



Camden Council

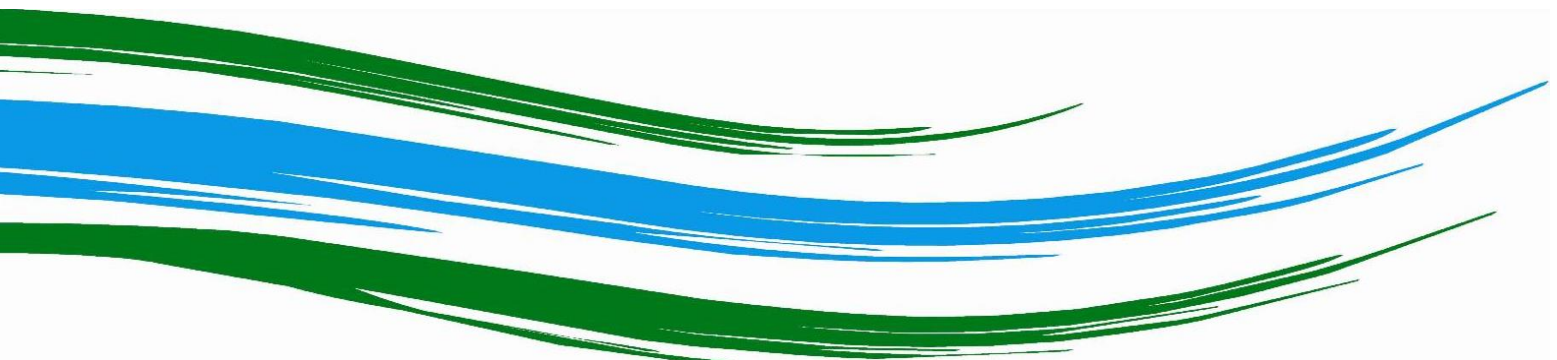
Business Paper

Ordinary Council Meeting
8 March 2022

**Camden Council
Administration Centre
70 Central Avenue
Oran Park**



The public can also view the meeting via Council's webcast. A link to this webcast can be found on Council's webpage – <http://webcast.camden.nsw.gov.au/video.php>

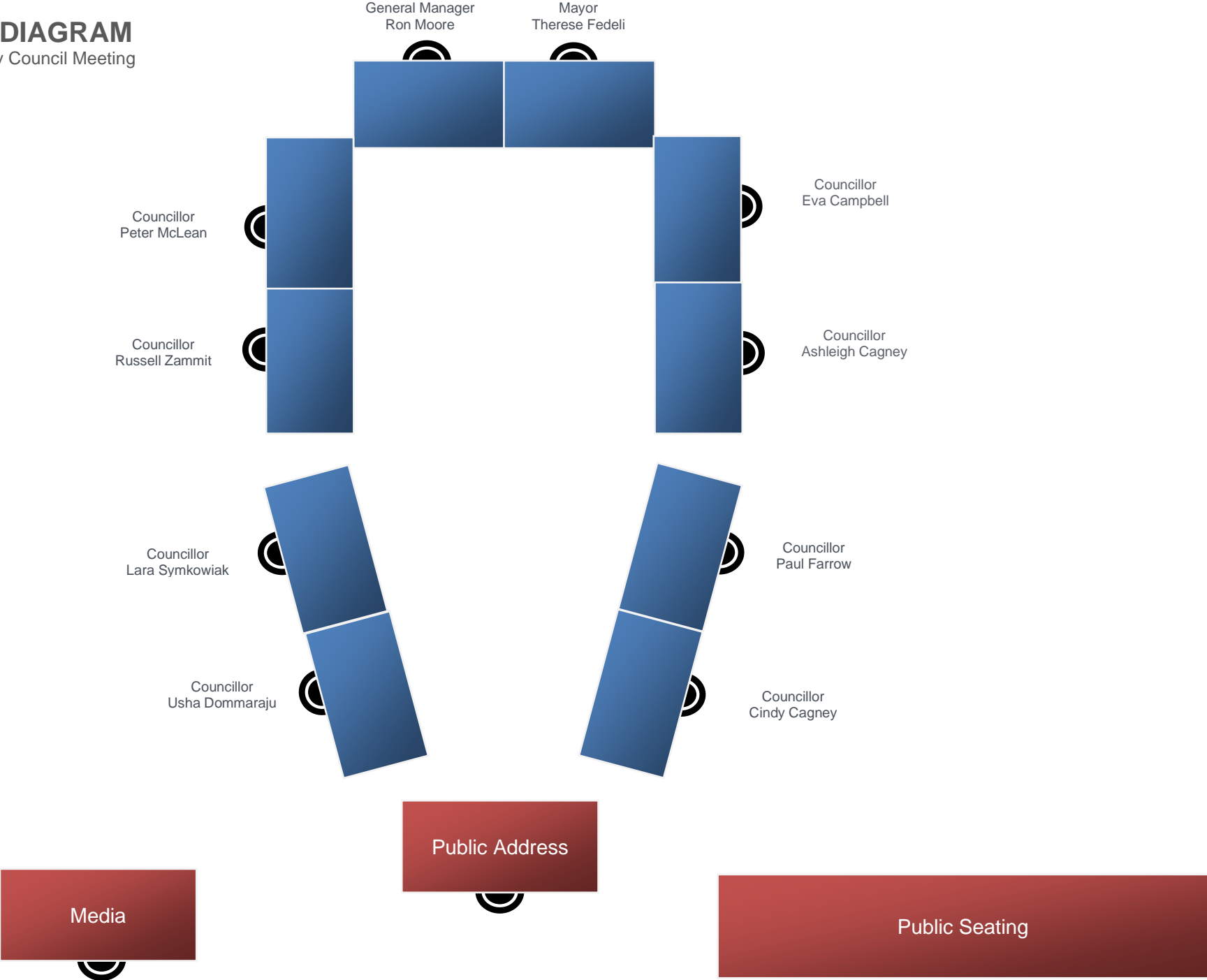


COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
AHD	Australian Height Datum
BCA	Building Code of Australia
CLEP	Camden Local Environmental Plan
CP	Contributions Plan
CRET	Camden Region Economic Taskforce
DA	Development Application
DCP	Development Control Plan
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPI	Environmental Planning Instrument
FPL	Flood Planning Level
GSC	Greater Sydney Commission
LAP	Local Approvals Policy
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LSPS	Local Strategic Planning Statement
REP	Regional Environmental Plan
PoM	Plan of Management
RL	Reduced Levels
S10.7 CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to zoning and planning restrictions on properties
S603 CERTIFICATE	Certificate as to Rates and Charges outstanding on a property
S73 CERTIFICATE	Certificate from Sydney Water regarding Subdivision
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SREP	Sydney Regional Environmental Plan
STP	Sewerage Treatment Plant
VMP	Vegetation Management Plan
VPA	Voluntary Planning Agreement

SEATING DIAGRAM

Camden Ordinary Council Meeting



ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

In accordance with section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, all elected Councillors must take an oath of office or make an affirmation of office at or before the first meeting of the Council.

The oath or affirmation may be taken or made before the General Manager, an Australian legal practitioner or a Justice of the Peace.

A Councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath of office or make an affirmation of the office in accordance with the Act is not entitled to attend a meeting as a Councillor, until the Councillor has taken the oath or made the affirmation.

OATH

"I [*name of councillor*] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Camden Local Government Area and the Camden Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment".

AFFIRMATION

"I [*name of councillor*] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Camden Local Government Area and the Camden Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment".

ORDINARY COUNCIL

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ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: PRAYER

PRAYER

Almighty God, bless all who are engaged in the work of Local Government. Make us of one heart and mind, in thy service, and in the true welfare of the people we serve: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Almighty God, give thy blessing to all our undertakings. Enlighten us to know what is right, and help us to do what is good: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Almighty God, we pause to seek your help. Guide and direct our thinking. May your will be done in us, and through us, in the Local Government area we seek to serve: We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

AFFIRMATION

We affirm our hope and dedication to the good Government of Camden and the well being of all Camden's residents, no matter their race, gender or creed.

We affirm our hope for the sound decision making by Council which can improve the quality of life in Camden.

Either – “So help me God” or “I so affirm” (at the option of councillors)

We pledge ourselves, as elected members of Camden Council, to work for the provision of the best possible services and facilities for the enjoyment and welfare of the people of Camden.

Either – “So help me God” or “I so affirm” (at the option of councillors)

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet and pay our respect to elders both past and present.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

In accordance with Camden Council's Code of Meeting Practice and as permitted under the *Local Government Act 1993*, this meeting is being live streamed and recorded by Council staff for minute taking and webcasting purposes.

No other webcasting or recording by a video camera, still camera or any other electronic device capable of webcasting or recording speech, moving images or still images is permitted without the prior approval of Council. Council has not authorised any other webcasting or recording of this meeting. A person may, as provided under section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, be expelled from a meeting of a Council for using or having used any device in contravention of this clause.

I remind those that are in the chamber that your image and what you say will be broadcast live to the public and will also be recorded so please be mindful of your actions and comments. You should avoid making statements that might defame or offend and note that Council will not be responsible for your actions and comments.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: LEAVES OF ABSENCE

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

RECOMMENDED

That leaves 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 4.28-5.19).

Councillors should be familiar with the disclosure provisions contained in 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 session in the Council Meeting provides an opportunity for people to speak publicly on any item on Council's Business Paper.

The Public Address session will be conducted in accordance with the Public Address Guidelines. Speakers must submit an application form to Council's Governance team no later than 5.00pm on the working day prior to the day of the meeting.

Speakers are limited to one topic per Public Address session. Only seven speakers can be heard at any meeting. A limitation of one speaker for and one speaker against on each item is in place. Additional speakers, either for or against, will be identified as 'tentative speakers' or should only be considered where the total number of speakers does not exceed seven at any given meeting.

Where a member of the public raises a question during the Public Address session, 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 question per speaker per meeting.

Speakers should ensure that their statements, comments and questions comply with the Guidelines.

All speakers are limited to four minutes, with a one minute warning given to speakers prior to the four minute time period elapsing. The commencement and conclusion of time shall be advised by the Mayor/Chairperson.

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, or make a point of order ruling if a speaker breaches the Guidelines.

Only the audio recording of the public address speakers will be heard on Council's webcast. Visual images of the speaker will not be captured as part of that webcast.

RECOMMENDED

That the public addresses be noted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirm and adopt Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 1 February 2022 and the Ordinary Council Meeting held 8 February 2022.

RECOMMENDED

That the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 1 February 2022 and the Ordinary Council Meeting held 8 February 2022, copies of which have been circulated, be confirmed and adopted.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE

Consideration of Mayoral Minute (if any).

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD01

SUBJECT: DRAFT SUBMISSION - 'A NEW APPROACH TO REZONINGS' DISCUSSION PAPER

FROM: Director Planning & Environment

TRIM #: 22/44299

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the exhibition of 'A New Approach to Rezonings' Discussion Paper (Discussion Paper) prepared by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) and to seek Council's endorsement of a draft submission.

The draft submission and exhibition documents are provided as **attachments** to this report.

BACKGROUND

In 2020, the DPE released a Planning Reform Action Plan that included a series of initiatives to reduce approval timeframes in the planning system, eliminate holdups and provide a transparent process for the community.

The Discussion Paper is a product of the Action Plan and focuses on the rezoning process (known as the planning proposal process). The aim is to reduce the overall time of the rezoning process by one third by 2023 and to introduce an appeals pathway and a new rezoning framework.

The Discussion Paper was placed on public exhibition until 28 February 2022 however the DPE has granted an extension until 25 March 2022 to allow the draft submission to be reported to Council.

MAIN REPORT

The Discussion Paper proposes significant changes to the current planning proposal process. The planning proposal process is the mechanism to change the zoning or development standards within the Camden LEP and Growth Centres SEPP.

The Discussion Paper is structured in four parts:

- Part A: The Background;
- Part B: The New Approach;
- Part C: The Appeals Pathway; and
- Part D: Implementation.

What is the aim of the new approach to rezonings?

The Discussion Paper outlines that a new approach to rezonings has been developed to:

- Create a streamlined and efficient process for LEP / SEPP amendments that align with strategic planning objectives;
- Set clear matters for consideration, timeframes and a consistent fee regime to give greater certainty in the process;
- Allow councils to receive and determine proponent initiated LEP / SEPP amendments, with no or minimal DPE involvement in assessment;
- Allow the Minister to receive and determine, through the department, other LEP / SEPP amendments, including those prepared by councils and public authorities;
- Bolster DPE's role in supporting, monitoring and assisting councils in the process;
- Require LEP / SEPP amendments to go through a mandatory and upfront pre-lodgement process;
- Shift all merit assessment processes to after exhibition; and
- Give private proponents a right of appeal against the final decision.

Draft Submission – Key Considerations

Council officers have reviewed the Discussion Paper and support the intent to deliver improvements to the planning system. However, the draft submission raises concerns with some of the proposed changes as they may impact on the ability to deliver good planning outcomes for the community. For example, the proposed timeframes do not account for the complexity of precinct planning within the South West Growth Area (SWGA).

The key considerations in the draft submission include:

1. Proposed Changes to the Rezoning Process

The Discussion Paper proposes numerous changes to the rezoning process including providing specific timeframes to complete each stage. **Figure 1** identifies the current (planning proposal) process alongside the new rezoning process.

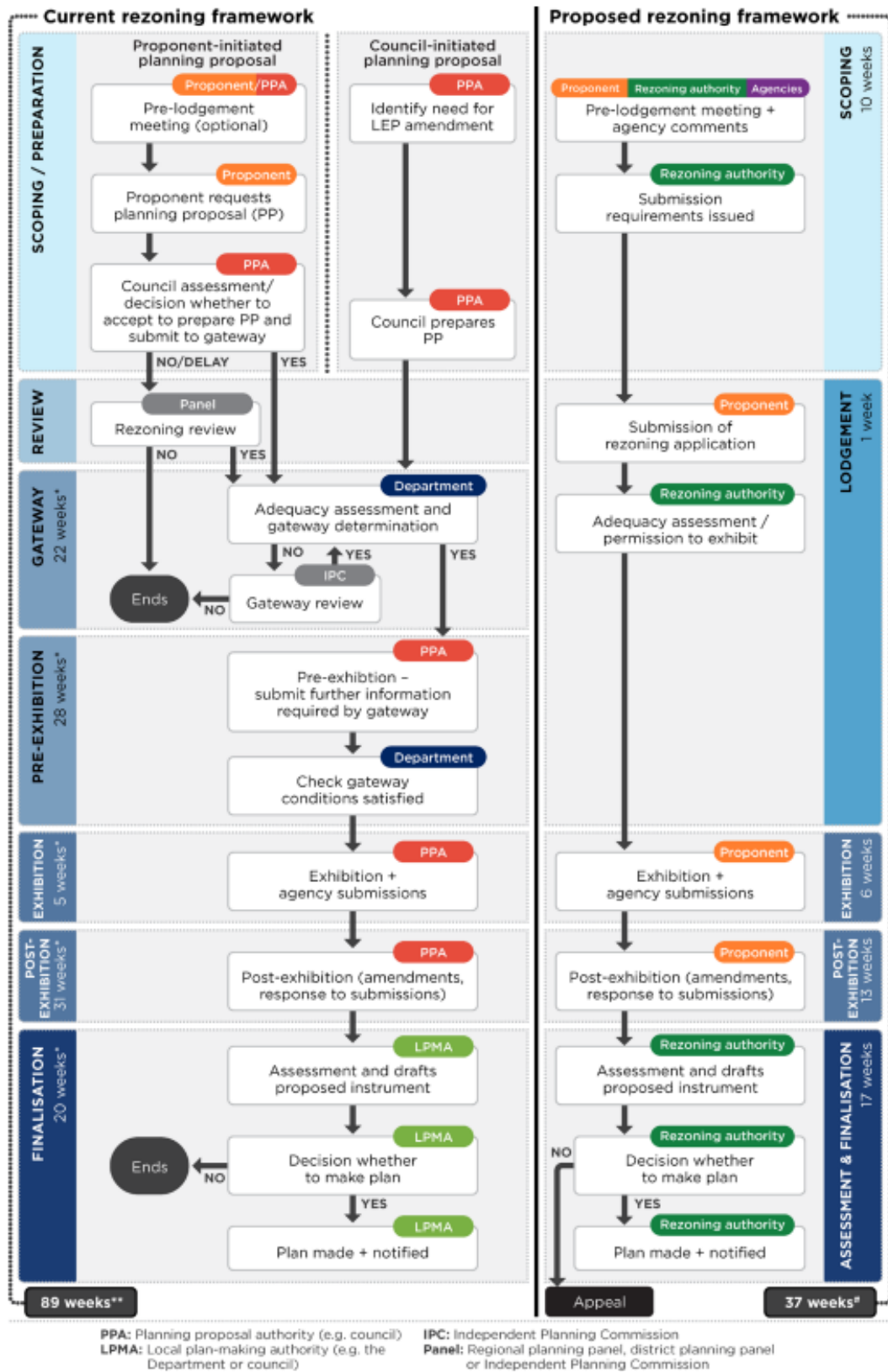


Figure 1: Current and proposed rezoning process

The new rezoning process includes:

- **Scoping Stage:** A mandatory pre-lodgement stage, requiring the rezoning authority (i.e. Council) and public agencies to meet and provide advice on requirements such as specialist studies to support a rezoning application. This stage has a benchmark timeframe of 10 weeks.
- **Review Stage:** Submission of rezoning application with the rezoning authority to undertake an adequacy assessment and provide permission to exhibit. This stage has a benchmark timeframe of 1 week.
- **Exhibition Phase:** An exhibition period for the community and public agencies to comment on a rezoning application. This stage has a benchmark timeframe of up to 6 weeks.
- **Post-exhibition phase:** Proponent to summarise and respond to submissions received, including work with public agencies to resolve objections. This stage has a benchmark timeframe of 13 weeks.
- **Assessment & Finalisation Stage:** Following receipt of a response to submissions and any amended rezoning application, the rezoning authority to assess, finalise and determine a rezoning application. This stage includes a merit assessment to ensure the proposal has strategic merit and aligns with key policies. This stage has a benchmark timeframe of 11 to 24 weeks, depending on the complexity of the application.
- **Appeal:** Removal of the rezoning review and gateway review process and replacing it with a new appeal process, to enable a proponent to appeal a decision of the rezoning authority to refuse a rezoning application at the finalisation stage or if assessment timeframes are not met.

The Discussion Paper includes the intention to align the rezoning process to the development application process. The similarities between the two processes are provided as an **attachment** to this report and discussed within the draft submission.

Officer Comment

The proposed rezoning process involves significant changes to how Council undertakes rezonings. Whilst the mandatory scoping stage is supported, there are concerns around the level of assessment and how Council can be satisfied that the rezoning is sufficient for lodgement.

It is proposed that the public exhibition phase will move to the early stage of the rezoning process and will be the responsibility of the proponent. There are concerns with this approach and it is recommended that submissions be coordinated through a central body (i.e. Council, DPE) to ensure probity, privacy and transparency is maintained throughout the process.

Under the new process, Council officers would undertake a comprehensive assessment of the rezoning application after the exhibition period. The limited timeframe imposed on this assessment is of concern as well as the proposal that a proponent can appeal if the timeframes are not met.

There is also significant concern on the proposed changes to the public exhibition process, which has the potential to limit the amount of community engagement in the rezoning process. For example, Council currently undertakes an initial community notification in addition to the formal exhibition period, in accordance with Council's Planning Proposal Policy.

The initial community notification would become redundant under the new rezoning process and would prevent the community from having further involvement post Council's detailed assessment. Any change to the planning proposal process that limits the opportunity for community engagement is not supported.

2. Proposed Rezoning Categories and Timeframes

As outlined in **Table 1**, the Discussion Paper proposes rezoning categories and timeframes based on the complexity and consistency with strategic plans and policies (e.g. District Plan, Local Strategic Planning Statement). These are intended to achieve the DPE's target to reduce the overall rezoning process.

Category	Requirements	Total Timeframe*
Category 1 (Basic)	Administrative, housekeeping, and minor local matters.	26 weeks
Category 2 (Standard)	Site-specific rezoning applications seeking a change in planning controls which are consistent with strategic plans and policies.	37 weeks
Category 3 (Complex)	Applications that are not consistent with strategic planning and policies, including any LEP amendment not captured in category 1 or 2.	48 weeks
Category 4 (Principal LEP)	A comprehensive or housekeeping rezoning application led by Council, proposing broadscale policy change to the LEP for the whole LGA.	50 weeks

* all timeframes exclude the proposed scoping phase of the new rezoning process

Table 1: Proposed Rezoning Categories

According to the DPE, since 2019 rezoning timeframes have reduced on average from 114 weeks to 89 weeks. The Discussion Paper has committed to reducing the rezoning process to an average of 37 weeks for a Category 2 (Standard) rezoning application. It also proposes that Category 3 (Complex) applications would have a timeframe of 48 weeks, not including the scoping period of 12 weeks.

Officer Comment

Whilst the intent to reduce timeframes is supported, there is concern that the timeframes identified in the Discussion Paper depict a reduction larger than the anticipated one third by 2023. The proposed timeframes will require additional Council resourcing, funding and support to ensure these timeframes are achievable.

3. Discussion Paper does not account for precinct planning

The proposed rezoning categories and timeframes do not account for precinct planning within the SWGA. The DPE considers precinct planning to be a Category 3 (Complex) Category, which allows a timeframe of 48 weeks.

Officer Comment

In response to the DPE's new approach to precinct planning, since 2019 Council is required to progress precinct planning through the planning proposal process. This role was previously led by the DPE with Council making a submission during the public exhibition stage.

In response to this change, Council has updated its Planning Proposal Policy to account for 'significant planning proposals', which include proposals that seek to rezone land to deliver significant housing growth and/or precinct wide outcomes. Council's Planning Proposal Policy also outlines the project and governance arrangements to manage proposals of this scale.

Council is currently assessing proponent led planning proposals for land in the SWGA, which collectively seek to provide approximately 9,200 dwellings. This is in addition to the Leppington Town Centre, which is being led by Council.

The Discussion Paper fails to have regard for the complexity of precinct planning. There is concern with the expectation that precinct scale rezoning applications could potentially have an end-to-end process of 48 weeks under a Category 3 (Complex) application.

It is not realistic to complete precinct planning to rezone greenfield land within the SWGA within a year. For comparison, the shortest time DPE has taken to rezone a precinct (since 2015) in the SWGA was 4 years for Leppington Precinct Stage 1. Stages 2 and 5 of the Leppington Precinct were rezoned after 9.5 years with the DPE yet to finalise the rezoning of Stages 3 and 4. A full list of rezonings (since 2015) and their time taken to complete are provided in the draft submission.

The proposed timeframes for significant/precinct-scale applications are not supported. It is recommended that the DPE review the proposed categories to account for precinct scale rezoning applications, with realistic timeframes to provide better certainty for all stakeholders involved in the rezoning process.

4. The role of the elected Council and Local Planning Panels

The Discussion Paper makes note of the potential removal of Local Planning Panels and the elected Council from the early phases of the rezoning process e.g. rezoning applications would only be reported to Council once at the finalisation stage.

Local Planning Panels will maintain a role in the rezoning process where Council has a conflict of interest (e.g. the rezoning application involves Council owned land). In this instance, the Local Planning Panel will become the rezoning authority.

Officer Comment

It is unclear from the Discussion Paper how the elected Council will be appropriately engaged and involved with the rezoning process. Council officers understand that the finalisation of a rezoning application will still require Council endorsement and that the new process will still enable Council to be briefed on a rezoning application.

Any change to the planning proposal process that results in a reduced role for the elected Council is not supported. The Council has an important role in setting the strategic direction of Council and representing the interests of the local community. For this to occur, early engagement and direction from Council is critical.

5. Planning guarantees and appeal rights

The Discussion Paper seeks to introduce planning guarantees and appeal rights. The planning guarantee is a mechanism (from the UK) which allows the proponent to receive a full or partial refund where the established timeframes are not met.

The Discussion Paper also proposes two options for rezoning appeals, being an appeal to the NSW Land and Environment Court (L&E Court) or the Independent Planning Commission (IPC). Whilst the details are not confirmed, this would allow proponents to appeal to the L&E Court or the IPC where timeframes are not met or where a rezoning application is refused. These options would replace the existing Gateway and rezoning reviews.

Officer Comment

The Discussion Paper outlines the disadvantages and advantages of the proposed planning guarantee and appeal options.

The planning guarantee proposal is not supported. The opportunity to offer a partial or full refund may mean that, despite Council expending significant staff resources and time in assessing the rezoning application, the proponent may be entitled to a refund if the timeframes are exceeded.

As mentioned above, the Discussion Paper does not have regard for the complexity of precinct planning. The expectation that precinct scale rezoning applications could have an end-to-end process of 48 weeks under a Category 3 (Complex) application is unrealistic.

Rezoning appeals for rezoning applications will be costly for Council to defend. Of the two appeal options, appeal to the IPC is preferred as it is likely to be a quicker and cheaper process. Council officers recommend that cost recovery take place if an appeal is lost.

Other Matters and Unintended Consequences

The Discussion Paper raises other matters, as discussed below.

Refusals from Council

The Discussion Paper removes the opportunity for an early refusal of rezoning applications where they do not meet site or strategic merit. In the current process, there is a requirement for the rezoning application to be supported by Council to progress to a Gateway Determination. It is recommended that there is an opportunity for a refusal within the early stages of the rezoning application.

Meaningful community engagement is needed

The DPE undertook targeted engagement with the development industry and local government during 2021. However, the formal public exhibition period has occurred over the Christmas period, limiting the opportunity for meaningful community engagement. It is unclear if the community understands the Discussion Paper and its implications.

This is inconsistent with Council's Community Participation Plan (CPP) and the DPE's Community Guide to Planning (December 2020), which recognises early community participation in planning is vital to ensure strategic planning and planning rules are based on community knowledge and views.

Summary of Key Recommendations to the DPE

The draft submission makes the following recommendations to the DPE:

- Prior to finalisation, a response to submissions is publicly exhibited with a detailed implementation plan allowing Councils to provide further feedback;
- Demonstrate how the timeframes identified in the Discussion Paper are consistent with the intent of a one-third reduction by 2023;
- Reinstate the role of the elected Council and Local Planning Panels early in the rezoning process;
- Ensure the process allows for meaningful community engagement in the assessment of rezoning applications;
- Work with Council to define an appropriate category for precinct planning, with appropriate timeframes that reflect the complexity of this process;
- Review the Scoping Phase to allow for multiple meetings and cost recovery, fees, require strategic merit assessment, the scoping letter standards and whether these issues can be met within the proposed timeframes;
- Consider the scope of rejections, additional information requests and refusals within the rezoning process;
- Reassess DPE's involvement in the process and consider being an advisory and intermediary body;
- Reconsider the extent of the similarities between Rezoning Proposals and Development Applications to ensure that Strategic Planning is not completely omitted from the process;
- Consider the role and responsibilities of Proponents and look to implement corresponding timeframes and penalties; and
- Evaluate whether the appeals process will not lead to further adverse impacts upon Councils.

A full list of the recommendations is included in the draft submission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for Council as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION

The DPE is inviting feedback on the Discussion Paper '*A New Approach to Rezoning's*' proposing significant changes to the current rezoning process.

While Council officers support the intent of the Discussion Paper, a draft submission has been prepared seeking further consideration on several issues within the recommendations provided.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the attached draft submission on the ‘New Approach to Rezoning’ Discussion Paper;**
- ii. forward a copy of the submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for consideration;**
- iii. forward a copy of Council’s submission to Mr Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, for consideration.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Submission - A New Approach to Rezoning**
- 2. Comparison of Rezoning and Development Application Process**
- 3. Discussion Paper - Rezoning Reform**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD02

SUBJECT: DRAFT SUBMISSION - DESIGN AND PLACE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY

FROM: Director Planning & Environment

TRIM #: 22/39243

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the exhibition of the draft Design and Place State Environmental Planning Policy (draft SEPP) by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) and to seek Council's endorsement of a draft submission.

The draft submission is provided as an **attachment** to this report. The exhibition documents are provided at [Design and Place State Environmental Planning Policy - \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/design-and-place-state-environmental-planning-policy) and are also provided **under separate cover**.

BACKGROUND

On 10 December 2021, the DPE placed the draft SEPP on public exhibition with submissions invited by 28 February 2022. Considering the Christmas period, the DPE had subsequently advised that it will accept a Council submission until 25 March 2022.

The draft SEPP is part of the Minister for Planning's State Planning Principles which require new planning instruments to deliver 'well-designed places that enhance quality of life, the environment and the economy'.

The DPE promotes the draft SEPP as seeking to provide a new approach to planning and development to support a new way of living so that everyone can be part of healthy, productive, and sustainable communities, with access to greener places, better public spaces, and homes that are comfortable to live in.

According to the DPE, the draft SEPP is intended to be finalised by mid-2022 and will come into effect by the end of 2022, allowing a 6 month transition period.

MAIN REPORT

What is the draft SEPP?

The draft SEPP exhibition package is a comprehensive policy with a range of changes to the way development applications (DAs) and planning proposals are designed and assessed and includes the following:

- Design & Place - Overview;
- Design & Place - Draft SEPP;
- Design & Place - Draft Regulation Amendment;
- Design & Place - Draft Ministerial Direction;
- Design & Place – Cost Benefit Analysis (Summary);
- Draft Apartment Design Guide;
- Draft Urban Design Guide;

- Draft Local Government Design Review Panel Manual; and
- Sustainability in Residential Buildings (BASIX Overview).

As part of the exhibition package, the DPE is also inviting submissions on amendments to the Standard Instrument LEP and Exempt and Complying Development Codes SEPP (Codes SEPP) to consider lighter roof colours and alternate technologies to mitigate urban heat impact.

Key policy features of the draft SEPP

There are five design principles in the draft SEPP. Each principle is supported by two design considerations and specific measures to satisfy each principle (Table 1).

Design Principle	Design Considerations
1. Deliver beauty and amenity	1. Overall design quality 2. Comfortable, inclusive, and healthy places
2. Deliver inviting public spaces and enhanced public life	3. Culture, character, and heritage 4. Public space for public life
3. Promote productive and connected places	5. Sustainable transport and walkability 6. Vibrant and affordable neighbourhoods
4. Design sustainable and greener places	7. Green infrastructure 8. Resource efficiency and emissions reduction
5. Deliver resilient and diverse places	9. Resilience and adaptation to change 10. Optimal and diverse land use

Table 1: Draft SEPP Design Principles and Considerations

Where does the draft SEPP apply?

The draft SEPP will apply across NSW although most rural, industrial, and environmental conservation zoned land is excluded. The draft SEPP is not proposed to apply to the Codes SEPP (other than BASIX considerations), detached houses, carparks, outbuildings and minor subdivisions (two lots). It will not amend existing Indicative Layout Plans (ILPs) (also known as masterplans) under the Growth Centres SEPP.

The draft SEPP applies a site area threshold of one hectare or more as the trigger for a development to be assessed against the design principles and considerations in Table 1. A development must demonstrate consistency with the principles, while the considerations must be included in the development assessment process.

Developments with a site area of one hectare or more is also the threshold at which the Urban Design Guideline (UDG) becomes a matter for consideration.

Urban Design Guide (UDG) and Apartment Design Guide (ADG)

The intent of the UDG is to support consistency in Development Control Plans (DCPs) to ensure that place strategies and masterplans are supported by controls that ensure they are implemented as intended. The UDG is intended to encourage developments to respond to the unique qualities of places across NSW.

Development may meet the objectives of the UDG by meeting the applicable design criteria or an alternative solution. The revised ADG will continue to apply to residential development of three or more storeys and four or more dwellings, or as otherwise referred to in other instruments.

Planning Proposals

Planning proposals, including LEPs and future DCPs for growth area precincts will need to consider the draft SEPP and UDG.

Design Review Panels (DRP)

Council currently operates a Design Review Panel (DRP) comprised of independent experts and Council officers. Council's DRP provides early design advice on development proposals of a certain type and size, including residential flat buildings.

The draft SEPP will formalise and standardise the role and function of DRPs across councils. The scope of the DRP will also be expanded to include subdivisions and planning proposals.

Building Sustainability Index (BASIX)

A revised BASIX will apply to new homes, and renovations over \$50,000, and will increase the standards for thermal performance and energy efficiency. The increased standards will apply to all new residential buildings across NSW and apartment buildings up to five storeys.

New standards and reporting requirements are also proposed for non-residential developments. These measures will require non-residential developments to meet key sustainability measures including net zero operational emissions and energy performance, water sustainability, embodied emissions, electric vehicles and waste resource management.

The level of compliance with these measures will depend on the type and location of the development, with large commercial development in Greater Sydney and State significant development (SSD) requiring the highest standards.

Draft Council Submission – Key Considerations

1. The broad intent of the reforms is supported

There is a 'line of sight' between the draft SEPP and Council's strategic policy framework. The Greater Sydney Region Plan, Western City District Plan and Camden Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) seek to strengthen the role of design and place making to improve liveability and sustainability outcomes. The draft SEPP is also broadly consistent with Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Local Housing Strategy (LHS) and Sustainability Strategy (SS).

The reform's BASIX, standardising of DRPs and measures to improve sustainability and urban design is supported, including increased thermal comfort, urban tree canopy and deep soil areas, and mitigating urban heat impact.

The revised ADG's flexible, family-friendly spaces with greater diversity in apartment mix is supported. An increased focus on design and place in the planning proposal process and the proposed update to the Codes SEPP and Standard Instrument LEP to introduce light roof colours is also supported.

Whilst the intent of the draft SEPP and broader reforms are supported, Council's draft submission identifies a number of issues that require further consideration and/or clarification, as outlined below.

2. Residential subdivision development in planned growth area precincts and urban release areas in Camden should be excluded from assessment against the Urban Design Guide

Camden has a well-developed approach to growth area planning that has evolved in consultation with the community since the inception of the South West Growth Area around 2006.

While the draft SEPP's application of sustainability criteria to growth area planning projects is supported, the value of including all DAs above the 1-hectare threshold for assessment against the Urban Design Guide requirements is questioned. Most development sites of this size in Camden undergo a masterplanning process at the precinct planning/urban release stage. This process largely addresses what the draft UDG is seeking to do.

For growth area precincts and urban release areas, the DPE's priority should be to reform the Codes SEPP (Housing Code) to improve liveability and sustainability outcomes in the delivery of new housing (point 5).

3. Complexity of the NSW planning system

The draft SEPP adds another layer of complexity to an already complex planning system. The draft SEPP is likely to result in additional assessment time for DAs and planning proposals. This is due to increased referrals, additional assessment criteria and increased reporting to the DRP.

The draft SEPP proposes sustainability targets and it is unclear how these have been benchmarked against targets within existing strategic planning documents for Greater Sydney to ensure they are consistent with each other.

4. Inconsistent with Council policy

Some of the proposed design criteria in the draft SEPP are inconsistent with the principles applied in Camden's growth area precincts and urban release areas. For example, the proposed open space provision and minimum public open space criteria is different to the criteria in Council's adopted Spaces and Places Strategy (2020).

It is recommended that DPE further consult with Council concerning the proposed design criteria. The draft SEPP should take into account Council's adopted strategies and policies.

5. Reform of the Codes SEPP (Housing Code)

Aside from the proposed lighter roof colour amendment, the draft SEPP does not reform the Codes SEPP.

In Camden, a significant volume of housing is approved via a Complying Development Certificate (CDC) pathway under the Codes SEPP, with the number of CDCs issued increasing from approximately 648 CDCs in 2019 to 1,019 CDCs in 2021.

The Codes SEPP has limited the number of site-specific designs that prioritise sustainable outcomes. For example, the rear setback and building footprint controls within the Codes SEPP allow limited areas for tree planting.

Council recommends DPE review the controls within the Codes SEPP to improve the liveability and sustainability outcomes, in line with its strategic planning framework.

6. A local government resourcing strategy is needed

The draft SEPP is likely to impact on Council's resources and budget as it will require additional assessment time and reporting for DAs and planning proposals.

Council officers will require training in the new technical sustainability documents that are required to be submitted with a DA and additional specialist staff may need to be employed to assist in these assessments.

DPE's contributions reform proposal (subject to a separate report to Council) flags that the open space requirements of the draft SEPP may be funded by a contributions plan (capital works funding) and this is supported. The inability for contribution plans to fund the delivery of community facilities (not only the land for the facility) is inconsistent with the draft SEPP (deliver inviting public space). Funding for whole-of-life asset maintenance and renewal is an ongoing issue for councils and some capital works projects will need to meet increased design and sustainability standards.

Council's DRP will need to be aligned with the DPE's DRP model. This is likely to create additional work and costs associated with the remuneration of panel members, increased Council staff involvement and increased volumes of DA and planning proposal referrals and reports. DPE is requested to play a greater role in the ongoing establishment and function of the DRP, including conducting an expression of interest (EOI) for membership to the panel and creating a central pool of chairs and experts for councils to select from.

Additional funding sources will need to be identified to meet these funding challenges and a local government resourcing strategy is needed.

7. Meaningful community engagement is needed

The DPE undertook targeted engagement with the development industry and local government during 2021. However, the formal exhibition period has occurred over the Christmas-New Year period, limiting the opportunity for meaningful community engagement. It is unclear if the broader community understand the draft SEPP policy package and its potential implications on development costs and assessment requirements.

This is inconsistent with Council's Community Participation Plan (CPP) and DPE's Community Guide to Planning (December 2020), which recognise early community participation in planning is vital to ensure strategic planning and planning rules are based on community knowledge and views.

Summary of Key Recommendations

The draft submission makes the following recommendations:

- Remove residential subdivision development in planned growth area precincts and urban release areas from the requirements of the draft UDG;
- Work with Council to mitigate concerns relating to the impact on assessment times and sustainability targets;
- Consult further with Council concerning the proposed design criteria;
- Amend the draft SEPP to ensure it allows for Council policy to apply in circumstances where there is an inconsistency;
- Prioritise the review and reform of the Codes SEPP (Housing Code);
- Work with Council in the development of an appropriate resourcing strategy to accommodate the draft SEPP;
- Review the UDG to ensure it is appropriate for the Camden LGA and south west Sydney;
- Play a greater role in the establishment and function of the DRP including conducting regular EOIs for membership and creating a central pool of chairs and experts for councils to select from;
- Consider the financial implications for Council of reporting to the DRP and to propose a funding mechanism for the panel; and
- Clarify actions undertaken to ensure the proposed changes have been adequately explained to the general community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for Council as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION

The DPE is inviting feedback on the draft Design and Place SEPP (draft SEPP).

While Council officers support the broad intent of the draft SEPP, a submission has been prepared seeking further consideration on several issues with recommendations provided.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the attached draft submission on the Design and Place State Environmental Planning Policy;**
- ii. forward a copy of the submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for consideration;**
- iii. forward a copy of Council's submission to Mr Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, for consideration.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Submission - Design and Place SEPP
2. Draft Submission Appendix A - Design and Place SEPP
3. Design and Place SEPP Exhibition Documents - under separate cover

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD03

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT CAMDEN CENTRES AND EMPLOYMENT LAND STRATEGY

FROM: Director Planning & Environment

TRIM #: 21/496888

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the draft 'Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy' (draft Strategy) including amendments recommended in response to submissions received during the public exhibition, and to seek Council's adoption of the draft Strategy. A copy of the draft Strategy is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

BACKGROUND

The draft Strategy sets the direction for the development of Camden's retail centres and employment land over the next 20 years and was prepared in response to the Greater Sydney Region Plan (Region Plan), Western City District Plan (District Plan) and the Camden Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS).

The draft Strategy was publicly exhibited from 4 June to 5 July 2021, and 19 submissions were received. A response to submissions is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

Councillors were briefed on the draft Strategy on 1 December 2020, 23 March 2021 and 15 February 2022.

MAIN REPORT

Draft Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy

The draft Strategy sets a Vision that in 2040, Camden's retail centres and industrial and urban services land will offer a range of local job opportunities and access to amenity for the community, Camden's retail centres will be well connected to other centres across Sydney and will capitalise on the area's heritage and rural values.

The draft Strategy includes an Action Plan and guiding criteria for the assessment of Planning Proposals. There are 34 actions under four key directions:

1. A network of successful, integrated and attractive retail centres;
2. A network of productive industrial and urban services land;
3. Agribusiness, tourism and health care services that support the local economy; and
4. Capitalise on existing and future infrastructure.

The mechanisms for implementation include advocacy with government agencies, a review of planning instruments (i.e. Camden LEP and the Growth Centres SEPP) as well as opportunities to undertake further studies.

Public Exhibition and Community Engagement

The draft Strategy was exhibited for 28 days from 4 June to 5 July 2021.

The exhibition coincided with the preliminary consultation on the development of the draft 'Camden Economic Development Strategy'. As such, community consultation was combined and included:

- Stakeholder notification (letters and emails sent to key stakeholder groups);
- Information on Council's website;
- Social Media posts (including a video);
- Business and Community Surveys (combined total of 213 responders);
- Face-to face workshops (7 June and 8 June 2021);
- A drop-in session at Camden Library (9 June 2021);
- A webinar (10 June 2021); and
- Copies of the draft Strategy available at Council's Administration Building and libraries.

A total of 19 submissions were received on the draft Strategy including submissions from individuals, developers, industry bodies, government agencies and a community group. A copy of the submissions is provided as a **supporting document**.

Key Findings – surveys and face to face engagement

The key themes and findings of the surveys and face-to-face engagement include:

- Industrial and urban services precincts need to be safe, serviced by good public transport, offer walking and cycling routes, and supported by adequate infrastructure;
- The need for flexible land uses that enable a variety of business and industrial activities;
- The right mix of businesses in the right location to mitigate land use conflict;
- Greater connectivity between businesses within industrial areas, and with other centres across Sydney;
- Improving amenity and offering additional green spaces in industrial areas and town centres;
- Reduce traffic congestion within industrial areas and town centres and investigate opportunities for better public transport services;
- Opportunity to increase the number of local jobs;
- Town centres need to be vibrant, offer social events and recreational areas as well as retail experiences, and have a unique character, identity and provide different offerings;
- Capitalise on heritage and rural landscapes to promote tourism opportunities; and
- Greater support and promotion of a night-time economy.

Notably, business survey respondents were optimistic that population growth will benefit their business, offering a larger customer base. However, between 20-25% of the survey respondents felt transport and freight connectivity and the condition of the road network were challenges for their business. More than half of the survey respondents identified the availability of commercial and industrial land as a challenge for their business viability and growth.

Summary of Key Submissions

A summary of the key issues raised in submissions is provided below. A detailed consideration of submissions is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

1. *The NSW Department of Planning and Environment's (DPE) Employment Zones Reform should be acknowledged in the final Centres and Employment Land Strategy*

Officer comment:

In 2021, the DPE announced new employment land reforms which will impact business and industrial zoned land under the Camden LEP. These reforms are mandatory and, when finalised, will change the current business and industrial zones under Camden LEP to the new employment zones. At this stage, the reforms do not apply to land zoned under the Growth Centres SEPP.

The draft Strategy was prepared prior to these reforms being announced. However, it is recommended the draft Strategy be updated to acknowledge the reforms and clarify the potential implications on Camden's business and industrial areas.

2. *Council's 'retain and manage' approach for Industrial and Urban Services Land should be reviewed to deliver greater flexibility of land-use permissibility to support job and investment growth*

Officer comment:

The Western City District Plan seeks to safeguard existing industrial and urban services land from competing land uses, such as residential, through a 'retain and manage' approach. This approach requires councils to undertake a strategic review of industrial and urban services land.

The draft Strategy is informed by the Camden Industrial and Employment Lands Study (AEC, 2020), which found there could be a shortage of industrial and urban services land in Camden by 2036, and this shortage may occur as soon as 2026. As such, a protect and retain approach has been adopted in the draft Strategy for Camden's existing employment land.

While the submission seeks greater flexibility in land use, it is noted that the DPE's employment land reforms will expand the range of permissible uses for industrial and urban services land, giving businesses greater opportunities to adapt and diversify.

It is recommended that the Council proceed with the protect and retain approach.

3. *Council should consider a transit-orientated development (TOD) in the northern section of the Camden LGA*

Officer comment:

Transit-Orientated Development (TOD) seeks to maximise residential and commercial land uses within walking distance of a train station or significant public transport services.

The draft Strategy includes several actions that support development around confirmed existing and future rail stations. For example, the current review of planning controls for Leppington Town Centre seeks to support transit orientated development in the vicinity of Leppington Train Station. No amendments to the draft Strategy are proposed in response to this submission.

4. *Encourages Council to use the NSW 2040 Economic Blueprint and Sydney 24-hour Economy Strategy to guide the Strategy*

Officer comment:

Themes from both the NSW 2040 Economic Blueprint and Sydney 24-hour Economy Strategy have been incorporated in the draft Strategy. Developed by NSW Treasury, these strategies seek to facilitate continued economic and job growth in NSW and the ongoing shaping of Sydney as a 24-hour global city.

No amendments to the draft Strategy are proposed in response to this submission. These strategies have been referenced and considered in the development of the draft 'Camden Economic Development Strategy'.

5. *Reducing the impact of urban heat and achieving positive environmental sustainability outcomes in retail centres and industrial and urban services land*

Officer comment:

Providing environmentally sustainable retail centres and industrial and urban services land provides better customer amenity and reduces the impacts from urban heat.

Principle 3 of the draft Strategy recognises the need for centres to be sustainable and innovative. In recognising the role of centres in reducing urban heat, it is recommended that the name of this principle, and supportive narrative, be amended to reflect the need to mitigate the impact of natural hazards.

It is also recommended the draft Strategy be amended to encourage environmental sustainability and Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles within industrial and urban services land in addition to centres. This is achieved through a new Principle (Principle 9), amended narrative under Principle 3 and adding new criteria for the assessment of planning proposals.

6. *Support for the Little Street Precinct rezoning to mixed-use development*

Officer comment:

A submission was received in support of *Action 15 – Review the Little Street Precinct zoning to support mixed-use development* and recommended the rural land along Cawdor Road be included in the review area.

One of the actions in the draft Strategy is to review the Little Street Precinct zoning to support mixed use development. This review does not extend to the rural land along Cawdor Road.

The land along Cawdor Road forms part of a visual gateway into Camden Town Centre and is valued for its visual and scenic landscape qualities. This land has also been identified as flood prone land and any potential future rezoning would need to be supported by a flood assessment.

No amendment to the draft Strategy is proposed in response to this submission.

7. *Recommendation for Oran Park to be recognised as a medical and health care precinct and for opportunities to support medical and health care facilities across the Camden LGA to be investigated*

Officer comment:

The draft Strategy acknowledges the importance of medical and health care services and the need to support and promote the sector. It also recognises the need to support the emerging health precinct in Gregory Hills.

Council officers have consulted with NSW Health to understand the health and medical services planning being undertaken for the Camden LGA. NSW Health is investigating several potential locations for Integrated Health Hubs (IHHubs) including Leppington and Oran Park. Council has further identified Gregory Hills and the Little Street Precinct as potential locations to cluster supporting medical and health services due to their proximity to existing (Camden) and proposed (Gregory Hills private) hospitals.

It is recommended that the draft Strategy be updated to reflect the need to further investigate and advocate for IHHubs and health infrastructure planning for the Camden LGA in collaboration with NSW Health.

8. Recommendation for a designated cultural/entertainment precinct with a purpose-built theatre

Officer comment:

It is acknowledged that a cultural/entertainment precinct is a positive addition to a centre. The recently exhibited draft 'Camden Cultural Activation Strategy' includes a commitment to continue exploring opportunities to provide cultural infrastructure in the LGA and to gain a better understanding of the local cultural infrastructure needs in partnership with government, community and private sectors.

As such, identifying a designated cultural/entertainment precinct with a purpose-built theatre within the draft Strategy is considered out-of-scope. No amendments to the draft Strategy are proposed in response to this submission.

Summary of Public Agency Submissions

1. Transport for NSW (TfNSW) – 2 submissions

Submissions received from Transport for NSW were broadly supportive of the draft Strategy, however recommended several specific changes.

Key themes throughout the submissions include: public transport; active transport; major transport corridors; freight and logistics; safety and prioritisation of walking and cycling around retail centres; ongoing collaboration with TfNSW on transport infrastructure planning; DPE employment zones reform; and support for the 'retain and manage' approach for industrial zoned land.

Officer Comment:

Council officers will continue to work closely with TfNSW and advocate for the delivery of key transport infrastructure.

The following amendments are recommended in response to these submissions:

- Information on the DPE employment land reforms has been included in the draft Strategy, where appropriate;
- Further consideration on the need to promote walking, cycling and the role of public transport in planning for centres and employment land; and

- Minor amendments to improve readability.

2. NSW Ports

The NSW Ports submission notes land at Glenlee (located on the south-eastern boundary of the Camden LGA) could support the freight network due to its proximity to the Hume Highway and existing rail connection and bulk handling facility. It suggests Council explore the potential future rezoning at Glenlee to facilitate a freight rail terminal.

Broadly, the submission supports the Directions and Principles in the draft Strategy including the 'retain and manage' approach for existing industrial and urban services land. The submission recommends Criteria 3 for the assessment of Planning Proposals on industrial and urban services land is expanded to ensure urban encroachment does not interfere with industrial land operations, in particular, the ability for industrial uses to operate 24/7.

Officer Comment:

The role of the freight and supply network in supporting economic and job growth in the Camden LGA is acknowledged and this role will grow in the future given Camden's proximity to the Western Sydney Airport and Aerotropolis.

Considering its geographical location, the need to investigate and plan for opportunities to support future rail and road freight corridor delivery in the draft Strategy is recognised. As such, the following amendments are recommended in response to this submission:

- Expanded narrative to reflect the role of freight and logistics; and
- A new action (proposed Action 34) to investigate opportunities to support future rail and road freight corridor needs.

3. Sydney Water

This submission raised no objection to the proposed changes to development standards and is generally supportive of the draft Strategy's promotion of job growth. The submission recommends Council share details regarding job growth forecasts and development uplift within retail and industrial and urban services land to inform water servicing infrastructure delivery.

Officer Comment:

Council officers will continue to work with Sydney Water to ensure that service delivery is aligned with employment land and job growth. No amendments to the draft Strategy are proposed in response to this submission.

4. Water NSW

This submission requests the draft Strategy be amended to:

- Clarify the impact of the DPE's Employment Zones Reform on zones referenced throughout the draft Strategy;
- Include the adoption of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) Principles in industrial and urban services zones; and
- Identify the Water NSW Upper Canal on the Vision map and the development constraint on land in the east of the Camden LGA.

The submission also requests Council consult Water NSW should the implementation of actions related to agribusiness tourism and health care implicate the Water NSW Upper Canal or adjoining land.

Officer Comment:

As noted above, the exhibited draft Strategy recognises the need for centres to be sustainable and innovative. This principle and supporting narrative are proposed to be amended to reflect the role of WSUD in reducing urban heat and to mitigate the impact of natural hazards.

It is also recommended the draft Strategy be amended to encourage environmental sustainability and WSUD principles within industrial and urban services land in addition to centres.

As such, the following amendments are proposed to the draft Strategy to address this submission:

- Expanded narrative to include Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD); and
- Amend the Planning Proposal assessment criteria against environmental sustainability outcomes.

Council officers will continue to work with Water NSW on initiatives that may impact on the Upper Canal and strengthen development controls to promote environmental sustainability outcomes in a future revision of Development Control Plans (DCPs).

5. *Endeavour Energy*

This submission requests Council consider:

- Endeavour Energy's Notes for Electricity Distribution when approving development applications and planning proposals; and
- The electricity distribution/supply required to achieve Principle 12: Land use and infrastructure planning is aligned (now Principle 13).

Officer Comment:

Some of the comments provided in this submission are technical and will be addressed as part of the implementation of the draft Strategy in addition to the Planning Proposal and Development Application assessment process.

Council officers will continue to work with Endeavour Energy to align electricity infrastructure delivery with population and employment land growth.

6. *NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI)*

This submission noted support for:

- The identification of The Northern Road Employment Corridor and the Bringelly Road Enterprise Corridor;
- Direction 3: Agribusiness, tourism and health care that support the local economy;
- Principle 9 (now Principle 10): Agribusiness is supported and enhanced;
- Action 20: Leverage opportunities from future agribusiness precincts within the Aerotropolis to support Camden's agricultural production; and

- The review of planning controls to facilitate tourism and accommodation, noting indirect benefits for local agriculture (Principle 10 and Actions 19 to 21) (now Principle 11 and Actions 20 to 22).

This submission suggests Council not progress any changes to support agritourism in rural zones (particularly RU1 zoned land) until the outcome of the DPE's proposed Agritourism and Small-Scale Agricultural Development reforms are known. It also notes the DPI is unlikely to support tourism uses on RU1 zoned land, Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land or adjacent land unless strategic merit is proven.

Officer Comment:

This submission is generally supportive of the draft Strategy. No amendments to the draft Strategy are proposed in response to this submission.

In August 2020, Council adopted changes to the objectives and permissible land-uses in RU1 and RU2 zones that support rural land being used for tourism related uses including removing eco-tourism as a prohibited land-use. Council officers will continue to work with DPI on proposed future changes to non-agricultural activities on rural land that have agricultural, environmental and conservation values.

7. *Heritage NSW*

This submission states the draft Strategy will deliver positive heritage outcomes. It also encourages Council to take care when amending planning controls to implement the draft Strategy that could potentially impact heritage items.

Officer Comment:

This submission will be addressed as part of the draft Strategy's implementation. No amendments to the draft Strategy are proposed in response to this submission.

8. *NSW Rural Fire Services*

This submission requests Council consider the Planning for Bushfire Protection (PBP) requirements in the implementation of this Strategy and associated future Planning Proposals that propose development changes on, or within close proximity to, bushfire prone land.

Officer Comment:

Council will continue to work with the NSW Rural Fire Service on ensuring compliance with Planning for Bushfire Protection (PBP) 2019 requirements as part of future Planning Proposals related to the implementation of this Strategy.

It is recommended Principle 3 be updated and a new Principle added under Direction 2 (Principle 9) that reflects the importance of planning for natural hazards including bushfire. A review of development controls to encourage the environmentally sustainable design of industrial and urban services land, including consideration of the planning for bushfire protection guidelines, has been included in the narrative.

9. NSW Health

This submission recommends the following changes to the draft Strategy:

- NSW Health's strategic direction for primary and community health care to be co-located within Integrated Health Hubs (IHHubs) within the South West Sydney Local Health District and notes Leppington and Oran Park are being investigated as potential future IHHub sites within the Camden LGA;
- Campbelltown Hospital is identified on the Vision map; and
- Community Health services are listed a under Principle 12.

Officer Comment:

The following changes are recommended in response to this submission:

- Expanded narrative to include the Integrated Health Hubs (IHHubs) model;
- Action 23 (now Action 24) is amended to investigate opportunities to support existing and primary medical facilities across the Camden LGA; and
- A new action is included to advocate for future medical health care precincts in key locations across the LGA.

A schedule of the proposed post-exhibition amendments to the draft Strategy and a copy of the final Strategy (with changes in red) are provided as **attachments** to this report.

Summary of post-exhibition changes key changes

Following the exhibition period, changes are proposed to the narrative, principles and actions within the four Directions of the draft Strategy in addition to changes to the planning proposal assessment criteria. The proposed changes are consistent with the intent of the exhibited Strategy and do not warrant re-exhibition.

Next Steps

Subject to Council endorsement, Council officers will write to the DPE to seek formal endorsement of the Strategy. DPE endorsement of the Strategy will give the strategic direction for centres and employment land additional weight in the assessment of planning proposals.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding for the implementation of the short-term actions within the draft Strategy (over the next five years) will be sourced from current and future budgets. The implementation of medium and long-term actions with require consideration for funding in future budgets.

CONCLUSION

The draft Strategy sets the direction for the development of Camden's retail centres and employment land over the next 20 years.

The draft Strategy was placed on public exhibition from 4 June to the 5 July 2021 and 19 submissions were received. The draft Strategy has been amended in response to issues raised. The proposed amendments do not change the intent of the draft Strategy, and as such do not warrant re-exhibition.

It is recommended that Council adopt the final Strategy (as amended).

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. adopt the draft Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy (as amended);**
- ii. write to the Department of Planning and Environment seeking their formal endorsement of the adopted Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy; and**
- iii. notify submitters and public agencies of Council's Decision.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Final Draft Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy
2. General Submissions Response Table - Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy
3. Public Agency Submissions Response Table - Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy
4. Submissions - Camden Centres and Employment Land Strategy - *Supporting Document*

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD04

SUBJECT: VARIATIONS TO DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS APPROVED UNDER STAFF DELEGATION (QUARTERLY REPORT)

FROM: Director Planning & Environment

TRIM #: 22/50425

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of any development applications (DAs) that involved a development standard variation approved under staff delegation in the last quarter (September-December 2021).

BACKGROUND

In February 2018, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) published *Planning Circular PS 18-003 Varying Development Standards* to advise consent authorities of arrangements for when the Secretary's concurrence to vary development standards may be assumed and to clarify requirements around reporting and record keeping where that concurrence has been assumed.

In accordance with the planning circular, councils are required to fulfil the following procedural and reporting requirements when development standards are being varied:

- Maintain a publicly available online register of all variations to development standards approved by the consent authority or its delegates;
- Report all variations approved by Council to the DPIE within four weeks of the end of each quarter; and
- Report all applications approved under staff delegation to a meeting of Council at least once each quarter.

Council maintains an online register of all variations to development standards and reports all variations approved by Council to the DPIE within four weeks of the end of each quarter.

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of any applications approved under staff delegation during the last quarter as per the procedural requirements outlined above.

Councillors were briefed on the details of the applications referred to in this report on 15 February 2022.

MAIN REPORT

During the last quarter (September-December 2021), Council staff approved two DAs that varied a development standard. The details of these applications are outlined below:



DA/2021/1469/1 – Attached Dual Occupancy at 34 O’Dea Road, Mount Annan

- The development involves the erection of an attached dual occupancy.
- The lot has a width at the front building line of 21.85 metres and thereby varied from the minimum width for an attached dual occupancy (22 metres) as prescribed under Clause 4.1D(3) of Camden Local Environmental Plan 2010 (15 centimetres or 0.68% variation).
- The variation was considered reasonable given the site has an area of 1,038m² thereby exceeding the minimum lots size for an attached dual occupancy (600m²); the development satisfied the key amenity related development controls pertaining to site coverage, solar access, height, landscaping and private open space; and the proposal was consistent with the objectives of the zone and the standard.

DA/2021/1523/1 – Torrens title subdivision and erection of two x two-storey dwelling houses at 31 Berridale Street, Gregory Hills

- The development involves the Torrens title subdivision of the site into two lots and the erection of a two-storey dwelling house on each lot.
- One of the proposed lots has an area of 245.41m² and therefore varied from the minimum lot size for a dwelling house (250m²) as prescribed under Clause 4.1AC of State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006 (4.55m² or 1.82% variation).
- The variation was considered reasonable given the overall site had an area in excess of 500m² (i.e. large enough to support two dwellings); the development satisfied the key amenity related development controls pertaining to site coverage, solar access, height, landscaping and private open space; and the proposal was consistent with the objectives of the zone and the standard.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no financial implications for Council.

CONCLUSION

During the last quarter (September-December 2021), Council staff approved two DAs that varied a development standard. The variations are reported to Council in accordance with the procedural requirements outlined in *Planning Circular PS 18-003 Varying Development Standards*.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the information in this report.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD05

SUBJECT: DECEMBER REVIEW OF THE 2021/22 OPERATIONAL PLAN (BUDGET)

FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy

TRIM #: 22/6966

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents the December Quarterly Operational Plan (Budget) Review for the 2021/22 financial year in accordance with Part 9, Division 3, Clause 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

Its purpose is to inform Council of the necessary changes to the 2021/22 Operational Plan for the reporting period ending 31 December 2021, and to consider other changes put forward for determination.

BACKGROUND

In adopting the 2021/22 Operational Plan (Budget), Council approved a balanced budget position. Budget adjustments identified at the December Quarterly Review represent a projected surplus of \$157,000 for the 2021/22 financial year.

A Councillor Workshop was held on 22 February 2022 to brief Council on the report.

MAIN REPORT

ALLOCATION OF THE 2021/22 PROJECTED BUDGET SURPLUS

It is recommended that the projected surplus of \$157,000 be allocated as follows:

Proposed Budget Surplus Allocation		
Budget Surplus Available for Allocation		\$157,000
Less: Transfer to Technology Improvements Reserve	\$157,000	
Total - Allocation of Budget Surplus		\$157,000
Budget Position		Balanced

It is recommended that the projected surplus be allocated to the Technology Improvements Reserve to support Council's ongoing cyber-security initiatives and to also support the continued implementation of the Digital Innovation Strategy.

CURRENT RESERVE BALANCES

Capital Works Reserve

The Capital Works Reserve is predominantly used to fund capital works or to match grant funding as part of a capital grant funding agreement. The balance of the Capital Works Reserve is as follows:

Capital Works Reserve	
Reserve Balance	\$1,864,083
Committed Funds Held in Reserve	
Less: 2020/21 Revoted projects	(\$886,266)
Less: 2022/23 Community Support Package Round 3 Funding	(\$205,000)
Total Committed Funds	(\$1,091,266)
Uncommitted Balance – Capital Works Reserve	\$772,817

It should be noted that the Capital Works Reserve is being considered as a funding source for initiatives in the 2022/23 budget. Any transfers from reserves requires a council resolution and will be considered by Council as part of the 2022/23 budget process.

Asset Renewal Reserve

Council approved the creation of the Asset Renewal Reserve as part of adopting the 2013/14 - 2016/17 Delivery Program. Funds from this reserve are primarily used for the replacement and/or maintenance of existing assets. The balance of the Asset Renewal Reserve is as follows:

Asset Renewal Reserve	
Reserve Balance	\$662,000
Committed Funds Held in Reserve	
Less: 2020/21 Revoted projects	(\$89,973)
Less: 2022/23 Community Support Package Round 3 Funding	(\$291,800)
Total Committed Funds	(\$381,773)
Uncommitted Balance – Asset Renewal Reserve	\$280,227

It should be noted that the Asset Renewal Reserve is being considered as a funding source for initiatives in the 2022/23 budget. Any transfers from reserves requires a council resolution and will be considered by Council as part of the 2022/23 budget process.

Technology Improvements Reserve

The Technology Improvements Reserve was established to primarily fund digital technology projects which improve service delivery and the way in which residents can do business with Council.

Technology Improvements Reserve	
Reserve Balance	\$717,816
Add: Proposed December 2021 Review Transfer	\$157,000
Proposed Balance of Reserve	\$874,816
Committed Funds Held in Reserve	
Less: 2020/21 Revoted projects	(\$717,816)
Total Committed Funds	(\$717,816)
Uncommitted Balance – Tech Improvements Reserve	\$157,000

It should be noted that the Technology Improvements Reserve is being considered as a funding source for initiatives in the 2022/23 budget. Any transfers from reserves requires a council resolution and will be considered by Council as part of the 2022/23 budget process.

DECEMBER REVIEW OF THE 2021/22 BUDGET

Further information and explanation of the projected budget surplus of \$157,000 for the 2021/22 financial year is detailed below.

Proposed Variations to Budget

Proposed variations which have been identified as part of the December Quarterly Review has led to a projected budget surplus of \$157,000. A list of the variations (greater than \$20,000) is provided in the following table. Brief explanations follow the table.

December Review of the 2021/22 Budget Proposed Variations	Budget Impact Increase/ (Decrease)
Income Adjustments	
<i>Note: Increase in income is an increase to the budget Shortfall in income is a decrease to the budget</i>	
1. General Fund Interest on Investments Income	(\$150,000)
2. Supplementary Rate Income	\$125,000
3. Traineeship Program - Boosting Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy and Job Saver Payments	\$123,908
4. Risk Management – COVID-19 Assistance Funds	\$70,420
5. Financial Assistance Grant Income	\$57,597
6. Economic Development - Generation STEM Collaborative Project	\$38,000
Sub Total - Income Adjustments	\$264,925
Expenditure adjustments	
<i>Note: Increase in expenditure is a decrease to the budget Saving in expenditure is an increase to the budget</i>	
7. Corporate Salaries and Wages	(\$100,000)
8. Mountain Biking Trail Project	(\$20,000)
Expenditure Variations less than \$20,000	\$12,075
Sub Total - Expenditure Adjustments	(\$107,925)
Council Authorised Variations	Nil
TOTAL - Proposed Variations to Budget	\$157,000

Income Adjustments Commentary

1. General Fund Interest on Investments Income – Decrease in Income of \$150,000

A review of interest on investments income (General Fund) has identified a projected budget shortfall of \$150,000. This is a result of interest rates being lower than budget projections for the 2021/22 financial year. Despite this reduction in income, Council continues to exceed performance benchmarks when compared to the Ausbond Bank Bill Index.

2. Supplementary Rate Income – Increase in Income of \$125,000

Supplementary rate income is received upon the re-zoning or subdivision of land. It is additional rate income to the amount levied at the beginning of the financial year. The increase in rate income realised during the second quarter of 2021/22 is primarily due to new lots created through subdivisions in the Oran Park, Gregory Hills and Leppington land release areas.

3. Traineeship Program - Boosting Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy and Job Saver Payments – Increase in Income of \$123,908

The Federal Government's *Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements Wage Subsidy* supports businesses and Group Training Organisations to take on new apprentices and trainees, to build a pipeline of skilled workers to support sustained economic recovery and assist with recovery from the impact of COVID-19. Council employs trainees and apprentices through Macarthur Group Training Ltd and has received wage subsidies through these employment arrangements.

4. Risk Management – COVID-19 Assistance Funds – Increase in Income of \$70,420

Council has received a one-off payment from CivicRisk Mutual Limited which is based on motor vehicle and administration savings associated with COVID-19. All member councils have received a one-off payment to assist with managing its costs in relation to COVID-19.

5. Financial Assistance Grant Income – Increase in Income of \$57,597

Council has received confirmation of the total funding of \$4,171,997 for the 2021/22 financial year under the Federal Government's Financial Assistance Grant Program. This is an increase of \$57,597 when compared to the original budget projection of \$4,114,400. It also represents an increase of \$85,746 (2.1% Increase) when compared to the Financial Assistance Grant received for the 2020/21 financial year of \$4,086,251.

6. Economic Development - Generation STEM Collaborative Project – Increase in Income of \$38,000

Council has received a reimbursement of expenditure which was incurred in previous years for the Generation STEM - Empowering local high school students with STEM Project. This reimbursement was from the CSIRO as the organisation made the decision not to charge for the project.

Expenditure Adjustments Commentary

7. Corporate Salaries & Wages – Increase in Expense of \$100,000

As the organisation continues to expand and employee numbers increase in response to supporting the growth of the local government area, Council's recruitment and talent management demands have significantly increased. This has resulted in the need to create an additional Human Resource Business Partner to support recruitment and onboarding activity.

Council's revised draft Workforce Management Strategy also focuses heavily on attraction and how we source talent to be competitive in a significantly tightening recruitment market to meet the needs of our growing community; the position will be responsible for assisting in implementing related strategies.

Pending endorsement by Council the position will be included within Council's budget recurrently.

8. Mountain Biking Trail Project - Increase in Expenses of \$20,000

Mountain biking is a rapidly growing recreational activity in NSW. The term mountain biking is used to describe all forms of off-road cycling and include styles such as free riding and dirt jumping. There are currently no authorised single track mountain bike trails in Council reserves. In recent years however, there has been an increase in the construction of user-built tracks and dirt jumps within Council's riparian areas which have caused damage to these areas and have been required to be removed. It is proposed to implement an informal mountain bike trail in the reserve at the southern end of Springs Lake, Spring Farm.

Community consultation in relation to the promotion and development of this proposed facility will occur. To develop the informal track for beginner mountain bike riders a budget allocation of \$20,000 is requested at the December quarterly budget review.

COUNCIL AUTHORISED VARIATIONS

There were no Council authorised budget variations during the period 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021.

CONTRA ADJUSTMENTS

These adjustments relate to movements of income and expenditure within Council's adopted budget. The adjustments have no impact on Council's projected budget result as both movements of income and expenditure are of equal value.

During this quarter (1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021), there have been thirteen (13) required contra adjustments amounting to \$5,912,810. A detailed list of these adjustments is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report.

GRANT FUNDING

There were a number of government grants, which were secured and accepted during this reporting period. Typically, these grants would have been separately reported to Council however, as there was no Ordinary Council Meeting held in December due to the 2021 Elections, these funding agreements were executed under delegation. A summary of the government grants secured is provided below:



Faster Regionally Significant Development Applications Pilot Program

Council has been invited to participate in a pilot program designed to improve timeframes for regionally significant development assessments. Grant funding of \$350,000 has been approved of which \$275,000 will be funded this year and \$75,000 funded in the following financial year. Grant funding will be used for additional staffing costs and other initiatives to assist with DA processing times for regionally significant development.

Summer Night Program - Live at the Gallery Program

The NSW Government's Summer Night Fund Program provides NSW councils with grant funds of \$15,000 to deliver activations or events in public spaces to re-energise local centres in the evening as we emerge from lockdown. Council will deliver a "Live at the Gallery" program, a series of pop-up events to be held at dusk, outside the Alan Baker Art Gallery.

Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Round 3 Funding

The LRCI Program aims to assist a community-led recovery from COVID-19 by supporting local jobs, firms and procurement. It is expected that councils, where possible, will use local businesses and workforces to deliver projects under the LRCI Program to ensure stimulus funding flows into local communities.

Under the first two funding rounds from the LRCI Program, Council secured funding of \$4,124,278. These funding rounds were formally reported to Council on 11 August 2020 and 8 December 2020 respectively.

The amount of funding provided to Council in the third round of the LRCI Program is \$1,749,384. Identified projects in the third round of grant funding must be delivered by 31 December 2023.

Funding adjustments for the Faster Regionally Significant Development Application Pilot Program and Summer Night Program have been included in the December Quarterly Review of the 2021/22 Budget as Contra Adjustments. The Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Round 3 Funding Program will be included in future budgets after the proposed projects have been endorsed by Council.

COUNCILLOR CONSOLIDATED WARD FUNDS

As part of the Annual Budget process, an allocation of \$30,000 is included within the budget which is available for Councillor-endorsed funding requests, fee waivers and/or support for specific community requests.

The available balance of the Consolidated Ward Funds at the end of the December 2021 reporting period was \$108,754.

Consolidated Ward Funds	
2021/22 Budget Allocation	\$30,000
2020/21 Ward Funds Revote	\$78,754
Total Funds Available	\$108,754
Funding Allocated:	
Nil	
Total Funding Allocated in 2021/22	\$0
Balance of Consolidated Ward Funds	\$108,754

It should be noted that the balance of Consolidated Ward Funds is over and above the projected balanced budget position as advised in this report.

SUMMARY OF DECEMBER REVIEW ADJUSTMENTS

The following table is a summary of budget adjustments up to 31 December 2021.

Budget Adjustment Summary	Expenditure (Increase) / Decrease	Income Increase / (Decrease)	Budget Impact Increase / (Decrease)
2020/21 Carry-Forward Working Funds			\$1,000,000
2021/22 Adopted Budget Position			\$0
Less: Minimum Level of Working Funds			(\$1,000,000)
September 2021 Adjustments	(\$11,931,636)	\$11,931,636	\$0
Available Working Funds 31 Dec 2021			\$0
Note 1: Proposed Variations	(\$107,925)	\$264,925	\$157,000
Note 2: Authorised Variations	\$0	\$0	\$0
Note 3: Contra Adjustments	\$5,912,810	(\$5,912,810)	\$0
Sub Total - December Review Adjustments	\$5,804,885	(\$5,647,885)	\$157,000
Available Working Funds (uncommitted cash)			\$157,000

ON-TIME PAYMENT POLICY REPORTING

At the end of each quarter, Council is required to report on compliance with its adopted On-Time Payment Policy. This Policy requires Council to pay interest where an invoice received from small business (turnover less than \$2 million p.a.) has been held by Council for more than 20 days and the interest payable is more than \$20.

For the reporting period 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021, Council processed 29 invoices from registered small businesses. The average payment time for the period was 5.45 days (from the receipt of Invoice). None of these invoices became overdue during the reporting period.

STATEMENT BY RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

The following statement is made in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*:

'It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Result for Camden Council for the period ending 31 December 2021 indicates that Council's projected financial position is satisfactory. No remedial actions are required based on the financial position presented within this report.'



CONCLUSION

The December Quarterly Budget Review has been completed and is recommended for adoption by Council.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. adopt the budget variations contained within this report and confirm the allocation of the December Quarterly Review Surplus of \$157,000 to the Technology Improvements Reserve;**
- ii. accept grant funding of \$350,000 from the Department of Planning and Environment (State Government) for the Faster Regionally Significant Development Applications Pilot Program and include the funding in the 2021/22 and 2022/23 budgets as detailed in the report;**
- iii. accept grant funding of \$15,000 from the Department of Planning and Environment (State Government) for the Summer Night Program - Live at the Gallery Program and include the funding in the 2021/22 budget;**
- iv. accept grant funding of \$1,749,384 from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development (Federal Government) for the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Round 3 Program with allocation of the budget pending a further report to Council.**
- v. write to The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, and The Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Industry, Energy and Emissions Reduction, and Member for Hume, thanking them for the Federal Government grant; and**
- vi. write to The Hon. Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning and Homes, and Mr Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking them for the State Government grants.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. 2021-22 December Review - Budget Appendix**
- 2. 2021-22 December Review - QBRS**

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD06

SUBJECT: PUBLIC EXHIBITION - CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE AMENDMENTS
FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy
TRIM #: 22/56389

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of proposed amendments to Camden's Code of Meeting Practice (Meeting Code) in accordance with the prescribed Model Code of Meeting Practice (Model Meeting Code), and to authorise public exhibition of the draft amended Meeting Code.

BACKGROUND

A revised Model Meeting Code of Meeting Practice was prescribed under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) in November 2021.

Under section 361 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), councils are required to publicly exhibit a draft Code of Meeting Practice before adopting it.

On 23 February 2022, Councillors were briefed on the draft Meeting Code.

MAIN REPORT

Council must adopt a Meeting Code that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code within 12 months of the local government election, which occurred on 4 December 2021. Council's Meeting Code may also incorporate the non-mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code and any other supplementary provisions adopted by Council; however, it may not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions.

A copy of Council's draft Meeting Code which reflects the Model Meeting Code and includes a small number of additional minor enhancements is **attached**. The **mandatory** provisions which have been inserted or amended are marked up in **purple font**, and the **non-mandatory** or **supplementary** provisions which have been inserted or amended are marked up in **blue font**. Deleted text is marked up with strikethrough.

Below is a summary of the substantive changes that have been made.

Provisions relating to meeting by audio-visual link

The revised Model Meeting Code contains new provisions that allow councils to permit individual councillors to attend meetings by audio-visual link, and to either cancel a meeting or hold a meeting by audio-visual link in the event of a natural disaster or public health emergency. Related provisions concern staff attending by audio-visual link with the approval of the General Manager; how disorder by Councillors attending via audio-visual link may be dealt with; the process for declaring and managing conflicts of interest; and the recording of attendance in the minutes.

These provisions are found at clauses 5.2, 5.15, 5.17-5.31, 5.48, 8.1, 14.21, 15.20-15.21, 16.2, 18.2, 19.22, and part 22 (Definitions).

There are also associated amendments which are proposed for supplementary provisions, comprising:

- Clause 3.35 – This provides that Councillor briefings may also be held by audio-visual link; and
- Appendix D (Public Address Session Guidelines) – This provides that public address speakers may choose to participate in-person or by audio-visual link.

Provisions relating to webcasting and disorder at meetings

The revised Model Meeting Code includes amendments to the provisions governing the webcasting of meetings and disorder at meetings to reflect amendments made to the Regulation since the previous iteration of the Model Meeting Code was prescribed.

The amendments pertaining to webcasting concern the requirements for recording a meeting by means of an audio or audio-visual device, and making the recording publicly available. The relevant provisions are clauses 5.35-5.36, 5.38, and 5.40-5.41.

The amendments pertaining to disorder at meetings concern what constitutes an act of disorder and what the Chairperson may require a Councillor to do following an act of disorder. The relevant provisions are clauses 15.11-15.12 and 15.24.

Provision relating to the oath or affirmation of office and conflict of interest disclosures

The revised Model Meeting Code includes an amendment which implements recommendation 6 in the ICAC's report 'Operation Dasha'. ICAC recommended that the Model Meeting Code be amended to require that council business papers include a reminder to councillors of their oath or affirmation of office, and their conflict of interest disclosure obligations. The relevant provision is clause 3.25.

Additional proposed enhancements

There are further amendments, which are proposed to reflect current practice at Council, comprising:

- Clause 3.35 – This has been updated to reflect that Councillor briefings are generally held on the third and fourth Tuesday of each month; and
- Clause 8.1 – This has been updated to reflect that Councillors have the option of making an affirmation instead of saying a prayer.

Other minor amendments which are marked up in the draft Meeting Code reflect changes to wording in the Model Meeting Code. These changes are found at the Introduction, clause 9.16, the note to clause 11.7, and clause 14.7.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

Under section 361 of the Act, before adopting a new Code of Meeting Practice, councils must first exhibit a draft of the Meeting Code for at least 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft Meeting Code.

The repeal date for section 237 of the Regulation, which exempts councils from the requirement under clause 5.2 of the previous iteration of the Model Meeting Code for councillors to be personally present at meetings in order to participate in them, has been extended to 30 June 2022. This is to allow councils additional time to exhibit and adopt new Meeting Codes containing provisions allowing attendance by audio-visual link at meetings. If councils have not adopted a meeting code that allows councillors to attend meetings by audio-visual link, they will not be permitted to do so after that date.

The draft Camden Code of Meeting Practice is submitted for Council's consideration to place on public exhibition.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the draft Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report;**
- ii. authorise the public exhibition of the draft Code of Meeting Practice for a period of 28 days in accordance with Section 361 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*, allowing 42 days after the date on which the draft Code is placed on public exhibition for submissions to be made to Council;**
- iii. if no submissions are made, adopt the draft Code of Meeting Practice effective from the day after the close of the submission period; or**
- iv. if submissions are received, receive a further report following the exhibition period to consider submissions made and to adopt a final Code of Meeting Practice prior to 30 June 2022.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Code of Meeting Practice**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD07

SUBJECT: COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES

FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy

TRIM #: 21/202183

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to determine Councillors' membership to various committees and reference groups. It also recommends that Council endorse Model Terms of Reference, for Advisory Committees and Reference Groups respectively, as well as the Expressions of Interest (EOI) process for community representatives on committees and groups.

Councillor Briefings were held on the 22 February 2022 and 2 March 2022 to brief Council on the report and to seek nominations to committees and advisory groups for consideration at the Council meeting.

MAIN REPORT

Councillor Representatives on Committees and Reference Groups

Following each Council election, it is normal practice to appoint Councillor representatives to various committees and reference groups for the term of Council or for such other periods as might apply.

The different types of committees and reference groups are summarised below:

Committee / Group Type	General Characteristics
Advisory Committees	Provide strategic or technical advice and may make recommendations to Council. Administered by Council.
Reference Groups	Action-oriented and often advise on the planning and delivery of particular projects or events. Administered by Council.
Statutory Committees	Have delegated authority or a statutory function. May make decisions or provide advice depending on the particular function.
Non-Council Committees	Not administered by Council. May be established under statute. Comprise several agencies or organisations with a common interest or function.

A list of the relevant committees and reference groups for which Councillor representatives can be appointed and noting proposed nominations is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Section 355 Committees

Council currently has four committees delegated authority by Council under s 355 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), being the:

- Bicentennial Equestrian Park;

- Camden Town Farm;
- Camden Seniors; and
- Camden International Friendship Association.

As part of a wider review of committee types, consideration has been given to the best structure for these committees. The review considered the range of activities that the committees undertook on behalf of Council, the risks and opportunities, legislative requirements, and how input and knowledge from volunteers can be best captured.

Having considered the identified committee outcomes and support required from Council, it is recommended that the existing s 355 Committees be formally dissolved, with Reference Groups to be created. Detail on the Reference Groups is provided in **Attachment 1**.

General Manager Performance Review Panel

In accordance with the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers, Council must establish a review panel with delegated authority to conduct future General Manager performance reviews.

The role of the panel is to conduct the review process, report the findings and recommendations to Council and to develop the next performance agreement. Detail on the Panel is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Model Terms of Reference

Model Terms of Reference (TORs) have been developed for Advisory Committees and Reference Groups respectively. These align with industry best practice and seek to ensure that Advisory Committees and Reference Groups operate consistently across Council. Each Model TOR includes provisions in relation to the following:

1. Purpose;
2. Alignment with Community Strategic Plan;
3. Membership, Selection and Tenure;
4. Roles and Responsibilities;
5. Meeting Venue and Frequency;
6. Meeting Procedure;
7. Quorum, Voting and Casual Vacancies;
8. Agendas, Minutes and Reporting Requirements;
9. Code of Conduct and Other Policies;
10. Work Health & Safety;
11. Financial Arrangements; and
12. Variation of Terms of Reference

The Model TOR for Advisory Committees is provided at **Attachment 2** and the Model TOR for Reference Groups is provided at **Attachment 3**.

Where appropriate, the Model TOR can be customised to suit each individual Advisory Committee and Reference Group. It is intended that customised TORs will be reported to Council for endorsement at the Council meeting of 10 May 2022 in conjunction with the outcome of the Expressions of Interest process for community members.

Expressions of Interest Process

An Expression of Interest (EOI) process will be run seeking community members who would like to join an Advisory Committee or Reference Group. The EOI process will provide detail on the recruitment process, information about each Advisory Committee and Reference Group, position descriptions and the Model TORs.

The proposed timeline for the EOI process is as follows:

- 16 March - 2 April 2022 – EOIs advertised
- 3 - 16 April 2022 – Shortlisting and selection of members by relevant staff
- 12 May 2022 – Report to Council recommending the appointment of community members to Advisory Committees and Reference Groups
- 20 May - 4 June 2022 – Registration and induction of members to Advisory Committees and Reference Groups
- June 2022 – Meetings commence.

It is noted that this timeline will not apply to membership of the Camden Local Planning Panel (which Councillors are not permitted to be members of) as the EOI process for community representatives for this Panel needs to be undertaken sooner in order to maintain its ongoing operations. It is anticipated that the report seeking endorsement of representatives to the Panel will be presented to the May Council meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council determine Councillor membership to committees and reference groups including newly established reference groups to replace dissolved s 355 Committees, delegates authority to the General Manager's Performance Review Panel to conduct reviews of the General Manager's Performance and endorses the Model TORs and EOI process for community representatives.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **nominate and appoint Councillors as members of the respective committees and reference groups in accordance with the proposed nominations outlined in Attachment 1 or as otherwise determined by Council;**
- ii. **dissolve the Camden Seniors Program Committee, Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park Committee, Camden International Friendship Association**

Committee and Camden Town Farm Committee and revoke all of the functions delegated on 13 December 2016 to the Committees and the members thereof;

- iii. delegate to the General Manager's Performance Review Panel authority to conduct reviews of the General Manager's performance;**
- iv. endorse the Model Terms of Reference for Advisory Committees provided at Attachment 2 and the Model Terms of Reference for Reference Groups provided at Attachment 3;**
- v. endorse the Expressions of Interest process for community representatives as detailed in this report; and**
- vi. receive a further report to the 10 May 2022 Ordinary meeting of Council providing the customised terms of reference for each Advisory Committee and Reference Group and the recommendations for appointing community representatives to membership of Committees and Reference Groups.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Committees and Reference Groups Requiring Councillor Representation**
- 2. Model Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**
- 3. Model Reference Group Terms of Reference**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD08

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT MONIES - JANUARY 2022

FROM: Director Customer & Corporate Strategy

TRIM #: 22/51856

PURPOSE OF REPORT

In accordance with Part 9, Division 5, Section 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, a list of investments held by Council as at 31 January 2022 is provided.

MAIN REPORT

The weighted average return on all investments was 0.82% p.a. for the month of January 2022. The industry benchmark for this period was 0.06% (Ausbond Bank Bill Index) and the current official cash rate as determined by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) is 0.10%.

The Responsible Accounting Officer (the Chief Financial Officer) has 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.

Council's Investment Report is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **note that the Responsible Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy;**
- ii. **note the list of investments for January 2022; and**
- iii. **note the weighted average interest rate return of 0.82% p.a. for the month of January 2022.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Investment Report - January 2022

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD09

SUBJECT: NSW INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION REFORMS - EXHIBITION PACKAGE AND COUNCIL SUBMISSION

FROM: Director Sport, Community & Activation

TRIM #: 22/53064

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about the draft policy documents publicly exhibited by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) and the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) in October 2021 regarding proposed reforms to the NSW infrastructure contributions system, and to seek Council's endorsement of the submissions on the public exhibition.

BACKGROUND

In December 2020, following a request by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Productivity Commission (PC) published a report that included recommendations to reform the infrastructure contributions system in NSW with the objectives of delivering an efficient system that is easy to understand, transparent and consistent in its application, and provides greater certainty to market participants.

In March 2021, the NSW Government accepted all the PC's recommendations and announced that DPIE would be progressing the PC's recommendations through a series of amendments to infrastructure contributions legislation and policy.

The draft reforms were exhibited from October 2021 till 10 December 2021. To adhere to the formal submission deadline, Council Officers submitted an Officer-level submission to both DPIE and IPART; a copy of both submissions are provided as an **attachment** to this report.

Due to local government elections, Council-endorsed submissions are being accepted following the March meeting of Council.

Councillors were briefed on the matter at the briefing of 15 February 2022.

MAIN REPORT

Summary of Key reform's (DPIE):

- The introduction of Land Value Contributions (LVC);
- New rates for Section 7.12 contributions;
- Changes to the Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation that seek to make the system, fairer, more efficient and improve transparency;
- Replacing Special Infrastructure Contributions (SIC) with the Regional Infrastructure Contributions (RIC) framework; and
- Two new Ministerial Directions that outline when contributions plans are to be developed and the efficient use of public purpose land.

Simultaneously, IPART exhibited the following documents:

- A draft report on the essential works list, nexus and efficient infrastructure design; and
- Draft benchmark costs for local infrastructure.

Summary of DPIE's reform package and Council Officers' submission to DPIE

Land Value Contributions (LVC)

The LVC is a new mechanism that Councils may choose to adopt within contributions plans as a mechanism to assist in the early acquisition of public land.

Under the current practice, contributions are required from a developer during the Development Application (DA) process and fulfilled via a monetary contribution or the dedication of land to Council. This can often see the price of public land escalate, creating significant funding shortfalls for Local Government.

The introduction of an LVC proposes to shift the timing of when the contribution is due, as well as who is responsible for the contribution. Under this proposed system, an LVC is required when a landowner sells land or during the DA process, whichever comes first.

The inclusion of land sale as a trigger for a contribution means:

- Council can acquire public land much earlier in the development process;
- The effect of rapid increases in value following land rezoning is mitigated; and
- The responsibility for the cost of public purpose land is shared between the selling landowner and the purchasing developer.

In the case where a landowner sells their land post rezoning, any proposed public land would have to be dedicated to Council. Council would pay for the land at the value determined by the Valuer General (VG), not the sale price.

If there was no public land to be dedicated, then the landowner would be required to pay a monetary contribution towards the acquisition of other public land within the same precinct. The value of the monetary contribution would be dependent on the percentage of land to be acquired for a public purpose within the precinct and the value of that lot as determined by the VG.

The implementation of an LVC is subject to the following conditions:

- The contribution to be paid is limited to the percentage of public land required in a precinct (for example, if a 1,000 ha precinct allots 100 ha for public purpose land, the LVC is 10%);
- The LVC cannot exceed 20%; if Council wished to acquire more than 20% of the precinct for public land it would need to be funded from General Revenue;
- An LVC cannot be imposed on land that has already been rezoned; and
- The implementation of an LVC is optional and councils can decide to implement it across a whole contributions plan, specific areas or not at all.

As part of the Officer submission, in-principle support for the concept an LVC was provided. The submission also expressed concern regarding the lack of detail on how the LVC would be implemented and recommended further modelling be undertaken so the effect on all relevant parties could be understood.

Officers also expressed concern at the lack of landowner engagement and recommended that DPIE undertake further consultation with regard to the implementation of the LVC with affected landowners.

Following the Officer submission, further analysis of the LVC has been undertaken and it is recommended that Council endorse additional recommendations to the DPIE with regards to LVC to reinforce further consideration of this mechanism:

- Council request that the DPIE undertake additional detailed modelling and consultation on the concept of LVC;
- The detailed modelling be publicly exhibited to allow key stakeholders including landowners, Council and developers to make more informed responses to the proposal; and
- Adoption of the LVC must remain a Council decision, and not be mandated.

Section 7.12 contributions

Camden doesn't currently have a section 7.12 contributions plan but may in the future. A section 7.12 plan has the following benefits for areas already developed:

- Section 7.12 plans are straightforward and easier to administer.
- Section 7.12 contributions can be used to fund infrastructure not included on IPART's essential works list, such as the cost to construct community facilities.

Currently, section 7.12 plans collect 1% of the construction cost of a development, and Councils are allowed to apply to the Minister for a higher percentage rate. Through the reforms, DPIE are proposing to have fixed contribution rates for different development types. These rates differ for Eastern, Central and Western Sydney and Regional NSW.

In the submission, Officers questioned DPIE's methodology for calculating the section 7.12 levy rates, whether they would be appropriately indexed, and their ability to keep up with the cost of development.

Regional Infrastructure Contributions

Currently, State-level infrastructure in key growth areas is funded through Special Infrastructure Contributions (SIC), collected by the NSW Government. The proposed Regional Infrastructure Contribution (RIC) will replace the SIC and be applied to the following regions:

- Lower Hunter;
- Central Coast;
- Greater Sydney;
- Illawarra-Shoalhaven.

Base contribution rates have been identified by DPIE, with additional contributions added for areas with a significant transport or biodiversity component.

Although transitional arrangements for the RIC coming into effect have been identified in the exhibition, the transition of areas subject to the SIC (i.e. Camden) is still being considered.

The Southwest Growth Area SIC applies to growth areas like Leppington. Officers have raised concerns with the current SIC falling behind on its provision and identification of regional infrastructure. Officers have therefore recommended that DPIE consider the accelerated transition of the Southwest Growth Area SIC into a RIC to deliver infrastructure that adequately services the area, in appropriate timeframes.

Summary of IPART's reform documents and Council Officers' submission to IPART

Currently, IPART is the State agency tasked with reviewing local contributions plans that have gone beyond the State-mandated per lot cap (\$20,000 for infill development, \$30,000 for greenfield development).

As part of the key reforms, by July 2025, the per-lot cap contribution will no longer apply, and IPART will be tasked with reviewing contributions plans on a 'by exception' basis only (i.e. when someone lodges a complaint). To provide more certainty around what can be included in a contributions plan, IPART has provided:

- Benchmark costs for local infrastructure;
- An updated essential works list, which now includes the ability to collect for costs associated with borrowing to forward fund infrastructure; and
- A report on nexus and efficient design of local infrastructure.

To guide stakeholder submissions, IPART provided a list of 18 guide questions, which Officers have responded to in detail. The summary of the submission is provided below.

1. Aside from minor questions and recommendations raised by Officers, the benchmark costs and methodology generally seem fair and gives councils and developers more certainty. If Council believes the benchmark cost is not appropriate for a specific site, a higher rate can be relied on providing sufficient justification is included in the contributions plan.
2. More clarity is sought around the reforms' implementation and IPART's role in shifting to a review "by exception".
3. Officers acknowledge that the construction costs associated with community facilities were not included in IPART's Terms of Reference when reviewing the essential works list, but strongly believe that community facilities need to be included, as these are essential to the development of new precincts.

Other issues not addressed by reforms

In the submission to DPIE, Council also raised the implications of funding the acquisition of land-locked and severed land. Although this issue is not included in the reforms, nor is it collected for in a contributions plan, this is an issue that highly impacts how Council implements its contributions plans and delivers infrastructure.

The Officer submission identified a potential opportunity to utilise contributions plans, to identify land subject to severance, and develop a mechanism for State government loan assistance based on the plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. Should the changes to the Infrastructure Reforms as outlined in this report be implemented, a thorough review of Council's Contributions Plans would be undertaken.

CONCLUSION

The reforms as exhibited provide improved outcomes for Council in terms of process and the potential for improved financial outcomes. It is however noted that there is also an increased impact on existing landowners with regards to the potential implementation of the LVC and the requirement for them to contribute to infrastructure costs.

Concerns are also raised with regard to the limited nature of the exhibition period with landowners and it is recommended that additional targeted engagement be undertaken by the DPIE, which includes modelling and detailed information on how the LVC will be applied and what impacts it may have.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. endorse the following additional recommendations to be included in the formal submission to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE):**
 - a. the DPIE be requested to undertake additional detailed modelling and consultation on the concept of LVC;**
 - b. detailed modelling on the LVC be publicly exhibited to allow key stakeholders including landowners, Council and developers to make more informed responses to the proposal; and**
 - c. adoption of the LVC must remain a Council decision, and not be mandated; and**
- ii. endorse the submissions and forward to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal as the formal Council submission to the reforms.**

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Final Camden Council Submission - DPIE - Infrastructure Contributions Reforms**
- 2. Final Camden Council Submission - IPART - Infrastructure Contributions Reforms**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD10**SUBJECT: CAMDEN CULTURAL ACTIVATION STRATEGY****FROM:** Director Sport, Community & Activation**TRIM #:** 22/49619

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the draft Cultural Activation Strategy, feedback received during the public exhibition period, and to seek Council's adoption of the draft Strategy.

BACKGROUND

The draft Cultural Activation Strategy 2022 – 2026 (the Strategy), provided as an **attachment** to this report, has been developed to guide the strategic direction for cultural activity and support in the Camden LGA.

The Strategy was endorsed by Council for public exhibition on 12 October 2021 following an initial briefing on 21 September 2021. The Strategy was publicly exhibited from 20 October to 16 November 2021, and seven submissions were received. A copy of submissions is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

Councillors were briefed on the matter on 15 February 2022.

MAIN REPORT

The Strategy identifies four key pillars, which detail how Council will foster innovation, curate high quality cultural experiences, support cultural development and enterprise, and showcase cultural talent within Camden.

For the Strategy, Cultural Activation is defined as the means of engaging the community with culture in everyday life. This includes delivering opportunities for connection through high quality events, programs and activations that are vibrant and culturally diverse as well as the provision of well-resourced facilities and support for the cultural community.

The Strategy, Pillars and Priorities

The Strategy identifies four key pillars and outlines principles and priority projects which will deliver on Council's aspirations.

Cultural Activation

The role that Council will play to support cultural activity in Camden including the development of a program of activations, local production of temporary and permanent public art, and provision of spaces for creative enterprises.

Key to cultural activation is a program of activations and events, delivery of public art and the development and enhancement of Camden's cultural infrastructure.

Priority Projects

- Activate Camden's high streets through the extension of the #camdenlive project, establishing a regular Kerbside Exhibition and Live Performance program including temporary art installations to showcase local creative and artistic talent;
- Reinvigorate the Civic Centre to provide more accessible, affordable, flexible spaces for the delivery of high-quality cultural programs and activities that engage new audiences; and
- Develop a Public Art Strategy and Implementation Plan for temporary and permanent public art across the Camden LGA.

Cultural Development

As Camden grows, supporting emerging communities, arts and cultural groups, and existing arts and cultural practitioners, is essential. Support will include a program of professional development that builds skills, sector capacity and networking opportunities to assist our creative community realise their aspirations.

Key to cultural development is developing a detailed understanding of Camden's creative community and supporting and celebrating this community.

Priority Projects

- Develop the Camden Artists Register as an online resource that captures details of the cultural landscape, providing a resource that links artists with opportunities for skill development, local employment, and collaboration between creative enterprises and private businesses;
- Develop a program for seed funding programs that support cultural development and establishment of cultural and creative businesses; and
- Develop a website that facilitates easy engagement of local creatives and showcases their talents and available services to encourage mutually beneficial connections with local businesses and enterprises.

Cultural Destination

Develop and promote Camden LGA as a key destination for a diverse range of cultural tourism experiences from heritage to contemporary. This will include locally-made cultural product, workshops and programs, exhibitions, and services. This will facilitate the creation of a visitor marketing approach consistent with broader Camden destination marketing to promote Camden as a cultural destination.

Priority Projects

- Further develop #camdenlive, building on the #camdenmade, #camdenlove and #camdenbought campaigns that connect, promote, and encourage awareness of local products, facilities, and activities; and
- Develop new channels for communication and promotion of Camden's cultural assets.

Cultural Advocacy

Council will deliver our vision for culture through collaboration and partnerships with community, business, education and the arts and cultural sector. We will proactively advocate for infrastructure provision, revitalisation of existing cultural and community facilities, servicing and funding for arts and culture in Camden at a local, regional, state, and federal level.

Priority Projects

- Establish a stronger relationship with Create NSW and Western Sydney Arts Alliance to raise the profile of Camden's cultural landscape and network of artists, advocating to increase funding and resources; and
- Proactively engage with strategy development at a State and Federal government level.

Key Cultural Assets

The Strategy outlines key cultural assets for Camden which can be leveraged to support the strategic goals outlined in the Strategy.

Key cultural assets include the Camden Town Centre Cultural Precinct as identified in the Urban Design Framework, including Camden Civic Centre and Alan Baker Art Gallery, Camden Library, and surrounding heritage facades.

In addition to the cultural precinct, other key assets for cultural activation are identified including Narellan and Oran Park Libraries, Camden Town Farm, Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Park and Julia Reserve Youth Precinct. Further to this, an audit of existing Council assets, which could be utilised to deliver on this strategy, for example, through artist in residence programs, will be identified through key projects identified in the strategy.

Our key cultural assets are well positioned to support cultural vibrancy, providing opportunities to build confidence and link community with future cultural activations and placemaking initiatives that build cohesive and connected communities.

Strategic Context

The Strategy aligns with the key principles identified in the following key documents developed at a local, state, and federal government level:

- Camden Community Strategic Plan;
- Camden Local planning Statement 2020;
- Camden Destination Management Plan 2016;
- Camden Town centre Urban Design Framework 2018;
- Create NSW Cultural Infrastructure Plan 2025;
- ALGA Arts and Culture Position Statement 2020;
- Mapping Arts and Culture in Western Sydney 2018 – Prepared for Create NSW.

The Strategy supports social inclusion, employment generation, improved health and mental well-being, place activation and economic growth.

Public Exhibition and Community Consultation

The draft Strategy was placed on public exhibition from 20 October to 16 November 2021.

Exhibition activities included:

- Stakeholder notification to Artist Register;
- Information on Council and Camden Civic Centre websites;
- Social Media posts;
- Online forums with focus on public art, visual art, performance art, and creative industry; and
- Camden Matters public survey.

A total of seven submissions were received on the draft including submissions from individuals, special interest arts and community groups.

Key Findings from Community Consultation

All respondents agreed the draft Strategy provided a framework that supports arts and culture activity in Camden, identifying how Council will foster innovation, curation of high-quality experiences, support cultural development and enterprise, and showcase cultural talent within Camden.

Recurrent themes in the received submissions included the need for more, affordable and improved arts practice space and cultural infrastructure; a desire to further engage with Council in the development and delivery of programs, activations and events; and the role for Council to advocate for and build purpose-built arts practice spaces.

Summary of Key Submissions

A summary of the key issues raised in submissions is provided below. A detailed consideration of submissions is provided as **an attachment** to this report.

Importance of affordable infrastructure and facility provision to showcase local cultural talent

The need to develop and enhance Camden's cultural infrastructure is identified in the Strategy including the development of a Cultural and Social Infrastructure Plan and the exploration of options relating to utilising vacant space within the LGA.

A clear path for history and heritage to be included in cultural experience

The value of history to the Camden LGA is identified in the Strategy; local groups with an interest or expertise in history and heritage will be invited to engage in the development of suitable activities.

Create opportunities for established groups and individuals to share knowledge and participate in cultural activity AND Importance of engaging local groups and individuals in Council-delivered events and activations

The importance of partnership is identified in the Strategy with reference to supporting cultural activity in Camden. A range of mechanisms are considered in the development of cultural activity including EOLs for participation in Council-run activations and seed grants to support locally-run programs and events.

Community needs a performance venue and improved cultural infrastructure

Improvements to existing multipurpose facilities through the Community Support Package 3 will address immediate concerns regarding performance at the Camden Civic Centre. The need for a performance-specific venue will be further considered in the development of a Cultural and Social Infrastructure Plan as identified in the Strategy.

No changes are recommended to the Strategy based on community consultation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for Council as a result of this report. Costs associated with the recommended activities and programs will be considered through the annual budget process.

CONCLUSION

The Strategy provides a framework which supports arts and cultural activity in Camden, and identifies how Council will foster innovation, curate high quality cultural experiences, support cultural development and enterprise, and showcase cultural talent within Camden.

The Strategy outlines avenues for space provision, programs to support vibrant and connected places across the Camden LGA, and pathways to advocate for infrastructure provision for arts and culture, contributing to the realisation of the vision to create town centres and cultural spaces that are inclusive and well utilised as Camden grows.

It is recommended Council adopt the Cultural Activation Strategy 2022-2026.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. **adopt the Cultural Activation Strategy 2022-2026 included as Attachment 1 to this report; and**
- ii. **advise submitters of the outcomes of this report.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Cultural Activation Strategy 2021
2. General Submissions Response Table
3. Submissions - Cultural Activation Strategy 2022 - 2026 - *Supporting Document*

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD11

SUBJECT: CAMDEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2022-2026
FROM: Director Sport, Community & Activation
TRIM #: 22/52010

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 and feedback received during the public exhibition period, and to seek Council's adoption of the draft Strategy.

BACKGROUND

The draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 (the Strategy), provided as an **attachment** to this report, has been developed to outline Council's priorities and actions for economic development throughout the Camden LGA. It will set the framework for Council as an enabler of economic growth and diversification in Camden and throughout the Western Parkland City.

The Strategy was publicly exhibited from 17 November 2021 to 6 February 2022, and seven submissions were received. A response to the submissions is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

The Strategy was endorsed by Council for public exhibition on 9 November 2021 following an initial briefing on 19 October 2021.

Councillors were briefed on the final Strategy on 15 February 2022.

MAIN REPORT

The Strategy outlines Council's priorities for stimulating economic growth and vitality throughout the Camden LGA. The Strategy provides a framework to deliver the key directions of the Camden Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and the priorities of the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which relate to encouraging vibrant and connected centres and promotion of a diversified and growing local economy.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2022-2026

Council will capitalise and build on Camden's existing strengths as well as support and promote growth in emerging industries, leveraging off opportunities arising from our rapid population growth and proximity to the Western Sydney International Airport and surrounding Aerotropolis.

Council will work collaboratively across government and industry to facilitate economic activity and employment growth, advocate for investment in the Camden LGA, encourage the development of attractive and vibrant places, and grow a prosperous economy and connected community.



Vision

Camden's vision for economic growth is:

"To leverage Camden's local strengths and emerging regional advantages to promote attractive and liveable places, stimulate economic and employment growth, and foster a vibrant, diversified and technologically advanced economy."

Principles

Council's approach to economic development will be guided by the vision and principles of support, collaboration, leverage, promotion, place and innovation identified in the draft Strategy.

Strategic Directions and Priorities

The Strategy identifies four strategic directions which will support and enhance the Camden economy over the short to medium term and provide a framework for Council to achieve its vision for economic growth. The Strategic Directions expand into Priorities which outline Council's approach to implementing the Strategy.

The four Strategic Directions and their accompanying Priorities are:

1. Facilitate business and industry growth
 - 1.1 Understand the make-up and characteristics of the current Camden LGA business ecosystem through effective data capture and analysis;
 - 1.2 Keep businesses informed of trends and changes in economic, industry and government landscapes;
 - 1.3 Promote Camden LGA's unique and diverse offerings to its residents, workers, students and visitors;
 - 1.4 Provide opportunities for capacity building to local businesses across a range of industries;
 - 1.5 Investigate the establishment of flexible work hubs across the Camden LGA.
2. Strengthen education, training and career pathways
 - 2.1 Understand the existing landscape for education and training opportunities within the Camden LGA;
 - 2.2 Engage with local businesses to understand education and training needs and requirements by industry segment;
 - 2.3 Collaborate with stakeholders to deliver education, training and career pathway programs across a range of industries;
 - 2.4 Provide opportunities to accelerate youth employment in the Camden LGA;
 - 2.5 Advocate to expand tertiary education and training options across the Camden LGA.
3. Attract investment to the region
 - 3.1 Investigate and support opportunities to leverage off future industrial and commercial hubs of the Aerotropolis;
 - 3.2 Promote Camden LGA as an attractive place for business, industry and government investment;
 - 3.3 Continue to collaborate with all three tiers of government in the delivery of economic outcomes associated with the Western Sydney City Deal;

- 3.4 Investigate opportunities to attract and encourage the delivery of social services and infrastructure within the Camden LGA;
- 3.5 Investigate the appropriate types of visitor accommodation for Camden and identify appropriate allocations for future accommodation.
4. Support the development of vibrant places
 - 4.1 Develop and deliver activations throughout Camden LGA's centres;
 - 4.2 Implement the Camden Town Centre Urban Design Framework and Camden Town Centre Vision;
 - 4.3 Support the development of the night time economy within Camden's existing and emerging centres;
 - 4.4 Support and encourage the delivery of events throughout the Camden LGA;
 - 4.5 Collaborate across Council to support a place-based approach to the development of Camden's strategic and local centres.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Strategy aligns with key Council and regional strategies, including the:

- Camden Community Strategic Plan;
- Camden Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), 2020;
- Greater Sydney Region Plan – a Metropolis of Three Cities, 2018;
- Western City District Plan, 2018; and
- Western Sydney City Deal, 2018.

The Strategy builds on the principles outlined in these key documents and will deliver a holistic approach to economic development that prioritises innovation, community wellbeing, celebration of our unique rural and urban assets, and maximising opportunities to leverage growth from the Western Sydney International Airport and Aerotropolis.

The development of the Strategy was also informed by the following key documents:

NSW Government:

- Accelerating Research and Development in NSW, 2021;
- Visitor Economy Strategy, 2021;
- Western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan, 2020;
- 24-hour Economy Strategy, 2020; and
- NSW 2040 Economic Blueprint, 2019.

Camden Council:

- Draft Centres and Employment Land Strategy, 2022;
- Sustainability Strategy, 2020-24
- Rural Lands Strategy, 2018;
- Camden Town Centre Urban Design Framework, 2018;
- Camden Destination Management Plan, 2016; and
- Camden Town Centre Vision, 2014.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

The draft Strategy was publicly exhibited from 17 November 2021 to 6 February 2022.

Public exhibition activities undertaken were:

- Online engagement facilitated by Council's community engagement platform;
- Webinars conducted to provide information about the Strategy, with webinar recording made available on the community engagement platform;
- Simple submissions available for completion;
- 10-minute surveys available for completion; and
- Call-back requests available on the community engagement platform.

Council received seven submissions during the public exhibition period, including from individuals, business, special interest groups and community groups. Submissions are included as an **attachment** to this report.

Recurrent themes in the received submissions included the need for sufficient transport and health infrastructure to support Camden's growing population, the need for more local jobs, environmental sustainability, partnership opportunities, and the importance of Leppington Town Centre, the Aerotropolis and visitor accommodation.

Summary of key themes

A summary of the key themes raised in submissions is provided below. A detailed consideration of submissions is provided as an **attachment** to this report.

Importance of ensuring that a rail link is established between Leppington Train Station and Western Sydney International Airport.

The importance of transport infrastructure as a core driver of connectivity, particularly from the Western Sydney International Airport (WSIA), is identified in the Strategy, with the South West Rail Link from Leppington to the WSIA recognized as a key connector.

High proportion of Camden residents accessing employment out of the LGA.

The Strategy directly addresses the need to increase local employment with a variety and diversity of local training and employment opportunities, and connectivity options.

Concerns that Camden's population growth is causing strain on local transport and health infrastructure.

The Strategy identifies the importance of timely and appropriate provision of transport infrastructure, as well as advocates for essential interim transport solutions. Further, health and aged care are identified as key sectors and industries of the future which will benefit from advocacy for public and private investment.

Strategies in place to safeguard the environment.

The Sustainability Strategy 2020-2024 outlines Council's commitment to increasing action on sustainability and environment protection towards positive outcomes for the local environment.

Leveraging the Aerotropolis.

The Strategy emphasises the importance of maximising opportunities to leverage growth from the WSIA and Aerotropolis, identifying a range of local strengths on which Camden can build to capitalise on opportunities presented by such catalytic developments.

Emphasis on the development of Leppington as a major centre.

The Strategy recognises the important role that Leppington Town Centre plays as an identified strategic centre of the Western Parkland City, outlining Council's ongoing activities to address Leppington's challenges and leverage off the opportunities it presents.

Identified opportunities to establish local partnerships in the delivery of the Strategy.

The Strategy emphasises the importance of establishing and maintaining partnership in its successful delivery, with *support* and *collaboration* being two of its identified principles.

Sufficient visitor accommodation is required to facilitate growth of the visitor economy.

The Strategy will deliver an Accommodation Study of Camden LGA to inform and encourage the growth of visitor accommodation.

Amendments to the Strategy

Based on submissions received during the public exhibition period, no changes to the Strategic Directions, Priorities or Deliverables of the Strategy are recommended.

Minor amendments have been made to the Strategy in response to submissions received, including:

- Strengthening the narrative in Strategic Direction One to reflect that activities undertaken through this direction are, among other things, aimed at generating local employment growth;
- Council's Sustainability Strategy 2020 added to the list of key documents outlined in the Strategic Context;
- Local business chambers, Business NSW and Australian Botanic Garden Mt Annan added to the list of key agencies and organisations outlined in the Strategic Context; and
- The Australian Botanic Garden is featured as an accompaniment to the visitor economy profile in the key sectors and industries section outlined in the Strategic Context.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications for Council as a result of this report. Annual action plans will be prepared in alignment with existing operational budgets; where required, additional project budgets will be considered through the annual budget process.

CONCLUSION

The Strategy will support and enhance the Camden economy over the short to medium term, providing a framework for Council to achieve its vision for economic growth. Council will capitalise and build upon Camden LGA's existing strengths, as well as support and promote growth in emerging industries. Camden is in the ideal position to leverage off opportunities arising from the strength of our heritage and history, rapid population growth, catalytic regional development and the expansion of key sectors throughout the Western Parkland City.

It is recommended that Council adopt the final Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. adopt the final Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026 included as Attachment 1 to this report; and**
- ii. advise submitters of the outcomes of this report.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Camden Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026
2. Draft Economic Development Strategy - Submissions Response Table
3. Economic Development Strategy Public Exhibition - Submissions - *Supporting Document*

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD12

SUBJECT: TENDER T009/2021 - WINTERFEST CAMDEN - ICE RINK HIRE AND EVENT SERVICES

FROM: Director Sport, Community & Activation

TRIM #: 22/58996

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the tenders received for T009/2021 Winterfest Camden: Ice Rink Hire and Event Services and recommend that Council accept the tender submitted by Ice Rinks Australia Pty Ltd.

BACKGROUND

Winterfest Camden is an annual major event run by Camden Council over three days in the month of July. The event is aimed at attracting people into the Camden Town Centre during Winter, providing an ice rink and ice slide, food and drink vendors, live music, roving entertainment and other winter-themed activities for the community to enjoy.

Tenders were invited for equipment hire and event services for Winterfest Camden. The scope of works included event management services, event logistic support, ice rink and ice slide hire, hire and installation of equipment, event theming and styling, entertainment and amusement rides for the 2022 and 2023 events.

MAIN REPORT

Legislation

This tender process was conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and Council's Procurement Policy and Guidelines.

Contract Term

The term of this contract will be for a period of two years with one option for extension of one year.

Financial Implications

Council has sufficient budget allocation from existing operational budgets to proceed with the proposed works in accordance with the terms and conditions of this tender.

Work, Health & Safety Requirements

The selected tender meets all WHS requirements as required for this contract.



Certificates of Currency

The selected tender provides all current insurances as required for this contract.

Advertising of Tenders

A tender for T009/2021 – Winterfest Camden: Ice Rink Hire and Events Services was called on 10 November 2021 and publicly advertised on Council's website. The tender was open for a period of 28 days until the closing date 8 December 2021 and was available through the e-tendering website: www.tenders.nsw.gov.au.

Tenders Received

Council received three on-time tender responses from the following organisations.

Tender	Suburb
Abundance International Pty Ltd T/A Stars on Ice	Bondi, NSW
Ice Rinks Australia Pty Ltd	Somerville VIC
Live Works	Smithfield, NSW

Tender Evaluation Process

Tenders were assessed by the Tender Evaluation Panel, in accordance with Council's Procurement Procedures and Guidelines. The evaluation criteria were prepared and weighted on 7 December 2021. Following the close of the tender period, each tender was evaluated by the members of the Tender Evaluation Panel using a Tender Evaluation and Pricing Matrix on the following criteria:

- Previous Experience;
- Event Proposal;
- Local Supplier Preference;
- Price;
- WHS; and
- Conformance to the conditions.

A summary of the tender assessment is provided as a supporting document. Please note this information is commercial-in-confidence.

Tender Compliance Panel

Tender submissions and evaluations were reviewed and endorsed as compliant by the Tender Compliance Panel

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council accept the tender from Ice Rinks Australia Pty Ltd. This tenderer overall provided a submission that demonstrated a thorough understanding of the project, provided evidence of relevant experience in running similar sized events, and demonstrated value for money.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the tender from Ice Rinks Australia Pty Ltd for \$240,489 (excl. GST) for the initial 2022 event and thereafter in accordance with the tendered schedule of prices for the remaining contract term of one year with the option for extension of one year each.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Tender Evaluation Report - Tender T009/2021 - Winterfest Camden - Ice Rink Hire and Event Services - *Supporting Document*



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD13

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING - 2022 WOMEN'S WEEK GRANTS PROGRAM

FROM: Director Sport, Community & Activation
TRIM #: 22/40689

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the successful grant funding application of \$5,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's 2022 Women's Week Grant Program, administered by NSW Department of Community and Justice, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funding for Council's International Women's Day Gala 2022.

BACKGROUND

NSW Women's Week provides local organisations with an opportunity to give back by delivering education, mentoring and participation activities that benefit local women and girls. Events funded by the grant must promote at least one of the three priorities of the NSW Women's Strategy 2018-2022: women's economic opportunity and advancement, health and wellbeing, and participation and empowerment.

NSW Women's Week is presented between 7-13 March 2022 and coincides with International Women's Day, a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. Celebrated annually on 8 March, the day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. The broad objectives of International Women's Day are to:

- Celebrate women's achievements;
- Raise awareness about women's equality;
- Lobby for accelerated gender parity; and
- Fundraise for female-focused charities.

MAIN REPORT

Council submitted an application to the 2022 NSW Women's Week Grant Program for \$5,000 (excl. GST) to assist in the delivery of its International Women's Day Gala 2022.

The Gala will celebrate women's achievements, especially local women, raise awareness of issues of women's equality, and convey the message that we all have a role to play in accelerating gender parity. The Gala will be held on 10 March 2022 and will feature the following:

- Presentation of the 2022 Camden Woman of the Year;
- A keynote by accomplished journalist, television presenter and author Jessica Rowe; and
- A panel discussion featuring local Camden women from a range of backgrounds, professions and stages of their careers to share their experiences.

Proceeds from ticket sales of the Gala will be donated to Camden Meals on Wheels.

In addition to the Gala, Council will also present a variety of activities to celebrate International Women's Day, including:

- **Movie night** presented in partnership with Camden/Wollondilly Domestic Violence Committee, providing subsidised movie tickets from 8 to 31 March 2022 to see *Ruby's Choice*, a film following the journey of three generations of strong Australian women;
- **Free yoga sessions** on 10 and 15 March 2022 at the Mount Annan Leisure Centre available for local women; and
- **Free women's self defence class** on 11 March 2022 at PIT Martial Arts, Health and Fitness Centre, which will cover a range of basic tools to empower participants and apply learned skills in a safe and controlled environment.

NSW Department of Communities and Justice has advised Council that it was successful in its application for \$5,000 (excl. GST) to implement its International Women's Day Gala 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has been successful in its application for \$5,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's 2022 NSW Women's Week Grant Program, administered by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.

Council will also deliver a wider program of activities for International Women's Day, which is funded through existing budgets.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in its application for \$5,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's 2022 NSW Women's Week Grant Program, administered by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.

Council's International Women's Day Gala 2022 will celebrate women's achievements, especially local women, raise awareness of issues of women's equality, and convey the message that we all have a role to play in accelerating gender parity.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- accept grant funding of \$5,000 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government's 2022 NSW Women's Week Grant Program for inclusion in the 2021/22 budget;**
- write to The Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC, Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health, thanking her for the grant; and**
- write to Mr Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD14

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING – NSW DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND JUSTICE - YOUTH WEEK LOCAL COUNCIL GRANTS 2021/2022

FROM: Director Sport, Community & Activation

TRIM #: 22/54530

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of receiving a subsidy for the amount of \$3,836 (excl. GST) through the NSW Government Local Youth Week Grants Program, and to seek Council's endorsement to accept the funds.

BACKGROUND

National Youth Week will be held between 4-14 April 2022. Youth Week is an annual opportunity for young people to express their ideas and views, act on issues that affect their lives, and create and enjoy activities and events.

Each year Council receives NSW Government funding to deliver a program of local activities for Camden Youth Week in partnership with local youth-based service providers. This program has won multiple awards over several years.

MAIN REPORT

NSW Government Local Youth Week Grants Program has advised Council that it was allocated a subsidy of \$3,836 (excl. GST) to fund Camden Youth Week 2022.

Council annually receives this subsidy; this year the base funding has been increased by \$1,000 to enable more young people to participate and be included in Youth Week activities. Council must match the full amount of the base funding including the increase dollar-for-dollar.

Council's Youth Week Program 2022 will be run in partnership with the local service providers delivering a range of activities and programs for Camden's Young People managed through an Expression of Interest (EOI) process.

The following organisations will partner with Council to deliver programs and activities:

- Youth Solutions;
- Whitelion;
- West Tigers;
- One Door Mental Health;
- Lifeline;
- InnersparQ;
- Fisher's Ghost Youth Orchestra;
- Camden Digital Arts;
- Big Yellow Umbrella;
- Australian Foundation for Disability.

A detailed program of activities will be developed in collaboration with the local organisations. In addition, Council's libraries will also implement tailored programs for the Young People during Youth Week.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council will receive the Youth Week subsidy of \$3,836 (excl. GST) and will provide matching funding from the existing budget allocations for youth programs.

CONCLUSION

Council has been allocated a subsidy amount of \$3,836 (excl. GST) to deliver Camden Youth Week through the NSW Government Youth Week Local Council Grants 2022 Program.

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept grant funding of \$3,836 (excl. GST) from NSW Government Youth Week Local Council Grants Program for inclusion in the 2021/2022 budget to deliver Camden Youth Week;**
- ii. write to The Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones, MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services, thanking her for the grant; and**
- iii. write to Mr Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD15

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING – SCALABRINI CREEK EAST AND HEATH ROAD

FROM: Director Community Assets

TRIM #: 22/58934

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's acceptance of grant funding for the sum of \$23.61 million (excl. GST) from the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), under the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund (AIF) – Round 2.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government established the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund to support local councils to deliver essential local infrastructure in areas experiencing high rates of growth within Western Sydney.

The objectives of the AIF are to:

- Fund infrastructure that unblocks development approvals and enables development activity;
- Stimulate construction activity by investing in infrastructure projects that can be brought forward quickly;
- Encourage developers to enact development approvals and invest in construction; and
- Encourage local councils to bring forward expenditure of local developer contributions to accelerate infrastructure delivery.

Council has been successful in receiving funding of \$23.61 million (excl. GST) towards the Scalabrini Creek East and Heath Road projects.

MAIN REPORT

The Department of Planning and Environment allocated grant funding to Council to assist in progressing the following two projects within the Leppington Precinct.

1. Scalabrini Creek East;
2. Heath Road.

The scope of the projects include:

- The construction of Byron Road between Heath and Ingleburn Road;
- Scalabrini Creek to the East of Rickard Road – design and construction of riparian corridor, drainage, and open space facilities;
- The concept/detailed design and construction of Heath Road between Dickson Road and Camden Valley Way.

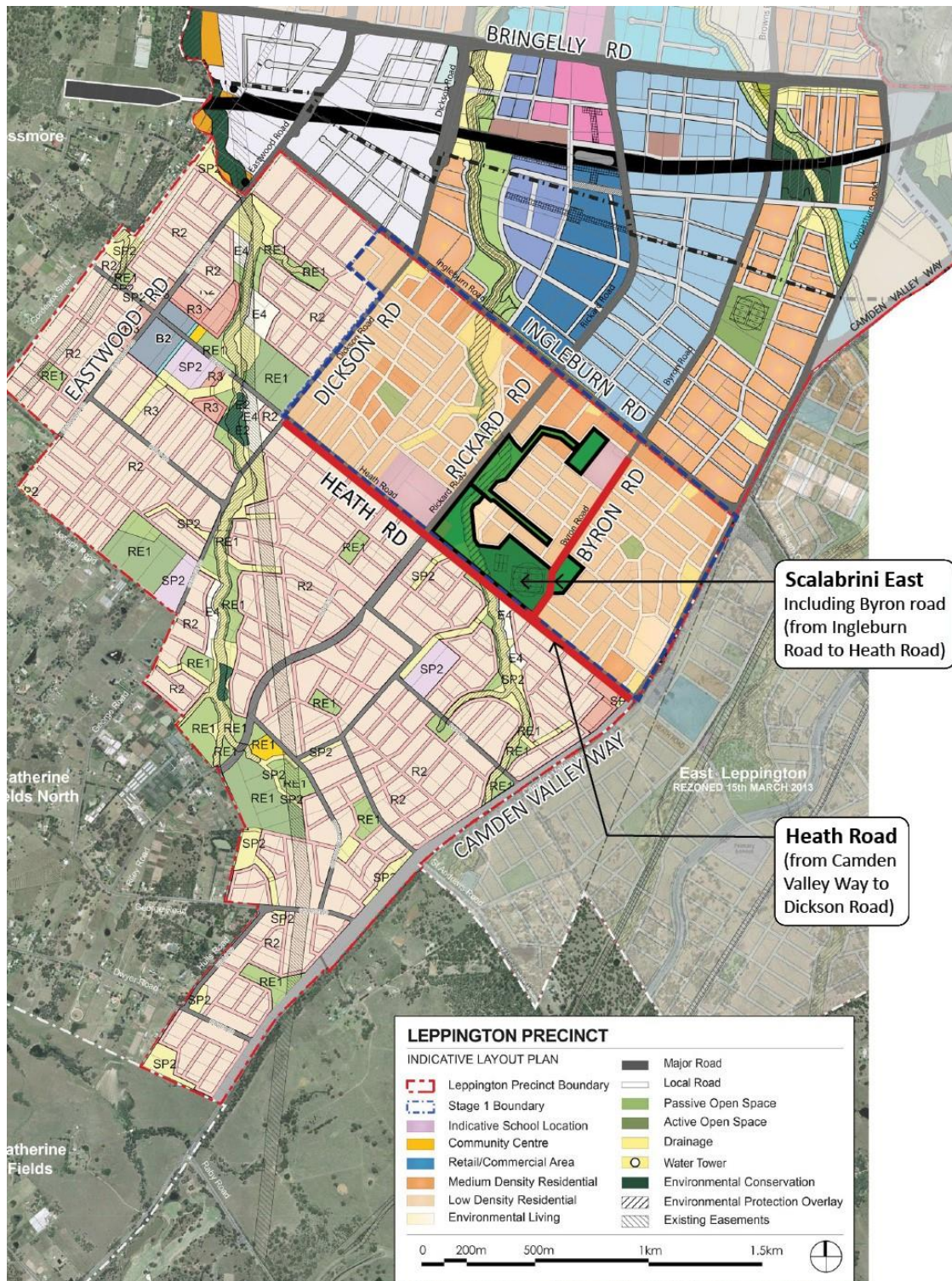


Figure 1 - Project location and extent

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost estimate, including land acquisitions, for the Scalabrini Creek East Project is \$76.21 million and the AIF grant towards this project is \$14.87 million (excl. GST).

The cost estimate including land acquisitions for the Heath Road Project is \$23.07 million and the AIF grant towards this project is \$8.74 million (excl. GST).

The projects are based on items that are contained within the Camden Growth Areas Contribution Plan and this plan will therefore fund the difference between the grant and the strategic cost estimate.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in securing grant funding from DPE, under the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund, to assist in progressing the design and construction of the Scalabrini Creek East Project and the Heath Road Project. The total amount of grant funding is \$23.61 million (excl. GST).

RECOMMENDED

That Council:

- i. accept AIF grant funding of \$23.61 million (excl. GST) from the Department of Planning and Environment;**
- ii. enter into the agreement for the grant funding, and write to The Hon. Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning and Homes, thanking him for the grant; and**
- iii. write to Mr Peter Sidgreaves MP, Member for Camden, thanking him for his support.**

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD16

SUBJECT: MINUTES TO THE 25 OCTOBER 2021 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

FROM: Internal Audit Coordinator

TRIM #: 22/614

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the minutes of the 25 October 2021 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting.

BACKGROUND

Council endorsed the implementation of a Business Assurance and Risk Management framework in June 2014. This framework included the establishment of a Business Assurance and Risk Committee (renamed Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee).

Council resolved to adopt the Committee's current Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter on 8 June 2021. The Charter includes a requirement to report draft minutes to Councillors via the Councillor Update, and to subsequently report the final minutes to Council for noting after they have been approved at the next Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting.

MAIN REPORT

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee met on 25 October 2021. The agenda discussed at the meeting included:

- Directorate Risk Presentation – Planning and Environment;
- Quarterly Legislative Compliance Declarations; and
- Review of Financial Statements and External Audit Reports for the year ending 30 June 2021.

As a result of the close proximity of the financial statements specific Committee meeting to the following Committee meeting where the minutes were approved, the draft minutes were unable to be circulated to Councillors via the Councillor weekly update. The draft minutes of the 25 October 2021 Committee meeting were approved at the 29 November 2021 Committee meeting. The approved minutes are provided as an **attachment** to this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee plays an important role in supporting the governance framework of Council. Reporting the minutes from Committee meetings keeps Council informed of the outcomes from those meetings and they are submitted for information.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting of 25 October 2021.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes to 25 October 2021 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD17

NOTICE OF MOTION

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION - CAMDEN TOWN CENTRE

FROM: Cr Farrow

TRIM #: 22/73074

"I, Councillor Paul Farrow, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following at the Council Meeting of 8 March 2022:

That Council be provided with a briefing, as soon as possible, on the potential future stages of the Camden Town Centre improvement works."

RECOMMENDED

That Council be provided with a briefing, as soon as possible, on the potential future stages of the Camden Town Centre improvement works.



ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD18

NOTICE OF MOTION

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION - NINJA WARRIOR COURSE

FROM: Cr Symkowiak

TRIM #: 22/76272

"I, Councillor Lara Symkowiak, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following at the Council Meeting of 8 March 2022:

That Council investigate locations and costings for a Ninja Warrior Course for older teens and adults and report back to Councillors."

RECOMMENDED

That Council investigate locations and costings for a Ninja Warrior Course for older teens and adults and report back to Councillors.

ORDINARY COUNCIL

ORD19

NOTICE OF MOTION

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION - OVERNIGHT CARAVAN STAY PARK
FROM: Cr Symkowiak
TRIM #: 22/76284

"I, Councillor Lara Symkowiak, hereby give notice of my intention to move the following at the Council Meeting of 8 March 2022:

That Council investigate possible locations and costings for an overnight caravan stay park, considering options such as powered and non-powered sites and associated amenities, and report back to Councillors."

RECOMMENDED

That Council investigate possible locations and costings for an overnight caravan stay park, considering options such as powered and non-powered sites and associated amenities, and report back to Councillors.