

**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES & SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD 13 MAY, 2002, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET
CAMDEN**

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**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES & SERVICES COMMITTEE
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Present: Cr S Winn (Deputy Mayor/Chairperson), Cr G Corrigan, Cr B Batros, Cr S Fekete, Cr N McFadden, Cr F Anderson, Cr C Patterson, Cr S Senise.

Staff: General Manager, Director Governance & Outcomes, Director Works & Services, Director Development & Environment, Manager Outcomes, Manager Engineering, Manager Community Services, Administration Officer.

Apology: An apology was received from Cr E Campbell from this meeting.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr Senise that leave of absence be granted to Cr Campbell for this meeting.

RS017/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

1. Investment Monies: Period ended, 31st March, 2002
(Director Governance & Outcomes)

In accordance with clause 19 (3a & 3b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, a list of investments held by Council as at 31st March, 2002, is provided as **Tabled Document "RS 1"**.

It is further certified that all investments have been made in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the relevant regulations and Council's investment policy.

Current investments of the General Fund both term and call are returning an average daily yield of 4.41% and during the Month of March, 2002, the average return on all investments both call and term was 4.39%.

Recommended: That

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.
- (ii) The list of investments as at 31st March, 2002 be noted.
- (iii) The interest rate return of 4.39% for the month of March, 2002, be noted.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr McFadden, seconded Cr Corrigan that

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act,

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Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

- (ii) *The list of investments as at 31st March, 2002 be noted.*
- (iii) *The interest rate return of 4.39% for the month of March, 2002, be noted.*

RS018/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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2. 2002/03 Draft Management Plan and Budget
(Director Governance & Outcomes)

Purpose of Report

To inform Council of its revised 2002/03 Draft Budget position and seek approval to publicly exhibit the Draft Management Plan and Budget in accordance with requirements under s402 of the Local Government Act (1993).

Introduction

Councillors and staff held a Budget Workshop on Monday 29th April 2002 to discuss the 2002/03 Draft Management Plan and Budget.

Modifications to the proposed Fees and Charges Schedule have been made as a result of the Budget Workshop and minor changes to the 'Line Item' Budget document have been accommodated.

The 2002/03 Draft Management Plan and Budget is now in a position to be advertised and placed on public exhibition for a period of 30 days commencing Tuesday 14th May 2002.

A copy of the Draft Management Plan & Budget has been circulated separately to Councillors.

2002/03 Budget Strategy

The Senior Management Team has prepared a Budget Strategy which outlines the intent of the 2002/03 Budget and the processes to be undertaken to ensure the accomplishment of outcomes that relate directly to Council's Strategic Plan: Camden 2025. A copy of the Budget Strategy is included in the exhibition document and is contained in **Tabled Document "RS 2"**.

The 2002/03 Budget Strategy was developed with a view to funding those recurrent programs and project bids that lend unequivocal support to the broader objectives of Council's Strategic Plan. Considerable priority was also given to ensuring Council meets its legal and contractual obligations and to addressing issues of safety and security for staff and the community.

Project Bids have been prioritised in the manner outlined in the 2002/03 Budget Strategy and those ranked 'A' (highest priority) have been included in the Draft Budget (Refer to **Tabled Document "RS 3"**).

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Summary of Draft Budget Position

The 2002/03 Draft Budget forecasts accumulated Working Funds as at June 30 2003 of \$1,441,187.

Expenditure marginally exceeds income (ie budget deficit) to the tune of \$437,184 (0.9% of the total budget) but is adequately covered by the accumulation of previous year's surpluses, which now stand at \$1,878,371 (as per the adopted 2001/02 Budget March Review).

The 2002/03 Draft Budget position is particularly pleasing given the deficit includes a non-recurrent (once-off capital outlay) expense of \$1,250,000 for a new computer system.

The Draft Budget builds on the financial gains made over the last few years and is considered a deliberate and responsible effort in maintaining Council's sound financial position without compromising the need to service our expanding community.

Significant Aspects of The Draft Budget

- The Minister for Local Government recently approved a maximum rate increase of 3.3%.
- An increase of \$200,000 in the minimum uncommitted Working Funds Level. (up from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000).
- Provision of \$1,250,000 for a new organisational Computer System
- An increase in staff numbers to assist in the delivery of improved/new services
- An increase in funds allocated to the Infrastructure Construction Program
- An increase in funds allocated to Drainage and Water Quality Maintenance
- The continuation of funds transferred to Reserve to meet future commitments
- The continuation of the Civic Centre Upgrade Program

Dissection Of Expenditure

Funds have been allocated to Council's five Strategic Directions as follows:

Sustainable Urban Growth	\$ 6,599,845	13.7%
Accessibility	\$ 9,110,851	18.9%
Environmental Systems	\$ 9,868,160	20.5%
Economic & Community Development	\$ 9,460,161	19.6%
Governance	\$13,151,685	27.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$48,190,702	100%

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Source Of Funding

Council's expenditure budget is funded by the following sources of income:

Rates and Charges	\$20,108,031	41.7%
Untied Grants	\$ 1,926,013	4.0%
Tied Grants	\$ 1,682,217	3.5%
Fees and Charges	\$ 2,186,970	4.5%
Loans	\$ 2,000,000	4.2%
Transfers from Reserve	\$ 5,567,965	11.6%
Interest on Investments	\$ 1,385,826	2.9%
Contributions	\$ 6,078,163	12.6%
Depreciation	\$ 5,754,720	11.9%
Other Income	\$ 1,500,797	3.1%
TOTAL INCOME	\$48,190,702	100%

Significant Capital Works Included In The 2002/03 Budget

a) Section 94 Capital Works Program

The 2002/03 Draft Budget includes a significant quantum of Section 94 funded capital works. The following list is a summary of Section 94 works included:

Description of Works	2002/03 Draft Estimate
Narellan & Narellan Release Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park Furniture, Fittings & Landscaping • Liquidamber Reserve – Irrigation • Liquidamber Reserve – Clubroom & Facilities • Wandarah Reserve Irrigation 	\$ 450,000 \$ 240,000 \$ 440,000 \$ 150,000
Upper Narellan Creek Trunk Drainage & Water Quality Facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harrington Park Lake 1 Land Acquisition • Harrington Park Lake 2 Land Acquisition • Harrington Park Lake 2 Works • Harrington Park Lake 3 Works • Somerset Avenue Drainage 	\$ 50,000 \$ 70,000 \$1,000,000 \$1,000,000 \$ 175,000
Ellis Lane & Grasmere: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality Facility No 4 	\$ 60,000
Smeaton Grange Road Works: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Anzac Ave to Cul-de-sac 	\$ 25,000
Ellis Lane & Grasmere: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Old Oaks Road construction 	\$ 100,000
Narellan Town Centre: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somerset Avenue Reconstruction • Camden Valley Way – Streetscape Improvements • Doncaster Avenue – Carpark land acquisition 	\$ 350,000 \$ 50,000 \$ 250,000
Street Tree Program (funded from Fee Deposits)	\$ 15,000
Footpath Program (funded from Fee Deposits)	\$ 150,000

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TOTAL SECTION 94 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM	\$4,575,000
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b) Infrastructure Construction Works Program

The 2002/03 Draft Budget includes substantial funds for road reconstruction and road reseal works. For comparative purposes, the following table is provided:

Description	2002/03 Estimate	2001/02 Estimate	Increase
Roads Reconstruction Program	\$1,560,650	\$1,511,500	\$ 49,150
Roads Reseal/Overlay Program	\$ 364,200	\$ 249,900	\$114,300
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS	\$1,924,850	\$1,761,400	\$163,450

2002/03 Management Plan and Budget - Exhibition Period

Section 403 of the Local Government Act (1993) requires Council to publicly exhibit its Management Plan and Budget for a period of at least 28 days.

The documents that will be placed on public exhibition are as follows:

- **2002/03 Draft Management Plan** – details all income and expenditure by Program and Activity as per Council’s Strategic Plan: Camden 2025
- **2002/03 Schedule of Fees and Charges** – this document includes:
 1. A statement in respect to each charge proposed to be levied
 2. A statement of the types of fees proposed to be charged and the amounts of such fees
 3. A statement of Council’s Pricing Policy with respect to the goods and services provided by it.
- **2002/03 Revenue Policy** – details the fees and charges specifically related to Council Rates. This policy is located at the rear of the 2002/03 Draft Management Plan document.

Timetable Of Events

2002/03 Draft Management Plan and Budget to Council for Approval	13 th May 2002
Advertise 2002/03 Draft Management Plan and Budget for Public Comment	14 th May 2002
Public Exhibition period closes	14 th June 2002
Adoption of 2002/03 Management Plan and Budget	24 th June 2002

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Recommended: That

- (i) Council adopt the Budget Strategy.
- (ii) Council approve the 2002/03 Draft Management Plan and Budget for the purpose of placing the necessary information on exhibition for public comment.
- (iii) Council approve a 3.3% increase in rates as per the maximum increase approved by the Minister for Local Government.
- (iv) Council's minimum level of uncommitted Working Funds be increased from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000.
- (v) Surplus funds of \$441,187 be used to further reduce Council's loan indebtedness.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr Corrigan that

- (i) Council adopt the Budget Strategy.
- (ii) Council approve the 2002/03 Draft Management Plan and Budget for the purpose of placing the necessary information on exhibition for public comment.
- (iii) Council approve a 3.3% increase in rates as per the maximum increase approved by the Minister for Local Government.
- (iv) Council's minimum level of uncommitted Working Funds be increased from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000.
- (v) Surplus funds of \$441,187 be used to further reduce Council's loan indebtedness.

RS019/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

3. Camden Riparian Areas Plan of Management
(4450) (Director Governance and Outcomes)

Background

The sustainable management of land associated with watercourses is a key factor in approaching the vision established in the Camden 2025 strategic plan.

Council was successful in obtaining financial assistance from the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning through the Metropolitan Greenspace Program to develop a management strategy for public land associated with wetlands and watercourses.

Council engaged consultants Pittendrigh Shinkfield & Bruce to develop a natural areas plan of management (POM) for public reserves adjoining wetlands and watercourses both natural and constructed.

The draft plan of management has been distributed to **Councillors under separate cover.**

Management Strategy

The Plans of Management categorise all publicly owned riparian land as a 'natural area'. The core objective for the management of community land characterised as a natural area is the maintenance of ecosystem function. It is the natural functioning of the freshwater wetland ecosystem that provides the crucial water quality improvements required to minimise the impact of urban development and contribute to a more sustainable Camden generally. This categorisation reinforces the position that, regardless of the context, the primary management objective for wetlands or watercourses will be the maintenance of ecosystem function.

In the management of riparian land there are issues which are common to all areas and there are specific issues related to each individual reserve. The structure of the Camden Riparian Areas POM reflects this reality with a generic POM covering the entire LGA which has been designed to accommodate specific area POMs as they are developed on a priority basis.

Key Issues

The report is comprehensive and identifies a number of strategies that when implemented will assist in the realisation of Camden's sustainability objectives. Key to the implementation of these strategies are the following points:

- Stormwater Management.

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The report identifies that traditional 'end of pipe' stormwater management solutions are inconsistent with Council's objectives of a functional, low maintenance, ecologically sound and aesthetic pleasing system. Further, traditional methods of stormwater management are generating environmental problems which may be costly to remediate for example, urban salinity and creek bank erosion.

The report recommends that council adopt water sensitive urban design (WSUD) principles in all new developments. To a great extent the recommendations regarding the implementation of water sensitive design have been adopted with elements incorporated into the master planning of Elderslie, Manooka Valley and Spring Farm

- Management Structure.

Traditionally the responsibilities for the design, installation and management of wetlands and watercourses has fallen across several divisions. The report suggests this previous fragmentation of responsibility has contributed in part to the less than ideal status of water body management within the Camden LGA and in the region generally. The report supports Council's progression towards a shared planning and outcomes model of service delivery as a structure better suited to achieve sustainable outcomes within a system as complex as the urban water cycle.

Conclusion.

The report provides a sound insight into the management of publicly owned riparian land and the development of an appropriate land management strategy focussed on general and specific requirements. Further, it reinforces the shared planning and outcomes model as an appropriate structure for achieving the sustainability objectives of Camden 2025.

Recommended: That

- (i) The Draft Plan of Management for Riparian Areas be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days
- (ii) A further report be submitted to Council following the exhibition and submission periods.

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MOTION

Moved Cr Batros, seconded Cr Fekete that this Item be deferred until the relevant documents are distributed to Councillors for their consideration.

RS020/02 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**.

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4. Larkin Place Two-Storey Carpark Costing
(File 4157/4) [Director Works and Services]

Background

At the meeting of 22 April 2002, Council considered a report which presented the Camden Town Centre Two-Storey Carpark Feasibility Study (March 2002). It was resolved amongst other items that “a detailed costing to Council of the proposed carpark in Larkin Place”.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek an appropriate funding allocation to implement the abovementioned resolution. It is estimated that a budget of \$20,000 will be required to prepare conceptual drawings of the carpark and associated costings.

It is anticipated that the investigation will be similar to that undertaken on the John/Murray Street site in 1999.

Recommended: That Council allocate a budget of \$20,000 for the preparation of conceptual drawings and detailed costings for a 2 storey carpark in Larkin Place. Source of funds to be from Carpark Reserve.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr McFadden that Council allocate a budget of \$20,000 for the preparation of conceptual drawings and detailed costings for a 2 storey carpark in Larkin Place. Source of funds to be from Carpark Reserve.

RS021/02

THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

(Crs Fekete & Senise voted against the Motion).

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5. Cobbitty Public School; "Child ANZAC Memorial"
(File PF1800.1590) [Director Works and Services]

Students from Cobbitty Public School have researched historical school attendance records and discovered that 29 boys from Cobbitty and the now closed Theresa Park Schools grew up to serve Australia in World War 1 and the Boer War.

In memory of these local boys, current students have designed a permanent memorial to our "Child ANZACs". To date, through a variety of fundraising activities and the involvement of local businesses including the Camden RSL sub-branch, the Cobbitty "Child ANZAC Memorial" Committee have raised just on \$15,000 towards the construction of the memorial. As part of their final fund raising efforts the Cobbitty "Child ANZAC Memorial" Committee have extended an offer to Council being the opportunity to purchase a sponsored feature memorial paver; pavers are being sold for \$250 each.

In purchasing a memorial paver Council will be permanently acknowledged on an adjacent wall sign thanking all sponsors.

Recommended: That Council purchase the Memorial Paver dedicated to Private Lawrence Cuthbert Doust from the Cobbitty Public School "Child ANZAC Memorial" Committee at a cost of \$250; source of funds being Job No. 1925.201.

MOTION

Moved Cr Batros, seconded Cr Corrigan that Council write to the Cobbitty Public School "Child ANZAC Memorial" Committee to acknowledge appreciation of their efforts and notify that Council will purchase the Memorial Paver dedicated to Private Lawrence Cuthbert Doust.

RS022/02 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**.

6. Petition Relating to Harrington Park Water Quality and Flood Management System

(File 3638/7) [Director Works and Services]

Purpose of Report

This report is to acknowledge a petition presented by residents of Harrington park in relation to the proposed Water Quality and Flood Management System (WQFMS) at Harrington Park.

Petition

As part of Council's open forum at the commencement to Council's 22 April 2002 meeting Ms Lidwien Pickering addressed Council's meeting and presented the petition containing 87 signatures will be **circulated separately to Councillors**.

The petition states:

"We have concerns about what Camden Council is proposing to do to our lake. We don't want the lake to be extensively filled with tall and short macrophytes.

The Camden Council's new proposal is to put tall and short reeds along the edge of the current lake for a width of about 4.5 to 5 metres and submergent macrophytes around the island in the lake. This proposal effectively turns the current open water lake into smaller open water areas segregated by reeds. We view this new proposal as aesthetically worst [sic] than Camden Council's original proposal.

We understand that the lake system's purpose is to provide water quality, thus the need for macrophytes. The Harrington Park lake system was also supposed to serve the additional functions of recreation, aesthetics, fauna habitat, protection and enhancement of existing vegetation.

Aesthetically we would prefer to see the lake remain as one large open body of water, with submergent macrophytes contained to one or two areas."

Comment

This matter will be addressed in the workshop following this Council meeting.

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Recommended: That

- (i) Council acknowledge the petition regarding the Harrington Park Water Quality and Flood Management System proposed works; and
- (ii) The organiser of the petition be advised the petition has been noted.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Batros, seconded Cr Corrigan that

- (i) Council acknowledge the petition regarding the Harrington Park Water Quality and Flood Management System proposed works; and
- (ii) The organiser of the petition be advised the petition has been noted.

RS023/02 THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

7. Camden Liquor Licensing Accord

(File 4604) Director Works and Services

Purpose

This report seeks Council endorsement of a Liquor Licensing Accord for the Camden town area.

Background

A Liquor Accord is an agreement between key stakeholders to develop strategies to deal with the real and perceived impact of alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour. A number of Liquor Accords are already in place in NSW. These have resulted in a marked reduction in alcohol-related crime in these areas.

A Local Liquor Accord, as defined in the Liquor and Registered Clubs Acts is:

"Any code of practice, memorandum of understanding or other arrangement:

- a) that affects the supply of liquor, the opening and closing of licensed premises and registered clubs, or other aspects of the management of or conduct of businesses in licensed premises and registered clubs, and
- b) *that is entered into in writing between two or more licensees/registered clubs with the approval of the Commissioner of Police (or delegate) to eliminate or reduce alcohol-related violence or anti-social behaviour or other alcohol-related harm."*

The Liquor Act and the Registered Clubs Act promote harm minimisation as a primary objective - that is, the minimisation of harm associated with the misuse and abuse of liquor, such as harm arising from violence and other anti-social behaviour.

By implementing a Liquor Licensing Accord in the Camden town centre, stakeholders are establishing well-researched practices that are demonstrated to minimise the harm brought by the excessive use of alcohol to individuals, their families, and the community in general.

Discussion

The Camden Licensing Accord aims to improve safety and to reduce alcohol-related harm in Camden. It is an agreement between licensed premises and the Police to uphold certain

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principles that represent best practice in the service of alcohol and the management of licensed establishments.

The principles of the Accord are based on four key themes:

1. Responsible service of alcohol;
2. Improve safety and security;
3. Commitment to being good neighbours; and
4. Cooperation with the police and the community to improve local outcomes.

The Accord aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- A reduction in alcohol-related violence;
- A reduction in anti-social behaviour and improved local amenity;
- Improved compliance with liquor laws;
- Improved safety, and perception of safety, in the Camden area;
- Improved cooperation between key groups concerned with local safety and licensing issues;
- Increased business opportunities, particularly for responsible operators in the Camden area; and
- An improved image of Camden.

The full document is contained in **Tabled Document "RS 4"** and sets out the strategies by which participating licensed premises will improve practices based on the principles of the Accord.

The development of the Camden Licensing Accord has been supported by:

- Licensees of the Merino Tavern, Argyle Inn, Crown Hotel and Molly Maguires Hotel;
- Camden Police Local Area Command;
- Camden Chamber of Commerce;
- NSW Department of Gaming and Racing; and
- Representatives from Camden Council.

Whilst it is considered that the larger licensed premises, such as hotels, are the most likely to participate in the Accord, all licensed establishments in the Camden town centre will be invited to join.

One of the goals of the Accord is to establish clear and effective communication between licensed premises and Council. It is anticipated that Council's role in the Accord will be one of support, in working with members of the Accord to implement the strategies specified in the Accord, and to continue to develop further strategies to reduce alcohol-related harm and anti-social behaviour in the Camden town centre.

In addition to this, Council can become a member of the Accord in so far as it carries a liquor licence for the Civic Centre.

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Council's licensee has signified his willingness to sign the Accord.

Consultation

The Accord has been developed as a partnership by a number of hotels in Camden and the local police. Further consultation has been undertaken with the Department of Gaming and Racing (who will also be approached to endorse the Accord) and Council staff.

Council has been concerned to ensure that all licensed premises in the Camden area are invited to participate, and that clear communication links are developed between licensed premises and Council.

Proposal

It is proposed that Council endorse the Camden Licensing Accord, and agree to support the ongoing implementation of the principles and strategies of the Accord.

Communication Strategy

The licensed premises who have been involved in the development of the Accord are intending to promote the existence of the Accord, once endorsed by Council and the Department of Gaming and Racing.

Conclusion

A Liquor Licensing Accord has been developed by licensees and police in the Camden area, which sets out principles of best practice for the service of alcohol and management of licensed establishments in the Camden town centre, and aims to improve safety and to reduce alcohol-related harm in Camden.

Recommended: That Council

- (i) endorse the Accord, and agree to support the implementation of the Accord in Camden.
- (ii) endorse the Licensee of the Camden Civic Centre becoming a signatory of the Accord.

(Cr Patterson declared an interest in this matter, being the Licensee of the Merino Tavern, and took no part in discussion or voting and left the Chamber – the time being 6.44pm).

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MOTION

Moved Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr McFadden that Council

- (i) endorse the Accord, and agree to support the implementation of the Accord in Camden.*
- (ii) endorse the Licensee of the Camden Civic Centre becoming a signatory of the Accord.*
- (iii) Seek the advice of signatories of the Accord on the opportunity for involvement and extension of the Accord to include all relevant interested parties within the whole of the Camden Local Government Area.*

RS024/02 THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**.

(Cr Patterson returned to the Chamber – the time being 6.50pm).

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8. Macarthur Youth Commitment - Request for Financial Support

(File 894/11) (Director Works and Services)

Purpose

This report is to advise Council of the request from the Management Committee of the Macarthur Youth Commitment (MYC) for \$2,500 to assist in the implementation of the project (**refer Tabled Document "RS 5"**).

Background

The MYC is a Macarthur wide initiative, part of a National Youth Commitment, which is a joint initiative of the Dusseldorp Skills Forum and the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation.

The Project brings local stakeholders together to work around a set of principles that seek to significantly improve learning and work opportunities for all young people in the Macarthur region.

The key goals of the commitment are to guarantee all young people, particularly early school leavers or those facing other disadvantages, the opportunity to:

- complete Year 12 at school or other recognised provider; or
- obtain an education or training qualification at an equivalent level such as a TAFE certificate or apprenticeship; or
- obtain a full time job that is linked to education or training.

The Youth Commitment is a preventative strategy and thus aims to be pro-active rather than reactive in its approach.

MACROC represents Council on the MYC Management Committee. Council's Community Project Officer (youth) is a member of the 'Youth Participation' working group, and also attends Management Committee meetings as appropriate.

Council's participation at both the Management Committee and Working Group levels ensures that issues affecting young people in Camden are kept high on the agenda.

Discussion

As a signatory of the Memorandum of Understanding and a major stakeholder in the process, the Macarthur Youth Commitment (MYC) Management Committee has invited Camden Council to contribute \$2,500 towards supporting the

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aims and strategies outlined in the Statement of Strategic Intent. (**Tabled Document "RS 6"**).

Achievements to date include:

- Development of an **Environmental Scan**, which mapped existing youth services and identified areas of need;
- Creation of a **'Memorandum of Understanding'** which was signed by key stakeholders;
- Development of a **'Statement of Strategic Intent'** which details broad aims and indicators of success;
- **The 'Strategic Plan 2002 – 2005'** is in the final stages of development. It will detail the range of initiatives included in the strategy and actions required to meet objectives;
- Formation of the following working groups – Exit Procedures, Transition Brokers, Mentoring group, Employer Links, Youth Participation & Data Management;
- Development of a full-time coordinator position whose role includes – networking, developing Working Group plans and strategies and seeking funding.
- Survey of Macarthur Businesses (March 2002) – looking at attitudes towards employing youth; and
- Student Passports – trialed in Term 4 2001, to be implemented broadly in 2002.

Future Plans Include:

- Transition Broker Pilot – May/June 2002;
- Expansion of mentoring program;
- Expansion of Student Exit Passport program; and
- Student Exit Form Pilot

Several applications for funding to Department of Education & Training, Youth Affairs (DETYA), Macarthur Area Assistance Scheme & Community Development Support Expenditure Scheme (Clubs NSW) have been unsuccessful.

Strategies outlined in the 'Statement of Strategic Intent' and the 'Strategic Plan' are unlikely to be achieved until additional funding sources are found. This has been a major focus of the Management Committee to date.

Conclusion

The MYC project is an evolving process, until this point the role of Council has been one of support and advice only.

There has been steady progress of the project over the past 9 months (since its launch in August 2001), and commitment across Macarthur remains strong. The bringing together of stakeholders from the major government, non-government and

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business sectors has already produced many useful networking opportunities.

If the core elements outlined above are successful, Camden's young people will clearly benefit from the development of a clearer pathway between school and work/further education

Recommended: That Council approve the provision of \$2,500 to the Macarthur Youth Commitment Project from Job No. 1925.201.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr Patterson that Council approve the provision of \$2,500 to the Macarthur Youth Commitment Project from Job No. 1925.201.

RS025/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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9. 355 Management Committee Manual
(File 3811) [Director Works and Services]

Purpose

This report seeks Council's adoption of the 355 Management Committee Manual.

Discussion

The recent probity audit of Council's 355 Management Committees highlighted the need for the development of a manual to set out clearly the responsibilities and accountability requirements of both Council and the Committees.

The draft manual was presented to Council at its meeting held on Monday 22 April 2002. At this time Council resolved 'The adoption of the 355 Management Committee Manual be deferred to the next meeting' to provide Councillors with sufficient time to read the document.

Recommended: That Council resolve to adopt the 355 Management Committee manual.

MOTION

Moved Cr Corrigan, *seconded* Cr Patterson that this Item be deferred to the next Council Meeting on Monday 27th May, 2002.

RS026/02

THE MOTION ON BEING PUT WAS **CARRIED**.

(Cr Fekete voted against the Motion).

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MEETING HELD 13 MAY, 2002, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET
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10. 2002 Community Financial Assistance Program
(File 3130) [Director Works and Services]

Purpose

This report seeks Council's approval to allocate funding to local community groups under Council's annual Community Financial Assistance Program.

Background

Each year Council provides funds to local non profit community organisations and groups through its Community Financial Assistance Program. This funding is allocated to assist groups in providing services and facilities, which would be of benefit to the Camden community. Whilst there is no limit on the amount groups can apply for, projects over **\$1,500** will need to be well-developed and targeted to community needs.

Council's budget allocation for the Financial Assistance Program for 2001/2002 is \$10,600. Under the adopted guidelines for this program all applications are ranked against the funding principles and objectives:

- To assist the establishment of new groups and services.
- To enhance the quality of service delivery and facilities to meet community needs.
- To promote increased access and equity of community resources, services and facilities.
- To encourage community participation in the provision of local services and activities.

Target:

- Local non-profit community organisations.
- Projects for which there may be no other source of funding available.

Under the guidelines of the Program only applications from local non-profit community organisations and groups are considered. Individuals and organisations that are solely government funded are not eligible.

Accountability

Successful applicants must provide *an* Evaluation Report on their project within three (3) months of receiving funds, that

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includes how funds were spent; how the community is able to access the project; and the benefits local residents have gained.

Allocation of Funds

Applications have been assessed by the community development team and ranked either, Low, Medium or High as a basis for consideration by Council.

Low Application is outside the guidelines.

Medium Application is within the guidelines, however:

- Alternative sources of funding are available, or
- Application is not considered as high a priority as other applications, or
- Application's budget is outside the resources of this program.

High Application meets guidelines and is considered appropriate for Council to fund.

Discussion

The Community Financial Assistance Program was advertised in the Camden/Wollondilly Advertiser. In addition, a number of other promotional methods were used, including a mail out to all organisations listed in Council's Community Directory.

The application process opened on Monday 25 February 2002 and closed on 22 March 2002.

Two information sessions about the Program were held on Wednesday 6th March 2002. A total of 12 people attended the morning and evening sessions. Feedback from the participants indicated that they considered it was a worthwhile activity and commended Council for offering this additional element of support.

A total of 27 funding applications were received seeking a total of \$38,524.

Applications were generally of a high quality. All applications were ranked against the funding criteria. Several projects were viewed to be worthwhile, however it was considered that alternative sources of funding were available.

Recommended projects for 2001 2002

An assessment of the applications received was made against the policy guidelines and the funds available within the 2001-2002 Financial Assistance Program budget. The following groups or organisations have been assessed against the

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funding principles and guidelines and have been ranked as a **High** priority for Council's consideration.

Applications ranked HIGH for 2001/2001:

No	Group	Project Description	\$
3	Camden Survivors of Breast Cancer	Start up costs for new group	\$1,500
7*	KU Starting Points	Equipment for establishment of special needs playgroup.	\$1,500
15	Macarthur Business Development Centre	Funding to purchase equipment for training room.	\$1,590
18	Camden Historical Society	Funds to develop a program to promote the Museum to local school students.	\$1,369
21	Camden Writers and Scribblers	Publication of Members writing.	\$600
22	Ist Narellan Scout Group	Funding to create space for a new venturer unit	\$1,023
23	Macarthur Dementia Care & Support Service	Request for funds to purchase a TV & Video for use by service.	\$1,388
26	Macarthur Community Forum	Funds to help equip resource library for community groups	\$1,455
27*	Camden Pre-School	Funding to develop a sensory garden	\$1,500
Total amount of funds requested:			\$11925

* These two projects were funded because of their focus on children with a disability, an area which has been identified as a high priority in the Camden LGA.

Resource Implication

Council's budget allocation for the Financial Assistance Program for 2001/2002 is \$10,600. If all applications ranked as 'High' are funded the total cost will reach \$11,925.

There are sufficient funds in the Community Support (donations) budget to meet the difference of \$1,325.

Communication Strategy

It is proposed that successful applicants be presented with their cheques at an event hosted by the Mayor. This would be a valuable opportunity for Councillors to meet representatives from the range of community groups that have applied and to hear first hand about the programs funded.

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Unsuccessful applicants will be advised of the outcome and provided with suggestions for alternate sources of funding.

Conclusion

Council's Community Financial Assistance Program acts as an important funding source for the Camden Community. The recommended projects will provide a range of positive projects and outcomes for Camden.

Recommended: That Council

- (i) provide funds under the Council's Financial assistance program (Job No. 1925.200) to the nine applications that have been given a high ranking.
- (ii) approve allocation of an additional \$1137 out of the Community Support Program budget (Job No. 1925.201) to meet the shortfall.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Batros, seconded Cr McFadden that this matter be deferred to next meeting to allow Councillors to inspect all applications.

RS027/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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NOTICE OF MOTION

I, Cr Stephen Senise, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following at the Council meeting of 13 May, 2002:

“That, like dozens of Council’s and trade unions and other community organisations, Camden Council fly the East Timorese national flag in the week May 13 to the declaration of independence in Dili on May 20, as part of the commemoration of this historic event”.

Signed: Cr Stephen Senise

The Notice of Motion was formally

Moved Cr Senise, seconded Cr Corrigan that, like dozens of Council’s and trade unions and other community organisations, Camden Council fly the East Timorese national flag in the week May 13 to the declaration of independence in Dili on May 20, as part of the commemoration of this historic event.

RS028/02 THE NOTICE OF MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

(Cr Fekete voted against the Motion).

The Meeting closed at 7.20pm.