



Camden Council

Business Paper

Ordinary Council Meeting
25 September 2012

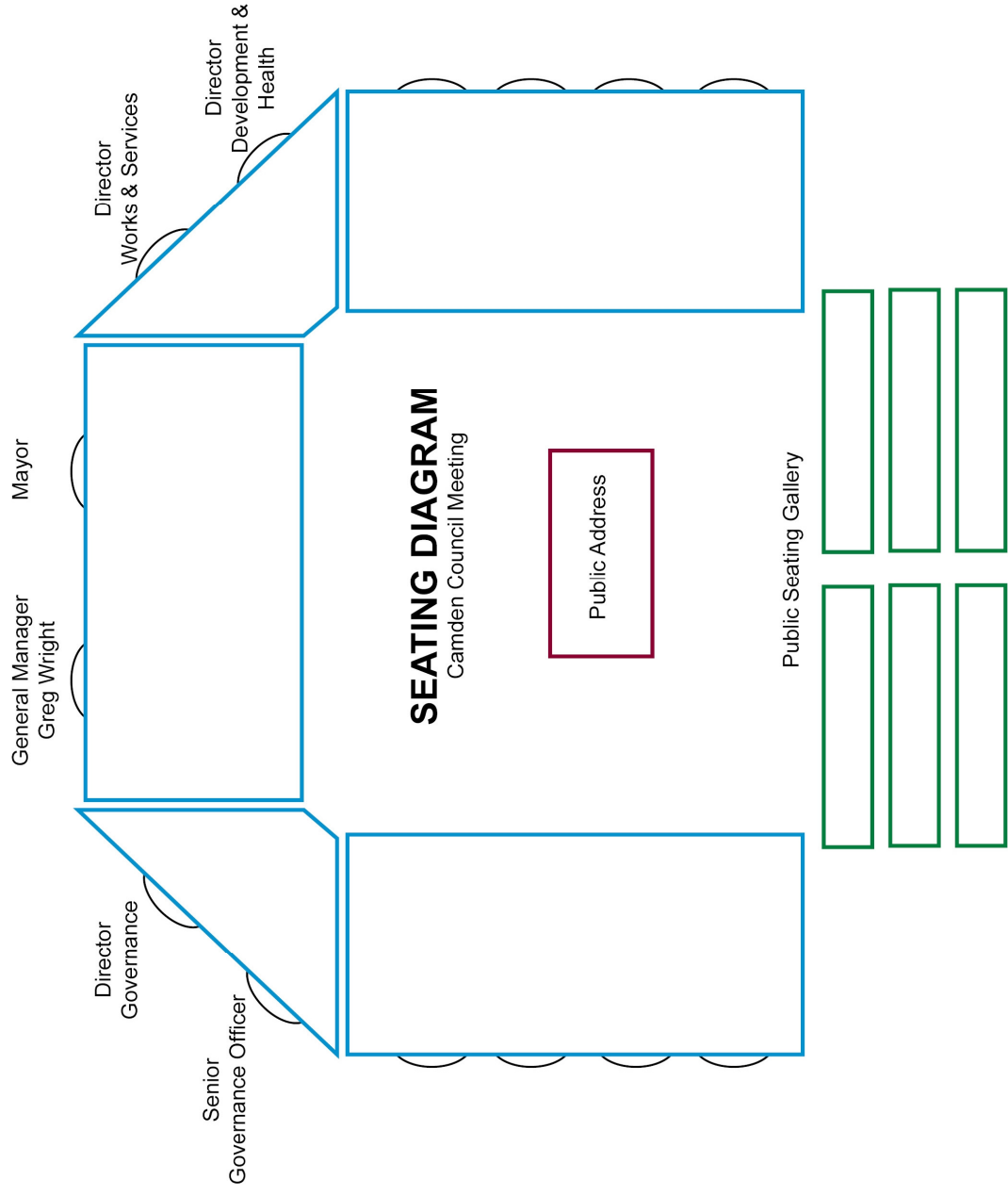
Camden Civic Centre
Oxley Street
Camden



COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

AEP	Annual Exceedence Probability
AHD	Australian Height Datum
BCA	Building Code of Australia
CLEP	Camden Local Environmental Plan
CP	Contributions Plan
DA	Development Application
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water
DCP	Development Control Plan
DDCP	Draft Development Control Plan
DPI	Department of Planning & Infrastructure
DLG	Division of Local Government, Department of Premier & Cabinet
DWE	Department of Water and Energy
DoH	Department of Housing
DoT	NSW Department of Transport
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
FPL	Flood Planning Level
GCC	Growth Centres Commission
LAP	Local Approvals Policy
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
MACROC	Macarthur Regional Organisation of Councils
OSD	Onsite Detention
REP	Regional Environmental Plan
PoM	Plan of Management
RL	Reduced Levels
RMS	Roads & Maritime Services (incorporating previous Roads & Traffic Authority)
SECTION 149	
CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to zoning and planning restrictions on properties
SECTION 603	
CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to Rates and Charges outstanding on a property
SECTION 73	
CERTIFICATE	Certificate from Sydney Water regarding Subdivision
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SRA	State Rail Authority
SREP	Sydney Regional Environmental Plan
STP	Sewerage Treatment Plant
VMP	Vegetation Management Plan
WSROC	Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils

Councillor Seating to be determined at Council Meeting



*Please do not talk during Council Meeting proceedings.
Recording of the Council Meeting is not permitted by members of the public at any time.*



ORDINARY COUNCIL

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ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

In accordance with Camden Council's Code of Meeting Practice and as permitted under the Local Government Act this meeting is being audio recorded by Council staff for minute taking purposes.



ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: APOLOGIES

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

RECOMMENDED

That leave of absence be granted.



ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF INTEREST

NSW legislation provides strict guidelines for the disclosure of pecuniary and non-pecuniary Conflicts of Interest and Political Donations.

Council's Code of Conduct also deals with pecuniary and non-pecuniary conflict of interest and Political Donations and how to manage these issues (Clauses 7.5 -7.27).

Councillors should be familiar with the disclosure provisions contained in the Local Government Act 1993, Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 and the Council's Code of Conduct.

This report provides an opportunity for Councillors to disclose any interest that they may have or Political Donation they may have received relating to a Report contained in the Council Business Paper and to declare the nature of that interest.

RECOMMENDED

That the declarations be noted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ADDRESSES

The Public Address segment (incorporating Public Question Time) in the Council Meeting provides an opportunity for people to speak publicly on any item on Council's Business Paper agenda or on any matter within the Local Government area which falls within Council jurisdiction.

Speakers must book in with the Council office by 4.00pm on the day of the meeting and must advise the topic being raised. Only seven (7) speakers can be heard at any meeting. A limitation of one (1) speaker for and one (1) speaker against on each item is in place. Additional speakers, either for or against, will be identified as 'tentative speakers' and should only be considered where the total number of speakers does not exceed seven (7) at any given meeting.

Where a member of the public raises a question during the Public Address segment, a response will be provided where Councillors or staff have the necessary information at hand; if not a reply will be provided at a later time. There is a limit of one (1) question per speaker per meeting.

All speakers are limited to 4 minutes, with a 1 minute warning given to speakers prior to the 4 minute time period elapsing.

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

The Mayor/Chairperson has the discretion to withdraw the privilege to speak where a speaker continues to make inappropriate or offensive comments about another person.

RECOMMENDED

That the public addresses be noted.



ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirm and adopt Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 28 August 2012, and the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 18 September 2012.

RECOMMENDED

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 28 August 2012, and the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 18 September, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD01

ORD01

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF MAYOR 2012/2013
FROM: General Manager
BINDER: Mayoral Election

The procedures to be followed in respect of the election of the Mayor are set out in Section 290 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (Timing), Clause 394 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (method) and Schedule 7 of that Regulation.

To be nominated for election to the position of Mayor, a nomination form must be completed. The nomination form must be signed by two Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee and must indicate consent of the nominee. The forms must be delivered to the General Manager before 4pm on Tuesday, 25 September 2012. To assist, a number of nomination forms have been issued to each Councillor for this purpose.

If more than one nomination is received, Council will be required to resolve the method of voting. Three methods are available under the Regulations:

- Show of hands (self-explanatory - Open voting)
- Ordinary Ballot
- Preferential Ballot

Once the method of voting is determined, with the exception of show of hands, voting ballot papers will be handed to each Councillor for completion. It is important that the ballot papers are completed correctly to ensure they are formal votes. Informal votes, i.e. those completed contrary to instructions, are excluded from the election count. In the event of a tied vote, i.e. two candidates with the same number of votes, the election is determined by the draw from a box. In the case of an exclusion to reduce the number of candidates to two, the first name drawn is excluded. In the case of a two candidate draw, the name drawn is declared the elected candidate.

Action required:

- (a) If only one candidate nominated - The General Manager will declare the candidate elected.
- (b) If more than one candidate nominated - Council to determine the method of voting as per the Report.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. Determine the method of voting, if required; and**
- ii. An election be held at the Council Meeting of 25 September 2012 and once the result is known, the General Manger to declare the candidate with the majority, elected as Mayor for the 2012/2013 term.**

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD02

SUBJECT: DEPUTY MAYOR ELECTION 2012/13
FROM: General Manager
BINDER: Deputy Mayor Election

Unlike the position of Mayor, which is required by statute under Section 225 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the position of Deputy Mayor is optional (Section 231).

The position of Deputy Mayor does not involve any additional responsibilities or functional authorities beyond the normal role of a Councillor, except when requested by the Mayor or at times, when the Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from carrying out the duties of office. In such times, the Deputy Mayor assumes the role and authorities of the Mayor as specified under Section 226 of the Act. Although optional, past practice has been to retain the position of Deputy Mayor each year.

The procedures required to be followed in respect of the election of Deputy Mayor are the same as that for the election of the Mayor. The same methods of voting apply and a decision is required to be made, if applicable.

To be nominated for election to the position, a nomination form must also be completed. The nomination must be signed by two Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee and must indicate the consent of the nominee. The form must be delivered to the General Manager by 4pm on Tuesday, 25 September, 2012. To assist, a number of nomination forms have been issued separately to each Councillor for this purpose.

Action required:

- (a) If only one candidate - The General Manager will declare the candidate elected.
- (b) If more than one candidate nominated - Council to determine the method of voting.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. Determine the appointment of the position of Deputy Mayor;**
- ii. Determine the method of voting, if required; and**
- iii. Following the election at the Council Meeting of 25 September 2012, and once the result is known, the General Manager to declare the candidate with the majority, elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2012/13 term.**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD03

ORD03

SUBJECT: COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIONS ON COMMITTEES 2012/13
FROM: General Manager
BINDER: Councillor Representations on Committees

Following the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, it is normal procedure to re-appoint Councillor representatives to various internal Committees and external Government/Council Committees for the ensuing twelve (12) month period.

A list of the relevant Committees and Councillor representation is **attached at the end of this report.**

RECOMMENDED

That Council identify Committee membership requiring change and action those changes accordingly.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Committee Representation

ORD03

Attachment 1

**CAMDEN COUNCIL 2011-2012
COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES**

Adopted: Council Meeting 27/09/2011 Last Updated: 04/10/2011

<u>FULL COUNCIL</u>	2
<u>OTHER COMMITTEES</u>	2
<u>INTERNAL COMMITTEES</u>	2
<u>ACCESS COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP</u>	2
<u>CAMDEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA TREE PLANTING COMMITTEE</u>	2
<u>LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</u>	2
<u>EXTERNAL GOVT/COUNCIL COMMITTEES</u>	2
<u>SOUTH WEST SYDNEY ACADEMY OF SPORT</u>	2
<u>CAMDEN LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE</u>	2
<u>CAMPBELLTOWN ARTS CENTRE SUB COMMITTEE</u>	2
<u>COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE</u>	3
<u>COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MACARTHUR-LIVERPOOL</u>	
<u>REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL</u>	3
<u>DISABILITY ACTION PLAN - COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP</u>	3
<u>FLOOD MITIGATION AUTHORITY OF NSW</u>	3
<u>CAMDEN COUNCIL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</u>	3
<u>G.R.O.W. COMMITTEE</u>	3
<u>HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY GROUP</u>	3
<u>JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL (JRPP)</u>	3
<u>MACARTHUR AREA HEALTH SERVICE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT</u>	
<u>COMMITTEE</u>	3
<u>MACARTHUR BUSH FIRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</u>	4
<u>MACARTHUR REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (MACROC)</u>	4
<u>METROPOLITAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION NSW (MPLA)</u>	4
<u>MACARTHUR DIVERSITY SERVICES INC (MDSI)</u>	4
<u>RURAL FIRE SERVICE MACARTHUR ZONE LIAISON COMMITTEE</u>	4
<u>SYDNEY GAS COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE</u>	4
<u>SYDNEY WATER CORPORATE CUSTOMER COUNCIL</u>	4
<u>STATUTORY COMMITTEES (MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS)</u>	5
<u>BELGENNY FARM TRUST</u>	5
<u>COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES</u>	5
<u>BICENTENNIAL EQUESTRIAN PARK COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT</u>	
<u>COMMITTEE</u>	5
<u>CAMDEN INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY</u>	
<u>MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</u>	6
<u>CAMDEN SENIOR CITIZENS COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</u>	6
<u>CAMDEN TOWN FARM COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</u>	6

FULL COUNCIL

(Determines strategy, policy, statutory and staff matters) (Meets 6pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of the Month)

OTHER COMMITTEES**INTERNAL COMMITTEES****ACCESS COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP**

Provide advice, support and direction in regard to disability access issues within local community.(Meets monthly. Evening meetings.)

Cr Symkowiak and Cr Dewbery

CAMDEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA TREE PLANTING COMMITTEE

Actively involved in increasing community involvement in tree planting and landscaping projects to increase biodiversity, sustain native vegetation and protect and improve the natural landscape across the Camden Local Government Area. (Meets Monthly. Daytime meetings.)

Cr Anderson

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Representatives of all emergency organisations prepare for emergencies within the Council Area. (Meets Quarterly. Afternoon/evening meetings.)

Manager – Assets, Manager – Environment & Health (Alternate)

EXTERNAL GOVT/COUNCIL COMMITTEES**SOUTH WEST SYDNEY ACADEMY OF SPORT**

NSW Dept of Sport and Recreation Advisory Board.
(Daytime meetings.)

Nominee needs to be appointed as a Company Director

Cr Anderson

CAMDEN LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

A technical committee meeting with RMS, Police, State Member Representative and other invited guests to consider traffic issues on local road system with the view of maintaining road safety, improve traffic flow and reduce accidents. (Meets monthly. Daytime meetings.)

Cr Warren, Cr Cottrell and Cr Funnell (Alternatives)

CAMPBELLTOWN ARTS CENTRE SUB COMMITTEE

Assists Campbelltown Arts Centre facilitate cultural programming across Macarthur Region. (Daytime meetings.)

Mayor of the Day

COHESIVE COMMUNITIES ADVISORY GROUP

Develop and comment on strategies, plans and help drive projects regarding issues of community cohesiveness aimed at increasing the social capital of the Camden LGA. (Evening meetings.)

Cr Symkowiak, Cr Anderson

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Attachment 1

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Police Committee to address issues of concern within the community. (Meets bi-monthly. Evening meetings.)

Cr Dewbery, Cr Patterson (Alternate)

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MACARTHUR-LIVERPOOL REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Identify multicultural issues of local concern – government & community reps – (Meets quarterly 6pm-8pm Liverpool, C/town and Camden Councils. Evening meetings.)

Cr Cagney

DISABILITY ACTION PLAN - COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

Advisory Group for development and implementation of the Disability Action Plan. (6pm meetings.)

Cr Symkowiak, Cr Warren (Alternate)

FLOOD MITIGATION AUTHORITY OF NSW

Local Representative appointed to consider Flood Mitigation issues throughout NSW. (Meets quarterly. Daytime meetings in Sydney.)

Manager - Environmentally Sustainable Design also a member.

Cr Anderson

CAMDEN COUNCIL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The committee's role is to guide council in the development and implementation of detailed floodplain risk management plans to produce flood risk management outcomes.

The Committee generally meets quarterly for each catchment (Nepean, Narellan and South Creek) areas, hence there may be up to 12 meetings per year during normal business hours.

Cr Campbell, Cr Anderson

G.R.O.W. COMMITTEE

Allocates State Government funding for community projects. (Meets as required, dependent on projects)

Cr Warren, Mayor of the Day (Alternate)

HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY GROUP

Advisory capacity to implement the Statement of Intent guiding local government in natural resource management within the Hawkesbury Nepean catchment & to determine priority projects. (Daytime meetings.)

Cr Campbell, Manager Environmentally Sustainable Design (Alternate)

JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL (JRPP)

To determine development proposals of regional significance)

(Meets as required, daytime meetings, and on occasion outside the LGA)

Cr Campbell, Cr Anderson (Alternate)

Acting Manager – Strategic Planning, Manager – Special Projects (Alternate)

MACARTHUR AREA HEALTH SERVICE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Oversees the implementation of the Macarthur Area Health Strategy. (Meets as required.)

Cr Funnell, Cr Campbell and Cr Warren (Alternates)

MACARTHUR BUSH FIRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Coordinate Bush Fire Management in Macarthur area. (Meets Quarterly at Bush Fire headquarters, Minto. Dates to be advised. Daytime meetings.)

Cr Anderson

MACARTHUR REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (MACROC)

Regional Organisation of Councils made up of Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly Councils.

(Meets Bi-Monthly. Evening meetings.) (4 year appointment)

It should be noted that for the next 2 years it is Camden Council's turn to nominate a President to MACROC.

Cr Dewbery, Cr Symkowiak, Cr Patterson, Cr Cagney (Alternate) and Mayor of the Day

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION NSW (MPLA)

Represent interest of LG Libraries in Sydney region to all levels of Govt. (Daytime meetings.) **Manager, Library Services also representative.**

Cr Campbell

MACARTHUR DIVERSITY SERVICES INC (MDSI)

Provide services to the Macarthur Region.

(Meets Monthly. Daytime meetings.)

Cr Anderson

RURAL FIRE SERVICE MACARTHUR ZONE LIAISON COMMITTEE

Monitor SLA, review budgets and quarterly financial reports.

(Meets quarterly. Evening meetings.)

Cr Anderson

SYDNEY GAS COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Community link to operations of Sydney Gas as required by Production lease.

(Meets Quarterly at Wollondilly and Campbelltown Councils. Daytime meetings.)

Cr Anderson

SYDNEY WATER CORPORATE CUSTOMER COUNCIL

Sydney Water consults regularly with customer Councils. Member of Corporate Customer Council. (Meets in Sydney Head Office 6 times per year 9.00am-1.00pm)

No representative elected

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Attachment 1

STATUTORY COMMITTEES (MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS)

BELGENNY FARM TRUST

Representatives on board of management. (Daytime meetings.)

Cr Funnell

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

(Community Committees operate Council facilities & provide services on Council's behalf including grounds and buildings.)

In relation to Section 355 Management Committees, the appointment and election of the committees is undertaken in accordance with the Section 355 Management Committee Manual, adopted by Council on 27 May 2002 and reviewed on 10 March 2009.

This manual states, under 'Committee Membership' that "Camden Council reserves the right to appoint one of its members to each Committee" (Clause 2.1.1 g).

In relation to the balance of members of a Section 355 Management Committee, the process to be followed as outlined in the Manual is summarised as follows:

- The committee needs to be formed at a public meeting in the district in which the facility is situated; preferably on site (Clause 2.1.1 c);
- Council or the Management committee may call the public meeting (Clause 2.1.1 d);
- All members, including new members, need to be appointed by Council before being able to vote or take part in the meetings (Clauses 2.1.1 e) and f);
- Committees are formally appointed by the Councillors in office (Clause 2.1.1 g);
- Three months after the General Election of Councillors, all community Committee Members will cease to hold office (Clause 2.1.1 g);
- Committee membership is on a quadrennial basis (Clause 2.1.1 a) – Committee Membership);
- Membership numbers are limited (Clause 2.1.1 b) – Committee Membership;
- The Management Committee membership should reflect the Community organisations which use the facility and must be open to representatives of user groups and interested community members (Clause 2.1.1 i) – Committee Membership);
- Membership make up and voting "rights" are set out in Manual (Clause 2.1.1 i) – Committee Membership);
- Provisions of the manual can be varied by a resolution of Council (Clause 3.3 (h))

It should be noted that the appointment of the Management Committee is entirely at the discretion of the Council (Clause 2.1.1).

BICENTENNIAL EQUESTRIAN PARK COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Second Wednesday of the month. Evening meetings.

Cr Funnell, Cr Dewbery, Cr Campbell (Alternate)

**CAMDEN INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION
COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Evening meetings.

Cr Warren

**CAMDEN SENIOR CITIZENS COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

To address social and community issues. (Daytime meetings.)

Cr Anderson

CAMDEN TOWN FARM COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(Evening meetings.)

Cr Funnell

ORD03

Attachment 1

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD04

SUBJECT: COUNCIL'S SUBMISSION TO THE GREEN PAPER - A NEW PLANNING SYSTEM FOR NSW

FROM: Director Governance

BINDER: Legislative Reform

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the NSW Government's Green Paper for the proposed reforms to the NSW planning system. The green paper is open to community and industry feedback and this report seeks Council's endorsement to submit comments to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) in relation to the proposed reforms.

BACKGROUND

On 14 July 2012, the NSW Government released *A New Planning System for New South Wales – Green Paper*, and invited the community and industry to provide comment on the proposed reforms to the NSW planning system. The original exhibition period closed on 14 September 2012, however, local government has been granted an extension in consideration of the local government elections. The exhibition period was subsequently extended to 5 October 2012.

The NSW Government initiative is intended to create a planning system focussed on the public interest, placing the community interests and their choices at the heart of planning decisions made about their future.

The NSW Government states that the 'Green Paper outlines major changes in key areas of the planning system', which will include the following:

- involve the community early in guiding planning decisions that will shape the growth and future of our cities, towns, and neighbourhoods;
- place much more emphasis on preparing good policies upfront to guide growth and development;
- reduce red tape and delay for the assessment of development applications for all types of proposals;
- ensure that infrastructure is planned and delivered to support new and existing communities;
- promote a 'can do' culture in the planning system and ensure that councils and the government are accountable for delivering the results they have committed to; and
- provide greater access to information about planning policies, planning decisions, and community rights in the planning process.

MAIN REPORT

The NSW Government has developed a Green Paper outlining proposed reforms to the NSW Planning System. This has been released for community and industry feedback for a period of two months. The reforms to the NSW planning system focus heavily on the following four key areas:

- Community Participation
- Strategic Focus
- Streamlined Approvals
- Provision of Infrastructure

In addition, the reforms to the NSW Planning System are likely to cause a shift in the planning culture for professionals by significantly altering day to day operations.

Council is generally supportive of the initiatives of the reform. The reforms promote a higher level of community involvement in the early strategic planning stages. This will, if handled correctly, alleviate a great deal of community angst during the development approval stages. It has the potential of creating greater certainty for all parties and will facilitate meaningful community engagement.

A draft submission to the Green Paper has been prepared which focuses on the major items likely have the largest implications for Council and is provided as **Attachment 1 to this report**. The submission, whilst comprehensive in detail, focuses on the following key issue:

- Community and Stakeholder Engagements

Concerns are raised regarding the timing and early engagement of the community within strategic planning projects which are often at a broad level which may be difficult for many people to grasp. A common misconception which has the potential to be exacerbated is the delay or time lag between community engagement and development on the ground, which could create the sense that the community is not being consulted.

- Strategic Planning

Council is concerned with the implementation of the new planning instruments and it is foreseen that a transition period will be required in the interim. This could have adverse impacts such as stifling development, creating loopholes within the system and could create confusion with the public and professionals alike. Furthermore, Council undertook the cumbersome and costly task of redefining their LEP's and creating a consolidated standard template LEP. Again it appears that Council will be required to undertake a similar task to formulate and implement the Subregional Delivery Plans and Local Land Use Plans which will again prove difficult being a cumbersome and costly task.

- Development Assessment and Compliance

Concern is raised in regard to time frames and accountability of officers to assess applications as stringent time frames will be imposed to expedite applications. The reforms should also look at mechanisms to ensure the quality of assessment is maintained. It is proposed to remove external agency concurrence at the application stage, and whilst this is generally supported to speed up Development Assessment turn around, concerns are raised in regards to the level of detail provided at the conceptual strategic stage which may be missed when more detail comes to light at the development assessment stage.

- Infrastructure Planning and Compliance

The reforms are looking to improve infrastructure funding and delivery. This is especially pertinent to growth precincts where the private sector will be given the opportunity to provide the delivery and operations of major infrastructure networks. The Green Paper refers to this as “*contestable infrastructure*”. However, the proposed planning system should adopt a ‘World’s Best Practice’ standard for the provision of infrastructure delivery partnerships, to ensure transparency, viability, accountability and not enable ‘cherry picking’ opportunities for infrastructure provision which may not necessarily be in the community’s long term interest.

Furthermore, as a result of the growth occurring from the South West Growth Centre, Council will be responsible for administering an increasing number of contributions plans and works in kind/voluntary planning agreements. It is generally felt by Council that it is at a point that it can cater for the needs of the community through the implementation of contributions plans or provided by the developer through a WIKA or VPA. It is believed that alterations to the current system may disrupt the timing and delivery of these assets for the community.

- Delivering a New Planning System

It is believed that the transition period between the current and proposed planning instruments will prove to be the most difficult. The proposed reforms must ensure that savings and transitional provisions introduced to each new plan will need to be watertight to provide certainty to the public and professionals alike. In addition, the savings and transitional provisions should also take into consideration projects in progress or those which are to commence.

In addition, the major shift in focus to the strategic planning stages has serious cost implications upon the organisation. A greater emphasis on the strategic planning stages may involve the reallocation, retraining and development of staff to suit a new role description. Furthermore, the period of transition may also pose threats to the delayed timing of projects with increased uncertainty for all stakeholders involved in each project.

At the conclusion of this public consultation process, the NSW Government will consider feedback from the community and industry, and develop a White Paper which will be released for a second round of consultation. The White Paper will outline the proposed reforms to the NSW Planning System in much more detail and specify how the reforms will be implemented. Upon the release of the White Paper, a complete

assessment can be made that considers the implications of the reforms for Council and will be reported to a future meeting.

CONCLUSION

The NSW Government has developed a Green Paper discussing proposed reforms to the NSW Planning System, which is currently on exhibition. A submission has been prepared, outlining the key implications that this will have for Council. Following this exhibition period, the NSW Government will consider all submissions and develop a White Paper which will provide a greater detail regarding the reforms and how they will be implemented. Upon the release of the White Paper, an assessment can be made on the implications of the reforms for Council and will be reported to a future meeting.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. note the initiatives of the NSW Government for the proposed reforms to the NSW planning system;**
- ii. make a submission to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure outlining the concerns of Council; and**
- iii. prepare a further report for consideration of the White Paper when it is released for consultation purposes.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Green Paper - Camden Council Submission**

ORD04

Attachment 1



CAMDEN COUNCIL SUBMISSION

GREEN PAPER – A NEW PLANNING SYSTEM FOR NSW

August 2012

Introduction

The green paper – the first consultative step in the development of a new planning system for NSW – brings forth a simplified and streamlined planning system dialled into greater community participation, strategic focus, streamlined approvals and provision for infrastructure. The four reforms will delineate from the traditional planning processes to date and facilitate a new planning culture for professionals to adapt.

Summary of Submission

In a whole, Council concur with the initiatives of the reform. It is appreciated that the reforms integrate a higher level of community involvement in the early strategic planning stages. If administered efficiently and effectively in the ‘front end’, pressures are likely to be alleviated in the ‘back end’ of assessment and compliance stages of the development proposal. The fundamental concerns that Council have in relation to the proposed reforms are detailed under the following reform headings.

Fundamental Reforms

Community and Stakeholder Engagements

As outlined by the green paper, early and genuine engagement is an empowering experience for communities. It has the potential to create greater certainty for all parties and facilitates timely processing of development at a later stage. Early in the planning process is the time when the community can have a ‘real say’ and have the capacity to effect ‘real change’, rather than later in the process at the development stage when the rules have been established and there is very little opportunity for significant input. To facilitate meaningful engagement, the community needs to be able to access the planning system and associated documents with ease. These principles as espoused in the green paper are strongly supported.

Early community participation in the planning process is no doubt a desirable principle, however some challenges exist in practice and implementation. Some of these challenges are outlined below:

- Engagement early is often hypothetical and at a broad level which is difficult for many people to grasp. Such thinking can require a higher level of conceptual thought and cognitive ability. It is often difficult for people to fully comprehend the outcome when discussing such matters at a conceptual level. It is only when a real proposal exists that people may understand the

ORD04

Attachment 1

realities and implications. Similarly, it is often difficult to engage the community on matters until it affects them and they therefore have a more meaningful understanding of the issues.

- The likely time lag between community engagement and development on the ground could create the sense that the community is not being consulted. In new release areas, for example, the community may not exist in the early stages of planning which could result in a community that has been unable to participate in the shaping of their community.
- If Councils are to engage the community in a meaningful manner, unique consultation strategies other than those traditionally employed are necessary. This may require additional resources and skills that may not be readily available in all Councils. Quality and meaningful community engagement requires a high level of skill for those designing and executing such strategies. It may also require a longer timeframe than traditionally made available depending on the engagement strategies to be implemented.
- It is noted that the green paper identifies the need for a Public Participation Charter. Given the range of different issues, demographics, geography and available Council resources, this should not be a once size fits all approach. It would be appropriate for the legislation to require such a charter to be developed and to set a minimum standard, but then to allow the Council to negotiate with its community their particular approach and appropriate strategies given the nature of the community.
- What if any link will exist between the community engagement required by the Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation and the associated Community Strategic Plans? These plans were developed on the basis of significant community engagement and should relate in some way, and be co ordinate with the engagement required by the planning legislation.
- As already experienced as part of the community strategic planning process required by the IP&R legislation, and a range of other planning exercises, there is always the potential for the inevitable tension between the vision and desires of the community with the policy and direction of the government, for example, areas designated by the government for higher residential densities or new urban release areas, which is inconsistent with the desire of the community. We therefore need to be very clear with the community as to when they can make a difference and when decisions have already been made. The boundaries of any community engagement process should always be made clear to participants. Given the need for higher level strategy and planning, and for implementation of best practice principles for

the benefit if the broader good, the reality is that the desire of the community cannot always be reflected in the planning for a place. We need to be honest and transparent about this reality and the significant limitation this places on true community engagement.

- What is any community consultation will occur at the development application stage? While it is agreed that early engagement should limit the need to consultation later in the process, given some of the issues identified above, some involvement at a later stage would appear to be necessary.

Strategic Planning

The planning of communities, present and future, requires robust strategic direction and policy to guide its development in natural, built, social and economic environments. Complexity and duplication between current Environmental Planning Instruments are evident in the current setting of the planning system, which can create confusion, holes and angst for both the community and planning professionals alike.

It is acknowledged that the 'New Planning System' seeks to introduce a clear hierarchy of state, regional, sub-regional and local plans with the intent to simplify the interaction between all documents and provide certainty to the community, stakeholders and the industry. However, Council raises the following concerns surrounding the implementation of the plans:

- The aims of the Green Paper introduce a new set of planning instruments focused on a broad picture planning direction and narrowing down to the local level. Council is concerned with the implementation of the new planning instruments as this could create confusion with the public and professionals alike. It is foreseen that a transition period will be required in the interim, which could have adverse impacts such as stifling development and creating loopholes within the system.
- Local Government will be directly involved with the implementation of Subregional Delivery Plans and Local Land Use Plans. Previously, Council undertook the cumbersome and costly task of redefining their LEP's and creating a consolidated standard template LEP. Again it appears that Council will be required to undertake a similar task to formulate and implement the Subregional Delivery Plans and Local Land Use Plans. The resourcing of this project will prove difficult for Council again being a cumbersome and costly task.

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Attachment 1

- The introduction of compulsory government agency consultation at the strategic planning stages is completely supported. However, this could have multiple consequences on development. The strategic planning stage, whilst conceptual in nature, negates the finer details that would usually be brought to light at the development applications stage. Taking this into consideration, strategic planning projects will go into more depth and detail than traditionally experienced. Conversely, switching off the need for government agency consultation at the development application stage (detailed stage) may neglect potential environmental impacts.
- The Green Paper describes that the Local Land Use Plan is to be constructed on a much broader level, similar to a Council's Strategic Plan. There also seems to be a lack of detail on how development control will be enforced, if any such plan was to be developed to that detail. Should development controls be integrated into the Local Land Use Plan, questions arise pertaining to the legal enforcement of the controls. DCP's have the capacity to be varied to cater for an appropriate development complimentary to site constraints, however should the controls be given a legal weighting, developments to the letter of the law may not always be the best outcome. Alternatively, if the Local Land Use Plan is not given the legal weighting, the variation of certain controls and the setting of precedents may put Council's in a vulnerable position.
- The Green Paper introduces a planning system provided with greater flexibility in the assessment of development applications. It introduces a higher degree of merit assessment for development than what the current planning system provides for. With this, opinion and subjective assessments are introduced, which may increase conflict in development applications between the applicant and assessment officer. In this regard, the proposed planning system potentially increases the appeals to the Land and Environment Court, which has adverse impact on the costs and delays of development.

Development Assessment and Compliance

Council are generally agreeable to many of the concepts put forth. Council support the retention of the 82A review process under a new act. The standardisation of development consent conditions and the simplification of the language used in planning documents is a concept supported by Council. Practical details on how this will be applied are required to give any further comment. The white paper should

look at outlining when/how conditions can be tailored if required to a particular application and outline this process in detail.

The Amber light approach to development application is considered a good approach that will assist all involved in the planning process to achieve good, desirable planning outcomes. The ability of this approach to achieve this outcome will depend upon how the process is implemented and formalised in any new act.

Expanding the role of the Joint Regional Planning Panel to increase involvement in the assessment of current applications would facilitate a more directive assessment to be undertaken by the officer, as the panel can provide additional direction on points of non compliance and how they should be addressed. This will assist both Councils staff and developer as it ensures the consent authorities position and direction is known from the onset.

Concerns are raised in relation to the following:

- General concerns are raised over the changes to information requirements at the assessment stage. Provisions need to be provided for upfront ensuring that the relevant information is provided at the development application stage. If the aim of the new act is to have development applications approved in concept and detail to be provided at a later stage i.e. prior to construction certificate, the act should be amended to allow for the conditioning of information to come back to the Council for approval to ensure that the endorsed strategy at the DA stage is a viable on the ground development.
- Concern with time frames and accountability of officers to assess applications, details outlining how more stringent time frames will be imposed ensuring that expedition of applications does not decrease the quality of assessment.
- Removing external agency concurrence at the application stage if a concept that is generally supported. Concerns are raised over external agencies ability to undertake this process and to what level the detail in concept can be provided at the strategic level and filtered down.
- Council is concerned over the identified need to create independent expert panels to determine applications traditionally determined by the elected Councillors. Concern is raised as stated on page 50 of the paper, in 2010 *'only 3 percent of development applications made in NSW were determined by elected Council'*. The creation of independent review panels seems tedious and excessive, unless as shown in the cases of Liverpool and Wollongong just cause is given to revoke the elected official's role in determining applications.

ORD04

- Council would invite more details to be provided outlining how local land use plans will be structured. Questions are also raised over the idea of 'minor' in relation to variations and if guidelines will be developed to help inform this aspect to ensure continuity in assessments.
- Whilst its agreed that the market can adequately determine factors of supply and demand, Council are concerned that market forces alone will be detrimental to a local area as the viability of existing developments may be lessened as a result if due consideration to new proposals and their impact is not considered.

Infrastructure Planning and Co-ordination

Council generally agrees with the principles of the infrastructure planning and co-ordination as it seeks to integrate the planning and provision of infrastructure with the strategic planning for growth. It is expected that the new legislative system will effectively integrate and align preparation and adoption of all contributions plans concurrently with all other strategic planning documents. This is also pertinent to preparation of Growth Infrastructure Plans that are linked to strategic plans. Such an initiative may prove a defining element of this legislative reform, particularly in how it relates to housing delivery and as it seeks to simplify, streamline, and provide greater certainty, in the delivery of Infrastructure.

Notwithstanding this, Council raises the following concerns and comments in relation to Infrastructure Planning and Co-ordination:

- Council generally acknowledges that under the provisions of the existing planning legislation, the *Local Government Act 1993*, and general local government industry best practice, there remains the opportunity for contestability and third party access in infrastructure provision. However, the proposed planning system should ensure it does not enable 'cherry picking' opportunities for infrastructure provision; that being, where non-government entities choose only to deliver items of infrastructure that promise more than marginal returns on capital investment e.g. social, environmental infrastructure;

In addition, the results for public private partnerships in NSW to date have been mixed. A 'World's Best Practice' standard is required (and should be legislated) for the provision of infrastructure delivery partnerships, to ensure transparency, viability, accountability etc.

- With regard to the integrated planning initiative reflected between the '*State Infrastructure Strategy*', '*NSW Long-Term Transport Masterplan*' and the

Attachment 1

'Growth Infrastructure Plans' a need exists to ensure their connection to 'NSW 2021', with clear line of sight between concept/strategy and delivery. A further option available in promoting definitive integrated infrastructure planning, exists in the opportunity for legislated correlation between infrastructure provision under the new planning system, and the integrated planning and reporting framework under the *Local Government Act 1993*;

- It is critical that Local Government is engaged early in the process of preparing new Growth Infrastructure Plans. As the preparation of Growth Infrastructure Plans will be a spatial approach, they may traverse more than one local government area, resulting in the need for advanced, meaningful consultation. Also, any development activity and market evidence used in the preparation of new Growth Infrastructure Plans must be truly impartial and independently sourced.
- With regard to the proposed framework intended to facilitate public priority infrastructure, it is strongly believed that the following outcomes must be achieved to effectively implement priority infrastructure:
 - *Early project definition* - The intent of this element is to focus on 'how' projects will proceed and manage any impacts when they are identified later; as opposed to whether the project 'will' proceed. Council is concerned as to whether in the event that significant issues are identified at mid-point or latter stages, the project would proceed regardless, given the extent of investment to that point;
 - *Early and coordinated engagement of relevant government agencies* - Council would advocate the need for a prescriptive model as to how relevant government agencies are to work together, and how issues such as funding resources will be addressed;
 - *Effective community participation* - The Green Paper clearly infers a strong focus on project delivery; with 'interim only' approvals in place prior to the project commencement. Effective community participation must entail meaningful opportunities to comment at key project milestones.
- Council raises concerns in regards to the policy direction which defines infrastructure requirements by performance outcomes in contributions plans and agreements, rather than lists of assets. The performance outcomes should form part of the development guidelines (Local Land Use Plans) and approved at the time development consents are granted. Local contributions plans and works in kind/voluntary planning agreements should be viewed

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Attachment 1

as the mechanisms where the private sector gives effect to these performance outcomes in accordance with development consent approvals.

- Due to the Green Paper's lack of detail, it is difficult to gauge the nexus, acquisition powers, coordination and administration of the proposed Regional Open Space Levy. Concerns are raised pertaining to the nexus of this Levy to fund and provide local open space and drainage and the affect on local councils' ability to facilitate provision of local open space and drainage.
- As a result of the growth occurring from the South West Growth Centre, Camden Council is responsible for administering an increasing number of contributions plans and negotiating a high number of works in kind/voluntary planning agreements. This provides community facilities and infrastructure to be provided in a timely fashion to cater to the needs of the community as the demand increases. Council feels it is at a point that it can cater for the needs of the community whether it is infrastructure or facilities provided through the contributions plan or provided by the developer through a WIKA or VPA. Council believes that alterations to the current system may disrupt the timing of delivery of these assets for the community and we welcome the opportunity to participate in the Task force proposed to be set up to develop solutions relevant to the administration of development contributions.

Delivering a New Planning System

Notwithstanding the above comments, the implementation of the proposed changes to the planning system will be undoubtedly difficult and not without its challenges. Whilst a greater amount of detail will be released in the White Paper, throughout this submission Council briefly mentions the challenges on the implementation of each reform. In particular, Council raises the following concerns:

- The transition period between the current and proposed planning instruments will prove to be the most difficult. Whilst detail is not provided in the Green Paper, savings and transitional provisions introduced to each new plan will need to be watertight to provide certainty to the public and professionals alike. In addition, the savings and transitional provisions should also take into consideration projects in progress or those which are to commence.
- The major shift in focus to the strategic planning stages has serious cost implications upon the organisation. A greater emphasis on the strategic planning stages may involve the reallocation, retraining and development of

staff to suit a new role description. Furthermore, the period of transition may also pose threats to the delayed timing of projects with increased uncertainty for all stakeholders involved in each project.

Conclusion

Camden Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the green paper reforms. The proposal to simplify and streamline the NSW planning system is long overdue and it is fully supported by Council. The matters contained in Council's submission are provided with the intention of reinforcing the principles of the proposed reforms.

ORD04**Attachment 1**



ORD05

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD05

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF COUNCILLOR FEES - 2012/2013 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

FROM: Director Governance

BINDER: Councillor Fees

PURPOSE

To advise Councillors of a determination by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal for the level of Councillor fees payable for the 2012/2013 financial year.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 12 June 2012, Council resolved to defer determining Councillor fees payable for 2012/2013 financial year, instead electing for it to be considered by the newly appointed Council.

As such, the item is brought back to Council for further consideration.

MAIN REPORT

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) sets the range of fees for all Councillors and Mayors in NSW each year. The Tribunal has concluded its annual review and, having regard to key economic data and the views of the assessors, it has determined that an increase of 2.5% in fees for Councillors is appropriate. The increases are effective on and from 1 July 2012.

Section 239 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires the Tribunal to determine the categories of councils and to place each council in a category at least every three years. A review was undertaken this year and the Tribunal determined that no changes in categories are necessary. As such, Camden Council is still categorised as a Category 2 (Metropolitan) Council and the revised fees payable for a Category 2 Council are as follows for 2012/2013:

COUNCILLORS	MAYOR
Minimum \$7,740 - Maximum \$17,060	Minimum \$16,480 - Maximum \$37,230

The current Councillor fees are \$15,573.60 per annum for Councillors and \$34,000.30 per annum for the Mayor.

Based on the present level of fees payable to the Mayor and Councillors as above, a 2.5% increase would amount to an increase of \$389.34 per annum for each Councillor, bringing the total to \$15,962.94 per annum and \$850.01 for the Mayor, totalling \$34,850.31 per annum. Alternatively, Council may adopt the maximum amount payable in each case.

A 2.5% increase to Councillors' fees would result in additional expenditure totalling \$4,354.07. The 2012/13 Draft Budget includes a provision for an increase of expenditure of 4.0%, which represents an amount of \$7,038.00. If Council elects to increase fees by 2.5%, the budget will be adjusted accordingly.

RECOMMENDED

That Council determine the level of fees payable to Councillors and Mayor for 2012/2013 financial year.

ORD05

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD06

SUBJECT: 2012 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE -
NOMINATION OF DELEGATES
FROM: Director Governance
BINDER: Local Government Conferences

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To determine attendance at, and nominate, Council voting delegates to the 2012 Local Government Association Conference.

BACKGROUND

The 2012 Local Government Association Conference will be hosted by Dubbo City Council from Sunday 28 to Tuesday 30 October 2012, with sessions to be held in the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre.

MAIN REPORT

Member Councils of "One Association" are entitled to nominate voting delegates on a population basis. With a population of between 50,000 and 100,000, Camden Council is entitled to nominate four (4) voting delegates. As well as voting delegates, additional Councillors may also attend as observers.

Registrations close on Monday 8 October 2012. The registration cost is \$1,155 (GST inclusive) per delegate. In addition, accommodation is likely to cost in the vicinity of \$600 per room for a 3 night stay.

A copy of the draft programme has been included as an Attachment at the end of this report for the information of Councillors.

Keynote speakers include the following:

1. The Hon. Brad Hazzard MP – Investment in Community Infrastructure
2. Mr Peter McKinlay – Supporting Strong Economic Management
3. Mr Bob Abbot – Delivering Quality Services

CONCLUSION

Council has an entitlement to nominate four (4) voting delegates to attend the Local Government Association Conference. Council is required to determine whether it is to be represented at the Conference and if so, nominate delegates.

RECOMMENDED

That Council determine whether to attend the 2012 Local Government Association Conference at Dubbo City Council from 28 to 30 October 2012 and if so, nominate voting delegates.

ATTACHMENTS

1. LGA Conference Program

ORD06

ORD06

Local Government Association of NSW Conference 2012**DRAFT PROGRAM (as of 6 September 2012)****28-30 October, 2012****Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, Darling Street, Dubbo****Theme: Tribal by Nature****Sunday 28 October**

- 9.00am – 5.30pm **Registration opens**
Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, Darling Street, Dubbo
- 8.00am & 10.00am **Sunday Local Church Services:**
Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Brisbane St
- 9.00am & 6.00pm St Brigid's Catholic Church, Brisbane St
- 9.30am & 6.00pm Church of Christ Community, Church Lot 1 Mitchell Highway
- 9.30am & 7.00pm Wesley Church (Uniting Church), Church St
- 9.00, 11.00 am
& 6.00pm Presbyterian Church, Cnr Sheraton & Douglas Mawson Roads
- 4.00pm – 6.00pm **Official Opening Ceremony**
Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, Darling Street, Dubbo
Mayoral procession
Welcome to Country
National Anthem
Welcome from **Cr Mathew Dickerson, Mayor of Dubbo City Council**
Welcome address by **Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM, President LGA**
Address from the **Minister for Local Government**
Presentation of the AR Bluett Awards
Presentation of Outstanding Service Awards
Address by Welcome Function Sponsor YMCA
(Delegates encouraged to walk through Victoria park, coach provided for those who need it)
- 6.30pm – 8.30pm **President's Welcome Function, sponsored by YMCA**
Venue: Western Plains Cultural Centre, Wingewarra Street
***Coach transfers from WPCC to accommodation*

Monday 29 October*Conference Sessions at Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, Darling Street, Dubbo*

- 8.00am Registration opens
- 9.00am **Investment in Community Infrastructure**
Conference Opening of Business Session
- Adoption of Standing Orders
- Presentation and Adoption of Treasurer's Report
- Ms Genia McCaffery, Mayoral Mentor**
- Other general business
- Consideration of Motions

Attachment 1

10.30am	Session breaks for Morning Tea in trade exhibition
11.00am	Consideration of Motions
11.30am	Speaker to be confirmed
12.00am	Mr Bill Bristow, CEO, Angel Flight
12.15pm	Consideration of Motions
1.00pm	Lunch in trade exhibition sponsored by Environment Protection Agency
2.00pm	Supporting Strong Economic Management Mr Peter McKinlay, Director, Local Government Centre, Institute of Public Policy, AUT University, Auckland
2.30pm	Consideration of Motions
3.00pm	Speaker to be confirmed
3.30pm	Consideration of motions
4.00pm	Conference adjourns for Sponsors Happy Hour drinks sponsored by Toyota and afternoon tea in trade exhibition
5.00pm	Sponsors Happy Hour concludes. End of Day proceedings <i>**(Coach transfers from DRTCC to accommodation)</i>
7.00pm – 10.00pm	Delegates Optional Function Old Dubbo Gaol, Macquarie Street or Free night for delegates to enjoy local restaurants. Bookings essential. <i>**(Coach transfers from ODG to accommodation (staggered and set times commencing 9pm)</i>

Tuesday 30 October*Conference Sessions at Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, Darling Street, Dubbo*

7.30am	Australian Local Government Woman's Association and NSW Australian Local Government Womens' Association Breakfast Ms Jane Caro <i>new optional event</i>
8.00am	Registration opens
9.00am	Conference Business Session Consideration of Motions
9.30am	Mr Barry Buffier, Chair and Chief Executive, NSW EPA
10.00am	Consideration of Motions
10.30am	Session breaks for Morning Tea in trade exhibition
11.00am	Delivering Quality Services Consideration of Motions
11.30am	Mr Bob Abbot, Mayoral Mentor, Local Government Association Queensland

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12.00noon	Mr Peter Lambert, CEO, Local Government Superannuation
12.15pm	Mr John Turner, Chair, NSW Local Government Act Taskforce
1.00pm	Lunch in trade exhibition sponsored by Local Government Super
2.00pm	Consideration of Motions
2.30pm	Professor Graham Sansom, Review of Local Government, address and Q and A with fellow panellists Mr Glenn Inglis and Ms Jude Munro (invited)
3.30pm	Consideration of Motions
4.00pm	Drawing of prizes. Submission of conference evaluation forms closed. Conference adjourns for Sponsors Happy Hour drinks in trade exhibition
5.00pm	Sponsors Happy Hour concludes. End of Day proceedings. <i>** (Coach transfers from DRTCC to accommodation)</i>
6.45pm	<i>** (Coach transfers from accommodation to TWPZ)</i>
7.30pm – 11.00pm	Gala dinner sponsored by Essential Energy Taronga Western Plains Zoo
From 10.30pm	Coach transfers from TWPZ to accommodation (staggered and set times from 10.30pm)**

CLOSE OF CONFERENCE

This program is correct at the time of printing; speakers and program details may have changed due to unforeseen circumstances.

Attachment 1

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD07

ORD07

SUBJECT: MACARTHUR SOFTBALL FUNDING
FROM: Director Works & Services
BINDER: Community Services Funding

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks Council's endorsement to allocate funds currently in the budget to the Cowpasture Reserve lighting project undertaken by Macarthur Softball Association.

BACKGROUND

Macarthur Softball has operated at Cowpasture Reserve for many years and were granted a tenure for 10 years in 1997. Council is currently negotiating to renew a license agreement for their continued use of the site. Macarthur Softball takes responsibility for all outgoings on the site.

MAIN REPORT

Last year Macarthur Softball was successful in securing a NSW Community Building Partnership grant to upgrade lighting. The grant was for \$50,000 with Macarthur Softball contributing \$50,000 leaving a shortfall of \$50,000 (Total Project Cost: \$150,000). Macarthur Softball are seeking Council funds to complete payment for the project.

This item was reported to Council at its meeting of 25 October 2011 where Council resolved to *"consider the allocation of funds for the purpose of complementing approved projects under the Community Partnership Program, with a preference to projects where the applicant is also contributing"*. **The full report to Council (25 October 2011) is attached at the end of this report.**

Within the current budget there is an allocation of Section 94 funds for Recreation which would cover the requested shortfall.

This is the only softball facility in the LGA and any new residents would play softball at this field. The lighting upgrade provides greater use of the field without requiring additional fields to be built and maintained. By combining the funds from the NSW government and Macarthur Softball, Council can provide this upgrade at a lesser cost than would be required in the future if Council were to upgrade the lighting. This would ultimately be needed to meet the population growth demands.

CONCLUSION

The grant from the NSW Community Partnership Grant and the contribution from Macarthur Softball means that this upgrade can be delivered far sooner than if Council was to fully fund the work.

ORD07

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. Approve the payment of \$50,000 (GST exclusive) to Macarthur Softball as a contribution to the lighting upgrade at Cowpasture Reserve; and**
- ii. allocate the funding from the existing Section 94 budget allocation for Elderslie Recreation.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Community Building Partnership Grants - Council Report 25 October 2011**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD04

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP GRANTS
FROM: Director Works & Services
BINDER: Community Services Funding

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with information about a current State Government Community Grant Program, and the potential for Council to be called upon to contribute to larger projects by local community groups. The report also seeks Council's endorsement of a capital upgrade of the Narellan Youth Space to enable greater use of technology as a Council submission for funds.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government will conduct the Community Building Partnership (CBP) program in 2011. The CBP program provides funds for community groups and local councils to invest in community infrastructure throughout the State.

Community organisations and local councils are able to apply for funding to build and improve community facilities in their local area. Grant funding of up to \$300,000 is available for every state electoral district.

MAIN REPORT

Applicants for grants under the CBP program should demonstrate how their project will benefit their local community through the building or improvement of facilities to deliver positive social, recreational or environmental outcomes. Applications from local councils require a commitment of matching funding by the council. Projects must be ready to commence by early 2012 and be completed before the end of March 2013. Applications are open from Wednesday 14 September until Monday 31 October 2011.

Council has a small project within its budget which can be enhanced by additional funding on offer under the CBP program and which meets the program criteria.

Criteria for the funding includes:

- Generally only one project proposal from each local council within an electorate will be considered in the electorate area. Councils may submit a project proposal for a location in each electorate within their area.
- Local councils (including their Section 355 committees) will be required as a minimum to provide matching (cash) funding to the CBP grants. Matching contributions from councils (and Section 355 Committees) must be in the form of cash and can be provided from council income sources or from other external funding sources.
- Not-for-profit organisations are eligible to seek the entire project cost as a grant. Favourable consideration will however be given to those projects with contributions from their own or from other sources.

This is the report submitted to the Ordinary Council held on 25 October 2011 - Page 1

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Attachment 1

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- Voluntary labour and donated materials can form part of the not-for-profit organisation's contribution to the project funding. Details of the voluntary labour and donated materials including the estimated value should be provided in the project budget and application form.
- It is required that the applicant will cover any administration costs incurred with the project.
- While grant funding may be applied to the cost of obtaining development approval, no funding will be advanced until that consent has been secured.

Projects able to be funded are:

- construction of new capital works;
- refurbishment, repairs and maintenance to existing capital facilities; or
- the purchase of capital equipment with a life expectancy of 15+ years that enables the delivery of new or enhanced community services

The following projects are not eligible for funding:

- Non capital equipment (e.g. computers, IT equipment, sports equipment etc).
- Projects that have commenced prior to 31 October 2011.
- Projects that involve the development of private or commercial ventures, including licensed areas of registered clubs.
- Projects that seek funding for the organisation's operating recurrent expenses (eg: staff, consumables etc).
- Projects that seek funding to stage events, exhibit a display or for filming.
- Projects to undertake studies or investigations.
- Purchase of land or buildings is generally not appropriate

In 2010 projects funded in Camden included sportsfield lighting for a number of sporting codes and groups, equipment sheds and other community facilities. This program, combined with the federal infrastructure funding, has assisted Council to be able to provide lighting for most sporting codes over the past two years. It is likely that in the 2011 round the remaining sporting codes which do not have lighting will apply for funds. The softball association has indicated it will be seeking funds to light the ground at Cowpasture Reserve at a cost of \$150,000 and has sought an indication as to the availability of Council funds to meet any shortfall.

Other groups may also consider seeking Council assistance or contribution. Council may wish to consider an allocation of some "grant matching funds" for community groups to gain the best leverage of available state funds.

Unfortunately, at the time of writing, Council is not aware of any other applications. To cover potential applications, where there is a shortfall of available funds versus the project cost, Council could consider support out of future budgets. In such cases,



contributions from applicants would still be expected. However, successful applications will not be known until March 2012.

In previous years Council has not sought funds from this funding program to enable community groups to access the entire funding pool available. However it should be acknowledged that Council does provide a broad range of community services and that any increase in funds available to those programs reduces the cost to the general budget, and in turn, the community.

In identifying a suitable Council project, a small capital improvement project in the Narellan Youth Space meets all the requirements, has allocated funds in the current budget and will have great community benefit for young people. Council is enhancing the service levels offered at the Youth Space by opening every afternoon and developing a technology based program in place of the drop in service to better meet the current needs of young people. The "Flick the Switch Project" will make changes in the electrical and communications capacity within the building to allow improved WiFi access in the space, additional power outlets for laptops, tablets, and smart phones plug in and charging. It is proposed to seek \$15,000 from the CBP to match existing budget funds.

CONCLUSION

A capital infrastructure upgrade to Narellan Youth Space to assist the transition from a drop in space to a technology hub, using existing budget allocation as matching funding, would be an ideal Council project to be submitted to CBP this round.

It is likely that Council will be approached for financial assistance for lighting at Cowpasture Reserve should the Softball Association's application to the Community Building Partnerships funding program be successful. Council may also receive requests from other groups and could consider a matching allocation of funds in future budgets.



Click to open CRM
Action Record

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **endorse the submission to the Community Builders Partnerships program seeking \$15,000 for the "Flick the Switch" Project, to upgrade infrastructure in Narellan Youth Space to enable improved WiFi access and wider, improved technology usage; and**
- ii. **consider the allocation of funds for the purpose of complimenting approved funding under the Community Building Partnership Program, with a preference to projects where the applicant is also contributing.**

Ordinary Council Resolution

Resolution: Moved Councillor Dewbery, Seconded Councillor Symkowiak that Council:

- i. **endorse the submission to the Community Builders Partnerships program seeking \$15,000 for the "Flick the Switch" Project, to upgrade infrastructure in Narellan**

This is the report submitted to the Ordinary Council held on 25 October 2011 - Page 3

ORD07



-
- Youth Space to enable improved WiFi access and wider, improved technology usage; and
- ii. consider the allocation of funds for the purpose of complimenting approved funding under the Community Building Partnership Program, with a preference to projects where the applicant is also contributing.

ORD259/11 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**

Attachment 1