Gum is endemic to NSW and is known to occur on riverbanks from south-western Sydney to the Blue Mountains. However, the current distribution of the species has been highly restricted as land has been cleared for agriculture and urban development.

The species is currently listed as Vulnerable; however, it was recently subject to a Preliminary Determination as an Endangered species and is under consideration as a Critically Endangered species in NSW.

The DPE has received funding for a four-year project to conserve the Camden White Gum through the SoS program, through the restoration of habitat and the installation of genetically diverse species.

MAIN REPORT

The DPE has advised Council of the offer of additional grant funding of \$12,500 (excl. GST) under the SoS program to continue conservation of the critically endangered EBSF community at Spring Farm.

The DPE has also advised Council of the offer of additional grant funding of \$15,000 (excl. GST) under the SoS program to commence the conservation of the Camden White Gum at reserves across the Camden Local Government Area.

Elderslie Banksia Scrub Forest

The offer of funding from the DPE requires Council to continue conservation efforts on Council land and covers the period until 30 June 2023.

Conservation works to be undertaken with the funding primarily include the continuation of weed control on Council-owned land and the removal of rubbish. This work complements other activities being undertaken by Council, including:

- Continuing to work with the local Bushcare group to undertake additional planting;
- Educating Council staff and the community on the value and importance of EBSF and the types of activities that can have negative impacts on this threatened ecological community;
- Fencing to protect and minimise disturbance within remnant patches;
- Monitoring and managing plantings;
- Providing supplementary water as required to ensure the survival of new plants;
- Undertaking rabbit control; and
- Monitoring and reporting on the project.

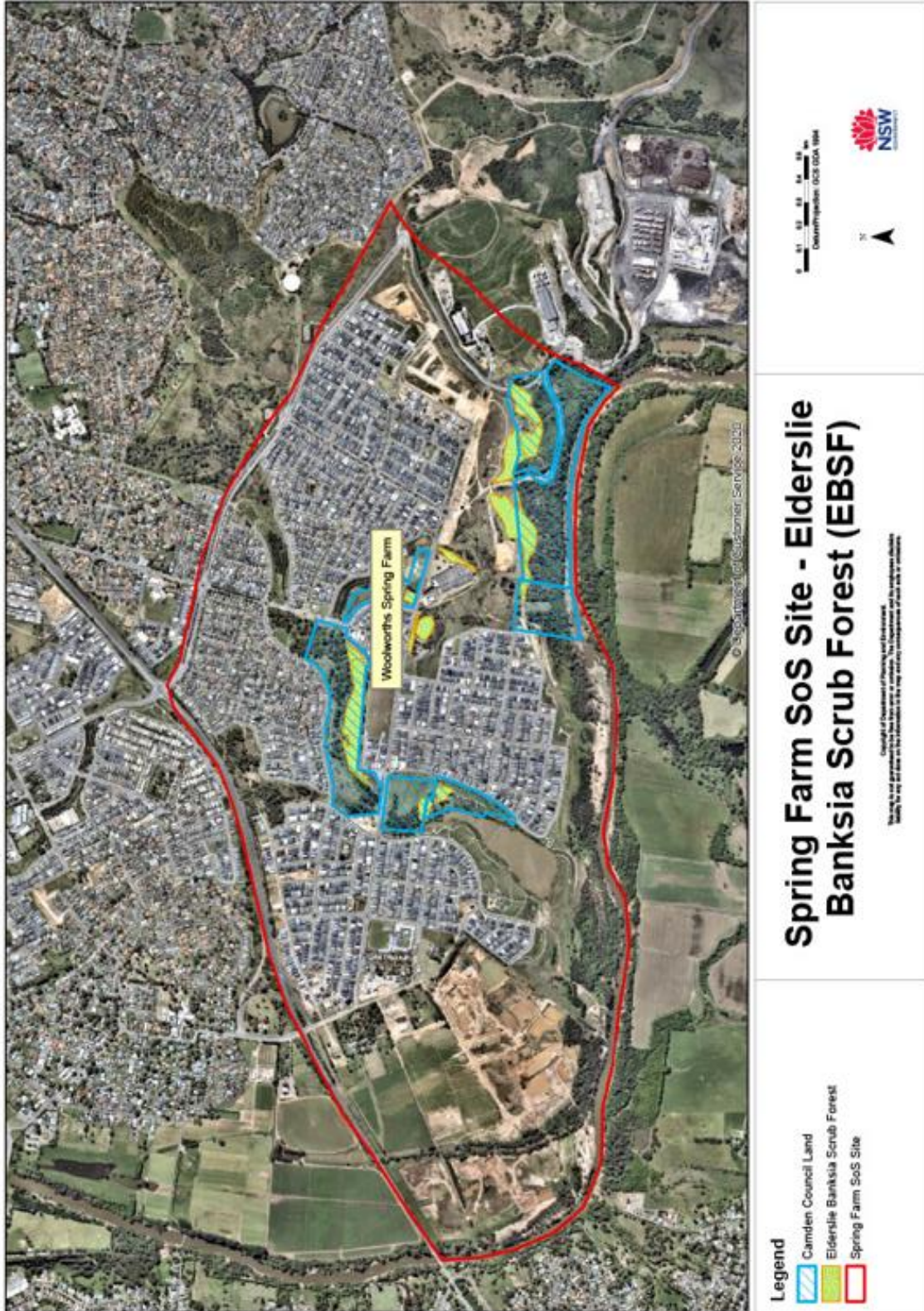


Figure 1: Location of Elderslie Banksia Scrub Forest

ORD07

Camden White Gum

The offer of funding from the DPE requires Council to undertake weed control on Council-owned land at six sites along the Nepean River in the current financial year, including Camden Town Farm and Belgenny, Elizabeth Macarthur, Hayter, Ron Dine and Rotary Cowpasture Reserves.

The funding also requires Council to monitor recent plantings of Camden White Gum at Elizabeth Macarthur and Camden Town Farm.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Through the NSW Government's SoS program, Council has been offered \$12,500 (excl. GST) to continue on-ground conservation works for the EBSF and \$15,000 (excl. GST) to commence weed control and monitoring of the Camden White Gum.

Council will provide project management and reporting as well as ongoing management of the project sites as an in-kind contribution from existing budgets. The funding is proposed to be allocated in the 2022/23 Budget.

CONCLUSION

Council has been offered a total of \$27,500 (excl. GST) in funding through the NSW Government's SoS program to support the conservation of the EBSF and Camden White Gum.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$12,500 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Saving our Species program to undertake conservation works for Elderslie Banksia Scrub Forest in Spring Farm, and allocate the funding in the 2022/23 Budget;**
- ii. accept the grant funding of \$15,000 (excl. GST) from the NSW Government's Saving our Species program to undertake conservation works for Camden White Gum at six Council reserves, and allocate the funding in the 2022/23 Budget;**
- iii. write to The Hon. James Henry Griffin MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage, thanking him for the grant funding; and**
- iv. write to Mr Peter Sidgreaves, MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**

ORD08**ORD08**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - CROWN LANDS FLOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM

FROM: Director Community Assets

EDMS #: 23/58183

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application for \$20,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's 2022/23 Crown Lands Flood Recovery Program, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government's Crown Lands Flood Recovery Program is administered by the DPE and supports councils in the clean-up, repair and restoration of Crown Land impacted by the March 2022 Storm and Flood Event (AGRN1012).

The funds provided under this grant program will enable Council to repair the access road at the Camden General Cemetery, Cawdor.

MAIN REPORT

The DPE has advised Council that it has been successful in securing \$20,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's 2022/23 Crown Lands Flood Recovery Program.

The funding will support Council in repairing storm damage to the Camden General Cemetery access road.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for a \$20,000 (excl. GST) grant. The funding is proposed to be allocated in the 2022/23 Budget. No further funding is required for these works.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for \$20,000 (excl. GST) of grant funding under the NSW Government's 2022/23 Crown Lands Flood Recovery Program. The funding will be used to repair damage to the access road at Camden General Cemetery, Cawdor.

ORD08

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$20,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's 2022/23 Crown Lands Flood Recovery Program for repairs to the access road at Camden General Cemetery, Cawdor, and allocate the funding in the 2022/23 Budget;
- ii. write to The Hon. Kevin Anderson, MP, Minister for Lands and Water and Minister for Hospitality and Racing, thanking him for the grant; and
- iii. write to Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.

ORD09

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - LOCAL SPORT
DEFIBRILLATOR GRANT PROGRAM 2022/23**

FROM: Acting Director Sport, Community and Activation

EDMS #: 23/142309

ORD09**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application for \$1,660 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Office of Sport Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program 2022/23, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding.

BACKGROUND

The Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program is administered by the NSW Office of Sport and is aimed at improving availability and access to Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in community sporting and recreational facilities, for use in emergencies involving cardiac arrest.

An AED is a device that is used in conjunction with Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and delivers a controlled shock to an individual experiencing cardiac arrest, increasing their chances of survival.

The funds provided under this grant program will enable Council to purchase an AED for the Narellan Sports Hub multi-purpose sports fields.

MAIN REPORT

The NSW Office of Sport has advised Council that it has been successful in securing \$1,660 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Office of Sport Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program 2022/23.

The funding will support Council in purchasing and making available an AED at the Narellan Sports Hub.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for a \$1,660 (excl. GST) grant. In addition, Council will provide a contribution of \$1,095 from existing operational budgets.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for \$1,660 (excl. GST) of grant funding under the NSW Government's Office of Sport Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program 2022/23. The funding will be used to purchase an AED for the Narellan Sport Hub multi-purpose sports fields.

ORD09

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept the grant funding of \$1,660 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program 2022/23 for the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator for the Narellan Sports Hub multi-purpose sports fields, and allocate the funding in the 2022/23 Budget;
- ii. write to The Hon. Alister Henskens SC MP, Minister for Sport, thanking him for the grant; and
- iii. write to Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.

ORD10**ORD10**

SUBJECT: PUBLIC EXHIBITION - DRAFT DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN (DIAP) 2023 - 2027
FROM: Acting Director Sport, Community and Activation
EDMS #: 23/126062

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement to place the draft 2023-2027 Disability Inclusion Action Plan (draft DIAP) on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing from March 2023.

BACKGROUND

Council's existing 2017-2021 DIAP was developed in accordance with the NSW Disability Inclusion Action Planning Guidelines for Local Government.

The NSW Disability Inclusion Planning Guidelines identify four key areas, nominated by people with disability (PwD), as being of primary importance in creating an inclusive community.

The draft DIAP builds on the success of Council's DIAP 2017-2021 and meets Council's legislative requirements, under the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*, to undertake disability inclusion action planning.

The draft DIAP sets out Council's commitment to the continuous improvement of inclusion and access to information, services and facilities provided for PwD, their families and carers.

Councillors were briefed on the 2023-2027 draft DIAP on 21 February 2023.

MAIN REPORT

Strategic Context

As a local government organisation, Council is required under the NSW *Disability Inclusion Act 2014* (DIA) to undertake disability inclusion action planning within 2022 to carry forward the commitments and actions of Council's existing DIAP.

The draft DIAP's structure and content is aligned to the NSW Disability Action Planning Guidelines for Local Government and includes the following four key focus areas:

- Attitudes and behaviours;
- Liveable communities;
- Employment; and
- Systems and processes.

The draft DIAP has been developed through extensive background research in accordance with global, national and state policy directions. These directions have provided the contextual background for review and ensures congruence across the draft DIAP. The draft DIAP is aligned with Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP) in building Connected Communities through upholding the principles of diversity and inclusion.

A number of key outcomes have been achieved from the 2017-2021 DIAP, with a summary of these achievements included in the draft DIAP.

Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) New Guidelines

In July 2022, DCJ released additional guidelines and inclusions which must be incorporated within the DIAP.

What has changed?

- DIAPs must now be remade (not just reviewed) every four years.
- New DIAPs are due 12 months after the review.
- DIAPs must be made available in one or more formats accessible to people with disability such as:
 - Digital accessibility conforming with current NSW Government Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) levels;
 - Audio;
 - Auslan;
 - Easy English;
 - Braille; and
 - Large print.
- The Act now requires that supports and services provided to LGBTIQ+ people with disability are to be provided in a way that addresses their needs and are informed by consultation with LGBTIQ+ people with disability.
- This is in addition to the other groups which already require their disability needs to be specifically addressed:
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people;
 - Women;
 - Children;
 - People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Council's 2023-2027 draft DIAP meets all the above requirements.

Community Consultation and Engagement

As part of the development of the draft DIAP, an extensive consultation program was undertaken to ensure PwD, their families and carers, organisations, community groups and businesses had the opportunity to be heard and provide input into its development.

To ensure DCJ's additional guidelines were met, targeted community consultation was undertaken with vulnerable people in the LGBTIQ+ community. The consultation program included a combination of community surveys and focus groups.

a. Community Surveys

Online and hard copy surveys were developed and distributed to:

- Disability and Ageing organisations;
- PwD, their families, carers and community; and
- Council staff –who either have a disability or care for someone with a disability.

The surveys were conducted to develop an understanding of the issues impacting the disability sector, PwD and community to develop an understanding of what matters to them.

b. Focus groups

In addition, a series of four focus group sessions were held across the community, disability sector and businesses. The sessions were held during the day and after hours to ensure access, inclusion and increase opportunity for participation.

Approximately 300 people participated in the consultation process and helped inform the draft DIAP.

Key Priorities of the 2023 /2017 draft DIAP

As legislatively required, the draft DIAP outlines four Key Focus Areas, which include:

- Attitudes and behaviours;
- Liveable communities;
- Employment; and
- Systems and processes.

As a result of the consultation, each Focus Area has been developed to demonstrate:

- **Clear Objectives:** Outlines the ‘action’ of the objective, detailing the program, events, projects and/or events to ensure Council will demonstrate its commitment to meeting legislated requirements;
- **Identified Strategic Actions:** Outlines the links back to relevant internal and external Strategic documents;
- **Performance Indicators:** Identifies how Council will measure performance; and.
- **Links back to consultation:** Identifies how Council is meeting sector gaps and/or needs that were identified from consultation.

Implementation of Council’s draft DIAP will be delivered in partnership with our local community, services, organisations and businesses to achieve the planned outcomes.

Next Steps

It is proposed to place the draft DIAP on public exhibition during March 2023 for a period of 28 days.

During the exhibition period, hard copies of the draft DIAP will be available for viewing at our Libraries, Oran Park Administration Centre and the Julia Reserve Youth and Community Centre.

Copies of the draft DIAP will also be available in braille and large print to meet the requirements of the DCJ guidelines for DIAP consultation.

Online and in-person engagement sessions will also be held with Disability Service Providers, PwD and carers, to give them an opportunity to provide feedback.

The document will also be available for comment through Council's online engagement platform *Your Voice Camden*.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for Council as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION

Council has prepared a 2023-2027 draft DIAP. The draft DIAP seeks to improve the outcomes for PwD, through the implementation of objectives and outcomes associated with key focus areas, as outlined in the draft DIAP.

It is recommended that Council endorse the draft DIAP to be placed on public exhibition.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the 2023 - 2027 draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing in March 2023;**
- ii. if no unresolved submissions are received during the public exhibition period, adopt the 2023 - 2027 draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan effective from the day after the close of the exhibition period; and**
- iii. if any unresolved submissions are received during the public exhibition, receive a further report to consider the submissions.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Camden Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) 2023-2027

ORD11**ORD11**

**SUBJECT: CAMDEN GROWTH AREAS CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN AMENDMENT 3 -
LOWES CREEK MARYLAND**

FROM: Acting Director Sport, Community and Activation

EDMS #: 23/112969

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to inform Council of the draft Camden Growth Areas Contributions Plan Amendment 3 and to recommend that it be endorsed for public exhibition.

BACKGROUND

Amendment 3 to the Camden Growth Areas Contributions Plan (CGACP) has been prepared following a letter received from the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) in December 2022 advising that the sub-arterial roads in the Lowes Creek Maryland (LCM) precinct serves a regional function and that they will be delivered via a State Planning Agreement. The letter is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report.

Prior to Council receiving the letter, the CGACP Amendment 2 included the sub-arterial roads west of the Northern Road in the works schedule despite LCM being within the Western Sydney Growth Areas Special Contribution Area where a Special Infrastructure Contribution (SIC) applies.

Amendment 3 removes the sub-arterial roads from the LCM works schedule which reduces the overall value of local infrastructure for the LCM precinct by \$119,909,799. Accordingly, the value of local infrastructure within the LCM precinct to be collected under Amendment 3 is \$444,612,473.

Councillors were provided with a briefing on the matter on 21 February 2023.

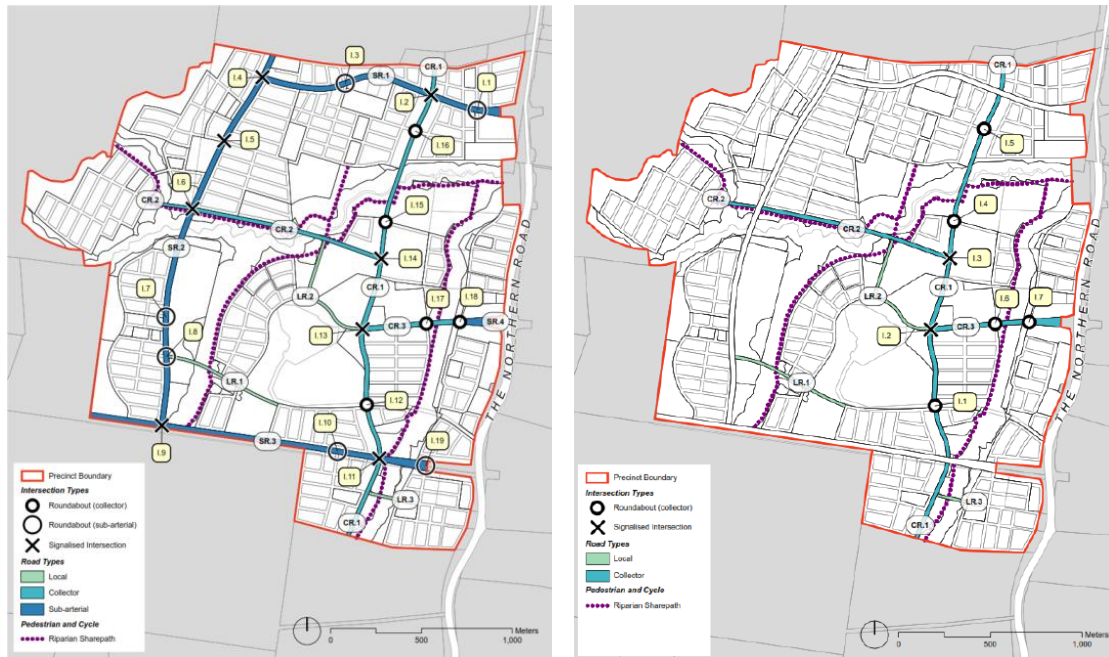
A copy of the draft Amendment 3 is provided as **Attachment 2** and **Attachment 3** to this report.

MAIN REPORT

On 2 December 2022, Amendment 2 to the CGACP came into force to enable Council to collect contributions for development within the LCM precinct. Since the SIC works list did not include sub-arterial roads within the LCM precinct, Amendment 2 included these roads. The current contributions plan value, which includes the sub-arterial roads, is **\$564,522,272**.

On 13 December 2022, Council received a letter from DPE advising that the sub-arterial roads within the LCM precinct are eligible to be provided as a works-in-kind offset to any SIC obligation and are to be delivered via State Planning Agreement. This acknowledges that the sub-arterial roads serve a greater function than local infrastructure. Therefore, Amendment 3 seeks to remove them from the CGACP works list. Should the sub-arterial roads be removed from the works list, the value of the plan is reduced to **\$444,612,473**.

The proposed roads to be removed from the plan can be seen in the transport works map at **Figure 1** below, which outlines the comparison between Amendment 2 and Amendment 3.



Amendment 2 – Transport works map *Amendment 3 – Transport works map*
Figure 1 – Comparison between Amendment 2 and Amendment 3 Transport works maps

The removal of the sub-arterial roads reduces the plan value by **\$119,909,799** which in turn reduces the per lot contribution. A comparison of plan values between Amendment 2 and Amendment 3 can be seen in **Table 1** and a comparison between rates per lot can be seen in **Table 2**.

Table 1 – Summary of plan values

Category	Amendment 2	Amendment 3	Difference
Open Space	\$232,266,117	\$232,266,117	\$0
Community Facilities (land only)	\$1,251,315	\$1,251,315	\$0
Transport	\$223,833,915	\$104,884,648	- \$118,949,267
Stormwater	\$102,836,367	\$102,836,367	\$0
Plan Administration	\$4,334,558	\$3,374,026	- \$960,532
Total	\$564,522,272	\$444,612,473	- \$119,909,799

Table 2 – Comparison of rates per lot between Amendment 2 and Amendment 3

Rate per lot	Environmental Living (E4)	Low Density Residential Band 2 (R2)	Low Density Residential Band 1 (R2)	Medium Density Residential Band 1 (R3)	Medium Density Residential Band 2 (R3)	Mixed Use Residential (B4)
Amt 2	\$98,484	\$98,484	\$85,995	\$68,343	\$46,718	\$46,718
Amt 3	\$75,863	\$75,863	\$67,898	\$55,417	\$39,177	\$39,177

The DPE letter also includes requirements for any future offer to enter into a State Planning Agreement, including that:

- the roads are not to be classified as State roads;
- Camden Council is the relevant authority for the dedication of the road land; and
- Camden Council will assume responsibility for ongoing maintenance of the roads.

This means that whilst the capital costs of the roads will be delivered as part of a State Planning Agreement, the ownership and ongoing maintenance will be the responsibility of Council.

Where to from here?

Subject to Council's endorsement, the draft Amendment 3 will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

As part of the exhibition, the document will be placed on Council's 'Your Voice' online portal for public comment and affected landowners will be notified of the exhibition period.

At the conclusion of the exhibition period, any unresolved submissions received will be reported back to Council for consideration. If no unresolved submissions are received during the exhibition period, Amendment 3 will come into force at the conclusion of the exhibition period.

Endorsement of draft Amendment 3

In accordance with the current Ministerial Directions with regards to contributions under section 7.11 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, Amendment 3 will be subject to the cap of \$30,000 per lot. To enable Council to levy the full per lot contribution as identified in the plan, Amendment 3 must be reviewed and endorsed by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The monetary value of local infrastructure provided by Amendment 3 is \$444,612,473. Once Amendment 3 is in force and approved by IPART, it will enable Council to collect the full contributions from development within the LCM precinct to deliver local infrastructure in accordance with the plan.

CONCLUSION

Amendment 3 has been prepared as a response to the letter received from the DPE in relation to the sub-arterial roads. The removal of the sub-arterial roads from the works list reduces the value of the plan by \$119,909,799. The infrastructure provision required for the precinct remains unaffected as part of this amendment.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse Amendment 3 to the Camden Growth Areas Contributions Plan to be placed on public exhibition in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*;
- ii. subject to no unresolved submissions being received through the exhibition process, adopt Amendment 3 to the Camden Growth Areas Contributions Plan and endorse Amendment 3 to come into force;
- iii. consider a further report on the matter should unresolved submissions be received;
- iv. endorse Amendment 3 to be included as a supplementary document to the IPART review of Amendment 2; and
- v. notify affected landowners of the public exhibition process.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from DPE advising of sub-arterial roads - Lowes Creek Maryland
2. Camden Growth Areas Contribution Plan - Amendment 3 - Main Document
3. Camden Growth Areas Contribution Plan - Amendment 3 - Technical Document

ORD12

ORD12

SUBJECT: 143-149 INGLEBURN ROAD, LEPPINGTON VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT

FROM: Acting Director Sport, Community and Activation

EDMS #: 23/113295

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a draft Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) at 143-149 Ingleburn Road, Leppington and to recommend that the draft VPA be endorsed for public exhibition.

BACKGROUND

The site at 143-149 Ingleburn Road, Leppington (see **Figure 1**) has two active Development Application (DA) consents for the combined creation of 60 residential lots.

The proponent for the site is GWS Estate who are both the landowner and developer.

The developer provided a letter of offer to Council requesting that a VPA for the dedication of drainage and open space land within their site be considered.

Councillors were briefed on this matter on 21 February 2023.

The draft VPA is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report.



Figure 1 – The Site

MAIN REPORT

The draft VPA requires the dedication of land for open space and a detention basin. The total value of land dedications is \$3,862,117. The draft VPA requires a settle-up amount to be paid as a monetary contribution calculated by the difference between the combined total of contributions under section 7.11 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act) for DA/2019/947 and DA/2020/1052 and the dedication land value. This is summarised in **Table 1**.

Table 1 – Summary of s 7.11 contributions and offsets from land dedication area

Combined DA/2019/947 and DA/2020/1052 s7.11 contributions (indexed to Dec 2022 CPI)	Total land dedication area value	Settle-up amount required to be paid as a monetary contribution
\$4,690,006	\$3,862,117	\$827,889

As seen in **Table 1**, \$827,889 will be required as a monetary settle-up amount.

The land is required to be dedicated prior to the issuing of the subdivision certificate for either DA.

The land is identified in the Camden Growth Areas Contributions Plan (see **Figure 2**) and forms part of the regional stormwater network that is currently being planned. Therefore, the acquisition of the land is critical for the future implementation of regional stormwater infrastructure.



Figure 2 – The land to be dedicated. The blue rectangle is drainage land and the green triangle is open space land

What happens next?

Subject to Council's endorsement, the draft VPA will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

As part of the exhibition, the document will be placed on Council's 'Your Voice' online portal for public comment and affected landowners will be notified of the exhibition period.

At the conclusion of the exhibition period, any unresolved submissions received will be reported back to Council for consideration. If no unresolved submissions are received during the exhibition period, the draft VPA will be executed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total value of the land dedication is \$3,862,117. This will be offset against the contributions under section 7.11 of the EPA Act, being \$4,690,006. Therefore, a settle-up amount as a monetary contribution is required which is valued at \$827,889 (Dec 2022 CPI).

CONCLUSION

The draft VPA includes land dedications for open space and drainage infrastructure. This land is identified in the Camden Growth Areas Contributions Plan. The land dedication will contribute to the future stormwater regional network.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the draft Voluntary Planning Agreement for 143-149 Ingleburn Road, Leppington to be placed on public exhibition;**
- ii. subject to no unresolved submissions received through the exhibition process, execute the draft Voluntary Planning Agreement for it to come into force; and**
- iii. consider a further report on the matter should unresolved submissions be received.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. 143-149 Ingleburn Road - Draft Voluntary Planning Agreement

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT MONIES - JANUARY 2023
FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/112732

PURPOSE OF REPORT

In accordance with Part 9, Division 5, Section 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, a list of investments held by Council as at 31 January 2023 is provided.

MAIN REPORT

The weighted average return on all investments was 3.20% p.a. for the month of January 2023. The industry benchmark for this period was 3.18% (Ausbond Bank Bill Index).

It should be noted that Council's investment performance has returned to above benchmark as investments held at lower interest rates have matured and have been re-invested at current market interest rates. This is expected to improve over coming months as Council secures higher rates which are in line with current market conditions.

The official cash rate as determined by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) as at 7 December 2022 was 3.10%. On 8 February 2023, the Board of the RBA subsequently increased the official cash rate to 3.35%.

The Responsible Accounting Officer (the Chief Financial Officer) has certified that all investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the relevant regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

Council's Investment Report is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **note that the Responsible Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy;**
- ii. **note the list of investments for January 2023; and**
- iii. **note the weighted average interest rate return of 3.20% p.a. for the month of January 2023.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Investment Report January 2023

ORD14**ORD14**

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION ON THE SENIORS REFERENCE GROUP
FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy
EDMS #: 23/124268
PREVIOUS ITEMS: ORD07 - Councillor Representation on Committees - Ordinary Council - 08 Mar 2022
ORD04 - Community Representation on Advisory Committees and Reference Groups - Ordinary Council - 10 May 2022

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to recommend the appointment of Linda Hobman as an additional community representative as a member of the Seniors Reference Group.

BACKGROUND

The primary objectives of the Seniors Reference Group are to:

- Organise and deliver a range of events and activities that support the health and wellbeing of older residents of the Camden Local Government Area (LGA);
- Support and facilitate communication between Council and the local community on matters impacting on older residents;
- Advocate on, and work proactively with Council and other organisations to address, matters raised by the community; and
- Act as a reference group for the ongoing implementation and review of plans which impact on older residents.

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 10 May 2022, Council resolved (ORD 56/22) to appoint eight community representatives as members of the Seniors Reference Group.

A Councillor briefing on this matter was held on 28 February 2023.

MAIN REPORT

In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the membership of the Seniors Reference Group includes up to fifteen community representatives and up to three sector organisational representatives.

An Expression of Interest to join the Seniors Reference Group was received from Linda Hobman and is provided as a **supporting document**. It is recommended that Linda be appointed as a community representative on the Seniors Reference Group.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council appoint Linda Hobman as a community representative on the Seniors Reference Group.

ORD14

RECOMMENDED

That Council appoint Linda Hobman as a community representative on the Seniors Reference Group.

ATTACHMENTS

1. EOI Form - Linda Hobman - Seniors Reference Group - *Supporting Document*

ORD15**ORD15**

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS - AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

FROM: General Manager

EDMS #: 23/108292

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to recommend the appointment of two independent external members to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee in accordance with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter and Office of Local Government Circular 22-21 *Update on Membership Requirements for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees*.

BACKGROUND

On 13 May 2014, Council resolved to establish a Business Assurance and Risk Committee.

On 8 June 2021, Council adopted the revised Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter, which outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Committee and provides the structure of the Committee which is to consist of the following voting members:

- Two Councillors;
- Three independent members (not employed or elected representatives of the Council); and
- Chairperson (to be one of the independent members).

Councillor Paul Farrow and Councillor Russell Zammit are the current appointed Councillor representatives on the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

On 9 March 2021, Council resolved to re-appoint Mr John Gordon and Mr Bruce Hanrahan as external independent Committee members for two years. Mr Hanrahan's and Mr Gordon's terms expire in March 2023.

On 9 March 2021, Ms Elizabeth Gavey was appointed as external independent Committee Chair. Ms Gavey's current term expires in March 2025.

Councillors were provided with a briefing on the recommended appointments to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee on 21 February 2023.

MAIN REPORT

In accordance with Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter, independent members are to be selected as voting members of the Committee.

Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter allows independent members to be selected for a four-year term with the option to reappoint for a total of up to eight years.

Mr John Gordon and Mr Bruce Hanrahan have been Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee independent members since 2015 and have reached their eight-year maximum term. As a result, two new independent members are required to be appointed.

Paragraph 4.5 of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter includes the following requirements for the selection of Independent Committee members:

- Council shall seek expressions of interest from persons interested in being appointed to the available position.
- Council Management will assess the expressions of interest and shortlisted applicants may be interviewed by Council Management prior to a selection decision.
- Independent external member appointments are to be approved by Council resolution.

Expressions of interest were sought for the two independent member positions during the period from 4 November 2022 to 21 November 2022 via the following advertising methods:

- LinkedIn;
- Seek.com; and
- Council's Your Voice webpage.

Applicants were required to address independence and essential eligibility criteria that are consistent with OLG Circular *22-21 Update on Membership Requirements for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees* and include the following:

- Ability to read and understand financial statements and a capacity to understand the ethical requirements of government;
- Functional knowledge in areas such as risk management, performance management, human resources management, internal and external auditing, financial reporting, accounting, management control frameworks and governance, or business operations;
- A capacity to form independent judgements and a willingness to constructively challenge Management practices and information; and
- A professional, ethical approach to the exercise of their duties and the capacity to devote the necessary time and effort to the Committee.

Additional desirable selection criteria included:

- Extensive senior level experience in governance and management of complex organisations;
- Relevant professional qualifications or membership; and
- Understanding of the Macarthur Region, particularly Camden.

Fifty applications were received by the closing date of 21 November 2022 in response to the expression of interest.

A Panel was established that consisted of the Chair of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, Elizabeth Gavey, the General Manager, Andrew Carfield, and the Director of Customer and Corporate Strategy, Samantha Sharkey.

The Panel met and shortlisted six applicants for interview on the basis that they had an appropriate level of experience in local government, had best addressed the eligibility criteria, had the capacity to undertake the role and had appropriate experience either working with or sitting on similar Committees. The six shortlisted applicants were invited to attend an interview on 1 February 2023.

Based on the interviews conducted combined with the applications received, the Panel determined that Mr Barry Husking and Mr Michael Quirk were the most suitable candidates for appointment. An outline of Mr Husking and Mr Quirk's relevant experience and expertise are set out in the attached **supporting document**.

The recommended applicants have a balance of experience across financial management, governance and internal auditing and will complement the skills and experience of the current Chair of the Committee.

Reference checks as well as the required criminal and bankruptcy checks have been undertaken on the recommended candidates with positive outcomes.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The fees for the independent external members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee are provided for in Council's budget and are set out in the **supporting document**.

Councillor representatives on the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee do not receive a fee for their membership.

CONCLUSION

Appointment of independent external members to Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is required under the Committee's Charter. The appointment of the recommended independent members to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee will ensure continued improvement of Council's governance framework.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **appoint Mr Barry Husking as an independent member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for four years in accordance with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter and at the current fee;**
- ii. **appoint Mr Michael Quirk as an independent member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for four years in accordance with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter and at the current fee; and**
- iii. **write to Mr John Gordon and Mr Bruce Hanrahan to thank them for their contribution to Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Independent Members Interview Assessment Report - *Supporting Document*

SUBJECT: MINUTES TO THE 9 AND 23 NOVEMBER 2022 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FROM: General Manager

EDMS #: 23/134039

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the minutes of the 9 and 23 November 2022 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meetings.

BACKGROUND

Council endorsed the implementation of a Business Assurance and Risk Management framework in June 2014. This framework included the establishment of a Business Assurance and Risk Committee (renamed Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee).

Council resolved to adopt the Committee's current Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter on 8 June 2021. The Charter includes a requirement to report draft minutes to Councillors via the Councillor Update, and to subsequently report the final minutes to Council for noting after they have been approved at the next Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting.

MAIN REPORT

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee met on 9 and 23 November 2022. The agenda discussed at the meetings included:

9 November 2022

- Review of Financial Statements and External Audit Reports for the Year Ending 30 June 2022;
- Community Strategic Plan presentation;
- Update on Project 24 Domestic Waste Processing and Disposal Tender;
- Quarterly Legislative Compliance Update; and
- Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee self-assessment

23 November 2022

- Development Certifications Internal Audit;
- Enterprise Risk Management;
- External Audit Update;
- Quarterly Legislative Compliance Update;
- Cyber Security Update;
- Performance Reporting and Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework;
- Audit Recommendations Implementation Status Update;
- Internal Audit Plan Status Update; and
- Update on Reports from Authoritative Bodies.

The draft minutes of the 9 and 23 November 2022 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meetings were circulated to Councillors as part of the Weekly Councillor Update on 2 December 2022 and 13 January 2023 respectively and subsequently approved at the 22 February 2023 Committee meeting. The approved minutes are provided as **attachments** to this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee plays an important role in supporting the governance framework of Council. Reporting the minutes from Committee meetings keeps Council informed of the outcomes from those meetings and they are submitted for information.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the minutes of the 9 and 23 November 2022 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meetings.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes to the 9 November 2022 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting
2. Minutes to the 23 November 2022 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC
FROM: General Manager
EDMS #: 23/142054

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, the following business:

- Organisational Structure;

is, in the opinion of the General Manager, of a kind referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, being:

- Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a));

and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Before a part of the meeting is closed, members of the public may make representations as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed. Representations can only be made in writing to the General Manager prior to the commencement of the meeting or a fixed period immediately after the motion is moved and seconded. That period is limited to four minutes under Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

The meeting will only be closed during discussion of the matters directly the subject of the report and no other matters will be discussed in the closed part.

Members of the public will be readmitted to the meeting immediately after the closed part has ended and, if Council passes a resolution during the closed part, the Chairperson will make the resolution public as soon as practicable after the closed part has ended.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- hear any objection or submission by a member of the public, limited to a period of four minutes, concerning the closure of the meeting; and**
- close the meeting to the media and public to discuss a report about information dealing with personnel matters in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.**

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