



# Council Meeting

Monday 22 August 2022  
6.30pm

## Agenda



## **Compliance with social distancing requirements to limit the spread of COVID-19 virus at Council and Committee Meetings:**

Amendments have been made to the *Local Government Act 1993* to allow councils to meet remotely to reduce the risk of COVID-19 and ensure compliance with the Public Health Order.

In line with social distancing requirements to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus Woollahra Council will be holding Council (i.e. Ordinary and Extraordinary) and Committee meetings (i.e. Environmental Planning (EP), Finance, Community & Services (FC&S) and Strategic & Corporate (S&C) remotely using conferencing technology (until further notice).

The Mayor, Councillors and staff will be participating in meetings in person. Meetings will be webcast and member of the public can watch and listen to meetings live (via YouTube) or dial in to listen to the meetings using a telephone.

Members of the public are invited to watch and/or listen to Council meetings live by either using conferencing technology or by teleconference. Public participation online or by phone will be managed in accordance with meeting procedures.

You may also submit late correspondence. Instructions on how to do this are provided below:

- **To watch and/or listen to the meeting live (from 6.30pm)**  
Details on how to watch and listen to the meeting live will be available at Council Agendas, Audio Recordings and Minutes.
- **To submit late written correspondence (submit by 10.00am on the day of the meeting)**  
Members of the public may submit late written correspondence on an agenda item being considered at the Council meeting. If you wish to make a written submission on an item on the agenda, please email your submission to [records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au](mailto:records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au) by 10.00am on the day of the meeting.

If you are experiencing any issues in joining the meeting please call (02) 9391 7001.

An audio recording of the meeting will be uploaded to Council's website following the meeting by 5.00pm on the next business day.

### **Disclaimer:**

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**Ordinary and Extraordinary Council Meeting Membership:** 15 Councillors (including the Mayor)

**Quorum:** The quorum for Council meeting is 8 Councillors



# Woollahra Municipal Council

## Notice of Meeting

18 August 2022

To: Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Susan Wynne ex-officio  
Councillors Isabelle Shapiro (Deputy Mayor)  
Sean Carmichael  
Peter Cavanagh  
Luise Elsing  
Nicola Grieve  
Mary-Lou Jarvis  
Harriet Price  
Lucinda Regan  
Matthew Robertson  
Richard Shields  
Mark Silcocks  
Sarah Swan  
Merrill Witt  
Toni Zeltzer

Dear Councillors,

### Ordinary Council – 22 August 2022

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, I request your attendance at Council's **Ordinary Council** meeting to be held in the **Council Chambers, 536 New South Head Road, Double Bay, on Monday 22 August 2022 at 6.30pm.**

Members of the public are invited to watch and listen to the meeting live via Council's website:

- Watch and listen to the meeting live via Council's website:  
[https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/council/meetings\\_and\\_committees/council\\_meetings/council\\_agendas\\_and\\_minutes](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/council/meetings_and_committees/council_meetings/council_agendas_and_minutes).
- submit late correspondence for consideration by Councillors by emailing [records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au](mailto:records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au) by **10am on the day of the meeting.**

A audio recording of the meeting will be uploaded to Council's website following the meeting by 5.00pm on the next business day.

The safety of our community, Councillors and our staff is Council's number one priority and we thank you for your patience and understanding at this time.

If you have any difficulties accessing the meeting please contact (02) 9391 7001.

Regards,

Craig Swift-McNair  
General Manager



# Council Meeting Agenda

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## 6. Confirmation of Minutes

**Item No:** 6.1  
**Subject:** CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - COUNCIL - 8 AUGUST 2022  
**Author:** Sue O'Connor, Governance Officer  
**File No:** 22/156865  
**Purpose of the Report:** The Minutes of the Council of 8 August 2022 were previously circulated. In accordance with the guidelines for Committees' operations it is now necessary that those Minutes be formally taken as read and confirmed.  
**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 11.1 Build an efficient organisation that places customers and the community at the heart of service delivery

**Recommendation:**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 8 August 2022 be taken as read and confirmed.

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**Executive Summary:**

This report presents the Council Minutes of 8 August 2022 for confirmation by the Council.

The minutes are presented as **Attachment 1**.

**Options:**

Nil.

**Community Engagement and / or Internal Consultation:**

Nil.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil.

**Financial Implications:**

Nil.

**Resourcing Implications:**

Nil.

**Conclusion:**

The minutes are presented for confirmation by the Council.

**Attachments**

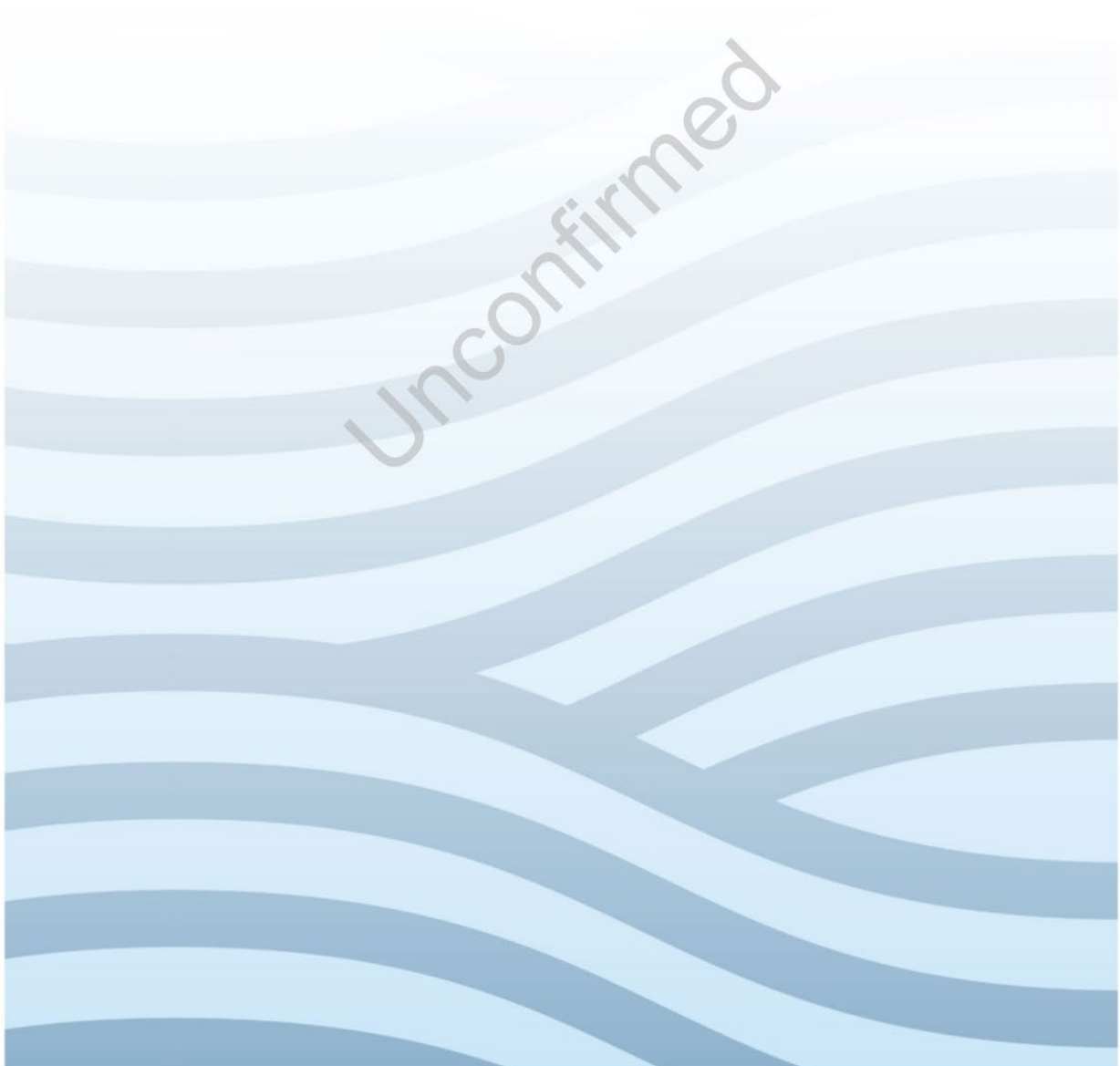
1. Unconfirmed Minutes Council - 8 August 2022



# Council Meeting

Monday 8 August 2022  
6.30pm

## Minutes



## Ordinary Council Meeting

Monday 8 August 2022

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## Ordinary Council Meeting

### Minutes of the Meeting of Woollahra Municipal Council using teleconferencing on 8 August 2022 at 6.30pm.

Present: Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Susan Wynne ex-officio

Councillors: Sean Carmichael

Peter Cavanagh

Luise Elsing

Nicola Grieve

Harriet Price

Lucinda Regan

(not present for vote on Item 12.1)

Matthew Robertson

Richard Shields

Mark Silcocks

Sarah Swan

(Item 12.2 to end - joined at 7.23pm)

Merrill Witt

Toni Zeltzer

(Item 12.1 to end - joined at 6.47pm)

Staff:

Sue Meekin

(Director – Corporate Performance)

Patricia Occelli

(Director – Community & Customer Experience)

Tom O'Hanlon

(Director – Infrastructure & Sustainability)

Scott Pedder

(Director – Planning & Place)

Craig Swift-McNair

(General Manager)

Helen Tola

(Manager – Governance & Risk)

Anne White

(Manager – Strategic Planning & Place)

Also in Attendance: Nil



## 1. Opening

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Council Meeting of 8 August 2022 open and welcomed Councillors, staff and members of the public who are watching and listening to this evenings meeting.

## 2. Prayer

The Mayor read the Prayer:

*Almighty God, you have given us a beautiful place to live in. We pray for your gift of wisdom that the decisions of this Council may benefit those we serve.*

*Be with us in our deliberations that this Municipality may know your blessing. Amen.*

## 3. Acknowledgement of Country (Gadigal People and Birrabirrigal People)

The Mayor read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

*I would like to acknowledge that we are here today on the land of the Gadigal and Birrabirrigal people, the traditional custodians of the land. On behalf of Woollahra Council, I acknowledge Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people attending today and I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.*

## 4. Acknowledgement of the Sovereign of the Day (Queen Elizabeth II)

The Mayor read the following Acknowledgement of the Sovereign of the Day (Queen Elizabeth II):

*I also acknowledge Queen Elizabeth II.*

## 5. Confirmation of Minutes

<b>Item No:</b>	5.1
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - COUNCIL - 25 JULY 2022</b>
<b>Author:</b>	Sue O'Connor, Governance Officer
<b>File No:</b>	22/150672
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	The Minutes of the Council of 25 July 2022 were previously circulated. In accordance with the guidelines for Committees' operations it is now necessary that those Minutes be formally taken as read and confirmed.
<b>Alignment to Delivery Program:</b>	Strategy 11.1: Facilitate community led decision-making that is open, honest and ethical and benefits the broad community.

(Silcocks/Shields)

### 81/22 Resolved:

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 25 July 2022 be taken as read and confirmed.

*Note: In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice a Division of votes is recorded on this matter.*

**For the Motion**

**Against the Motion**

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Elsing  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Regan  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Silcocks  
Councillor Witt  
Councillor Wynne

Nil

11/0

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**6. Apologies and applications for Leave of Absence or Attendance by Audio-Visual Link by Councillors**

Apologies were received and accepted from the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Shapiro and Councillor Jarvis. All Councillors attended and participated in the meeting via audio-visual link.

**7. Disclosures of Interest**

Nil

**8. Late Correspondence**

Nil

**9. Petitions Tabled**

Nil

**10. Public Forum**

Nil

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

8 August 2022

## 11. Mayoral Minute

**Item No:** 11.1  
**Subject:** **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNCILS SUCCESS AT THE 2022 LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK AWARDS**  
**Author:** Susan Wynne, Mayor  
**File No:** 22/154278  
**Purpose of the Report:** To congratulate Council on winning three major Local Government Awards.

(Wynne)

### 82/22 Resolved:

THAT Council acknowledge and congratulate Councillors and Council staff on winning the following awards at the Local Government Week 2022 Awards presentation:

- Leo Kelly OAM Arts & Culture Award - Delivery of an Arts & Culture Project award for the Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf.
- Leo Kelly OAM Arts & Culture Award - Strategic Cultural Plan or Strategy award for the Woollahra Aboriginal Heritage Study
- Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Planning Award for Culture Change Innovation & Excellence for the Woollahra Aboriginal Heritage Study.

*Note: In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice a Division of votes is recorded on this matter.*

#### **For the Motion**

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Elsing  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Regan  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Silcocks  
Councillor Witt  
Councillor Wynne

#### **Against the Motion**

Nil

**11/0**

## 12. General Manager and Officer's Report

**Item No:** 12.1  
**Subject:** PROPOSED SUPPORTING PROGRAM FOR SYDNEY WORLDPRIDE 2023  
**Author:** Anne White, Manager - Strategic Planning & Place  
**Approvers:** Scott Pedder, Director - Planning & Place  
Craig Swift-McNair, General Manager  
**File No:** 22/134173  
**Purpose of the Report:** To provide Council with an update on the proposed supporting program for Sydney WorldPride 2023  
**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 9.1: Encourage vibrant and vital local suburbs, villages and neighbourhoods that support a healthy economy.

**Note:** Councillor Zeltzer attended the meeting at 6.47pm.

**Note:** The Council amended Part B and added Part C to the Resolution.

(Price/Carmichael)

83/22 Resolved:

THAT Council:

- A. Notes the proposed supporting program for Sydney WorldPride 2023 as included in this Proposed Supporting Program for Sydney WorldPride 2023 report.
- B. Approve the allocation of up to \$25,000 from the Oxford Street Placemaking Reserve to support a Sydney WorldPride 2023 Rainbow in Paddington, with particular consideration being given to the 5 ways roundabout and its circular shape as a potential location.
- C. Increase the budget (by up to \$5,000) for the Progress Flag Raising Ceremony to mark it as a significant event and expand the invitation list to include *World Pride's 45 Rainbow Champions and 78ers*.

**Note:** *In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice a Division of votes is recorded on this matter.*

**For the Motion**

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Elsing  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Silcocks  
Councillor Witt  
Councillor Wynne  
Councillor Zeltzer

**Against the Motion**

Nil

11/0

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

8 August 2022

**Item No:** 12.2  
**Subject:** **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ON A PROPOSED SPECIAL RATE VARIATION FROM 2023-24**  
**Author:** Sue Meekin, Director Corporate Performance  
**Approver:** Craig Swift-McNair, General Manager  
**File No:** 22/149568  
**Purpose of the Report:** To seek Council's approval to commence community engagement on a proposed Special Rate Variation from 2023-24  
**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 11.4: Maintain Council's strong financial position.

**Note:** Councillor Swan attended the meeting at 7.23pm.

(Grieve/Cavanagh)

(84/22) **Resolved:**

THAT Council:

- A. Endorse Council staff commencing broad community engagement from 22 August 2022 to 2 October 2022, on the need for and extent of a proposed Special Rate Variation application.
- B. Note that the community engagement on a proposed Special Rate Variation as detailed in Part A above, will include three potential rating scenario options being:

Scenario	Potential Rating Scenario
Scenario One	Rate Peg 2.5% only
Scenario Two	2023/24 - 10.0% SRV + Rate Peg 2.5% 2024/25 - 5.0% SRV + Rate Peg 2.5%
Scenario Three	2023/24 - 15% + Rate Peg 2.5% 2024/25 - 9% + Rate Peg 2.5% 2025/26 - 3.5% + Rate Peg 2.5%

- C. Note that potential rating scenarios two and three as detailed in Part B above, will assist in securing Council's long-term financial sustainability and provide additional funding to address identified community priority areas.
- D. Note that a further report to consider the community feedback on the proposed SRV and next steps will be tabled at Strategic & Corporate Committee meeting of Council on 17 October 2022.

**Note:** *In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice a Division of votes is recorded on this matter.*

**For the Motion**

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Regan  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Silcocks  
Councillor Swan  
Councillor Witt  
Councillor Wynne  
Councillor Zeltzer

**Against the Motion**

Councillor Elsing

12/1

## 15. Councillor Reports/Councillor Updates (Section 8.4)

**Note:** Councillor Reports/Councillor Updates are to be confined to condolences, congratulations, presentations and matters ruled by the Chair to be of extreme urgency (in accordance with Section 8.4 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice).

**General Item No:** 15.1 Senator David Shoebridge

**Tabled by Councillor:** Councillor Grieve

**Councillor Grieve advised:**

I would just like to acknowledge former Deputy Mayor, David Shoebridge now Senator Shoebridge he gave his inaugural speak in Canberra which I attended and I wanted to congratulate him for a really fantastic speech which was well received. Senator Shoebridge is well known in Woollahra he was a main defender of Woollahra against amalgamations and he worked very closely with former Mayor Councillor Zeltzer and others.

Every time he had strategies going way into the future so when one fell over there was always the next thing. He worked with anyone and everyone in disparate groups, the Christian Democrats and the Shooters and held them firm. There were strategies everywhere to keep the opposition rock solid. So I think Woollahra is Woollahra because of that work and it was great to see him now on a different stage and representing the whole of New South Wales and core to him is Woollahra, which holds a special part in his heart.

**The Mayor, Councillor Wynne in response:**

Thank you, Councillor Grieve. I think there are many of us here on Council still here from 2008 to 2012 and even a bit after that I think that were on Council with former Councillor Shoebridge, now Senator Shoebridge. He debate fiercely and I know I learnt a lot from him and I certainly thank him for his support in championing our cause and contributions in particular of recent times.

**Councillor Witt in further response:**

I would also like to endorse Councillor Grieve's comments about Senator Shoebridge. I think no matter what his political persuasion he did an absolutely outstanding job in the upper house of the NSW Parliament in calling the Government to account and I think he will probably follow through in the Senate. He is quite a brilliant asset, and he comes from us the Woollahra Community. Thank you for acknowledging that.

**The Mayor, Councillor Wynne in response:**

Thank you, Councillor Witt.

**Councillor Robertson in Response**

Thank you, Madam Mayor. On this occasion I too would like to endorse some of the comments by Councillor Grieve and congratulate our former Deputy Mayor and Councillor David Shoebridge on his elevation to the Senate where I am very much in anticipation with the great things he will achieve there for our community and beyond.

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

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I have to say that Senator Shoebridge is particularly well received in our local community so much so that I have developed a reflex for when I am chatting to our local constituents and his name comes up, I just know I will have to spend the next 5 minutes hearing about how David assisted them on which issue and in which way or just speaking of one of his many achievements in the NSW Parliament.

So it is always a pleasure in his diversity in his field of work has been so great. So just again once more congratulate him on his elevation to the Senate and know that he will do us all very proud.

**The Mayor, Councillor Wynne in response:**

Thank you, Councillor Robertson.

Unconfirmed

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

8 August 2022

## 16. Notices of Motion

**Item No:** 16.1  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF MOTION - CELEBRATING BELLEVUE HILL IN 2023  
**From:** Councillors Lucinda Regan, Isabelle Shapiro and Sean Carmichael  
**Date:** 01 August 2022  
**File No:** 22/149285

(Wynne/Regan)

### 84/22 Resolved without debate:

THAT Council staff prepare a report, for consideration by Council, setting out a plan with recommendations for celebrating Bellevue Hill and its postcode "2023", in 2023, together with suggestions for grant funding to assist with local business and community events in Bellevue Hill during that calendar year.

*Note: In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice a Division of votes is recorded on this matter.*

#### **For the Motion**

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Elsing  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Regan  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Silcocks  
Councillor Swan  
Councillor Witt  
Councillor Wynne  
Councillor Zeltzer

#### **Against the Motion**

Nil

**13/0**

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.35pm.

**We certify that the pages numbered 1 to 11 inclusive are the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Woollahra Municipal Council held on 8 August 2022 and confirmed by the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 22 August 2022 as correct.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor



## 12. General Manager and Officer's Report

<b>Item No:</b>	12.1
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION FROM ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 4 JULY 2022: RECONSIDERATION OF ITEM R3 - DRAFT WOOLLAHRA ACTIVE TRANSPORT PLAN 2022</b>
<b>Author:</b>	Helen Tola, Manager - Governance & Council Support
<b>Approvers:</b>	Craig Swift-McNair, General Manager Sue Meekin, Director Corporate Performance
<b>File No:</b>	22/153437
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	To enable Council to make a decision in relation to a recommendation from the Environmental Planning Committee, specifically to seek Council's endorsement to place the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan on public exhibition.
<b>Alignment to Delivery Program:</b>	Strategy 6.3 Reduce traffic congestion, noise and speeding.

### Recommendation:

THAT Council:

- A. Endorse the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan 2022 for public exhibition for 28 days; and
- B. Note that a further report will be prepared for the Environmental Planning Committee following the close of the public exhibition period and assessment of submissions received has been undertaken.

---

### Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to facilitate a process of enabling Council to re-consider a recommendation from the Environmental Planning Committee (EPC) meeting held on 4 July 2022. Full Council considered the matter of Item R3 - Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan (from the 4 July 2022 EPC meeting) at the Council meeting held on 25 July 2022; however, no decision on this matter was made at the Council meeting.

### Discussion:

At its meeting on 25 July 2022, Council considered a recommendation from the EPC meeting of Monday 4 July 2022, being Item R3 – Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan.

At the 25 July 2022 Council meeting, following the moving of a Motion and two Amendments, no decision of Council was made in relation to the matter.

It should be pointed out that this is a unique situation and as such, advice from the Office of Local Government (OLG) was sought (as well as from an independent advisor), on how best to deal with the situation at hand.

Advice received from the Office of Local Government (OLG) and an independent advisor has suggested in part that there is nothing in either the NSW Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act) nor the Woollahra Code of Meeting Practice (CoMP) that compels the author of any new report reintroducing the item to Council, to be a Councillor or a staff member.

Further, whilst Councillors are guided by the CoMP, the CoMP also makes it clear that it is the General Manager's role to compile business papers for Council meetings – refer to Clauses 3.15 – 3.20 of the CoMP. Ultimately, the matter could either be brought back to Council administratively via a General Manager and Officers Report or alternatively Councillors could submit a Notice of Motion with 3 signatures to an upcoming Council meeting within three months of the decision being made.

Staff have therefore considered the options and advice from the OLG and our independent advice and have prepared this report as a General Managers and Officers Report, in order to have the matter considered once again by full Council.

**Attachment 1** presents the original report to the EPC meeting held on 4 July 2022.

**Attachment 2** presents an extract of the Council Minutes held on 25 July 2022 for reference by Councillors.

**Options:**

Council may resolve in line with the recommendation/s as included in this report or Council may choose to resolve in some other manner.

**Community Engagement and / or Internal Consultation:**

Internal consultation was undertaken with the General Manager, Director Corporate Performance and Manager Governance & Risk. Additionally independent advice was sought from the Office of Local Government and an independent advisor.

**Policy Implications:**

There are no policy implications as a result of this report. However, in light of the unique circumstances that this process has presented, some guidance notes on this process will be included in the CoMP.

**Financial Implications:**

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

**Resourcing Implications:**

There are no resourcing implications as a result of this report.

**Conclusion:**

The recommendation from the Environmental Planning Committee meeting held on 4 July 2022 under Item R3 - Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan, is tabled for the consideration of Council as per the recommendations included in this report.

**Attachments**

1. Report to Environmental Planning Committee - 4 July 2022
2. Extract Council Minutes 25 July 2022 - Item 13.1 R3

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Environmental Planning Committee Agenda

4 July 2022

**Item No:** R3 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **DRAFT WOOLLAHRA ACTIVE TRANSPORT PLAN**  
**Author:** Emilio Andari, Manager Engineering Services  
**Approver:** Tom O'Hanlon, Director - Infrastructure & Sustainability  
**File No:** 22/105951  
**Purpose of the Report:** To seek Council's endorsement to place the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan on public exhibition.  
**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 6.1: Facilitate an improved network of accessible and safe active transport options.

**Recommendation:**

THAT Council:

- A. Endorse the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan 2022 for public exhibition for 28 days; and
- B. Note that a further report will be prepared for the Environmental Planning Committee following the close of the public exhibition period and assessment of submissions received has been undertaken.

---

**Executive Summary:**

Council's Community Strategic Plan, *Woollahra 2030*, has an overarching vision that "Woollahra will be a great place to live, work and visit where places and spaces are safe, clean and well-maintained".

Transport plays an important role in achieving Council's principal strategic vision. As such, it is important to address the many transport challenges facing the Woollahra municipality. These include geographic location, increasing population, heavy dependence on private vehicle use, incomplete active transport networks, access for children and people with disabilities and mobility related issues, road safety, traffic congestion, speeding and an increasing number of construction and delivery vehicles.

To address existing and future issues facing the municipality, and to ensure that Council has a strategic active transport vision and plan for the future, Council resolved to develop an active transport plan for Woollahra which was also a key recommendation arising from the Draft Woollahra Integrated Transport Strategy.

Subsequently, Council engaged specialist transport consultants, SCT Consulting, to develop the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan. Oculus, who are Urban Design specialists, were engaged by SCT Consulting to prepare the 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects identified in the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan.

The *Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan* (Draft ATP) articulates Council's vision to make walking and cycling (which we call 'active transport' in the Draft ATP) the most convenient, comfortable and safe choice for short trips in Woollahra. To achieve this vision, there will be a need to invest in safe, accessible and attractive pedestrian paths, crossings, cycleways, bicycle parking and supporting infrastructure. The Draft ATP supports walking and cycling as the mode of choice for journeys to our major trip attractors, including our centres; our schools; natural attractions including parks, the harbour and the ocean; and public transport interchanges.

The Draft ATP sets out a long-term plan intended to guide investment and design decisions for the next 10-15 years for both walking and cycling. This Draft ATP includes the short-term priority projects which are intended for delivery first, as well as a longer-term plan for the walking and cycling networks intended to deliver and achieve Council's vision.

A Councillor Workshop on the Draft ATP was held on 16 November 2020. This Workshop guided Council staff and consultants on how the structure for the Draft ATP will be developed.

Furthermore, a Councillor Briefing was held on 16 May 2022 and Councillors who attended the briefing generally supported the Draft ATP recommendations and the 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects presented with a some key points raised for clarity and an emphasise to be raised on the following matters, these were:

- The need for maintenance of council assets;
- To consider alterations to the high quality priority projects;
- To confirm the traffic volumes for key streets within Municipality;
- That the document reflects strategies within other key Strategies.
- Context for lighting and improving the quality of lighting in the Municipality; and
- Connectivity enhancement as a key outcome.

The above key points raised have been considered and the final Draft ATP has been amended accordingly, and is attached as Attachment 1.

**Discussion:**

The Draft ATP is a visionary long term document which will guide investment and design decisions for the next 10-15 years for both walking and cycling, and includes designs for 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects. These projects consider the movement of people over vehicles, place-making and land-use planning. The following objectives support the Draft ATP long-term vision:

1. Deliver attractive, vibrant and safe walking locations for pedestrians, especially in our centres and around our schools.
2. Develop, design and deliver a network of continuous, connected cycleways for the whole of Woollahra, focussed on our centres, including links to the City of Sydney and to Waverley.
3. Contribute to Transport for NSW's vision of zero deaths and serious injuries on the road network by making our roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
4. Improve the pedestrian accessibility, inclusivity and amenity of our greatest natural assets: parks and reserves, the harbour and the ocean front.

The Draft ATP directly supports Council's Draft Integrated Transport Strategy and Community Strategic Plan, *Woollahra 2030*. In addition, the Draft ATP aligns with the strategies, goals and objectives identified in the following State and Council Policies and Procedures:

- Woollahra Community Engagement Policy
- Woollahra Community Participation Plan
- Woollahra Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- Woollahra LSPS
- NSW Government's Future Transport 2056
- NSW Government's Principle Bicycle Network

This Draft ATP is a plan to enable more of Woollahra's residents to walk and cycle. Enabling more people to walk and cycle will create a more liveable Woollahra, allowing quick and easy access to local schools, shops and businesses as well as our wonderful open spaces and harbour foreshore. Many of the streets within the Municipality have been designed around cars, leaving them unattractive and unsafe to walk or cycle on. The goal is to ensure that the people of Woollahra, including the young, the old and those who are mobility impaired, can choose from many attractive transport options, such as walking and cycling.

*The projects outlined in the Draft ATP for both walking and cycling are categorised into key three priorities; High, Medium and Low.*

*The high priority projects for both walking and cycling have a strong focus on delivery within the next 5 years. These projects typically connect major centres or key destinations and are likely to increase demands in the short-term. The medium priority projects have a desire to undertake further study in the next 5 years, with the intent to deliver within the next 10 years. These projects complement the short-term demands, with expected demands to increase within 10 years. The low priority projects are typically located in areas where walking and cycling activity is modest and/or are not easily achievable with a high design quality. The low priority have a desire to undertake further study in the next 5 years, with the intent to deliver after 10 years when demands increase.*

*The Draft ATP contains a list of 21 future walking projects, and 30 future cycling projects, which are detailed on pages 31 and 41 of the document, respectively. In addition, the designs for 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects are detailed on pages 53-65 of the document. High-level cost estimations have been provided for the 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects and should be regarded as indicative only. The cost estimates for these projects are detailed on page 72 of the document.*

Whilst there are other priority projects listed in the Draft ATP, the document acknowledges other key walking and cycling projects that are currently underway or are at design stage. Some of these projects include the *Paddington Greenway, New South Head Road (Double Bay to Rose Bay) Cycleway, Knox Street Pedestrian Plaza*, and the *40km/hr High Pedestrian Activity Area in Double Bay Centre*. Therefore, these projects were not recommended to progress with designs as part of this document.

**Options:**

Council may resolve in line with the recommendation/s as included in this report which will endorse the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan 2022 for public exhibition for 28 days. If Council chooses to resolve in some other manner, this will prolong the next steps involved and the finalisation of the Woollahra Active Transport Plan.

**Community Engagement and / or Internal Consultation:**

Consultation to inform the development of the Draft ATP was undertaken throughout 2020-2021. Council held workshops with Councillors and community groups, consulted with local schools and community groups, had an online public survey and held pop-up displays at public transport hubs and shopping areas across Woollahra.

The Draft ATP has been developed through a Project Steering Group (PSG) comprising of the following Council staff:

- Community Engagement Coordinator, Community and Customer Experience
- Communications Manager, Community and Customer Experience
- Team Leader Community Development, Community and Customer Experience
- Strategic Planner, Planning and Place
- Placemaking Manager, Planning and Place
- Team Leader Traffic and Transport, Infrastructure and Sustainability
- Manager Engineering Services – Infrastructure and Sustainability

In addition to the PSG members, Council's Graphic Designer, has assisted in the graphic design of the Draft ATP.

Preliminary community consultation has been undertaken to inform the development of the Draft ATP, including the following user groups:

- BIKEast
- Bicycle NSW

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Environmental Planning Committee Agenda

4 July 2022

- Rose Bay Walking Group
- Woollahra Inclusion Advisory Committee
- Holdsworth Community
- Local Primary and High Schools
- Schools Infrastructure NSW
- Representatives from Transport for NSW
- Representatives from City of Sydney, Randwick and Waverley Councils
- Pop-up Stalls in Double Bay, Paddington, Watsons Bay and Rose Bay

Further community engagement will occur when the Draft ATP is placed on public exhibition. This will include:

- Placing the Draft ATP on Council's website and Your Say Woollahra, Council's online engagement platform.
- Placing an advertisement in the Wentworth Courier and in the Mayor's column.
- Referring the Draft ATP to the City of Sydney, Waverley and Randwick Councils for comment.
- Placing information posters and hardcopies in Council's Customer Service Desk and Libraries.
- Promotion of the exhibition on social media and other Council managed platforms to encourage comment.

**Policy Implications:**

The Draft ATP aligns with the strategies, goals and objectives identified in the following State and Council Policies and Procedures:

- Woollahra 2030
- Woollahra Community Engagement Policy
- Woollahra Community Participation Plan
- Woollahra Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- Woollahra LSPS
- Woollahra Draft Integrated Transport Strategy
- NSW Government's Future Transport 2056
- NSW Government's Principle Bicycle Network

**Financial Implications:**

The Draft ATP will present 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects and these projects have preliminary cost estimates in the order of \$40.2m. Council will be required to give consideration to prioritising these projects in future capital works programs along with seeking external grant funding from State and/or Federal government agencies, noting that due to funding constraints, some projects may only be able to be delivered in stages.

**Resourcing Implications:**

Council engaged specialist transport consultants, SCT Consulting, to develop the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan. Oculus, who are Urban Design specialists, were engaged by SCT Consulting to prepare the 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects identified in the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan.

In addition, the Draft ATP has been developed through a Project Steering Group (PSG) comprising of Council staff across a number of Council departments. The list of Council staff involved can be shown above in this report.

**Conclusion:**

Council's Draft ATP has been developed to guide investment and design decisions for the next 10-15 years for both walking and cycling, and includes designs for 10 high quality cycling and pedestrian projects. The Draft ATP sets the Council's vision to make walking and cycling the most convenient, comfortable and safe choice for short trips in Woollahra.

It is recommended that the Draft ATP be placed on public exhibition for 28 days commencing in July 2022, where the feedback received during this public exhibition phase will be considered in the preparation of the final strategy document.

**Attachments**

1. Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan [↓](#) 







**Acknowledgement of Country**

Woollahra Council acknowledges the  
Gadigal and Birrabirragal people who are  
the traditional custodians of this land and pay  
respects to elders past, present and emerging.



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## Foreword by the Mayor

### Committing to a healthier, more connected future

Active transport – our collective term for walking and cycling – is a central feature of healthy, happy and connected communities everywhere. This new Draft Active Transport Plan affirms Woollahra Council's commitment to making active transport a safe, easy and healthy option for as many people as possible and meets our emission reduction targets.

Over the next 10 years our goal is to create a high-quality connected walking and cycling network that takes more of us to and from the places we live, work, shop and play.

With such an idyllic location, not far from the city and beaches, plenty of beautiful harbourside parks, unique commercial shopping villages and public transport hubs, Woollahra is well-placed to have popular and integrated active transport options for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Creating great walking and cycling infrastructure doesn't happen overnight. It takes careful planning, ongoing conversations and investment over time.

That's why we have prepared an action plan informed by community feedback – to help guide our efforts and identify achievable opportunities for improved walking and cycling experiences.

Expert transport engineers, urban planners and landscape architects have analysed our municipality's unique terrain and incorporated public feedback to create this ambitious yet achievable plan. Further consultation will occur before proceeding with any of the recommended projects.

This visionary plan will help guide how we manage streets, roads and public spaces in future. We will need to continue to work with State and Federal Government and local traffic and transport stakeholders and the community to deliver the outcomes we are striving for.

In addition to a shared commitment, these projects will require a significant amount of funding, which we won't be able to provide on our own.

Over time and with the implementation of these priority projects we hope to create an environment where riding a bike or taking a walk is the first choice and the best choice for our community.



*Councillor Susan Wynne  
Mayor of Woollahra*

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Section 1

## Promoting walking and cycling in Woollahra

### Our vision for walking and cycling

Our vision is to make walking and cycling (which we call 'active transport' in this draft plan) the most convenient, comfortable and safe choice for short trips in Woollahra.

To achieve this vision, we will need to invest in safe, accessible and attractive pedestrian paths, crossings, cycleways, bicycle parking and supporting infrastructure. We especially want to support walking and cycling as the mode of choice for journeys to our major trip attractors, including our centres; our schools; natural attractions including parks, the harbour and the ocean; and public transport interchanges (Edgecliff, Bondi Junction and the ferry wharves).

We have set a long-term vision intended to guide investment and design decisions for the next 10-15 years. This Draft Active Transport Plan includes the short-term priority projects we intend to deliver first, as well as our longer-term plan for the walking and cycling networks we will need to achieve our vision.

### Objectives for this Draft Active Transport Plan

The following objectives support our long-term vision:

1. Deliver attractive, vibrant and safe walking locations for pedestrians, especially in our centres and around our schools.
2. Develop, design and deliver a network of continuous, connected cycleways for the whole of Woollahra, focussed on our centres, including links to the City of Sydney and to Waverley.
3. Contribute to Transport for NSW's vision of zero deaths and serious injuries on the road network by making our roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
4. Improve the pedestrian accessibility, inclusivity and amenity of our greatest natural assets: parks and reserves, the harbour and the ocean front.





### Targets: how we will measure our success

To measure the success of our vision over the next 10-15 years we have set clear, measurable targets for this Draft Active Transport Plan. Our targets are:

- To at least double the number of people who cycle to work from 1.5% to 3% (Source: 2016 Census Journey to Work). If we achieve this, we will have four times more people choosing to cycle to work than the current Greater Sydney average. We will be comparable, although still just below, levels of cycling seen in the City of Sydney LGA and global cities such as London today. That is ambitious, given our very hilly topography – but we believe we can achieve it with the right investments in the right places.
- To increase the number of short walking journeys by at least 30%. This would represent a major shift from driving to walking for short trips, taking car journeys off our roads, and reducing congestion.
- To see a year-on-year decrease in road accidents involving pedestrians and cyclists; serious injuries

cut in half; and zero deaths. This would represent a major step towards Transport for NSW's goal of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2056.

- To ensure equitable access by promoting integrated planning across all active transport projects to improve accessibility including universal design principles.

### Why a new Draft Active Transport Plan?

The Draft Active Transport Plan will guide Council's investment and design decisions for our walking and cycling networks. It has a timescale of 10-15 years and will be reviewed after 5 years.

This plan replaces the Woollahra Bicycle Strategy 2009, of which many elements of the 2009 strategy have been delivered. The Draft Active Transport Plan looks to the future with a comprehensive, ambitious plan that covers both walking and cycling.

### How this plan fits with other Council plans

The Draft Active Transport Plan directly supports Council's Draft Integrated Transport Strategy and Community Strategic Plan – Woollahra 2030.

The Draft Integrated Transport Strategy sets out a vision for a more accessible municipality where active, sustainable, and efficient modes of transport are the most convenient choice for most trips. Theme 3 of the Draft Integrated Transport Strategy is Active Transport, and this Draft Active Transport Plan delivers on the key actions identified under that theme.

The strategies and key priorities outlined in Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2017) are embedded within Council's other strategic documents and provides Council with an opportunity to review current practices to enhance accessibility. A key priority in this plan is to ensure a program of works is in place to identify and increase accessibility of parks, amenities and public spaces for the mobility impaired community.

Both the Draft Active Transport Plan and the Draft Integrated Transport Strategy also support Council's

Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 (LSPS). The LSPS is Council's 20-year plan for managing land use and preserving our community's values and the special characteristics of our area. This Draft Active Transport Plan delivers on the first planning priority in the LSPS, specifically Actions 3,4,5 and 8: to deliver a healthy, sustainable connected community with access to a range of sustainable transport options.

Options identified within this report, where relevant, have considered previously released Council strategies such as the Draft Edgecliff Commercial Centre Planning & Urban Design Strategy (2021).

### Structure of this Draft Active Transport Plan

The remainder of this Draft Active Transport Plan is structured as follows:

- **Section 2** reviews the current state of walking and cycling in Woollahra today.
- **Section 3** provides our plan for walking, including the design principles we will use to deliver better

walking infrastructure in centres, around schools, and on recreational routes.

- **Section 4** provides our plan for cycling, including the design principles we will use to deliver a comprehensive, continuous cycling network for the LGA.
- **Section 5** provides the implementation program for the Draft Active Transport Plan.
- **Appendix A** shows the priority walking projects we will develop and deliver in the short term.
- **Appendix B** shows the priority cycling projects we will develop and deliver in the short term.
- **Appendix C** is an overview of Council's project pipeline for active transport and place activation in the LGA.







Section 2

## Walking and cycling in Woollahra

### The benefits of walking and cycling

#### An enjoyable and comfortable way for everyone to get around

This Draft Active Transport Plan is Council's plan to enable more of Woollahra's residents to walk and cycle. Enabling more people to walk and cycle will create a more liveable Woollahra, allowing quick and easy access to local schools, shops and businesses as well as our wonderful open spaces and harbour foreshore.

We want Woollahra to be Sydney's best Local Government Area to grow up in, to live and work in, to visit, and to grow old in. We want to ensure Woollahra's streets are safe, inclusive and deliver a high quality of life for everyone. To achieve this, we can look for inspiration at countries that consistently score highest on the World Happiness Index, such as the Netherlands and Denmark.

What do these countries have in common? They consistently design their streets with pedestrians

and cyclists in mind, giving them uninterrupted, protected space and prioritising them over other modes of transport. The result is an urban realm that is comfortable, safe, inclusive and enjoyable to get around.

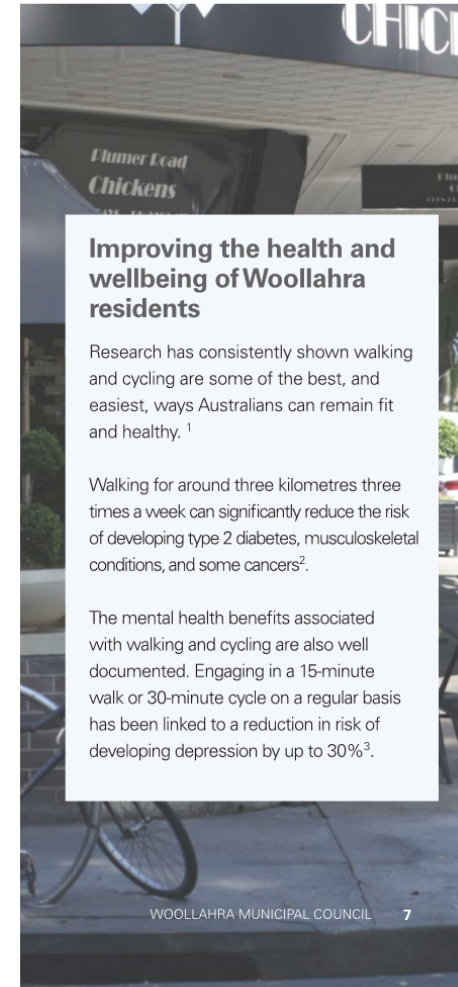
Woollahra already has plenty of great urban and natural assets that make it a fantastic place to live and to visit. The street life outside shops and cafés in Double Bay, the heritage streetscapes of Paddington, the harbourside views in Rose Bay or the cliff walks in Watsons Bay are examples of this. But there is so much more that we can achieve.

Many of our streets have been designed around cars, leaving them unattractive and unsafe to walk or cycle on. We want a Woollahra where our residents – especially the young, the old and those who are mobility impaired – can choose from many attractive transport options. We want a Woollahra where you do not just have the freedom to drive anywhere; but where you have the freedom not to have to drive everywhere.

<sup>1</sup> UNICEF (2020), *Worlds of Influence: Understanding What Shapes Child Well-being in Rich Countries*, Innocenti Report Card 16, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> Victoria Walks, *Anup (2018) The economic case for investment in walking*

<sup>3</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2012), *Risk factors contributing to chronic disease*, Cat No. PHE 157





**The business benefits of improving London's streets for walking**

In the UK, Transport for London compared five London high streets that had recently been improved for walking with similar unimproved high streets.

Businesses on the walking-friendly high streets roundly beat the unimproved high streets: on the improved high streets, retail vacancy rates were 17% lower, and rents 7.5% higher, reflecting better business performance. Office buildings were also more attractive to businesses and to their employees. People walking spent 40% more time in the town centres than car drivers<sup>4</sup>.

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**Vibrant centres: benefits for businesses and the local economy**

Investing in walking and cycling not only creates safer, healthier, and happier places – it supports Woollahra's businesses too. In our busy local centres, walking and cycling are the most space-efficient modes of transport, allowing more people to move through the same space. Each new cyclist or pedestrian is a car trip saved, and congestion cut.

There is clear evidence, across many global cities, that designing streets for active transport delivers business benefits. Walking and cycling increase the vibrancy of areas, increasing footfall and customer dwell times and thus boosting retail vitality.

**Towards Vision Zero: safety benefits**

We want Woollahra's streets to be safe for everyone – especially for vulnerable groups such as our children, our elderly, and residents with visual or mobility impairments.

People will only choose to walk or cycle when feels safe to do so. We want to design our streets for residents that would like to walk and cycle but are currently hesitant due to busy traffic and high vehicle speeds.

Although we have made a lot of progress on road safety, we need to go much further. In the five years from 2015 to 2019, there were 72 road accidents involving pedestrians, and 46 involving cyclists. That is nearly 20% of all road accidents in the same period – a significant over-representation of these vulnerable road users, given how many more people currently drive than walk or cycle.

<sup>4</sup> Transport for London (2018), Walking action plan: Making London the world's most walkable city.



Looking at serious crashes only, of the four people that lost their lives on our roads between 2015 and 2019, two were cyclists and one was a pedestrian. There were 39 crashes that resulted in serious injuries to pedestrians, and 16 that resulted in serious injuries to cyclists. We will continue to work to make our roads truly safe.

We believe that every death or serious injury on our roads is one too many. This Draft Active Transport Plan therefore supports Transport for NSW's goal of working towards a road network with zero deaths and serious injuries. By designing our roads to avoid crashes or reducing the impact of a crash if it happens, we want to ensure that nobody's mistake on the road should cost anyone their life.



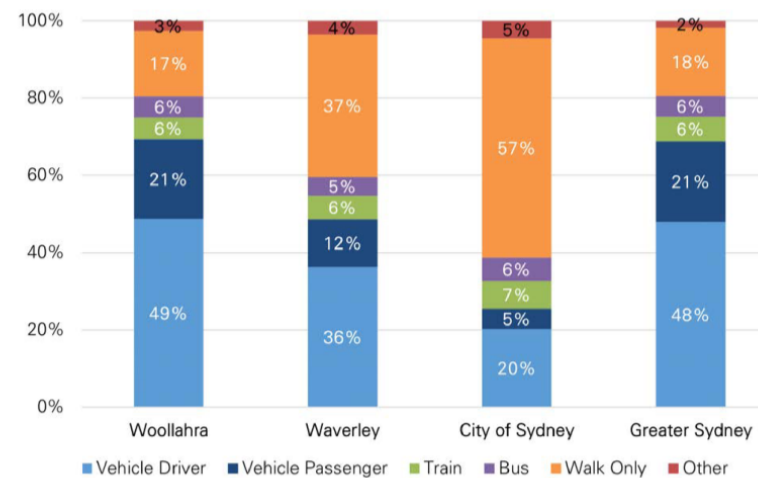
## How we travel

### Walking

Woollahra's residents choose to walk about as often as the average Greater Sydney resident: 17% of all journeys are undertaken on foot, compared to a Greater Sydney average of 18% (Figure 1).

Despite Woollahra's inner-urban character and prime harbourside location, the walking mode share is below the Greater Sydney average and the neighbouring LGAs of Waverley (37%) and the City of Sydney (57%), where much greater numbers of residents choose to walk. This suggests Woollahra's walking infrastructure is not attractive enough to encourage many residents to walk for many local journey purposes.

Figure 1: Mode of travel, all trips (residents)



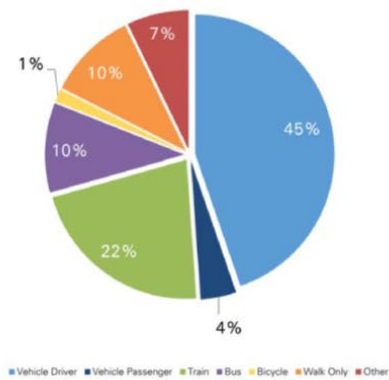
Source: TNSW Household Travel Survey 2018/19. Excludes 'linked trips', such as short walks from one shop to the next. Cycling trips are too low to estimate with confidence, and are part of 'Other'

### Cycling

Currently, around 1.5% of Woollahra residents travel to work by bicycle (Figure 2). That is nearly twice the Greater Sydney average (0.8%), but still well below the cycling mode share in Waverley (2.7%) and the City of Sydney (3.4%). All are below levels of cycling in comparable global cities like London, which has a cycling mode share of just over 4%<sup>5</sup>.

Overall, the data shows that walking and cycling are not yet the natural mode of choice for many Woollahra residents. Combined, they account for around 12% of all commuting journeys, and less than 20% of all journeys.

Figure 2: Mode of travel to work (Woollahra residents)



Source: 2016 Census Journey to Work data

<sup>5</sup> UK 2011 Census Journey to Work data



Figure 3: Typical footpath: residential street



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### Our current walking and cycling networks

Woollahra's walking network is typical of older, inner-urban Sydney suburbs. Most residential streets have footpaths on both sides of the road, separated from the kerb by wide, tree-lined grass verges, as shown in Figure 3. In centres, footpaths are usually wider and extend directly to the kerb. Woollahra also has many separated recreational walking paths, which attract visitors from all over Sydney.

Although Woollahra already has some great walking infrastructure, there is more we can do to make our centres and key destinations more walkable. During our community consultation events, which were held across the LGA, and responses from the online survey we heard what residents loved about Woollahra but also things which need to be improved.

Compared to walking, Woollahra's current cycling network is of a much lower design quality, as most of our streets have historically been designed



around the car. The cycling network is also much less comprehensive, with many gaps in the network and some centres lacking any cycling infrastructure (Map 1).

#### Community engagement – what we heard

To ensure this plan is shaped by the needs, concerns and priorities of the Woollahra community, extensive community engagement was held prior to creating this plan.

We ran an online survey on our engagement platform Your Say Woollahra, met with local walking and cycling groups, and held pop-up information sessions in popular locations including Lyne Park, Kiaora Place, Five Ways and Watsons Bay. The purpose of engagement was to understand the community's priorities for walking and cycling, as well as how Council can support people to walk and cycle more often.

Figure 4: Council team consulting on the draft ATP





Across these feedback channels the community told us what they loved about walking in Woollahra, in particular how our many tree-lined streets, parks and harbour foreshore make journeys pleasant and enjoyable. However, there were also things which residents said could be improved, including:

- A need for better shade and shelter from weather, and more places to sit – whether to take a rest, or simply to enjoy the scenery.
- Lack of separation between cyclists and pedestrians on busy paths, which can make pedestrians feel unsafe.
- Narrow footpaths, especially in busy centres which have a lot of foot traffic.
- A need for more and safer crossings which protect pedestrians from fast-moving car traffic.
- Uneven footpaths and trip hazards such as tree roots, which can make walking harder for those who are not as steady on their feet or use mobility aids.

- Relatively few walking trips are made to some schools, causing congestion and parking issues.

Woollahra residents told us some of the key issues on the current cycling network include:

- A lack of continuity, with cycleways often ending abruptly at busy intersections.
- High vehicle speeds and volumes can make even experienced cyclists feel uncomfortable and unsafe.
- Cycleways that are too narrow, resulting in conflicts with moving traffic, and pedestrians.
- Cycleways that have many interruptions – sometimes so many that experienced cyclists would prefer to cycle in the traffic lanes instead.
- Woollahra's hilly topography can make cycling a challenge even for experienced cyclists.
- Poor maintenance, including cracks, potholes, and a lack of lighting.

## Engagement Responses

**153** Detailed survey responses received on Your Say Woollahra

**1189** People reached via social media posts on **Facebook and Instagram**

**9** Meetings and conversations with local government partners, transport authorities, schools and advocacy groups

**100+** Face-to-face conversations with local residents and visitors

**4** Pop-up information sessions at Double Bay, Rose Bay, Paddington and Watsons Bay

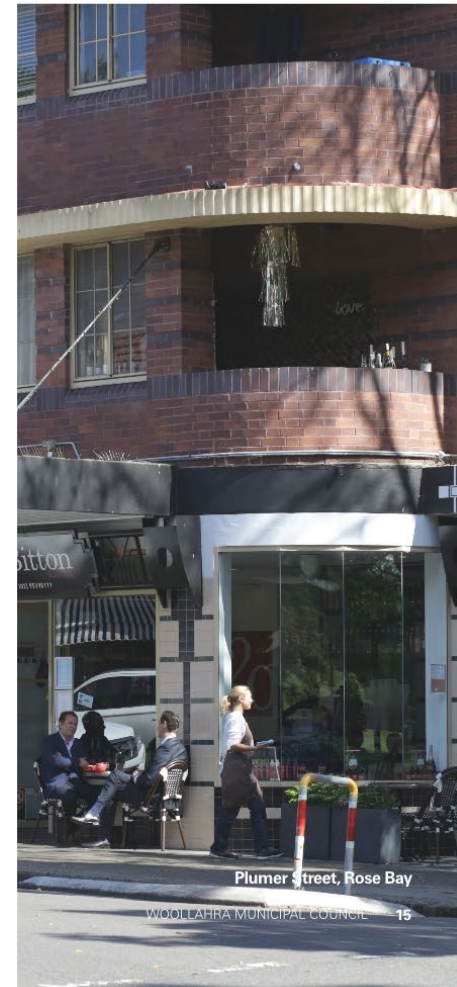
**1655** Subscribers received updates via the Your Say Woollahra newsletter

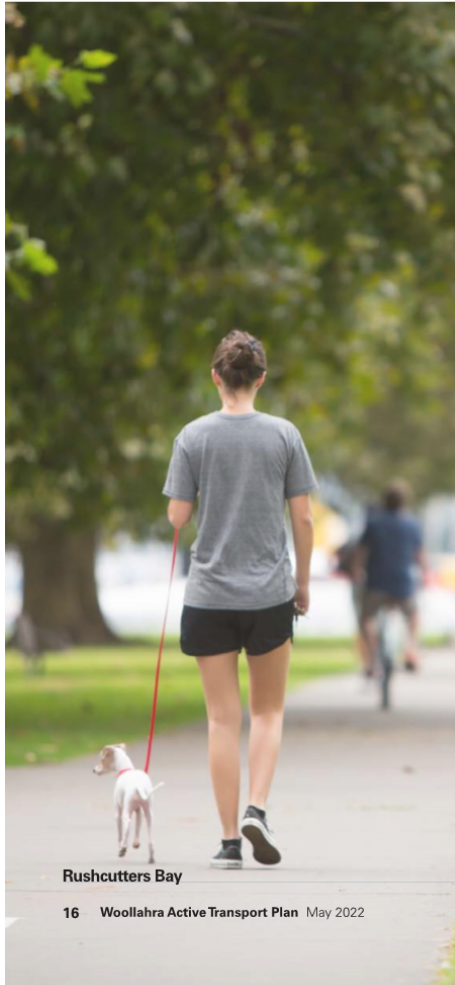
Two key variables that will drive our decision-making on our future cycling network are traffic volumes on our roads (**Map 2**), and the topography of our area (**Map 3**).

Traffic volumes are relevant to cycling network design because cyclists typically find it much harder to cycle together with motorised traffic when traffic volumes are high. The higher the traffic volumes, the greater the need for separation between cyclists and motorised traffic. Most cyclists struggle in mixed traffic environments with more than 5,000 vehicles a day (**Map 2**), and less experienced cyclists may only be comfortable with significantly fewer than that. Typically, cyclists should be able to safely mix with traffic when there are fewer than 2,500 vehicles a day and traffic speeds are low.

Due to areas of challenging topography in Woollahra, the greatest returns on investment would be through an initial focus on flat routes, such as Rose Bay to Bondi via O'Sullivan Road or Newcastle Street (**Map 3**).

Where cycle routes are hillier, cycle routes will need to be designed accordingly. Going uphill, good separation between slow-moving cyclists and fast-moving cars is required. Going downhill, mixed traffic routes are more acceptable but greater pedestrians protection is needed from cyclists going downhill at higher speeds.





### Walking and Cycling safety in Woollahra

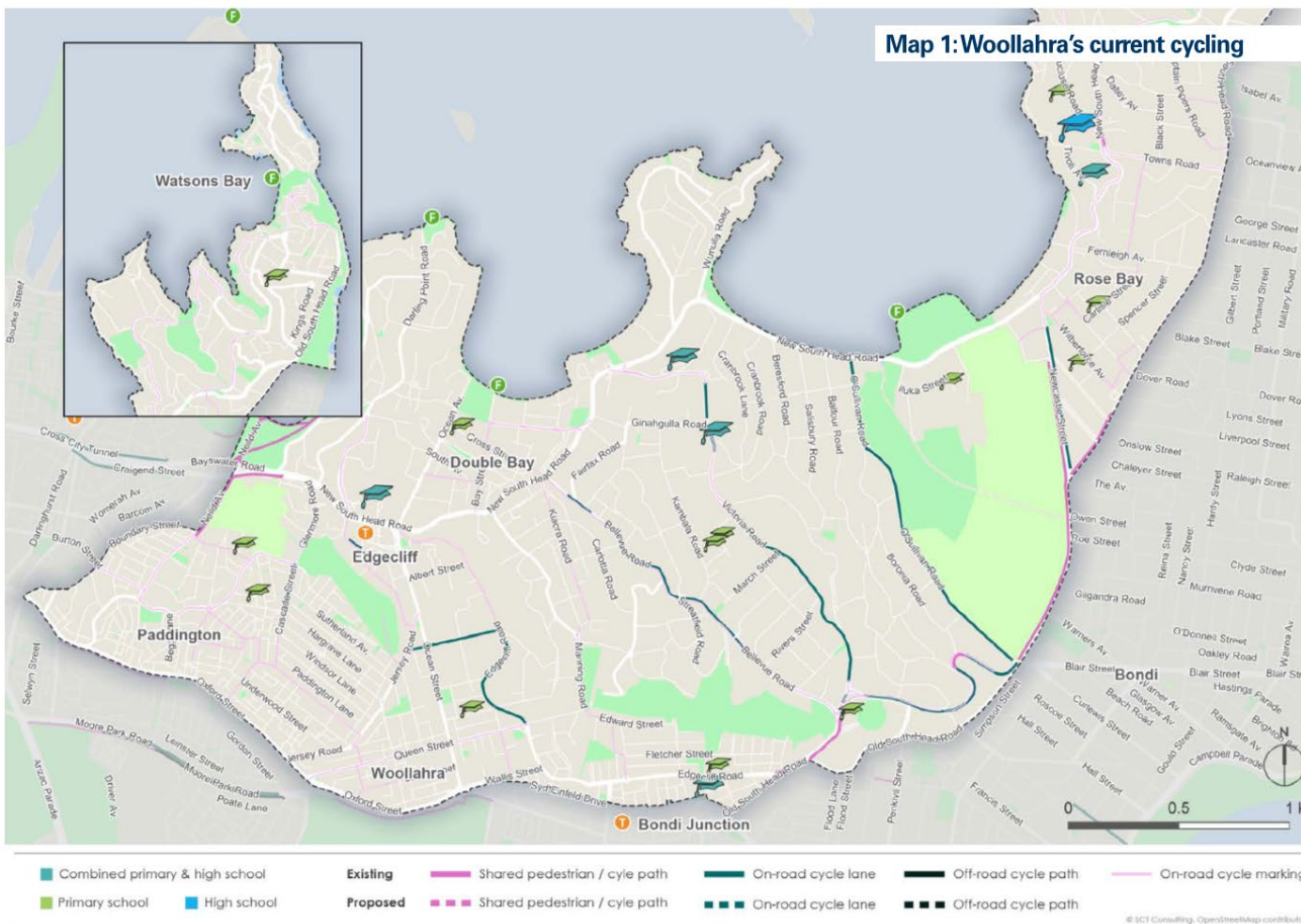
During community consultation, we heard repeatedly that people will only choose to walk and cycle when it feels safe. We cannot expect to achieve our vision for walking and cycling unless we tackle our major road safety hotspots.

As mentioned in **Section 1**, pedestrians and cyclists are over-represented in our road accidents statistics. Between 2015 and 2019, they were involved in nearly 20% of all road accidents (72 accidents involving pedestrians, and 46 involving cyclists, in five years).

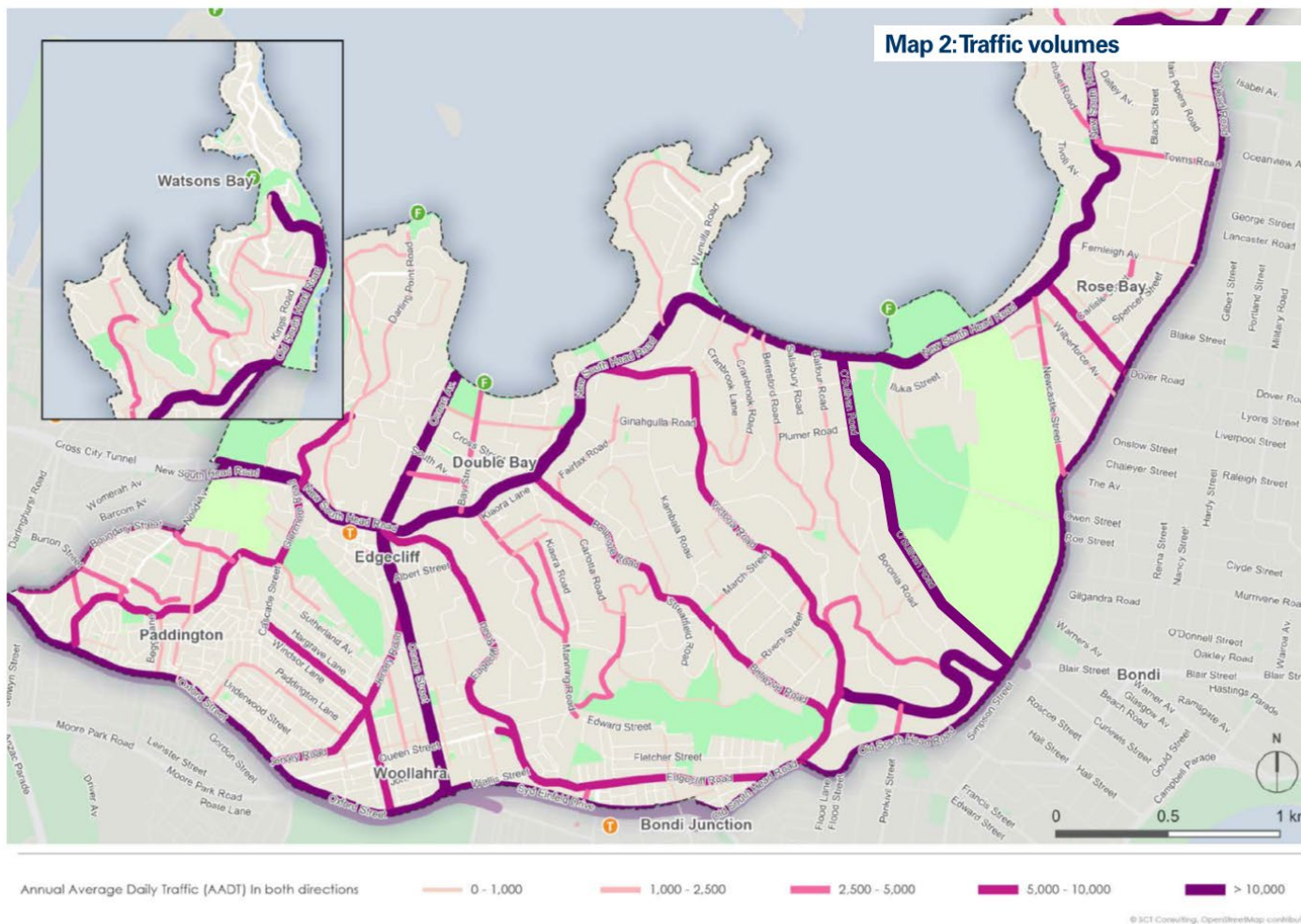
**Map 4** shows the locations of pedestrian crashes by severity. Tragically, there was one fatal pedestrian crash, on Birriga Road, and 39 crashes that resulted in serious injuries to pedestrians. Major clusters of serious pedestrian injury crashes include New South Head Road in Double Bay; Oxford Street through Paddington; and Old South Head Road in Rose Bay.

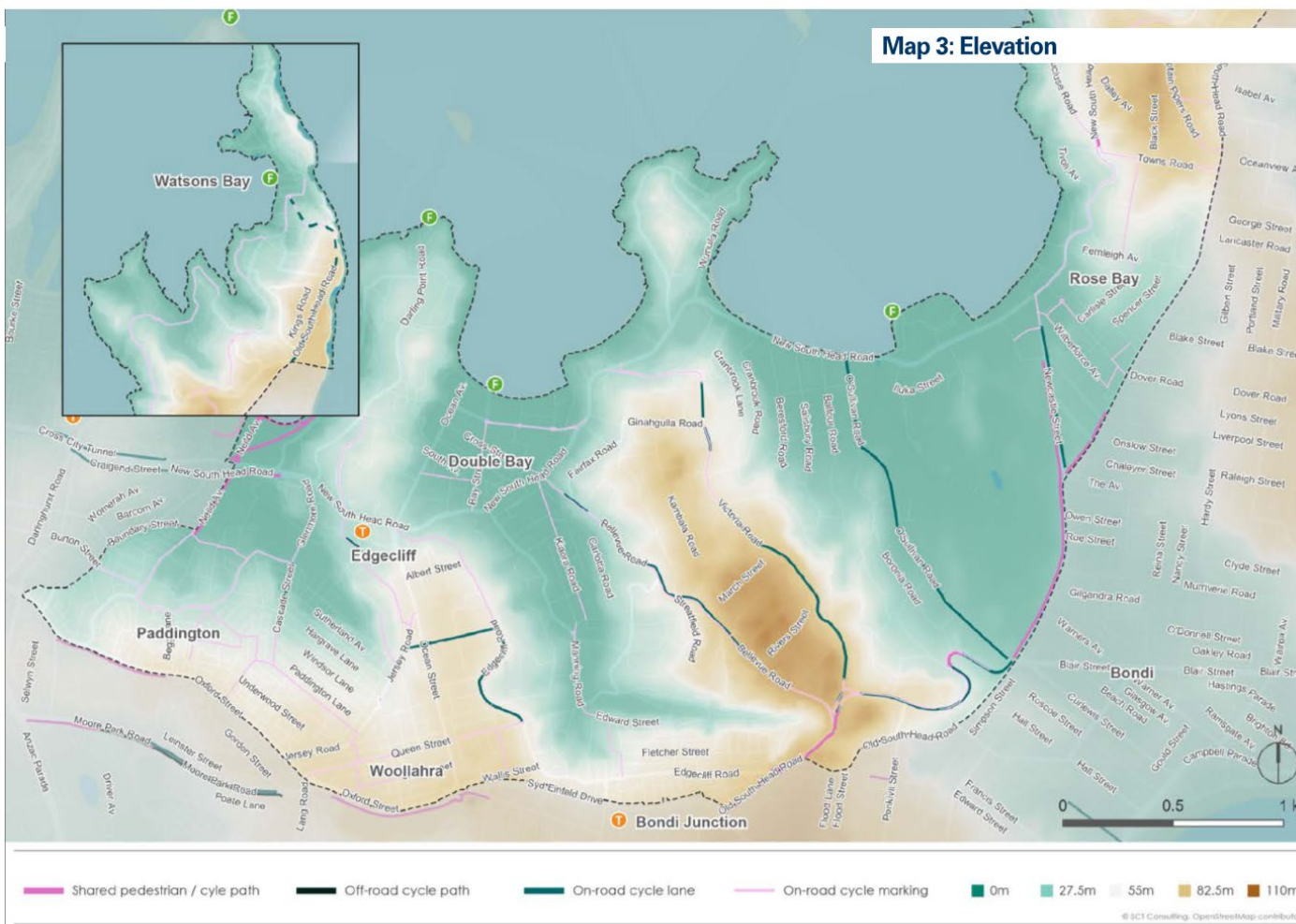
All these roads are characterised by heavy traffic volumes, wide carriageways and limited crossing opportunities for pedestrians.

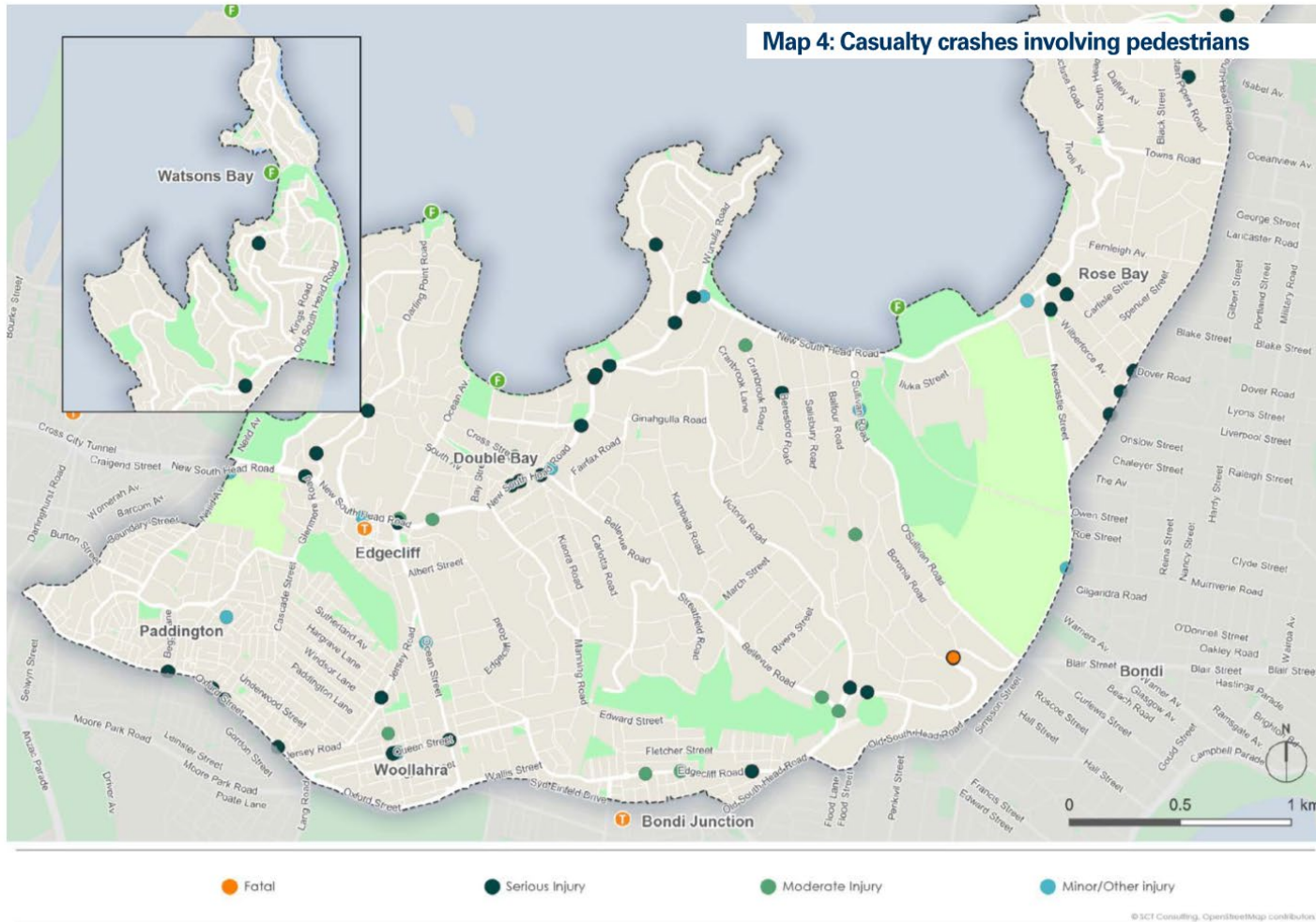
Crashes involving cyclists are shown on **Map 5**. Sadly, two cyclists lost their lives between 2015 and 2019 – both on New South Head Road. There were also 16 serious injury crashes involving cyclists, including five more on New South Head Road. This suggests New South Head Road is the top location to address, if we are to make cycling safer in Woollahra.



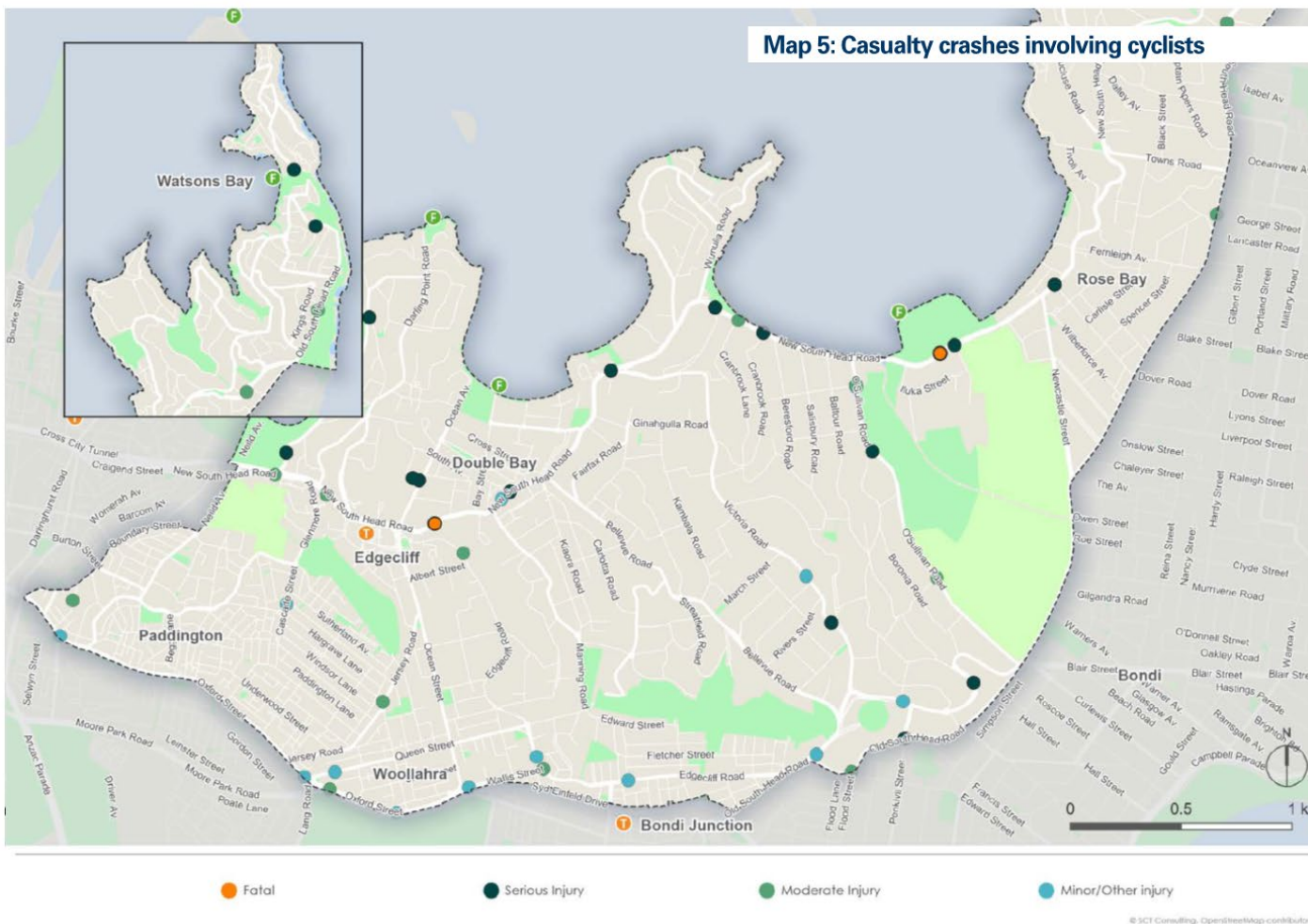
















Section 3

## Our plan for walking

### Giving walking the attention it deserves

Everybody in Woollahra is a pedestrian. Whether you walk to work or school, or you simply walk to the bus stop or to your car – everybody uses public footpaths to get around. Walking is the oldest, cheapest, and most universal way to get around.

In the past, walking has not been given the same attention as cycling. Before this Draft Active Transport Plan, Woollahra Municipal Council had a plan for cycling (the 2009 Woollahra Bicycle Strategy), but no specific plan for walking. The new Draft Active Transport Plan will give walking the attention it deserves.

We want to make walking an obvious, enjoyable choice for all short trips: especially in and around centres, to and from schools, and on our recreational routes. In all cases, we want to create an attractive public realm – our streets should be places where people want to spend time, as well as get from A to B.

### Designing our centres for walking

Woollahra's Municipality centres – including Paddington, Edgecliff, Double Bay, Rose Bay, Watsons Bay and Woollahra, plus various smaller local centres throughout the LGA – are our busiest pedestrian areas, and the focal point of civic life in Woollahra. Our footpaths, squares, and other public spaces do not just facilitate movement – they are places where people meet, shop, eat, drink, and enjoy themselves.

Many of our centres already have fantastic pedestrian assets – for example, the transformed public space on Kiaora Lane in Double Bay, the busy shops along Oxford Street, and the harbour promenade in Rose Bay. However, several of our centres could benefit from further investment in a better public realm.

In our centres, we want to create inviting streets that encourage the community to actively make more journeys by walking. We will use the highest standards of design to attract people who currently feel deterred from walking. We will make streets

safer and more inclusive by introducing better crossing facilities – including continuous raised footpaths (Figure 7) across minor intersections. We will also slow down traffic where needed, and work with Transport for NSW to introduce 30 km/h speed limits in our busiest centres.

Improving the standard of lighting across the LGA, especially along key routes, will increase general safety and accessibility of walking.

**Figure 7: We will implement continuous raised footpaths across minor intersections**



**Healthy Streets: London's plan for creating more enjoyable streets**

London (UK) uses its 'Healthy Streets' approach to create streets that are pleasant, safe and attractive. The Healthy Streets approach is based on 10 indicators, covering all five human senses. For example, if the street is very noisy, then people do not feel relaxed and they may choose not to walk or cycle.

Source: Transport for London

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**Equitable access for the community**

Promoting equitable access is an important principle for the Woollahra ATP, particularly with regard to promoting walking in Woollahra. The ATP aims to reflect the vision and actions identified in the Woollahra Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017, principally through the aim of Creating Liveable Communities. Equitable access has been an important consideration in the design of the Priority Projects, including:

- Ensuring that the designs consider the needs of disabled and elderly members of the community, as well as pram users.
- Promoting walking as a key mode of transport.
- Ensuring that relevant design standards including AS1428, Austroads Guides and TfNSW Cycleway Design Toolbox are followed, as well as consideration of international best practice.
- Minimising conflicts between pedestrians and other modes, especially vehicles and cyclists.
- Providing clear paths of travel for pedestrians with adequate widths and separation from other modes of transport, resting points, shade and amenity.
- Providing well-located and safe crossing points.

**Designing our school zones for walking**

Parents recognise walking for its benefits to children: not only is walking good for their physical and mental health, but walking helps them gain the skills needed to become independently mobile. We want as many children as possible to be able to walk to school in Woollahra, so they can access the benefits that walking brings.

The number one concern parents have with walking to school is the safety of their children on the road. Any parent would be reluctant to let their children walk to school, especially on their own, unless they are confident that the journey is safe. We want to work with all schools in Woollahra – including public and private schools – to identify and address any physical barriers to walking, such as missing or inadequate crossings around the school.

As far as possible, we will look to keep students walking to school separated from cars that are dropping off and picking up. Where needed, we will slow cars down to improve safety – with physical measures such as speed bumps and rumble strips, and with 30 km/h School Zones if a lower speed limit is needed.



**Appendix A** provides a more detailed example of the typical changes we will look to implement around our schools.

#### **Designing our recreational routes for walking**

Woollahra is fortunate to have some of Sydney's best recreational walking routes within its boundaries: ranging from the bustling Rose Bay promenade along New South Head Road, to scenic walks such as the Hermitage Foreshore Walk in Vaucluse and the trails along the ocean cliffs in Watsons Bay. These recreational walking routes are a fantastic asset, and as we heard during our consultation, they are highly valued by our community. We will maintain these routes to the highest possible standard for our residents and visitors from elsewhere in Sydney to enjoy.

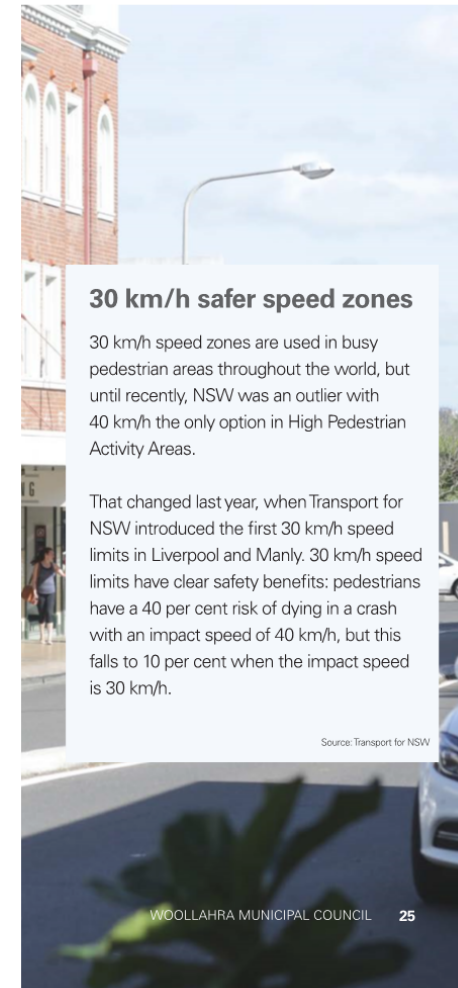
As we heard during community consultation, a common issue on our recreational routes is that footpaths can have trip hazards, for example due to cracks or tree roots. We will work with Council, as well as the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, to improve our maintenance of recreational paths and ensure everyone can enjoy our great natural assets.

#### **Designing our residential streets for walking**

Finally, we want to make sure that Woollahra's residential streets – which make up most of our road network – encourage residents to walk. All our residential streets should meet minimum standards of accessibility, and should have footpaths on both sides (except for very narrow streets and laneways in heritage conservation areas such as Paddington). These will be regularly maintained as a priority in Council's maintenance works program. Improving the feel of our residential streets and better connecting them to our centres will be key to boosting the number of people walking throughout Woollahra.

#### **Pedestrian focused design treatments**

In addition to the designs presented in the Draft Active Transport Plan, we have been implementing the best-practice Australian pedestrian treatments throughout the LGA. The following can be identified throughout Woollahra's centres and surrounding street networks.



These treatments are helping people cross busy roads and slowing down car speeds:

- Raised pedestrian crossings and refuge islands
- Continuous footpath treatments
- 10km/h Shared Zones
- Longer crossings times and audio cues at signalised crossings
- Accessible ramps for prams and people with mobility aids, and
- Tactile indicators on steps and ramps.

### Street design typologies

To illustrate how these design principles for a more attractive walking and cycling network could be applied to different types of streets in Woollahra, we have developed a palette of street typologies.

These typologies show what an ideal street could look like once we have implemented this Draft Active Transport Plan. The typologies form the starting point for the design decisions we will make on individual walking and cycling projects – including

the short-term priority projects in **Appendix A** (walking) and **Appendix B** (cycling). They represent ideal designs – in practice, we will sometimes have to make compromises to work within the road space available.

The street typologies include:

- Figure 8: an ideal **movement corridor** – that is, a busy road typically used by over 10,000 vehicles per day. The road has multiple lanes in each direction; depending on volumes, the kerbside lanes can be used flexibly for parking during off-peak periods. There are wide buffers between cars, cyclists and pedestrians, maximising the safety of each in a high-speed environment.
- Figure 9: an ideal **wide high street**, for example in one of our major commercial centres. Here, there are permanent parking lanes serving retail along the street, and traffic speeds are lower (40 km/h or 30 km/h). The footpath is wider than along the movement corridor, because pedestrian volumes are much higher. There is continuous separation between the cyclists and parked cars for safety, and a ‘flexi zone’

between the footpath and the cycleway, which can accommodate uses such as cycle parking or seating. This reflects that the street is not just a way to get from A to B, but a ‘place’ where people can meet and enjoy themselves.

- Figure 10: an ideal **narrow high street**. This shows how the ‘ideal’ high street typology shown in Figure 10 could be adapted if there is less space available. Parking is provided on one side of the road and, with no risk of ‘dooring’ from parked cars, the cycleway on the right is now an on-street lane rather than a separated cycle path. Importantly, the ‘flexi zone’ is maintained to cater for pedestrians and cyclists who stop and use the high street.
- Figure 11: an ideal **chicane road treatment**, a form of traffic calming. This typology bends the road alignment and changes the road surface to slow drivers down. The space along the chicane is used for people using destinations nearby, with planting, seating and cycle parking. Traffic volumes and speeds are low, so cyclists can safely mix with cars. This type of treatment could be used within school zones, or at the boundaries of some of our centres.

Figure 8: Ideal street lay-out – movement corridor

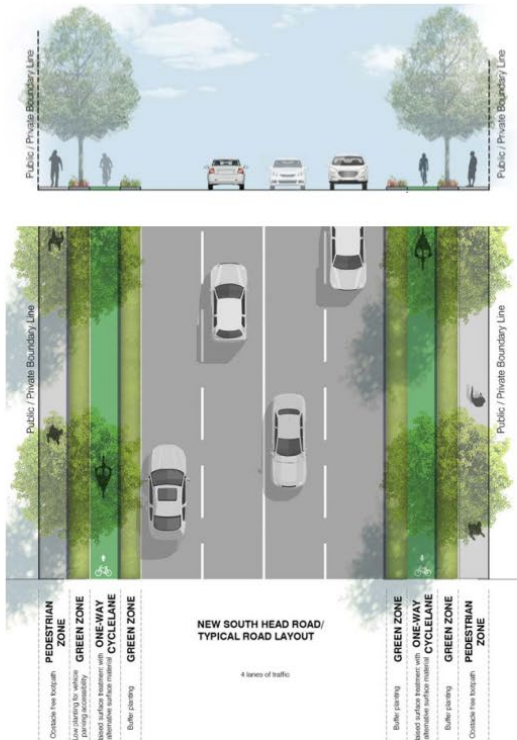


Figure 9: Ideal street lay-out – wide high street

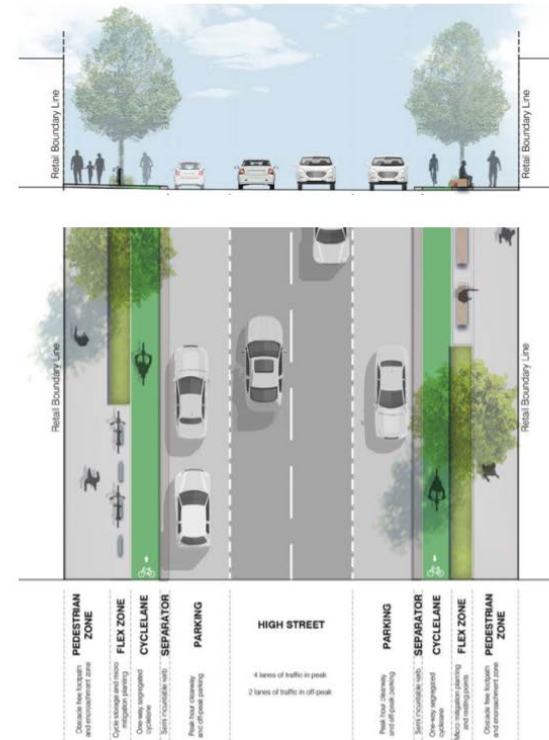


Figure 10: Ideal street lay-out – narrow high street

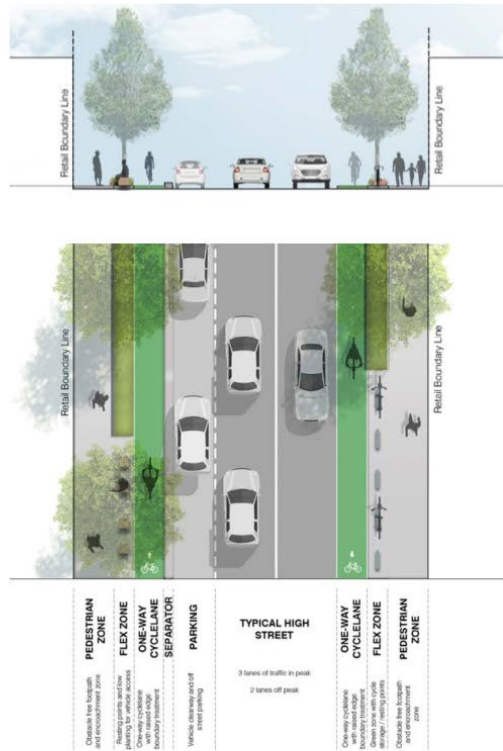
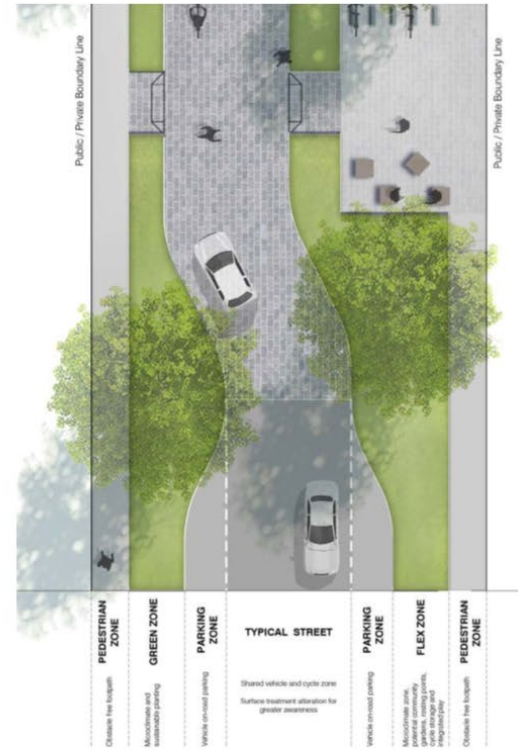


Figure 11: Ideal street lay-out – chicane road treatment



### Our future walking projects

Our goal is to deliver walking projects that both enhance and compliment Woollahra's centres and surrounding street network. These projects will improve pedestrian safety, accessibility and inclusivity, reinforcing Woollahra's unique sense of place, and support further economic vitality and activation around the LGA.

Developing this network will take many years, and significant investment from Council and, where applicable, our partners such as Transport for NSW.

**Map 6** shows our plan for Woollahra's future walking projects, based on the evidence discussed in Section 2 and the design principles in this section. Our plan divides the long-term future network into three phases:

- **High priority:** these are walking projects we want to have a strong focus on delivering within the next 5 years. These projects will be Council's priority projects to deliver (subject to feasibility,

funding, and community consultation and resolutions of Council when appropriate), and are discussed in more detail in **Appendix A** of this Draft Active Transport Plan.

- **Medium priority:** these are projects we want to study within the next 5 years, with a view to delivering them within the next 10 years.
- **Low priority:** these are projects we want to study after the next 5 years. They are typically located on sections where pedestrian activity is modest, or where we may not easily be able to achieve the design quality we want without compromising space for other user groups.

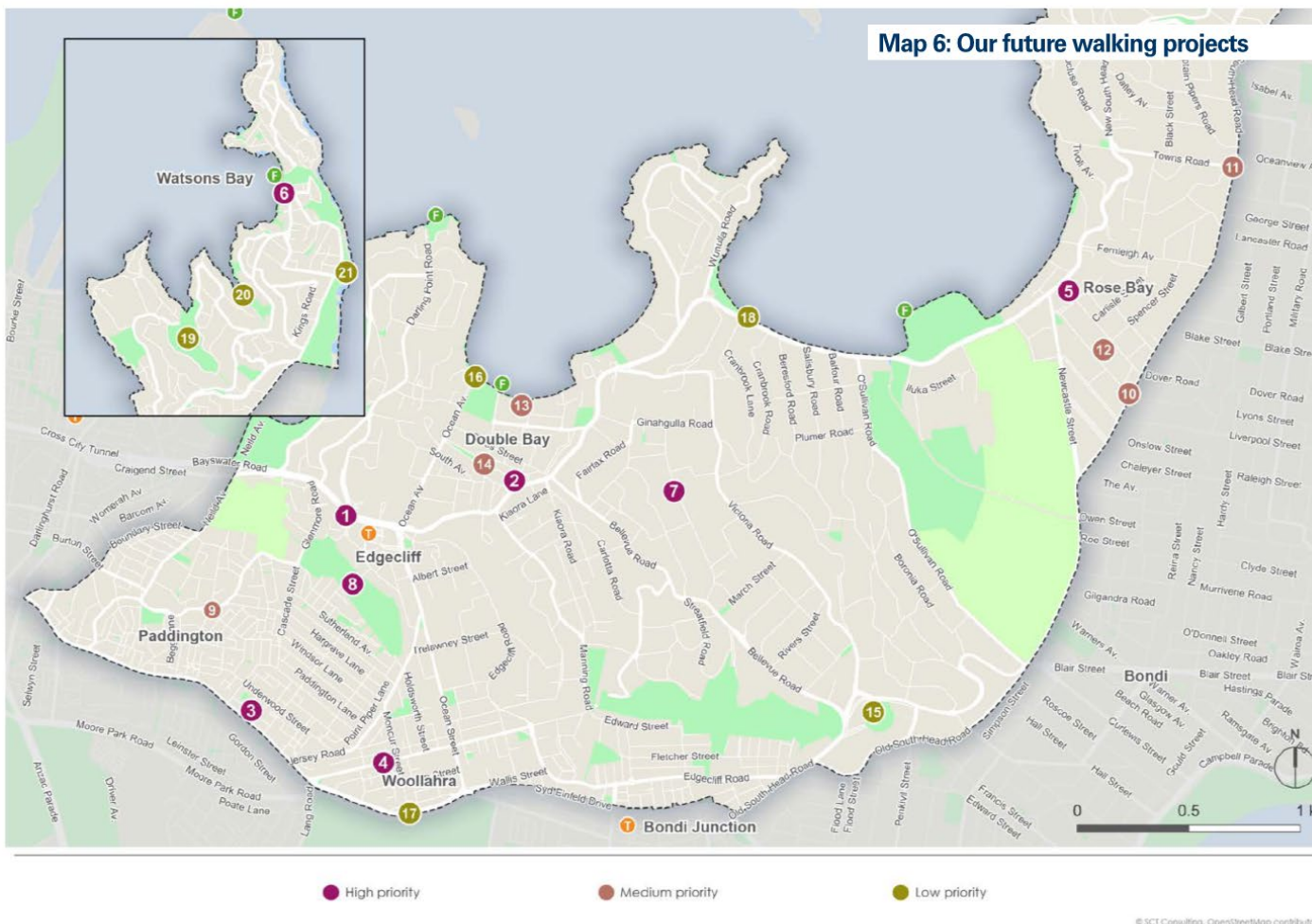
### Our approach to choosing the walking projects

The prioritisation of routes into these three categories was based on an extensive multi-criteria analysis. The analysis considered how factors such as expected demand and costs can deliver on issues such as gradients, road safety, accessibility,

inclusivity and pedestrian comfort. This can include for example, ensuring we are providing clear paths of travel for pedestrians with adequate widths and separation from other modes of transport, resting points, lighting, shade and amenity.

All project recommendations from the public consultation were considered and weighted against the multi-criteria analysis. We are confident that the routes we have prioritized for short-term delivery will represent the best return on Council's initial investment.





### Our future walking projects

Map Ref.	Priority	Project
1		Edgecliff Public Domain Strategy / Edgecliff
2		Double Bay Pedestrianisation (Knox Street)
3		Paddington 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area
4	High	Queen Street 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area
5		Rose Bay centre 30km/h high Pedestrian Activity Area
6		Watsons Bay 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Areas
7		School Zone Design Improvements
8		Paddington Greenway
9		Fiveways Walking Improvements
10		Rose Bay South Walking Improvements
11	Medium	Dover Heights Walking Improvements
12		Shared Zone on Albemarle Lane
13		Walking improvements at ferry wharves
14		Bay Street pedestrian plaza upgrade
15		Bellevue Park perimeter pedestrian route
16		Double Bay Foreshore and Darling Point Link
17		Moncur Street to Centennial Park Link
18	Low	Rose Bay and Point Piper foreshore boardwalk
19		Vaucluse House Walking Improvements
20		Parsley Bay Walking Improvements
21		Gap Park to Christinson Park coastal walk improvements

*Refer to Appendix A for an overview of Council's current walking projects in delivery*



### Pedestrian wayfinding and signage

A comprehensive pedestrian wayfinding sign system provides pedestrians with support to navigate safely and intuitively. By providing wayfinding information to the public domain, the system can connect recreational routes with the everyday routes around the suburbs, benefiting residents and visitors alike.

A consistent system of wayfinding components will provide information to direct people to their desired destinations and encourage people to walk with comfort and confidence.

The signs themselves will be elements that provide dual functions; both to inform and to aid placemaking.

The wayfinding and signage system will offer benefits for public health, the environment, economy, public transport system and tourism within the Woollahra LGA.

### Wayfinding principles

**Hierarchy of destinations** – a clear hierarchy of destinations within the Council area will form the basis of a pedestrian wayfinding system that is relevant and informative for residents and visitors alike. An example is provided in Figure 12.

**Progressive disclosure** – provides the right amount of information at the right time in a journey, listing destinations from macro to micro- allowing for the simplification of directional information, providing detail when it's needed.

Figure 12: Example of a destination hierarchy



### Wayfinding sign elements

**Legibility and accessibility** – wayfinding signs must be legible to the widest range of users, in line with universal design principles. Careful selection of font, colour and material as well as a method to access digital channels will provide information that is legible to the widest section of society.

**Time based distance indicators** – time as a measurement of journey length provides a simple and widely understood method of communicating travel distance. This will help encourage walking journeys that may have otherwise been taken by a car.

**Heads-up mapping** – mapping that aligns with the direction the reader is facing provides a clearer method of orientation than North up mapping. Mapping will provide the heart of the wayfinding system, placed within major destinations and entry points into the Council area.



**Inclusivity** -We have committed to investigating how braille can be incorporated into wayfinding signage, and how the use of plain English can improve the messages Council wants to communicate to all its residents.

**Ensuring Equitable Access**

Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2017) outlines strategies, key priorities and actions to improve accessibility and inclusivity across the municipality, encouraging and assisting people with disabilities to stay active in the local community and enjoy everything Woollahra has to offer.

A key way to achieve this is by improving accessibility throughout the LGA. One key priority is for a program of works to increase accessibility across the public domain. Actions include access audits, as well as increasing the number of accessible pram ramps and tactile indicators within the public domain.



William Street, Paddington

WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL 33



Section 4

## Our plan for cycling

### Designing our cycling network

#### Cycling trips in Woollahra

Our vision is to make cycling, alongside walking, the most convenient, comfortable and safe choice for short trips in Woollahra (and to neighbouring areas including the City of Sydney and Waverley).

The key to achieving this vision is creating a physical street environment that makes cycling a realistic and natural choice. Our current cycling network is highly fragmented and of mixed quality, and often lacks separation from cars where traffic volumes are high (see Section 2) as well as a lack of bike racks and storage facilities. We want to create streets that break down barriers to cycling, especially for inexperienced cyclists.

As we build our cycling network, we will make sure we make cycling, including those who experience mobility issues, accessible for all residents, not just experienced cyclists. We want to cater for the trip to school and leisurely rides along the harbour, as much

as the cycling commute into the CBD. We want to see more beginner cyclists on our roads – especially from under-represented user groups including young people, older people, mobility impaired and women.

#### Our design principles for a comprehensive cycling network

Our plan for Woollahra's cycling network is based on Transport for NSW's new Cycleway Design Toolbox (Figure 13). The Toolbox is part of NSW Government's Movement and Place framework for planning and managing street space and provides design guidance and standards for cycling design in NSW.

Transport for NSW's Cycleway Design Toolbox provides recommended design typologies for a wide range of cycling infrastructure, including one-way paths, two-way paths, shared paths, and shared zones. Our cycling network will be based on these Sydney-wide design standards, enabling seamless integration with the future cycling networks in neighbouring Waverley and the City of Sydney.

Figure 13: TfNSW's Cycleway Design Toolbox will set the standards for the design of our future cycling network



Source: Transport for NSW



In addition to the NSW-wide design standards, we will also use the following principles to design our network, based on the unique characteristics of Woollahra and the feedback we heard during community consultation:

- We will focus on delivering much better separation between cyclists and pedestrians. Historically, many of Woollahra's cycling paths have been delivered as shared pedestrian/cyclist paths – for example on Neild Avenue, Newcastle Street / Old South Head Road and parts of Oxford Street. During consultation, we heard that many residents feel these are unsafe and unsuitable on Woollahra's busy streets.

TfNSW's new Cycleway Design Toolbox already makes clear that shared paths provide a lower level of service and are not suitable in locations with high bicycle or pedestrian activity. Other than on quiet recreational routes and on short sections where there is no alternative, we therefore will attempt to provide dedicated facilities, where feasible. We'll also work to

improve separation between cyclists and pedestrians on existing shared paths where possible.

- We will reflect Woollahra's hilly topography with different uphill and downhill treatments. On uphill sections, cyclists are slower, so providing greater separation from motorised traffic is critical. On downhill sections, cyclists are faster, so some traffic mixing may be acceptable depending on speeds and volumes. Clear separation between pedestrians and cyclists heading downhill is critical for safety.

Ideal cycling infrastructure on different street types is shown in Figure 8 to Figure 11 in **Section 3**. Ideal intersection treatments are shown in Figure 14 and Figure 15 below – in practice, we will sometimes have to compromise to work within the road space available.





Figure 14: Ideal intersection design with off-road cycle paths

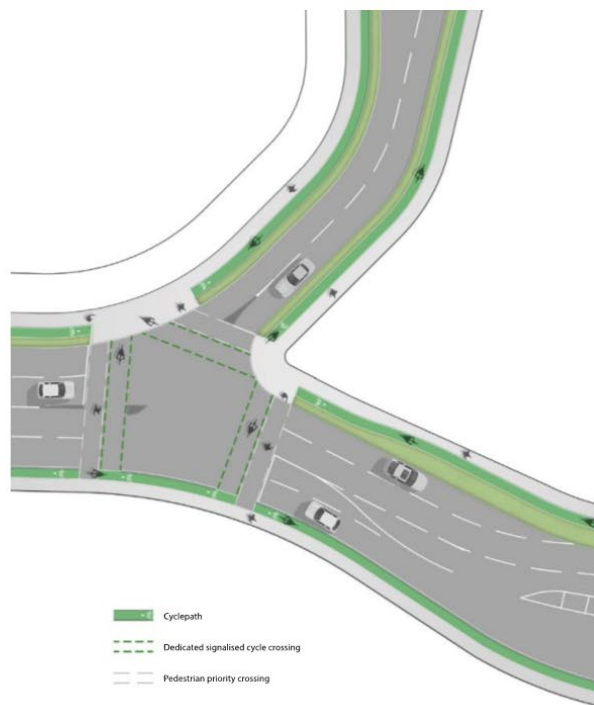
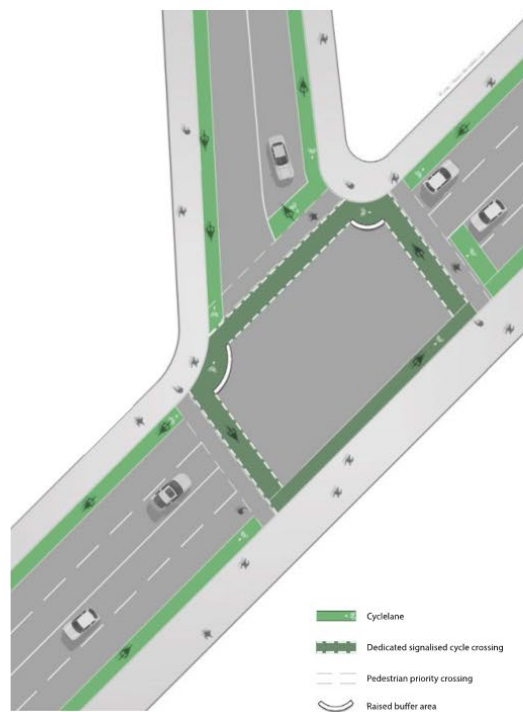


Figure 15: Ideal intersection design with on-road cycle lanes



### Our future cycling network

Our goal is to deliver a safe, comfortable, inclusive and continuous network of cycle routes that connect all major destinations in Woollahra, including our centres, public transport interchanges, and natural attractions. The network should also link to cycle routes in Waverley and the City of Sydney, connecting to major destinations such as the CBD, Bondi Junction and Bondi Beach.

Developing this network will take many years, and significant investment from Council and, where applicable, our partners such as Transport for NSW.

**Map 7** shows our plan for the future cycling network, based on the evidence discussed in **Section 2** and the design principles in this section. Our plan divides the long-term future network into three phases:

- **High priority:** these are routes we want to have a strong focus on delivering within the next

5 years. These routes will be Council's priority projects to deliver (subject to feasibility, funding, and community consultation), and are discussed in more detail in **Appendix B** of this Draft Active Transport Plan. These routes typically connect major centres and are most likely to increase cycling activity in Woollahra quickly.

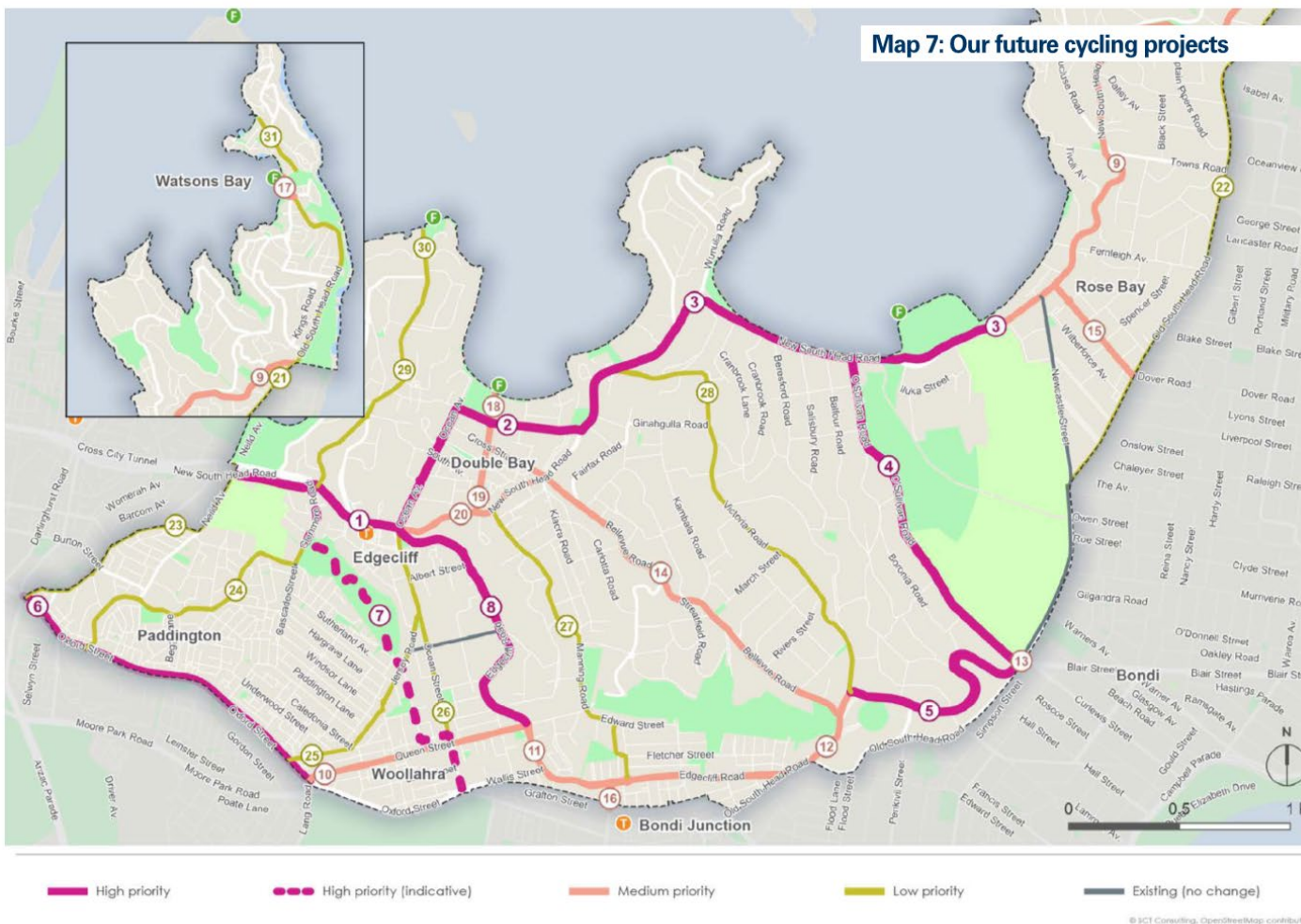
- **Medium priority:** these are routes we want to study within the next 5 years, with a view to delivering them within the next 10 years. They complement the short-term routes, resulting in a continuous network of principal cycle routes by 2031.
- **Low priority:** these are routes we want to study after the next 5 years. They are typically located on sections where demand is currently still expected to be modest, or where we may not easily be able to achieve the design quality, we want without compromising space for other user groups. However, we expect that these routes will become part of our cycling network after 2031, once demand starts to take off.

### Approach to choosing the cycling projects

An extensive multi-criteria analysis was undertaken to determine a priority ranking for projects. It considered a range of criteria related to demand, road safety, destinations, gradients, accessibility, physical deliverability and expected cost.

The routes have been prioritised to enable investment by Council. This will kick-start the growth in cycling activity outlined within this Draft Active Transport Plan.

All projects have also been designed to cater for emerging mobility trends, such as e-bikes, within the LGA.



### Our future cycling projects

Map Ref.	Priority	Project	Map Ref.	Priority	Project
1		Cycleway on New South Head Road (City of Sydney boundary to Edgecliff)	14		Upgrade cycleway on Bellevue Road
2		Cycleway on Ocean Avenue/William Street (Edgecliff to Double Bay)	15		Cycleway between Rose Bay and Rose Bay South (Dover Road or Wilberforce Ave)
3		Cycleway on New South Head Road (Double Bay to Rose Bay)	16	Medium	Cycle link to Bondi Junction station (Newland Street)
4	High	Upgrade cycleway along O'Sullivan Road	17		Cycle link to Watsons Bay Wharf (Robertson Park)
5		Upgrade cycleway on Birriga Road	18		Cycle link to Double Bay Wharf (Bay Street)
6		Cycleway on Oxford Street (City of Sydney boundary to Queen Street)	19		
7		Paddington Greenway cycleway (indicative route only)	20		Cycle links within Double Bay centre (Cross Street)
8		Cycleway on Edgecliff Road (Edgecliff to Queen Street)	21		Cycleway on Old South Head Road (Newcastle Street to Towns Road)
9		Cycleway on New South Head Road (Rose Bay to Vaucluse)	22		Cycleway on Old South Head Road (Towns Road to Watsons Bay)
10		Cycleway along Queen Street (Oxford Street to Ocean Street)	23	Low	Cycleway on Boundary Street / Neild Avenue
11	Medium	Cycleway along Edgecliff Road (Queen Street to Victoria Road)	24		Cycleway on Glenmore Road
12		Cycleway along Victoria Road (Edgecliff Road to Birriga Road)	25		Cycleway on Jersey Road
13		Upgrade cycle crossing facilities at the Old South Head Road / Birriga Road / O'Sullivan Road / Curlewis Street intersection	26		Cycleway on Ocean Street (Edgecliff to Queen Street)
			27		Cycleway on Manning Road
			28		Upgrade cycleway on Victoria Road
			29	Cycleway on Mona Road / Darling Point Road	
			30		Cycle link to Darling Point Wharf (Darling Point Reserve)

*Refer to Appendix B for an overview of Council's current cycling projects in delivery*

### Cycle wayfinding and signage

The current bicycle wayfinding sign system provides signposting for a network of routes across the Woollahra LGA. To better serve the needs of cyclists, this system will be developed further to provide a wider range of information for its users. This will ensure the cycle wayfinding system better supports cycling connectivity, safety and comfort across a wider range of local and regional journeys. A sign family example is provided in Figure 16.

### Wayfinding principles

**Hierarchy of destinations** – as with the pedestrian system, a hierarchy of destinations will provide a framework for messaging for local destinations such as suburban centres, facilities, and transport hubs as well as for regional cycleways that pass through the Woollahra LGA.

**Progressive disclosure** – destination information is provided from macro to micro to ensure simplicity of messaging in a consistent manner.

**Part of a regional system** – cycling allows for journeys to destinations beyond Council boundaries, with several routes being connected to neighbouring cycleways in the City of Sydney and Waverley LGAs.

Figure 16: Example sign family Randwick Bicycle Wayfinding Strategy / City of Sydney Bicycle Network

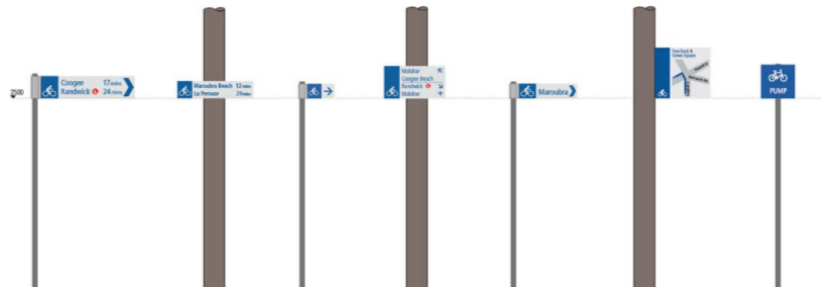


Figure 17: Directional example with time indicator





**Wayfinding sign elements**

**Time indicators** – for journeys under 30 minutes, journey time is provided on major directional signs. An example is provided in Figure 17. Local signs – provide simple directional messaging close to a destination.

**Reassurance signs and mapping** – additional support is provided to explain more complex intersections and intersecting routes.

**Facility signs** – where additional facilities are provided for the benefit of cyclists such as pumps, water and repair kits, clear identification is provided.

**Aesthetics** – cycleway signs will maintain the general appearance of the current system and that of neighbouring systems to provide consistency along longer journeys.

**Inclusivity** -We have committed to investigating how braille can be incorporated into wayfinding signage, and how the use of plain English can improve the messages Council wants to communicate to all its residents.







Section 5

## Implementing the plan

### Implementing this Draft Active Transport Plan

The plans and projects identified in this Draft Active Transport Plan will all create better streets for walking and cycling, working towards our vision of making active transport the most convenient, comfortable, inclusive and safe choice for short trips in Woollahra.

This plan sets Woollahra Municipal Council's vision for walking and cycling for the next 10-15 years, but the time to press ahead with action on better walking and cycling is now. The Draft Active Transport Plan marks an ambitious change in the way Council plans, designs and delivers infrastructure projects – starting with the short-term priority projects included in **Appendices A and B** of this plan.

The identified projects are in addition to walking and cycling projects currently under investigation and development by Council. An overview of these specific projects is provided in **Appendix C**.

We will also look at reviewing speed limits across Woollahra. Adopting the right speed limits, especially in our centres, can lead to an environment more attractive to walking and cycling while also enhancing the sense of place.

### Working together with our community

To achieve the vision, objectives and targets of this plan, commitment, ambition, and action will be required from Council, but also from our partners throughout Woollahra, such as schools, local businesses, residents' associations and active transport user groups.

We need to work together to achieve the vision set out in this Draft Active Transport Plan, and we all have a part to play in the step-change in ambition that this Draft Active Transport Plan provides.

### Working together with Transport for NSW and neighbouring LGAs

Like other forms of transport, walking and cycling are not a solely local government responsibility. While Council is responsible for managing and maintaining our network of local roads, Transport for NSW manages the state road network, which includes New South Head Road and Oxford Street / Old South Head Road. Planning the future of our walking and cycling network is a joint responsibility, with Council leading on local elements and Transport for NSW leading on more strategic, long-distance routes.

We will need support, action and commitment from Transport for NSW, as well as from our neighbours including the City of Sydney and Waverley Council, to deliver the integrated walking and cycling network that we seek.



For example, we will continue to work with Transport for NSW to ensure that our plan for Woollahra's future cycle network (**Map 6**) aligns with and complements Sydney's Principal Bicycle Network, which Transport for NSW is currently developing. We will also continue to work closely with our neighbouring Councils to ensure that there are no gaps or sudden changes in design across our boundaries.

#### Funding, financing, and delivery

This Draft Active Transport Plan represents a major financial commitment from Council to invest in walking and cycling infrastructure. For example, the total cost of delivering the short-term priority walking and cycling projects (included in **Appendices A and B**) is estimated at \$40.2m\*.

Through Council's budgeting process that forms part of the annual Operation Plan, funding will be made available from its own sources where possible (subject to appropriate resolutions of Council), to

implement the Draft Active Transport Plan, however the total financial cost of delivering the plan exceeds the financial resources Council has or is likely to have into the future.

As a result, the prioritisation of the walking and cycling projects, and the projects in **Appendix C**, will be subject to both detailed construction and costing feasibility study and design.

For many of the projects in this Draft Active Transport Plan, Council will therefore seek to obtain funding from NSW Government, for example from the NSW Walking and Cycling Program and the NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program. Recently, Council was already successful in obtaining \$4.75m of funding from the NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program for the creation of a pedestrianised public plaza in Knox Street, Double Bay.

\* Opportunity for part of the cost of the Oxford Street Junction improvement scheme to be covered by TfNSW



### Next steps

This Draft Active Transport Plan is currently in draft. During the public exhibition period, Council will invite the community to make submissions in response to the draft. As part of developing this plan, we have already consulted with many members of our community. Now that the draft plan is complete, we want to hear your feedback on it again to make sure we have got it right.

Following the public exhibition period, Council officers will review all submissions, update the Draft Active Transport Plan, and prepare a report with recommendations to Council. Council will then give consideration whether to adopt the Draft Active Transport Plan as its plan for walking and cycling for the next 10-15 years.

If the plan is adopted, Council will review the plan after 5 years to report on progress with the delivery of our priority projects, and to check whether we are on track to meet our targets (see **Section 1**).

### Have your say

It's easy to have your say. Just login or register for Your Say Woollahra and make a submission before the exhibition closing date.

All submissions made before the closing date will be considered in the final report, which will be submitted to Council for consideration in mid-2022.



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## Appendix A: Walking Priority Projects

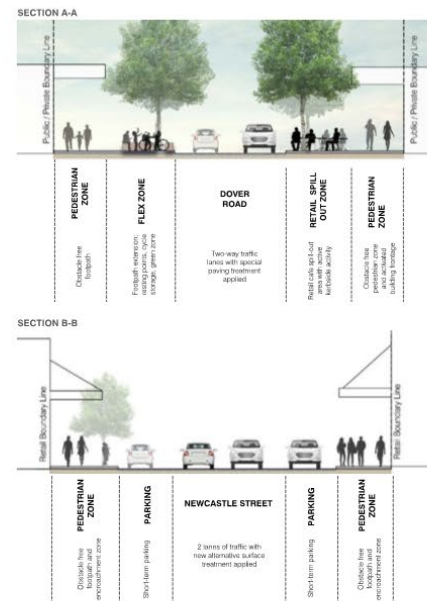


Walking Priority Project 1: Rose Bay Centre 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area



- LEGEND**
- Existing footpath to be retained
  - Proposed footpath extension works
  - Existing footpath to be removed
  - Alternative road surface treatment
  - Existing road treatment to be retained
  - Proposed raised pedestrian crossing
  - Existing street tree
  - Proposed street tree
  - 1 Dover Road two-way street with 30km/h speed zone. Parking removed.
  - 2 Existing northbound bus stop retained
  - 3 Cycle storage
  - 4 Extended footpath with public seating, tree planting and bike parking
  - 5 Existing southbound bus stop retained
  - 6 Extended footpath with increased activation & cafe spill-out area
  - 7 Newcastle Street 30km/h speed zone
  - 8 Paving surface treatment extended to road for greater driver awareness of high pedestrian activity
  - 9 Existing signalled crossing to be retained
  - 10 Short-term parking
  - 11 Future Development with pedestrian priority link from Wilberforce Avenue to Dover Road

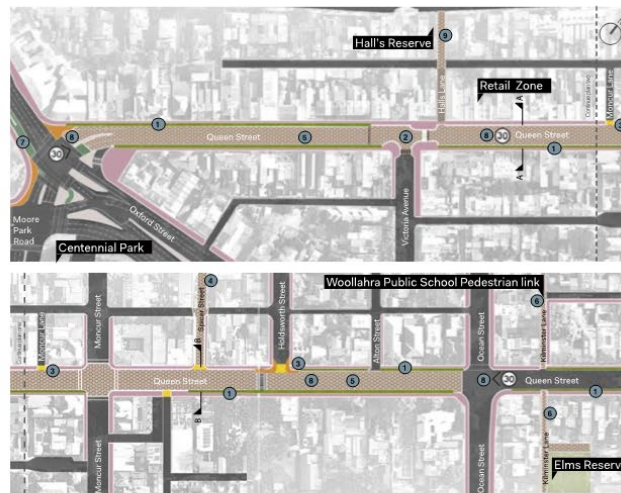
Rose Bay Centre design interventions seek to improve the existing precinct to create a pedestrian friendly environment. The proposal provides the opportunity to extend the retail spill-out-zone along Dover Road and provide obstacle free pedestrian movement corridors along the building frontages. Traffic calming measures have been implemented to increase pedestrian safety and create greater driver awareness of high pedestrian activity along Dover Road and Newcastle Street.



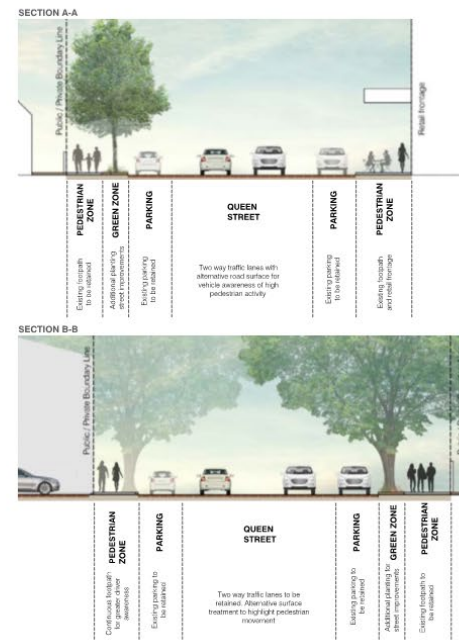
A2 Woollahra Active Transport Plan May 2022

### Walking Priority Project 2: Queen Street 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area

The walking improvements for Queen Street provide the opportunity to offer a safer and more appealing environment on a street level for pedestrians. Positive changes to the character of the street aim to reduce the perception of vehicle dominance. Pedestrian safety measures such as continuous footpaths and raised surface treatments provide a seamlessly connected walking route. The proposal celebrates Queen Street as a destination for retail and its importance as a movement corridor between Edgecliff Road and Oxford Street interchange. A shared cycle and vehicle route is integrated along Queen Street through a paved road surface treatment to create greater pedestrian awareness for drivers.



- LEGEND**
- Existing footpath
  - Proposed footpath extension works
  - Continuous footpath over road
  - Alternative road surface
  - Existing road treatment
  - Existing pedestrian crossing
  - Proposed raised pedestrian crossing
  - Improvement to street planting
  - Proposed 30km/h speed zone
- 1 Street planting improvements. Limited to tree pit locations and should not obstruct pedestrian and vehicle movement
  - 2 Raised intersection treatment
  - 3 Continuous footpath. Paving treatment extended to road for greater driver awareness of high pedestrian activity
  - 4 Future pedestrian link to Manarc Reserve. Potential extension of the alternative road surface treatment to signify high pedestrian activity
  - 5 Alternative road surface treatment to highlight high pedestrian activity and emphasize a shared cycle and vehicle movement corridor
  - 6 Alternative road surface treatment to create pedestrian priority routes to points of interest such as schools and open space
  - 7 Connection to proposed Oxford Street cycleway, refer cycling priority project 6
  - 8 Proposed 30km/h speed zone
  - 9 Extend alternative road surface treatment along Hall's Lane to Jersey Street to signify high pedestrian activity around Hall's Reserve

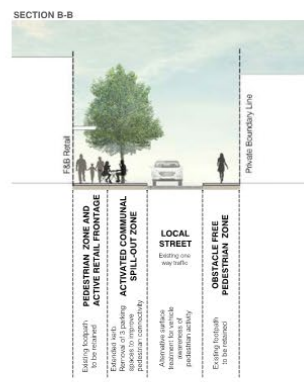
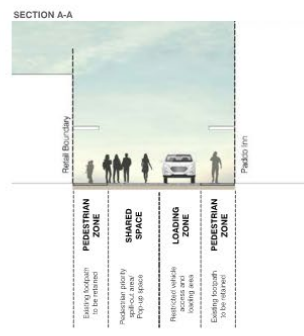


### Walking Priority Project 3: Paddington 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area and 10km/h Shared Zone

The character of the intimate streets of Paddington have established themselves as being largely vehicle dominant. The proposal aims to provide a pedestrian priority zone which encourages and enables people to walk more comfortably. This is achieved by highlighting pedestrian activity to vehicles through alternative road surface treatments and providing continuous footpaths over roads. A new 10km/h shared zone is included as part of the design along William Street between Oxford Street and Paddington Street. This space can be utilised as a programmed or spontaneous space for pop-up venues and community-focused programs. During pop-up events traffic flow will be managed so that William Street can be closed to vehicles in isolation between either Oxford Street and Victoria Street or Victoria Street and Underwood Street.



- LEGEND**
- Existing footpath
  - Proposed footpath extension works
  - Continuous footpath over road
  - Proposed removal of road island
  - Alternative road surface
  - Existing road treatment
  - Existing pedestrian crossing
  - Proposed raised pedestrian crossing
  - Improvement to street planting
  - Proposed 30km/h speed zone
  - Proposed 10km/h speed zone
- 1 Alternative surface treatment along William Street between Oxford Street and Paddington Street with proposed 10km/h Speed zone
  - 2 Flexibility to close portions of William Street between Oxford Street and Victoria Street or Victoria Street and Underwood Street at dedicated times to allow for community focused pop-up events. Traffic flow to be managed during special events
  - 3 Existing junction treatment to be retained
  - 4 Continuous footpath. Paving treatment extended to road for driver awareness of high pedestrian activity
  - 5 Extension of existing footpath to retail frontage, incurring loss of 3 parking spaces to have outdoor dining and promote street vibrancy
  - 6 Raised junction treatment to match William Street and Underwood Street intersection
  - 7 Potential extended street planting improvements
  - 8 Proposed 10km/h speed zone
  - 9 Proposed 30km/h speed zone

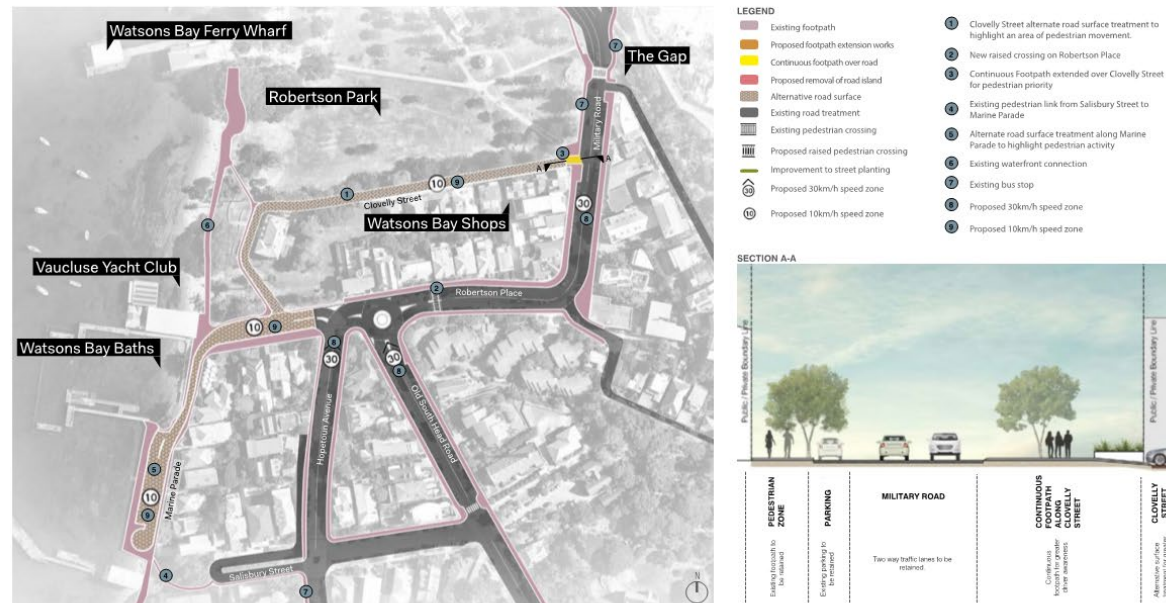


A4 Woollahra Active Transport Plan May 2022



### Walking Priority Project 4: Watsons Bay 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area and 10km/h Shared Zone

Watsons Bay is a key destination for Sydney harbourside activity. The main waterfront promenade has developed into a vibrant pedestrian access route from transport networks towards public open space and food and beverage outlets. Marine Parade and Clovelly Street have established themselves as a movement corridor from bus and ferry interchange areas towards public accessible points of interest. At present, pedestrians use the existing road to maintain a connection from Gibson Beach and Hopetoun Avenue transport network towards Roberston Park, the waterfront promenade and Military Road Cliff scenic area. This walking project offers the opportunity to create a pedestrian friendly environment by changing the fabric of the road surface to create awareness of shared pedestrian activity for motorists. In addition to this, a 30km/h speed limit has been proposed across the precinct, with a 10km/h speed limit across shared zones.



### Walking Priority Project 5: Schools Zone Design Improvements

Typical design treatment for School Zones across the municipality

The Woollahra Public School walking improvement project provides an example of how pedestrian priority design principles can be strategically implemented within school zones. Traffic calming and pedestrian safety measures have been proposed within Woollahra Public School vicinity to create greater driver awareness of high pedestrian activity. This approach provides best practice guidelines on how to deliver pedestrian safe streets for students.



#### SCHOOL ZONE DESIGN PRINCIPLES

##### Traffic Calming



Rumble Strips for speed reduction



Speed bump for speed reduction



Narrow road treatment



Chicanes road treatment

##### Pedestrian Priority



Raised pedestrian crossing



Continuous footpath



Alternative surface treatment



10km/h and 30km/h Speed Zones

#### LEGEND

- |                                   |                              |  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Existing footpath                 | Rumble Strips                | 1 Alternate road surface treatment to highlight school zone and high pedestrian activity |
| Proposed footpath extension works | Existing road treatment      | 2 Rumble strips shown as a speed reduction measure                                       |
| Continuous footpath over road     | Existing pedestrian crossing | 3 Continuous footpath for greater vehicle awareness of high pedestrian priority          |
| Alternative road surface 1        | Proposed raised crossing     | 4 Proposed 10km/h speed zone   |
| Alternative road surface 2        | Proposed 10km/h speed zone   | 5 Proposed 30km/h speed zone   |
| Alternative road surface 3        | Proposed 30km/h speed zone   |  |

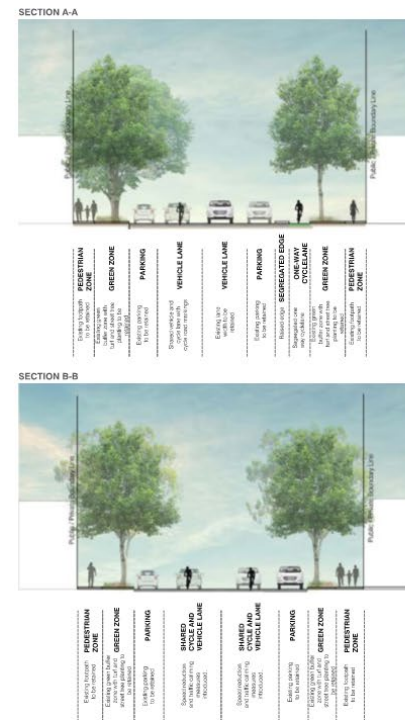
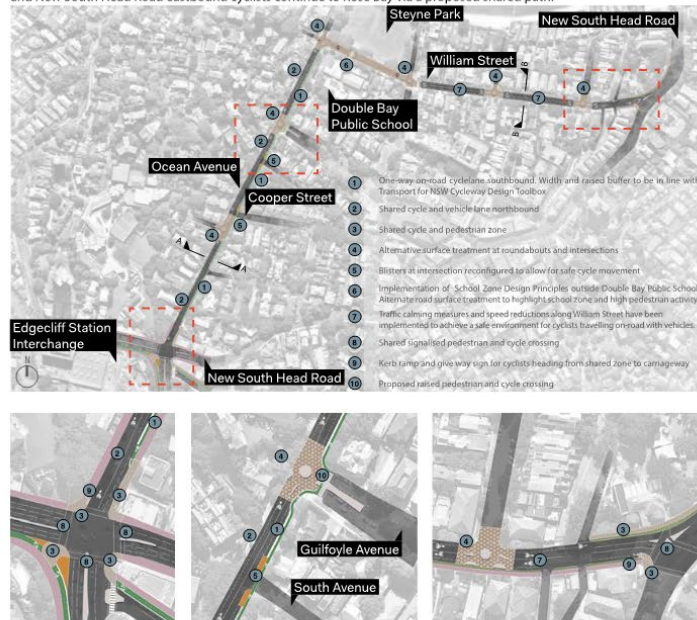
## Appendix B: Cycling Priority Projects





**Cycling Priority Project 1b: Edgecliff Station Interchange to Double Bay**

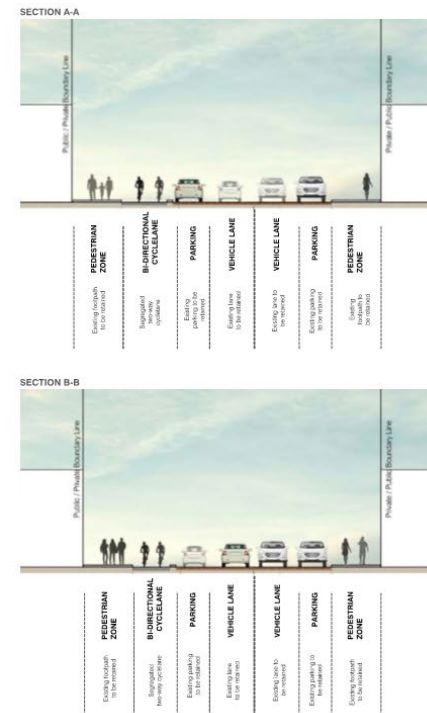
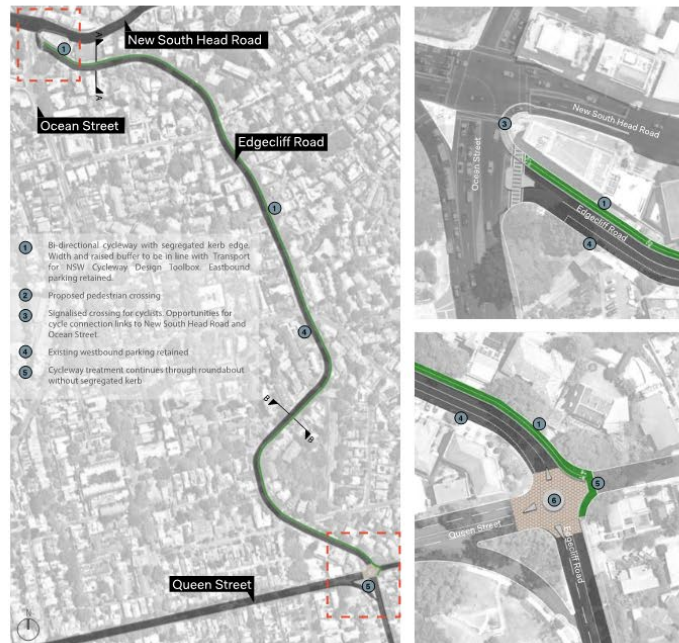
This cycling improvement scheme implements a cycle connection from Edgecliff Station Interchange to Double Bay via Ocean Avenue and William Street. This route was chosen due to the alignment constraints of New South Head Road which would have compromised the safety of cyclists and pedestrians. The scheme integrates a one-way on-road segregated cyclelane southbound on Ocean Avenue to assist with cycle movement uphill towards Edgecliff Station Interchange, and enhanced cycle markings to facilitate a northbound shared vehicle and cycle lane along Ocean Avenue. Along William Street, traffic calming measures and speed reductions have been implemented to achieve a safe environment for cyclists travelling on-road with vehicles in both directions from Ocean Avenue to New South Head Road. At the intersection of William Street and New South Head Road eastbound cyclists continue to Rose Bay via a proposed shared path.



WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL B3

### Cycling Priority Project 2: Edgecliff Road (Edgecliff to Queen Street)

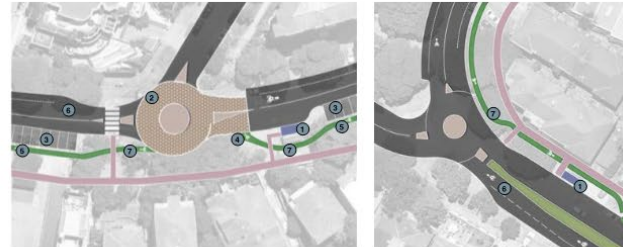
The cycle route along Edgecliff Road is focused on providing a cycle friendly environment while preserving the existing road infrastructure. A bi-directional segregated cycleway along the southbound carriageway has been designed to improve cycle accessibility and safety.



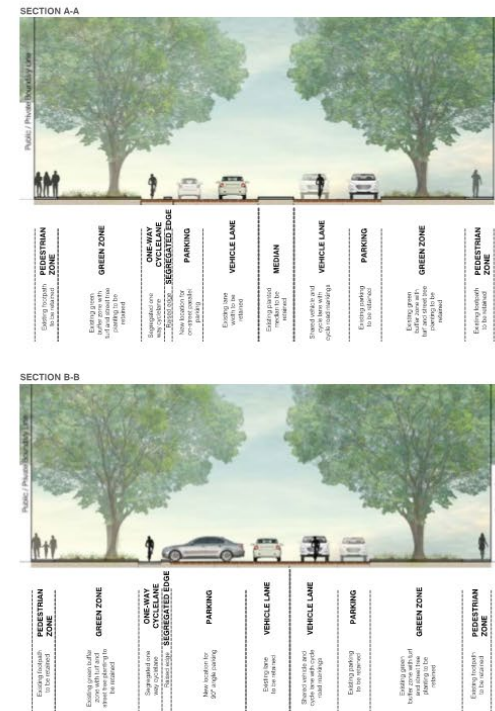


### Cycling Priority Project 3: Birriga Road

The Birriga Road cycle improvements scheme has adopted two different cycleway designs to ensure people who ride are safe and movement is not compromised for road users. The westbound cyclelane has been developed into a segregated cycleway in response to the uphill topography. This westbound cyclelane is located adjacent to the kerb, with existing parking shifted slightly outwards to make way for a cyclelane and raised buffer. The existing eastbound on-road cyclelane has been retained to make use of the downward sloping topography to retain existing parking.



- 1 Bus stop location
- 2 Alternative surface treatment for greater vehicle awareness of on-road cycle activity
- 3 90-degree angle parking
- 4 Cycle stop sign for vehicle and cyclist safety
- 5 One-way on-road cyclelane westbound. Width and raised buffer to be in line with Transport for NSW Cycleway Design Toolbox
- 6 On-road cycle and vehicle lane eastbound
- 7 Segment of off-road cyclelane westbound



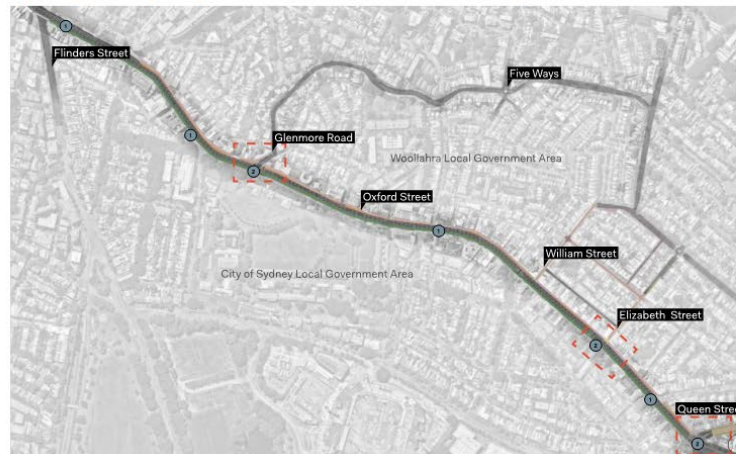
Cycling Priority Project 4: O'Sullivan Road

The O'Sullivan Road cycling project has embraced existing movement corridors as part of the cycle network. The scheme has integrated both off-road and on-road bi-directional cycleways, promoting accessibility and movement. The preferred alignment for the northern portion of O'Sullivan Road is to implement an on-road bi-directional cycleway from New South Head road to opposite Powell Road, where it transitions to an off-road cycleway. A secondary option implements an off-road cycleway along the boundary of Woollahra Golf Club, connecting to Lyne Park. From East's Rugby Club through to the intersection of O'Sullivan Road and Old South Head Road the existing carriageway has been used for an on-road segregated bi-directional cycleway.





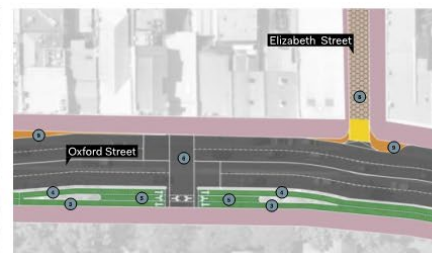
Cycling Priority Project 5: Oxford Street Junction Improvement Scheme



The cycling priority project for Oxford Street introduces a junction improvement scheme. It incorporates the bi-directional cycleway design proposed by the Transport for NSW, positioned to the south side of Oxford Street, and provides enhanced connectivity into the Woollahra Local Government Area. Three key intersections along Oxford Street have been identified for the improvement scheme: Glenmore Road and Elizabeth Street in Paddington as well as Queen Street in Woollahra.

The aim of the design is to provide cyclists with safe crossing points to depart the proposed Transport for NSW cycleway and connect back into the Woollahra Local Government Area, or to join the proposed cycleway. Each of the three signalised intersections incorporates a dedicated holding lane within the cycleway, providing cyclists with a safe area to stand and wait to cross. These crossing points connect into the retail areas of Paddington and Woollahra, as well as the wider cycling network of the Woollahra Local Government Area.

- 1 Proposed bi-directional cycleway along Oxford Street. Width and raised buffer to be in line with Transport for NSW Cycleway Design Toolbox
- 2 Junction improvement scheme connecting the Oxford Street cycleway back into the Woollahra Local Government Area and wider cycling network
- 3 Westbound cyclelane
- 4 Eastbound cyclelane
- 5 Holding lane for cyclists
- 6 Shared pedestrian and cycle crossing
- 7 Cycle-priority waiting area at signalised road intersection
- 8 Alternative surface treatment
- 9 Proposed footpath extension works to accommodate a shared environment



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## Appendix C: Council project pipeline

## Walking and cycling projects already in Council's pipeline

Alongside the Draft Active Transport Plan, we have been proceeding with several other projects which will enhance Woollahra's centres, improve accessibility, and prioritise safety. The following projects are at an advanced level of development.

### Paddington Greenway

The Paddington Greenway will provide a quiet and green walking / cycling connection between the harbour and Centennial Park. The link will improve accessibility to our green spaces such as Trumper Park and Trumper Oval for Woollahra residents as well providing as well linking to regional routes to the CBD and Bondi Beach.

### New South Head Road (Double Bay to Rose Bay) Cycleway Project

A new bi-directional cycle link in Rose Bay will provide people who ride with safe and quick connections to Double Bay without them needing

to mix with traffic along New South Head Road. The project also improves pedestrian safety by reducing collisions between bicycles and walkers.

### Edgecliff Public Domain Improvements

The project looks to enhance the character of New South Head Road as a green corridor and provide better connections to green spaces. Through new public domain installations such as street art and a new plaza, Edgecliff will cater for the needs of the residents and growth in commercial premises

### Knox Street Plaza

Council is creating a new pedestrianised public plaza between Bay Street and Goldman Lane. The new plaza will enhance the strong sense of place along Knox Street while maximising walkability and safety in the area.

### Reduce speeds limits in Double Bay centre

Reducing vehicle speeds is a key approach we are taking to improving walkability and safety in Double Bay. Introducing 40km/h High Pedestrian Areas will balance the need for vehicle movement while recognising the importance of pedestrians in the space.

### Draft Edgecliff Commercial Centre Public and Urban Design Strategy

The Strategy establishes a vision for the Edgecliff Commercial Centre (ECC) and provides recommendations on planning controls, urban design, public domain, and transport to guide future development in the ECC.

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C2 Woollahra Active Transport Plan May 2022

### **Draft Rose Bay Place Plan**

The Plan a guiding document that establishes a shared future vision for the enhancement and improvement of places and spaces in Rose Bay.

We will use the Place Plan to inform the design, delivery and implementation of projects, improvements and services that best respond to the local needs of Rose Bay businesses, residents, and visitors.

### **Plumer Road Pedestrianisation and Placemaking Project**

Given the importance of the Plumer Road retail area as a “place” in Rose Bay and the broader Woollahra Local Government Area, We will be upgrading streetscape and public domain design for the Plumer Road retail area.

The new design increases the number of parking spaces in the area, improves pedestrian accessibility

across Plumer Road and O’Sullivan Road, increases the footpath widths, proposes high quality footpath paving, encourages outdoor dining and street activation, and provides increased water sensitive urban design plantings and landscaping.

### **Improving Walking Infrastructure Around Schools**

The project is aimed at raising existing flush pedestrian crossings at schools across municipality.



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C4 Woollahra Active Transport Plan May 2022

## Appendix D: Indicative project costs

<b>Walking priority project</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
WPP 01 - Rose Bay Centre 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area	2,900,000
WPP 02 - Queen Street 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area	9,600,000
WPP 03 - Paddington 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area and 10km/h Shared Zone	3,100,000
WPP 04 - Watsons Bay 30km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area and 10km/h Shared Zone	3,400,000
WPP 05 - Schools Zone Design Improvements	3,800,000
Total	22,800,000

<b>Cycling priority project</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
CPP 01a - Rushcutters Bay to Edgecliff Station Interchange	2,900,000
CPP 01b - Edgecliff Station Interchange to Double Bay	5,000,000
CPP 02 - Edgecliff Road (Edgecliff to Queen Street)	1,200,000
CPP 03 - Birriga Road	2,600,000
CPP 04 - O'Sullivan Road	3,600,000
CPP 05 - Oxford Street Junction Improvement Scheme*	2,100,000
<small>* Opportunity for part of the cost of the Oxford Street Junction improvement scheme to be covered by TfNSW</small>	
Total	17,400,000

Note: These are high-level cost estimations as of late 2021 and should be regarded as indicative only. Project costs may change at detailed design phase

**D2 Woollahra Active Transport Plan** May 2022



Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

25 July 2022

**Item No:** R3 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **DRAFT WOOLLAHRA ACTIVE TRANSPORT PLAN**  
**Author:** Emilio Andari, Manager Engineering Services  
**Approver:** Tom O'Hanlon, Director - Infrastructure & Sustainability  
**File No:** 22/105951  
**Purpose of the Report:** To seek Council's endorsement to place the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan on public exhibition.  
**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 6.1: Facilitate an improved network of accessible and safe alternate transport options.

**Note:** Late correspondence was tabled by Helen Tola, Council's Manager Governance & Risk.

**Motion moved by Councillor Jarvis**  
**Seconded by Councillor Carmichael**

THAT Council:

- A. Endorse the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan 2022 for public exhibition for 28 days subject to reference to 30km/hr in the Walking Priority Projects being amended to read 40km/hr (but with one of the five Walking Priority Projects being trialled at 30km/hr).
- B. Note that a further report will be prepared for the Environmental Planning Committee following the close of the public exhibition period and assessment of submissions received has been undertaken.

**Amendment moved by Councillor Grieve**  
**Seconded by Councillor Elsing**

THAT Council:

- A. Endorse the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan 2022 for public exhibition for 28 days.
- B. Note that a further report will be prepared for the Environmental Planning Committee following the close of the public exhibition period and assessment of submissions received has been undertaken.

The Amendment was put and lost.

**Note:** *In accordance with section 375A of the Local Government Act a Division of votes is recorded on this planning matter.*

***For the Amendment***

Councillor Elsing  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Regan  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Silcocks

***Against the Amendment***

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Jarvis  
Councillor Shapiro  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Swan  
Councillor Witt  
Councillor Wynne  
Councillor Zeltzer

6/9



Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

25 July 2022

**Amendment moved by Councillor Swan  
Seconded by Councillor Witt**

THAT Council:

- A. Endorse the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan 2022 for public exhibition for 28 days subject to reference to 30km/hr in the Walking Priority Projects being amended to read 30km/hr and/or 40km/hr.
- B. Note that a further report will be prepared for the Environmental Planning Committee following the close of the public exhibition period and assessment of submissions received has been undertaken.

**The Amendment (Swan/Witt) was lost.**

*Note: In accordance with section 375A of the Local Government Act a Division of votes is recorded on this planning matter.*

**For the Amendment**

Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Silcocks  
Councillor Swan  
Councillor Witt

**Against the Amendment**

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Elsing  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Jarvis  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Regan  
Councillor Shapiro  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Wynne  
Councillor Zeltzer

**4/11**

**The Motion was put and lost.**

*Note: In accordance with section 375A of the Local Government Act a Division of votes is recorded on this planning matter.*

**For the Motion**

Councillor Carmichael  
Councillor Cavanagh  
Councillor Jarvis  
Councillor Shapiro  
Councillor Shields  
Councillor Wynne  
Councillor Zeltzer

**Against the Motion**

Councillor Elsing  
Councillor Grieve  
Councillor Price  
Councillor Regan  
Councillor Robertson  
Councillor Silcocks  
Councillor Swan  
Councillor Witt

**7/8**

**Note:** *The Amendments and Motions were lost. Therefore no decision has been made by Council in relation to this matter.*

**Item No:** 12.2  
**Subject:** **LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE 2022 - PROPOSED MOTIONS AND ATTENDANCE**  
**Author:** Helen Tola, Manager - Governance & Council Support  
**Approvers:** Sue Meekin, Director Corporate Performance  
Craig Swift-McNair, General Manager  
**File No:** 22/154035  
**Purpose of the Report:** To consider proposed motions and voting delegates for the upcoming 2022 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Conference being held between 23 and 25 October 2022.  
**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 11.1 Build an efficient organisation that places customers and the community at the heart of service delivery

**Recommendation:**

THAT Council:

- A. Give consideration to motions to be tabled at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) 2022 Annual Conference that relate to primary issues affecting the Woollahra Local Government Area and resolves that the following motions be submitted to LG NSW:
- *Insert motion title to be submitted*
  - *Insert motion title to be submitted*
  - *Insert motion title to be submitted.*
- B. Authorise the attendance of four (4) Councillors and the General Manager to the LGNSW 2022 Conference, being:
- *Councillor Peter Cavanagh*
  - *Councillor Luise Elsing*
  - *Councillor Harriet Price*
  - *Councillor Lucinda Regan.*
- C. Nominate four (4) Councillors as voting delegates for Motions before the LGNSW 2022 Conference, being:
- *Councillor Peter Cavanagh*
  - *Councillor Luise Elsing*
  - *Councillor Harriet Price*
  - *Councillor Lucinda Regan.*

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**Executive Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to present to Council for consideration potential motions to be tabled at the upcoming 2022 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference (the Conference) being held between 23 and 25 October 2022 and to select up to five (5) voting delegates for the Conference.

The LGNSW Conference provides an opportunity to share ideas, seek inspiration, and help determine our sector's policy directions for the coming year and is where Councillors from all across NSW come together to debate and discuss the key issues. Council-submitted motions accepted by LGNSW will be debated at the Conference and those resolved favourably will set out the LGNSW advocacy priorities for the year ahead.

Proposed motions should be strategic, affect members statewide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. Councils are encouraged to review the Actions Report from previous conferences and positions of LGNSW set out in the LGNSW Policy Platform prior to submitting motions.

**Discussion:**

The LGNSW annual Conference is the signature event of the year for all NSW Councils and provides a forum in which to debate important issues pertinent to our local communities. It also provides the opportunity to hear from State and Federal Government leaders, business representatives, community groups and academics.

Council at its meeting on the 25 July 2022 resolved:

*THAT Council:*

- A. *Give consideration to:*
  - i. *Motions to be tabled at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) 2022 Annual Conference that relate to primary issues affecting the Woollahra Local Government Area.*
  - ii. *The overall number of Councillors able to attend the LGNSW 2022 Annual Conference.*
  - iii. *Nominating the voting delegates for the LGNSW 2022 Annual Conference.*
- B. *In line with Part A), above, provide the Mayor and General Manager with any proposed motions for the LGNSW 2022 Annual Conference as well as Councillors self-nominations for attendance and or as voting delegates at the Conference, by close of business Friday 12 August 2022. This information will then be included in a report to the 22 August 2022 Council meeting for the consideration of Council.*

A copy of the above-mentioned report is provided as **Attachment 1**.

To allow for preparation of the Business Paper before the conference, LGNSW is requesting Council's submit motions by Monday, 29 August 2022. However, in line with the LGNSW rules, the latest date motions will be accepted for inclusion in Conference business paper is Monday, 25 September 2022 (i.e. 28 days prior to the Conference).

**Proposed Motions**

The Mayor and Councillors were invited to submit potential motions for consideration by Council in accordance with the above resolution and this report presents the motions as submitted by Councillors for consideration by Council. Below is a table summarising the short title of the proposed motion, the names of the Councillors proposing the motion and the proposed motion wording for consideration by Council.

It is important to note that the proposed motions and/or background information constitute the views of the identified Councillors. Consideration of each proposed motion is to take place at this meeting of Council, with the intention being for each Councillor who has put forward a motion, to be provided the opportunity to talk to their proposed motions for the consideration by Council. Here is a table that includes the proposed motions:

#	Proposed Motion	Proposed by Councillors	Proposed Motion wording
1	Climate change impacts and resilience	The Mayor, Councillor Wynne on behalf of the Eastern Suburbs Mayors of Woollahra, Randwick, Waverley & Bayside	<p>THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:</p> <p><i>“THAT LGNSW requests urgent access and availability of funding to assist councils to prepare and respond to extreme climate events and infrastructure damage, outside of Natural Disaster declarations, and that State Government agencies are held accountable to commitments to mitigate the impacts of climate-related disruptions on local communities across the state.”</i></p> <p><b>Note: Background information is presented as Attachment 2.</b></p>
2	Better Waste and Recycling Fund	The Mayor, Councillor Wynne on behalf of the Eastern Suburbs Mayors of Woollahra, Randwick, Waverley & Bayside	<p>THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:</p> <p><i>“THAT LGNSW requests the NSW Government to urgently reinstate the non-contestable waste and recycling grant program funding under the Better Waste and Recycling Fund, so that councils have secure funding for waste and recycling education programs to drive waste minimisation, cleaner waste streams and more efficient resource recovery”.</i></p> <p><b>Note: Background information is presented as Attachment 2.</b></p>
3	SEPP Seniors	Councillors Elsing, Price, Regan, Silcocks & Witt	<p>THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:</p> <p><i>“THAT Local Government NSW:</i></p> <p><i>(a) acknowledges concerns regarding the unilaterally changes made by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) without consultation and without advance notice to the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 (Housing SEPP) on 1 July 2022;</i></p> <p><i>(b) notes the significant amendments relating to seniors housing in the R2 low density residential zone and seniors housing in heritage conservation areas;</i></p> <p><i>(c) notes, in particular, the deletion of the requirement that seniors housing development in R2 low density residential zones be carried out by either the Land and Housing Corporation or operators under the Retirement Villages Act 1999 (which ensures that such development is fit for the intended social purpose if it is to override Council strategic planning);</i></p>

#	<u>Proposed Motion</u>	<u>Proposed by Councillors</u>	<u>Proposed Motion wording</u>
			<p>(d) <i>notes that many seniors housing developments in R2 low density residential zones and heritage conservation areas may result in built form outcomes that are inconsistent with the desired character of those zones in that they allow development of multi-storey luxury residential flat buildings in R2 low density residential zones that are not ordinarily permitted or planned for in those zones, without ensuring the desired social outcome of those developments actually being managed for seniors use and living;</i></p> <p><i>calls on the Premier of NSW and the Minister for Planning and Homes to immediately reinstate the requirement that any development of seniors housing in R2 low density residential zones under the Housing SEPP be permitted only if carried out by the Land and Housing Corporation or operators under the Retirement Villages Act 1999; and</i></p> <p>(f) <i>calls on the Premier of NSW and the Minister for Planning and Homes to permanently exclude Seniors Housing under the Housing SEPP from applying to heritage conservation areas in local municipalities”.</i></p>
4	Stormwater capture and recycling	Councillors Elsing, Price, Regan, Silcocks & Witt	<p>THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:</p> <p><i>“THAT Local Government NSW:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>acknowledges the need for Councils to become better managers of stormwater to ensure resilience in planning outcomes for local communities and better environmental outcomes for catchment areas and waterways; and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>establish an appropriate long term funding mechanism to assist Councils to implement large-scale stormwater channel naturalisation and stormwater harvesting projects to achieve better environmental outcomes for ever growing populations and communities”.</i></p>
5	Constitutional recognition of local government	Councillors Robertson & Zeltzer	<p>THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:</p> <p><i>“THAT LGNSW:</i></p> <p>1) <i>Notes that local Councils and Shires, as the level of government closest to people, are best placed to address and service the needs, as well as advance the values and aspirations of communities across NSW.</i></p> <p>2) <i>Reaffirms its commitment to recognising local government in the Commonwealth Constitution.</i></p>



#	Proposed Motion	Proposed by Councillors	Proposed Motion wording
			<p>3) <i>Notes concern that without recognition in the Commonwealth Constitution, local governments are:</i>            (i) <i>subject to state legislation and extinguishment by the government of the day;</i>            (ii) <i>ineligible to receive financial funding and support directly from the federal government.</i></p> <p>4) <i>Request the federal Albanese government commit to a referendum process to progress constitutional change to protect local governments, enable direct federal funding and acknowledge the critical role they play in Australia's democracy”.</i></p> <p><b>Note: Background information is presented as Attachment 2.</b></p>
6	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979	Councillor Witt	<p>THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:</p> <p><i>“THAT Local Government NSW calls on the NSW state government to:</i></p> <p>A. <i>To reintroduce the following Objects in the Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979 that were removed when the Act was amended in 2017:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>the provision of land for public purposes, and</i></li> <li>• <i>the provision and coordination of community services and facilities.</i></li> </ul> <p>B. <i>Prioritise the provision of public open space in the NSW planning system.</i></p> <p>C. <i>Develop and adopt a numerical ratio for the provision of public open space per head of population as a mandatory baseline for areas identified for higher density including greenfield development, industrial/commercial to residential rezonings and other urban renewal projects.</i></p> <p>D. <i>Ensure that the impact on existing public open spaces is assessed when residential areas are considered for density uplifts.</i></p> <p>E. <i>Establish a substantial and dedicated source of state government funding to assist local councils in the provision of new and enhanced public open spaces”.</i></p> <p><b>Note: Background information is presented as Attachment 2.</b></p>

### **Voting Delegate Entitlements**

LGNSW has confirmed that, as in previous years, Council will be entitled to five (5) voting delegates at the Conference.

Councillors were invited to express interest in attendance at the Conference by Friday 12 August 2022 and a summary of the Councillors who have expressed an interest in attending the Conference as voting delegates is provided below:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Voting Delegate</b>
Peter Cavanagh	✓
Luise Elsing	✓
Harriet Price	✓
Lucinda Regan	✓

As noted above, Council can send up to five voting delegates to the Conference, however only four Councillors have nominated to be voting delegates. Therefore, as per the recommendation included in this report, the above-mentioned four Councillors are being nominated as voting delegates for the Conference.

#### **Options:**

It is open for Council to consider whether it wishes to submit motions for consideration at this year's LGNSW Conference and to determine the Councillor voting delegates and attendees at the Conference, including non-voting delegates if more than five Councillors wish to attend.

#### **Community Engagement and / or Internal Consultation:**

There was no requirement for community engagement to be undertaken as part of this report.

#### **Policy Implications:**

There are no policy implications in relation to this report.

#### **Financial Implications:**

The minimum cost per attendee is \$2,008, which includes delegate registration fees and two nights' accommodation and some meals. Additional expenses such as travel costs, additional meals and additional workshops are not included in the above mentioned cost per attendee.

A budget allocation has been included in the current 2022-2023 budget for the purpose of enabling up to five (5) Councillors and the General Manager to attend the 2022 LGNSW Conference.

#### **Resourcing Implications:**

There are no resourcing implications in relation to this report.

#### **Conclusion:**

It is recommended the Council give consideration to draft motions outlined in this report and determines whether it would like to submit any of these motions for consideration at the 2022 LGNSW Conference and that Council authorise Councillor attendance and voting delegates for the upcoming Conference.

**Attachments**

1. Council Report 25 July 2022 (including Attachments)
2. Proposed Motions and background information

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting

25 July 2022

**Item No:** 12.1  
**Subject:** **LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE 2022**

**Author:** Helen Tola, Manager - Governance & Council Support  
**Approvers:** Sue Meekin, Director Corporate Performance  
Craig Swift-McNair, General Manager

**File No:** 22/140022

**Purpose of the Report:** To provide Council with the opportunity to nominate motions and voting delegates for the upcoming 2022 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Conference being held between 23 and 25 October 2022.

**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 11.2: Develop and maintain effective reporting systems that enable Council to measure and report on performance.

**Recommendation:**

THAT Council:

- A. Give consideration to motions to be tabled at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) 2022 Annual Conference that relate to primary issues affecting the Woollahra Local Government Area.
- B. Request Councillors provide the General Manager with any proposed motions for the LGNSW 2022 Conference by close of business Friday 12 August 2022, for the purpose of the proposed motions being included in a report to the 22 August 2022 Council meeting for the consideration of Council;
- C. Authorise the attendance of up to five (5) Councillors and the General Manager at the LGNSW 2022 Conference and
- D. Nominate five (5) Councillors as voting delegates for Motions before the LGNSW 2022 Conference.

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**Executive Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the opportunity to give consideration to any potential motions to be tabled at the upcoming 2022 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference (the Conference) being held between 23 and 25 October 2022 and to select the five (5) voting delegates for the Conference.

The LGNSW Conference provides an opportunity to share ideas, seek inspiration, and help determine our sector's policy directions for the coming year and is where Councillors from all across NSW come together to debate and discuss the key issues. Council-submitted motions will be debated at the Conference and those resolved favourably set out the LGNSW advocacy priorities for the year ahead.

Proposed motions should be strategic, affect members statewide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. Councils are encouraged to review the Actions Report from previous conferences and positions of LGNSW set out in the LGNSW Policy Platform prior to submitting motions.

Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting

25 July 2022

**Discussion:**

LGNSW Conferences are the pre-eminent policy making events for the local government sector in NSW.

At these Conferences, delegates vote on motions, which help determine the policies and priorities for LGNSW and the sector, as a whole. This is a key event for local government, where Councillors come together to share ideas and debate issues that shape the way the sector functions and is governed.

Motions will be included in the Business Paper for the Conference only where they:

1. Are consistent with the objects of LGNSW (see Rule 4 of the Association's rules),
2. Relate to or concern local government as a sector in NSW and/or across Australia,
3. Seek to establish or change policy positions of LGNSW and/or improve governance of the Association (noting that the LGNSW Board is responsible for decisions around resourcing any campaigns or operational activities, and any necessary resource allocations will be subject to the LGNSW budgetary process),
4. Have a lawful purpose (a motion does not have a lawful purpose if its implementation would require or encourage non-compliance with prevailing laws),
5. Are clearly worded and unambiguous in nature, and
6. Do not express preference for one or several members over one or several other members.

Before submitting motions for this year's Conference, Councillors are encouraged to review the Action Reports from previous Conferences and the LGNSW Policy Platform to ensure the proposed Motion wording reflects any recent developments and does not duplicate existing positions.

The Actions Report is provided as **Attachment 1** and the LGNSW Policy Platform is provided as **Attachment 2**.

These resources have been prepared by LGNSW to assist with the drafting of motions. Further, the 2022 Motions Submission Guide is provided as **Attachment 3** for information of Councillors.

To allow for preparation of the Business Paper before the conference, LGNSW is requesting Council's submit motions by **Monday, 29 August 2022**. However, in line with the LGNSW rules, the latest date motions will be accepted for inclusion in Conference business paper is Monday, 25 September 2022 (i.e. 28 days prior to the Conference).

If a Councillor is interested in putting forward a motion or motions to the LGNSW 2022 Conference, then those motions first need to be endorsed by Council, so that the motion is considered a Woollahra Council-endorsed motion being put forward to the Conference, rather than just an individual Councillors views on a specific matter.

If Councillors wish to put forward a proposed motion or motions to the LGNSW Conference, then they are asked to provide their draft motions to the General Manager by close of business Friday 12 August 2022, for inclusion in a General Managers & Officers report to be tabled at the 22 August 2022 Council meeting for collective consideration by full Council. Those proposed LGNSW motions supported by Council via resolution will then be forwarded to LGNSW by the due date of 29 August 2022 for inclusion in the Conference business papers.



Woollahra Municipal Council  
Ordinary Council Meeting

25 July 2022

**Options:**

It is open for Council to consider whether it wishes to submit motions for consideration at this year's LGNSW Conference.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil.

**Financial Implications:**

A budget allocation has been included in the current 2022-2023 operational budget for the purpose of enabling up to five (5) Councillors and the General Manager to attend the 2022 LGNSW Conference.

**Resourcing Implications:**

As noted earlier in this report, a Council report including proposed motions by Councillors to be put forward to the LGNSW Conference will be included in the 22 August 2022 Council meeting and this report will be prepared by Council staff.

**Conclusion:**

For Council to participate more fully in the LGNSW Conference, it is recommended the Council give consideration to the primary issues affecting the Woollahra Local Government Area and give consideration to submitting motions for consideration at the 2022 Conference.

It is further recommended that Council authorise Councillor attendance at the Annual Conference and nominate five (5) voting delegates.

**Attachments**

1. LG NSW 2022 Motions Submissions Guide
2. LG NSW Policy Framework
3. LG NSW Action Report - As at 18 July 2022



## LGNSW 2022 Annual Conference Motion Submission Guide

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW**  
GPO BOX 7003 SYDNEY NSW 2001  
L8, 28 MARGARET ST SYDNEY NSW 2000  
T 02 9242 4000 F 02 9242 4111  
**LGNSW.ORG.AU** LGNSW@LGNSW.ORG.AU  
ABN 49 853 913 882

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## Motions Submission Guide

### 1. Introduction

Each year, member councils across NSW submit a range of motions to the Annual Conference conducted by Local Government NSW (LGNSW). These motions relate to strategic local government issues which affect members state-wide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. They are debated and resolved by Conference delegates, with successful resolutions guiding LGNSW's advocacy priorities for the year ahead.

All LGNSW member councils are invited to submit motions to the Annual Conference, with the following Guide outlining the motion development and submission process.

### 2. Deadlines

Members are encouraged to submit motions [online](#) as early as possible to allow assessment of the motions and distribution of the Business Paper before the Conference. Under LGNSW Rules, the latest date motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Business Paper is **12 midnight (AEDT) on Monday 25 September 2022** (28 days prior to Conference).

### 3. Criteria for motion submission

The LGNSW Board has resolved that motions will be included in the Business Paper for the Conference only where they:

1. are consistent with the objects of LGNSW (see Rule 4 of the Association's [rules](#)),
2. relate to or concern local government as a sector in NSW and/or across Australia,
3. seek to establish or change policy positions of LGNSW and/or improve governance of the Association (noting that the LGNSW Board is responsible for decisions around resourcing any campaigns or operational activities, and any necessary resource allocations will be subject to the LGNSW budgetary process),
4. have a lawful purpose (a motion does not have a lawful purpose if its implementation would require or encourage non-compliance with prevailing laws),
5. are clearly worded and unambiguous in nature, and
6. do not express preference for one or several members over one or several other members.

Before submitting motions for this year's Annual Conference, council members are encouraged to review [Action Reports](#) (on the member only pages of the LGNSW website) from previous Conferences and the [LGNSW Policy Platform](#) to ensure the proposed motion wording reflects any recent developments and does not duplicate existing policy positions.

### 4. How to write a motion

Motions adopted at Conferences inform LGNSW's advocacy actions on behalf of the local government sector. LGNSW includes the exact wording of motions when writing to ministers, departments and agencies post-conference, so it is important that the wording of motions clearly outlines your council's policy intent or objective.

The format of motions, as much as possible, should call on a specific body (e.g. LGNSW, state government, federal government, a specific department or minister) and have a specific outcome that the motion is aiming to achieve. The wording should be unambiguous.

*Examples of clearly-worded Annual Conference motions:*

**Local government representation on National Cabinet**

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Australian Government for permanent local government representation on the National Cabinet.

**Natural Disaster Funding, Day Labour**

That LGNSW requests the Australian and NSW governments reinstate the claimable expense for the use of council staff during their normal working hours to attend to natural disaster relief and recovery funded works and reverse the present policy that effectively requires the mandatory use of contractors for recovery works.

**Companion Animal Act matters**

That LGNSW advocates that the NSW Government takes the following steps to improve the management of companion animals:

- establish an integrated on-line statewide registration process as an improved service to companion animal owners;
- resolve difficulties with the *Companion Animals Act 1998* definition of an "Authorised Officer", by using the definition contained in the *Impounding Act 1993* as the definition in both Acts, allowing councils choice in the business model for its area; and
- review the dismissal of charges under section 10 of the *Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999* in relation to offences under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

For more examples see Business Papers from past Conferences on the [LGNSW website](#).

## 5. Demonstrating evidence of council support for motion

The member submitting the motion must provide accompanying evidence of support for the motion. Such evidence takes the form of an attachment note or extract from the minutes of the council meeting, at which the member council resolved to submit the motion for consideration by the Conference. In the absence of a council meeting, the evidence should be a letter signed by both the Mayor and General Manager.

## 6. How to submit a motion

LGNSW members are invited to submit motions through an [online portal](#) from **4 July 2022**.

[Attachment B](#) provides detailed instructions on how to submit motions via the online portal.

## 7. How LGNSW manages incoming motions

The LGNSW Board has established a committee and delegated the function of managing incoming motions for the Conference to this committee. The Chief Executive will refer motions to the committee and the committee will assess whether the motion meets or doesn't meet the criteria, or if it is unclear whether it meets the criteria. This assessment forms the final decision on which motions are included in the Conference Business Paper.

Prior to the committee making a final decision, LGNSW may contact the council that submitted the motion to seek clarity on its intent or wording.

Incoming motions which seek to change any long-held [Fundamental Principles](#) (Part A of the Policy Platform), will be highlighted in the Business Paper for members' information at time of voting.

Motions which are consistent with existing LGNSW positions or current LGNSW actions, or that are operational and can be actioned without a Conference resolution, may still be printed in the Business Paper but will not be debated at the Conference.



## 8. What happens to motions at the LGNSW Annual Conference

Standing orders are outlined at the front of the Business Paper and adopted at the commencement of each Conference. They outline the manner in which the Conference deals with motions. The standing orders adopted at the Special Conference can be found on our [website](#).

During debate on motions at Conference, the standing orders generally permit councillor delegates to speak in support of or against each motion. Following a vote on a motion, the motion is either carried and becomes a resolution of the Conference, or it is defeated.

## 9. Post-conference: Updates to the LGNSW Policy Platform

LGNSW's [Policy Platform](#) consolidates the voices of councils across NSW, reflecting the collective positions of local government on issues of importance to the sector. Importantly, the Policy Platform guides LGNSW in its advocacy on behalf of the local government sector.

The Policy Platform consists of two parts: LGNSW's Fundamental Principles, and the more targeted Position Statements.

- **Fundamental Principles** are the enduring and overarching principles that direct LGNSW's response to broad matters of importance to the local government sector. These Fundamental Principles are endorsed (or amended) by LGNSW members at Annual Conferences.
- **Position Statements** contain LGNSW's more detailed positions on specific issues and guide LGNSW's work on, and response to, policy issues of the day. Position Statements are subordinate to LGNSW's Fundamental Principles but are more agile and are targeted at specific policy issues as they arise.

### ***Changing Fundamental Principles***

Where a motion conflicts or may conflict with a Fundamental Principle, this will be clearly highlighted for delegates in the Conference Business Paper. If the motion is adopted as a resolution at Conference, then the relevant Fundamental Principle will be changed.

It is expected that changes to the Fundamental Principles will be uncommon, given their broad focus and general acceptance among the local government sector.

### ***Changing Position Statements***

Following each Conference, LGNSW will review resolutions of that Conference to determine whether the intent of each resolution is adequately covered by existing Position Statements. Where the Position Statements do not adequately include the intent of a resolution, LGNSW will update an existing Position Statement or draft a new Position Statement, to be endorsed by the LGNSW Board as part of the LGNSW Policy Platform.

LGNSW members will be informed of updates to the LGNSW Policy Platform.

## 10. Post-conference: Determining LGNSW Advocacy Priorities

Following the LGNSW Annual Conference, LGNSW will review the resolutions and identify key areas of focus to guide LGNSW's advocacy for the coming year. These areas of focus are also informed by member feedback, the LGNSW strategic plan, position statements, emerging issues, and Board input.

LGNSW's Advocacy Priorities for the following year are then submitted for endorsement by the LGNSW Board, and communication to members via email.

As LGNSW undertakes advocacy actions on each of the Conference resolutions throughout the year, these actions and their outcomes will be published in LGNSW's Action Report. ([Past Action reports](#) are available on the member only pages of the LGNSW website).

**11. Further information**

For further information on the motion submission process, please contact Elle Brunson, Policy Officer at [elle.brunson@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:elle.brunson@lgnsw.org.au).

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How do I know if my proposed motion is consistent with existing LGNSW policy positions?**

The subject matter expert within council is best placed to identify this (for example, if the motion relates to a planning matter, this question should be answered by the Planning Manager). Subject matter experts are encouraged to review LGNSW's [Policy Platform](#) to gain an understanding of LGNSW's position on a particular matter to help identify whether your proposed motion is consistent.

### **What is the deadline for submitting motions?**

Members are encouraged to submit motions [online](#) as soon as possible to allow assessment of the motions and distribution of the Business Paper before the Conference. However, in line with the LGNSW Rules, the latest date motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Conference Business Paper is **12 midnight AEST on Sunday 25 September 2022** (28 days prior to Conference).

LGNSW can receive more than 300 motions for an Annual Conference. Submitting motions as early as possible helps LGNSW to manage the large volume of motions received within a short period of time and allows LGNSW to seek clarification on any motions if required.

However, the LGNSW Rules allow councils to submit motions with less than 28 days' notice and the LGNSW Board may allow these to be considered at Conference as a **late item** (but not included in the Business Paper).

### **I'm unsure which motion category or sub-category I should select in the online portal**

If you are unsure, just select the category you think best fits. LGNSW can re-categorise the motion if necessary.

### **Who should be the council contact for motions?**

We recommend the council contact is someone who is available during the months that motions are open, and able to respond promptly to communications between your council and LGNSW. Some councils have identified the General Manager and others have identified the Governance Officer – it is a decision for each council.

### **How can I amend my council's motion that I've already submitted?**

Once a motion has been submitted it cannot be edited without contacting LGNSW so please review the content carefully before submission. If you need to edit a submitted motion, please contact Elle Brunson, Policy Officer at [elle.brunson@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:elle.brunson@lgnsw.org.au). You may need to provide evidence of support for the change (see section 5).

## Attachment A – Step by Step guide to lodge a motion

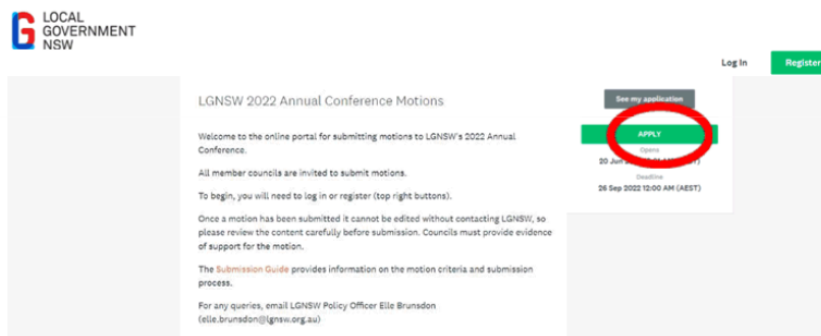
This section provides step-by-step instructions to assist council staff in lodging a motion via Survey Monkey Apply.

- Member councils are invited to submit motions for the LGNSW Annual Conference via [Survey Monkey Apply](#).
- Under LGNSW Rules, the latest date motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Business Paper is **12 midnight (AEDT) on Monday 25 September 2022** (28 days prior to Conference).
- Once a motion has been submitted it cannot be edited without contacting LGNSW, so please review the content carefully before submission.

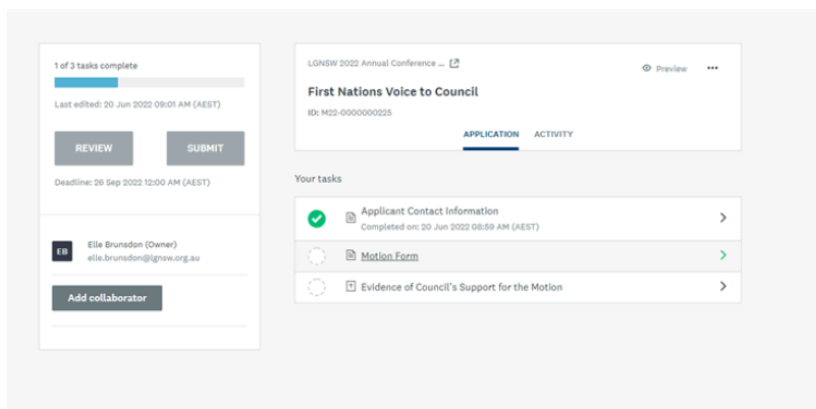
For further assistance contact Elle Brunson, Policy Officer at [elle.brunson@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:elle.brunson@lgnsw.org.au).

**Step 1:** Log into [LGNSW's online portal](#) and click **APPLY**.

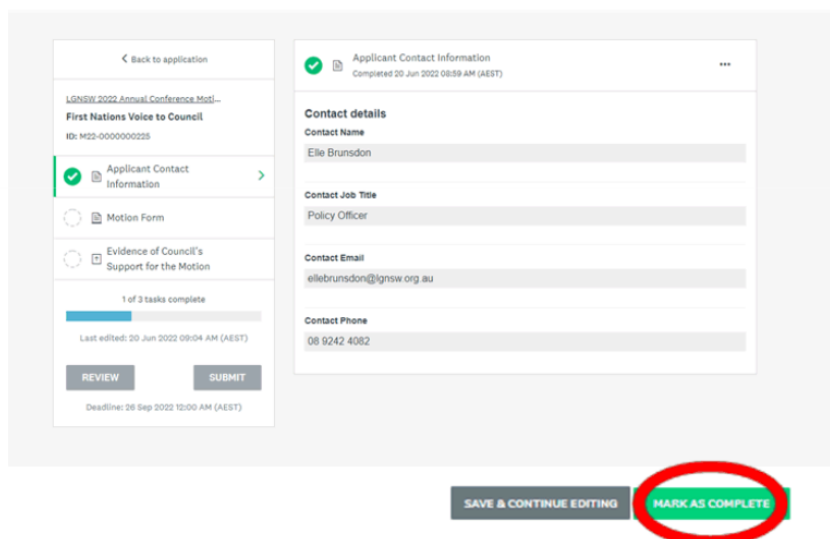
*Note: you will need to register for Survey Monkey Apply if you are logging in for the first time.*



**Step 2:** Add your motion title (a few words). You will then be taken to the landing page which will show three tasks to complete.



Step 3: Click on 'Applicant Contact Information' to add the contact information. This could be the relevant officer within council or someone who can respond to questions promptly. Click **MARK AS COMPLETE** once finished.



Step 4: Click 'Motion Form' to add the motion details.

**Motion category and sub-category** assists with assigning motions to the relevant policy staff and grouping related motions in the Conference Business Paper.

**Motion wording** should include a sentence or two which includes the call to action.

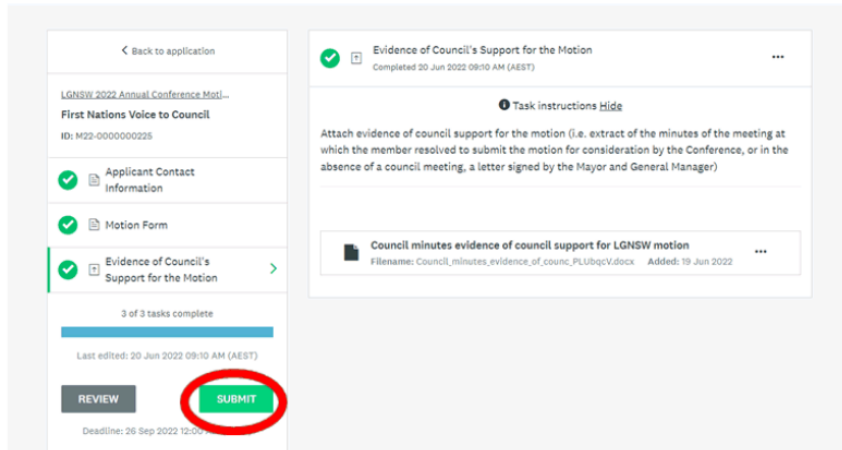
**Background note** should provide a paragraph or two to explain the context and importance of the issue to the local government sector.

Click **MARK AS COMPLETE** once finished.

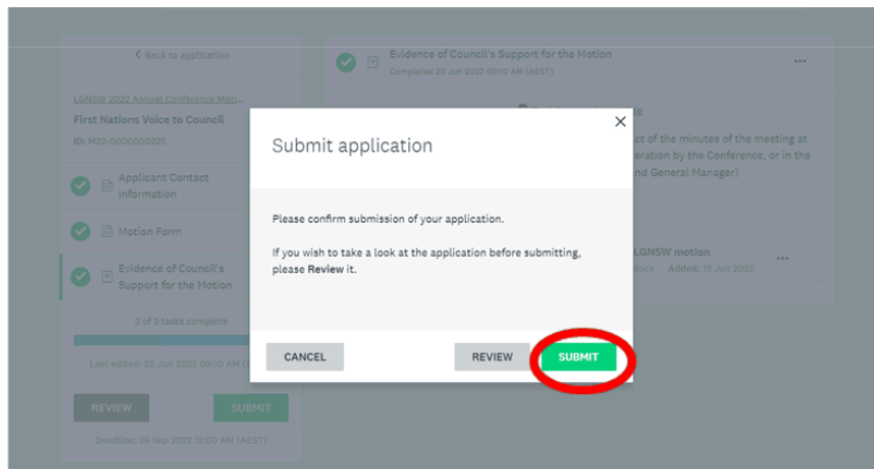


Step 5: Click 'Evidence of Council's Support for the Motion' and attach the relevant file. This could be an extract of council meeting minutes. Click **MARK AS COMPLETE** once finished.

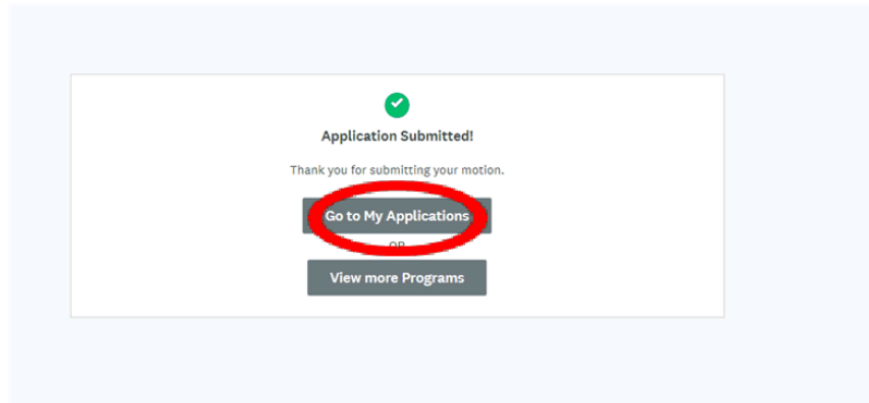
Step 6: Once you have completed all tasks (a green tick is displayed next to each task), click **SUBMIT**.



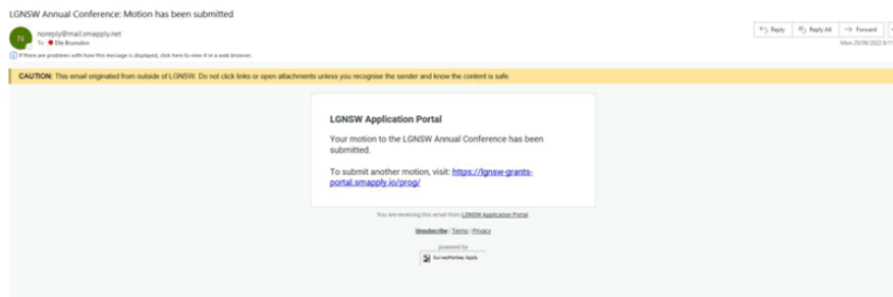
Step 7: You will be asked to confirm submission of the motion. There is an option to review the motion before submitting. When you are ready, click **SUBMIT**.



**Step 8:** If you are submitting multiple motions, click 'Go to My Applications'. This will take you to a landing page to submit more motions. It will also show all the motions you have submitted.



**Step 9:** An automated confirmation email will be sent to the email address listed in the 'Applicant Contact Information' section.







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## INTRODUCTION

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is the peak body for local government in NSW, representing general purpose councils and related entities.

LGNSW aims to strengthen and protect an effective, democratic system of local government across NSW by supporting and advocating on behalf of member councils, including actively and persuasively representing the views of local government to the NSW and Australian governments.

The LGNSW Policy Platform consolidates the voices of councils across NSW, reflecting the collective positions of local government on issues of importance and guiding LGNSW in its advocacy on behalf of the local government sector.

### THE POLICY PLATFORM COMPRISES TWO PARTS:



**Part 1: Fundamental Principles** are the enduring and overarching principles that direct LGNSW's response to broad matters of importance to the local government sector.

**Part 2: Position Statements** contain LGNSW's more detailed positions on specific issues and guide LGNSW's work on, and response to, policy issues of the day.

Position Statements are subordinate to LGNSW's Fundamental Principles but are more agile and targeted at specific policy issues as they arise.

## ROLE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE & LGNSW

**THE LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE** is the supreme policy-making body of LGNSW and an opportunity for councillors to come together to share ideas and debate issues that shape the way LGNSW is governed.

**MEMBERS** may put forward motions for consideration of the Annual Conference.<sup>1</sup> Where a majority of voting delegates at the Annual Conference vote in support of the motion, it is adopted as a resolution of LGNSW<sup>2</sup>.

**AFTER EACH CONFERENCE** LGNSW reviews resolutions and amends the Fundamental Principles and Position Statements as required. Conference resolutions rarely change the sector's views on high-level Fundamental Principles. Position Statements require refinements more regularly to reflect the sector's views on new or developing issues.

**THE LGNSW BOARD** comprises councillors from member councils across NSW, who are elected to the LGNSW Board biennially at the Annual Conference.

The Board controls and governs LGNSW in between Annual Conferences and when decisions are required on policy positions for the local government sector (such as if there is no existing policy position on an issue that LGNSW must comment on), the Board and President can make that decision for the sector.

<sup>1</sup> Further information on this process is available in the LGNSW Conference Motions Submission Guide [available online](#) in the lead up to each LGNSW Annual Conference at

<sup>2</sup> Further information on past Conference resolutions is [available online](#).





**ECONOMIC**

**A** Local government must have control of its revenue raising and investment decisions and be fairly funded by the Commonwealth and State/NSW Governments to meet its infrastructure and service responsibilities.

**B** Local government promotes local and regional economic development and employment growth.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

**C** Local government is best placed to plan for, deliver and manage essential local infrastructure.

**PLANNING**

**D** Local government is best placed to lead and influence local and regional planning processes according to the needs and expectations of local communities

**E** Our communities' quality of life is a priority of local government planning.

**ENVIRONMENT**

**F** Local government actions reflect Ecologically Sustainable Development. ESD requires the effective integration of economic, environmental and social considerations in decision making processes and is based on the following principles:

- Intergenerational equity – today's actions maintain or enhance the environment for future generations
- Precautionary principle – prevent environmental degradation and manage and mitigate risk
- Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity
- Improved valuation and pricing of environmental resources – recognising the value of the environment to the community.
- Commit to the principles of the circular economy and minimise the consumption of finite natural resources.

**SOCIAL & COMMUNITY**

**G** Local government is committed to the principles of:

- Equity – fair distribution of resources
- Rights – equality for all people
- Access – to services essential to quality of life
- Participation – of all people in their community
- Recognition – of the unique place of Aboriginal people in NSW and the right of Aboriginal people to be involved in all decisions affecting Aboriginal communities.
- Health and safety – for all in the community.

**GOVERNANCE**

**H** Local government must be constitutionally recognised and respected as an equal sphere of government

**I** Local government is democratically elected to shape, serve and support communities.

**J** Local government is committed to the principles of good governance.

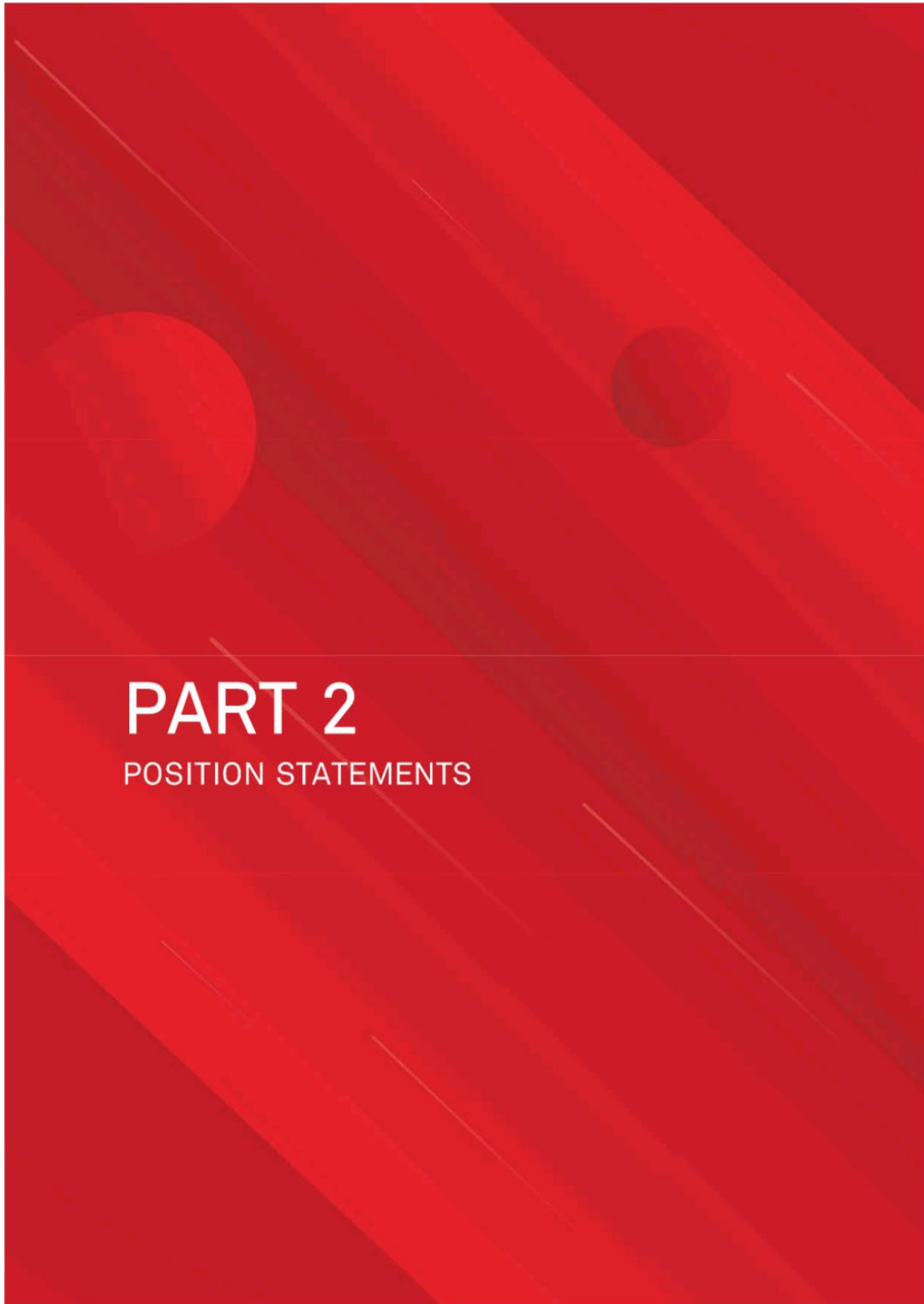
**ACCOUNTABILITY**

**K** Local government is responsible and accountable to the citizens and the communities it represents, through consultative processes, legislative accountabilities, efficient delivery of services and effective customer service.

**L** Local government is recognised as a responsible and place-based employer.

**M** Local government reduces and mitigates the risk of climate change for the communities we serve.

**Date Endorsed:** March 2022 by I.GNSW Conference







## 1. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Local government is a partner in the economic stewardship of NSW and responsible for the provision of a wide range of essential infrastructure and services.

However, the financial sustainability of councils has been undermined by rate pegging for over 40 years, which has resulted in the under-provision of community infrastructure and services and the deferral of infrastructure maintenance and renewal expenditure resulting in significant infrastructure backlog.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 1.1 The removal of rate pegging and reform of the NSW local government rating system, including the removal of inequitable rate exemptions and greater autonomy and flexibility in rating policy, structure and practices.
- 1.2 Greater autonomy in determining fees and charges.
- 1.3 Financial Assistance Grants to be increased to at least 1% of total Commonwealth taxation revenue.
- 1.4 Federal Government to increase Financial Assistance Grants funding to 1% of Commonwealth tax revenue, prior to any changes to the formula.
- 1.5 Increased specific purpose grants from State and Commonwealth Governments to assist councils in meeting the infrastructure and service needs of their communities (e.g., Roads to Recovery, library grants).
- 1.6 An end to cost shifting onto local government by the State and Commonwealth Governments.
- 1.7 New and fairer financing opportunities for local government which:
  - Ensure that councils' capacity to provide infrastructure and services for their communities is not diminished.
  - Enable infrastructure funding through value capture, Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAs) and other funding mechanisms.
  - Enable proper and full cost recovery of fees and charges to ensure councils can fulfil their statutory responsibilities (for planning and development assessment and compliance).
- 1.8 Permanent recurrent funding for Joint Organisations (JOs) to support their viability and effectiveness.
- 1.9 The introduction of a broad-based property levy to replace both the Emergency Services Levy on insurance policies and the 11.7% Emergency Services Levy on local government.
- 1.10 A more flexible procurement framework to enable councils to benefit from innovative procurement practices.
- 1.11 Inclusion of climate change considerations in approved terms of reference for investigations and reviews by Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal.





## 2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councils have an active role in encouraging investment, place management and activation, and supporting businesses of all sizes. Whether the local economy is based on agriculture, mining, finance, manufacturing, tourism, hospitality, retail, education, forestry, fishing or other offerings, councils play a major role in creating the conditions for appealing and sustainable communities and local economies.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for the NSW Government and Australian Government to:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>2.1 Identify opportunities to support rural and regional growth and reduce pressures in Sydney.</p> <p>2.2 Work with councils to establish and implement more Local Activation Precincts (LAPs), including those on a smaller scale, based on an LGA's endowments to attract major employers, drive local economies and create a diverse range of local jobs.</p> <p>2.3 Reduce unnecessary regulatory complexity affecting local economies to support events, cultural and business uses.</p> <p>2.4 Commitment to sustainable procurement to drive quadruple bottom line outcomes across local government functions and services including improved efficiency, reduced waste to landfill, financial savings, stimulating markets for innovative and more sustainable products and services, social responsibility, supporting local communities and businesses and helping to achieve long term environmental and social objectives.</p> <p>2.5 Implement, in consultation with councils, an Agricultural Enterprise Credit Scheme and/ or a Farm Management Deposit Scheme for businesses that rely on the agriculture sector for much of their revenue, to enhance economic sustainability of communities.</p> <p>2.6 Support the development of Night time economies through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a state-wide Night Time Economy Strategy, alongside toolkits, resources and grants for councils and safe public transport options at night.</li> <li>• Consultation with the NSW Night Time Economy Councils' Committee, LGNSW and councils.</li> </ul> <p>2.7 Invest in accessible, sustainable and low impact tourism experiences through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborating with councils on state - local destination plan development and collective marketing.</li> <li>• Broadening tourism funding eligibility for councils which do not benefit from</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the high levels of tourism facilities. Establishing regional roadshows and touring schedules.</li> </ul> <p>2.8 Adequately regulate tourist and short-term accommodation and its impacts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retaining NSW Government (rather than industry) oversight of the property register for Short Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) and requiring STRA participants to pay a fee to cover the costs of regulation and compliance.</li> <li>• Instituting a booking tax for online accommodation brokers using residential zoned and rated land, with funds raised to be distributed to councils to fund public infrastructure to support tourism.</li> <li>• Allowing councils to apply business rates to serviced apartments that provide tourist accommodation on a commercial basis.</li> </ul> <p>2.9 Increase the availability of slots for regional air services into Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport and investigate with councils' improvements to transport routes around the airport.</p> <p>2.10 To support the goals of the '2030 Roadmap: Australian Agriculture's Plan for a \$100 billion industry' but make a principle-based commitment to ensure the plan is realistic.</p> <p>2.11 Optimise water use and support existing regional and rural communities and industries by maintaining and promoting agricultural diversity.</p> <p>2.12 Work with councils, industry, and mines to support the diversification of coal-reliant economies by investigating legislative and procedural change that will better facilitate adaptive reuse of former and current mining lands, following decontamination and rehabilitation.</p> <p>2.13 Seek urgent review of mine subsidence legislation to better protect and assist landowners affected by mining and mine subsidence.</p> |
|--|--|



### 3. ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Local government owns and manages \$160 billion in infrastructure assets including local roads, bridges, pedestrian and cycle networks, local water and sewerage utilities, stormwater and water management, buildings and facilities, regional airports and aerodromes, parks, recreation, cultural, family and community services facilities, and a range of other infrastructure vital to local communities and is best placed to plan for and deliver this essential local infrastructure.

Local government also plays a key role in identifying and advocating for the provision of State Government infrastructure to meet the needs of their communities (e.g., schools, hospitals, state roads). State and Commonwealth Government growth plans and projects needs to make up front provision for the delivery of associated local infrastructure.

#### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

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| 3.1 | Effective coordination of State and Commonwealth funding programs where co-contribution is required.   | 3.7  | The review of the State Government's decision to allow deferral of local contributions payments.  |
| 3.2 | State and Commonwealth Government growth plans and projects must make upfront provision for and include the delivery of associated local infrastructure.   | 3.8  | Equitable infrastructure funding, so that Commonwealth and State assistance is directed to areas of greatest need.  |
| 3.3 | Increased opportunity for community use of state and federal facilities.   | 3.9  | Amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights Act to streamline council acquisition of land held by Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) for infrastructure, but only where the LALC approves the acquisition. |
| 3.4 | Increased infrastructure funding to local government through Commonwealth and State Government revenue sharing and grant programs (e.g., Roads to Recovery, NSW block grants for regional roads, local water utilities, street lighting, library grants, waste and resource recovery). | 3.10 | The elimination of monopolistic practices by utility network operators (electricity, telecommunications, water and gas) that impose unjustified costs on councils and communities.                          |
| 3.5 | The importance of infrastructure funding mechanisms such as Development Contributions and Voluntary Planning Agreements and the creation of other mechanisms for efficient and equitable value capture.  | 3.11 | Fairer funding of infrastructure provided through long established partnerships between the Federal, NSW and local governments for shared infrastructure and service responsibilities.                      |
| 3.6 | The removal of the cap on development contributions.   |      |   |



#### 4. RURAL & REGIONAL COMMUNITIES

Delivering the infrastructure and services needs of rural and regional communities is an ongoing challenge for local government. Small, widely dispersed and sometimes remote communities can struggle to reconcile high delivery costs with a small own source revenue base and face a range of economic, demographic and environmental challenges, such as structural change, ageing populations, skills shortages, population decline and water insecurity that undermine long term sustainability.

The abrogation of responsibility for service delivery by State and Commonwealth Governments has added to these challenges and councils often have no choice other than to take on additional responsibilities (examples include support for medical services and aged care).

##### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

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|---|---|
| 4.1 An audit of service delivery and funding flows into rural and regional NSW by State and Commonwealth agencies.  | 4.6 Incentives and measures to increase domestic and international migration to inland rural and regional communities, including for experienced and qualified staff. |
| 4.2 State and Commonwealth Government accept that rural councils will never be able to fund the basic standard of infrastructure and public services to which all Australians are entitled from own source revenue.   | 4.7 Action to address difficulties meeting Continuing Professional Development requirements for professionals working in rural and remote NSW                         |
| 4.3 Recognition of the higher costs of infrastructure and service delivery faced by rural communities due to inherent and unavoidable economies of scale.   | 4.8 Increased funding for rural communities, including a strengthening of needs-based funding in the distribution of grants to local government.                      |
| 4.4 New models for rural and regional infrastructure, service delivery, health and mental health care, including consideration of council coordination and/or implementation that avoids cost shifting and is built on close collaboration between local, state and federal governments and NGOs. | 4.9 Ensuring that regional and rural areas are adequately represented following electoral district redistributions.   |
| 4.5 Improved commercial airline services and public transport for regional communities.   |   |



## 5. DROUGHT

It is widely accepted that climate change and other factors may result in more devastating drought conditions in future, with an increase in the frequency and duration of droughts.

As the sphere of government closest to the community, councils have a critical local leadership role to play in planning, preparing, responding to, and recovering (PPRR) from drought and are uniquely placed to deliver services at the local level.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 5.1 Recognition by State and Federal Government that drought is a natural disaster and that it be eligible for natural disaster funding
- 5.2 Development by the State Government of an emergency plan, in consultation with local government and Aboriginal communities, to address the immediate water supply crisis afflicting NSW towns and communities and a disaster recovery plan for when the drought breaks.
- 5.3 Increased emergency funding to support people suffering hardship as a result of drought (including farmers, small businesses and individuals) and the appointment of recovery coordinators, through the Joint Organisations, to facilitate implementation of recovery plans.
- 5.4 Development and implementation of integrated National and State Drought Policies which:
  - Clearly define when an area is deemed to be in "drought"
  - List the range of assistance measures and triggers for when those measures will be activated
- 5.5 Development by the State Government, in partnership with local government and Aboriginal communities, of long-term water supply strategies for catchments throughout the State which mitigate risk from the predicted impact of climate change and to help ensure population and economic growth targets can be achieved and supported.
- 5.6 Substantial investment by State and Federal Government in regional and rural water supply infrastructure and demand management initiatives for drought proofing and water security measures and infrastructure.
- 5.7 Mandating the National Water Quality Management Strategy so that the quality and supply of water is managed effectively and fit for purpose.
- 5.8 Monitoring and management of river systems (particularly the Murray Darling Basin) to ensure the best possible social, economic, and environmental outcomes are achieved, particularly during drought.
- 5.9 That Local Government NSW calls on the Australian Government to protect national food security and the sustainability of regional irrigation communities.





## 6. NATURAL DISASTER & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

All councils in NSW play a key role in all aspects of disaster (e.g., bushfire, earthquake, flood, storm, cyclone, storm surge, landslide, tsunami, meteorite strike, tornado and drought) and emergency management at the local and regional level.

In addition to statutory or regulatory responsibilities and despite limited means, councils also play a major role in providing support to their communities, volunteers and charities.

Issues requiring addressing include allocation of responsibilities for emergency management, adequacy and timeliness of funding, the absence of funding for betterment or mitigation works and the funding of council day labour.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 6.1 The transfer of emergency management responsibilities to the NSW Government.
- 6.2 Prioritisation of the development and implementation of policies and programs to build the resilience of communities so that they can better withstand and recover from natural disasters.
- 6.3 Increased Federal funding and review of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) to expand eligibility of assets and:
  - Ensure that repair of damage to road and bridge infrastructure as the result of natural disasters continues to be funded under the DRFA.
  - Streamline DRFA processes to help ensure funding is obtained on a timely basis.
  - Recognise rehabilitation of significant environmental damage for funding under the DRFA.
  - Allow payment of day labour and council equipment costs under the DRFA.
- 6.4 Increased funding for mitigation and betterment measures, both in advance of disasters where the risks are identified and in the recovery stage.
- 6.5 Legislate to give councils power to entry to construct and maintain flood mitigation works.
- 6.6 Financial support for restoration, remediation and betterment of local community infrastructure that has been severely damaged by natural disasters including climatic conditions and drought.
- 6.7 The NSW Government to work with councils to support rebuilding and recovery after natural disasters by streamlining the approvals processes and providing funding and other assistance to review and update local plans.
- 6.8 NSW and Federal Government fully fund the clean-up of damaged or destroyed buildings and structures, particularly those that contain asbestos, following natural disasters and establish and operate an Asbestos Emergency Management Flying Squad to provide expert advice to councils.
- 6.9 The NSW Government to support cultural burning for fire management on Crown land, National Parks and State Forests (and training and employment of Indigenous people for this task).
- 6.10 Streamlining approvals for constructing and maintaining asset protection zones (APZs) or undertaking hazard reduction burns, requiring appropriate APZs for urban settlements that interface with natural areas, and ensuring government managed forested areas maintain fire trails.
- 6.11 Appropriate recognition for individual first responders via a local government service award.
- 6.12 Urgent implementation and funding of the recommendations of the NSW Bushfire Inquiry.





## 7. PLANNING

Councils support an efficient, fair, and locally led planning system that prioritises quality of life and meets the needs and expectations of local communities.

Decisions of successive state governments have gradually diminished councils' and communities' authority to determine what and how development occurs in their local areas. Restoring community-led planning powers to local government is a longstanding advocacy priority for LGNSW.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 7.1 The planning system to ensure the voice of local communities is heard through:
  - the well understood and accepted councillor representation system, which provides transparency and accessibility to communities,
  - genuine local representation, including councillors, on regional planning panels, and
  - third party merit appeal rights in respect of all categories of development applications, including decisions made by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC).
- 7.2 Local government to retain control over the determination of locally appropriate development. Local planning powers must not be overridden by State plans and policies or misuse of State Significant Development provisions.
- 7.3 Local government to be treated as a partner (not just another stakeholder) in metropolitan, regional and district planning processes - the role and voice of local government is vital in delivering productivity, liveability and sustainability.
- 7.4 Strategic (local, district and regional) plans that reflect the agreed planning outcomes from community engagement at local, regional/ district and metropolitan levels.
- 7.5 The establishment and role of Local Planning Panels (LPPs) should be voluntary not mandatory. Where panels are mandatory, councils should be allowed to establish the thresholds and processes for public determination of matters referred to the Panel.
- 7.6 A review of State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs), with priority given to housing related SEPPs so that housing solutions developed by councils are not undermined and planning decisions relating to the location, type and design of local development (including education establishments and child care facilities) are returned to councils.
- 7.7 Councils and communities to be able to determine how housing is delivered in their local areas based on their local housing strategies and in particular:
  - Provide more discretion for councils to amend the SEPP (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) when applying it to their area, and
  - Allow for the Low Rise Housing Diversity Code to be optional, not mandatory.
- 7.8 State and federal governments to identify opportunities to support growth in rural and regional areas and reduce growth pressures in Sydney.
- 7.9 Reforms to the planning system to include a fundamental review of its primary purpose and work to improve its efficiency and effectiveness, by consolidating state policies and local plans in local planning instruments, streamlining plan-making and development assessment and ensuring councils have adequate powers to implement provisions.



- 7.10 A policy framework (with actions, responsibilities and timeframes) and mechanisms to deliver high level objectives in district and regional plans (including protecting employment lands, food security, liveability, sustainability, open space provision).
- 7.11 The State and Federal Governments to develop a strategic approach to state significant developments such as newly emerging solar farms to ensure their impact on farm land and neighbouring communities is properly considered, and local councils receive development contributions to fund the local infrastructure required to support them.
- 7.12 Greater independence and integrity in the development application process by introducing provision for councils, rather than proponents, to appoint independent consultants to undertake the reports needed for development assessment (such as Statements of Environmental Effects and Environmental Impact Statements).
- 7.13 The NSW Government and local government to formalise an agreement on the operation and ongoing development of the NSW Planning Portal, including funding assistance to councils for development and implementation of integration platforms between the portal and local government systems.



## 8. HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Local councils, as the level of government closest to the community, play an important role in engaging with and planning for the needs of their communities. This includes planning to ensure there is an appropriate supply and mix of housing to meet the community's diverse and changing needs. Councils help shape and deliver housing policy objectives through their land use planning and community service responsibilities. Councils also prepare local housing strategies in consultation with communities, to detail how and where housing will be provided in local areas.

Councils also work closely with a range of specialist housing and homelessness services, domestic violence agencies and police to respond appropriately and with compassion to rough sleeping. While the NSW Government is ultimately responsible for housing and homelessness, councils are closely involved through maintaining public space, managing community concerns and complaints, conducting outreach programs, and safety measures such as clean-ups and syringe disposal.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 8.1 The NSW and Australian Governments to address homelessness, the housing affordability crisis and access to public housing in metropolitan, regional and rural areas, including through:
  - providing funding for councils to deliver initiatives at the local level
  - implementing the Housing First model across NSW, with proactive outreach, crisis support and homelessness prevention measures including addressing co-morbidities
  - ensuring housing security for residents of caravan parks and manufactured home estates far greater investment in new and upgraded social housing
  - new models for social and affordable housing including equity share and covenant housing
  - providing taxation and other financial incentives that support the delivery of affordable housing.
- 8.2 The NSW Government, through implementation of the NSW Housing Strategy, to establish a clear framework for review of housing supply targets which includes concurrence with councils in setting these targets.
- 8.3 Minimum targets of 5-10 per cent social and affordable housing across NSW and 25 per cent for government-owned land, and a NSW Government commitment to clarifying roles and responsibilities and providing resources, policies and plans to meet these housing needs.
- 8.4 Action by the NSW Government towards achieving affordable housing targets through:
  - Improving processes for the timely approval of affordable housing contributions schemes developed by councils under the Housing State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing SEPP), and
  - Developing strategies and legislative tools to support local councils in NSW in increasing affordable housing in their local government areas and manage the impacts of short-term rental platforms on the availability of long-term rental housing.
- 8.5 The NSW Government working with councils and Aboriginal communities and organisations to set clear targets to reduce housing disadvantage impacting Aboriginal people in NSW.
- 8.6 Improved housing accessibility and liveability through:
  - an agreed legislated definition of accessibility incorporating universal design principles,
  - mandated minimum accessibility standards at the Liveable Housing Australia (LHA) Design Guidelines Gold Level (Option 3) or an equivalent standard at this level or higher,
  - linking and alignment of state and federal housing, ageing and disability strategies.
- 8.7 Policies and plans that enhance holistic sustainability outcomes in housing by requiring consideration of housing design (including site selection), construction and operation over its lifetime, minimising economic harm and considering economic and social sustainability.
- 8.8 Housing growth that meets community expectations, by contributing to place-making and the safety and quality of the built form.



## 9. BUILDING REGULATION & CERTIFICATION

Successive NSW Governments have continued to extend the types of development that qualify as exempt and complying development. The NSW Government has also introduced a private registered certifier scheme to approve development without the need for development consent from council.

The issue of building defects is also of great concern to local government as the trend towards multistorey apartments continues. LGNSW and councils have called on successive state governments to take actions to address deficiencies with building and certifier regulation and implement a system which ensures that all parties are responsible and accountable for their actions, and the community and public interest is at the forefront.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 9.1 Development and implementation of a regulatory framework to ensure the building and certification system delivers well-built, safe and compliant buildings that protect the public interest.
- 9.2 Tighter and more effective regulation of private certifiers – new regulatory arrangements must be strong, proactively enforced and subject to regular and rigorous audit.
- 9.3 A gradual return of certification functions to councils if the NSW Government's building reforms do not deliver meaningful solutions to problems with the private certification system and address conflicts of interest.
- 9.4 The NSW Government taking a leadership role in the management of cladding issues by providing effective guidance and funding to deal with the cladding crisis and releasing details surrounding the identified high-risk buildings.
- 9.5 The NSW Government to fully implement the Construct NSW reform program and commit to expand reforms to building classes other than Class 2 (multi-unit buildings).
- 9.6 Complying development to be limited to low risk or low impact development, with clearly defined parameters.
- 9.7 Support from the NSW Government for more affordable access to the full suite of Australian Standards for the local government sector.





## 10. CLIMATE CHANGE

Local government has a significant role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Councils are responsible for \$160 billion worth of assets. Reducing emissions can lower operating costs associated with these assets. The effects of climate change also have the potential to damage council assets, cause serious disruptions to the delivery of council services, generate unbudgeted financial impacts and affect the wellbeing of the community.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 10.1 Urgent action to address the climate emergency in a bipartisan manner to make clear, effective and unambiguous steps to avert a climate crisis in NSW under four priority areas:
  - a) transition to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 with an interim goal of 50% emissions by 2030
  - b) planning for and adapting to a changing climate
  - c) significant structural adjustment in businesses and communities which may arise from transitioning to a low carbon economy and adapting to the impacts of climate change
  - d) the provision of leadership and support for both councils and their communities.
- 10.2 Ambitious but realistic policies and practices that promote council, community, industry and government commitment to renewable energy, energy conservation and energy efficiency.
- 10.3 An integrated approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, including shared responsibility and collaboration across all levels of government, industry and the community.
- 10.4 Long term consideration of climate change issues across all government functions and services.
- 10.5 Emission reduction measures through a market mechanism across all sectors of the economy including energy generation, mining, transport, waste, construction, buildings and agriculture.
- 10.6 State Environmental Planning Policies that achieve improvements in liveability and sustainability of housing to:
  - a) ensure developments and precincts include measures to alleviate the urban heat island effect.
  - b) apply (or enable councils to apply) higher Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) targets and include other sustainability outcomes to improve housing stock resilience.
  - c) enable innovative approaches to community and public transport.
  - d) Improve provisions to ensure the resilience of housing stock.
- 10.7 A renewable energy target of 40% by 2025 to support investment and market confidence in renewable energy projects.
- 10.8 A roadmap to transition away from natural gas.
- 10.9 Greater support to local government for coastal management especially in areas experiencing erosion exacerbated by state and federal infrastructure e.g., airports, ports and breakwaters.
- 10.10 Other spheres of government to work with and support councils to build resilience to current and future climate risks on the community and businesses.
- 10.11 Introducing a range of funding mechanisms that would allow councils to build climate resilience in their communities including a special purpose 1% increase in local government rates.
- 10.12 A mandatory government reporting framework for climate risk exposure.
- 10.13 Enable the uptake of zero and low carbon technologies including electric vehicles through appropriate investment, concessions and legislation.
- 10.14 Retention of the uranium mining ban in NSW, and support for sustainable and clean energy and jobs solution





## 11. WASTE & RECYCLING

Councils provide waste, recycling and resource recovery services to the community, provide and operate recycling and disposal infrastructure and work tirelessly to reduce the amount of waste ending up in landfill by educating residents, businesses and schools about waste avoidance and recycling.

Councils continue to face significant challenges from increasing waste generation and lack of markets for Australian recycled content. All levels of government, as well as business and the community need to work together as we move to a more circular economy where materials and products remain within the economy for longer and waste is reduced.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 11.1 The reinvestment by the NSW Government of the NSW waste levy collected from the community and industry to:
- Urgently fund regions of councils to develop and implement regional waste plans for the future of waste and resource recovery in their regions, which include infrastructure and circular economy action plans and precinct development to address the needs of our cities and regions.
  - Fund the delivery of priority infrastructure and other projects, procured by local government, that are needed to deliver the regional-scale plans, particularly where there is market failure identified in the regional plans.
  - Increase local and state government procurement of recycled goods made with domestic content, for example by:
    - adopting recycled content targets to help drive demand and provide incentives to deliver on these targets
    - funding further research, development and delivery of recycling technologies and products generated from recyclables, particularly by local or regional councils.
  - Fund and deliver state-wide education campaigns on the importance of recycling to encourage the right way to recycle, the purchase of products with recycled content, as well as promote waste avoidance.
  - Work with the Federal Government to introduce producer responsibility schemes for soft plastics and other emerging problem wastes such as paints, batteries, chemicals, mattresses, electronic waste, asbestos and sharps.
  - Rehabilitate orphan dump sites and address illegal dumping, including enhanced enforcement powers for councils.
- 11.2 Transitioning to a circular economy and keeping materials in use for longer which requires a focus on higher-order waste management options, noting that lower-order options can have negative impacts on human and environmental health. As such we:
- Acknowledge concerns regarding the impact of waste to energy incinerators on communities and the environment;
  - Note that the Draft Regulations and the EPA's Energy from Waste Infrastructure Plan would prohibit waste to energy incinerators in some places and not others;
  - Consider burning waste material to generate energy as an outdated technology, and encourage diversion rather than incineration.
- 11.3 Support for innovative solutions to reduce waste and waste transport requirements, including a sustainable long-term solution for mixed waste organics.
- 11.4 Avoidance and minimisation of waste, including from building and construction sites with appropriately scaled fines for non-compliance.
- 11.5 Protection of existing and identification of new waste management locations.
- 11.6 Clear policy direction with regulatory certainty, achievable targets and implementation and funding pathways for delivery through e.g., NSW Waste Strategy, National Waste Policy, COAG targets.
- 11.7 Access to credible data and improved accountability to achieve best value for the community.



## 12. BIODIVERSITY

Local Government supports the conservation of biological diversity. Councils are a key influence on local biodiversity management and have an essential role to play. This includes through planning and approval processes, community education and engagement activities, and as public land managers.

Councils can develop biodiversity strategies and plans, protect biodiversity through their land use planning instruments, and manage biodiversity actively through specific programs and projects.

Councils also have a legislative mandate to manage the ongoing challenge of development pressure, natural disasters and maintenance of environmental values. Councils have responded through improved knowledge of, and strategic planning for, their local biodiversity including undertaking mapping and assessments, developing biodiversity strategies, policies and processes, and building staff capability.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

- 121 Protection and management of local biodiversity on an 'avoid, minimise, offset' basis.
- 122 Closer coordination across spheres of government, and with other biodiversity resource managers, to include local biodiversity information and mapping in regional and state-wide approaches to biodiversity management.
- 123 Resources and assistance to councils to build capacity, review systems and implement changes to NSW legislation in relation to managing biodiversity.
- 124 Continuation of funding streams to support local land management activities to achieve biodiversity outcomes.
- 125 Policies and practices that maximise biodiversity and the protection of threatened and endangered species, including the development and maintenance of habitat corridors.
- 126 Wider recognition of the value of urban biodiversity and bushland areas and the implementation of management approaches to specifically meet the needs of these areas including incentives to protect mature urban vegetation.
- 127 Cross jurisdictional commitment to managing the threats to biodiversity including weeds, pests and other risks such as bushfires which impact on the integrity of local biodiversity and contribute to further losses.
- 128 A review of the 10/50 Vegetation Clearing Code of Practice to assess the safety benefits compared to the impacts on tree canopy.
- 129 Additional Ramsar site listings in recognition of the value of lake systems for aquatic biodiversity, supporting migratory bird species, fish nurseries and essential wetland processes.
- 1210 The NSW Government to review the cumulative impacts of legislation governing land, water and natural resource management, and act to ensure the protection of biodiversity, threatened iconic species, water security, native forests and food security throughout NSW.



### 13. BIOSECURITY

Local government has a significant role in biosecurity including:

- as a local control authority (LCA) in regulating weeds under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*,
- as a land manager, to understand and implement its biosecurity responsibilities (e.g., weeds, pests), and
- in discharging regulatory responsibilities under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, for domesticated cats and dogs.

#### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

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| <p>131 A global ban on the trade in wild animals and wild animal products given their role in the emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases.</p> <p>132 The concepts that underpin the Biosecurity Act, such as risk-based decision making and a tenure neutral approach to weed and pest management.</p> <p>133 Local government representation on the Biosecurity Advisory Committee, established under the Biosecurity Act.</p> <p>134 Changes to the weed management framework, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funding stability and funding via the Weed Action Program to be increased to \$20M per year.</li><li>• A review of the Weed Action Program administration to minimize any duplication or excessive reporting and auditing requirements applied to councils and county councils.</li><li>• Penalties for weed-related offences set at levels high enough to act as a deterrent.</li><li>• Development and implementation of a weed management plan for Fleabane.</li><li>• Development of appropriate mechanisms to address current and emerging biosecurity (weeds) issues on parks and reserves under joint management arrangements with local Aboriginal communities.</li></ul> <p>135 Local government to have input to the setting of relevant charges (for weed regulatory functions), and local government keeping any revenue from services or compliance and enforcement undertakings.</p> | <p>136 Amendments to legislation to enable councils to more effectively manage the nuisance effects of cats on residents and wildlife, including streamlining the process of animal registration, limiting the roaming of cats beyond their owner's property, and enabling a trap-neuter-return program.</p> <p>137 Legislation/codes to strengthen companion animal breeding facility assessment and operation, to prevent the establishment of puppy farms in NSW and instigate a common database and better coordination across jurisdictions (e.g., NSWVIC).</p> |
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## 14. HEALTH & SAFETY

All councils in NSW play an essential part in improving and safeguarding the health and safety of their communities. Local government also has statutory responsibilities for public health protection under the *Public Health Act 2010* and *Food Act 2003*, regulating food businesses as well as premises that may pose environmental health risks through legionella, skin penetration or exposure to hazardous materials including asbestos. Councils also provide communities with access to additional services to contribute to community health, including immunisation clinics, sporting and recreation facilities and open space, mental health and physical activity programs, clean drinking water and no-smoking zones. Councils further have a role in considering how the built environment can be planned to promote health and safety.

Council involvement in community safety and crime prevention initiatives is often in partnership with police and other government and non-government organisations, engaging with communities to understand and develop strategies to address local crime issues.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

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| <p>14.1 Practical reforms and initiatives that improve public health and safety but do not represent cost shifting or burden the limited resources of local government without providing adequate funding or cost recovery mechanisms.</p> <p>14.2 Legislative amendments to enable council rangers to issue fines and penalty amounts equivalent to NSW Health for breaches of the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000.</p> <p>14.3 The NSW Government to take action to protect human health and the environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• making asbestos identification, removal, transport and disposal cheaper, easier, and safer.</li><li>• working with the Federal government to ensure that all vehicles imported into Australia meet the highest EU standards for emissions.</li><li>• introduce tax initiatives to encourage the up-take of electric powered vehicles in order to phase out the reliance on fossil fuels.</li><li>• adopting the World Health Organisation Clean Air Guidelines and assisting communities to address breaches of national air quality standards and improving health through filtration and ventilation in public buildings.</li><li>• implementing tighter controls on facilities at high risk of causing dust and air pollution, including timely and tighter enforcement for malodorous emissions.</li><li>• phase out the use of shark nets and replace them with alternative mitigation strategies.</li></ul> | <p>14.4 The NSW Government to ensure that any new schools constructed in a local government area provide appropriately sized off-street drop off and pick up zones.</p> <p>14.5 Increased funding for road safety from state and federal government.</p> <p>14.6 The NSW Government to allocate more resources for increased police numbers and state regulatory inspections, to improve response times, particularly in regional and rural NSW.</p> <p>14.7 The state and federal governments to fund councils and community organisations to manage antiterror and security related risks at events and in crowded places.</p> <p>14.8 Amendments to noise control regulations to ensure that general activities within a park cannot be deemed intrusive or offensive during certain hours of the day.</p> <p>14.9 Increased local government involvement in determination of gaming machine applications with priority consideration given to social impact.</p> <p>14.10 Funding, resources and initiatives to address the prevalence of domestic and family violence (DFV) in NSW, including Crimes Act recognition that coercive control and dowry abuse are forms of DFV, and funding a DFV prevention officer to work with NSW councils.</p> <p>14.11 The NSW and Australian Governments to address the mental health crisis and ensure adequate access to care across NSW.</p> |
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## 15. LIBRARIES, ARTS & CULTURE

Local government provides art galleries, museums, libraries and cultural services which are vital in enabling communities to participate in artistic and cultural expression. Councils provide almost 400 free public library services in NSW, including central, branch and mobile libraries in NSW. The right to equitable access to basic information is a cornerstone of democratic society.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW calls on State and Commonwealth governments to:

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| <p>15.1 Support the critical role of public libraries in communities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reversing the significant decrease in the State Government expenditure as a proportion of total expenditure on public libraries that has occurred since the 1980s.</li><li>• Creating a sustainable funding model for public libraries that indexes funding to CPI and is protected in legislation.</li><li>• Investigating systems to provide communities throughout NSW with greater access to larger collections and library resources and materials.</li></ul> | <p>15.4 Recognise the challenges for small, regional and remote councils and prioritise them for arts and cultural funding relative to the large State Cultural Institutions.</p> |
| <p>15.2 Devise a museum strategy for NSW with sufficient resources to ensure cultural heritage led vibrancy, collection care and local storytelling initiatives are supported, developed and maintained for communities throughout NSW.</p>   | <p>15.5 Provide stimulus and recovery funding to councils to promote and support arts and culture, including for galleries, performance, exhibitions and festivals.</p>           |
| <p>15.3 Ensure councils receive a fair share of funding from and access to government arts and culture programs.</p>  | <p>15.6 Significantly increase funding to councils to protect, maintain and enhance heritage buildings, structures and sites.</p>   |





## 16. ELECTIONS & DEMOCRACY

Councils are elected to shape, serve, support and give voice to their communities, to whom they are democratically accountable. The NSW and Australian governments must respect local government as an equal sphere of government and must not seek to impose decisions on local government that fundamentally affect the ability of democratically elected councillors to reflect the views of their communities on local government matters.

Councils for government elections to be conducted in a manner as similar as possible to State elections make democratic participation similar for voters and to support voter turnout.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for the NSW Government to:

- 16.1 Legislate to prevent the forced amalgamation of councils or significant boundary alteration without the support of a plebiscite.
- 16.2 Legislate to limit the power of the Minister for Local Government to suspend or dismiss democratically elected councils in all but the most extraordinary circumstances.
- 16.3 Permit newly amalgamated councils that have been divided into wards as part of a larger council area to revert to their status as undivided electorates.
- 16.4 Shorten the pre-poll voting period to the period including the Saturday to Friday of the week before Election Day.
- 16.5 Ensure councils and communities retain choice in their method of voting and does not impose universal postal voting.
- 16.6 Legislate to ensure that councillors and candidates who are members of a registered political party, or have been a member of a registered political party during at any time during the 12 months prior to seeking council election/re-election, be prohibited from using the word 'Independent' beside their name on the ballot paper and on all electoral materials.
- 16.7 Legislate to ban property developers and real estate agents (and their relatives and close associates including investors, owners and beneficiaries) from serving as councillors, and increase penalties for false declarations on this matter.
- 16.8 Legislate to ensure a person may only nominate for election to a particular council if they are a resident or ratepayer.
- 16.9 Eliminate the need for council by-elections, by extending countback provisions to the first two years of a council term, and extending the minister's discretion to provide councils with the option of avoiding a by-election for a casual vacancy during the latter two years of a council term.
- 16.10 Implement measures such as information sessions and training programs to increase the diversity of candidates standing for local government elections.
- 16.11 Legislate so that LG elections are to be conducted by the NSW Electoral Commission only.
- 16.12 Reduce the cost of conducting LG elections, including through:
  - (a) a commitment that the NSW Electoral Commission not be permitted to increase the cost of elections by more than the rate cap limit imposed on LG rates
  - (b) directly offsetting the cost of LG elections with significant fine revenue from non-voting
  - (c) trialling online voting initiatives.
- 16.13 Legislate to ensure all mayors continue to hold their positions until a new mayor is elected following local government elections.



## 17. GOVERNANCE

Local government is committed to the principles of good governance and is responsible and accountable to the citizens and the communities it represents, through consultative processes, legislative accountabilities, efficient delivery of services and effective customer service.

### GOVERNANCE

LGNSW advocates for the NSW Government to:

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| <p>17.1 Establish a panel of independent members with specific local government knowledge, for appointment to local councils' Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.</p> <p>17.2 Review the guidelines for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees to reduce the exclusion period for former councillors and staff, to support rural and regional councils.</p> <p>17.3 Legislate to strengthen requirements for general managers to provide councillors with the information required to perform their functions.</p> <p>17.4 Invest more resources into managing Code of Conduct complaints to ensure they are dealt with efficiently and effectively.</p> <p>17.5 Legislate to provide that a councillor's position becomes vacant if she or he is absent from three ordinary meetings of a council in any calendar year without having been granted leave.</p> <p>17.6 Amend the gifts and benefits provisions in the Model Code of Conduct so that the token value amount be removed and replaced with the provisions that apply in the Code of Conduct for Members of the NSW Parliament.</p> <p>17.7 Amend legislation and the Model Code of Meeting Practice to require councils to publish unconfirmed minutes of council and committee meetings and provide suitable legal protection for councils to act on decisions before the minutes are confirmed.</p> <p>17.8 Permit councillors to attend and participate in council meetings by audio-visual means.</p> <p>17.9 In the interests of safety and privacy, review the Information and Privacy Commission requirement for returns of interest disclosures to be published online.</p> | <p>17.10 Legislate to make it an offence for any person to threaten, incite violence, intimidate, menace or harass any person exercising functions under the Local Government Act or any other Act or regulation that confers functions on a council, and disqualify any person who has committed such an offence from holding public office for local government in NSW.</p> <p>17.11 Require Working With Children Checks and police checks for councillors.</p> <p>17.12 Improve accessibility and compliance outcomes by simplifying all forms and processes for candidates and public office holders and permitting documents to be signed and lodged electronically.</p> <p>17.13 Restore funding to ensure the independence of the Independent Commission Against Corruption in NSW. LGNSW also supports establishing a similar body federally.</p> <p>17.14 Ensure regulatory and reporting requirements imposed on councils are proportionate to size and risk.</p> <p>17.15 Support the development and implementation of tripartite governance frameworks between the three tiers of government.</p> |
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## 18. COUNCILLOR CONDITIONS & REMUNERATION

To attract a diverse array of talented candidates for election, the local government sector should be able to offer conditions and compensation, including superannuation, comparable to that available from the work activities mayors and councillors forgo in order to serve on councils.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for the NSW Government to:

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| <p>18.1 Investigate options for full time councillors in NSW.</p> <p>18.2 Fund ongoing councillor professional development.</p> <p>18.3 Repeal s242A of the LG Act so that the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (LGRT) is able to determine fair and reasonable fees for councillors and mayors, unfettered by the Public Sector Wages Policy (and the LGRT to determine the maximum permissible remuneration increase for councillors and mayors while the NSW Public Sector Wages Policy still applies)</p> <p>18.4 Amend s241 of the LG Act to remove reference to maximum and minimum fees payable, so that the LGRT determines the actual annual remuneration for councillors and mayors.</p> <p>18.5 Amend s240(1) of the LG Act to include councils' financial position and/or performance as additional criteria that the LGRT must have regard to when determining categories for councils and mayors.</p> <p>18.6 Consider dedicated remuneration for deputy mayors, in recognition of increasing deputy mayoral duties.</p> <p>18.7 Legislate to require compulsory superannuation payment to councillors and mayors at the rate equivalent to the rate set out in the <i>Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 (Cth)</i>.</p> | <p>18.8 Require all councils, county councils and Joint Organisations to have personal accident insurance cover for all councillors while performing their functions, equivalent to the level of insurance employees receive under NSW workers' compensation legislation.</p> |
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## 19. STRONG & INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

Local government is a significant provider and supporter of essential services to all members of the community including older people, people with disability, families, children, young people, Aboriginal people and people from all cultures and backgrounds. Councils also support refugee resettlement, services for newly arrived migrants and hold citizenship ceremonies and Harmony Day events. Councils fill the gaps in the provision of essential human services when there are no other providers, particularly in rural and remote areas, and advocate for equitable access to infrastructure and services.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW advocates for:

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| <p>19.1 Continued State and Commonwealth funding to supplement the contribution of NSW councils of approximately 60% towards the cost of community development, ageing and disability staff positions.</p> <p>19.2 Increased support for councils and communities that resettle refugees and welcome multicultural communities, including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A broader humanitarian resettlement strategy to encourage and support distribution of resettlement across NSW and Australia,</li> <li>• Support to areas where concentrated resettlement occurs to address social and economic impact gaps (including housing affordability, employment, infrastructure and services).</li> <li>• Funding for councils' roles, responsibilities and activities that support multicultural communities and promote social cohesion, including refugee resettlement.</li> <li>• Reviewing restrictive eligibility requirements of the Status Resolution Support Scheme and restoring access to this program for all people seeking asylum until their status is resolved.</li> </ul> <p>19.3 Funding to support participation of people with disability in their communities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding to implement actions and projects identified in council Disability Inclusion Action Plans.</li> <li>• Funding to councils for community support, information, and referral and capacity building initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>19.4 The NSW Government to support and encourage inclusive consultation and engagement approaches, in consultation with councils and including technological options for people with disability.</p> <p>19.5 Funding and policy settings to address accessible and liveable housing design standards, housing affordability, access to public housing, and homelessness, including funding for councils to deliver initiatives at the local level.</p> | <p>19.6 NSW Health to retain ownership of its aged care and disability facilities.</p> <p>19.7 Legislation to require councils to plan, implement strategies and report on gender equity in the workplace, with funding support from the NSW Government.</p> <p>19.8 Legislation to require equal employment opportunity management plans to include provisions for targeted programs to increase employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p> <p>19.9 Funding support for volunteers and volunteer development programs, including for community organisations that engage volunteers.</p> <p>19.10 An urgent increase in the rate of Newstart &amp; Youth Allowance by a minimum of \$100 per week.</p> <p>19.11 An increase in Government support for vulnerable children and young people to meet demand for rehabilitation services, early intervention and justice initiatives.</p> <p>19.12 High quality, universally accessible and affordable early childhood education and care.</p> <p>19.13 Adequate funding for council-run youth and children services and recognition that councils are an essential provider of services to children and young people.</p> <p>19.14 Initiatives to address skill shortages and impediments to employment and training, injecting significant funds into TAFE and the higher education system to redress recent funding cuts and the impacts of TAFE deregulation.</p> |
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## 20. ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE

LGNSW acknowledges the significance of the Statement from the Heart issued at the 2017 First Nations National Constitutional Convention at Uluru and supports the principle of the Constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Australia is one of the few first world nations with a colonial history that does not recognise its Aboriginal population in the Constitution.

LGNSW believes that Constitutional change will build stronger relationships of trust and mutual respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. Local government in NSW can be instrumental in this campaign as it is best connected to communities at the grass roots level.

### OUR POSITION

LGNSW:

- 20.1 Seeks that the Australian Government co-design with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Constitutional recognition through a First Nations Voice, support the process of truth-telling and consider the establishment of a National Resting Place (or Places) for commemoration, healing and reflection.
- 20.2 Encourages councils to progress the Constitutional recognition campaign at the local level and build support among all political leaders to advocate for a referendum.
- 20.3 Supports reforms to redress any disproportionate disadvantage experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- 20.4 Encourages councils to develop a relationship with local First Nations communities to develop ways in which they can provide input into council decisions.







### LGNSW Special Conference Action Report

The full list of Ministerial responses to annual conference resolutions can be found [here](#).

The full list of LGNSW submissions can be found [here](#).

Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p><b>2 LGNSW Board – LGNSW Fundamental Principles</b></p> <p>That the Local Government NSW Fundamental Principles, as set out below, be endorsed:</p> <p><b>Economic</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A - Local government must have control of its revenue raising and investment decisions and be fairly funded by the Commonwealth and State/NSW Governments to meet its infrastructure and service responsibilities.</li> <li>• B – Local government promotes local and regional economic development and employment growth.</li> </ul> <p><b>Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C – Local government is best placed to plan for, deliver and manage essential local infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• D - Local government is best placed to lead and influence local and regional planning processes according to the needs and expectations of local communities</li> <li>• E - Our communities' quality of life is a priority of local government planning.</li> </ul> <p><b>Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• F - Local government actions reflect Ecologically Sustainable Development. ESD requires the effective integration of economic, environmental and social considerations in decision making processes and is based on the following principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Intergenerational equity – today's actions maintain or enhance the environment for future generations</li> <li>○ Precautionary principle – prevent environmental degradation and manage and mitigate risk</li> <li>○ Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity</li> <li>○ Improved valuation and pricing of environmental resources – recognising the value of the environment to the community.</li> <li>○ Commit to the principles of the circular economy and minimise the consumption of finite natural resources</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Social and Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• G - Local government is committed to the principles of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Equity – fair distribution of resources</li> <li>○ Rights – equality for all people</li> <li>○ Access – to services essential to quality of life</li> <li>○ Participation – of all people in their community</li> <li>○ Recognition – of the unique place of Aboriginal people in NSW and the right of Aboriginal people to be involved in all decisions affecting Aboriginal communities</li> <li>○ Health and Safety – for all in the community.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>LGNSW Fundamental Principles updated and incorporated into the <a href="#">revised LGNSW Policy Platform</a>.</p>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p><b>Governance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>H - Local government must be constitutionally recognised and respected as an equal sphere of government</li> <li>I - Local government is democratically elected to shape, serve and support communities</li> <li>J - Local government is committed to the principles of good governance.</li> </ul> <p><b>Accountability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>K - Local government is responsible and accountable to the citizens and the communities it represents, through consultative processes, legislative accountabilities, efficient delivery of services and effective customer service.</li> <li>L - Local government is recognised as a responsible and place-based employer.</li> <li>M - Local government reduces and mitigates the risk of climate change for the communities we serve.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>3 LGNSW Board – 2022-23 rate peg determination</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implores the NSW Government to urgently intervene and overturn IPART’s aberrant base line rate peg determination of 0.7% for 2022-23 to ensure that no council is financially disadvantaged.</li> <li>Notes that this shock determination will have a devastating impact and exacerbate the financial impacts on councils and communities of natural disasters and the ongoing COVID pandemic. The total shortfall in rate revenue is estimated to be \$80-\$100 million in 2022-23, with a compounded impact of up to \$134 million over ten years. This issue goes to the very survival of many councils in NSW and the Government is urged in the strongest manner possible to take immediate action to save the sector from financial ruin.</li> <li>Calls on the NSW Government to provide councils across NSW an operating grant equivalent to the revenue difference between a 0.7% rate increase and what a 2.5% rate increase would have been, noting this will still not adequately cover the cost increases being experienced by NSW Councils.</li> </ol> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Bellingen Shire, Newcastle City, Murray River, and Bega Valley Shire Councils</i></p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Premier, the Hon. Dominic Perrottet MP</li> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 7 March 2022 the NSW Government has announced that the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) will accept and process an additional round of 2022-23 Special Variation (ASV) applications from councils. This will provide streamlined ASV applications up to 2.5%.</li> <li>The Government also announced a review of the IPART Rate Peg methodology.</li> <li>IPART released an Information Paper on 30 March 2022 that set out criteria for an ASV application. Several councils expressed concerns. LGNSW arranged an urgent meeting with IPART on 31 March seeking to address these concerns.</li> <li>IPART subsequently revised its guidelines to simplify and streamline council applications for an ASV.</li> <li>The majority of councils applied for an ASV and all were approved.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4 Blacktown City Council – Inadequacy of IPART rate growth formula for growth councils</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide an adequate mechanism for growth funding to growth councils to fund the costs of infrastructure and services in new release areas.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Premier, the Hon. Dominic Perrottet MP</li> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 7 March 2022 the NSW Government announced a review of the IPART Rate Peg methodology.</li> <li>LGNSW has been advocating for the review to include the population growth factor.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5 Forbes Shire Council – Financial Assistance Grants</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW urges the Federal Government not to make changes to the methodology of Financial Assistance Grant funding until it is valued back to 1% of Commonwealth tax revenue.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assistant Minister for Local Government (federal), the Hon. Kevin Hogan MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	
<p><b>9 Hay Shire Council – Cost shifting onto local government</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls upon the State Government to undertake an urgent review into the cost shifting from the State to local government, particularly in the areas of emergency services, external audit, crown land management, planning, companion</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> </ul>	





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p>animals, underground petroleum storage systems, disaster recovery, waste management and now COVID-19 Health Order compliance.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Bayside, and Armidale Regional Councils</i></p>		
<p><b>10 Bland Shire Council – Emergency Services Levy</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Postpone further costs to local government entities for the Emergency Services Levy payment increases until clear accountabilities are developed and communicated in accordance with engagement protocols of Resilience NSW Capability Development Framework for NSW Emergency Management Sector.</li> <li>As part of this process, prepare amendments to the <i>Rural Fire Services Act 1997</i> to remove Section 119's reference which relates to vesting RFS equipment with councils to remove the conflict of "control", specifically in accordance with the definition of an asset in Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) Statement of Accounting Concepts 4: Definition and Recognition of the Elements of Financial Statements.</li> <li>Engage all stakeholders with real or perceived responsibilities for Emergency Service Management and Actions to ensure that determinations are clearly articulated, communicated and relevant in accordance with the context of Resilience NSW Capability Development Framework.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, Minister for Flood Recovery, the Hon. Steph Cooke MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> </ul> <p>7 April 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a meeting with the NSW Auditor General.</p> <p>2 May 2022 - Letter to Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience highlighting these matters and seeking an urgent meeting.</p>	<p>On 19 April 2022 the NSW Government announced it would contribute \$43 million to cover the increase in the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) for 2022-23 that would otherwise be paid by councils.</p>
<p><b>11 Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils – Infrastructure contribution reform</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW reaffirms its position that councils should not be worse off under infrastructure contribution reforms and that this continue to be pursued vigorously with the NSW Government including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes to the legislation and policy framework to ensure that councils' capacity to provide infrastructure for their communities is not diminished.</li> <li>Asking that the government demonstrate to each local council how its modelling concludes that that each Council will not be worse off.</li> <li>That should the government introduce any state or regional infrastructure levy, that there be a requirement for it to be spent in the area from which it was collected.</li> </ol> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Penrith City, Shoalhaven City, Bland Shire, Greater Hume Shire, Liverpool City, Cumberland, and Willoughby City Council</i></p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	<p>LGNSW secured agreement from NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to model the impacts of the reforms based on council data. This work has been underway in recent months.</p>
<p><b>12 Leeton Shire Council – Local government representation on National Cabinet</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the Australian Government for permanent local government representation on the National Cabinet.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison MP*</li> <li>Assistant Minister for Local Government (federal), the Hon. Kevin Hogan MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<p>The new Federal Government has advised that local government will be invited to one National Cabinet meeting per year, and one Council of Federal Financial Relations (CFFR) meeting per year. Australian Local Government Association continues its advocacy for full voting membership of the National Cabinet.</p>
<p><b>13 City of Canterbury-Bankstown – Local Government Federal Ministry</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW writes to the Prime Minister requesting that the decision to demote the federal Local Government Ministry to an Assistant Ministry be overturned and the position of Minister for Local Government be reinstated in its entirety.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison MP*</li> <li>Assistant Minister for Local Government (federal), the Hon. Kevin Hogan MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<p>On 1 June 2022, the local government portfolio was elevated to Cabinet with the appointment of the new Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP.</p> <p>Former Bega Valley Shire Mayor Kristy McBain was also sworn in as Minister for Regional Development, Local Government, and Territories.</p>



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p><b>14 Murrumbidgee Council – Local government remuneration</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notes the Remuneration Tribunal is not truly independent. The Tribunal identifies every year in its Annual Report and Determination that it must work within the legislation. A specific section is 242A (Tribunal to give effect to declared government policy on remuneration for public sector staff).</li> <li>Delete Section 242A from the Act</li> <li>Advocates that a truly independent Tribunal, free from Government and legislative constraints sets remuneration in local government, similarly to the process for other levels of government, whereby councillors and individual councils do not vote on their own remuneration, noting the inherent conflict.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>15 Lachlan Shire Council – Amendment to the NSW Local Government Act 1993 clause 248</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to change the NSW <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>, Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 5, clause 248 as follows;</p> <p>“248 Fixing and payment of annual fees for councillors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A council must pay each councillor a monthly fee which is calculated as one twelfth of the annual fee.</li> <li>A council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.</li> <li>The annual fee so fixed must be the same for each councillor.</li> <li>A council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>16 Georges River Council – Ban on developers &amp; real estate agents serving as councillors</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That Local Government NSW calls on the Premier of NSW and the Minister for Local Government to genuinely ban developers and real estate agents (and their relatives and close associates) from serving as councillors by closing the existing loopholes in legislation which are currently used by local councillors to avoid being defined as a developer and/or real estate agent.</li> <li>That the NSW government commit to amending all relevant legislation including for planning panels to ensure that broader and more inclusive activities are included in the definition of developer and/or real estate agent such as (but not limited to):             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>investors who fund the planning proposal and/or development or developer;</li> <li>land owners who contribute property/sites for planning and development applications;</li> <li>persons/trusts/companies who hold options on land which they can trade once land values increase due to planning decisions;</li> <li>beneficiaries of family trusts which benefit from planning proposals and/or development related decisions;</li> <li>beneficiaries of company trusts or similar corporate arrangements;</li> <li>shell companies used by persons, builders, councillors and/or companies that conceal involvement in planning proposals and/or development;</li> <li>ongoing involvement/benefits that arise from planning proposals and/or development activities that continue post lodgement/approval/completion of a planning proposal and/or development such as bonuses for additional floor space or dwellings or trailing commissions and interest on investments;</li> <li>other similar arrangements which can conceal a person’s or councillor’s involvement to avoid meeting the current definition of developer or real estate agent; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	<p>An <a href="#">Opposition Bill</a> seeking to amend the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> to disqualify real estate agents and property developers from holding civic office was negatived in the NSW Parliament’s lower house on Thursday 12 May.</p>





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p>i) relatives and close associates of any of the examples provided.</p> <p>3. That the penalties for any councillor that makes a false declaration on their candidate nomination form about being a developer or real estate agent (or close associate or relative) be increased to include dismissal, lifetime bans and repaying the costs associated with any subsequent council by-election.</p> <p><b><i>This issue was also raised by Strathfield, City of Sydney, Newcastle City, Blue Mountains City and City of Parramatta Councils</i></b></p>		
<p><b>17 Northern Beaches Council – Conduct of the 2021 local government election</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <p>1. Formally expresses its concerns to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP, for the way in which the 2021 NSW local government election was conducted. Specifically but not limited to:</p> <p>a) Inconsistent and incorrect information on how to vote above and below the line given by officials.</p> <p>b) Inconsistent application of rules at pre poll and election day polling booths.</p> <p>c) The significant changes to the electoral rules and processes and communication of these changes.</p> <p>d) Lack of transparent health advice justifying the measures implemented:</p> <p>(i) no 'how to vote' cards handed out within 100m of a booth</p> <p>(ii) setting up corflutes before 7am and not touching them until after 7pm.</p> <p>e) iVote technical issues including its failure on election day; technical issues with the online nomination online management system (NOMS) process of nominations.</p> <p>f) Consistent technical failures during pre-poll.</p> <p>g) Lack of action from the Electoral Commissioner regarding complaints of breaches of the rules.</p> <p>2. Requests the Minister conduct an urgent and independent review of the recent election to:</p> <p>a) Ascertain the experiences of councils and candidates during the election, particularly their concerns around staffing, process, technology, and communication.</p> <p>b) Consider the best practices of other jurisdictions in conducting elections, including during the pandemic.</p> <p>c) Produce recommendations or suggestions on how to improve the election processes moving forward, including during pandemics.</p> <p>3. Refers the resolution to the NSW Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> <li>NSW Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters</li> </ul>	<p>On 11 May 2022 the <a href="#">NSW Parliament established a select committee</a> on the conduct of elections under COVID-19 conditions, specifically including the conduct of the 4 December 2021 local government elections. LGNSW is preparing a submission to the inquiry.</p> <p><a href="#">Response</a> received from the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters on 24 June 2022.</p>
<p><b>19 City of Canterbury-Bankstown – Mayoral representation following LG elections</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to amend the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> (NSW) to ensure that mayors elected by councillors continue to hold their position until a new mayor is elected following local government elections.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>25 Ballina Shire Council – Royal Commission into affordable housing</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW develops a campaign seeking support for the establishment of a Royal Commission into the affordability and future of housing in Australia.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> <li>Australian Local Government Association</li> <li>Minister for Housing and Minister for Homelessness (Federal), the Hon. Michael Sukkar MP*</li> </ul>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
	<p>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</p> <p>LGNSW issued an <a href="#">open letter</a> into the lead up to the federal election calling for action on this matter.</p>	
<p><b>26 Byron Shire Council – Stamp duty recycling for housing investment</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:</p> <p>a) secure the 'recycling' of transfer duty and land tax revenue into local government areas experiencing house price inflation and homelessness, housing shortage and rental stress to invest in new housing stock for essential workers, lower income and vulnerable members of the community and;</p> <p>b) use 'stamp duty recycling' as a mechanism for equalising the social housing stock across the state so that local government areas that are behind the state average can catch up over the next decade.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> </ul>	<p>The \$2.8 billion housing package <a href="#">announced</a> in the State Budget, involves investing in a range of measures to address shortages of affordable rental and social housing. It does not address the specific issue raised in the resolution.</p>
<p><b>27 Shoalhaven City Council – Impact of holiday homes</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW asks the NSW Government to consider legislative tools to assist councils with the impact of short-term rental platforms on local communities with respect to long-term rental availability.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> <li>Minister for Fair Trading, the Hon. Eleni Petinos MP [Fair Trading has responsibility for regulating short term rentals]</li> </ul> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p> <p>May 2022 - Raised as a key issue in LGNSW's open letter to federal election candidates.</p> <p>Included in LGNSW 2022 Advocacy Priorities.</p>	
<p><b>28 Shoalhaven City Council – Social and affordable housing models</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests that the State Government investigate different models for social and affordable housing, such as equity share and covenant housing.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> </ul> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	<p>The \$2.8 billion housing package <a href="#">announced</a> in the State Budget, involves investing in a range of measures, including shared equity, co-living, build-to-rent and rent-to-buy schemes as well as housing supply on government-owned land.</p>
<p><b>29 Wollongong City Council – Affordable housing: caravan parks &amp; manufactured home estates</b></p> <p>1. That Local Government NSW works with the Department of Planning and Environment, NSW Fair Trading, Office of Local Government and the Affiliated Residential Park Residents Association (ARPR) to:</p> <p>a) Explore options to ensure and secure that caravan parks and manufactured home estates are recognised as providing affordable housing options for many people, including retirees, pensioners, and people on low incomes;</p> <p>b) Highlight the need for secure tenancy for long term residents of caravan parks and manufactured home estates;</p> <p>c) Prioritise the rights of residents of caravan parks and manufactured homes estates against becoming homeless, or the threat of becoming homeless, due to owners who refuse and/or vacillate in the renewal of lease agreements with councils.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> <li>Minister for Fair Trading, the Hon. Eleni Petinos MP</li> </ul> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
2. NSW councils accept and affirm the need to protect the right for residents currently living in caravan parks and manufactured home estates to be provided with housing security, especially where they have valid leases with park owners and have purchased their homes in goodwill.		
<b>30 Liverpool City Council – Pandemic safe housing and development</b> That Local Government NSW advocates for a national consultation process to be held to enable governments at all levels, the opportunity to re-assess and implement new planning controls that will ensure the delivery of future pandemic safe housing and development.	Letter(s) to: • Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP  Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.	
<b>31 Blacktown City Council – NSW Planning Portal</b> That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to: 1. Offset the additional and unnecessary costs being borne by local government to implement the Planning Portal, by paying compensation to councils in recognition of the additional costs and workloads being imposed on them to make the Planning Portal functional. 2. Work with local government to develop a customer driven strategic direction, underwritten by a formal written agreement: a) to guide the development and implementation of the Planning Portal over time comprising service levels with local government, based on a mutually agreed clear and unambiguous implementation plan with milestones and financial penalties – to be paid to local government in the event that milestones are not achieved by NSW Government agencies. <i>This issue was also raised by Murray River Council</i>	Letter(s) to: • Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP • Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, the Hon. Victor Dominello MP  Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.  Council survey sent to all GMs by LGNSW CE on 19 April.  Raised in meeting with DPE executives on 13 May 2022.  Considered as part of a review of LGNSW/DPE e-Planning MOU in June 2022.	In May 2022 the NSW Government announced a new grant program which will provide \$10 million to councils across NSW to help the flow of data between the NSW Planning Portal and council systems. All councils can apply by 30 June for an \$80,000 grant to help them build the IT systems needed to connect with the NSW Planning Portal. Councils have until December 2023 to expend the funds. Funds can also be used to reimburse councils who have already spent money on their IT systems for this purpose. Details of the funding program are on the NSW Planning Portal <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>32 Lane Cove Council – Development and planning fee and compliance levy fee</b> That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW State Government and NSW Department of Planning and Environment to: 1. Review the fees prescribed for development applications, planning proposals and other planning instruments to ensure proper cost recovery by councils. 2. Reinstate the development application compliance levy fee removed on 1 January 2022. 3. Annually index the prescribed fees in line with CPI each financial year. <i>This issue was also raised by Liverpool City Council</i>	Letter(s) to: • Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP  Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.	
<b>33 Blacktown City Council – Concept development application (DA) fees</b> That Local Government NSW consults relevant ministers and authorities as appropriate to seek the removal of Clause 256B from the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 which prevents local government from recovering its costs from processing concept development applications.	Letter(s) to: • Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP  Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.	
<b>34 Blacktown City Council – Misuse of State Significant Development provisions</b> That Local Government NSW urgently calls on the NSW Government to: a. require the State Significant Development list to be independently audited for actual State Significance of those items on the list	Letter(s) to: • Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP  Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.	





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
b. return so called State Significant Development to councils for local and regional assessment and determination.		
<p><b>35 Hawkesbury City Council – Refining post-disaster planning approval processes</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW works with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and affected local councils to create a more refined approvals process, including multi-agency cooperation, for people who are seeking approval to rebuild after natural disasters. Alternatively that DPIE and the NSW Government support recovery and approval by paying for place-based planning documents that consider the issues affecting disaster-affected properties so that individual land owners can use these documents as part of the approvals process.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> <li>Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery, the Hon. Stephanie Cooke, MP</li> <li>Resilience NSW Commissioner, Shane Fitzsimmons</li> </ul> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	
<p><b>36 Lane Cove Council – State Government’s proposed changes to clause 4.6 variations</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW State Government not to proceed with the removal of Clause 4.6 variations from all Local Environmental Plans (LEP).</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> </ul> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	
<p><b>37 City of Canterbury-Bankstown – Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revoke the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021</li> <li>Consult with councils to identify a suitable and workable policy approach to improve the timeliness of decision making specific to development applications, planning proposals and rezoning, and broader strategic planning</li> <li>Ensure policy alignment with broader planning reforms that are currently underway.</li> <li>Acknowledges that planning in rural and regional areas is vastly different to metro areas.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> </ul> <p>LGNSW submission to <a href="#">A new approach to rezonings Discussion Paper</a> (March 2022).</p> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	
<p><b>38 Murray River Council – Building surveyors</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates immediately and requests that the Federal Government and relevant State Governments immediately relax the cross-border accreditation requirements for building surveyors to operate nationally under the Australian Building Code. Further to this that Federal Government introduces a rural/regional specific accreditation to ease the burden on regional councils.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> <li>Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, the Hon. Alister Henskens MP</li> <li>Minister for Fair Trading, Eleni Petinos, MP</li> <li>NSW Building Commissioner, David Chandler</li> </ul> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	<p>On 10 May 2022 LGNSW President received a letter from the <a href="#">Department of Education</a> (referred by Minister Henskens) advising that registered certifiers in other states can apply for registration in NSW under mutual recognition and that the Department will seek further advice on the issues raised with NSW Fair Trading to resolve any workforce issues relating to skills in regional areas.</p>



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p><b>39 Byron Shire Council – First Nations Voice to Council</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports the Statement from the Heart's call for Indigenous constitutional recognition through a Voice and that a referendum is held in the next term of federal parliament to achieve it.</li> <li>Develops a kit in partnership with the Traditional Custodians to assist councils to hold public forums to inform their communities about the Statement from the Heart and the proposed referendum.</li> <li>Develops an advisory body model for a First Nations Voice to Council for local Indigenous communities; with the structure, terms of reference and membership for the First Nations Voice to Council to be determined by consultation with local Indigenous community stakeholders including Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title holders and elders in conjunction with local councils.</li> <li>Encourages local councils to develop a relationship with their local First Nations communities, especially the Traditional Owners/Custodians, and to develop with them ways in which they can provide input into the decisions of council.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Indigenous Australians (federal), the Hon. Ken Wyatt MP*</li> <li>Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, the Hon. Ben Franklin MLC</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p> <p>In June 2022 LGNSW raised this in a meeting with the National Indigenous Australians Agency.</p>	<p>On 11 May 2022 <a href="#">Minister Franklin</a> responded to LGNSW noting the work being undertaken with local councils in the development of the Indigenous Voice and the NSW Closing the Gap partnership. Minister Franklin recommends engagement with a number of organisations for support relating to this matter.</p>
<p><b>40 City of Parramatta Council – Prevention of Aboriginal deaths in custody</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to implement all cross-jurisdictional reform recommendations contained within the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody report that seek to prevent Aboriginal deaths in custody and the resultant family trauma.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attorney General, the Hon. Mark Speakman MP</li> </ul> <p>On 31 March 22 an email containing this motion sent to Mental Health Commission of NSW as part of a suicide prevention framework discussion.</p>	
<p><b>41 Lake Macquarie City Council – Support for Afghan refugees</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW works with councils, the State Government, refugee and culturally and linguistically diverse non-government agencies, and the Federal Government to ensure that all Afghan citizens who assisted Australia during the Afghan intervention, or who are at risk as a result of that intervention, are smoothly and efficiently provided with refugee status, and settled in Australia.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Immigration, (federal), the Hon. Alex Hawke MP*</li> <li>Minister for Multiculturalism, Minister for Seniors, the Hon. Mark Coure MP</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<p>On the 29 March 2022, The federal government <a href="#">announced</a> it had allocated \$665.9 million on an additional 16,500 humanitarian places for Afghan nationals over the next four years – 4,125 each year. The supplementary places will start from the 2022-23 financial year. This brings the total places for Afghans across Australia's humanitarian and Migrations Programs up to 31,500 over the next four program years.</p>
<p><b>42 Leeton Shire Council – Safeguarding the welfare of Seasonal Worker Programme workers</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the Australian Government to modify the implementation of the Seasonal Worker Programme (SWP) to improve welfare outcomes for workers to ensure councils are informed of worker arrivals and departures so that they can monitor their living conditions and welfare while they are in residence.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Foreign Affairs (federal), Senator the Hon. Marise Payne*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<p>13 April 2022 – <a href="#">Letter received</a> from Minister for Foreign Affairs advising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 4 April 2022 the Australian Government launched key features of the new Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme (replacing the Seasonal Worker Program), introducing reforms that will benefit workers, employers and Pacific countries and Timor-Leste alike.</li> <li>The scheme will have an enhanced regional presence in Australia, with a state manager in every state and territory supported by regional managers to provide local knowledge and build strong links between councils, employers and other community organisations to support worker welfare.</li> <li>There will be a focus to strengthen worker welfare and protections, including by resourcing an active compliance and assurance program.</li> <li>The Australian Government is keen to engage with councils, including for the role councils can play in</li> </ul>





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
		enhancing the experience of PALM workers and addressing issues such as accommodation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DFAT will arrange a meeting with LGNSW to discuss this resolution further.</li> </ul>
<p><b>43 Leeton Shire Council – Work rights for bridging visa holders and amnesty for undocumented workers</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the Australian Government to improve the welfare of migrants and resolve the labour shortages affecting businesses and industries in rural and regional Australia by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revising the visa regime to grant work rights to all bridging visa holders</li> <li>Granting amnesty to undocumented workers, specifically undocumented farm workers.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Immigration, (federal), the Hon. Alex Hawke MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	
<p><b>44 Blue Mountains City Council – Gender Equity</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That the LGNSW conference notes that representation of women in elected roles and in senior leadership positions in local government remains persistently low. This is despite many years of strong advocacy from the Australian Local Government Women's Association and its NSW Branch to encourage women to join local government and support gender equity;</li> <li>That the LGNSW conference notes that setting policy and targets to improve gender representation including public reporting and accountability on outcomes helps drive change. However, only a small number of councils have developed a Gender Equity Strategy (these Councils include City of Sydney, Ryde and Blue Mountains); and</li> <li>That the LGNSW calls on the NSW Government to introduce legislation, such as exists in Victoria through its <i>Gender Equity Act 2020</i>, to require the public service and local councils to "plan, implement strategies and report on gender equality in the workplace", and that the NSW Government provides funding to enable local councils to develop their Gender Equity Strategy in consultation with local communities.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, Minister for Mental Health, the Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul> <p>March 2021 – Included in LGNSW submission to <u>Women's Economic Opportunities Review</u></p>	<p>On 29th March 2022, the Federal Government <a href="#">announced</a> as part of the 2022-2023 budget \$18.5 million to implement the recommendations of the review of gender equality, support state and territory governments to provide gender equity reporting and establish the Excellence in Workplace Gender Equity Awards. This is part of a wider Women's Leadership Package valued at \$106.5 million.</p> <p>On 18 June 2022, the NSW Government announced a Respect at Work Taskforce, to support employers to help stop sexual harassment at work.</p>
<p><b>45 Penrith City Council – Support for and coordination of food insecurity issues</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NSW Government to assign a key agency responsible for ensuring food security within the population both during and following emergency events</li> <li>A more coordinated response to food insecurity and emergency food relief to be developed by the NSW Government</li> <li>Greater resourcing to be provided by the NSW Government for emergency food relief supplies</li> <li>Greater consideration to be given to providing culturally appropriate emergency food relief supplies</li> <li>Greater support and resourcing to be provided to councils supporting local food relief efforts.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, Minister for Flood Recovery, the Hon. Steph Cooke MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>46 Warren Shire Council – Emergency planning for natural disasters like mice plagues</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government through Resilience NSW, instigate the development of the necessary emergency planning in preparation for natural disasters such as mice plagues and other similar natural disasters to ensure that appropriate co-ordination and timely support is provided to affected residents, business owners and farmers in those areas that experience such natural disasters.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, Minister for Flood Recovery, the Hon. Steph Cooke MP</li> </ul>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p><b>47 City of Canterbury-Bankstown – Strengthening early learning and childcare advocacy</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW formalises its support of Thrive by Five on behalf of the local government sector and their campaign to advocate for high-quality, universally accessible and affordable early learning and childcare across Australia.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Education and Early Learning, the Hon. Sarah Mitchell MLC</li> <li>Minister for Education and Youth (federal) the Hon. Alan Tudge MP*</li> <li>Thrive by Five</li> </ul> <p>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</p> <p>March 2021 – Included in LGNSW submission to <a href="#">Women's Economic Opportunities Review</a>.</p> <p>Letter sent to the Hon. Sarah Mitchell MLC, Minister for Education and Early Education on 20 June 2022. Our letter reiterated that the budget announcements need to be accompanied by significant greater investment to increase the ECEC workforce in the short term. We also sought for local government to be consulted as the details behind the funding programs are designed.</p>	<p>On 14 June 2022 as part of a pre-budget release, the NSW Government <a href="#">announced</a> investment through a new <i>Affordable and Accessible Childcare and Economic Participation Fund</i>, which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide grants to childcare providers to expand infrastructure and establish new centres,</li> <li>Target areas with limited access to childcare centres or where a shortage of childcare places poses the highest disincentive to parents returning to work,</li> <li>Complement the Commonwealth's demand-side childcare policy framework through flexible supply side funding,</li> <li>Invest \$775 million over the next four years, and</li> <li>Trial new service models to meet the needs of modern families.</li> </ul> <p>As part of the 2022 State Budget, the following announcements were also made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Universal pre-kindergarten</i>. \$5.8 billion over 10 years. This is to deliver 1 year of play-based learning 5 days a week in the year before school.</li> <li><i>Affordable Preschool</i>. \$1.3 billion over 4 years for affordable preschool. This includes providing community and mobile preschools with up to \$4000 per year for 3-, 4- and 5-year-old children and up to \$2000 per annum for preschool children in long day care services.</li> <li><i>Brighter Beginnings</i>. \$376.5m over 4 years. For health and developmental support from prenatal to 5 years old.</li> <li><i>Workforce</i> \$281.6m over 4 years. Including scholarships, upskilling, fast track programs and incentives.</li> <li><i>Before and After School Care</i> \$37.9 million. This includes funding for transport grants to connect students to a service if one is not available nearby. And funding to expand before and after school care provision in regional schools.</li> </ul>
<p><b>48 Albury City Council – Mental health crisis</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW and Australian Governments address the mental health crisis for all people and ensure adequate access to emergency and specialist treatment, intervention, acute and inpatient services, including consistency of access across rural, regional and metropolitan NSW.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, Minister for Mental Health, the Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC</li> <li>Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention (federal), the Hon David Coleman MP*</li> <li>31 March email containing this motion sent to Mental Health Commission of NSW as part of a suicide prevention framework input discussion</li> </ul>	<p>The <a href="#">Dept of Health responded</a> on 3 May 2022 on behalf of Minister Coleman noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$22.9 million funding in response to COVID-19 for pop-up mental health clinics, support for CaLD populations and funding for support services</li> <li>\$31.2 million allocated in the 2022-23 budget for mental health support for those in NSW and QLD following the flood emergency</li> <li>the bi-lateral agreement signed on 7 March 2022 between the NSW Govt and Federal Govt for mental</li> </ul>





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
	*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.	health and suicide prevention, with each government providing \$215 million and \$167 million each over five years. - the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan, announced on 11 March 2022, which identifies the roles and responsibilities for mental health and suicide prevention.
<p><b>49 Armidale Regional Council – HEPA filters and ventilation to reduce COVID risk</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to reduce the risk of COVID infections by installing HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filters and investigating ways to improve ventilation in schools and other public buildings (including council buildings), similar to the strategy already adopted in Victoria.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Health, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP</li> </ul>	<p>In April 2022 <a href="#">Minister Hazzard responded</a>, noting the NSW Government had announced \$100m in an air quality assurance program for NSW public schools. This will include 2000 learning spaces receiving permanent, automatic fresh air ventilation systems.</p>
<p><b>50 Greater Hume Shire Council – Rural Financial Counselling Service funding</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to continue to provide on-going funding to the Rural Financial Counselling Service that will allow it to continue to provide on-ground, face-to-face services to farming enterprises and families in NSW.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Western NSW, the Hon. Dugald Saunders MP</li> </ul> <p>March 2021 – Included in LGNSW submission to <a href="#">Women's Economic Opportunities Review</a>.</p>	
<p><b>51 Campbelltown City Council – Heritage funding for local councils</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to significantly increase the amount of funding available to local councils to assist in the protection, ongoing maintenance and enhancement of heritage buildings, heritage structures and heritage sites in their local government areas.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> </ul> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p> <p>Presented to NSW Dept of Planning and Environment executives in a meeting with LGNSW staff on 14 April 2022.</p>	<p>On 12 May 2022 <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> responded that the Government is currently preparing the 2023 – 2025 NSW Heritage Grants Program and will consider ways to make the program more efficient, effective and customer-centric. The Minister said that Campbelltown City Council's request is noted and will be taken into consideration when allocating the grant budget.</p>
<p><b>52 Liverpool City Council – Climate Action Plan</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates to the Australian Government to meet our international obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by strengthening the 2030 emissions reduction target to 50% and implement policy and programs to achieve this target and the 2050 net zero emissions target.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Industry, Energy and Emissions Reduction (federal), the Hon Angus Taylor MP*</li> </ul> <p>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</p> <p>Included in <a href="#">May 2022 submission</a> to NSW Independent Flood Inquiry.</p> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	
<p><b>53 Dubbo Regional Council – Gas decarbonisation roadmap</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government urgently develops a gas decarbonisation roadmap.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Lismore City Council</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> </ul> <p>February 2022 – included in <a href="#">BASIX Higher Standards and Design and Place SEPP</a> submissions advocating to exclude on site gas in residential development.</p>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
	<p>Included in <a href="#">May 2022 submission</a> to NSW Independent Flood Inquiry.</p> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p> <p>29 June 2022 – LGNSW reiterated this resolution in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	
<p><b>54 Blacktown City Council – Enabling funding mechanisms to respond to climate change</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to enable a special purpose 1% increase in local government rates to fund increases in the use of renewable energy, accelerate carbon neutrality and adapt to climate change impacts, especially increases in urban heat.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul> <p>Included as recommendation 3 in <a href="#">May 2022 submission</a> to NSW Independent Flood Inquiry.</p> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p> <p>29 June 2022 – LGNSW reiterated this resolution in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	
<p><b>55 Ballina Shire Council – Investments - Fossil fuel divestment</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow council to place their investments and loans with sustainable investments,</li> <li>requests that the Australian Local Government Association and other state local government associations also adopt this position, and</li> <li>requests TCorp make available the information and options required for councils to invest and borrow in line with this position.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> <li>ALGA and other state and territory associations</li> </ul>	
<p><b>56 Lake Macquarie City Council – Supporting the circular economy</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government provides funding and resources for circular economy capability building and supports the development of Circular Economy Action Plans and precinct development by local government.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> </ul> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>May 2022 – Response received from <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> – the NSW Government is supporting the transition to the circular economy, underpinned by the \$356 million over five years to implement the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 and NSW Plastics Action Plan. This includes the \$37M Carbon Recycling Abatement Fund and \$24M Strategic Infrastructure Investment Fund. The EPA is currently designing these funds, anticipating both business and local government will be eligible to apply for support. The EPA will consult with LG on the design of the funds in the coming months.</p>
<p><b>57 Forbes Shire Council – Rebates for use of crumbed rubber bitumen in roads</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to implement a rebate system of 40 cents per litre for the use of S45R crumbed rubber bitumen in asphalt, construction seals and reseals.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> </ul> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>May 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> noted the NSW Government is supporting increased demand for recycled materials through several initiatives such as the \$13M Circular Innovation Fund, publishing a directory of recycled material suppliers and register of upcoming government construction projects. Transport for NSW is also engaging with the construction and infrastructure sector to support development of its sustainable procurement initiative.</p>



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p><b>58 Leeton Shire Council – Weeds management plan for Fleabane (Conyza spp.)</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on both the NSW Government and the Federal Government to develop and implement a weed management plan to protect agricultural land from incursions of Fleabane (Conyza spp.) in order to maintain the productivity of agricultural land and ensure the sustainability of regional communities by acknowledging that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fleabane is widespread across agricultural land and is having a negative impact on the productivity of agricultural land</li> <li>Fleabane is resistant to standard registered herbicides including Glyphosate</li> <li>Limited state and federal funding is provided for the control of Fleabane under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> through the General Biosecurity Duty</li> <li>the NSW Government Weed Action plan is focused on new and emerging weed varieties, and that Fleabane does not meet this criteria and therefore attracts no state or federal funding for its management as a species.</li> </ul>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Western NSW, the Hon. Dugald Saunders MP</li> <li>Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia (federal), the Hon David Littleproud MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<p>April 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Littleproud</a> did not specifically mention Fleabane but noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2022 Federal Budget commitment of \$20M to support improved farm biosecurity and enhanced pest and disease traceability (in addition to the \$49.1M announced in 21/22).</li> <li>\$300M in matching contributions to Research and Development Corporations annually for R&amp;D activities, including work to understand and address important issues such as established pests and weeds.</li> </ul>
<p><b>59 Bland Shire Council – Biosecurity (noxious weeds)</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calls on the NSW Minister for Local Government and NSW Minister for Agriculture to increase funding of the NSW Weeds Action Program to allow for greater promotion of landholder responsibilities under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>.</li> <li>Calls on the NSW Minister for Local Government and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts to liaise with the NSW Aboriginal Lands Council to develop appropriate mechanisms as part of the Joint Management and Co-management for parks or reserves protocols to adequately address identified and emerging biosecurity weeds issues.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Western NSW, the Hon. Dugald Saunders MP</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> <li>Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, the Hon. Ben Franklin MLC</li> </ul>	<p>11 May 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Franklin</a> re (2) – the Closing the Gap Land and Waters Officer Level Working Group is a partnership between the NSW Government and Aboriginal stakeholders and is co-chaired by the NSW Aboriginal Land Council and Department of Planning and Environment. The Minister has requested Aboriginal Affairs NSW work with the co-chairs to discuss this matter and consider the resolution in line with the broader work of the group.</p>
<p><b>60 Hay Shire Council – Mandating of the National Water Quality Management Strategy</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the Australian, State and Territory Governments to mandate their nationally agreed policy framework within the Australian Government's National Water Quality Management Strategy, so that all Australian governments and other industries, organisations and institutions effectively manage the quality and supply of water that is fit for purpose.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Lands and Water, Minister for Hospitality and Racing, the Hon. Kevin Anderson MP</li> <li>Minister for Resources and Water (federal), the Hon Keith Pitt MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<p>April 2022 – <a href="#">Response received</a> from Minister Pitt – The NWQMS is a voluntary, nationally coordinated framework for use by state and territory governments in establishing their own guidelines, regulations, policies, processes and standards for managing the quality and supply of water that are fit for purpose at the local level. Should NSW wish to mandate the NWQMS, they can choose (via the NSW Minister for Land &amp; Water) to raise this through the National Water Reform Committee which is the interjurisdictional committee that considers and progresses national water reforms and is responsible for the ongoing management of the NWQMS.</p> <p>May 2022 – Response received from <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> (referred by Minister Anderson) – noting the NSW Government has already adopted the NWQMS as its policy to manage waterways. NSW Water Quality Objectives are</p>





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
		recognised in NSW legislation and embedded in state and regional strategies. NSW has released a risk-based framework for considering waterway health outcomes in strategic land use planning decisions, and a stakeholder capacity building program is currently being delivered.
<p><b>61 Hay Shire Council – Murray-Darling Basin wide river monitoring</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government:</p> <p>a. To engage an independent authority to prepare a public report detailing:</p> <p>i. The current river monitoring performed in the Murray-Darling Basin, its distribution and data accuracy and timeliness;</p> <p>ii. The benefits of a basin-wide consistent approach to enhanced and comprehensive river monitoring data, and its opportunities and challenges.</p> <p>b. Following the outcomes of the report to initiate and install competent river monitoring infrastructure and programs to provide enhanced river data and analysis to support water managers improve water policy, planning, management and operations to improve and maintain water quality and supply in the Murray-Darling Basin.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Lands and Water, Minister for Hospitality and Racing, the Hon. Kevin Anderson MP</li> </ul>	<p>May 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Anderson</a> - a detailed review of the NSW hydrometric network in the MDB was <a href="#">published</a> online in October 2021. The review found the stream gauging station, storage, water quality and rainfall monitoring network is effective, given the need for prudence and efficiency in operation, and is therefore considered fit for purpose.</p> <p>A <a href="#">Hydrometric Improvement Plan</a> (Nov 2021) explains where funds will be allocated for enhancements to the network. Up to 20 gauging stations are to be installed in the northern MDB.</p> <p>NSW is finalising monitoring network reviews of surface waste coastal basins and a state-wide review of the groundwater network, to be published online in 2022.</p>
<p><b>62 Armidale Regional Council – World Health Organization (WHO) Clean Air Guidelines</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW endorses the calls by Australian health advocates including Asthma Australia, the Australian Lung Foundation and Doctors for the Environment Australia, for the updated World Health Organization (WHO) Clean Air Guidelines to be adopted by all relevant authorities.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> </ul> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p> <p>29 June 2022 – LGNSW reiterated this resolution in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>May 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> – The WHO released new Air Quality Guidelines in September 2021. National air quality standards are set under the NEPM (Ambient Air Quality) by NEPC, which NSW is a member of. NEPC Ministers have agreed on further review of the particle, ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide standards in 2025. This will provide an opportunity to review the standards with the latest available evidence, including the new WHO guidelines.</p>
<p><b>63 Blacktown City Council – Timely EPA action on odour issues that affect residents</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Environment Protection Authority to fine corporations which allow malodorous emissions to adversely affect residential communities while the residents are being affected by the odours.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> </ul> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>May 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> notes that the EPA has strong powers under the POEO Act to address odour issues from EPA licensed industries, and the EPA treats odour events as a high priority. Regulatory action, such as issuing fines can take time as it requires evidence gathering that may need to present to a Court.</p>
<p><b>64 Blacktown City Council – Enhancing illegal dumping enforcement powers</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Environment Protection Authority to introduce additional offence codes and categories to enable councils to issue fines for an expanded range of illegal dumping types, including dumped waste on nature strips in residential areas or parks.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> </ul> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>May 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> notes that the NSW Government will improve the regulation of illegal dumping to ensure offences and enforcement powers are fit for purposes. The changes will be made as part of continual improvements to relevant legislation. In the interim, the EPA will work with specific councils to ensure they understand the existing powers that can be used for illegal dumping.</p>
<p><b>65 Murray River Council – Animal Welfare Code of Practice</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates the NSW Government to strengthen:</p> <p>1. the Code of Practice for Breeding Cats and Dogs and</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> </ul>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p>2. the planning legislation assessment requirements for breeding facilities, so that both align with requirements for puppy farms in Victoria.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Orange City Council</i></p>	<p>Included in <a href="#">March 2022 submission</a> to inquiry into puppy farming in NSW.</p>	
<p><b>66 Blacktown City Council – Exemption from un-desexed animal ownership fee</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW consults relevant Ministers and authorities as appropriate to amend the requirements for un-desexed animals incurring a fee if un-desexed after the age of 16 weeks, to allow owners to apply to delay the invoicing of the permit fee if the animal is desexed within 3 months of new ownership.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>67 Wollongong City Council - Request to phase out shark nets</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to phase out of the use of shark nets and replace them with a combination of alternative shark mitigation strategies (such as drone surveillance, personal shark deterrents, education and SMART drumlines) that more effectively protect the beach without damaging marine wildlife.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> <li>Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, the Hon. Dugald Saunders MP</li> </ul> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>On 21 March 2022 the NSW Government announced a boost of \$4.4 M for a suite of immediate additional mitigation methods, as well as ongoing funding of more than \$85m to continue this strategy until 2026. The immediate additional response package includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 additional VR4G Listening Stations,</li> <li>60 extra SMART drumlines,</li> <li>500 more shark tags to trace sharks caught on an expanded drumline roll out,</li> <li>Funding for four more rapid Response Vessels;</li> <li>Long Range Drone Trials in partnership with Surf Life Saving NSW,</li> <li>Additional Surf Life Saving resources to increase their presence at beaches, and,</li> <li>Applied research into wetsuit materials to reduce the impact of shark attacks.</li> </ul> <p>The \$85.6 million 2022-2026 Shark Management Program will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extension of the 51 nets currently deployed seasonally as part of the Shark Meshing Program,</li> <li>The continuity and expansion of the SMART drumline program,</li> <li>The establishment of a First Responder Team based across NSW to coordinate the government's response to shark incidents,</li> <li>Keeping the NSW Government's 37 shark listening stations across the coast,</li> <li>More funding to Surf Life Saving NSW to continue and expand aerial surveillance using drones across the state's coastline,</li> <li>Funding to continue to enable Surfing NSW to provide shark mitigation supports and services such as trauma kits during riding competitions and surf schools,</li> <li>Research funding for new tools, technologies and further insights into shark behaviour, and</li> <li>An annual survey of community confidence and sentiment in NSW Government shark mitigation efforts.</li> </ul>
<p><b>69 Lachlan Shire Council – Amendment to NSW Local Government Act 1993 clause 234(1)(d)</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to change the NSW Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 3, clause 234(1)(d) as follows:</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p>"234 When does a vacancy occur in a civic office? (1) A civic office becomes vacant if the holder— ... (d) is absent from 3 ordinary meetings of the council in any calendar year (unless the holder is absent because he or she has been suspended from office under this Act or because the council has been suspended under this Act or as a consequence of a compliance order under section 438HA) without— (i) prior leave of the council, or (ii) leave granted by the council at any of the meetings concerned..."</p>		
<p><b>70 Armidale Regional Council – End of Term Report</b> That Local Government NSW urges the NSW Government to continue to require councils to submit the end of term report to the final meeting of the outgoing council.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>71 Hay Shire Council – Rural Council Model</b> That Local Government NSW calls upon the State Government to reintroduce the Rural Council Model as proposed under the Fit For The Future process.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>72 Snowy Valleys Council – Boundaries Commission</b> That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to clarify and expedite the matters relating to the Boundaries Commission independent statutory review announced on 20 July 2021: 1. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Boundaries Commission be placed on Public Exhibition and the Minister's intent on the purpose and role be made clear in an attached briefing paper; 2. The Minister include a section in the ToR relating to the evaluation of de-amalgamation under Section 218C and that this be at no cost to the ratepayers of the Council making the request; 3. The Minister expedite the finalisation of the ToR once public exhibition is complete; 4. The Minister immediately seeks expressions of interest for members for the Boundaries Commission and fill any vacancies with persons suitably qualified to fulfill the roles expected under the ToR.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	<p>The Terms of Reference for the review are yet to be released. LGNSW will be making a submission.</p>
<p><b>73 Inner West Council – De-amalgamation of LGAs</b> That the NSW Government pay 100% of the costs of de-amalgamation of local government areas forced to amalgamate where a referendum of residents has chosen to reverse the forced amalgamation.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	<p>Minister for Local Government, Wendy Tuckerman confirmed that the government will pay the cost of council de-mergers. This confirmation was made in response to a question in Budget Estimates on March 8, 2022.</p>
<p><b>74 Hilltops Council – Increased funding by State Government - Amalgamated councils</b> That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide increased funding to amalgamated councils, to counteract initial underfunding for ongoing financial stability of amalgamated councils.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>75 Lane Cove Council – Performance of forced and non-forced amalgamated councils</b> That Local Government NSW commission a report that: 1. compares the qualitative and non-qualitative projections outlined in the 2015/16 KPMG options report of each amalgamated council to the actual data from their financial statements and other available data sources;</p>	<p>LGNSW is reviewing how to best implement this resolution.</p>	





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p>2. compares the KPIs included in the financial statements of both amalgamated and non-amalgamated NSW councils to compare the overall performance of NSW councils against the KPIs established by the State Government;</p> <p>3. analyses the rating revenues of all NSW councils since 2015; and</p> <p>4. based on the results, provides recommendations on the suitability of the ongoing use of the KPIs established by the State Government.</p>		
<p><b>76 Penrith City Council – Western Sydney City Deal and tri-governance framework</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates to the Federal Government to continue its support for the Western Sydney City Deal. With the Western Sydney City Deal set to be reviewed this year, there is an opportunity for the Australian Government to reconsider how to further reinforce the governance framework to strengthen local government's ability for better strategic collaboration.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts (federal), the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP*</li> </ul> <p>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</p>	
<p><b>77 Bland Shire Council – Regional headquarter locations</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government, specifically the Premier and Minister for Police and Emergency Services to give greater consideration to geographic centrality with the determination of locations when establishing regional service and administration centres for State departments and services.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Premier, the Hon. Dominic Perrottet MP</li> <li>Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, Minister for Flood Recovery, the Hon. Steph Cooke MP</li> </ul>	<p>On 25 March 2022 the NSW Government <a href="#">announced</a> a new regional head office for the operator of the Country Regional Rail Network in Orange NSW.</p>
<p><b>78 City of Canterbury-Bankstown – Funding increase for road safety initiatives</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to support funding equivalent to 0.1% of the rate revenue of an individual council to allow councils to adequately develop tailored public education programs on road safety.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, the Hon. David Elliott MP</li> <li>Minister for Metropolitan Roads, the Hon. Natalie Ward MLC</li> </ul>	<p>In April 2022 the NSW Government announced a new Road Safety Action Plan and \$250m in supporting funding, including to enhance the Local Government Road Safety Program to ensure every council has access to a Road Safety Officer to better resource their road safety planning and integration in their local communities.</p>
<p><b>79 Broken Hill City Council – Childcare centres and long day-care centres speed zones</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for Transport and Transport NSW to re-introduce reduced speed zones around all NSW childcare centres and long day-care centres to ensure the safety of families and young children attending the centres.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, the Hon. David Elliott MP</li> <li>Minister for Metropolitan Roads, the Hon. Natalie Ward MLC</li> <li>Mr Rob Sharp, Secretary, Transport for NSW.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>81 Blacktown City Council – Compulsory and hardship land acquisitions</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to repeal the requirement under the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i> for the Minister's approval to issue a proposed acquisition notice (PAN) for compulsory acquisition of land by a council, and pending a change to the Local Government Act, the Minister to delegate to councils his power to approve the issue of a PAN.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Lands and Water, Minister for Hospitality and Racing, the Hon. Kevin Anderson MP</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Minister Anderson</a> responded on 10 May 2022 advising that the suggestion has been noted and will be considered as part of the review of the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i>, once the Parliamentary inquiry that is looking into land acquisition matters has handed down its report.</p>
<p><b>82 Georges River Council – Asset management - Creating a level playing field (financial statements)</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government (specifically the Audit Office of NSW) to ensure the sustainability, transparency and intergenerational equity of community infrastructure (transport assets, stormwater, buildings, open space) across NSW by establishing consistent guidelines that include but are not limited to:</p> <p>a) Standardised and accurate useful lives for community infrastructure, for use by all NSW councils, and;</p> <p>b) Consistent classifications and naming conventions for all classes of infrastructure for use by all NSW councils.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auditor-General of NSW, Margaret Crawford</li> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	<p>The <a href="#">Auditor – General</a> wrote in response on 20 May 2022 and advised that her office has considered the issues raised and concluded that the Auditor-General's mandate does not include the establishment of guidelines, and it is ultimately the responsibility of the Office of Local Government (OLG), as regulator of the sector, to develop any guidance as outlined in your letter. The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, issued by the OLG, includes guidance for councils on the</p>



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
		classification and naming conventions for classes of infrastructure.  LGNSW has also written to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Wendy Tuckerman on this issue.
<p><b>83 Yass Valley Council – Street lighting - Advocacy program</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW commit to leading and resourcing an advocacy program on street lighting across the State.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Wingecarribee Shire, and Snowy Valleys Councils</i></p>	LGNSW is reviewing how to best implement this resolution.	
<p><b>84 Warren Shire Council – Betterment for flood and other natural emergency restoration works</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW petitions both the NSW Government and Federal Government to develop, establish, implement and properly fund Betterment Programs to rebuild essential public infrastructure damaged in floods and other natural emergencies to a more resilient standard that ensures that the infrastructure and communities are less vulnerable to the impacts of flood and other emergencies.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, Minister for Flood Recovery, the Hon. Steph Cooke MP</li> <li>Minister for Emergency Management and National Recovery and Resilience (federal), Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p> <p>Included in <a href="#">LGNSW's May 2022 submission</a> to the NSW Independent Flood Inquiry.</p>	In April 2022 the NSW Government announced a new coordination body for flood recovery in the Northern Rivers, the Northern Rives Reconstruction Corporation. The Corporation will include a focus on betterment identification, propose to have an advisory board that will include local mayors, and work with councils to identify, prioritise and support projects to rejuvenate communities, with a particular emphasis on housing and supporting social infrastructure.
<p><b>85 Cessnock City Council – Review of the NSW Stormwater Management Services Charge</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW State Government to review the pricing and associated guidelines for the NSW Stormwater Management Services Charge.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>86 Clarence Valley Council – Power of entry to construct and maintain flood mitigation works</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to amend Section 59A and 191A of the Local Government Act to give councils power of entry to construct and maintain flood mitigation works.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>87 Warren Shire Council – Dam storage capacity increase</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government instigate the investigation of the use of existing dam airspace currently set aside for flood mitigation purposes to increase the storage capacity of dams.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Lands and Water, Minister for Hospitality and Racing, the Hon. Kevin Anderson MP</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Minister Anderson</a> responded on 10 May 2022 saying that DPE Water had advised him that this option is being considered and assessed in the Macquarie Regional Water Strategy (RWS), as outlined in the draft options paper: <i>Option 11: Increase Burrendong Dam's Full Supply Level.</i>





Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p><b>88 Blacktown City Council – Leases for telecommunications facilities on community land</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to amend legislation such that:</p> <p>a) The approval process for telecommunications facilities on community land be simplified by only requiring a development application, and not requiring a separate notification of a proposal to lease community land.</p> <p>b) Councils not be required to tender leases for telecommunications facilities on community land.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>89 Warren Shire Council – Improvement of transmission networks for solar energy development</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW petitions both the NSW Government and Federal Government to provide funding programs to incentivise the upgrading of electricity transmission lines in rural and remote areas where it is most suitable to have solar energy developments and are supported by the local community.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> <li>Minister for Industry, Energy and Emissions Reduction (federal), the Hon Angus Taylor MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>Both the Federal and NSW Governments have announced significant new investment in the energy transmission network.</p> <p>The NSW budget commits \$1.2 billion to the program over several years.</p>
<p><b>90 Lake Macquarie City Council – Adaptive reuse of mining lands</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government works with councils, industry and mines to support the diversification of coal-reliant economies by investigating legislative and procedural change that will better facilitate adaptive reuse of former and current mining lands, following decontamination and rehabilitation.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, Minister for Tourism and Sport, Minister for Western Sydney, the Hon. Stuart Ayres MP</li> <li>Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes, the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>91 Wollondilly Shire Council – Mine subsidence</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW writes to the NSW Mining Minister calling for urgent review of the Mine Subsidence Act to better protect and assist landowners affected by mining and mine subsidence. Noting in particular that the current review process should be assessed by an independent body.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Small Business, Minister for Fair Trading, the Hon. Eleni Petinos MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>92 Leeton Shire Council – Principle-based commitment to national agricultural strategy</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the Australian Government to support the goals of the '2030 Roadmap: Australian Agriculture's Plan for a \$100 billion industry' but make a principle-based commitment to ensure the plan is realistic, optimises water use, and supports existing regional and rural communities and industries by maintaining and promoting agricultural diversity that builds resilience into our economies and helps rural communities thrive. Success cannot only be measured by increased prices at the farm gate.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia (federal), the Hon David Littleproud MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia (federal), the <a href="#">Hon David Littleproud MP</a> responded on 20 April 2022.</li> <li>Minister Littleproud confirmed the Australian Government supports the goals of the 2030 Roadmap: Australian Agriculture's Plan for a \$100 billion industry by 2030. He advised that this commitment was reinforced in the 2022-23 Federal Budget with over \$600 million in new investment in Australian Agriculture. The Minister goes on to mention specific expenditure including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$20m on biosecurity</li> <li>\$97m Healthy Rivers-Healthy Communities Program</li> <li>\$35m to improve Murray Irrigation Limited.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>93 Tweed Shire Council – Regenerative landscape management</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW writes to the NSW Premier and the NSW Minister for Agriculture to request significant investment in research and development of regenerative</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Premier, the Hon. Dominic Perrottet MP</li> </ul>	



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p>agriculture to position NSW to become a world leader in best practice landscape management to sustain future food security and farm viability, and to harness the vast potential for economic recovery through our regional areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Western NSW, the Hon. Dugald Saunders MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>94 Leeton Shire Council - Protect food security/sustainability of regional irrigation communities</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the Australian Government to protect national food security and the sustainability of regional irrigation communities by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>acknowledging irrigation communities were purposefully built by governments to feed and drought proof the nation</li> <li>acknowledging the unintended adverse impacts on regional communities as a result of certain water policy decisions and the operation of water trading markets</li> <li>acknowledging that the nation's primary producers are adept at using water efficiently and responsibly through on-farm practices and infrastructure</li> <li>providing enhanced water access for general security water holders in regional communities who depend on the availability of this water for their livelihoods and employment</li> <li>ensuring decisions foster diversity in agriculture and value adding industries as diversity is our strength and builds resilience in our communities and economies</li> <li>reviewing and adjusting timelines for the completion of Murray-Darling Basin projects and plans such as the Murray-Darling Basin Plan Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Measures (SDLAM) Projects and Water Sharing Plans to be more realistic, achievable and prevent any adverse third-party impacts</li> <li>ensuring better water transparency on environmental water holdings, the trading of environmental water and the outcomes of efficiency projects</li> <li>ensuring water conveyance losses are recognised and are properly costed and accounted for</li> <li>acknowledging that annual crops grown close to the source of our water supplies are key to maintaining resilience in our relatively dry and inconsistent climate.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia (federal), the Hon David Littleproud MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia (federal), the <a href="#">Hon David Littleproud MP</a> responded on 20 April 2022.</li> <li>Minister Littleproud advised that the Government has a range of initiatives that address the issues raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2022 Murray Darling Communities Investment Package</li> <li>Agreement to fund accelerated projects for Yanco Creek and Menindee Lakes</li> <li>Introduction of the first version of the Murray-Darling Basin Water Information Portal increasing transparency for water users</li> <li>A commitment to Water Market Reform.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>L1 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council – Deputy Mayor remuneration</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW call on the Minister for Local Government to give consideration to remunerate the role of deputy mayor in local councils. The role of deputy mayor currently has no remuneration provision in the Local Government Act. Where two events are held for simultaneous celebrations (events such as Australia Day, ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day) the mayor cannot attend both ceremonies and some are many kilometres apart in regional and rural areas. The role of deputy mayor is increasing and the proposal for the role to be remunerated is not unreasonable.</p>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>L2 Broken Hill City Council – Affordable housing solutions for regional communities - regional tax incentive</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the Federal Government to create a regional tax incentive to equalise the current remote area Fringe Benefit Tax concessions from 50% to 100% to enable all employees residing in regional and remote communities across Australia access to the same allowances as their employers. The tax incentive will assist to drive regional relocation, to smooth out the volatility of housing prices with the aim to address the regional housing affordability crisis across Australia (especially in regional areas affected by the boom-bust cycle of mining industries).</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister for Regionalisation, Regional Communications and Regional Education (federal), Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie*</li> <li>Treasurer (federal), The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Revised letters currently being sent to Ministers in the new Federal Government.</i></p>	<p>The \$500 million NSW Government's Housing Package will deliver announced in the 2022-23 Budget provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$300 million to co-fund and accelerate the delivery of 'shovel-ready' infrastructure projects that will enable new homes in Sydney and key regional areas,</li> <li>\$89 million to unlock more homes sooner state-wide through faster planning assessments,</li> <li>\$69.8 million to accelerate the rezoning of key housing precincts in Sydney and regional areas to make more land development-ready for new homes,</li> <li>\$33.8 million to address housing supply in Regional NSW and create a 10-year regional housing supply</li> </ul>



Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
		<p>pipeline that will make housing and infrastructure delivery more certain, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$3.8 million for 'call-in' team for accelerated council led rezonings.</li> </ul> <p>It does not address the specific issue raised in the resolution.</p>
<p><b>L3 Randwick City Council - Waste to energy incinerators</b></p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledges concerns regarding the impact of waste to energy incinerators on communities and the environment;</li> <li>Notes that the Draft Regulations and the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) Energy from Waste Infrastructure Plan would prohibit waste to energy incinerators in some places and not others;</li> <li>Considers burning energy an outdated technology and encourages diversion rather than incineration.</li> </ol>	<p>Letter(s) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer, Minister for Energy, the Hon. Matt Kean MP</li> <li>Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP</li> </ul> <p>Included in LGNSW's <a href="#">March 2022 submission</a> on the Draft Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Amendment (Thermal Energy from Waste) Regulation 2021</p> <p>30 March 2022 – LGNSW raised this matter in a liaison meeting with NSW Dept of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>May 2022 – response received from <a href="#">Minister Griffin</a> notes that while energy from waste is supported by the Government for managing residual waste, this is only an alternative to landfilling residual waste and where it is compatible with managing human health and environmental risks. The Energy from Waste Policy Statement sets out strict thermal, technical and resource recovery criteria to energy from waste proposals to ensure facilities meet stringent air emission standards and that they do not undermine current or future recycling opportunities.</p>



## ATTACHMENT 2

### Local Government NSW Annual General Conference 2022 (Proposed Motions)

Please find below background information submitted by Councillors in support of Proposed Motions for consideration by Council for submission to the LG NSW Local Government Conference 2022.

#### Proposed Motion 1 – Climate change impacts and resilience

THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:

*“THAT LGNSW requests urgent access and availability of funding to assist councils to prepare and respond to extreme climate events and infrastructure damage, outside of Natural Disaster declarations, and that State Government agencies are held accountable to commitments to mitigate the impacts of climate-related disruptions on local communities across the state.”*

#### Background

LGNSW has previously noted the increasing intensity and frequency of extreme weather events as a consequence of global climate change. Recent record breaking rainfall and flooding events across the NSW East Coast, highlight that climate related risks and vulnerabilities are escalating and accumulating. Local Councils' are at the forefront of responding to climate impacts on communities, and are bearing the cost burden to repeatedly rectify damages to local roads, coastal infrastructure, stormwater drainage and other Council owned infrastructure and assets, with some councils already experiencing damage and loss beyond their ability to manage.

Given climate impacts are considered a foreseeable, Councils should not have to compete with each other for the financial capacity to anticipate and rectify essential community infrastructure and services. Despite extensive scientific projections, resources and even an [Adaptation Strategy](#), the State Government has failed to create funding streams or legislation to help local Councils' restore and build climate resilience, outside of established response and recovery approaches.

Investing \$1 in resilience has been shown in some instances to reap savings of \$4–11 in recovery (CSIRO 2020). NSW Treasury has already estimated that \$15.8–17.2 billion in total economic costs will be incurred every year on average by 2060–61 from disasters triggered by extreme weather events. A fund of just 1% of these costs, could help to account for annual avoided costs of between \$158 and \$172 million by 2060–61.

Councils need a pool of non-contestable funding to address the rapidly increasing damage costs and safety issues arising from changing climate conditions and extreme weather events. In addition, strengthened support, information sharing and accountability from NSW critical infrastructure agencies such as water and electricity utilities and Roads and Maritime Services, is urgently required to identify manage and respond to interdependent risks and failures across NSW Infrastructure. It is only by working together with our colleagues in State agencies that we can support and protect our communities in the dynamic risk environment that is already a reality in NSW.

**Proposed Motion 2 – Better Waste and Recycling Fund**

THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:

*“THAT LGNSW requests the NSW Government to urgently reinstate the non-contestable waste and recycling grant program funding under the Better Waste and Recycling Fund, so that councils have secure funding for waste and recycling education programs to drive waste minimisation, cleaner waste streams and more efficient resource recovery”.*

Background

LGNSW has previously called for the NSW Government to improve its investment of the Waste Levy in local recycling solutions through the *Save Our Recycling* Campaign. The table below details the total waste levies paid by Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra Councils, in addition to the grants previously received by each council under the NSW EPA *Better Waste and Recycling fund*.

Waste Levy Paid	Period	Randwick	Waverley	Woollahra	TOTAL
	2017-18	\$2,053,757	\$1,544,334	\$1,456,689	\$5,054,780
	2018-19	\$1,690,757	\$1,528,381	\$1,480,280	\$4,699,418
	2019-20	\$1,856,762	\$1,591,954	\$1,462,333	\$4,911,049
	2020-21	\$1,786,996	\$1,621,333	\$1,501,689	\$4,910,018
	2021-22	\$1,551,200	\$1,452,873	\$1,491,179	\$4,495,252
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,939,472</b>	<b>\$7,738,875</b>	<b>\$7,392,170</b>	<b>\$24,070,517</b>
Grant Funding Received	Period	Randwick	Waverley	Woollahra	TOTAL
	2017-18	\$165,000	\$106,624	\$95,283	\$366,907
	2018-19	\$165,000	\$179,250	\$94,440	\$438,690
	2019-20	\$165,000	\$106,624	\$135,203	\$406,827
	2020-21	\$165,000	\$220,078	\$120,010	\$505,088
	2021-22	\$165,000	\$140,455	\$178,895	\$484,350
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$825,000</b>	<b>\$753,031</b>	<b>\$623,831</b>	<b>\$2,201,862</b>

From 1 July 2022, the NSW EPA's *Better Waste and Recycling* non-contestable grants will be discontinued. This NSW Government funding via the NSW EPA enables councils to implement strategic, waste education programs consistent with the NSW Government waste strategy, to improve recycling rates and promote waste minimisation. The discontinuation of this funding has significantly reduced local councils' ability to resource and undertake these critical waste and recycling programs.



### Proposed Motion 3 – SEPP Seniors

THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:

*“THAT Local Government NSW:*

- (a) acknowledges concerns regarding the unilateral changes made by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) without consultation and without advance notice to the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 (Housing SEPP) on 1 July 2022;*
- (b) notes the significant amendments relating to seniors housing in the R2 low density residential zone and seniors housing in heritage conservation areas;*
- (c) notes, in particular, the deletion of the requirement that seniors housing development in R2 low density residential zones be carried out by either the Land and Housing Corporation or operators under the Retirement Villages Act 1999 (which ensures that such development is fit for the intended social purpose if it is to override Council strategic planning);*
- (d) notes that many seniors housing developments in R2 low density residential zones and heritage conservation areas may result in built form outcomes that are inconsistent with the desired character of those zones in that they allow development of multi-storey luxury residential flat buildings in R2 low density residential zones that are not ordinarily permitted or planned for in those zones, without ensuring the desired social outcome of those developments actually being managed for seniors use and living;*
- (e) calls on the Premier of NSW and the Minister for Planning and Homes to immediately reinstate the requirement that any development of seniors housing in R2 low density residential zones under the Housing SEPP be permitted only if carried out by the Land and Housing Corporation or operators under the Retirement Villages Act 1999; and*
- (f) calls on the Premier of NSW and the Minister for Planning and Homes to permanently exclude Seniors Housing under the Housing SEPP from applying to heritage conservation areas in local municipalities”.*

#### Background

Nil.

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#### Proposed Motion 4 – Stormwater capture and recycling

THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:

*“THAT Local Government NSW:*

- (a) acknowledges the need for Councils to become better managers of stormwater to ensure resilience in planning outcomes for local communities and better environmental outcomes for catchment areas and waterways; and*
- (b) establish an appropriate long term funding mechanism to assist Councils to implement large-scale stormwater channel naturalisation and stormwater harvesting projects to achieve better environmental outcomes for ever growing populations and communities”.*

#### Background

Nil.

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#### Proposed Motion 5 – Constitutional recognition of local government

THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:

*“THAT LGNSW:*

- 1) Notes that local Councils and Shires, as the level of government closest to people, are best placed to address and service the needs, as well as advance the values and aspirations of communities across NSW.*
- 2) Reaffirms its commitment to recognising local government in the Commonwealth Constitution.*
- 3) Notes concern that without recognition in the Commonwealth Constitution, local governments are:  
(i) subject to state legislation and extinguishment by the government of the day;  
(ii) ineligible to receive financial funding and support directly from the federal government.*
- 4) Request the federal Albanese government commit to a referendum process to progress constitutional change to protect local governments, enable direct federal funding and acknowledge the critical role they play in Australia's democracy”.*

#### Background

In 2011 Woollahra Council endorsed in the following terms a Mayoral Minute advanced by Mayor Isabelle Shapiro:

*That Woollahra Council declares its support for financial recognition of local government in the Australian Constitution so that the Federal government has the power to fund local government directly and also for inclusion of local government in any new Preamble to the Constitution if one is proposed, and calls on all political parties to support a referendum by 2013 to change the Constitution to achieve this recognition.*

This resolution was made in support of the Australian Local Government Association's campaign in the lead up to a referendum proposed to be held in conjunction with the 2013; this referendum never eventuated.

Since 2013 a number of councils across NSW have been subjected to forced amalgamation proposals, including Woollahra Municipal Council. Legal challenge pursued by Woollahra Council exposed flaws in the business case and rationale for amalgamations and illustrated our community's overwhelming support for and trust in their local government.

Ultimately, Woollahra Council preserved its independence and that of many other councils and shires across NSW, however, ongoing risk of extinguishment and amalgamation remains.

#### Proposed Motion 6 – Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

THAT Council submits the following motion for consideration by the 2022 Local Government NSW Conference:

*“THAT Local Government NSW calls on the NSW state government to:*

- A. *To reintroduce the following Objects in the Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979 that were removed when the Act was amended in 2017:*
  - *the provision of land for public purposes, and*
  - *the provision and coordination of community services and facilities.*
- B. *Prioritise the provision of public open space in the NSW planning system.*
- C. *Develop and adopt a numerical ratio for the provision of public open space per head of population as a mandatory baseline for areas identified for higher density including greenfield development, industrial/commercial to residential rezonings and other urban renewal projects.*
- D. *Ensure that the impact on existing public open spaces is assessed when residential areas are considered for density uplifts.*
- E. *Establish a substantial and dedicated source of state government funding to assist local councils in the provision of new and enhanced public open spaces”.*

#### Introduction

The Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns and the accelerating impacts of climate change have highlighted what can arguably be described as a crisis in the provision of public open space in Greater Sydney.<sup>1</sup> This is especially the case in western Sydney where density pressures and poor planning decisions have led to inequitable access to public open spaces and even made some communities acutely vulnerable to the adverse impacts of extreme heat days.<sup>2</sup>

Over the past decade, the state government's large-scale “asset recycling” program - the privatisation of public assets with the proceeds used for infrastructure development - has netted well in excess of \$10

<sup>1</sup> [The Greater Sydney Public Open Spaces Audit 2016](#), commissioned by the Department of Planning and Environment and the Greater Sydney Commission, defined public open space as “active”, “passive” and “bushland”. For the purposes of this paper, bushland, which includes biodiversity corridors, reserves, national parks and wetlands, is not included in the definition of public open spaces. As the Audit acknowledges, these spaces only provide limited recreation or public access opportunities and their inclusion would provide a distorted view of the amount of open space per 1000 people because it does not reflect the lived experience.

<sup>2</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, [“Homes aren't safe”: Western Sydney prepares evacuation shelters for hot summers](#), 8 May 2022



billion dollars but only a fraction of this money has been used to fund the provision of public open space in our urban areas.<sup>3</sup>

The burden of acquiring or repurposing land for public open space has primarily fallen on local councils, which in addition to being forced to accept state government mandates to facilitate higher density in their municipalities are also under threat of losing access to developer infrastructure contributions that can be used to fund new or repurposed spending on public open space and other community facilities.<sup>4</sup>

This discussion paper will explain why the state government needs to play a much more significant role in delivering new and enhanced public open spaces. It will argue for the reintroduction of a numerical standard for the provision of open space per person as a necessary benchmark tool to assist in the early identification of the impacts of increasing density on the use of planned and existing open public spaces.

The economic, social and health benefits of providing adequate public open space in our urban areas cannot be underestimated. A 2018 KPMG study on the benefits of outdoor and indoor community sporting infrastructure, for example, estimated that these facilities generate an annual value of \$16.2 billion across Australia. This figure included an economic benefit of \$6.3 billion from the increased economic activity of community sport participants, personal health benefits of \$4.9 billion due to the reduced risk of chronic diseases and an improvement in mental health, savings to the health care system from a healthier population, and a social benefit of \$5.6 billion due to the increased human capital that results from the social interactions during participation in community sport.<sup>5</sup>

The study acknowledged that other benefits can only be measured qualitatively and would include improved social inclusion and community pride.

Public open spaces also provide important community and environmental benefits, including the connectedness that comes from having passive green areas to relax, interact, play and picnic.<sup>6</sup> Equally as important, the network of green public open spaces helps to alleviate the heat island effect and provides wildlife corridors between larger conservation areas and national parks.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Historical context for the development of a numerical standard for the provision of public open space per person in urban areas**

A standard of 2.83 hectares of public open space per 1000 people came into general use in the Sydney region during the 1960s and was used as a general guide for the allocation of land as “neighbourhood open space” by the State Planning Authority in the planning of new areas. It also appeared frequently as the standard applied by local councils in their interpretation of Section 333 of the Local Government Act 1975.<sup>8</sup> The origin of this standard appears to have been derived from the UK, where in the 1920s a standard of 6 acres (2.43 hectares) of open space per 1000 people was adopted.<sup>9</sup>

The standard was not implemented or accepted everywhere. According to a 1982 Department of Planning Open Space Survey, “different areas have different needs and a wide range of factors influences and constrains the location and amount of open space that can be provided.” But although this report noted that “it is now widely accepted that the application of rigid standards to the provision of open space is not

<sup>3</sup> ArchitectureAU, [NSW government introduces minister to 'champion' public spaces](#), 5 February 2019

<sup>4</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, ['Worst time': Sydney mayors warn rates will rise if developer levies changed](#), 15 September 2021

<sup>5</sup> KPMG (2018) [The Value of community sport infrastructure](#). Australian Sports Commission.

<sup>6</sup> City of Stirling (2021): [Public Open Spaces Strategy, 2021 - 2031](#).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>8</sup> 1972 Sydney Region Open Space Survey, conducted by the NSW Planning and Environment Commission (NSWPEC).

<sup>9</sup> Veal, A. J. UTS (Sydney) 2013: Open Space Planning Standards in Australia: in Search of Origins, Published in A. J. veal (2013) Open space planning standards in Australia: in search of origins. *Australian Planner* 50(3), 224-32.

always appropriate," it qualified this remark by stating that "some sort of standard will always be needed as a guide to assessing open space."<sup>10</sup>

By the early 1990s, however, the NSW state government had all but abandoned the standard for public open space provision. The 1992 revised NSW *Guidelines for Open Space* described it as "inaccurate and misleading" and a demand/needs-based approach was endorsed.<sup>11</sup>

**The dropping of the public open space planning standard has led to a dramatic decline in the provision of open space for brownfield and infill renewal locations in Sydney**

The 2015 *Open Space and Community Facilities Assessment for Kellyville Station Precinct* (Open Space Facilities Assessment), prepared by JBA Consultants for the Department of Planning and Environment, acknowledged that for selected brownfield and infill renewal locations the rate of open space provision per head of new population is substantially less than that specified in traditional quantitative standards. This is particularly the case in infill locations such as Epping, as highlighted in the table below, with the report noting that "this reflects the difficulty in providing new open space, and in particular large, land intensive sporting fields in renewal locations."<sup>12</sup>

Precinct	Open Space Provision (hectares) per 1000 persons
Rhodes Peninsula	0.87ha/1,000
Harold Park	1.9ha/1,000
Epping Priority Precinct	0.12ha/1,000
Wolli Creek (Discovery Point Precinct)	0.87ha/1,000
Kellyville Station Precinct	1.5ha/1,000

**Competing state government priorities and a high population growth rate have also contributed to the decline in the provision of public open space**

Although the *Open Space Facilities Assessment* identified land fragmentation in urban renewal areas as one of the main reasons for the precipitous decline in the provision of public open space in urban renewal areas, it also highlighted competing government priorities, acknowledging that "the provision of such open spaces would need to occur at the expense of homes and jobs, which is arguably against the primary purpose of creating growth precincts."

Across Sydney as a whole, the imposition of five-year net new dwelling targets imposed by the Greater

<sup>10</sup> NSW Department of Planning 1982 Open Space Survey, (NSW Dept of Environment and Planning (NSWDEP), 1984: 4)

<sup>11</sup> 1992 Guidelines for Open Space (NSWDEP, 1992: 7)

<sup>12</sup> JBA Urban Planning Consultants (August 2015) [Open Space and Community Facilities Assessment Kellyville Station Precinct](#). Prepared for NSW Department of Planning and Environment



Sydney Commission, coupled with federal government policies that favour a high growth rate in immigration, have led to a dramatic surge in population density. The population of Western Sydney, for example, has ballooned by 437,000 in just 10 years and is now home to 2.6 million residents.<sup>13</sup>

#### **Councils are struggling to keep up with the demand for public open space**

The media is full of reports of local community upset about the lack of public open spaces and the heated debate that often erupts over how to best utilise the spaces that already exist.

The Hills Shire mayor Peter Gangemi, for example, told the *Sydney Morning Herald* that his council and government agencies were struggling to keep pace with demand for services and facilities in new suburbs such as Box Hill and North Kellyville, noting that the decisions and policies of the state government has led to more homes, cars and people than expected and “an urban footprint that looks more intense because of a lack of greenery, such as an established tree canopy and open space facilities.”<sup>14</sup>

As competition for the use of existing public open spaces increases, community backlash to the installation of artificial turf on sporting fields, for example, is also on the rise. While councils across Sydney view fake grass and lighting as a way to optimise the use of sports fields in short supply, due in part to the growing popularity of organised sports and the prohibitive cost of acquiring new land, local residents lament the loss of access to “shared community green space.”<sup>15</sup>

#### **The state government acknowledges the constraints of providing adequate public open space, but guidelines for the amount of public open space that should be provided are vague**

Recent information on the Government's Greater Cities Commission website page, [Delivering high quality open space](#), acknowledges the constraints in delivering new public open space, especially in already high-density areas like the Eastern City District, where “councils have been investigating solutions for the shortfall in active open space, including making better use of existing sportsgrounds, converting existing open space into sports fields, and partnering with schools to share spaces outside school hours.”<sup>16</sup>

But whilst the Greater Cities Commission recommends that “high density development (over 60 dwellings per hectare) should be located within 200 metres of open space and all dwellings should be within 400 metres of open space,” no guidelines are offered for the ideal amount and preferable size of individual public open spaces in urban areas despite recognition that “in high density neighbourhoods, public open space is used like a shared backyard, providing a green communal living space and “needs to be durable, multi-purpose and accessible to a variety of users.”

Constraints on access to quality open spaces of sufficient size and quantity are not just confined to higher density areas. In both new and existing suburbs, smaller block sizes and rezonings for medium density housing have put pressure on public open space to support more informal and ad hoc activities like walking paths, bike paths, dedicated dog areas and space for personal trainers.<sup>17</sup> Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, for example, shows the average house block size has shrunk by 32% (207 sq metres) over the last 15 years but the average floor area has increased by 6% (14 sq metres) over the same period.<sup>18</sup>

Similarly, the definition of what constitutes public open space has been widened to try to creatively address recognised shortfalls. The *Open Space Facilities Assessment*, for example, notes that for infill areas the focus has been on creating “centrally located urban open spaces such as plazas, linear open space

<sup>13</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, [No jobs, no trees: The suburbs where urban sprawl is hurting Sydney](#), 9 June 2022

<sup>14</sup> Ibid

<sup>15</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, [‘Children at risk’: Sydney’s turf wars over sporting grounds](#), 29 September 2019

<sup>16</sup> [Delivering high quality open space, Eastern City District Plan](#), Greater Cities Commission

<sup>17</sup> City of Stirling, [Public Open Space Strategy 2021 - 2031](#)

<sup>18</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, [Australians building houses on smaller blocks](#), 8 September 2020

corridors, often including walking and cycling facilities aligned with waterways, and upgrades to the public domain."<sup>19</sup>

**State government funding for public open spaces is ad hoc, and recent funding initiatives to create public open spaces have required councils to accelerate development and increase density**

On 3 February 2019, the NSW Premier announced the \$150-million Strategic Open Space program to secure and improve open space across Greater Sydney. Of this amount \$50 million is being allocated towards converting existing government-owned land into new and upgraded parks in Penrith, Ermington, Appin, Leppington, Frenchs Forest, Carramar, Beaumont Hills and Hurstville. The remainder is to be used to purchase open space in strategic locations in an effort to develop new parks across Sydney.<sup>20</sup>

At the time this funding was announced, the then Minister of Planning, Dr Rob Stokes MP, acknowledged that the creation of public open spaces had not kept pace with uplifts in density, telling the *Sun Herald* that "over the years there's we've been very ad hoc in our thinking about public open spaces and you see it in the patchwork of parks that have been delivered...It was one of those areas that fell between the gaps in between different government silos. I think agencies in the past thought of it as their land, but it's not – it's the people's land and we're trying to change that thinking."<sup>21</sup>

To this end, one of the program's goals is to buy up "forgotten land" across Sydney to create new parks and playgrounds, linkages between green space, and cycleways to meet the needs of the growing population.

But whilst the Minister admitted that "access to parkland was not fair across the city," other Government programs, like the \$250 million *NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program*, have made eligibility conditional on local councils accelerating their assessments of development applications and rezonings to create new development capacity and to meet the demand for housing and employment over the next decade.<sup>22</sup>

**Councils fear losing control over existing sources of funding for the provision of public open space**

A state government proposal to change the way that money raised from developer contributions is collected and distributed to local councils has also sparked fears that local councils won't be able to pay for playgrounds, sports fields and other facilities without significantly raising council rates.<sup>23</sup>

In response to the NSW Productivity Commissioner's findings and recommendations of the infrastructure contributions system in NSW, the Government has put forward a Bill that will replace special infrastructure contributions with a broad-based pooled regional contributions system with no guarantee that the money will be funnelled back into projects in areas where they were collected. The proposals also reduce the type of community projects eligible for funding, give the planning minister more discretion about how funds are spent, and extend Covid-19 provisions that allow developers to defer infrastructure contributions payments until after construction.<sup>24</sup>

**The health, social and economic costs of not providing enough public open space cannot be underestimated**

<sup>19</sup> BA Urban Planning Consultants (August 2015) [Open Space and Community Facilities Assessment Kellyville Station Precinct](#). Prepared for NSW Department of Planning and Environment

<sup>20</sup> [Parks for People](#), Department of Planning and Environment

<sup>21</sup> Sun Herald, [Public Spaces Minister plans to buy Sydney's 'forgotten land' for open space](#), 5 May 2019

<sup>22</sup> [NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program Guidelines](#)

<sup>23</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, [Sydney mayors warn rates will rise if developer levies changed](#), 14 September 2021

<sup>24</sup> Government News, [Minister vows to press ahead with infrastructure contribution changes](#), 19 July 2021



Even before the Covid 19 pandemic highlighted the importance of providing adequate and high quality public open space within easy walking distance from home, several studies had assessed the high health and social costs of not providing adequate public open space and tree canopy cover.

A 2017 report by the Committee for Sydney, for example, found people living in western Sydney had higher rates of diabetes and obesity and were twice as likely to die from cardiovascular diseases like heart failure and stroke because of lack of walkability and access to public transport.<sup>25</sup>

The Cooling Western Sydney study provided evidence that heat-related deaths were up to three times higher in the western suburbs than in the City's east due to lack of tree canopy cover, vegetation clearance for development, inadequate provision of public open spaces and greater distance from cooling sea breezes. On a brighter note, this study identified how mitigation techniques based on the use of water, greenery and cool materials can reduce the average peak ambient temperature by up to 2.5 celsius.<sup>26</sup>

**The most significant public open spaces in our cities today are the legacies of a planning system that previously prioritised public open space**

The [Department of Planning and Environment's website](#) acknowledges that "Greater Sydney's abundance of parklands is a legacy of good decision making over many years" and says that "we are building on that legacy, creating a city in a park."

But as this paper has highlighted, to date the NSW planning system has failed to ensure equitable access to sufficient quality public open space especially in areas where higher density is being imposed.

NSW citizens deserve the right to receive the social, health and wellbeing, financial and environmental benefits that well-planned, designed and managed public open space provides, and the restoration of the two previous objects in the EP & A Act - the provision of land for public purposes, and the provision and coordination of community services and facilities - would go some way in elevating this right to a priority.

More importantly, however, the impacts on existing or proposed new public open spaces on areas being assessed for higher density should be determined at the start of the planning process. This exercise must involve not only a consideration of access, but an analysis of what percentage of public open space should be allocated per person. A suburb experiencing high density growth, for example, may have a good percentage of public open space as defined by the total area but an inadequate amount of public open space per person. In some cases, a reconsideration of whether a residential area can accommodate higher density may be required if sufficient public open space cannot be provided.

Over the past decade, the state government has invested billions of dollars on roads and public transportation to facilitate faster mobility Greater Sydney. But the missing link in preparing Sydney for an anticipated population increase of 1.7 million by 2036 or 3.2 million by 2056 are sufficient measures to ensure its liveability.<sup>27</sup>

Mandatory provisions for public open space, preferably including a numerical baseline percentage of public open space per person, and a dedicated state government funding stream likely required to be in excess of billions of dollars a year are necessary to ensure that Greater Sydney's anticipated population boom does not lead to a irreversible decline in the standard of living of its citizens.

<sup>25</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, [No jobs, no trees: The suburbs where urban sprawl is hurting Sydney](#), 22 May 2022

<sup>26</sup> Sydney Water and UNSW, [Cooling Western Sydney. A strategic study on the role of water in mitigating urban heat in Western Sydney](#),

<sup>27</sup> [Greater Cities Commission website](#)

## 13.1 Environmental Planning Committee

### Items with Recommendations from the Committee Meeting of Monday 1 August 2022 Submitted to the Council for Determination

**Item No:** R1 Recommendation to Council

**Subject:** REGISTER OF CLAUSE 4.6 VARIATIONS

**Author:** Nick Economou, Manager Development Assessment

**Approver:** Scott Pedder, Director - Planning & Place

**File No:** 22/130454

**Purpose of the Report:** To provide full Council with a register of Clause 4.6 variations supported for the period April 2022 to June 2022 to comply with Planning Circular PS20-002

**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 4.6: Ensure that planning and building requirements are complied with.

**Recommendation:**

THAT the attached register of Clause 4.6 variations supported or the period between April 2022 to June 2022 be received and noted.

**Item No:** R2 Recommendation to Council

**Subject:** DRAFT LITIGATION PROTOCOL POLICY

**Author:** Patrick Brown, Governance

**Approvers:** Helen Tola, Manager - Governance & Council Support  
Sue Meekin, Director Corporate Performance  
Craig Swift-McNair, General Manager

**File No:** 22/120352

**Purpose of the Report:** To present to Council a Draft Litigation Protocol Policy to apply to legal proceeding involving Council including planning matters before the Land and Environment Court for the purpose of public exhibition.

**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 10.1: Encourage inclusive community participation and build respectful relationships through engagement and input into decision making.

**Recommendation:**

THAT Council:

- A. Endorse the Draft Litigation Protocol Policy as contained in **Attachment 1** and the Community Fact sheet relating to appeals to the Land & Environment Court contained in **Attachment 2** for the purpose of public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- B. Note that a further report will be prepared for the Environmental Planning Committee following the close of the public exhibition period and assessment of submissions received has been undertaken.





## 13.2 Finance, Community & Services Committee

### Items with Recommendations from the Committee Meeting of Monday 1 August 2022 Submitted to the Council for Determination

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<b>Item No:</b>	R1 Recommendation to Council
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>PROGRESS OF THE YOUTH RECREATION AREA AT RUSHCUTTERS BAY PARK.</b>
<b>Authors:</b>	Paul Fraser, Manager Open Space & Trees Roger Faulkner, Team Leader - Open Space & Recreation Planning Kristy Welfare, Senior Strategic Heritage Officer
<b>Approver:</b>	Tom O'Hanlon, Director - Infrastructure & Sustainability
<b>File No:</b>	22/139167
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	To further progress the proposed Rushcutters Bay Park Youth Recreation Area within the State Heritage Listed site.
<b>Alignment to Delivery Program:</b>	Strategy 5.2: Provide and maintain safe, clean, serviceable public infrastructure including roads, footpaths, bicycle facilities, parks, open spaces, stormwater drains and seawalls.
<b>Note:</b>	As the voting on the Amendment was 4 votes for the Amendment and 4 votes against the Amendment, in accordance with Council's Codes and Policies, both the Motion and the Amendment are referred to Council for consideration.

#### Motion to Council

THAT Council:

- A. Notes the further progress of the Youth Recreation Area at Rushcutters Bay Park, which includes the preparation of a Conservation Management Strategy for the State Heritage Listed site and a Heritage Impact Statement for the project.
- B. Note the minor changes of the design to the Youth Recreation Area recommended by GML Heritage that address heritage impact on the site.
- C. Proceed to submit an application for approval under Section 60 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act) to undertake the project.
- D. Continue with the preparation of the Review of Environmental Factors under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 which would include an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment, if Heritage approval is granted.

#### Amendment to Council

THAT Council:

- A. Defers progression of the approval process for the proposed Youth Facility until the new Conservation Master Plan (CMP) is developed for the entire State Heritage Register (SHR) listed Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park area, including Sir David Martin Reserve.
- B. Works closely with the City of Sydney Council and the relevant foreshore authorities to develop a coordinated approach to the development of a site-wide CMP.
- C. Ensures that the CMP is informed by the overarching goal of respecting, restoring and maintaining the unique heritage values of the SHR listed Parks and Reserves.
- D. Explores, in the course of developing the CMP, alternative options for the location of the Youth Facility both within the SHR listed Parks and Reserve areas and in other locations.

**Item No:** R2 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE 2022  
INVESTMENTS HELD AS AT 31 JULY 2022**  
**Author:** Toby Andreassen, Financial Accountant  
**Approvers:** Paul Ryan, Chief Financial Officer  
Sue Meekin, Director Corporate Performance  
**File No:** 22/134902  
**Purpose of the Report:** To present the monthly financial report for June 2022 and to present a list of investments held as at 31 July 2022.  
**Alignment to Delivery Program:** Strategy 1.1: Provide and facilitate a range of community projects, programs and events.

**Recommendation:**

THAT the Committee:

- A. Receive and note the Monthly Financial Report – June 2022.
- B. Note that Council’s 12-month weighted average return for June 2022 on its direct investment portfolio of 1.41% exceeds the benchmark 90 day AusBond Bank Bill Index of 0.28%.
- C. Note that the interest income for the full year to 30 June of \$482k exceeded our March revised forecast of \$410k.
- D. Receive and note the list of Council’s investments held as at 31 July 2022.

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**Item No:** R3 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM STATUS REPORT - JUNE 2022  
INCLUDING 2021/22 BUDGET REVOTES & ROLLOVERS**  
**Authors:** Henrietta McGilvray, Senior Corporate Accountant  
Petrina Duffy, Coordinator Strategy & Performance  
Paul Ryan, Chief Financial Officer  
**Approvers:** Sue Meekin, Director Corporate Performance  
Tom O'Hanlon, Director - Infrastructure & Sustainability  
Craig Swift-McNair, General Manager  
**File No:** 22/132444  
**Reason for Report:** To provide the Committee with an update on the status of projects in the 2021/22 Capital Works Program and to report on the 2021/22 Budget revotes and rollovers.

**Recommendation:**

THAT Council:

- A. Note and receive the Quarterly Progress Report – Capital Works Program for June 2022
- B. Approve the items identified as “Revote” in Attachments 1 and 2 to the 2022/23 Budget.
- C. Note that the net impact of the operational rollovers is an increase in Council’s 2022/23 deficit of \$1k to a deficit of \$259k.

## 15. Councillor Reports/Councillor Updates (Section 8.4)

**Note:** Councillor Reports/Councillor Updates are to be confined to condolences, congratulations, presentations and matters ruled by the Chair to be of extreme urgency (in accordance with Section 8.4 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice).

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## 16. Notices of Motion

**Item No:** 16.1  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF MOTION - PUBLIC WHALE WATCHING BINOCULARS  
**From:** Councillors Nicola Grieve and Matthew Robertson  
**Date:** 16 August 2022  
**File No:** 22/160469

**Recommendation:**

THAT Council:

- A. Notes its delight at:
- i. The increase in whale numbers travelling up and down Australia's eastern seaboard.
  - ii. The removal of Humpback whales from Australia's threatened species list in February 2022.
  - iii. Our community's interest in local biodiversity, and that Council-run whale watching walk held four times annually for groups of 28 people are regularly at capacity.
  - iv. The provision of numerous, spectacular vantage points for whale watching along the Woollahra-council section of the eastern beaches 'coastal walk'.
- B. Request staff to investigate installation of free, public binoculars and signage detailing whale species and migration patterns at strategic vantage points along the coastal walk, noting that such improvements will not only provide enhanced opportunities for interaction with biodiversity, but that activation of this area will aid in self-harm prevention.

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**Discussion:**

Humpback whales have been removed from the threatened species list after a significant increase in numbers in the 60 years since whaling was banned and they were first protected.

The next challenge, however, is to ensure these magnificent animals stay off the list, and that means protecting their ocean environment from warming. The effects of climate change have a significant impact on krill populations in Antarctica, a major feeding ground for humpback whales.

Exposing more people to whales on their annual pilgrimage with access to binoculars and information signage is an easy way to build awareness of their plight and ensure their future.

More information: <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/acrobatic-humpbacks-herald-the-start-of-whale-watching-season-20220530-p5apq6.html>.





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## 17. Questions With Notice

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### Recommendation:

THAT the Questions with Notice be received and noted.

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### Background:

A Councillor may, by way of notice, ask a question for response by the General Manager or their nominee, in accordance with Council's adopted Code of Meeting Practice. Where a response, or an update will be provided at the Council Meeting, a response of 'On Notice' is listed in the Council Agenda.

The following Questions with Notice for the Council Meeting on 22 August 2022 have been received.

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**QWN:** 17.1  
**From:** Councillor Regan  
**Subject:** Questions with Notice - Rose Bay Centre Connectivity Program (RBCCP)

### Councillor Regan asking:

1. Would you please direct us to where we can find a copy of the application for grant funding made by Council for Rose Bay under the streets as shared spaces program of the NSW State Government which resulted in Council being awarded \$480,000 to deliver the Rose Bay Centre Connectivity Program (RBCCP)?
2. Is there a copy of the RBCCP that is readily accessible from Council's website?
3. It is understood that the RBCCP was based on the draft Rose Bay Place Plan 2022-2025 and that it will enable Council to trial multiple projects with a view to more permanent works down the track. In this regard, was the application for funding based on 30km traffic and pedestrian zones in Rose Bay?
4. Are treatments set out in the application for grant funding in the RBCCP, which I understand include footpath extensions, temporary shared zones, street greening, temporary seating and temporary retail (amongst other things) based on 30km traffic and pedestrian zones in Rose Bay?
5. As a general questions, are road and footpath treatments such as raised pedestrian crossings / chicanes designed to slow traffic flow down/ footpath extensions and street greening in identified pedestrian zones only permissible if 30km speed limits are set, or can these treatments (which aim at favouring pedestrians over cars) also be implemented in areas with 40km speed limit zones?
6. Are there any road and footpath treatments that can only be achieved in 30km speed limit areas that are not able to be achieved if the speed limit is over 30km?

### Manager Strategic Planning & Place in response:

1. Would you please direct us to where we can find a copy of the application for grant funding made by Council for Rose Bay under the streets as shared spaces program of the NSW State Government which resulted in Council being awarded \$480,000 to deliver the Rose Bay Centre Connectivity Program (RBCCP)?

*The application to deliver the RBCCP made by Woollahra Council is summarised at this location. <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities/great-public-spaces/streets/streets-as-shared-spaces-program>*

2. Is there a copy of the RBCCP that is readily accessible from Council's website?

*No, there is not currently a copy of the RBCCP on Council's website. The proposed program is a work in progress subject to ongoing consultation with internal teams (revised budgets due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on costs) and requires consent from relevant land owners as well as statutory approvals.*

3. It is understood that the RBCCP was based on the draft Rose Bay Place Plan 2022-2025 and that it will enable Council to trial multiple projects with a view to more permanent works down the track. In this regard, was the application for funding based on 30km traffic and pedestrian zones in Rose Bay?

*One of the objectives of the application for the funding is to:*

*Road test pedestrian walking and streetscape projects identified in the Draft Woollahra Active Transport Plan and Draft Rose Bay Place Plan.*

*In this regards, the application is not reliant on a 30km speed limit and can be progressed regardless of a 30km or a 40km speed limit.*

4. Are treatments set out in the application for grant funding in the RBCCP, which I understand include footpath extensions, temporary shared zones, street greening, temporary seating and temporary retail (amongst other things) based on 30km traffic and pedestrian zones in Rose Bay?

*The primary objectives of the treatments identified in the RBCCP seek to improve and enhance the connections and pedestrian accessibility between Rose Bay Centre to Rose Bay Beach/harbour and around Rose Bay Centre. The application is not reliant on a 30km speed limit.*

**Manager Engineering Services in response:**

5. As a general questions, are road and footpath treatments such as raised pedestrian crossings / chicanes designed to slow traffic flow down/ footpath extensions and street greening in identified pedestrian zones only permissible if 30km speed limits are set, or can these treatments (which aim at favouring pedestrians over cars) also be implemented in areas with 40km speed limit zones?

*Traffic calming treatments such as raised pedestrian crossings, chicanes, and footpath extensions are implemented to reduce traffic speed and improve safety for all road users. These traffic calming treatments can apply to both 30km/h and/or 40km/h speed control areas.*

6. Are there any road and footpath treatments that can only be achieved in 30km speed limit areas that are not able to be achieved if the speed limit is over 30km?

*All traffic calming treatments implemented within 30km/h speed control areas can also be implemented within speed control areas over 30km/h.*

# Political Donations: Matters to be considered by Councillors at Council and/or Committee Meetings

