CAMDEN COUNCIL Media Release



29 May 2014

Camden Council Making Significant Savings to Invest Back into the Community

Camden Council will generate a budget saving of approximately \$240,000 per annum to invest back into community projects. This has happened as a result of a decision to join an alternative Insurance Mutual pool in 2015.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak said she is thrilled that Council has been able to save our community hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

"It is incredible that by simply conducting a review of our insurance scheme, which had not been done for many years, we were able to secure a better deal for our ratepayers and save almost a quarter of a million dollars on our premium annually. This is a huge win for our residents."

"These annual savings will mean Council can fund projects it wouldn't have been able to previously. The extra \$240,000 per year could be spent on asset renewal of ageing infrastructure such as upgrading existing toilet and amenities blocks, expanding BBQ facilities, shelters and seating at our reserves."

At its meeting on 27 May 2014 Council announced that they would be moving their insurance program to Westpool & United Independent Pools (UIP) and that there will be a significant budget reduction annually against the revised 2013/14 Delivery Program.

In 2013 it was decided to examine Council's current insurance program for the first time in many years. A detailed review of Local Government Mutual Insurance pooling options was undertaken resulting in Council deciding to join Westpool / UIP as its strategy to meet future needs.

Camden Council will join an alliance of Councils, a number of which are major Western Sydney local authorities including:

- Blacktown City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Fairfield City Council
- Liverpool City Council
- Parramatta City Council
- Hawkesbury City Council

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- Wollongong City Council
- Shellharbour City Council
- Blue Mountains City Council

"I am very proud to be a part of a Council that has found significant savings for its community and be able to invest these savings directly back into community projects and infrastructure."

END

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