

CAMDEN COUNCIL

Media Release



22 July 2015

BUDGET WIN FOR THE COMMUNITY

Council has approved the revised 2013/2014 – 2016/2017 Delivery Program and draft 2015/2016 Operational Plan (Budget), ensuring the delivery of a range of key projects, services and infrastructure to current and future residents of the Camden Local Government Area.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak said she is delighted to deliver such a comprehensive and sustainable Budget, a result of quality long term planning and responsible financial management.

“I am proud to lead a Council that continues to demonstrate strategic financial management to deliver the best outcomes for our community. The Budget supports the four year Delivery Program and takes us another step closer to realising the vision set out in the Community Strategic Plan, Camden 2040, developed in consultation with the community.”

2015/2016 Budget Highlights:

- Narellan Sports Hub Stage 1 on the Northern Road totalling **\$7.7 million**
- Birriwa Reserve Mount Annan Outdoor Youth Space aimed at 12-17 year olds totalling **\$1.5 million**
- Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) construction at Elderslie totalling **\$4.1 million**
- Asset Renewal Reserve allocation of **\$1 million** earmarked for amenity block improvements across our LGA
- Additional 18 staffing high priority positions in 2015/16 totalling **\$584,000** in the areas of open space maintenance, customer service, corporate support and environment and planning
- Additional **\$543,000** towards open space maintenance and presentation – to increase the frequency of mowing and clean-ups across our LGA
- High impact plantings on key roundabouts and corner locations totalling **\$153,000** to further beautify the LGA
- Technology upgrades totalling **\$900,000** – to improve staff efficiency and improve customer service standards to our residents including development and maintenance of a new Council App
- Camden Cemetery Masterplan totalling **\$150,000**
- Additional **\$50,000** for community events run by Council
- Work Health & Safety Initiatives totalling **\$50,000**
- Shade structures for playground equipment totalling **\$40,000**
- Bus shelter bin purchases totalling **\$30,000**

“To deliver such an aspirational Budget is certainly a credit to Council. I am proud of Council's balanced budget position and strong and favourable financial outlook.” Cr Symkowiak said.

“Through this Budget, residents can expect delivery of large-scale projects, new leisure facilities and a more customer focussed and technology enabled organisation, as well as significant improvements to the maintenance of parks and open spaces – a great win for the community.”

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“Camden is one of the fastest growing areas in NSW. Despite the demands associated with managing large-scale urban population growth, Council is able to deliver major projects, enhance Council services and make a solid investment in quality infrastructure for our community.” Cr Symkowiak said.

Council adopted its 4 year Delivery Program and Operational Plan (Budget) in June 2013. Council reviews its Budget annually and any major changes to the 4 year plan are publically exhibited for feedback. The revised 2013/2014 – 2016/2017 Delivery Program and draft 2015/2016 Operational Plan (Budget) were placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 14 May until 10 June.

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