



Council Chambers
29 August 2025

An Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Cammeraygal lands at the Council Chambers, North Sydney at 7.00pm on Monday 8 September 2025. The agenda is as follows.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

North Sydney Council is an Open Government Council. The records of Council are available for public viewing in accordance with this policy, with the only exception being made for certain confidential documents such as legal advice, matters required by legislation not to be divulged, and staff matters.

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- 1. Opening of Meeting**
 - 2. Acknowledgement of Country**
 - 3. Apologies and applications for leaves of absence or attendance by audio-visual link by councillors**
 - 4. Confirmation of Minutes**
 - 5. Disclosures of Interests**
 - 6. Public Forum**
 - 7. Items by Exception**
 - 8. Mayoral Minutes**
Nil
 - 9. Reports of Committees**
Nil
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10. Reports to Council

- 10.1 Park Lighting and Utilisation - response to Council Resolution
- 10.2 Community Transport - comparative Councils report
- 10.3 Councillor Nomination - Consultative Panel, Sydney Coastal Councils Group, Outer Sydney Harbour Catchment Management Program Stage 2-4
- 10.4 Young Street Plaza Upgrade - Tender 12/2025

11. Notices of Motion/Questions with Notice

- 11.1 Notice of Motion 18/25: Light Up for Mito - Crs Keen & Carr
- 11.2 Notice of Motion 19/25: Save Milson's Point Post Office - Crs Keen & Carr

12. Matters of Urgency

Raised by Councillors

13 Closure of Meeting

In the spirit of open, accessible, and transparent government, the Council meetings of North Sydney Council will be streamed live via Council's website. By speaking at a Council meeting, members of the public agree to being recorded and must ensure their speech to the Council is respectful and use appropriate language. A person who uses defamatory, discriminatory, or offensive language may be exposed to liability for which Council takes no responsibility. Any part of the meeting that is held in Closed Session will not be recorded.

TO: The Mayor Zoë Baker, and Councillors Antonini, Beregi, Carr, Holding, Hoy, Keen, Santer, Spenceley, and Welch

MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 25 AUGUST 2025

1. OPENING MEETING

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVES OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

THAT THE MINUTES of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 25 August 2025 be taken as read and confirmed.

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

6. PUBLIC FORUM

7. ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

8. MINUTES OF THE MAYOR

Nil

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

10. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

10.1 Park Lighting and Utilisation - response to Council Resolution

Report of Jessica Choy, Service Unit Manager Public Presentation

This report responds to a Council resolution of 26 May 2025, regarding lighting in Council's sports fields, parks, and reserves during evening hours.

Lighting at sports fields, parks, and reserves requires Council to balance community expectations, safety and recreation needs, environmental impacts, and regulatory compliance, while often mediating between residents and external asset owners.

The lights at Council's parks and reserves operate from approximately sunset to sunrise. They are triggered using automatic light sensors and there can be some confusion with lighting transitions as the seasons change, and the lights come on at different times.

Although streetlighting is outside the scope of this report, outages in Ausgrid-managed assets may influence community perceptions of inadequate lighting in areas with Council-owned infrastructure. In addition, some locations are currently impacted by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) site disruptions.

Following Council's resolution, Council Officers:

- completed an immediate audit of lighting across parks and reserves, identifying several previously unreported faults (see Table 1 in this report);
- assessed the cost of extending sports field lighting to 8pm during winter, estimated at \$21,780–\$29,040, with bookings at Forsyth, Primrose, and Waverton Parks often extending to 9pm (see Tables 2 and 3); and
- examined the feasibility and costs of trialling additional lighting for the Anderson Park exercise equipment and St Leonards Park Playground.

It should also be noted that, to the best of Council's knowledge, only four requests were received from the public regarding increasing operating hours or increased lighting at Council's parks, reserves, playgrounds or sports fields in the 12 months preceding the Matter of Urgency raised at Council meeting of 26 May 2025. Council also received complaints from residents about sports field lighting operation during the same period.

Recommending:

- 1. THAT**, based on the identification of several previously unreported lighting faults, no changes be made to current light timing for Council-owned lights at its parks and reserves.
 - 2. THAT**, based on Council's assessment of current bookings and additional lighting operation costs, no changes be made to the arrangements for lighting of Council's sports fields.
 - 3. THAT** the Council approve a reallocation of \$5,224 from lighting maintenance towards a lighting trial at Anderson Park to be undertaken for three months, with the results to be reported to Council at a future meeting.
 - 4. THAT** Council consider not proceeding with a lighting trial at the St Leonards Park Playground and include consideration of playground lighting in the St Leonards Park Masterplan.
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10.2 Community Transport - comparative Councils report

Report of George Carrick, Access and Inclusions Coordinator

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of Council's current community transport funding arrangements and recommend an alternative and more sustainable future funding model for the service.

Acknowledging the current financial constraints, and a need to limit future rating increases, Council is currently reviewing all services and budget allocations.

Council is currently, and has historically, invested significant funding and resources into community transport, particularly in comparison with other Councils.

Council's funding model has not changed since the advent of the Commonwealth Home Support Program was introduced in 2015 which represented a significant policy shift in the aged care industry and introduced various age care programs and funding pathways, including transport services.

It is recommended that Council adopt a more cost-effective grant-based funding model for community transport, aligning more closely with the transport programmes of neighbouring councils whilst still supporting the most vulnerable and transport disadvantaged members of our community. This is recommended to be developed during 2025/26 and reported to Council for endorsement.

Following an internal review of historic usage patterns and costs, this report recommends that a budget of \$100k be maintained for community transport, along with the provision of one bus for full use and ownership of Community Connect Transport (CCT). The budget is to be allocated as a grant of \$50k to CCT, and a grant of \$50k to Crows Nest Community Centre for the purpose of transport services.

This proposal will equate to an annual saving to Council of approximately \$74k in transport charges and \$60k in plant and equipment whilst continuing to support the most vulnerable and transport disadvantaged members of our community.

Further, it is recommended that to support the transition from current contract arrangements, that the new model be implemented 1 January 2026, allowing CCT and their clients time to transition where necessary.

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 person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. Further, release of the information would on balance be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services. As such should this matter be discussed it should be considered in closed session.

Recommending:

1. THAT Council note the current community transport contract has reached the end of its term and prior to tendering for a new contract, a review of community transport provision has been undertaken.

2. THAT Council support an annual grant of \$50,000, to Community Connect Transport, to address identified gaps in CHSP-funded transport delivery, to transport disadvantaged residents, as outlined in this report (Flexi Cab and Easy Rider Services), with the grant to commence on a pro-rata basis from 1 January 2026.

3. THAT in 2025/26 Council sell one of its three buses, allocate in perpetuity through transfer of ownership, the largest (24-seater) for the exclusive use of Community Connect Transport, and retain the third for Council operations.

4. THAT Council continue the current contract conditions until 31 December 2025 (on a pro rata basis) to allow CCT and their clients time to transition where required.

5. THAT Council support one-off grant funding of \$50,000 in 2025/26 to the Crows Nest Centre for the purposes of providing community transport to ensure the continuation of services for high-dependence users, commencing on a *pro-rata* basis from 1 January 2026.

6. THAT Council note its previous resolution to undertake a comprehensive review of community grants and subsidies and develop a Community Investment Framework, and request that community transport needs be considered as part of this review.

7. THAT Council continue to work with Community Connect Transport, to assist with communication and transition of their client base to the new model.

8. THAT Council resolve that the identified attachment to this report is 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:

(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business

It is further noted that release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

10.3 Councillor Nomination - Consultative Panel, Sydney Coastal Councils Group, Outer Sydney Harbour Catchment Management Program Stage 2-4

Report of Danielle Birbeck, Team Leader Sustainability

The purpose of this report is to seek the nomination of a councillor representative to be on the consultative panel for the Sydney Coastal Councils Group, Outer Sydney Harbour Catchment Management Program Stage 2-4.

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) is currently undertaking the Outer Sydney Harbour Catchment Management Program (CMP) (Stages 2–4). The CMP will provide a long-term program for the coordinated management of the coastal zone in outer Sydney Harbour.

A consultative panel is being established to guide engagement, review draft deliverables, and ensure community views are reflected in the CMP.

The Panel will comprise of at least 10 members including a councillor from each of the participating Councils. Meetings will be held online at key milestones with a minimum of three per year. The Panel will operate for the duration of CMP Stages 2–4, to December 2027, with the possibility of extension.

Recommending:

1. THAT Council nominate a Councillor to act as *its* representative on the consultative panel for the Sydney Coastal Councils Group, Outer Sydney Harbour Catchment Management Program, Stage 2-4.

10.4 Young Street Plaza Upgrade - Tender 12/2025

Report of Diana Mejia, Engineering Project Manager

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an analysis and recommendations in relation to the tender process for Tender 12/2025.

Tenders were called and received until 3pm 7 August 2025 for the submission of tenders to undertake the construction of Young Street Plaza Upgrade works.

Should Council wish to discuss this report it is noted that the attached confidential document includes commercial information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it. Further, release of the information would, on balance be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services. As such should this matter be discussed it should be considered in closed session.

Recommending:

1. THAT Council accept the tender of the highest ranked tenderer for Tender 12/2025.

2. THAT the CEO be authorised to take any necessary action to implement the decision including entering into associated contracts.

3. THAT Council resolve that the identified attachment to this report is 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)(i) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and because consideration of the matter would, on balance be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered documents would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

11.1 Notice of Motion 18/25: Light Up for Mito - Crs Keen & Carr

1. THAT Council light up the Council Chambers green for 'Light Up for Mito' on 20 September and encourage other businesses in North Sydney LGA to do the same.

Background

The Mito Foundation are having a World Mitochondrial Disease Awareness week on Saturday 20 September 2025 and in support are asking LGAs to celebrate the start of [World Mitochondrial Disease Week](#). By lighting up a building green in the LGA.

2025 is already a record-breaking year with 110 landmarks confirmed and counting. In North Sydney, Luna Park is lighting the Ferris Wheel. By lighting green, the LGA will be joining international and Australian landmarks to help raise awareness for mitochondrial disease (mito), a little known but devastating genetic disease with few effective treatments and no cure.

Mito is a debilitating genetic disorder that robs the body's cells of energy, causing multiple organ dysfunction or failure and potentially death. It can cause any symptom, in any organ, at any age. Although 1 in 200 people may carry the genetic changes that could lead to mito, few have heard of it. That's why events like Light Up for Mito are so important.

11.2 Notice of Motion 19/25: Save Milsons Point Post Office - Crs Keen & Carr

1. THAT Council advocate with Transport for NSW to reconsider the rental increase for the Milsons Point Post Office.

2. THAT Council advocate with Transport for NSW to work with the Milsons Point Post Office, to relocate it to perhaps other premises close by.

Background

The Milsons Point Post Office is a vital community hub. It plays a critical civic role for the 300 residents living in social housing at Greenway – many of whom depend on it for essential banking and postal services. Beyond this, a large number of local residents particularly older people and those without reliable digital access rely on it for everyday needs such as posting mail, paying bills and accessing services

Beyond its practical role, the post office is a familiar and trusted hub that fosters connection and convenience in our neighbourhood.

Closing it would not only inconvenience thousands but also erode the sense of community and accessibility that makes Milsons Point such a vibrant place to live and work. We call on Australia Post to recognise its importance and secure the future of Milsons Point Post Office.

TfNSW is not only a property manager, but a key NSW Government agency guided by the NSW public sector values of integrity, service, accountability and respect and by its Statement of Business Ethics. These commitments recognise that government entities have a responsibility to act fairly and reasonably and to consider community outcomes alongside financial returns.

A significant increase in rent places the Post Office at Milsons Point at risk and could lead to loss of services that the community needs. Such an outcome would be inconsistent with TfNSW values of service and respect which call for fairness and for decisions that support the broader public interest.

12. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil

13. CLOSURE
