



MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held at the
Council Chambers, North Sydney
at 7pm Monday 23 March 2026



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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, Keen, Santer, Spenceley, 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

Nil

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The Motion was moved by Councillor Santer 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

50. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 9 March 2026 be taken as read and confirmed.

5. Disclosures of Interest

Nil

6. Items Considered by Exception

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

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

9.4	3-15 Christie Street, Wollstonecraft - Fire and Rescue NSW Inspection Report
9.6	North Sydney Olympic Pool Redevelopment Project Update

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

51. RESOLVED:

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

9.4	3-15 Christie Street, Wollstonecraft - Fire and Rescue NSW Inspection Report
9.6	North Sydney Olympic Pool Redevelopment Project Update

7. Mayoral Minutes

Nil

8. Reports of Committees

Nil

9. Reports to Council

9.1. Matters Outstanding to 9 March 2026

AUTHOR: Ian Curry, A/Service Unit Manager Corporate Governance

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council regarding the status of resolutions arising from Mayoral Minutes, Notices of Motion, and Questions Without Notice.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Each month, a report is presented to Council on the status of resolutions arising from Mayoral Minutes, Notices of Motion, and Questions Without Notice.
- The attached table has been updated to include resolutions up to the 8 December 2025 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi 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

52. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the report be received.

9.2. Investment and Loan Borrowings Report as at 28 February 2026

AUTHOR: Lu Chen, Financial Controller

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide details of the performance of Council's investments and loans for the month ending 28 February 2026.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- All investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations and Council's Financial Investments Policy.
- For the month of February, the total investment portfolio (which includes Term Deposits and Bonds) provided a return of +0.32% (actual), or +4.19% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.28% (actual) or +3.76% p.a. (annualised).

- Returns on investments exceeded the February YTD budget by \$619,084. This result includes fees paid to Council's investment advisers for the period.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report on investments held at 28 February 2026, prepared in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the information on Loan Borrowings, be received.

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

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

53. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the report on investments held at 28 February 2026, prepared in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the information on Loan Borrowings, be received.

9.3. Commercial and Group Use of Open Space Policy - post-exhibition report

AUTHOR: Mark Richardson, Manager Ranger & Parking Services

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the result of public consultation associated with the exhibition of the draft *Commercial and Group use of Open Space Policy* and seek endorsement of the Policy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Draft Commercial and Group Use of Public Open Space Policy establishes a framework to manage organised and commercial activities in North Sydney's parks and reserves while maintaining equitable access for casual community use.
- North Sydney has one of the lowest levels of public open space per capita in the Sydney metropolitan region, with current provision estimated at 10.53m² per resident and an open space deficit projected to increase to 69.95 hectares by 2036.

- Council currently has no formal policy framework to regulate commercial operators, large group activities, or operational use of parks by organisations, limiting Council’s ability to manage impacts, address complaints and protect public assets.
- Community consultation undertaken between 5 September and 6 October 2025 generated significant engagement, with 201 submissions received reflecting a range of views including concerns regarding fees for school use and support for charging commercial operators who generate income from public space.
- The Draft Policy introduces a transparent approval and permit system, enabling Council to better manage competing uses of limited public open space, regulate commercial activities, and protect park infrastructure and community amenity.
- If adopted, the Policy will support sustainable management of public open space, improved governance of organised activities, and fairer cost sharing for maintenance of Council’s parks and reserves, reducing reliance on general rate revenue.
- In response to submissions, refinements to the proposed approach are recommended to better reflect differing levels of demand across the open space network. Commercial and large group use of public open space are recommended to be subject to fees on a sliding scale based on location, while permit requirements for large group use will apply only to the parks and reserves identified in this report and its attachments.
- In response to submissions, it is recommended that commercial kayaking operations at Quibaree Park, Blues Point, and Milson Park be managed through a competitive Expression of Interest (Eoi) process to ensure safe operation, protect local amenity, and provide transparent management of commercial use of these foreshore locations.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council endorse the Commercial and Group use of Open Space Policy as amended at attachment 1 to commence 1 July 2026 following the adoption of fees and charges.
- 2. THAT** appropriate signage be erected at relevant locations to ensure enforceability of this policy position, in accordance with the requirement of Section 632 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- 3. THAT** provision of a licence for the commercial kayaking operations involving watercraft from Quibaree Park, Blues Point Reserve, and Milson Park be determined by way of Expression of Interest for an initial two-year period. That such a licence be limited to one operator only per site.
- 4. THAT** fees and charges be developed in accordance with the pricing principles contained within this report and be presented to Council for endorsement prior to public exhibition.
- 5. THAT** Council endorse the hierarchy of parks and reserves contained within this report for the purpose of drafting fees and charges.
- 6. THAT** within the Draft fees and charges, the following parks continue to be free for groups up to 60 people: Anzac Park, Brennan Park, Green Park, Primrose Park, Milson Park, St Thomas Rest Park, Tunks Park (excluding the foreshore), Warringah Park, and Waverton Park.

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

54. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council endorse the Commercial and Group use of Open Space Policy as amended at attachment 1 to commence 1 July 2026 following the adoption of fees and charges.

2. THAT appropriate signage be erected at relevant locations to ensure enforceability of this policy position, in accordance with the requirement of Section 632 of the Local Government Act 1993.

3. THAT provision of a licence for the commercial kayaking operations involving watercraft from Quibaree Park, Blues Point Reserve, and Milson Park be determined by way of Expression of Interest for an initial two-year period. That such a licence be limited to one operator only per site.

4. THAT fees and charges be developed in accordance with the pricing principles contained within this report and be presented to Council for endorsement prior to public exhibition.

5. THAT Council endorse the hierarchy of parks and reserves contained within this report for the purpose of drafting fees and charges.

6. THAT within the Draft fees and charges, the following parks continue to be free for groups up to 60 people: Anzac Park, Brennan Park, Green Park, Primrose Park, Milson Park, St Thomas Rest Park, Tunks Park (excluding the foreshore), Warringah Park, and Waverton Park.

9.4. 3-15 Christie Street, Wollstonecraft - Fire and Rescue NSW Inspection Report

AUTHOR: Long Huynh, Team Leader Building Compliance

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to enable Council to determine whether to issue a Fire Safety Order in response to an inspection report received from Authorised Fire Officers of Fire and Rescue NSW concerning the premises located at 3-15 Christie Street Wollstonecraft.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Authorised Fire Officers from Fire and Rescue NSW conducted an inspection of 3-15 Christie Street, Wollstonecraft on 2 December 2025 and issued an inspection report to Council.
- When an inspection report is received, it must be tabled at a Council meeting for Council to determine whether it will exercise its powers to give a Fire Safety Order and notify the Commissioner of Fire and Rescue of its determination.

- The building currently has an ongoing Fire Safety Order issued upon the building, and Council officers are working with the building owner's representative to close out any outstanding matters.
- Council officer undertook an inspection on 10 February 2026 and found that many of the items raised had already been rectified by the building owners fire contractors.
- The items identified in the inspection report are considered routine and relatively minor for a building of this size and nature. Council staff are currently liaising with the building owners to facilitate the rectification of the fire safety matters raised. The issue of an Order in this instance, would add unnecessary administrative burden without improving fire safety outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council does not exercise its powers to give another Fire Safety Order in response to the Fire and Rescue NSW inspection report.
- 2. THAT** Council notify the Commissioner of Fire and Rescue NSW of its determination.

This item was dealt with by exception (see page 4).

55. RESOLVED:

- 1. THAT** Council does not exercise its powers to give another Fire Safety Order in response to the Fire and Rescue NSW inspection report.
- 2. THAT** Council notify the Commissioner of Fire and Rescue NSW of its determination.

9.5. Traffic Matters - Spofforth Street / Rangers Road - update report

AUTHOR: Eoin Cunningham, Service Unit Manager Traffic & Transport Operations

PURPOSE

This report responds to a Council resolution of 9 February 2026 regarding traffic and pedestrian safety on Spofforth Street and Rangers Road, Cremorne.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- North Sydney Council (NSC) representatives have met with Mosman Council to discuss traffic calming and pedestrian safety improvements along Spofforth Street.
- Mosman Council advised that they were open to discussing NSC's concerns and working collaboratively to achieve a balanced outcome, noting the need for retention of parking along Spofforth Street to support the shopkeepers and their customers.
- NSC has raised the issue of traffic and pedestrian safety on Spofforth Street with TfNSW and requested that they consider funding, investigation, consultation, design, and installation of traffic calming and pedestrian safety improvements along Spofforth Street,

in the context of anticipated increased traffic along the street due to the Warringah Freeway Upgrade project.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to progressing traffic calming and pedestrian safety matters on Spofforth Street, Cremorne.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum (held at 6pm, prior to the Council meeting):

- Peter Abrahamson (local resident)

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

1. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to progressing traffic calming and pedestrian safety matters on Spofforth Street, Cremorne.

2. THAT a report come back to Council after the Mayor meets with the Mayor of Mosman.

3. THAT this matter remain open and a further update be provided to Council within three months on progress with Mosman Council and Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

4. THAT the further update include details of the collaborative work with Mosman Council, including investigations undertaken, mitigation measures considered, and agreed next steps.

5. THAT the further update outline steps taken to progress and advocate for TfNSW funding for traffic-calming improvements on Spofforth Street in the context of the Warringah Freeway Upgrade, including any responses received.

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

56. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to progressing traffic calming and pedestrian safety matters on Spofforth Street, Cremorne.

2. THAT a report come back to Council after the Mayor meets with the Mayor of Mosman.

3. THAT this matter remain open and a further update be provided to Council within three months on progress with Mosman Council and Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

4. THAT the further update include details of the collaborative work with Mosman Council, including investigations undertaken, mitigation measures considered, and agreed next steps.

5. THAT the further update outline steps taken to progress and advocate for TfNSW funding for traffic-calming improvements on Spofforth Street in the context of the Warringah Freeway Upgrade, including any responses received.

9.6. North Sydney Olympic Pool Redevelopment Project Update

AUTHOR: Gary Parsons, Director Open Space & Infrastructure

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the North Sydney Olympic Pool Redevelopment Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Construction works are now substantially complete, with the contractor (Icon) focused on final testing, commissioning, and rectification of remaining defects to progress toward the issuance of an Occupation Certificate, Practical Completion, and handover to Council.
- A design/construction issue affecting the seawater intake pumps has delayed commissioning of the 50-metre pool's top-up water system. These pumps are expected to be operational by the end of March 2026, which is the final outstanding requirement for the issuance Occupation Certificate.
- Although the contractual Practical Completion date remains 19 July 2024, Icon has not yet applied for Practical Completion. Based on current commissioning challenges with seawater intake pumps, Practical Completion is now anticipated in mid-April 2026.
- The overall project remains within the \$122M forecast budget; however, variations, with a submitted value of \$10.89M are still to be resolved.
- Operational readiness is well advanced, including staff onboarding, program finalisation, procurement of equipment and furnishings, and the development of a 12-week marketing campaign, which will commence following Practical Completion.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A 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 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 obtain value for money services.

2. THAT the confidential report and related attachments be treated as confidential and remain confidential unless Council determines otherwise.

3. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool.

4. THAT Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to extend key consultants on the North Sydney Olympic Pool redevelopment into April 2026 as required, using the "extenuating circumstances" provisions under s55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act (1993).

5. THAT Council authorise the extension of Council's Works Insurance Policy for the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool into April 2026 as required.

6. THAT Council note that extensions of key consultants and insurances on the North Sydney Olympic Pool redevelopment will be reported to the Council meeting on 27 April 2026.

This item was dealt with by exception (see page 4).

57. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A 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 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 obtain value for money services.

2. THAT the confidential report and related attachments be treated as confidential and remain confidential unless Council determines otherwise.

3. THAT Council note the contents of this report in relation to the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool.

4. THAT Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to extend key consultants on the North Sydney Olympic Pool redevelopment into April 2026 as required, using the "extenuating circumstances" provisions under s55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act (1993).

5. THAT Council authorise the extension of Council's Works Insurance Policy for the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool into April 2026 as required.

6. THAT Council note that extensions of key consultants and insurances on the North Sydney Olympic Pool redevelopment will be reported to the Council meeting on 27 April 2026.

10. Notices of Motion

10.1. Notice of Motion 3/26 - Kelly's Place - Crs Keen and Carr

1. THAT Council:

- 1) urgently revisit the current timeline for Kelly's Place to vacate its premises at Hume Street Park and ensure that no relocation occurs until a suitable and agreed alternative has been identified and secured.
- 2) work constructively and collaboratively with Kelly's Place, consistent with the resolutions passed at the November 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting, to identify and secure a viable relocation pathway before any demolition or vacating of the premises takes place.
- 3) provide meaningful assistance to support the relocation and fit-out of suitable new premises, along with ongoing peppercorn rent to ensure the continuity and sustainability of this valued not for profit childcare service in the North Sydney area.

The following people spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum (held at 6pm, prior to the Council meeting):

- Brendan Lim (parent)
- Richard Boyle (Centre President)
- Ella Pearson (previous attendee)
- Michael Pearce (parent)

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

A Motion was moved by Councillor Keen and seconded by Councillor Carr:

1. THAT Council:

- 1) urgently revisit the current timeline for Kelly's Place to vacate its premises at Hume Street Park and ensure that no relocation occurs until a suitable and agreed alternative has been identified and secured.
- 2) work constructively and collaboratively with Kelly's Place, consistent with the resolutions passed at the November 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting, to identify and secure a viable relocation pathway before any demolition or vacating of the premises takes place.
- 3) provide meaningful assistance to support the relocation and fit-out of suitable new premises, along with ongoing peppercorn rent to ensure the continuity and sustainability of this valued not for profit childcare service in the North Sydney area.
- 4) specifically investigate the Banks Street building as a suitable relocation option for Kelly's Place, including an assessment of any upgrades or works required to make the building fit for childcare operations.
- 5) form an internal working group to look at options for selling non-core Council assets to fund the relocation of Kelly's Place.
- 6) if unable to sell assets, look at taking on additional long-term debt to fund the relocation of Kelly's Place, with the childcare centre to make repayments over 20 years.

The Motion was put and **Lost**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 3 / 7

For: Councillor Carr, Councillor Keen, and Councillor Spenceley

Against: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, and Councillor Welch

Absent: Nil

11. Matters of Urgency

Nil

12. Closure

The meeting concluded at 7:56pm.