



MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council held at the
Council Chambers, North Sydney
at 7:00 PM on Monday 24 February 2025.



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1. Opening Meeting

At the commencement of business (7.00pm) those present were: The Mayor, and Councillors Antonini, Beregi, Carr, Keen, Holding, Hoy, Santer, and Welch.

The meeting was opened by the Mayor.

2. Acknowledgement of Country RECOGNITION OF THE CAMMERAYGAL PEOPLE

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters of North Sydney local government area, the Cammeraygal people.

The Acknowledgement of Country was read by Councillor Antonini.

3. Apologies and applications for leaves of absence or attendance by audio-visual link by councillors

A Motion was moved by Councillor Santer and seconded by Councillor Keen:

1. THAT Council grant permission for Councillor Spenceley to attend remotely for the following reason: other.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 9 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Councillor Spenceley

15. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council grant permission for Councillor Spenceley to attend remotely for the following reason: other.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

A Motion was moved by Councillor Santer and seconded by Councillor Antonini:

1. **THAT** the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 10 February 2024 be taken as read and confirmed, subject to wording being added to item 11.3 (*Notice of Motion 3/25: Preventing net loss of housing units in development projects - Cr Welch*) to reflect that registered speaker Mr Davie Macdonald was expelled from the meeting for disorder in accordance with section 15.17 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

16. RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 10 February 2024 be taken as read and confirmed, subject to wording being added to item 11.3 (*Notice of Motion 3/25: Preventing net loss of housing units in development projects - Cr Welch*) to reflect that registered speaker Mr Davie Macdonald was expelled from the meeting for disorder in accordance with section 15.17 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

5. Disclosures of Interest

The following Disclosures of Interest were made:

Re: 10.9	1st & 2nd Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio Report FY2024/25
Councillor Carr	Chair of Kirribilli Community Centre which is mentioned in the report (Non-pecuniary, less than significant)

Re: 11.1	Notice of Motion 6/25: Rugby World Cup 2027 - Opportunities for North Sydney - Cr Beregi
Councillor Keen	Works in the tourism industry (Non-pecuniary, less than significant)

Councillor Spenceley joined the meeting remotely at 7.03pm

6. Public Forum

A Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Santer:

1.THAT the Public Forum be opened, and that the following items be considered as part of the Public Forum:

10.5	Consultation on Reforms to Council Meeting Practices
10.10	Tender 19/2024 - Supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of gym equipment - North Sydney Olympic Pool
11.1	Notice of Motion 6/25: Rugby World Cup 2027 - Opportunities for North Sydney - Cr Beregi

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

17. RESOLVED:

1.THAT the Public Forum be opened, and that the following items be considered as part of the Public Forum:

10.5	Consultation on Reforms to Council Meeting Practices
10.10	Tender 19/2024 - Supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of gym equipment - North Sydney Olympic Pool
11.1	Notice of Motion 6/25: Rugby World Cup 2027 - Opportunities for North Sydney - Cr Beregi

7. Items Considered by Exception

It was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Holding:

1. THAT the Recommendations for the following Items be adopted:

10.1	Matters Outstanding to 9 December 2024
10.6	2025 Australian Local Government Association Annual Conference (National General Assembly)
10.7	Code of Conduct Statistics 2023/24
10.8	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests by Councillors
10.11	North Sydney Olympic Pool - redevelopment project update

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

18. RESOLVED:

1. **THAT** the Recommendations for the following Items be adopted:

10.1	Matters Outstanding to 9 December 2024
10.6	2025 Australian Local Government Association Annual Conference (National General Assembly)
10.7	Code of Conduct Statistics 2023/24
10.8	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests by Councillors
10.11	North Sydney Olympic Pool - redevelopment project update

8. Mayoral Minutes

8.1. MM01: Vale Gerry Nolan

Gerald (Gerry) Wallace Nolan was born in Whyalla, South Australia in 1940. The family moved to Koppio near Port Lincoln when Gerry was seven, and again to the small town of Cleve.

Gerry lived with his parents and four brothers on a rural property outside of Cleve where they were almost self-sufficient. Fresh rainwater from the tank was rationed, *so we all used to bathe once a week, and all in the same water* (Gerry Nolan, Oral History archive).

Gerry was forced to leave school at 14 because, in his own words, *there was nowhere else to go ... there was no Leaving Certificate, and being a big family, I couldn't go to boarding school*. Faced with the choice of a first job in either the Bank of Adelaide or the State Bank of South Australia he chose the latter *because I was very keen on the Manager's daughter... oh yeah, and the son was my best mate at the time*.

He left the bank to work at the Post Office where he was Junior Post Office and Telegram Boy during the day, and 'night boy' on the telephone exchange overnight. Gerry followed that by training as a Technician for the Post Master-General (PMG, which became Telecom then Telstra). He topped the State in the Public Service Examination in 1958.

Gerry soon joined the Navy to work in the Fleet Air Arm because of a very keen interest in flying. He was transferred to Sydney and joined the company of the aircraft carrier HMAS

Melbourne in 1960. In 1962, he left the Navy and transferred to RAAF where he finally learned to fly.

Soon after, he got a job with Qantas as a flight simulator technician for the Boeing 707. In 1964 Gerry married Susan Lloyd and they later had two daughters, Sarah and Emma.

In 1966 he left Qantas to start his own business, a theory-based pilot training school in Mount Street, North Sydney. The business closed in 1968 because of industry downturns and a new cadet scheme at Qantas. Gerry tried various jobs including hydrography near Mount Tom Price.

He began writing fiction and poetry in 1968 and continued this throughout his life.

In 1972 Gerry attended a meeting at North Sydney Council Chambers about the problem of “latchkey children”. He told Council’s oral history project: *I was the only bloke there.*

That led Gerry to becoming the driving force in establishing the North Sydney Creative Leisure Centre. The Centre hosted before and after-school care for “latchkey kids” ... but for those of us who experienced it back then, including Gerry’s own daughters, it was a magical, raffish, and slightly wild place for kids. And Gerry Nolan was at the heart of the fun and magic. Almost every child who played there will remember the joy of the “flying fox” that Gerry built, strung between the old fig trees, and the sense of freedom and controlled chaos and creativity – there was recycled paper, boxes, fabrics and clothes, paint, chalk, and every child was encouraged to be creative in their own way.

However, like every North Sydney story, this magical place was threatened by overdevelopment. Developer, Sabemo, planned for high rise buildings and a plaza on the site of the Creative Leisure Centre and the land that is now Ted Mack Civic Park. The building occupied by Centre – an old Senior Citizens’ hall (now the site of the North Sydney Community Centre) – was to be demolished to give way to towers and plazas.

Gerry wrote an article opposing the centre called the North Sydney Civic Heart Action report which he circulated to Progress Associations and media outlets. The report included the following:

The basic requirements of a Civic Heart ... are the grouping of Community Services such as Family Planning, Marriage Guidance, Baby Health, Child Care and Pre School Facilities, Library, Creative Leisure, Senior Citizens and Problem Centre together with ... Theatres, Halls and civic meeting places ... coffee shops, wine bars, sandwich shops ... all arranged in such a way , close to existing Church and Sporting facilities, that visitors to the Civic Heart will be encouraged to relax and to become involved.

The term “Give North Sydney a Heart” became a slogan for the campaign opposing the development. The campaign was successful when Council voted against the development in 1973. Indeed, we owe the continued existence of the civic precinct – Ted Mack Civic Park, North Sydney Community Centre, Ros Crichton Pavilion – to those passionate and persistent

residents who campaigned to keep the land in community hands and prevent the development.

Gerry left North Sydney local politics for a time to pursue a wide range of interests including managing projects and adventures with Dick Smith, sailing on Gretel II, and starting a children's newspaper in Crows Nest, 'The Frontier Times'. After his divorce from Susan, he became father to his youngest daughter, Kay, in 1976.

He began a graphic design business in Neutral Bay in 1985 which led to re-engagement with local issues by producing the newsletter for the group that would be known as Friends of North Sydney Independents or FONSI.

In 1991, after the defeat of local member Robyn Read in the State election and concerns that the Liberal Party was aiming to take over North Sydney Council, Ted Mack encouraged Gerry to run for Mayor.

Gerry was directly elected Mayor of North Sydney in 1991 and held the office until 1995. Remarkably he had not been a councillor before that time. He continued Ted Mack's campaign to calm traffic in local streets. 50 km/h zones were introduced – the first in the State. Yet he hated speed humps!

His interest in transport led to the creation of the Bus Interchange at Neutral Bay as Gerry said: *that came out of having lunch with the boss of State Transit Authority every 6 weeks or so ... I think that was probably a hallmark of my, what do you call it? Not reign? My time as Mayor!*

Gerry worked hard to counter the expansion of local schools into residential areas. The result was the formulation of agreed development envelopes and plans *which gave everyone a lot of comfort.*

Gerry wrote a weekly column for the *Mosman Daily* during his Mayoral term, expressing his views and explaining the decisions of Council. He relayed Council successes and sometimes questioned its processes. Not all the topics were parochial. In June 1993 he made the case for flexible working arrangements – arguments that resonate today. In June 1995 he urged local residents to support the international movement to ban landmines.

Gerry was a supporter of innovative thinking and even raised the possibility of introducing electric cars to North Sydney Council in 1991.

He supported the idea of open government but ended an interview given with Council's Historian, Margaret Park, in February 2000 with the following: *you can create all the right environment, all the right procedures the protocols you like, for open government, but at the end of the day people are going to have to get off their bums themselves and do something.*

He finally got to university in his early 60s and was awarded a BA Hons in Philosophy at UNSW in 2006, at the age of 65.

Shortly before he passed, Gerry's daughter, Emma, asked him what he felt were his best accomplishments during his time as Mayor. He said the bus lane on the Harbour Bridge and the big hub bus stop at Watson Street, Neutral Bay, and how they helped alleviate traffic

congestion to keep people moving. He was also proud of being a very active founding member (and North Region Director and Deputy Chair) of the Local Government Recycling Cooperative, having recycled drink bottles himself all those decades earlier, in rural South Australia.

I acknowledge the assistance of Emma Nolan, Dr Ian Hoskins and Stanton Library's oral history archive in preparing this vale to Gerry Nolan.

I therefore recommend:

- 1. THAT** Council acknowledge Gerry Nolan's contribution to North Sydney, particularly, his legacy of championing public spaces and places for children and the community.
- 2. THAT** Council write to Mr Nolan's family expressing sincere condolences and gratitude for his service to our community.
- 3. THAT** Council commemorate Mr Nolan's contribution by planting a tree with a commemorative plaque in a suitable location to be decided in consultation with Mr Nolan's family.
- 4. THAT** Council liaise with the North Sydney Community Centre and seek to name the Children's playground the 'Gerald Nolan Adventure Playground' in recognition of his role in creating that space.

The Motion was moved by The Mayor.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

19. RESOLVED:

- 1. THAT** Council acknowledge Gerry Nolan's contribution to North Sydney, particularly, his legacy of championing public spaces and places for children and the community.
- 2. THAT** Council write to Mr Nolan's family expressing sincere condolences and gratitude for his service to our community.
- 3. THAT** Council commemorate Mr Nolan's contribution by planting a tree with a commemorative plaque in a suitable location to be decided in consultation with Mr Nolan's family.
- 4. THAT** Council liaise with the North Sydney Community Centre and seek to name the Children's playground the 'Gerald Nolan Adventure Playground' in recognition of his role in creating that space.

Public Forum

10.5. Consultation on Reforms to Council Meeting Practices

This matter was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see page 5).

AUTHOR: Ian Curry, Manager Governance

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for a submission to the Office of Local Government's discussion paper titled 'A new model code of meeting practice'.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) is inviting feedback on proposed amendments to the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (Model Meeting Code).
- The reform of the Code and procedures governing how Councillors gather, debate, and make decisions, was flagged by the Minister for Local Government as part of the discussion paper issued in September 2024: "Councillor conduct and meeting practice: a new framework".
- It is anticipated that the new Model Meeting Code will be prescribed in 2025.
- A draft submission to the OLG is attached to this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council approve the draft submission to the Office of Local Government's *A new model code of meeting practice* discussion paper.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum:

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Santer.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 8 / 2

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Councillor Carr and Councillor Keen

Absent: Nil

20. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council approve the draft submission to the Office of Local Government's *A new model code of meeting practice* discussion paper.

10.10.Tender 19/2024 - Supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of gym equipment - North Sydney Olympic Pool

This matter was brought forward as part of the Public Forum (see page 5).

AUTHOR: Duncan Rennie, Manager Leisure and Aquatics

PURPOSE

This report provides Council with the assessment of Tender 19/2024 - Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning, and Maintenance of Gym Equipment for North Sydney Olympic Pool (NSOP).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Tenders were called and received until 3pm Thursday 29 August 2024 for the submission of tenders to undertake the supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of gym equipment at NSOP.
- Tenders were subsequently assessed in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy and s55 of the Local Government Act (1993) and a preferred tenderer identified.
- The outcome of the tender process was presented to the Council meeting on the 25 November 2024. Council subsequently resolved to defer this matter to a councillor briefing.
- If Council wishes to discuss the report, the meeting should be closed to the public to do so, in accordance with:

(d)(i) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and because consideration of the matter would, on balance be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

(d)(ii) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council and because consideration of the matter in open Council would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council accept the tender of the highest ranked tenderer for Tender 19/2024: Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning, and Maintenance of Gym Equipment at North Sydney Olympic Pool.

2. THAT the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to take any necessary action to implement the decision including entering into contracts associated with Tender 19/2024: Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning, and Maintenance of Gym Equipment at North Sydney Olympic Pool.

3. THAT Council resolves that the identified attachment to this report is to be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act for the following reason under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act:

(d)(i) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and because consideration of the matter would, on balance be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

(d)(ii) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council and because consideration of the matter in open Council would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered documents would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum:

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Holding.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 7 / 3

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, and Councillor Welch

Against: Councillor Carr, Councillor Keen and Councillor Spenceley

Absent: Nil

21. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council accept the tender of the highest ranked tenderer, being Life Fitness Australia, for Tender 19/2024: Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning, and Maintenance of Gym Equipment at North Sydney Olympic Pool.

2. THAT the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to take any necessary action to implement the decision including entering into contracts associated with Tender 19/2024: Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning, and Maintenance of Gym Equipment at North Sydney Olympic Pool.

3. THAT Council resolves that the identified attachment to this report is to be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act for the following reason under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act:

(d)(i) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it and because consideration of the matter would, on balance be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered amounts would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

(d)(ii) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council and because consideration of the matter in open Council would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as publication of all tendered documents would discourage potential tenderers from submitting commercial information in future and would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

11.1. Notice of Motion 6/25: Rugby World Cup 2027 - Opportunities for North Sydney - Cr Beregi

This matter was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see page 5).

1. THAT Council liaise with Rugby Australia, Destination NSW, and other relevant agencies in relation to:

- hosting Live Site(s) including at North Sydney Oval for the quarter finals, semi-finals, and final of the 2027 Rugby World Cup;
- hosting pool games at North Sydney Oval for the 2027 Rugby World Cup;
- using North Sydney Oval and Bon Andrews Oval as training grounds for teams competing in the 2027 Rugby World Cup 2027;
- using the North Sydney Olympic Pool complex as a training facility for teams competing in the 2027 Rugby World Cup; and
- funding and sponsorship opportunities.

2. THAT Council seek a meeting with the NSW Minister for Sport seeking support for grant funding to upgrade the facilities at North Sydney Oval.

3. THAT Council hold a roundtable with accommodation, hospitality, tourism, and other businesses in the North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) to discuss and formulate strategies to maximise opportunities for the North Sydney LGA in relation to both the 2027 Men's Rugby World Cup and the 2029 Women's Rugby World Cup.

The following person spoke to this item as part of the Public Forum:

- Davie Macdonald (local resident)

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Santer.

An Amendment was moved by Councillor Carr and seconded by Councillor Keen:

1. THAT Council liaise with Rugby Australia, Destination NSW, and other relevant agencies in relation to:

- hosting pool games at North Sydney Oval for the 2027 Rugby World Cup;
- using North Sydney Oval and Bon Andrews Oval as training grounds for teams competing in the 2027 Rugby World Cup 2027;
- using the North Sydney Olympic Pool complex as a training facility for teams competing in the 2027 Rugby World Cup; and
- funding and sponsorship opportunities.

2. THAT Council seek a meeting with the NSW Minister for Sport seeking support for grant funding to upgrade the facilities at North Sydney Oval.

3. THAT Council hold a roundtable with accommodation, hospitality, tourism, and other businesses in the North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) to discuss and formulate strategies to maximise opportunities for the North Sydney LGA in relation to both the 2027 Men's Rugby World Cup and the 2029 Women's Rugby World Cup.

The Amendment was put and **Lost**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 2 / 8

For: Councillor Carr and Councillor Keen

Against: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Absent: Nil

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 8 / 2

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Councillor Carr and Councillor Keen

Absent: Nil

22. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council liaise with Rugby Australia, Destination NSW, and other relevant agencies in relation to:

- hosting Live Site(s) including at North Sydney Oval for the quarter finals, semi-finals, and final of the 2027 Rugby World Cup;
- hosting pool games at North Sydney Oval for the 2027 Rugby World Cup;
- using North Sydney Oval and Bon Andrews Oval as training grounds for teams competing in the 2027 Rugby World Cup 2027;
- using the North Sydney Olympic Pool complex as a training facility for teams competing in the 2027 Rugby World Cup; and
- funding and sponsorship opportunities.

2. THAT Council seek a meeting with the NSW Minister for Sport seeking support for grant funding to upgrade the facilities at North Sydney Oval.

3. THAT Council hold a roundtable with accommodation, hospitality, tourism, and other businesses in the North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) to discuss and formulate strategies to maximise opportunities for the North Sydney LGA in relation to both the 2027 Men's Rugby World Cup and the 2029 Women's Rugby World Cup.

9. Reports of Committees

Nil

10. Reports to Council

10.1. Matters Outstanding to 9 December 2024

AUTHOR: Ian Curry, Manager Governance

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council regarding the status of resolutions arising from Mayoral Minutes, Notices of Motion, and Questions Without Notice.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Each month, a report is presented to Council on the status of resolutions arising from Mayoral Minutes, Notices of Motion, and Questions Without Notice.
- The attached table has been updated to include resolutions up to the 9 December 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received.

This matter was considered by exception (see page 5).

23. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the report be received.

10.2. Quarterly Budget Review - December 2024

AUTHORS: Christian Menday, Manager Financial Services, Daniel Peacock, Senior Financial Accountant, and Aigul Utegenova, Chief Financial Officer

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to:

- monitor budget progress for the second quarter of the 2024/25 financial year as of 31 December, highlighting income and expense changes and addressing any shortfalls or surpluses;
- recommend adjustments and reallocations; and
- ensure transparency and support decision-making.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **Decrease in Operating Deficit (before Capital Grants and Contributions):** The deficit decreased by \$1.0 million to \$5.5 million, primarily due to savings from Council holding vacant roles to assist liquidity (\$1 million), an increase in revenue from financial investments (\$1 million) and increased other income (\$300 thousand). This was partially offset by a \$2 million loss in user charges, mainly from hoarding fees and parking station income.
- **Increase in Operating Surplus (including Capital Grants and Contributions):** The surplus increased by \$0.8 million, reaching \$4.2 million.
- **Grants and Contributions:** Council has proactively secured grants to support the delivery of community services through external funding. Based on the second quarter, an additional \$2.6 million in new grants reserved by the Council in this financial year.
- **External Borrowings:** In addition to the \$20 million loan received in July 2024, Council is planning to secure an additional \$10 million loan in quarter 4 to address severe liquidity concerns raised as part of the September Quarterly Budget Review.
- **Unrestricted Current Ratio:** Including the proposed \$10 million loan the projected ratio for 30 June 2025 is 1.22, falling short of the Office of Local Government's benchmark of 1.50.
- **Capital Budget Reduction:** The capital budget has been reduced by \$5.4 million, primarily due to delays in the Young Plaza development, the deferral of plant renewals and the deferral of some Council-funded capital projects to address the severe liquidity issues.
- **Grants and Contributions:** The Council has successfully obtained grants to support the delivery of community services through external funding. Based on the second quarter, an additional \$2.6 million in new grants has been reserved by the Council in this financial year.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council adopt the Quarterly Budget Review Statement – December 2024 report in accordance with clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.
2. **THAT** Council endorse the budget variations in this report.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Welch and seconded by Councillor Antonini.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 7 / 3

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, and Councillor Welch

Against: Councillor Carr, Councillor Keen and Councillor Spenceley

Absent: Nil

24. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council adopt the Quarterly Budget Review Statement – December 2024 report in accordance with clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

2. THAT Council endorse the budget variations in this report.

10.3. Q2 Review of the Delivery Program/Operational Plan 2024/25

AUTHOR: Jenny Gracey, Corporate Planning Coordinator

PURPOSE

This Quarterly Review presents a progress update against the Delivery Program/Operational Plan 2024/25 for the second quarter (Q2), 1 October to 31 December 2024; and includes project status (traffic lights) and the corporate scorecard.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Operational Plan 2024/25 (Year 3 of the Delivery Program 2022-2026) was adopted by Council on 24 June 2024 and commenced on 1 July 2024.
- In Q2 2024/25, 192 projects were scheduled to commence, or continue. Of these,
 - 1 was completed (blue status)
 - 160 were on track (green status)
 - 28 were delayed (amber status)
 - 3 were not progressing (red status)
 - no projects were discontinued.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Quarterly Review (October-December 2024) of the Operational Plan be received.

2. THAT Council notes the remedial action for the projects that were not on track for the period ending 31 December 2024.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Welch and seconded by Councillor Santer.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 8 / 2

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch
Against: Councillor Carr and Councillor Keen
Absent: Nil

25. RESOLVED:

- 1. THAT** the Quarterly Review (October-December 2024) of the Operational Plan be received.
- 2. THAT** Council notes the remedial action for the projects that were not on track for the period ending 31 December 2024.

10.4. Investment and Loan Borrowings Report as at 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025

AUTHORS: Christian Menday, Manager Financial Services, and Aigul Utegenova, Chief Financial Officer

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide details of the performance of Council's investments and loans for the months ending 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- All investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations and Council's Financial Investments Policy.
- For the month of December, the total investment portfolio (Term Deposits, Floating Rate Notes and Bonds) provided a return of +0.34% (actual), or +4.11% p.a. (annualised), under-performing the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.38% (actual), or +4.53% p.a. (annualised).
- Returns on investments exceed the December YTD budget by \$1,098,000.
- For the month of January, the total investment portfolio (Term Deposits, Floating Rate Notes and Bonds) provided a return of +0.35% (actual), or +4.19% p.a. (annualised), under-performing the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.38% (actual), or +4.59% p.a. (annualised).
- Returns on investments exceed the January YTD budget by \$1,357,000.
- Underperformance against the benchmark for both months is due to Council holding term deposits made in a low inflation environment, and a higher than usual percentage held as cash to pay for expected project costs.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report on Investments held at 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025, prepared in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the information on Loan Borrowings be received.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Welch.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 8 / 2

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Councillor Carr and Councillor Keen

Absent: Nil

26. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the report on Investments held at 31 December 2024 and 31 January 2025, prepared in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the information on Loan Borrowings be received.

10.5. Consultation on Reforms to Council Meeting Practices

This matter was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see pages 9-10).

10.6. 2025 Australian Local Government Association Annual Conference (National General Assembly)

AUTHOR: Ian Curry, Manager Governance

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider the appointment of delegates to attend the 2025 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly, and any proposed Motions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This year's Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA) will be held in Canberra from 25 to 27 June 2025.
- The theme for this year's NGA will be "National Priorities Need Local Solutions." ALGA is seeking motions that align with this theme and identify opportunities for new federal

programs and policies that will support councils to build stronger communities. Motions are due by 31 March 2025.

- In addition, Council may resolve the appointment of delegates to attend the 2025 NGA. The early bird deadline for registrations is 23 May 2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

1.THAT Council consider any proposed Motions for submission to the Conference, noting the deadline of 31 March 2025.

2.THAT any Councillor wishing to attend the Conference advise the Chief Executive Officer before 16 May 2025.

This matter was considered by exception (see page 5).

27. RESOLVED:

1.THAT Council consider any proposed Motions for submission to the Conference, noting the deadline of 31 March 2025.

2.THAT any Councillor wishing to attend the Conference advise the Chief Executive Officer before 16 May 2025.

10.7. Code of Conduct Statistics 2023/24

AUTHOR: Ian Curry, Manager Governance

PURPOSE

To report on the Code of Conduct complaints for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024, as required by the Office of Local Government (OLG).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In accordance with Council's *Code of Conduct - Councillors and Staff*, Council's Complaints Coordinator must report on a range of complaints statistics to Council and to the Office of Local Government by 31 December, for the period to the end of September.
- The number of Code of Conduct complaints received since 2019 is as follows:

2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Two	Nil	Five	Two	Eight

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive the Code of Conduct Statistics Report and note that it has been provided to the Office of Local Government in accordance with Clause 11.2 of the *Procedures for the Administration of The Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW, 2020*.

This matter was considered by exception (see page 5).

28. RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council receive the Code of Conduct Statistics Report and note that it has been provided to the Office of Local Government in accordance with Clause 11.2 of the *Procedures for the Administration of The Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW, 2020*.

10.8. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests by Councillors

AUTHOR: Ian Curry, Manager Governance

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to report on compliance as required under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LGA) and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*. Councillors must complete and lodge a Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests Return.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Under the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW (Model Code of Conduct) all Councillors must lodge a written return of interests with the General Manager within three months of their election (i.e., 2 January 2025) or appointment, unless they have submitted a return within the previous three months.
- At the September 2024 local government elections, five new Councillors were elected.
- All Returns have been duly completed and lodged within the prescribed period by Councillors.
- Pecuniary Interest Returns are available for inspection on Council's website.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received, and Council note the tabling of Returns as required under Clause 4.25 of the Model Code of Conduct.

This matter was considered by exception (see page 5).

29. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the report be received, and Council note the tabling of Returns as required under Clause 4.25 of the Model Code of Conduct.

10.9. 1st & 2nd Quarterly Commercial Property Portfolio Report FY2024/25

AUTHOR: Alistair White, Commercial Property Specialist

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the performance of Council's property portfolio and activities for the 1st and 2nd quarters of financial year 2024/2025, covering the period from 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1st Quarter 24/25 - The total actual income for the 1st quarter (Q1) July to September 2024 of the 2024/2025 financial year, received on a cash basis, amounted to \$1,603,318. This was above the forecasted budget of \$1,602,160 for the quarter by \$1,158, representing (when rounded) a 0% variance from the forecasted budget.
- 2nd Quarter 24/25 - The total actual income for the 2nd quarter (Q2) October to December 2024 of the 2024/2025 financial year, received on a cash basis, amounted to \$1,506,241. This was below the forecasted budget of \$1,558,370 for the quarter by \$52,129, representing a 3% negative variance from the forecasted budget.
- The actual full year income received year to date at the end of the 2nd quarter of the financial year 2024/25 on an accrual basis amounted to \$3,109,558. The forecasted full year budget for income on an accrual basis is \$3,160,530. The variance for the full year is negative 2%.
- Council's Property Portfolio vacancy rate at the end of June 2024 was 5.8%, a decrease from the previous 6.63% due to the leasing of a few retail spaces. All of the now vacant space is office accommodation, which remains the most challenging commercial property sector post-pandemic due to the widespread changes in working patterns.
- The confidential attachment includes monetary information relating to property income including Outdoor Dining, leasing transactions, arrears data, and carpark income. Should Council wish to discuss this report it is noted that the attached confidential document includes information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council. Further, release of the information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.
- If Council wishes to discuss the report, the meeting should be closed to the public to do in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act (LGA).

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the report be received.

2. THAT Council resolves that the identified attachment to this report is to be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act for the following reason under Section 10A (2) of the Local Government Act:

(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council. It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

The Motion was moved by Councillor Beregi and seconded by Councillor Antonini.

The Motion was put and **Carried**.

Voting was as follows:

For/Against 10 / 0

For: Councillor Antonini, Councillor Baker, Councillor Beregi, Councillor Carr, Councillor Holding, Councillor Hoy, Councillor Keen, Councillor Santer, Councillor Spenceley, and Councillor Welch

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

30. RESOLVED:

1. THAT the report be received.

2. THAT Council resolves that the identified attachment to this report is to be treated as confidential in accordance with section 11(3) of the Local Government Act for the following reason under Section 10A (2) of the Local Government Act:

(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council. It is further noted that the release of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.

10.10.Tender 19/2024 - Supply, delivery, installation, commissioning, and maintenance of gym equipment - North Sydney Olympic Pool

This matter was brought forward as part of the Public Forum (see pages 11-13).

10.11.North Sydney Olympic Pool - redevelopment project update

AUTHOR: Gary Parsons, Director Open Space & Infrastructure

PURPOSE

This report provides Council with an update on the North Sydney Olympic Pool redevelopment project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The revised contractual date for Practical Completion remains 11 July 2024, Council's contractor Icon is disputing this date is now reporting a forecast a target completion date of 19 June 2025.
- Icon have claimed and continue to claim Extensions of Time (EoTs) for delays associated with the structural steel roof over the 25m indoor pool, which are the subject of a formal Notice of Dispute that has now reached mediation.
- The revised construction contract sum is currently \$91.74m. Project costs remain within the total forecast costs to completion of \$122m, however Council is aware of significant variation claims that are still to be lodged.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A (2):
(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and because consideration of the matter in open Council would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.
- 2. THAT** the confidential report and related attachments be treated as confidential and remain confidential unless Council determines otherwise.
- 3. THAT** Council note the contents of this report in relation to the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool.

This matter was considered by exception (see page 5).

31. RESOLVED:

- 1. THAT** the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A (2):
(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and because consideration of the matter in open Council would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest as it would affect Council's ability to obtain value for money services.
- 2. THAT** the confidential report and related attachments be treated as confidential and remain confidential unless Council determines otherwise.
- 3. THAT** Council note the contents of this report in relation to the redevelopment of the North Sydney Olympic Pool.

11. Notices of Motion

11.1. Notice of Motion 6/25: Rugby World Cup 2027 - Opportunities for North Sydney - Cr Beregi

This matter was moved forward as part of the Public Forum (see pages 13-15).

12. Matters of Urgency

Nil

13. Closure

The Meeting concluded at 8.01pm.