



MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held at the
Council Chambers, North Sydney
at 7pm on Monday 11 August 2025.



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1. Opening Meeting

At the commencement of business (7:00pm) those present were: The Mayor, and Councillors Antonini, Beregi, Carr, Holding, Hoy, Santer, and Welch.

The meeting was opened by the Mayor.

2. Acknowledgement of Country RECOGNITION OF THE CAMMERAYGAL PEOPLE

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters of North Sydney local government area, the Cammeraygal people.

The Acknowledgement of Country was read by Councillor Holding.

3. Apologies and applications for leaves of absence or attendance by audio-visual link by councillors

It was moved by Councillor Antonini and seconded by Councillor Carr:

1. **THAT** Council grant permission for Councillor Keen to attend remotely for the following reason: other.
2. **THAT** Council grant permission for Councillor Spenceley to attend remotely for the following reason: travel.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 8 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr,
Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

178. RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** Council grant permission for Councillor Keen to attend remotely for the following reason: other.
2. **THAT** Council grant permission for Councillor Spenceley to attend remotely for the following reason: travel.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The Motion was moved by Councillor Welch and seconded by Councillor Holding.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

179. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 28 July be taken as read and confirmed.

5. Disclosures of Interest

Nil

6. Public Forum

A Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Santer:

1.THAT the Public Forum be opened, and that the following items be considered as part of the Public Forum:

10.2	Commercial and Group Use of Open Space Policy
10.5	Community use of St Leonards Park - response to Council resolution
10.8	Art installation honouring local women - response to Council resolution
10.10	Current Appeals and Results - July 2025

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

180. RESOLVED:

1.THAT the Public Forum be opened, and that the following items be considered as part of the Public Forum:

10.2	Commercial and Group Use of Open Space Policy
10.5	Community use of St Leonards Park - response to Council resolution
10.8	Art installation honouring local women - response to Council resolution
10.10	Current Appeals and Results - July 2025

Public Forum**10.2. Commercial and Group Use of Open Space Policy**

This item was brought forward as part of the Public Forum (see above).

AUTHOR: Mark Richardson, Service Unit Manager Ranger & Parking Services

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the draft Commercial and Group Use of Public Open Space Policy for the purposes of publicly exhibiting the document to seek community feedback.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Council currently has no formalised policies in place to effectively manage and balance the use of our limited public open space areas between commercial operators, large groups, and casual users.
- There are currently no formal courses of action available to staff, nor rules that can be enforced to ensure that these areas are equitably used and not misused or damaged, nor that reasonable commercial arrangements in place for those who use public open space for financial gain.
- Council has received many complaints in recent years regarding commercial enterprises pursuing their services and activities in Council's public open space areas. These activities require services from Council in the form of management of and response to complaints, maintenance and repair of grounds / surfaces, access to and use of amenities, and management of community expectations regarding equitable use and access to the limited areas of public open space in the Local Government Area.
- This report identifies the need for the introduction of a policy which clearly articulates Council's expectations regarding the sustainable use of Council's limited open space areas, the balance between commercial, group, and casual users, and standards and conditions of use.

- A fee structure should be considered, to ensure a reasonable return towards the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of such public assets.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council endorse the attached draft Commercial and Group Use of Public Open Space Policy.
- 2. THAT** the draft policy be placed on public exhibition for comment in accordance with the *North Sydney Community Engagement Strategy*.
- 3. THAT** the results of the public exhibition be presented to Council along with a schedule of recommended fees that should be associated with application of the policy.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum:

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Holding.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 8 / 2

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch
Against: Councillor Carr and Councillor Keen
Absent: Nil

181. RESOLVED:

- 1. THAT** Council endorse the attached draft Commercial and Group Use of Public Open Space Policy.
- 2. THAT** the draft policy be placed on public exhibition for comment in accordance with the *North Sydney Community Engagement Strategy*.
- 3. THAT** the results of the public exhibition be presented to Council along with a schedule of recommended fees that should be associated with application of the policy.

10.5. Community use of St Leonards Park - response to Council resolution

This item was brought forward as part of the Public Forum (see page 5).

AUTHOR: David Manson, Manager Parks & Reserves

PURPOSE

This report responds to the Council resolution of 10 February 2025 regarding the utilisation of St Leonards Park and the installation of promotional signage for Parkrun.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- St Leonards Park is listed on the NSW State Heritage Register as an item of State Significance.
- Proposed improvements within the park are to be considered in the context of the park's adopted Masterplan and Conservation Management Plan (CMP).
- Whilst most activities within St Leonards Park have remained at manageable levels, the use of the park by schools has significantly increased over the past two years. Much of this use is not formally booked.
- Staff have received complaints from park users in relation to the domination of space used by football codes when warming up prior to matches; Council staff are working to mitigate this issue through the designation of areas for this practice.
- Whilst Council is managing the physical maintenance of the park within existing resource and budget allocations, structured group activities have occasionally led to conflicts over shared spaces.
- Council first gave approval for Parkrun to operate in St Leonards Park in September 2017. The event operates on an annual approval basis and is currently averaging around 400 participants per week.
- The installation of permanent promotional signage would contravene the provisions within the CMP in relation to signage, however the promotion of the event through Council's media channels is proposed as an alternative.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council note the contents of this report in relation to the utilisation of St Leonards Park and the installation of promotional signage for Parkrun.
- 2. THAT** Council note that Council's Customer and Communications team will seek to include the promotion of Parkrun through its existing media and marketing channels.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum:

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Holding.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 8 / 2

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch
Against: Councillor Carr and Councillor Keen

Absent: Nil

182. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to the utilisation of St Leonards Park and the installation of promotional signage for Parkrun.

2. THAT Council note that Council's Customer and Communications team will seek to include the promotion of Parkrun through its existing media and marketing channels.

10.8. Art installation honouring local women - response to Council resolution

This item was brought forward as part of the Public Forum (see page 5).

AUTHOR: Vikki Woods, Service Unit Manager Arts, Library and Events

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to respond to a Council resolution regarding the creation of an art installation in the North Sydney Local Government Area to celebrate the contributions of notable and inspiring local women, both past and present.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Council resolved at its meeting on 12 August 2024 to consider a report on the creation of an art installation in North Sydney to celebrate the contributions of notable and inspiring local women, both past and present.
- It is proposed that an annual art event or installation recognising inspirational local women be timed to coincide with International Women's Day (8 March, annually).
- The annual event or installation will be determined following consultation with the community to identify inspirational women in North Sydney.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council undertake an annual art event or installation to recognise inspirational local women, to coincide with International Women's Day.

2. THAT Council call on the community to nominate the inspirational woman to be recognised each year.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum:

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

A Motion was moved by Councillor Welch and seconded by Councillor Beregi:

1. THAT Council undertake an annual art event or installation to recognise inspirational local women, to coincide with International Women's Day.

2. THAT Council call on the community to nominate the inspirational women to be recognised each year.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

183. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council undertake an annual art event or installation to recognise inspirational local women, to coincide with International Women's Day.

2. THAT Council call on the community to nominate the inspirational woman to be recognised each year.

10.10.Current Appeals and Results - July 2025

This item was brought forward as part of the Public Forum (see page 5).

AUTHOR: Victoria McGrath, Legal Counsel

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on current appeal and prosecution matters.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Lists of current appeal and prosecution matters as at 15 July 2025 are attached to this report, for Council's information.
- Four attachments are provided, including public listings and separate confidential reports. The confidential reports include additional detail (as highlighted) on the legal nature of the appeals, status updates, and legal issues relating to matters still afoot.
- Should Council wish to discuss this report it is noted that the attached confidential documents include advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege and because consideration of the matter in open Council would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to manage legal matters effectively and in the best interests of the community. As such should this report be discussed it should be considered in closed session.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be noted.

2. THAT, should Council resolve to debate or discuss this matter, that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 for the reason listed below:

(g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege.

It is further noted that release of this information would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to manage legal matters effectively and in the best interests of the community.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum:

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Santer.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

184. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the report be noted.

2. THAT, should Council resolve to debate or discuss this matter, that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 for the reason listed below:

(g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege.

It is further noted that release of this information would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to manage legal matters effectively and in the best interests of the community.

7. Items Considered by Exception

It was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Antonini:

1. THAT the Recommendations for the following Items be adopted:

10.1	Hardship Policy
10.3	Preparation of Planning Proposal to amend Planning Controls for Berrys Bay Foreshore
10.6	Don Bank Museum - roof replacement

10.7	North Sydney Art Prize 2026
10.9	New Lease on Council Property - 56 Alfred Street, Milsons Point

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

185. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Recommendations for the following Items be adopted:

10.1	Hardship Policy
10.3	Preparation of Planning Proposal to amend Planning Controls for Berrys Bay Foreshore
10.6	Don Bank Museum - roof replacement
10.7	North Sydney Art Prize 2026
10.9	New Lease on Council Property - 56 Alfred Street, Milsons Point

8. Mayoral Minutes

Nil

9. Reports of Committees

9.1. Traffic Committee Minutes - 18 July 2025

AUTHOR: Peita Rose, Governance Officer

PURPOSE

Council is required to consider the Minutes of this Committee. Section 5.3.2 of the RMS Delegation to Council for the Regulation of Traffic states that: *All proposals recommended by the LTC must still be formally endorsed by the elected Council (or their sub-delegate), subject to certain limitations.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This report presents the Minutes of the last meeting of the Traffic Committee held 18 July 2025 for Council adoption. The Minutes are attached for information.
- The full reports to the Traffic Committee can be viewed at <https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/homepage/82/traffic-committee>.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting dated 18 July 2025 be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Welch and seconded by Councillor Santer.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

186. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting dated 18 July 2025 be received.

10. Reports to Council

10.1. Hardship Policy

AUTHORS: Ian Robertson, Service Unit Manager Corporate Governance, and Aigul Utegenova, Chief Financial Officer

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present a new draft *Financial Hardship Policy* and for Council to endorse public exhibition of the amended policy for 28 days.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The *Financial Hardship Policy* was originally adopted by Council in June 2005.
- Council has reviewed and redeveloped a new Draft Financial Hardship Policy as committed to as part of the recent special variation application.

- The updated policy is written in plain English, making it easier to understand and navigate for all ratepayers.
- Eligibility has been broadened to include a wider range of financial hardship situations and now allows applications from both individuals and businesses.
- The previous percentage of income test has been replaced with a flexible, principles-based assessment that considers overall capacity to pay.
- The policy now clearly outlines available assistance options, introduces a transparent application and appeals process, and promotes a supportive, respectful approach to all applicants.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** the draft *Financial Hardship Policy* be endorsed for public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- 2. THAT** a further report be provided to Council following the conclusion of the public exhibition period, for the purpose of considering any submissions received, and to adopt the amended *Financial Hardship Policy*.

This item was dealt with by exception (see page 11).

187. RESOLVED:

- 1. THAT** the draft Financial Hardship Policy be endorsed for public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- 2. THAT** a further report be provided to Council following the conclusion of the public exhibition period, for the purpose of considering any submissions received, and to adopt the amended Financial Hardship Policy.

10.2. Commercial and Group Use of Open Space Policy

This item was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see pages 5 - 6)

10.3. Preparation of Planning Proposal to amend Planning Controls for Berrys Bay Foreshore

AUTHOR: Marcelo Occhiuzzi, Director Planning and Environment

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the initiation of a Planning Proposal to amend the planning controls under North Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2013 (NSLEP 2013) for the western foreshore of Berrys Bay, to facilitate the implementation of a future foreshore public open space and community corridor, and to ensure that these planning controls are consistent with the desired long-term use of the use and function of this land.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Transport for NSW (TfNSW) has been liaising with Council and members of the community to prepare a masterplan for the corridor between Carradah Park and 'Woodleys Shed' on the western foreshore of Berrys Bay. This has arisen following the removal of the need to utilise this land for the construction of the Western Harbour Tunnel project, as initially envisaged.
- One of the key components of the work being conducted by TfNSW is the design of a new community building to replace the "Woodley's" industrial shed structure. The entire precinct on this western foreshore of Berrys Bay has a strong maritime industrial past, and this is reflected in the current zoning regime under the provisions of NSLEP 2013.
- The precinct is currently zoned 'W4 – Working Waterfront', under the provisions of the NSLEP 2013 which is reflective of historic State Government positions, established in the 1990's, to maintain a working harbour foreshore.
- Given the current efforts to open up public access and the usability of this foreshore corridor as an area of public open space, it is appropriate to review the planning controls in order to facilitate these evolving aspirations.
- This report advises Council that staff will commence the preparation of a Planning Proposal to amend the NSLEP 2013 in order to explore a more flexible and appropriate zoning regime for this corridor, to ensure that the planning controls are aligned with Council's and the community's long-term aspirations for this foreshore corridor.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council resolve to prepare a Planning Proposal to amend the North Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2013 to provide a greater level of flexibility in land use permissibility to the western foreshore of Berry's Bay, to assist with the implementation of the long-term vision for this foreshore corridor for community and public open space purposes.
- 2. THAT** a Councillor Briefing be conducted prior to reporting the Planning Proposal to the North Sydney Local Planning Panel, to provide a more detailed account of the Proposal's provisions.
- 3. THAT** a further report be prepared for Council's consideration after the matter has been considered by the North Sydney Local Planning Panel.

This item was dealt with by exception (see page 11).

188. RESOLVED:

- 1. THAT** Council resolve to prepare a Planning Proposal to amend the North Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2013 to provide a greater level of flexibility in land use permissibility to the western foreshore of Berry's Bay, to assist with the implementation of the long-term vision for this foreshore corridor for community and public open space purposes.

2. THAT a Councillor Briefing be conducted prior to reporting the Planning Proposal to the North Sydney Local Planning Panel, to provide a more detailed account of the Proposal's provisions.

3. THAT a further report be prepared for Council's consideration after the matter has been considered by the North Sydney Local Planning Panel.

10.4. Future Management of Berrys Bay Foreshore

AUTHOR: Gary Parsons, Director Open Space & Infrastructure

PURPOSE

This report seeks the endorsement of Council for Chief Executive Officer to enter into formal discussions with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) in relation to the future care, control, and management of Berry's Bay Foreshore Park.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- TfNSW has worked with Council, the Berrys Bay Working Group, and other stakeholders to develop a Master Plan for Berrys Bay Reserve, which will link Carradah Park with the Quarantine Boat Depot site.
- Council previously approached the State Government in relation to the transfer of the Berrys Bay foreshore lands to Council. Representatives from TfNSW recently reconfirmed the State Government would not transfer land ownership.
- At its meeting of 25 November 2024, Council resolved to endorse the removal of Woodley's Shed on the condition that TfNSW meets its commitments in relation to the structure, in accordance with the Functional Brief agreed with Council.
- Councillors were briefed in relation to the Place, Design, and Landscape Plan (PDLP) which is on public exhibition until 24 August 2025. The Masterplan, which is based on the PDLP, is generally consistent with Council's and the community's long-term vision for Waverton Peninsula.
- Given the progress in relation to the development of the Masterplan and imminent works onsite, it is necessary for Council enter into discussions with TfNSW in relation to the future management arrangements of Berrys Bay Reserve.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to the development of the Masterplan for Berrys Bay Reserve.

2. THAT the Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into formal discussions with Transport for NSW in relation to the future care, control, and management of Berrys Bay Reserve.

3. THAT Council note a further report will be brought back to Council following discussions with Transport for NSW in relation to the future care, control, and management of Berrys Bay Reserve.

A Motion was moved by Councillor Santer and seconded by Councillor Holding:

1. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to the development of the Masterplan for Berrys Bay Reserve.

2. THAT Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into formal discussions with Transport for NSW in relation to the future care, control, and management of Berrys Bay Reserve.

3. THAT Council note a further report will be brought back to Council following discussions with Transport for NSW in relation to the future care, control, and management of Berrys Bay Reserve.

4. THAT Council continue to advocate to and lobby the State Government for the transfer of all of the patchwork of Berrys Bay state-owned land to Council.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

189. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to the development of the Masterplan for Berrys Bay Reserve.

2. THAT the Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter into formal discussions with Transport for NSW in relation to the future care, control, and management of Berrys Bay Reserve.

3. THAT Council note a further report will be brought back to Council following discussions with Transport for NSW in relation to the future care, control, and management of Berrys Bay Reserve.

4. THAT Council continue to advocate to and lobby the State Government for the transfer of all of the patchwork of Berrys Bay state-owned land to Council.

10.5. Community use of St Leonards Park - response to Council resolution

This item was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see pages 6 - 8)

10.6. Don Bank Museum - roof replacement

AUTHOR: Ian Hoskins, Council Historian

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful application for funding from the NSW Government towards the replacement of the roof on the Don Bank Museum and outlines the budgeting adjustment necessary in order to receive the grant.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Don Bank Museum is the oldest timber house on Sydney's north shore. The need to renew the roof of the Don Bank Museum (and the possibility of using metal rather than shingle) was reported to Council on 12 December 2022 and 23 March 2023.
- In January 2025, Council staff submitted an application to the Caring for State Heritage Grants program for the renewal of the roof on the Don Bank Museum. Council was advised in May 2025 that the application had been successful in securing \$158,585 towards the renewal of the roof through the program on a dollar-for-dollar basis.
- The grant program requires completion of the works within 24 months, from 1 July 2025. It is proposed to secure approvals in the 2025/26 financial year and undertake works in the 2026/27, which will assist Council in meeting its funding commitments.
- Council will need to allocate \$158,585 from its 2026/27 Capital Works Program to meet its grant funding obligations.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council notes the successful grant funding application through the 2025-27 Caring for State Heritage Grants program which will assist with the renewal of the Don Bank Museum roof.

2. THAT Council notes that Council's 2025/26, 2026/27 Operational Plans and Capital Works Programs will be adjusted to include \$158,585 for the renewal of the Don Bank Museum roof to meet its funding obligations under the 2025-27 *Caring for State Heritage Grants* program.

This item was dealt with by exception (see page 11).

190. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council notes the successful grant funding application through the 2025-27 Caring for State Heritage Grants program which will assist with the renewal of the Don Bank Museum roof.

2. THAT Council notes that Council's 2025/26, 2026/27 Operational Plans and Capital Works Programs will be adjusted to include \$158,585 for the renewal of the Don Bank Museum roof to meet its funding obligations under the 2025-27 *Caring for State Heritage Grants* program.

10.7. North Sydney Art Prize 2026

AUTHORS: Lisa Woolfe, Arts and Culture Coordinator, and Vikki Woods, Service Unit Manager, Arts, Library, & Events

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement for the deferral of the North Sydney Art Prize from 2026 to 2027.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The North Sydney Art Prize (NSAP) has been Council's largest cultural project, delivered biennially at The Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability by Council's Arts and Culture team.
- In 2025 as part of broader organisation review activities, the NSAP was reviewed to assess its sustainability, delivery model, alignment with strategic goals, and future direction. The review has confirmed the NSAP is well regarded and aligns with Council's strategic priorities as outlined in the informing strategies.
- While strategically aligned, in reviewing the NSAP, there is an opportunity to develop a refined model to ensure the NSAP remains sustainable and aligned with Council's long-term aspirations to increase access to creative experiences, preserve and celebrate heritage, foster inclusion, support artist development, and position North Sydney as a cultural destination.
- It is proposed that the NSAP be deferred from 2026 to 2027 to allow time to refine the NSAP model and secure sponsorship or external funding, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the NSAP. This deferral would allow the allocated budget to be diverted to address asset renewal needs across Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council approve the deferral of the next North Sydney Art Prize to 2027 to allow time for strategic planning, partnership development, and resourcing.
- 2. THAT** Council reallocate the budget for the North Sydney Art Prize to reactive infrastructure renewal priorities.

10.8. Art installation honouring local women - response to Council resolution

This item was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see pages 8 - 9)

10.9. New Lease on Council Property - 56 Alfred Street, Milsons Point

AUTHOR: Alistair White, Commercial Property Specialist

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement to enter a proposed new lease over 56 Alfred Street, Milsons Point on the terms and conditions contained in this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Council has received a lease proposal for 56 Alfred Street, Milsons Point which requires a lease incentive (to be taken as a rental abatement) to be considered.
- 56 Alfred Street is an office building forming part of Council's property portfolio which is held as investments for income purposes, and to diversify and spread the risk of Council's revenue streams.
- The confidential attachments include monetary information relating to property income, as well as leasing transactions. Should Council wish to discuss this report it is noted that the attached confidential document includes information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council. Further, release of the information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.
- If Council wishes to discuss the report, the meeting should be closed to the public to do in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council resolves to enter the proposed lease over 56 Alfred Street, Milsons Point on the terms and conditions detailed in the confidential attachments to this report.

2. THAT Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or their delegate) to sign all necessary legal documents in relation to this matter.

3. THAT Council resolves that the identified attachments to this report are to be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act for the following reason under Section 10A (2) of the Local Government Act:

(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed

(ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council. It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

This item was dealt with by exception (see page 11).

191. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council resolves to enter the proposed lease over 56 Alfred Street, Milsons Point on the terms and conditions detailed in the confidential attachments to this report.

2. THAT Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or their delegate) to sign all necessary legal documents in relation to this matter.

3. THAT Council resolves that the identified attachments to this report are to be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act for the following reason under Section 10A (2) of the Local Government Act:

(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed

(ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council. It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

10.10.Current Appeals and Results - July 2025

This item was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see pages 9 - 10)

11. Notices of Motion

Nil

12. Matters of Urgency

Nil

13. Closure

The Meeting concluded at 7:49pm.