

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD 25 NOVEMBER, 2002, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET  
CAMDEN - 8.00PM**

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**Present:** Cr Corrigan (Mayor/Chairperson), Cr Anderson, Cr Patterson, Cr Winn, Cr Campbell, Cr Batros, Cr Fekete, Cr McFadden, Cr Senise.

**Staff:** General Manager, Director Governance & Outcomes, Director Development & Environment, Director Works & Services, Manager Environment & Health, Manager Engineering, Manager Assets, Senior Governance Officer.

**GENERAL PUBLIC ADDRESSES**

A representative of Mr Colin Neasy addressed the Council in relation to land clearing on behalf of Mr Neasy.

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

*Moved Cr Winn, seconded Cr Batros that confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of 23 September, 2002, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted.*

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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

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**1. Legal Services Tender – Appointment of Solicitors**  
(4628)(Director Governance and Outcomes)

The Tenders for Legal Services closed on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2002 with 12 Firms lodging submissions. Those Firms were:

- Kencalo and Ritchie
- Peedom's
- Allens Arthur Robinson
- Gadens Lawyers
- Windeyer Dibbs
- Caldwell Martin and Cox
- Phillips Fox
- Abbott Tout
- Wilshire Webb
- Michell Sillar
- Houston, Dearn, O'Connor
- Maddocks Lawyers

Council appointed a Legal Services Assessment panel made up of Councillors Corrigan (Mayor), Anderson and Winn, the General Manager, Director of Governance and Outcomes and Director of Development and Environment. The Senior Governance Officer also assisted in the selection process.

The panel met on 1<sup>st</sup> November and shortlisted the following 6 firms who were interviewed on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2002: -

- Caldwell, Martin and Cox
- Wilshire Webb
- Gadens
- Kencalo and Ritchie
- Houston, Dearn and O'Connor
- Peedom's

The firms were assessed on the selection criteria as outlined in the tender document, namely, technical capability, capacity to handle volume, public sector understanding, client service focus, added value, geography and competitive pricing.

Each of the shortlisted firms, through their presentations, exhibited a varied range of experience and expertise in dealing with Council and Local Government issues. Several of the Firms exhibited a high level of understanding and showed a knowledge and awareness of issues facing a growth area such as Camden and put forward a specialised ability to be able to assist Council in complex land and environment, commercial/contractual, land management and industrial relations matters. There remains the need to continue to engage a locally based firm for broad property dealings and Local Court prosecutions. Two of the firms were excluded

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during discussions on the basis that they did not demonstrate their ability to meet all of Council's needs, or on the basis of their professional fee structure.

As outlined above, the remaining Firms each provide a varying depth of experience and expertise and each has particular strengths in certain fields. For these reasons, it is recommended Council retain the flexibility to select from a Panel of Legal Firms in order to engage the most appropriate Firm dependant on the particular issue and level of complexity.

After consideration of Council's needs, it is recommended the following Firms be appointed to a Legal Service Panel for engagement on the following board issues:

- Caldwell Martin and Cox – Property matters (Sale, lease, purchase, easements, etc) and Local Court prosecutions.
- Gadens Lawyers – Industrial Relations and Employment matters.
- Wilshire Webb – Land and Environment, Land Management, Commercial/Contracts.
- Kencalo and Ritchie – Land and Environment and Local Court prosecutions, commercial/contracts and property.

The make-up of the Panel with 2 locally based (Camden and Liverpool) and 2 Sydney based Firms provides sufficient flexibility to engage the Firm with the commensurate skills to match the issue. In addition, the split of the Panel provides the opportunity to obtain not only the best fit but also the best value for money in terms of professional fees.

Recommended: That

- (i) Council appoint the following Firms to provide Legal Services to Council as outlined in the Report for the period November, 2002 to October, 2006 (4 years):
  - Caldwell, Martin and Cox
  - Gadens Lawyers
  - Wilshire Webb; and
  - Kencalo and Ritchie
- (ii) Marsdens be advised of the outcome of the tender process and thanked for its service to Council.

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*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Winn, seconded Cr Anderson that*

- (i) *Council appoint the following Firms to provide Legal Services to Council as outlined in the Report for the period November, 2002 to October, 2006 (4 years):*
- Caldwell, Martin and Cox*
  - Gadens Lawyers*
  - Wilshire Webb; and*
  - Kencalo and Ritchie*
- (ii) *Marsdens be advised of the outcome of the tender process and thanked for its service to Council.*

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**2. Sound System – Council Meetings - Art Gallery Room**  
(TC/2904)(Director Governance and Outcomes)

The current sound system, which is set up and dismantled for each Council/Committee meeting in the Art Gallery Room, has been in use for in excess of 10 years. The system was built for this specific use and has now outlasted its functional life. Recent problems with the sound system during meetings have highlighted the obvious need to upgrade the Public Address facilities in the Art Gallery room.

Over the past few weeks, quotes have been obtained from suppliers for a new portable PA system for use during meetings. The types of systems now envisaged, are easy to install, versatile and extremely straightforward to use, which will enable any new system to be used, not only in the Art Gallery room but also in the Training Rooms and multi purpose room in the Undercroft. The System will comprise small delegate stations with a gooseneck microphone, a built-in speaker in each station and simple plugs to interconnect each station. In addition, a Chairman's Unit, which is a central control, allows the Chairperson to control the meeting and have priority access to speak.

In order to comply with Council's Purchasing Policy, 3 quotes are required to be obtained as the cost of the purchase is in excess of \$10,000.

To date, quotes have been received from:

- Philips Communication- CCS 800 Discussion System - \$16,458
- Bytecraft Entertainment Pty Ltd - CDS 4000 Conference system - \$17,568
- Lots of Watts Pty Ltd – CDS 4000 Conference system - \$19,945

Although quotes have been received, it is intended to also have demonstrations of each system to assess functionality and suitability to Council's needs.

The indicative cost of an appropriate system is less than \$20,000. In order to allow the purchase of a new system to proceed as soon as possible, it is suggested when the quotes and demonstrations are finalised, the General Manager be delegated authority to purchase the most suitable system and the amount of \$20,000 be allocated from the December 2002 Budget Review to cover the cost of such system.

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Recommended: That the General Manager be authorised to purchase a suitable replacement Sound System to be used for Council Meeting purposes and \$20,000 be allocated at the December 2002 Budget Review to cover such expenses.

*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Batros, seconded Cr Winn that the General Manager be authorised to purchase a suitable replacement Sound System to be used for Council Meeting purposes and \$20,000 be allocated at the December 2002 Budget Review to cover such expenses.*

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**3. Catherine Field and Leppington 355 Management  
Committee Deed of Delegations**

(File 3811/1) (Director Works and Services]

**Purpose:**

This report seeks Council's approval to sign and affix the Deed of Delegation for the Catherine Field Hall and Tennis Courts and the Leppington Oval 355 Management Committees.

**Discussion:**

Council at its meeting held on 22 April 2002 endorsed the appointment of the below mentioned members and approved delegations for the Catherine Field and Leppington 355 Management Committees.

Catherine Field Hall and Tennis Courts  
355 Community Management Committee

Representation:

Evelyn Winnal  
Kathy Van Bueren  
George Wheatley  
Fran Jamison  
Greg French  
George Winnal  
Arnold Miedema  
Cr Fekete

Leppington Oval and Tennis Courts  
355 Community Management Committee

Representation:

Silvano Frassetto  
Eric Fuchs  
Marissa Martignago  
Ivan Favretti  
Ray Northey  
Maureen Kennedy  
Dorothy Jones  
Mark Behringer  
Cr Fekete

In order to complete the required Deed of Delegation, Council is required to expressly resolve to affix the Seal. This was not included in the recommendation in the report presented to Council at its meeting on 22 April 2002.

**Recommended:** That Council sign and affix the seal to the Deed of Delegations for the Catherine Field Hall and Tennis Courts and the Leppington Oval and Tennis Courts 355 Management Committees.

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*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Fekete, seconded Cr Anderson that Council sign and affix the seal to the Deed of Delegations for the Catherine Field Hall and Tennis Courts and the Leppington Oval and Tennis Courts 355 Management Committees.*

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**4. Library Fines Amnesty**

(File 894/1) (Director Works and Services)

**Purpose:**

This report advises Council of the proposal to conduct a "fines amnesty" between 23 December 2002 to 18 January 2003.

**Discussion:**

During the summer period each year the Library has held a fines amnesty, during which Library borrowers are able to return overdue items without incurring fines if the item is returned with a tin or a packet of non-perishable food. The food is then donated to charity to be distributed on a needs basis within the local area. Last year the food was donated to The Salvation Army at Narellan.

During the 2001/2002 amnesty approximately 600 food items were collected with the return of around 1000 items. Without the amnesty it is likely that many of these items would never have been returned.

It is proposed that the amnesty - "Can your fines" be held between Monday 23 December 2002 to Saturday 18 January 2003, and that the food be donated to Mount Annan Care at Mount Annan.

**Recommended:** That

- (i) A Library Fines Amnesty be introduced for the period 23 December 2002 to 18 January 2003. Borrowers may return overdue items without incurring a fine if the item is returned with an item of non perishable food.
- (ii) The food be donated to Mount Annan Care, Mount Annan.

*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr Winn that*

- (i) *A Library Fines Amnesty be introduced for the period 23 December 2002 to 18 January 2003. Borrowers may return overdue items without incurring a fine if the item is returned with an item of non perishable food.*
- (ii) *The food be donated to Mount Annan Care, Mount Annan.*

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**5. Camden Skateboard Facility**

(File 3102/9)[Director Works & Services]

**Background:**

At the meeting of 23 September 2002, Council considered and carried a Notice of Motion from Councillor Fred Anderson;

“That Council, in conjunction with the SP4C committee, actively pursue the placement of a skateboard facility (as per drawings in Tabled Documents on pages 122 – 125 of the meeting of 10 September, 2001) at Kirkham Park, Elderslie on the site previously identified as Site A in Tabled Documents of 13 December, 1999 (page 167).

Further, that Councillors be informed as to the result of the findings regarding the relocation of the existing skateboard facility as noted by Council minutes of 12 June, 2000.”

**Development of Skateboard Facility at Kirkham Park:**

The design of the proposed skateboard facility, which was developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and presented to the Council meeting of 10 September 2001, forms **Tabled Document “BPA1“**. This design, although originally intended for Birriwa Reserve, Mount Annan, is able to be transported and accommodated at alternate sites within Camden.

Options for the development of a skateboard facility at Kirkham Park were presented to the Council meeting of 13 December, 1999. This report identified various sites, one of which was identified as Site “A”. This site was located towards the eastern end of Kirkham Park and sited between the drainage channel and the perimeter fencing which encloses the rugby league ground.

**Tabled Document “BPA2“** demonstrates how the adopted design could be accommodated at Site “A”. Final location and orientation will be subject to a detailed topography survey and through further negotiations with SP4C.

**Financial Implications:**

As identified within the Council minutes of 10 September 2001, the construction of the proposed skate facility has been estimated to cost \$250,000 in total. The first stage of a stage implementation is likely to cost in the order of \$88,100.

The above estimate is for the construction of the skateboard facility only; budgetary allocations for items such as lighting,

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security (if necessary), graffiti removal and general maintenance will be additional.

SP4C advises the following funds are available for this project, however the Department of Sport and Recreation require the grant funds to be urgently spent and or committed:

Department of Sport and Recreation	\$18,000
Camden Lions Club	\$10,000

Council has the following funds available with the 2002/2003 budget for this project:

\$23,580

Therefore in total the combined funds available for the project stands at:

\$51,580

Hence the full construction of the skateboard facility at Kirkham Park requires an additional \$198,420 (say \$200,000).

Furthermore as requested, Council has investigated the relocation of the existing skateboard ramp currently located adjacent to the Camden War Memorial Swimming Pool. It is considered appropriate to relocate the facility also to the identified Site "A" at Kirkham Park to establish a comprehensive facility in the one location which is able to cater for patrons of varying skills and various needs. The cost to relocate the existing ramp to Kirkham Park is estimated to be \$8,900.

Recommended: That

- (i) Public consultation be undertaken to inform interested parties of the proposal to construct a permanent skateboard facility at Kirkham Park (site "A")
- (ii) Subject to public consultation accepting the proposed skateboard facility construction the following items be referred to the 2003/2004 budget process:
  - additional funding for the construction of a skateboard facility at Kirkham Park \$200,000
  - relocation of existing skateboard facility from Onslow Park to Kirkham Park \$ 8,900

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*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr Senise that*

- (i) Public consultation be undertaken to inform interested parties of the proposal to construct a permanent skateboard facility at Kirkham Park (site "A")*
  
- (ii) Subject to public consultation accepting the proposed skateboard facility construction the following items be referred to the 2003/2004 budget process:*
  - additional funding for the construction of a skateboard facility at Kirkham Park     \$200,000*
  - relocation of existing skateboard facility from Onslow Park to Kirkham Park     \$   8,900*

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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

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**6. EPA Compliance Inspection on Council Works Depot**  
(File 5515.15)(Director of Works & Services)

**Purpose of Report:**

To provide information on:

- compliance inspection outcomes, conducted by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on Council Works Depot in April this year, and
- further improvements work for the Works Depot in meeting environmental standards that needs to be considered in the budget for completion in the 2003/2004 financial year.

**Background:**

Council has a commitment for improving its environmental performance as stated in the Environmental Policy. Council has also noted and recognised the future budgetary implications in the report to Council "Environmental Management System (EMS) Stage 1" on 12 November 2001.

A complete audit on Council's environmental performance was carried out by Montgomery Watson Harza in November 2001 as part of phase 1 of the EMS. The document lists potential risks and concerns, which Council will need to address.

Two more phases are anticipated before the EMS is fully developed which then becomes the control for Council activities. It will set an appropriate review process for those activities.

Phase 2 of the EMS (2002 to 2004) will specify the strategy needed to address issues identified in the Montgomery Watson Harza's audit and EPA's report and will upgrade current processes/procedures and systems. Phase 3 (2004 or earlier) is the implementation of Environmental Management Plans for maintaining high environmental performance standards.

Improvement to environmental performance has always been in the agenda, long before the commencement of phase 1 EMS. Each year there has been funding for environmental improvement included within the budget. The recent introduction of EMS is expected to support budget bids that are needed during phase 2 and 3.

Following the recent inspection of the Works Depot, EPA has noted activities, which have taken place for the improvement of Council's environmental performance. The environmental audit (phase 1 EMS) is proof of Council's commitment in addressing environmental issues.

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EPA's concerns

The main concerns are:

- inadequate measures for preventing pollutants/possible pollutants from entering the storm water system,
- potential dust problem from stockpile of materials on windy days.

The result of the compliance inspection does not show any negligent act on Council's part, however, there are some concerns needing to be addressed in order to eliminate future risks. In general, EPA is satisfied with Council's cooperation in addressing environmental issues. A copy of EPA's letter (Compliance Report) can be found in the **Tabled Document "BPA3"**.

**Main Issues:**

Timeframe for implementation

Follow up inspections are intended from the EPA on a six monthly basis. Progress on Council's action plan, for work done and timing in addressing the depot environmental issues, will be checked during each inspection.

An action plan was submitted to the EPA on 12 September 2002, but EPA's formal response is still forthcoming. A copy of Council's letter and action plan is included in the **Tabled Document "BPA4"**.

The action plan refers to activities in the period of the 2002/2003 and 2003/2004 financial years. This is to allow for consideration of some phase 2 EMS items into the 2003/2004 budget.

Actions funded from 2001/2002 budget that have taken place since EPA's compliance inspection

1. Truck wash-bay area

A roof has been provided to the existing wash-bay area, this is to prevent rainwater from entering the sewer system. The risk of storm water pollution has been eliminated by repositioning the pit and by adjusting spray hoses and parts of the driveway.

2. Street sweeper bay

An under cover street sweeper bay was constructed. This facility allows rubbish from the street sweeper to be kept out of the weather. Wastewater from the rubbish stockpile is drained into the sewer.

3. Dust suppression system

Part of it is the installation of a new water sprinkler system for spraying stock piled materials in the yard (new materials

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and recycled materials). This work has just been completed. The system consists of an electronically controlled irrigation system with water conservation in mind. Sensors are incorporated to monitor weather condition and to determine the true demand for spraying.

4. Improvement of stockpile area

Besides the sprinklers, better material management is required for the proper containment of stockpiles and to shield them from wind (this is EPA requirement). Additionally, a system for treating runoff water from the recycled materials must also be provided. A large portion of this project formed part of the construction of the dust suppression system.

5. Decommissioning of the oil store

EPA condemned the use of the old oil store for storing various fluids because it presented potentials for soil contamination and storm water pollution. In order to make extra room for the new depot office extensions, the oil store was relocated for alternate storage use.

6. Storage for oils and hazardous materials within the workshop

Purpose built steel storage cabinets were purchased to properly store oils and hazardous materials/fluids. These steel cabinets incorporate spill compartments at the base.

Actions funded from 2002/2003 budget being completed

High priority items currently being addressed are (total about \$28,000):

1. Installation of impervious drive-over bunds across a number of doors
2. Installation of an oil trap for the forecourt area of the workshop
3. Acquisition of additional purpose built steel storage cabinets for storing oils
4. Construction of material storage bins
5. Installation of roof over the separator unit at the truck wash bay area
6. Installation of cover over the concrete dish behind the workshop
7. Temporary soft canopy for the refueling truck
8. Water quality testing program
9. Fuel monitoring

Major work/expenditures to be considered in the 2003/2004 budget

The items below are needed to meet EPA requirements (about \$59,600):

1. Pump-out pit system for the fuel bowser area (\$3,000)

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2. Installation of 2 metre high windshields for the material storage bins (\$17,800)
3. Installation of sprinkler system for the smaller material bins (\$4,000)
4. Sealing of all depot internal roads (\$24,800)
5. Construction of a sedimentation pond (\$10,000)

**Conclusion:**

In addressing Council's obligation to eliminate the risks and concerns, which exist within the Works Depot, further improvement work has been planned for completion in the 2003/2004 financial year.

Recommended: That the information be noted and funds required for completing the balance of phase 2 EMS work for the Works Depot be considered within the 2003/2004 budget to a total of approximately \$59,600.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Batros, seconded Cr Winn that the information be noted and funds required for completing the balance of phase 2 EMS work for the Works Depot be considered within the 2003/2004 budget to a total of approximately \$59,600.

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**7. Contract 02/21 Purchase of 12 Tonne Tip Truck**

(File 4631) [Director Works and Services]

**Purpose:**

To recommend the recalling of tender for purchase of 12 tonne tip truck due to lack of choice available in the current tender and to give Council the opportunity to consider Euro III compliant vehicle.

**Background Information:**

The replacement of Council's 1996 Ford L8000 tip truck is provided in the 2002-2003 plant replacement program. Tenders were called closing on 15 October, for a new 12 tonne, forward control tip truck with Euro II compliant engine, offering Council's Ford L8000 as a trade and for outright purchase.

Following closing of tenders additional information was received from the preferred tenderer that their vehicle did not meet Council specification.

**Recommended: That**

- (i) *no tender be accepted for the 12 tonne truck being contract 02/21*
- (ii) *a tender for the purchase of 12 tonne tip truck be recalled in 2003*
- (iii) *those who submitted tenders be notified of Council decision*

**Resolved on the Motion of Cr Winn, seconded Cr Fekete that**

- (i) *no tender be accepted for the 12 tonne truck being contract 02/21*
- (ii) *a tender for the purchase of 12 tonne tip truck be recalled in 2003*
- (iii) *those who submitted tenders be notified of Council decision*

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*(Items Deferred From Development Committee Meeting held earlier in the evening).*

**8. Update on progress of Council's Fire Safety Program**  
(File 4563) (Director, Development & Environment Division)

**Purpose of Report**

The report is provided to update Council on the progress and implementation of Council's Fire Safety program.

**Background**

On 26 November 2001, Council resolved to launch a Fire Safety program, which included a public awareness campaign followed by an upgrade of building and on-going education program. The program was successfully launched at a seminar in April 2002 to which building owners and key stakeholders were invited. Council also conducted an extensive education program via a number of mail outs.

In August 2002, after a Development Branch re-structure, a Fire Safety Officer was appointed internally to oversee and implement the program.

**Main Report**

**The Building Audit Process**

The inspection regime began almost immediately with appointment of the Fire Safety Officer.

Buildings in the area have generally been ranked according to potential risk, with high-risk buildings being addressed first given their use and potential threat to life and safety. High risk buildings are generally those where people may be disadvantaged during a fire or emergency due to varying factors such as sleeping, incapacitation, alcohol and sub-standard construction and/or essential services.

To date, Council has inspected approximately 50 buildings. The inspections have revealed varying degrees of non-compliance and fire safety issues, including a number of high risk buildings. Defects include windows and combustible construction built up to boundaries, non-compliant or insufficient egress from buildings, inadequate fire separation between sole occupancy units and adjoining buildings, essential services such as smoke alarms, hose reels, emergency lighting etc which have not been maintained and in many cases are non existent.

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Council is currently working with a number of building owners to achieve satisfactory upgrades to these buildings. A map will be on display at the Council meeting, providing a graphical representation of the areas covered by the program to date.

Particular attention has been given to the Camden Town Centre, due to the mix of uses and age and construction of the buildings. It should be noted that a number of low risk buildings have also been inspected, mainly in response to Council's education program and positive feedback from building owners who have been pro active in embracing their legislative responsibilities.

Places of Public Entertainment

As part of the program, Council is also looking at all premises, which are conducted as Places of Public Entertainment (POPE). Approvals for existing premises are currently being revised and renewed, with suitable upgrades being carried out as required. A comprehensive register of POPEs is being compiled so those premises may be monitored on their performance and compliance with their annual approval. Through this process Council will also endeavour to identify premises conducting activities which constitute a POPE without such approval, and assist proprietors in having these situations rectified.

Bushfire Prone Areas and Bushfire Protection

Council is currently in the process of mapping bush fire risk in accordance with PlanningNSW guidelines. For new subdivisions, bushfire risk assessment is carried out as part of the section 79C assessment and appropriate measures or restrictions placed on developed parcels. Development in existing bush fire prone areas will be assessed in accordance with PlanningNSW guidelines, Australian Standard AS3959 – 'Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas' and referral to the Rural Fire Service. Any development within a classified area is integrated development and requires approval from NSW Rural Fire Service. Staff are currently liaising with the local Fire Coordinator to establish a suitable protocol for referrals.

Monitoring of Automatic Fire Alarms

The Building Code of Australia requires that certain buildings have their fire alarm and detection systems connected to a 'back to base' type monitoring system. For the past 20 years this monitoring was done via a direct data link to a NSW Fire Brigades station or command centre. However, in early 2002 the Brigades announced they would no longer provide this service. It is therefore necessary that all affected buildings have their systems converted over to private service providers.

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Council is currently liaising with NSW Fire Brigades and building owners to implement the necessary change over and meet Brigades timetable for conversions. Council will also require certification on completion of works to ensure that an authorised provider has been contracted and that conversion works and system performance complies with relevant standards.

**Conclusion**

The Fire Safety Upgrade program is an on-going and difficult process. Council will be kept informed of the progress and any new developments in fire safety which effect the Camden LGA.

Recommended: That Council note progress in the Fire Safety Program.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Patterson, seconded Cr McFadden that Council note progress in the Fire Safety Program.

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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

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**9. Collection Service for Domestically Generated Sharps and Syringes**

(TC3631) (Director, Development & Environment Division)

**Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to propose that Council participate in a joint program with local pharmacies involving the collection of used sharps and syringes produced by local residents.

**Background**

On numerous occasions over recent years Waste Service NSW, who operate the MRF, has suggested to Council that recycling material delivered to Jacks Gully is being contaminated with sharps originating from either local doctors surgeries, veterinary surgeries, dentists or from residents who use needles at home as a result of a chronic illness. Concerned about the allegations, Council undertook an audit of all commercial properties generating sharps. It was found that all premises audited had an acceptable method of disposal in place for medical waste and in particular sharps. As a result of the audits it was believed that the sharps were originating from domestic properties (ie people with medical conditions).

Due to the very limited disposal options available to residents, Council approached all pharmacies within the LGA, inviting them to participate in a co-operative arrangement for a collection program, similar to those successfully implemented in other Council areas. This issue has been recognised by a large number of councils around Sydney and most of our neighbouring councils offer a collection service.

The first audit was undertaken in November of 2001. At that stage there was very low support for the program, with only one pharmacy wishing to be involved (Camden Pharmacy). Disappointed by the lack of support, Council did not commence with the program.

Since then, Council has revisited all pharmacies to initiate more support for the collection and inviting them to participate in the program. More positively, a number of pharmacies have expressed interest in the program.

**Program**

Council aims to deal with the inappropriate disposal of domestic sharps in two stages.

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Stage One

Pharmacies wishing to be involved in the program would act as a drop off point to the public, whereby residents are able to bring in unwanted sharps, which are to be disposed of in suitable containers supplied by a nominated contractor. The contractor, employed on Council's behalf, would either pick up the bin on a regular basis or on-call as required. There would be no cost to the pharmacy other than promotional material additional to that supplied by Council.

Having approached all pharmacies recently, the level of support for the program is significantly increased from previous invitations to participate in the collection program.

The following are pharmacies that have indicated initial support for the program.

- Camden Pharmacy – 91 Argyle Street, Camden
- Sinclairs Day & Night Pharmacy – 122-130 Argyle Street Camden
- Amcal Narellan – Shop 44-48 Narellan Town Centre, Narellan

The remaining chemists have indicated that they wish to further consider before joining the program.

The service will be promoted to the community through appropriate channels with the possibility for further promotion to be undertaken by the South-Western Area Health Service.

Cost

The costs associated with providing a sharps collection program are relatively minimal, but will ultimately depend on the usage of the service. Camden Pharmacy who currently have a bin are charged an initial \$40 per bin plus \$40 per pick up. It is anticipated that should all pharmacies join the program the approximate cost for the service may range somewhere between \$2000-2500 per annum. The cost of the program would be funded by the Waste Management Budget. It is believed that the cost of providing the service would offset any potential costs associated with Council's recycling load being classified as contaminated (with syringes and sharps) and charged at a significantly higher rate than current recycling rates. Current costs incurred by Council for the disposal of recyclable material is \$15.00 per tonne. For material found to contain sharps increases to \$120.00 per tonne. Sharps are segregated from the load using a front end loader thus leading to substantial quantities being rejected.

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Stage Two

The issues related to the disposal of syringes in public places will form the second stage of the program. Recent discussions with the Department of Health and the South West Sydney Area Health Service have indicated that there are opportunities to establish co-operative relationship in addressing the sharps issue in public places. These opportunities will be furthered investigated.

**Conclusion**

The lack of appropriate disposal methods available to the community for sharps and syringes has become apparent. Council is willing to initiate a service in partnership with the local pharmacies for the benefit of the community. The perceived benefits of implementing a convenient and safe collection programs are considered to outweigh the relatively small cost associated with the program.

Recommended: That Council

- (i) Support the establishment of a program to collect and dispose of domestically generated sharps and syringes and actively promote the program to all possible participants and the community;
- (ii) Engage a contractor on behalf of participating pharmacies and cover associated costs. Funding to be provided from the Waste Budget's sundry expense account; and
- (iii) Further investigate opportunities in seeking assistance to establish collection points in public places, if appropriate.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Campbell, seconded Cr Winn that Council

- (i) *Support the establishment of a program to collect and dispose of domestically generated sharps and syringes and actively promote the program to all possible participants and the community;*
- (ii) *Engage a contractor on behalf of participating pharmacies and cover associated costs. Funding to be provided from the Waste Budget's sundry expense account; and*
- (iii) *Further investigate opportunities in seeking assistance to establish collection points in public places, if appropriate.*

125/02  
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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

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**Delegated Committees**

Development Committee Meeting – Held 23 September 2002

Development Committee Meeting – 14 October 2002

Development Committee Meeting – 11 November 2002

Resources & Services Committee Meeting – 14 October 2002

Resources & Services Committee Meeting – 11 November 2002

*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Batros, seconded Cr Winn that the Development Committee of the 23 September, 2002 and the Resources & Services Committee of the 14 October, 2002 copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted. The Development Committee of the 14 October, 2002 and the 11 November, 2002 and the Resources & Services Committee of the 11 November, 2002 be deferred pending clarification of details contained in those Minutes.*

126/02  
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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

**Other Committees**

Traffic Committee Meeting – Held 14 October 2002

*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Fekete, seconded Cr Patterson that the Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held 14 October, 2002, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and the recommendations adopted with the exception of Item 3 to be referred back to the Traffic Committee with a recommendation that the gate access to Larkin Place be closed as Larkin Place is a carpark and that the pedestrian and parent pickup gate for St Paul's School be in Mitchell Street.*

127/02  
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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

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Traffic Committee Meeting – Held 11 November 2002

**MOTION**

*Moved Cr Fekete, seconded Cr Patterson that*

- (i) In relation to Item 13 “Safety Audit” Council include a \$15,000 contribution in the December quarterly budget review.*
- (ii) The remainder of Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held 11 November, 2002, be confirmed and the recommendations adopted.*

128/02  
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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**Volunteers Meeting**

(TC1323)

Cr Fekete requested to be advised of the number of people who attended the Volunteers Meeting held earlier today.

The Mayor advised over 100 people attended.

Cr Anderson also advised 84 people did attend plus 3 Councillors.

Cr Fekete stated there was a problem with the time.

The Mayor stated the Volunteer Coordinator advised the timing would be changed in future years.

**Onslow Park**

(PF1500.100)

Cr Batros requested a briefing be provided next week at the Workshop concerning the changes, which have occurred at Onslow Park, and in relation to the Deed of Gift.

The Director Works & Services stated that this would be provided.

**Garden Christmas Light Up**

(TC/3847)

Cr Winn requested to be advised if the garden light up event be held this year.

The Director Governance & Outcomes stated the event will be held and advertising is currently being arranged.

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**Complaints – Concrete Trucks**

(TC/715)

Cr Campbell advised of recent complaints from a resident in Catherine Field concerning the movement of concrete trucks and pumps on an adjoining property. Cr Campbell requested to be advised how Council has communicated to the complainant to make sure he is aware to how to deal with the issue.

The Mayor stated a written response was provided to the complainant approximately 3 weeks ago relating to an incident 2 years previously, which was advised to him previously. In addition Council staff have also responded in writing reiterating the previous advice.

The Director Development & Environment also stated a more recent written advice has been provided highlighting the need for prompt reporting of incidents.

**Coles Myer Complex**

(TC/3097)

Cr Campbell advised of complaints regarding trucks accessing Coles Myer Complex, illegally driving down Narellan Road and turning at the Mount Annan roundabout and proceeding along Tramway Drive and Currans Hill Drive to beat the 7am – 7.00pm curfew. Could Council have this matter investigated?

The Director Works & Services stated the matter would be investigated.

**Drainage – Kirkham Park**

(PF1300.190)

Cr Campbell drew attention to complaints concerning the main drain beside the rugby league ground and cricket pitch down to Camden Valley Way. Indications are the drain is full of plastic bags, bottles and rubbish with residents concerned regarding the condition of the drain should rain occur. Could the drain be cleaned?

The Director Works & Services advised the matter would be investigated.

**Camden Rodeo**

(PF1500.660)

Cr Campbell drew attention to the inaugural Camden Rodeo held on the 17 November, 2002. 2000 spectators attended with competitors from NSW and interstate. Congratulations should go to the County of Cumberland Camp Drafters Club and the Sydney Polo Cross Club for organising the event.

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Camden is also one of three finalists for selection to hold the Australian National Titles on Bicentennial Equestrian Park.

**Seating Argyle Street**

(TC/1947)

The Mayor requested Council respond to the Mainstreet Committee and advise the number of seats in the main street. The Mayor indicated there were approximately 10 seats available for elderly residents. In addition, the Mayor requested the amount of funding Council provided to the Mainstreet Committee. Could this be provided in writing?

The Director Governance & Outcomes stated the amount provided to the Mainstreet Committee is \$5,000.

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Due to the appearance of a member of the community wishing the address the Council it was resolved on the voices that the member of the community be permitted to address Council.

Question:

Is Council aware of the Development Application regarding a proposed aluminium plant in Smeaton Grange?

Answer:

The Mayor advised the matter had been fully debated earlier in the meeting this evening and Council staff will provide a full copy of the result on request.

**Academy of Sport**

(TC/2934)

Cr Anderson as Council's representative on the Academy Board, presented Council with a plaque from the Macarthur Academy of Sport acknowledging Council's assistance in promotion of its programmes and support of the Academy.

The Mayor accepted the plaque on behalf of Council and the community.

The Meeting closed at 8.55pm.