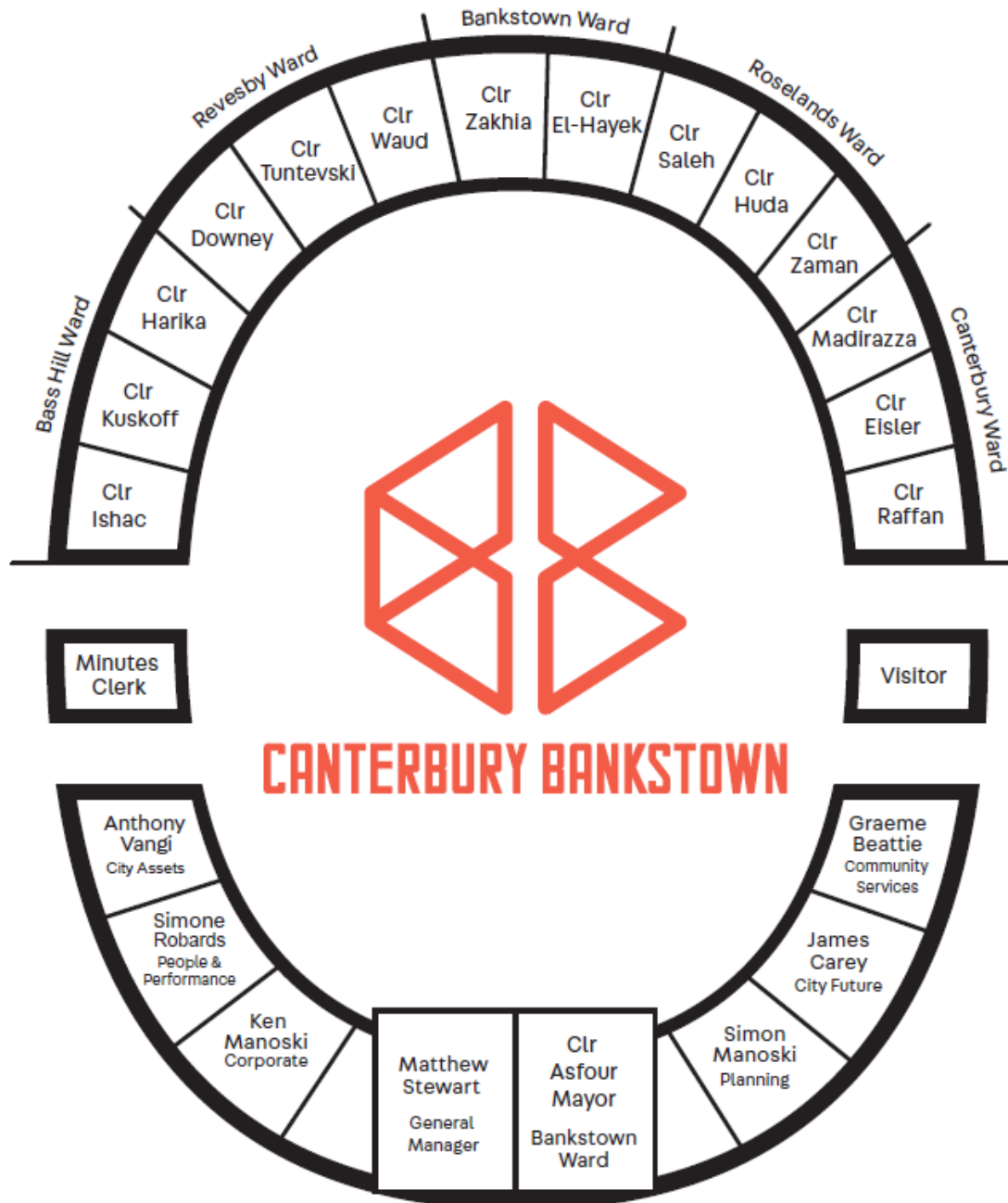




AGENDA FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING

27 April 2021

Gallery



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1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The following minutes are submitted for confirmation -

1.1	Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 23 March 2021	7
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CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON 23 MARCH 2021

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Asfour
Councillors Kuskoff, El-Hayek, Ishac, Waud, Downey, Eisler, Saleh, Madirazza,
Harika

PRESENT BY AUDIO Councillors Huda and Zakhia
VISUAL LINK:

APOLOGIES Councillors Raffan and Tuntevski

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING OPEN AT 6.05 P.M.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

THE MAYOR, ACKNOWLEDGED THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND WHERE WE ARE MEETING TODAY THE DARUG (DARAG, DHARUG, DARUK AND DHARUK) AND THE EORA PEOPLES, AND PAID RESPECT TO THEIR ANCIENT CULTURE AND THEIR ELDERS PAST AND PRESENT.

REF: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

(1230)

CLR. HARIKA:/CLR. ISHAC

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 February 2021 be adopted.

- CARRIED

SECTION 2: LEAVE OF ABSENCE

(1231)

CLR. EISLER:/CLR. EL-HAYEK

RESOLVED that Leave of Absence be granted to Clr Raffan and Tuntevski due to personal reasons.

- CARRIED

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SECTION 3: DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR NON-PECUNIARY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In respect of Item 4.7 – Local Community Based Donations, I Clr Saleh declare a significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given I participated as a judge at the International Women’s Day Fashion Event and advise that I will vacate the chamber and take no part in debate on the matter.

In respect of Item 4.7 – Local Community Based Donations, I Clr Harika declare a significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given I participated as a judge at the International Women’s Day Fashion Event and advise that I will vacate the chamber and take no part in debate on the matter.

In respect of Item 5.2 – Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan, I Clr El-Hayek declare a significant Non Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given a reportable donation was made to my election campaign and the donor as well as my employer have property which is the subject of this report and indicate I will vacate the Chamber taking no part in debate.

In respect of Item 5.2 – Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan, I Clr Asfour declare a significant Non Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given my role on the Board of Bankstown RSL and a reportable donation was made to my election campaign where both the Bankstown RSL and the donor have property which is the subject of this report and indicate I will vacate the Chamber taking no part in debate.

SECTION 4: MAYORAL MINUTES

ITEM 4.1 RATES
(1232) CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that

1. Council write to residents and produce fact-based materials, so our residents can make values-based judgements on truths, not half-truths about the proposed Rate Harmonisation.
2. Council again write to the NSW Premier calling on her Government to increase the \$250 pensioner rebate – a rebate that has not been changed since 1993.

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3. Council further write to the State Member for East Hills Wendy Lindsay and invite her to be briefed on the proposal before IPART.

- CARRIED

ITEM 4.2
(1233) **HOSPITAL PASSES EXTENSION**
CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that Council write to the CEO's of Bankstown-Lidcombe and Canterbury hospitals advising them of our decision to extend the parking passes by a further six months until 31 August 2021 and thanking staff for their tireless work in the community.

- CARRIED

ITEM 4.3
(1234) **RAMADAN**
CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that

1. Council support Recipes for Ramadan by becoming a bronze sponsor for the amount of \$1500 and that these funds be made available from the Community Grants and Event Sponsorship Program Budget.
2. Council continue to support the hosting of a Mayoral Iftar Dinner, to be held on Wednesday, 28 April 2021 at the Highline Venue, and that the required cost to fund the dinner be reflected in the next quarterly budget review process.

- CARRIED

ITEM 4.4
(1235) **STOP RACISM**
CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that Council joins other Councils in supporting the #RACISMNOTWELCOME campaign by adopting the following proposals

- Fly Racism Not Welcome banners in key locations across our City.
- Promote and develop supporting messaging through our Social media channels.
- Instigate a Racism Not Welcome petition on our corporate website.

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- Continue working with the community and social networking groups and develop programs focussed on building harmony, awareness and understanding of cultural diversity.

- CARRIED

ITEM 4.5
(1236) **GREEK INDEPENDENCE**
CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that Council acknowledge Greek Independence Day on 25 March and fly the Greek Flag in Homer Street, Earlwood.

- CARRIED

ITEM 4.6
(1237) **JORDANIAN CENTENARY**
CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that Council acknowledge the 100 year anniversary of Jordan by raising the Jordanian flag in Paul Keating Park on 27 March to celebrate the centenary of the Hashemite Kingdom.

- CARRIED

ITEM 4.7 **LOCAL COMMUNITY BASED DONATIONS**

In respect of Item 4.7 – Local Community Based Donations, Clr Saleh declared a significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given she participated as a judge at the International Women’s Day Fashion Event and vacated the chamber taking no part in debate on the matter.

In respect of Item 4.7 – Local Community Based Donations, Clr Harika declared a significant, Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given she participated as a judge at the International Women’s Day Fashion Event and vacated the chamber taking no part in debate on the matter.

CLR SALEH AND HARIKA TEMPORARILY RETIRED FROM THE MEETING AT 6.38 PM AND RETURNED AT 6.39 PM.

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(1238)

CLR. ASFOUR

RESOLVED that

1. Council support the request from Sydney Community Connect by way of a \$1,000 donation and that any future requests for assistance be made through Council's Community Grants and Event Sponsorship Program.
2. These funds be made available from the Community Grants and Event Sponsorship Program Budget.

- CARRIED

SECTION 5:

PLANNING MATTERS

PUBLIC ADDRESS

(1239)

CLR. DOWNEY:/CLR. ISHAC

RESOLVED that permission be granted to the person who has made the necessary application to address Council for five minutes.

- CARRIED

AT THIS STAGE, MR DENNIS MARKOU ADVISED HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR THAT IN RESPECT OF ITEM 5.1 HE WOULD DEFER HIS ADDRESS TO COUNCIL TO THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL.

ITEM 5.1

DRAFT CAMPSIE TOWN CENTRE MASTER PLAN

(1240)

CLR. DOWNEY:/CLR. HARIKA

RESOLVED that the matter be deferred until the next Council Meeting.

- CARRIED

ITEM 5.2

DRAFT BANKSTOWN CITY CENTRE MASTER PLAN

In respect of Item 5.2 – Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan, Clr El-Hayek declared a significant Non Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given a reportable donation was made to his election campaign and the donor as well as his employer have property which is the subject of this report and vacated the Chamber taking no part in debate.

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In respect of Item 5.2 – Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan, Clr Asfour declared a significant Non Pecuniary Conflict of Interest given his role on the Board of Bankstown RSL and a reportable donation was made to his election campaign where both the Bankstown RSL and the donor have property which is the subject of this report and vacated the Chamber taking no part in debate.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR CLR ASFOUR AND CLR EL-HAYEK TEMPORARILY VACATED THE CHAMBER AT 6.55 PM.

THE DEPUTY MAYOR CLR HARIKA ASSUMED THE CHAIR.

(1241) CLR. DOWNEY:/CLR. EISLER

RESOLVED that the matter be deferred until the next Council meeting

- CARRIED

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR CLR ASFOUR AND CLR EL-HAYEK RETURNED TO THE CHAMBER AT 6.57 PM.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR CLR ASFOUR ASSUMED THE CHAIR.

ITEM 5.3 REPORT ON COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE IN THE ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE FIRST TWO QUARTERS OF THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR, CLAUSE 4.6 VARIATIONS APPROVED FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR, PLANNING RELATED LEGAL APPEALS AND PLANNING PROPOSAL UPDATE

(1242) CLR. DOWNEY:/CLR. ISHAC

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

- CARRIED

SECTION 6: POLICY MATTERS

Nil

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SECTION 7: GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

**ITEM 7.1 2021 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE -
CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS**

(1243) CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. DOWNEY

RESOLVED that

1. Council endorse the draft motions as detailed in the report.
2. The Mayor or his delegate be Council's voting delegate at the conference.

- CARRIED

ITEM 7.2 STRONGER COMMUNITY FUND - QUARTERLY REPORT

(1244) CLR. HUDA:/CLR. MADIRAZZA

RESOLVED that Council note the progress of the implementation of projects funded through the Stronger Communities Fund.

- CARRIED

ITEM 7.3 GENERIC PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR COMMUNITY LAND AND CROWN LAND

(1245) CLR. KUSKOFF:/CLR. DOWNEY

RESOLVED that Council adopt the amended Generic Plan of Management for Community Land and Crown Land.

- CARRIED

ITEM 7.4 ROAD RENAMING - SECTION OF WARREN AVENUE, BANKSTOWN

(1246) CLR. ZAKHIA:/CLR. EL-HAYEK

RESOLVED that Council not proceed with the proposed renaming of the eastern section of Warren Avenue, Bankstown extending from the Fairford Road overpass to the Canterbury Road intersection.

- CARRIED

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ITEM 7.5 **CASH AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2021**
(1247) **CLR. WAUD:/CLR. MADIRAZZA**

RESOLVED that

1. The Cash and Investment Report as at 28 February 2021 be received and noted.
2. The amended Investment Policy attached to this report be adopted.
3. The Certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer incorporated in this report, be adopted.

- CARRIED

SECTION 8: SERVICE AND OPERATIONAL MATTERS

ITEM 8.1 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN 2036**
(1248) **CLR. ISHAC:/CLR. EISLER**

RESOLVED that Council endorse the draft Economic Development Strategic Plan 2036 for public exhibition, with a further report back to Council following exhibition.

- CARRIED

ITEM 8.2 **NIGHT TIME ECONOMY ACTION PLAN 2021-2026**
(1249) **CLR. HARIKA:/CLR. ZAKHIA**

RESOLVED that Council endorse the draft Night Time Economy Action Plan 2021-26 for public exhibition, with a further report back to Council following exhibition.

- CARRIED

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ITEM 8.3 **ADOPTION OF OFF-LEASH DOG PARK ACTION PLAN**
(1250) **CLR. HARIKA:/CLR. WAUD**

RESOLVED that Council adopt the Off-leash Dog Park Action Plan and begin implementing the priority actions.

- CARRIED

SECTION 9: **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

ITEM 9.1 **MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2021**
(1251) **CLR. HARIKA:/CLR. ISHAC**

RESOLVED that the recommendations contained in the minutes of the Canterbury Bankstown Council Traffic Committee meeting held on 9 March 2021, be adopted.

- CARRIED

CLR ZAKHIA RETIRED FROM THE MEETING AT 7.00PM

SECTION 10: **NOTICE OF MOTIONS & QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

(1252) **CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH**

RESOLVED that in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Council adopts all the recommendations of the Notice of Motions and Questions with Notice.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.1 **NOTICE OF MOTIONS -**
(1253) **CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH**

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

- CARRIED

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ITEM 10.2
(1254) **SUPPORTING COMMUNITY EVENTS**
CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that Council:

1. Writes to the NSW Premier urging her to support our community by considering relaxing Covid-19 restrictions which will allow more people to attend the upcoming Easter, Anzac Day and Ramadan celebrations.
2. If relaxing Covid-19 restrictions is not possible, I call on her to set very clear guidelines which will provide both certainty and safety for the community and those policing these gatherings.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.3
(1255) **FUNDING FOR OUR TOWN CENTRES**
CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that Council write to the NSW Government requesting they set up a long-term funding program allocated to Town Centre Regeneration.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.4
(1256) **MAHA ABDO**
CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that Council;

1. Acknowledge and thank Maha Abdo, the retiring Chief Executive of the Muslim Women's Association for her outstanding contribution and her life-time dedication to the advancement of not only Muslim women here in our city but all women across the Country.
2. In appreciation for her contributions, Council arrange a small civic reception as a token of appreciation.

- CARRIED

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ITEM 10.5
(1257) **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY**
CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that in acknowledgment of International Women’s Day, we pay tribute to the many women who live and work in our City, in particular special mention to the women who are employed here at Council, female Councillors and the many women leading our community organisations.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.6
(1258) **ABANDONED SHOPPING TROLLEYS**
CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that Council

1. Council again write to the Premier of NSW and Minister for Planning & Public Places and Minister for Energy and Environment seeking:
 - a. A response to our letters previously sent to the Minister for Planning & Public Places and Minister for Energy and Environment dated 28 August 2019.
 - b. A Change to the Impounding Act, 1993 to place greater responsibility on commercial retailers in preventing the abandonment of shopping trolleys on public land.
 - c. Mandating trolley management systems (such as coin operated trolleys or wheel-lock mechanisms) to all retail operators that supply trolleys by 31 December 2022.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.7
(1259) **BANKSTOWN ARTS CENTRE**
CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that Council commence the implementation of the action identified in the Creative City Strategic Plan (explore opportunities for future development of Bankstown Arts Centre including a gallery and café) by:

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1. Undertaking a more detailed assessment for a café and better utilisation of the two spaces directly adjacent to the main entrance foyer.
2. Preparing a concept design based on the above preferred option to inform future grant funding opportunities.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.8
(1260)

COUNCIL CLEAN-UPS

CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that Council reintroduce a clean-up identification system to clearly identify booked clean ups which would both promote this free community service to residents and help Council clearly identify illegal dumpers.

- CARRIED

ITEM 10.9
(1261)

HEALTH CONCERNS ABOUT VAPING

CLR. EL-HAYEK:/CLR. SALEH

RESOLVED that Council

1. Writes to the NSW Health Minister urging them to expedite the completion of Government campaigns against “vaping”;
2. That Government campaigns include education and awareness programs specifically targeting school-aged children, not only in our area, but part of a state-wide response to this growing health concern;
3. Once the campaigns have been completed, Council should utilise its social media platforms to promote this material to our community.

- CARRIED

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SECTION 11: CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

(1262) CLR. DOWNEY:/CLR. ISHAC

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the Public and the Press be excluded from the meeting to enable Council to determine Items 11.1 , and 11.2 in confidential session for the reasons indicated:

Item 11.1 T54-20- Provision of Electrical Services

This report is considered to be confidential in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act, 1993, as it relates to commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Item 11.2 T31-21 Online Bulky Waste Clean Up Tender

This report is considered to be confidential in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act, 1993, as it relates to commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

- CARRIED

**COUNCIL RESOLVED INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION AT 7.03 PM AND
REVERTED BACK INTO OPEN COUNCIL AT 7.11 PM.**

ITEM 11.1 T54-20- PROVISION OF ELECTRICAL SERVICES

(1263) CLR. DOWNEY:/CLR. HARIKA

RESOLVED that

1. Council accepts the tender received from following contractors for each separable work portion for an initial term of three years, with the option to extend for two, one year periods subject to satisfactory performance of the contractors and approval under the delegation of the General Manager.
 - *Separable Portion 1* - Inspection, Testing and Tagging, Reporting of Items of Various Plug in Type Electrical Equipment:

Preferred: ESS Holdings Pty Ltd T/as ATTS Facilities Maintenance

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- *Separable Portion 2* - Inspection, Testing, Fault Finding, Repairing and Reporting on Residual Current Devices (RCDs)

Preferred: The Sydney Electricals Pty Ltd

- *Separable Portion 3* - Inspection and Testing, Repairing and Reporting for Exit and Emergency Lighting:

Preferred: The Sydney Electricals Pty Ltd

- *Separable Portion 4* - Thermal Imaging and Telecommunication Cabling:

Preferred: ESS Holdings Pty Ltd T/as ATTS Facilities Maintenance

2. Council accepts the tender received from the following three companies to make up the Panel of Contractors for General Electrical Services -Repairs and Maintenance for an initial term of three years, with the option to extend for two, one year periods subject to satisfactory performance of the contractors:
 - ESS Holdings Pty Ltd T/as ATTS Facilities Maintenance;
 - The Sydney Electricals Pty Ltd; and
 - Ron Bateman Pty Ltd. T/as RB Electrical & Communications.
3. The General Manager be authorised to enter into a contract and sign all documentation in accordance with Council's resolution, as required.
4. Council notifies the unsuccessful tenderers in writing and thank them for tendering.

- CARRIED

ITEM 11.2
(1264)

T31-21 ONLINE BULKY WASTE CLEAN UP TENDER
CLR. ISHAC:/CLR. HARIKA

RESOLVED that

1. In accordance with Clause 178(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Council declines to accept any of the tenders received to build a Household Clean Up service website.
2. In accordance with Clause 178(3)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Council postpones the proposal for the contract, given the reasons as outlined in the report.

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3. Council adopt the proposed approach regarding the service, as outlined in the report.
4. Council notifies all tenders of its decision and thank them for tendering.
- CARRIED

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.12 P.M

Minutes confirmed 27 APRIL 2021

.....
Mayor

2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

**3 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR NON-
PECUNIARY CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

4 MAYORAL MINUTES

The following items are submitted for consideration -

4.1	Vale Ed Carolan	29
4.2	TAFE Funding	31
4.3	Disability Abuse	33
4.4	Closing the Loop	35
4.5	SES Wow Day	37
4.6	Maintenance and Care of Nature Strips	39
4.7	Local Community Based Donations	41

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ITEM 4.1

Vale Ed Carolan

Councillors,

Tonight, I would like to acknowledge the passing of one of our city's true gentlemen, Ed Carolan OAM.

Ed was passionate about our City and fought tirelessly for the betterment of residents after being elected on Canterbury Council in 1971. He served on and off as Deputy Mayor for nearly 28 years and was highly regarded among his peers, especially for his work in recycling.

His work was recognised, and he was appointed to a number of local Government bodies including:

- Executive of the NSW Local Government Association in 1992 and again in 1996.
- Member of the SSROC Transportation Policy Committee
- Chairperson of Local Government Recycling Co-operative
- Member of the Southern Sydney Waste Management Board

In 1995 Ed received an OAM for his services to local government and industrial relations. He was also quite active in the community and held the role of secretary of the Canterbury Police Community Consultative Committee. I will also add he was the official ground timekeeper of his beloved Bulldogs for many years.

Ed grew up in Acacia Avenue Punchbowl before moving to Remly St Roselands and was a long-time supporter of the Australian Labor Party, managing the McCallums Hill Branch for many years.

He is survived by his wife Frances, children Donna, Catherine, James, Edward and Paula. And was a doting grandfather to 7 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Councillors, tonight we remember and pay tribute to a man that selflessly put our community first. We are grateful for his contribution and on behalf of Council and the broader community, I extend my sympathies to his family and move that we stand and pause for a minute silence, as a mark of respect to Edward Carolan OAM

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ITEM 4.2

TAFE Funding

Councillors,

The Prime Minister Scott Morrison has been spruiking long and loud how the key to our economic recovery will be on the back of a skills-led resurgence.

That statement is on the money. . . but you may well ask. . . where will the skills come from?

I'm sure you have all been following media reports recently about building and infrastructure projects delayed, or exceeding budgets because of a lack of skilled workers builders, sparkies, plumbers, tilers the list goes on.

As a nation, what we need right now is NOT rhetoric and one-liners but a committed investment and promotion of our largest and oldest vocational education institution . . . TAFE.

TAFE. . . Australia's biggest skills trainer for more than 130 years and funded by a mix of Federal and State Government money.

The past decade paints a pretty grim picture of what is happening in TAFEs across the country and more importantly closer to home. . . here. . . in our City, Canterbury Bankstown.

A once in a decade study of TAFE Staff in NSW conducted by the Australian Education Union, revealed that staff were "demoralised", 68 per cent had courses cut, class sizes increased, and budgets slashed.

And they are not alone, a Productivity Commission report released just last year found that while students attending vocational education had better employment outcomes than those attending Universities, its money had been cut. . . . nearly \$2billion in funding slashed in the past decade.

I can only think of one word **SHAME.**

Our City is crying out for a commitment from both State and Federal Governments to further invest, not only in the Bankstown and Padstow facilities but to look at developing another facility to meet our culturally diverse and growing population.

Just look at the compelling statistics . . . last month we had something like 23,200 people on Jobseeker, there are pockets in our city that have a low socioeconomic standing and English is not spoken at home. . . and the latest statistics I read showed the suburb of Lakemba had the highest number of students enrolled at TAFE.

Councillors, I am in no doubt you will all agree that the institution of TAFE plays a vital role in our CITY and the employment prospects and opportunities for all in our community. From addressing the skills shortage in key industries, to upskilling to meet emerging technologies or providing the basics like reading and writing.

I resolve Council adds its voice of support to various organisations like the Australian Education Union in their support of TAFE. Furthermore, we write to the State and Federal Governments to make TAFE one of their priorities in their upcoming budgets and commit more resources and funding to ensure the sustainability and future of this time-honoured learning institution.

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ITEM 4.3

Disability Abuse

Councillors,

If you go onto the Ageing and Disability Commission website, you will see a very clear and poignant message at the head of the page. It simply says: “Our vision is for older people and adults with disability to feel safe. . . respectedAND dignified in their home and community.”

While I highly commend this statement and its intentions, it also brings home some sad truths. And the reality is that there is abuse occurring in all forms not only in our community but the rest of the country.

In fact, a recent survey revealed a staggering 65 percent of Australians with a disability had experienced physical violence, mental abuse or some form of sexual harassment.

Shameful statistics we cannot ignore.

Councillors, our City recently formed a collaborative consisting of a number of local organisations (listed below) to examine and formulate an action plan in dealing with this issue.

This collaborative of skilled frontline workers has now put together an action plan and are developing protocols, best practice guidelines, communications at responding to issues and identifying the risk factors that lead to the abuse of adults with disability in their family, home and community.

What they have come up with will go a long way in ensuring those many victims who are suffering in silence will be heard and cared for.

I have attached their action plan.

So tonight, I resolve we thank the collaborative for the fantastic work they have done to date and for Council to sign a Commitment statement on behalf of our community.

Copy of Commitment statement attached.

(Organisations part of the Collaborative)

Ability Rights Centre, Ageing & Disability Commission, Australian Foundation for Disability, Bankstown Women’s Health Centre, Canterbury Bankstown Council, Chinese Australian Services Society, Diversity and Disability Alliance, Disability Services Australia, Ethnic Community Services Co-operative, Liverpool City Police Area Command, Riverwood Community Centre, Settlement Services International, South West Sydney Local Health District, Sydney Local Health District - Canterbury Hospital.

Commitment Statement

Canterbury Bankstown Collaborative for the Prevention of Abuse of People with Disability Commitment Statement

Our organisation affirms our commitment to the Canterbury Bankstown Collaborative for the Prevention of the Abuse of People with Disability, its purpose and objectives as documented in the Terms of Reference.

We also affirm our commitment to improving awareness of abuse, and risk reduction of people with disability in the community (as applicable)

By signing this agreement:

- We are acknowledging our commitment to ongoing active participation in meetings and implementation of agreed workplans;
- We recognise that it is vitally important to the success of the collaborative that all members work supportively and collaboratively;
- We commit to respecting each of the members of the collaborative and other participants of meetings, forums and working groups;
- We will communicate openly, honestly and transparently and our communication will add value to the aims of the collaborative, its meetings and forums;
- We will notify the chairperson of the collaborative of the name(s) and job title(s) of our nominated representative(s) and any future changes.

ATTACHMENTS

[Click here for attachment](#)

- A. Action plan for Canterbury Bankstown Collaborative for the Prevention of Abuse of People with Disability

Mayoral Minutes - 27 April 2021

ITEM 4.4 Closing the Loop

Councillors,

There is no doubt the number one priority not only for our Council but for all Councils now and into the future is the collection and disposal of waste.

It is a daily, round the clock necessity, that residents demand and expect of us.

As you are all aware we have dedicated and invested in ensuring our systems and processes are World class, so our residents can be confident in the service we provide.

In March 2021, Council submitted its final report to the Federal Government, outlining the outcomes of the Closing the Loop on Waste project. And I am proud to say the report was overwhelmingly well received and our team was commended for their meticulous work.

The main goals of the project were to:

1. Use technology to detect issues with bin collection and contamination
2. Upgrade access to important information to allow us to close the loop with residents about their waste service
3. Use real-time data from our trucks to minimise delays to the domestic waste service

Closing the Loop on Waste has been our most ambitious Smart Cities project to date. A world-first AI led program that has garnered attention not only from other Councils and State Governments, but the private sector, international leading cities and world class research institutions, including Harvard University.

Councillors, watching this project spawn and grow has been a personal thrill for me. When I set out to learn more about the benefits of a Smart City in 2018, I was captivated by the advancement of technology and the benefits and role it played in building a smart city. I was also grateful for the insights and help from domestic and international leaders of this technology.

I am committed to making the City of Canterbury Bankstown the best City in Australia, and it is only fitting we too share our insights with others and assist them in delivering better outcomes for their communities.

I move that Council share the Closing the Loop on Waste program with industry by allowing them access to our technical methodologies, hosting an industry showcase event and publishing a comprehensive case study, as a guide for all to use.

Mayoral Minutes - 27 April 2021

ITEM 4.5

SES Wow Day

Councillors,

Wednesday May 19th is WOW day . . . a significant day for our men and women volunteers of the State Emergency Services. . . It's a day to recognise the generous deeds of this selfless army of volunteers . . . and a day we are all encouraged to wear orange as a small way of saying of thanks.

Our State Emergency services personnel are true heroes and for most of us we only acknowledge them in times of need.

But in reality, they are there day in, day out. . . . 24hours of the day.

Through times of storms and flooding, major car crashes, or rescuing someone's pet caught up a tree . . . you can always rely on them to be there to lend a helping hand.

Who can forget the work they did recently when the NSW coast and most Sydney suburbs were battered by wild storms, causing widespread flooding.

And the amazing work they did here at Chester Hill when what residents described as a mini tornado ripped through several streets. At least 30 homes needed tarpaulins, as roofs were ripped off.

Councillors, across the country schools, businesses and workplaces will be throwing their support behind the SES and of course Orange will be the order of the day.

A number of City buildings and landmarks will be lit up . . . and don't be surprised if you see an orange dinosaur while driving up the M1 Pacific Motorway at Somersby. I have it on good authority staff at the Australian Reptile Park will be giving their huge Mascot "Ploddy" a fresh coat of orange paint.

So tonight, I resolve we set aside \$2000 towards the cost of lighting up the BLAKC orange on the night of Wednesday May 19 and for staff and the community to wear orange on the day as a symbolic gesture to the many men and women of OUR SES and that these funds be made available from the Community Grants and Event Sponsorship Program Budget.

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ITEM 4.6

Maintenance and Care of Nature Strips

Councillors,

Tonight, I want to take some time to talk about an issue which relates to fairness, pride and community-minded spirit.

It's not something I wanted to raise but I am compelled to speak out and bring this matter to a head.

The matter I am referring to is the maintenance and care of nature strips in our City. . . . The patch of grass outside homes and some businesses in our suburban streets and neighbourhoods.

Some of these strips are quite fashionable . . . manicured and cared for. . . . fertilised and green. . . . and in some cases, have a flower bed for decoration. They add value to the property and enhance the aesthetic outlook of the entire street.

And I might add, a lot can be said about the owners of these properties.

But my issue is not with those who have pride in their city and who are community minded but those who elect . . . to just neglect.

Council has in place a policy which clearly relies on the goodwill of residents to work with us and maintain their verges. This goodwill and sense of fair play enables residents to save millions of dollars yearly, dollars which if Council were to cut everyone's verge would otherwise need to be redirected from existing services including maintenance of our sporting fields and parks.

I want to stress and highlight again . . . this policy is all about a partnership . . . a partnership of goodwill with the community. It's about working with Council to ensure that together, we achieve the best outcomes for our City.

But our policy also contains a hardship clause and residents who are unable to maintain their verge for health, incapacity, or age-related reasons, can apply for Council assistance.

And I can share with you that since the policy was introduced, we have approved in excess of 1600 residents for mowing . . . and we are now maintaining their footpaths.

Councillors, the recent rains and warm conditions have contributed to a number of verges becoming overgrown and some property owners not forthcoming in maintaining them. I resolve tonight, Council work with those affected property owners with the view to "tidy up" and mow their verges as a "one-off" goodwill gesture. I further call on Council to personally engage with them about caring for their verges and to instil a sense of fairness, pride in our city and or to have a conversation about what support they might need if they are in a vulnerable situation.

And Councillors, I will also reach out to the community and engage with them about our policy and more broadly about Council's social services through writing to residents and via our social and digital media channels.

In facilitating this, I understand an additional amount of funding (estimated to be around \$100,000) will be required to carry out the above works, and that this amount be reflected in Council's quarterly review process.

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ITEM 4.7 Local Community Based Donations

The following community-based organisations have approached Council for financial assistance.

Dance for Cancer - Stars of South West Sydney

Now in the events 3rd year, Stars of Sydney South West has raised over \$260,000 with 2021 set to be the biggest year yet!

This year local personalities from the Canterbury Bankstown and neighbouring communities will put their talent to the test to dance for cancer! Both business and local community leaders who will learn to dance in 8-10 weeks with the help of our fabulously talented dance teachers.

With 1 in 2 Australians diagnosed with cancer by the age of 85, the money raised from this event will go towards Cancer Council NSW and their world-class cancer research, prevention programs, advocacy, and support services to help those affected by cancer at every point in their journey.

Considering this, I recommend that Council support Cancer Council – Dance for Cancer by way of a \$2,000.00 sponsorship and that any future requests for assistance be made through Council's Community Grants and Event Sponsorship Program.

Celebrity vs Cricketers match - International Day of Cultural Diversity

The Australian Council of Human Rights and Education (ACHRE) is a registered Not for Profit established in 1999 by a group of committed and dedicated volunteers to actively pursue human rights education in Australia.

This year, to coincide with International Day of Cultural Diversity, ACHRE will be holding a Celebrity vs Cricketers match at the Memorial Oval on 22 May 2021. The aim to bring together and promotes multi-culturalism in our local communities.

I recommend that Council support Australian Council of Human Rights and Education by waiving an amount of \$1,000 to be taken off the total fee hire for the use of Memorial Oval and that any future requests for assistance be made through Council's Community Grants and Event Sponsorship Program.

RECOMMENDATION

I propose that Council provide the financial assistance as outlined above and that these funds be made available from the Community Grants and Event Sponsorship Program Budget.

5 PLANNING MATTERS

The following items are submitted for consideration -

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| 5.1 | Draft Campsie Town Centre Master Plan | 45 |
| 5.2 | Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan | 49 |

Planning Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 5.1

Draft Campsie Town Centre Master Plan

AUTHOR

Planning

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

At its Ordinary Meeting held on 23 March 2021, Council considered a report (Item 5.1) on the Draft Campsie Town Centre Master Plan (2021–2036) (draft Plan) and associated background documents (refer *Attachment A*). The report to Council recommended that the information and next steps as outlined in the report, be noted by Council.

Councillors will recall that the report informed Council of the progress for the draft Plan, namely a period of public engagement seeking broader community and stakeholder input. The draft Plan was made publicly available on 19 March 2021 and will continue to remain available for public comment until 14 May 2021.

In considering the item, Council resolved to defer noting the information/matter so that Councillors are able to further assess the information and provide a positive/valuable input as part of the process, including being given an opportunity to clarify any questions they had regarding the matter, prior to noting the information.

For clarity, Council's decision did not defer and/or suspend Council engaging with the community on the Masterplan.

ISSUE

Having regard to the above, Councillors were provided the opportunity to be further briefed on the matter. Given its nature, Council's independent Probity Referee assisted in facilitating a structured briefing on the matter, particularly to certify compliance with Council's Code of Conduct, managing conflicts of interests and importantly ensure a clear and transparent process was followed.

Councillors were provided the opportunity to have their questions and/or queries answered in a structured way to ensure that they were fully informed on the matter, as required.

Further, the briefing re-affirmed that:

- Council is not endorsing the draft Plan at this point and that the draft Plan itself will not result in changes to current planning controls;
- The matter merely places the draft plan and supporting material on the public record which;
 - Enables councillors to be aware of the information being shared with the community in an equitable and transparent way;

- Enables councillors to consider their conflicts of interest should members of the community engage with them on the matter;
 - Satisfies councils recent resolution about being informed and planning matters which the local planning panel comment is sought, and;
 - Informs the current and next steps for the masterplan.
- Following the engagement process, a further report will be submitted to Council seeking endorsement of a finalised Masterplan and agreement to prepare and submit a Planning Proposal request to Gateway. Following Gateway approval, a formal exhibition process will be undertaken.

Given the above, it is proposed that Council proceed to note the information and next steps as outlined in the attached report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information and next steps as outlined in the report, be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

[Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. Draft Campsie Town Centre Master Plan Council Report 23 March 2021
- B. Draft Campsie Town Centre Master Plan

POLICY IMPACT

There is no Policy impact to Council arising from this Report. Policy impacts arising from the draft Plan were outlined in the report at Attachment A.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to Council arising from this Report. Financial impacts to Council arising from the draft Plan were outlined in the report at Attachment A.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

There is no community impact arising from this Report. Community impacts arising from the draft Plan were outlined in the report at Attachment A.

Planning Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 5.2

Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan

AUTHOR

Planning

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

At its Ordinary Meeting held on 23 March 2021, Council considered a report (Item 5.2) on the Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan (2021–2036) (draft Plan) and associated background documents (refer to *Attachment A*). The report to Council recommended that the information and next steps as outlined in the report, be noted by Council.

Councillors will recall that the report informed Council of the progress for the draft Plan, namely a period of public engagement seeking broader community and stakeholder input. The draft Plan was made publicly available on 19 March 2021 and will continue to remain available for public comment until 14 May 2021.

In considering the item, Council resolved to defer noting the information/matter so that Councillors are able to further assess the information and provide a positive/valuable input as part of the process, including being given an opportunity to clarify any questions they had regarding the matter, prior to noting the information.

For clarity, Council's decision did not defer and/or suspend Council engaging with the community on the Masterplan.

ISSUE

Having regard to the above, Councillors were provided the opportunity to be further briefed on the matter. Given its nature, Council's independent Probity Referee assisted in facilitating a structured briefing on the matter, particularly to certify compliance with Council's Code of Conduct, managing conflicts of interests and importantly ensure a clear and transparent process was followed.

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Further, the briefing re-affirmed that:

- Council is not endorsing the draft Plan at this point and that the draft Plan itself will not result in changes to current planning controls;
- The matter merely places the draft plan and supporting material on the public record which;
 - Enables councillors to be aware of the information being shared with the community in an equitable and transparent way;

- Enables councillors to consider their conflicts of interest should members of the community engage with them on the matter;
 - Satisfies councils recent resolution about being informed and planning matters which the local planning panel comment is sought, and;
 - Informs the current and next steps for the masterplan.
- Following the engagement process, a further report will be submitted to Council seeking endorsement of a finalised Masterplan and agreement to prepare and submit a Planning Proposal request to Gateway. Following Gateway approval, a formal exhibition process will be undertaken.

Given the above, it is proposed that Council proceed to note the information and next steps as outlined in the attached report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information and next steps as outlined in the attached report, be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

[Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. Draft Bankstown City Centre Master Plan Council Report 23 March 2021
- B. Draft Bankstown Town Centre Master Plan

POLICY IMPACT

There is no Policy impact to Council arising from this Report. Policy impacts arising from the draft Plan were outlined in the report at Attachment A.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to Council arising from this Report. Financial impacts to Council arising from the draft Plan were outlined in the report at Attachment A.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

There is no community impact arising from this Report. Community impacts arising from the draft Plan were outlined in the report at Attachment A.

6 POLICY MATTERS

The following item is submitted for consideration -

6.1 Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline	55
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Policy Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 6.1 Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline

AUTHOR Corporate

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline.

ISSUE

Council periodically receives unsolicited proposals from proponents seeking to engage with Council on a variety of matters including land use, infrastructure, and services. As such, Council has sought to formalise how unsolicited proposals are received, considered, reviewed and assessed.

The Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline facilitates the process for private and public sector participants who seek to engage directly with Council over unsolicited commercial propositions. They provide transparency and consistency in the assessment of unsolicited proposals.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. DRAFT Unsolicited Proposals Policy
- B. DRAFT Unsolicited Proposals Guideline

POLICY IMPACT

The adoption of the Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline will increase transparency and provide consistency in the assessment of unsolicited proposals that ensures value for money, optimal outcomes and the highest levels of probity, consistent with public interest.

The Policy provides a statement of intent on how Council will treat unsolicited proposals based on a four-stage review process and the establishment of policy principles used as a basis to consider proposals outside of the standard competitive tender process.

The Guideline provides a definition of each policy principle and outlines each stage of the review process including proponent responsibilities and possible outcomes.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no direct financial impact as a result of this policy.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Council encourages innovative ideas and solutions. Under CBCity 2028, Council aims to be a 'Prosperous and Innovative' destination and recognises that partnerships with businesses and organisations that share Council's vision is critical to realising this aim.

The Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline provide an opportunity for organisations to engage with Council outside the standard procurement processes to present a proposal on:

- the purchase, lease or development of Council owned or managed land;
- the provision of public infrastructure for the community; or
- an innovation or entrepreneurship with benefits to the Council.

The Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline are intended to give confidence to innovators, entrepreneurs, investors and the community that proposals will be considered in a transparent and lawful manner.

Should the documents be endorsed by Council, they will be made available to the public on Council's Corporate website.

DETAILED INFORMATION

In 2017, the NSW Government released its Unsolicited Proposals Guide (NSW Guide). This guide was designed to encourage non-government sector participants to approach government with innovative commercial proposals, where the government had not requested a proposal and the proponent is uniquely placed to provide a value-for-money solution. The Guide sets out how unsolicited proposals will be assessed within a transparent framework and identifies key criteria that must be addressed (uniqueness, value for money and strategic fit with Government objectives).

As CBCity continues to thrive, it is important that Council facilitates and supports the long-term economic development of the City through partnerships with businesses and organisations emerging from both solicited and unsolicited proposals.

Drawing on the NSW Guide, Canterbury-Bankstown Council's Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guideline addresses the current policy gap through the provision of a transparent framework and process to manage incoming proposals received by Council.

The Policy comprises six principles that will guide the assessment of unsolicited proposals including:

1. The outcome will mutually benefit Council, the proponent and the broader community;
2. The proposal is unique and presents value for money;
3. If the proposal is not necessarily unique on its own, when combined with other outcomes it will create a unique proposal;
4. There is net economic benefit to Council, which would not ordinarily be achieved;
5. If the proposal includes land use, then it must have the potential to achieve planning approval;
6. The proposal addresses the allocation of risk among parties.

The Unsolicited Proposals Guideline supports the Policy and provides detailed information on the review process including how proponents can submit a proposal. This includes additional points on the policy principles to guide proponents on the content required by Council to review the proposal.

7 GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

The following items are submitted for consideration -

7.1	Operation Dasha	61
7.2	Review of the 2020/21 Operational Plan and Budget to March 2021	69
7.3	2021/22 Draft Operational Plan, Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges	75
7.4	Cash and Investment Report as at 31 March 2021	99

Governance and Administration Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 7.1 **Operation Dasha**

AUTHOR **Office of General Manager**

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Councillors will be aware that the Independent Commission Against Corruption (the Commission) conducted an investigation (Operation Dasha) into the conduct of Councillors of the former Canterbury City Council and Others.

The Commission recently released its report, including noting a number of proposed recommendations regarding the matter.

This report provides an overview of the Commission's findings and importantly, Council's proposed approach to addressing the relevant recommendation applying to Council.

ISSUE

Having regard to the above, a summary of the relevant aspects of the Commission's finding and recommendations have been addressed in the following section of this report.

RECOMMENDATION That -

1. Council note the Independent Commission Against Corruption's (ICAC's) Report regarding the matter.
2. Council note the responses to ICAC recommendations, as outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. Recruitment and Selection Policy
- B. Statement of Business Ethics- April 2021

POLICY IMPACT

As Councillors would be aware, one of Council's primary objectives since merging was to establish a strong ethical culture, and ensuring we are apply effective good governance principles – which support and guide Council's operations to ensure decisions are made in the best interests of the community.

Councillors will note that certain recommendations proposed by the Commission – which directly apply to Council – have been implemented and/or applied in practice in managing relevant operations.

The remaining recommendations are the responsibility of the NSW Government.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no direct financial impact as a result of this report.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Commission have been quite pointed in their report, noting that the corrupt planning decisions at the former Council were a consequence of both underlying integrity issues and poor controls, and a NSW planning system that lacks effective anti-corruption safeguards.

Whilst Council has made every effort to both strengthen and implement appropriate measures to address the failures of the past – and ensure a strong focus on good governance – a large part of building community confidence rests with the NSW Government and relevant Government Departments.

Council will continue to advocate – on behalf of its community – to ensure that all of the recommendations be implemented, so as to provide our community the assurance expected of the State's Planning System.

DETAILED INFORMATION

Background

As a result of certain allegations and complaints made to the Commission, in May 2016 – shortly after Council was proclaimed - the Commission formally commenced an investigation into the conduct of the Councillors of the former Canterbury City Council and Others.

The concerns investigated by the Commission included:

- whether, between 2013 and 2016, public officials, including councillors of the former Canterbury City Council (“the Council”), Michael Hawatt and Pierre Azzi, Jim Montague (the former general manager) and Spiro Stavis (the former director of city planning) dishonestly and/or partially exercised their official functions in relation to planning proposals and/or applications under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 concerning properties in the local council area
- the circumstances surrounding the appointment of Mr Stavis to the role of Council’s director of city planning, including:
- whether, between November 2014 and January 2015, Mr Montague exercised his official functions dishonestly or partially in relation to the appointment of Mr Stavis to the role of director of city planning; and
- whether, between November 2014 and January 2015, Mr Hawatt and Mr Azzi engaged in conduct that adversely affected, or could have adversely affected, either directly or indirectly, the honest or impartial exercise of official functions by Mr Montague, the general manager of the Council, by expressly or impliedly threatening to cause the termination of Mr Montague’s employment unless he appointed Mr Stavis as director of city planning.

At the time, the Commission served Council a *Notice to Produce*, being a requirement to provide relevant information/documentation to the Commission, as required.

In December 2016, the Administrator resolved to engage legal representation to support Council throughout the process. This was re-endorsed by the new Council in October 2017.

As expected, Council assisted the Commission in investigating the matter, as required. Separately, a number of Council Staff were also called as witnesses regarding the matter.

Following a series of hearings, the inquiry was completed in 2018.

In consultation with its lawyers, Council provided the Commission its responses (Council’s submission) to the proposed issues/recommendations, in finalising their report – Council’s responses are noted in the report.

The Commission’s report on the matter was handed down in March 2021.

The Commission's Finding

Without canvassing the entire report, the Commission's investigation extended quite widely, drawing on a number of other individuals and/or parties, which were associated with the former Council Officials.

In the main, the Commission found that the former Councillors, former General Manager and former Planning Director all engaged in serious corrupt conduct.

Further, the Commission also noted that in its opinion, consideration should be given to obtaining the advice of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) with respect to prosecuting a number of individuals for various offences.

It should be noted that no Canterbury Bankstown Council staff were implicated throughout the process.

Separately, the Commission identified that the corrupt planning decisions of the former Council were a consequence of both underlying integrity issues and poor controls, and a NSW Planning System that lacks effective anti-corruption safeguards.

The Commission concluded that the conduct exposed in the investigation was facilitated by the:

- poor foundations for preventing corruption at the Council, including a poor "tone at the top" that led to the pursuit of developer interests by Mr Montague, Mr Stavis and some councillors;
- "no reason" termination provision in the former Department of Local Government's Standard Contract of Employment: General Managers of Local Councils in NSW ("the Standard Contract"), which lacked effective constraints on its use;
- unsound recruitment practices and procedures used to appoint senior staff at Council, and the ambiguity that existed around a provision in the Local Government Act 1993 ("the LGA") that requires general managers to consult with councillors on the appointment of senior staff;
- weak regulation of lobbying in the local government sector;
- poor recordkeeping of senior staff at the Council, including the general manager, which provided opportunities for corrupt conduct;
- failure of the relevant NSW Government department to oversee effectively the use of clause 4.6 in the Canterbury Local Environmental Plan 2012 (CLEP 2012), as well as other local environmental plans (LEPs) in NSW, thereby providing opportunities for misuse of the clause;
- failure of the relevant NSW Government department to properly oversee the making and amendment of LEPs;

- weak processes at the Council for appointing and interacting with independent planning consultants, and the lack of clarity around the appointment and arrangements of independent planning consultants to ensure that the integrity of their reports was maintained;
- lack of clarity that allowed applicants to manipulate methodologies for calculating the value of a development to reduce fees and avoid the scrutiny of planning panels; and
- poor processes at the Council, which meant that design quality requirements were not met by applicants.

Further, the Commission's review of the corruption risks identified during the course of the investigation, resulted in 23 recommendations being made to assist with preventing corruption in the future – Recommendations outlined in the attached Report.

Of the 23 Recommendations made by the Commission, 3 Recommendations were specifically directed at Council. The remaining 20 recommendations were directed at the NSW Government and/or relevant Government Departments.

Council Recommendations

The Commission's Recommendations specifically identify Council needing to implement to the following changes:

Comm Rec Number	Commission's Recommendation	Council's Proposed Response
3	That the City of Canterbury Bankstown Council ensures that it has a recruitment policy that applies to the appointment of senior staff, which is consistent with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 ("the LGA").	Council's Recruitment and Selection Policy has been amended to reflect relevant legislation and Office of Local Government Guideline requirements concerning the appointment of Senior Staff – Policy attached.
21	<p>That the City of Canterbury Bankstown Council develops standardised provisions for consultancy services agreements and a statement of business ethics for suppliers. The agreements and statement of business ethics should advise consultants about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to make disclosures under the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994; • the City of Canterbury Bankstown Council's ethical obligations; • their ethical responsibilities; 	<p>Council adopted a comprehensive Statement of Business Ethics on 28 February 2017 that provides guidance to all members of the public, applicants, lobbyists, contractors, suppliers and others on doing business with Council.</p> <p>The policy is now updated to meet the ICAC's requests regarding information about making Protected Disclosures and the jurisdiction of the ICAC – Policy Attached.</p> <p>Councillors should note that Council has also adopted a separate, comprehensive policy on making Protected Disclosures.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the jurisdiction of the ICAC Act. 	Separately, Council's Consultancy Services Agreement has been updated to reflect ICAC's recommendations.
23	That the City of Canterbury Bankstown Council ensures that its development assessment procedures assess and verify compliance with design requirements for residential apartment developments, including provisions relating to design verification statements.	<p>Council's current development assessment procedures verify compliance with relevant local and state level planning controls including design related requirements. This includes assessment and consideration of design verification statements for relevant development.</p> <p>Although less common, certain development applications also trigger assessment under relevant provisions of Commonwealth legislation.</p> <p>This is an ordinary and set process that all development assessment officers must follow when assessing and determining development under delegation. This process is also in place for development assessment reports forwarded to independent panels for determination.</p> <p>Prior to assessments being determined under delegation or forwarded to an independent Panel for determination, there are also a number of levels of internal review that are undertaken.</p> <p>All applications are peer reviewed as part of the determination process to ensure all processes have been followed and relevant considerations made during the assessment of the development application.</p> <p>The peer review process operates as a cross check to ensure Council's Code of Conduct requirements are satisfied. This peer review process is undertaken independent of the assessing officer.</p> <p>Given our current adopted procedures address the ICAC recommendation, no further action is required other than reporting Council's compliance with the recommendation to ICAC.</p>

Councillors should further note that with respect to Recommendation 23, in 2018, an internal review of the development assessment process at the City of Canterbury Bankstown was completed. The review formed part of the approved Internal Audit Plan for 2018.

The scope of the review was the end to end Canterbury Bankstown Development Assessment process and used a random sample of determined development applications. The ICAC (Independent Commission Against Corruption) Internal Audit Development Assessment Tool was utilised throughout the review.

The review considered development applications determined in the 12 month period to 1 October 2018 across the City. The audit observed that there are well established processes ensuring a controlled environment which was supported by a good level of compliance. A further audit is scheduled to be completed in the 2020/21 financial year.

Having regard to the above, the Commission requires Council to:

- to inform it in writing by 22 June 2021, whether it proposes to implement any plans of action in response to the recommendations and, if so, details of the proposed plan of action;
- Provide a written report to the Commission of their progress in implementing the plan 12 months after informing the Commission of the plan. If the plan has not been fully implemented by then, a further written report must be provided 12 months after the first report; and
- The Commission will publish the response to its recommendations, any plans of action and progress reports of the recommendation's implementation on the Commission's website.

Council will respond to the Commission on the above issues accordingly.

Governance and Administration Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 7.2 Review of the 2020/21 Operational Plan and Budget to March 2021

AUTHOR City Future

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The review provides a summary of progress on the delivery of Council's 2020/21 Operational Plan. Separately, the report considers the review of Council's financial results and proposed budget adjustments for the March 2021 Quarterly Budget Review period.

ISSUE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework which stipulates that regular progress reports are required to be provided to Council and the community.

It demonstrates the organisation's performance in delivering the actions outlined in Council's 2020/21 Operational Plan and the 2018-22 Delivery Program. The Operational Plan is a key document for our City. It translates our priorities and services, set out in our Delivery Program, into measurable actions for the financial year and Council term.

In providing information on performance measures, status of projects, highlights and achievements, this report is divided into the following components:

- Operational and Delivery Plan progress; and
- Financial performance.

RECOMMENDATION That -

1. The quarterly progress report of the 2020/21 Operational Plan at 31 March 2021 be adopted.
2. The March 2021 Quarterly Budget Review as outlined in this report be adopted.
3. Council allocate Ward Funds as outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. 2020/21 Operational Plan - Quarter Three - Summary Report
- B. 2020/21 Operational Plan - Quarter Three - Detailed Report
- C. Budget 2020/21 March Revision Reports
- D. March 2021 Revision Budget review

POLICY IMPACT

The quarterly review is prepared in accordance with Sections 405 and 406 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, which requires regular progress reports to be provided to Council and community. Council currently generates reports on a quarterly basis to ensure thorough monitoring of the commitments it has made to the community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The report presents Council's operating result as at 31 March 2021.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

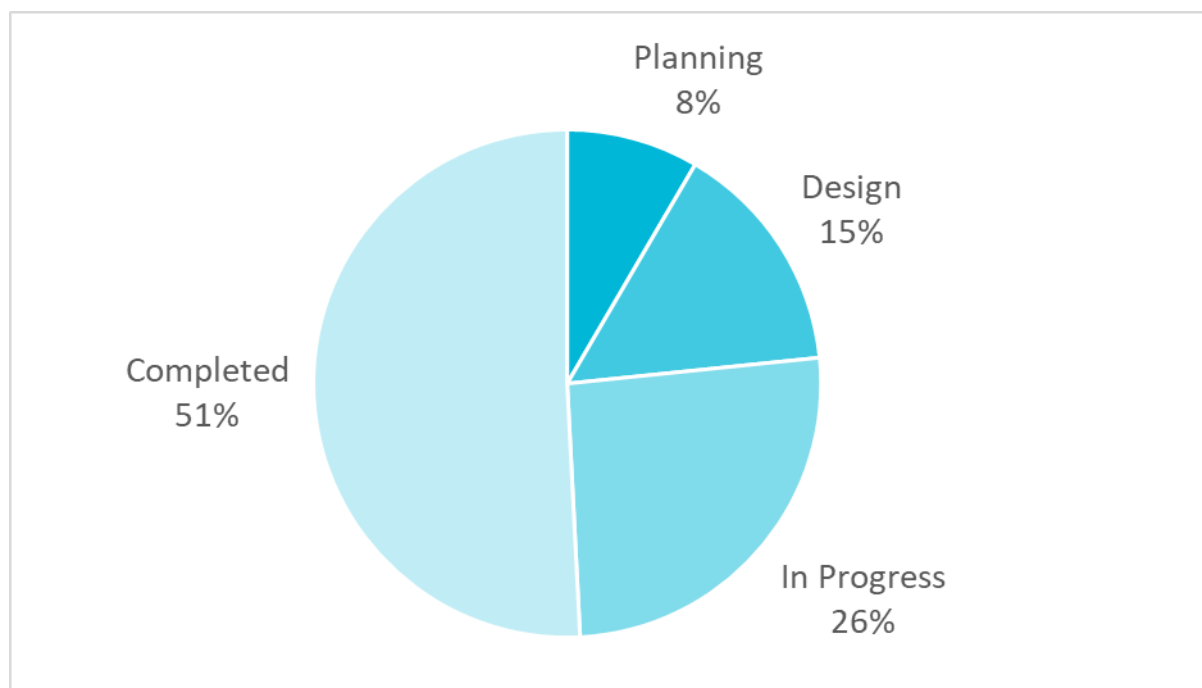
The report provides the community with an understanding of Council's performance in delivering its yearly Operational Plan as well as an update on the financial position as at 31 March 2021.

DETAILED INFORMATION

PART A – Quarterly progress of the 2020/21 Operational Plan to March 2021

Progress on Council's Operational Plan has been very good, with 82% of projects listed as complete or on track for completion by June 2021. Timing, delivery and use of services continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the conclusion of quarter three, 92% of Council's capital works program was either completed, under construction or in design. Of the 187 completed projects, there were 107 roads and transport projects, 39 building projects, and 32 sportsfield, playground and open space projects. Council has completed \$60 million worth of capital works projects in 2020/21 and has \$33 million currently in construction.



A snapshot of Operational Plan progress and capital works progress is provided in Attachment A. Attachment A also provides an overview of key highlights and achievements for this quarter structured around the seven destinations. The destinations are: Safe & Strong; Clean & Green; Prosperous & Innovative; Moving & Integrated; Healthy & Active; Liveable & Distinctive; and Leading & Engaged. They help to identify how Council is progressing towards achieving the community's aspirations in each of these areas.

Full details of the actions for the entire 2020/21 Operational Plan are outlined in Attachment B. Key highlights for the quarter are detailed in Attachment A and briefly outlined below.

Safe & Strong

- Endorsed the #RacismNotWelcome campaign
- Australia Day events and awards ceremony

Clean & Green

- New bin collection day took effect 1 March
- Wurridjal festival, marking the traditional start of mullet season in the Cooks River

Prosperous & Innovative

- CBEvolve business event and launch of the fly through video of the Bankstown CBD showcasing our future City
- Draft Economic Development Strategic Plan exhibited
- Draft Night Time Economy Action Plan exhibited
- Eat Global Visit Local directory launched

Moving & Integrated

- Investigating artificial intelligence cameras to collect data on local road condition
- Active Transport Action Plan went on public exhibition

Healthy & Active

- Leisure and Aquatics Strategic Plan wins NSW IPWEA award for Excellence in Asset Management
- State Significant Development application approved for Western Sydney University enabling construction to commence on the building
- Smoking ceremony held to celebrate the start of construction of Greenacre Splash

Liveable & Distinctive

- Campsie Town Centre Masterplan and Bankstown CBD Masterplan

Leading & Engaged

- Heavy rains response including 500 additional call centre calls in one day
- Annual Community Satisfaction Phone Survey undertaken
- New Ambassador translation device trialled

PART B – March 2021 Quarterly Budget Review

Financial Performance

Following a review of the third quarter's financial performance, Council's broader financial position continues to reflect a Net Result of positive \$14.8M. Once adjusted for one-off capital grants and contributions (which establishes/provides the true result of managing our day-to-day operations), Council's net result further declines to negative \$49.2M.

As has been discussed with Councillors, whilst the negative net result does not present any immediate financial and/or cashflow concerns, it does convey Council's challenge to continue to address servicing expectations and replacement of assets in the longer term – this has been canvassed with Councillors at length and the basis of its application for an Special Rate Variation (SRV) to IPART.

In terms of our quarterly review – and as is the case each quarter - Council's ongoing commitment to refining/reviewing our cost-base, particularly through ongoing efficiency improvements throughout our operations, ensures that we are making every effort to deal with the pressures, as noted above.

Some of the broader aspects of the changes impacting this quarter are summarised as follows:

- Council's income, particularly Property leasing income which were adjusted for COVID-19 impacts have been increased by around \$0.9M;
- Council is expecting to receive a number of new specific purpose Grants and Contributions. In total, budgeted income from Grants and Contributions is expected to increase by \$2.6M.

A complete summary of the major proposed changes is outlined in Attachment C.

Throughout this review, Council Operating Result has improved by \$3.4M (or \$1.8M when adjusted for one-off capital grants and contributions), when compared to the result forecast as part of the December revision process. A summary of the major proposed changes is outlined in Attachment D.

Separately, Council's capital works and acquisition program is now expected to be \$165.7M, having increased by \$4.4M for this quarter. These adjustments are a part of Council's ongoing review which ensures that the capital works and acquisition program reflects the forecast pattern of expenditure and additional capital grants identified throughout the quarter.

In reflecting the adjustments made as a part of this revision, Council's level of cash and cash equivalents is expected to decrease by approximately \$2.2M (assuming no carryovers exist at 30 June 2021).

In addition, requests to allocate the following Ward Funds for specific projects have been received and reflected as part of this quarterly review process.

Description / Project	Councillor	Allocation
Maluga Reserve - Replace Memorial Plague	Harika	\$5,000

Further detailed analysis regarding the March review, including the Quarterly Budget Review Statements, is provided in Attachments C and D. The review contains details of any major variations which are reflected by the adjustments detailed in the Quarterly Budget Review Statements.

Conclusion

The Quarterly Report (Attachments A and B) provide a progress report for the third quarter of Council's 2020/21 Operational Plan.

This report confirms our firm and continued commitment to CBCity 2028. It ensures Council is meeting its obligations under the Integrated Planning and Report Framework and contributes to the ongoing enhancement of good governance across Council.

The data contained within these reports will also be made available on Council's website.

Governance and Administration Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 7.3 2021/22 Draft Operational Plan, Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges

AUTHOR City Future

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements (*Local Government Act 1993* S402-406) include the need for Council to develop a Delivery Program and supporting annual operational plans. Together, these documents represent Council's response as an organisation to the 10-year community strategic plan for the City – CBCity 2028:

- The 2018-22 Delivery Program sets out the principal services Council will undertake, priorities, service commitments, transformative actions and measures for the period 2018 to 2022. It was first adopted in June 2018 and a revised version adopted in February 2021; and
- The Operational Plan outlines the financial resources to be allocated and the projects to be completed in that financial year. It includes a breakdown of Council's operating budgets and planned expenditure, as well as other financial information, and Council's Revenue Policy, Pricing Policy and Schedule of Fees and Charges. Operational Plans are prepared annually and, following a minimum 28-day exhibition period, are usually required to be adopted by Council prior to 1 July each year.

The aim of both documents is to maintain and improve services, deliver on infrastructure needs, and provide a tangible contribution to CBCity 2028.

ISSUE

This report seeks Council's endorsement to exhibit the draft 2021/22 Operational Plan, including the draft 2021/22 Budget (and accompanying financial statements), and the draft 2021/22 Schedule of Fees and Charges.

It has been developed as Council and the community cope with the impact of the environmental and health emergencies during 2020/21, which continues to impact Council's operations.

Separately, the report also reflects the proposed changes to Council's rating structure resulting from the NSW Government's rates harmonisation legislation. Whilst the relevant Parliamentary Bill has not been determined, Council has – for the purposes of exhibiting its Operational Plan - included the likely impact/changes suggested by the NSW Government.

RECOMMENDATION That -

1. In accordance with Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the draft Operational Plan 2021/22, including the draft 2021/22 Budget and draft 2021/22 Schedule of Fees and Charges, be placed on public exhibition.
2. Council notes that the NSW Government has released a Draft Bill – Local Government Amendment (Rates) Bill 2021 – which would amend the legislation to allow merged councils to gradually harmonise their former council rate structures over a period of four years – expected to be determined in May 2021.
3. Council notes its earlier decision regarding its *Approach to Rates Harmonisation* for both former Council rating structures, as outlined in the report.
4. The proposed Rating and Annual Charges for 2021/22 as outlined in Annexures F and G (forming part of Attachment A to this report) be exhibited. The proposal is based on the following:
 - (i) Council's ordinary and special (CBD Infrastructure Improvement) rates for 2021/22 making provision for an ad valorem structure and an increase to Council's general income equivalent to the percentage of 2.0%, as specified by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).
 - (ii) A Minimum Ordinary Residential Rate of \$728.18 in respect of each separate parcel of rateable land in the City categorised as Residential land – subject to approval by the Office of Local Government.
 - (iii) A Minimum Ordinary Business Rate of \$794.27 for each parcel of rateable land in the City categorised as Business – subject to approval by the Office of Local Government.
 - (iv) Council note its earlier decision regarding *Establishing Business Sub-Categories*, as outlined in the report.
 - (v) Annual charges from Domestic Waste collection be set at \$580.00 for all Residential properties and Business properties in the former City of Canterbury.
 - (vi) The maximum mandatory pensioner rebate of \$250.00 per annum. In addition Council continue to provide a further voluntary rebate, which equates to \$40.00 per annum in accordance with Council's 'Rates and Charges Debt Recovery and Hardship Assistance Policy'.
 - (vii) Annual Charges for Stormwater Management Services as follows:
 - **Residential Properties**
 - Annual Residential Charge of \$25.00 per property.
 - Annual Residential Strata Charge of \$12.50 per property.

- **Business Properties**

- Annual Charge of \$25.00 per property plus an additional \$25.00 for each 350 square metres or part of 350 square metres by which the area of the parcel of land exceeds 350 square metres.

- **Mixed Development**

- Adopt the dominant Rating category as applied to the parcel of land as determined by the Valuer General and apply to each relevant property.
- In the event that a mixed development is 50% residential and 50% business, Council will apply a residential charge.

- **Exemptions**

In addition to the exemptions stipulated in the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, the following exemptions will also apply in managing the service:

- Council-owned land;
- Bowling and Golf Clubs - where the dominant use is open space;
- Properties zoned:
- Open space 6(a);
- Private Recreation 6(b); and
- Rural

- (viii) A maximum rate of interest on overdue rates and charges as specified by the Minister for Local Government.

ATTACHMENTS

[Click here for attachment](#)

-
- A. 2021/22 Draft Operational Plan, Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges

POLICY IMPACT

The draft Operational Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The draft Operational Plan sets out Council's draft Revenue Policy, Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2021/22 financial year.

Considerable financial impacts have been felt during 2020/21 due to recent environmental and COVID-19 health emergencies, and these impacts will continue to be felt as we enter the new financial year.

The current and estimated financial effects are reflected in budget considerations for income and expenditure in 2021/22. Actual and projected income and expenditure will continue to be reviewed and adjusted as we work through the existing and future challenges.

A Draft Local Government Amendment Bill 2021 has been introduced by the State Government, whereby merged councils would be allowed to gradually harmonise their former council rating structures, rather than needing to complete the process by 1 July 2021, as is currently required. Whilst the Government has yet to finalise the matter - as a precaution - Council has included the option in its draft Operational Plan to ensure it complies with relevant legislation, as required.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The draft Operational Plan details the projects, activities and finances to implement in 2021/22 to align to the 2018-22 Delivery Program. The Operational Plan is a pivotal integrated planning document which ensures that Council continues to focus the priorities identified by the community and that resources are properly allocated to address them.

The budget has been premised on providing as many business-as-usual services and facilities as possible, and with the need to be flexible and sensitive to changing community needs during 2021/22.

DETAILED INFORMATION

Draft Operational Plan 2021/22

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, councils are required to develop a hierarchy of plans known as the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework. This Framework requires councils to draw their various plans together and to understand how they interact.

While Council's hierarchy of integrated planning documents focus on short and long-term issues facing the City, no amount of preplanning could have predicted the past year, and the impact the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have on the way we deliver services and facilities to our community. Although Council will review all longer-term plans following the 2021 local government elections, Council must prepare a 2021/22 budget that copes with the current and challenging times.

As we move into the 2021/22 financial year, Council is getting “back on track” and “back to basics”, providing the services and infrastructure that support the most essential needs of our community at a time where they have adapted to a life closer to home. As our world slowly opens up again and life returns to a new normal, Council services will continue to do the same.

In 2021/22 Council will commit to spending \$359.4 million on services and facilities, and to deliver a \$57.5 million capital program which provides for \$20.8 million in road and transport improvements, \$1.8 million on footpaths and boardwalks, \$5.3 million in town centres, \$12.2 million on parks and sporting facilities, \$4.3 million on community building upgrades, and \$3.4 million on water quality improvement. During 2021/22, the community can expect to see:

- a new community space in Hurlstone Park;
- a new splash park in Greenacre;
- a new playspace in Parry Park, Punchbowl Park, and Peace Park;
- field reconstruction at Earlwood Oval and Walshaw Park, a new athletics track at Kelso Park North, and a new synthetic playing surface at Padstow Park;
- designs for a new community centre in Thurina Park and Griffith Park;
- scoping and designs for a new Sustainable Resource Recovery Facility at Kelso Park and a Towards Net Zero emissions plan;
- a new signature event for the City and a Village Festivals Grants Program;
- road resurfacing in Haldon Street, Lakemba and the Appian Way, Bankstown;
- Smart initiatives like Smart parking in Marion Street, the Activated Data Roadmap, and SafeTV school crossings;
- initiatives from a Night Time Economy Action Plan; and
- town centre upgrades and master plans, and neighbourhood scale streetscape works at Revesby and Greenacre.

Financial Management Strategy

Council's Financial Management Strategy (FMS) and Long Term Financial Plan, sets out the parameters which look to respond to the ongoing challenges to long term financial sustainability, and manage liabilities for future generations.

Despite the loss of a Special Rate Variation (SRV) generating income of around \$5.1 million for capital purposes (Infrastructure and Renewal Levy - specifically for the former Canterbury Council area only), and the financial impact of the global coronavirus pandemic, Council's current financial position is considered sound from a cashflow perspective and able to support the ongoing management of Councils operations.

Council's broader financial position continues to reflect a Net Result of negative \$4.4M. Once adjusted for one-off capital grants and contributions (which establishes/provides the true result of managing our day-to-day operations), Council's net result further declines to negative \$35.6M (negative \$33.8M in 2020/21).

Council's long-term financial plan supports the decisions Council has taken to address these challenges, including applying to IPART for a Special Rate Variation, and importantly developing a path to ensure we remain financially sustainable including:

- Ongoing maintenance and replacement of infrastructure assets;
- pressure to both align and/or increase service levels across the local government area;
- increases in non-discretionary costs, such as the emergency services levy and waste levies; and
- recouping the loss of rating revenue to fund services/capital (i.e. former Canterbury Council Special Rate Variation -\$5.1M per annum).

Council's long-term financial plan demonstrates that we must look to address this imbalance and importantly develop a path which ensures we remain financially sustainable.

Council will await the outcome of its SRV application to IPART (expected to be determined throughout May 2021) and inform Council in due course.

That said, Council continues its commitment to refining/reviewing our cost-base, particularly through ongoing efficiency improvements throughout our operations, to ensure that we are making every effort to deal with the pressures, as noted above.

Recent relaxing of COVID-19 virus restrictions has assisted in reducing the virus's impact on Council's operations. Assuming current restrictions remain or improve it is forecast that the COVID-19 virus impact for 2021/22 will be significantly reduced compared to 2020/21.

In responding to the crisis, Council has reflected a number of community initiatives and support packages to assist throughout the pandemic. Council has forecast the likely impact will result in reduced income of \$3.1M in 2021/22 (\$11.4M in 2020/21).

Council estimates that the total financial impact of the pandemic on Council's operations is estimated to be around \$21M. The impact has come at the expense of replacing infrastructure assets throughout the local government area.

More broadly, Council's FMS addresses Council's long term financial sustainability challenges including our commitment to slow expense-growth, adequately fund the maintenance and renewal of infrastructure, and manage our liabilities for future generations.

Council's FMS includes measures to tackle and absorb the broader economic environment and ensure that it is ready to respond to issues such as:

- harmonising services and revenue funding across the local government area;
- the expected growth in housing and its impact on our service and infrastructure needs;
- revitalising and re-investing in our CBD, town centres, libraries and recreational facilities;
- enforcement of required regulatory and compliance standards expected of our community;
- preserving our fragile natural environment;
- building confidence in our City by identifying relevant opportunities to support our local economy and attract investment; and
- taking a positive and leading role in responding to the reforms set out by the NSW Government.

Notwithstanding the above, fundamentally Council has identified a significant funding imbalance/gap in its ability to continue funding its operational costs and long-term asset management requirements.

As indicated above, Council's long-term financial plan supports the decisions Council has taken to address these challenges, including applying to IPART for a Special Rate Variation, and importantly developing a path to ensure we remain financially sustainable.

Financial Framework and Objectives

Council's financial approach provides the required framework for managing objectives and financial decision making. This focuses on ensuring that the financial parameters, principles and objectives applied in developing the budget continue to achieve a balance between financial stability, sustainability, asset maintenance, construction and the provision of services to our community.

The principal financial objectives are to:

- provide adequate investment in recurrent operational and asset replacement programs/projects;
- incorporate all necessary governance and administrative costs required in delivering Council's objectives;
- manage cash restrictions based on agreed policies and statutory requirements;
- meet the cost of accrued liabilities such as loan repayments and employee entitlements as they fall due; and

- maintain a sound financial position.

Council's financial goals continue to include:

- maintaining an adequate level of unrestricted working funds and liquidity levels to preserve our sound financial position;
- increasing non-rates revenue through investing in income generating activities, effective pricing and property management;
- providing affordable services through productivity and efficiency improvements which will also include a continued assessment of core/non-core services being provided to the community; and
- achieving an optimum balance in satisfying our financial objectives and other planned activity outcomes.

Whilst Council has an SRV application lodged with IPART, it has not reflected any changes and/or pre-empted the decision. This will be further reviewed, once IPART make its determination.

That's said, Council's budget is largely premised on a number of elements, including:

- no increase in rates above that approved by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART);
- unless known, the growth in other revenues and operational costs be increased to reflect Council's pricing principles outlined in the Long Term Financial Plan;
- not relying on recurrent loan borrowing programs for asset replacement purposes;
- redirecting any savings in debt servicing costs towards asset replacement purposes; and
- an objective to maintain strategic indicators and cash restrictions at acceptable levels.

Council's focus for the forthcoming financial year continues to be about balancing the provision of services, delivering on infrastructure and preserving/managing on our cash reserve position, whilst dealing with the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Revenue Policy

Where evident, revenue budgets have been adjusted to reflect known issues; while others are largely estimated around current year trends. Council has also incorporated a number of industry specific factors, where applicable (see below).

General Rates and Annual Charges

On the 29 March 2017, the NSW Parliament passed the Local Government Amendment (Rates – Merged Council Areas) Bill 2017 providing rate protection for residents of NSW Merged Councils. The Bill effectively froze rates on their current paths for a period of 4 years, an obligation which concludes on 30 June 2021.

The NSW Government requires all merged councils to implement a new aligned rating system by 1 July, 2021.

That said, a Draft Local Government Amendment Bill 2021 has been introduced by the State

Government, whereby merged councils would be allowed to gradually harmonise their former council rating structures, rather than needing to complete the process by 1 July 2021 as is currently required.

This amendment has not yet passed through the State Government so as a precaution Council has included a further rating option in its draft Operational Plan to replicate the proposed/likely outcome of gradually harmonising rates over a 4 year period.

All rating options proposed include:

- Incorporating a permissible rate increase of 2.0%, as determined/set by the IPART;
- reduced income (specifically for the former Canterbury Council area only) by \$5.2 million as a result of the Special Rate Variation (SRV) ending on 30 June 2019; and
- reflect an anticipated staged growth of around 750 dwellings throughout the year.

In total, Council's net increase in rating income is expected to be around \$3.8M.

Establishing Business Sub-Categories

Separately, Council will also establish sub-categories for the business rating category. The sub-categories are based on the parameters and/or hierarchy of commercial and industrial zones, as adopted in our Local Strategic Planning Statement.

This was previously endorsed by Council at its Extraordinary Meeting in February 2021.

On this basis, Business Sub-Categories will be established along the following framework:

Business Sub-Categories

Rating Sub-Category	LSPS Hierarchy
Business – Commercial Large	Major Shopping Centres (Bankstown / Roselands)
Business – Commercial General	Bankstown CBD, Campsie, Local Centres
Business – Industrial Large	Business Parks, Major Industrial Areas
Business – Industrial General	All Other Industrial Areas
Business – Ordinary	Village, Small & Neighbourhood Centres

Each Business throughout the local government area will be identified and/or linked to a sub-category, though the differentiation in rates set for each sub-category will not be determined until Council sets/formulates its 2022/23 Rates Yield – including implementing any adjustments as a result of the SRV - if approved.

Approach to Rates Harmonisation

As indicated, earlier, Council is awaiting the NSW Government's decision regarding harmonisation rates across the local government area.

Councillors will recall that Council did in fact consider this matter at its Extraordinary Meeting in February 2021 and determined the following:

- **Preferred Approach**

Council's preferred approach to harmonisation its former Council rates structure is based over a five year period as outlined below:

Preferred Option - Based on Legislation Changing to Allow Gradual Harmonisation (Assume 5-Years)

	2021/22 Year 1	2022/23 Year 2	2023/24 Year 3	2024/25 Year 4	2025/26 Year 5
Harmonisation Process					
Minimum Rate – Residential	\$ 728.18	-	-	-	-
Minimum Rate - Business	\$794.27	-	-	-	-
Ordinary Residential	Adjust for impact of Minimum Rate	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART
Ordinary Business	Adjust for impact of Minimum Rate	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART

- **Harmonisation Over 4 Years – As Per Draft Bill**

If the Draft Bill, which proposes a harmonisation period of four years were to be agreed to by the NSW Parliament – then a summary of Council's approach to harmonisation would be s follows:

Based on Legislation Changing to Allow Gradual Harmonisation Over 4 Years

	2021/22 Year 1	2022/23 Year 2	2023/24 Year 3	2024/25 Year 4	2025/26 Year 5
Harmonisation Process					
Minimum Rate – Residential	\$ 728.18	-	-	-	-
Minimum Rate - Business	\$794.27	-	-	-	-
Ordinary Residential	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	-
Ordinary Business	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	Gradual Harmonisation 25% + IPART	-

Naturally, if the Government were to determine any other harmonisation period, then Council would apply it as specified by legislation, commencing 1 July 2021.

- ***Harmonisation by 1 July 2021 – As Per Current Legislation***

In the event that the Draft Bill were not to be accepted, then Council would be required to complete the harmonisation process by 1 July 2021. A summary of Council's approach to harmonisation and applying an SRV in this situation would be as follows:

Based on Legislation Not Changing and Harmonisation Being Implemented On 1 July 2021

	2021/22 Year 1	2022/23 Year 2	2023/24 Year 3	2024/25 Year 4	2025/26 Year 5
Harmonisation Process					
Minimum Rate – Residential	\$ 728.18	-	-	-	-
Minimum Rate - Business	\$794.27	-	-	-	-
Ordinary Residential	Full Harmonisation	-	-	-	-
Ordinary Business	Full Harmonisation	-	-	-	-

Minimum Rates

In accordance with the special guidelines for new councils applying to harmonise minimum rates on 1 July 2021, which were issued in November 2020, Council has applied to harmonise our minimum rate being the highest minimum ordinary rates from our former councils (plus the 2021/22 rate peg of 2%).

The Office of Local Government have advised that they will await the outcome of Councils SRV application to IPART, prior to finalising their minimum rate process for merged councils.

On this basis, the new harmonised minimum ordinary rates proposed to apply from 1 July 2021 are as follows:

- Ordinary Residential – Minimum - \$728.18
- Ordinary Business – Minimum - \$794.27

The new minimum ordinary rates proposed for 2021/22 are the same in both the IPART and OLG applications.

Special Rates – Bankstown CBD Town Centre

Council's special rate in respect of the Bankstown CBD Town Centre has similarly been increased by 2.0%. Any expenditure will reflect projects and priorities based within the CBD. If Council's SRV application were to be approved, then Council will discontinue to levy the current Bankstown CBD Special Improvement Rate from 1 July 2022.

Pensioner Rates

Approximately 20,500 pensioner ratepayers qualify for Council's voluntary rate rebate and the State Government's mandatory rate rebate, which are granted to people in receipt of pensioner concession cards. The maximum mandatory rebate, which is 55% funded by the State, is \$250.00 per annum.

In accordance with Council's proposed rates and charges, debt recovery and Hardship Assistance Policy, an additional voluntary rebate which equates to \$40.00 per annum will be provided to all eligible pensioners. The total rebate will cost Council approximately \$3.0 million in net terms for 2021/22, approximately \$0.8 million of which is Council's discretionary concession.

Domestic Waste Fee

Council, during 2020/21 harmonised its waste operations. The new service and contracts reflect increased/standardised service levels throughout the local government area, across all waste services.

In setting its fee, Council is required to:

- apply cost recovery principles in setting its fee, including the need to account for increasing;
- non-discretionary state government costs, such tipping fees and levies;
- reflect the increased service levels costs;
- reflect required capital resourcing to accommodate the new service;
- restore relevant cash reserves (former Canterbury Council); and
- maintain adequate cash reserves for ongoing vehicle and bin replacement, including tip rehabilitation and deploying Council's waste strategy.

Having now harmonised its services, Council has also harmonised the annual Domestic Waste Management fee across the local government area and will be set at \$580 for 2021/22.

Annexure E provides the financial details relating to the service.

Stormwater Levy

The City of Canterbury Bankstown is the principal authority responsible for the local management of stormwater. On behalf of the community, Council:

- maintains stormwater drainage pipes;
- implements essential flood mitigation measures to protect life, property and infrastructure;
- conserves the natural waterways of the City;
- harvests and reuses stormwater to reduce potable water use;
- protects water quality in our creeks and rivers by installing water sensitive urban design features and pollution control devices; and
- protects riparian bushland and other natural assets from the impacts of urban runoff.

In recognition of Councils' key role in stormwater management, the NSW Government made amendments to the *Local Government Act 1993* (amended October 2005) and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (amended April 2006) to allow councils the option of levying a stormwater management service charge.

The charge was introduced to help council to cover some or all of the costs of providing new or additional stormwater management services to eligible land, above and beyond those that council could provide with their own funds.

The implementation of the charge recognises that increasing urbanisation has resulted (and continues to result) in a significant increase in impervious surfaces and has significantly increased the volume of stormwater (and therefore pollutant loads) flowing into urban waterways and urban drainage systems.

These pressures have increased the costs of stormwater management for local councils.

In accordance with Section 496A of the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, Council has in place a Stormwater Charge on eligible properties within Canterbury-Bankstown. In managing the annual charge the following structure will be applied:

Residential Properties

Annual Residential Charge of \$25.00 per property.

Annual Residential Strata Charge of \$12.50 per property.

Business Properties

Annual Charge of \$25.00 per property plus an additional \$25 for each 350 square metres or part of 350 square metres by which the area of the parcel of land exceeds 350 square metres.

Mixed Development

Adopt the dominant Rating category as applied to the parcel of land as determined by the Valuer General and apply to each relevant property.

In the event that a mixed development is 50% residential and 50% business, Council will apply a residential charge.

Exemptions

In addition to the exemptions stipulated in the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, the following exemptions will also apply in managing the service:

- Council-owned land;
- Bowling and Golf Clubs - where the dominant use is open space; and
- Properties zoned:
 - Open space 6(a);
 - Private Recreation 6(b); and
 - Rural.

Annexure I of the Financial Statements in Part 5 of this Operational Plan provides details of the Stormwater Levy funded projects for 2021/22.

Other Fees and Charges

The general principle being applied is that fees should reflect true costs less the amount Council is willing to subsidise as a community service obligation. In general, it is proposed to increase the 2021/22 fees and charges by 2.0%, subject to rounding where required. Details of each charge are attached in Section 5 of this Operational Plan.

Loan Borrowings

Council's long-term Financial Management Strategy reflects a budgeting model whereby General Fund Revenue is generated to maintain our infrastructure asset replacement program and that loans will only be acquired to support certain community self-funding initiatives that Council endorses.

At present, Council has not identified and/or planned for any such initiatives and as such does not propose to obtain any new borrowings as part of the 2021/22 budget.

If the Special Rate Variation is approved by IPART funding will be available to service new loan borrowings for the implementation of Council's adopted Leisure and Aquatics Strategy. Specific timing of works, budgets and loan funding will be identified as part of future annual Operational Plans.

Council will need to complete final business cases, capital expenditure reviews, design documentation, and procurement process in order to deliver the strategy.

Interest Income

Council will continue to carefully manage its investment portfolio having regard to prevailing market conditions, industry benchmarks and allowable investment opportunities, as they arise. Having regard to Council's current investments and market expectations, the budget includes a weighted average return of around 1.0% per annum.

Given official rates have fallen to all-time lows, Council is likely to see a rapid decline in interest income over future financial years. Its budgeted income over the medium-longer term has been revised to reflect the low interest rate environment. Yields on new investments are likely to be offered under 0.50% p.a. (for short-term) and between 0.75%-1.50% p.a. (for medium-longer term) investments, which may be the "norm" over upcoming financial years.

In total, Council expects its interest income to reduce by a further \$0.6M in 2021/22 on top of the forecast \$2.7M reduction in 2020/21.

Costing Parameters and Assumptions

Inflation

Inflation expectations are as per the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) target, which is a band set at a rate of between 2.0% and 3.0%. Inflation has been impacted by the COVID pandemic during 2020/21.

As a guide, Council's costs have been adjusted by 2.0% to accommodate and/or reflect relevant escalation in proposed budgets for the 2021/22 financial year, particularly those of a contractual nature.

Employee Costs

Council's employee costs in the 2021/22 Budget include an award increase of 2.0%. Council's full time equivalent employee numbers (organisational structure) for the 2021/22 financial year is set at 1,473. An increase from 2020/21 of 16, mainly related to the Domestic Waste Service being brought in-house for former Canterbury Council residents.

Depreciation Expense

Council's operating expenses include an amount for Depreciation Expense, a non-cash item which aims to broadly account for the level of use/consumption of assets on an annual basis. An amount of \$75.5 million has been reflected in the 2021/22 Budget to reflect this cost. Council assesses depreciation annually as part of preparing and reviewing its Asset Management Strategy.

Pricing of Goods and Services (Pricing Policy)

Council establishes its pricing levels through a range of factors, which are broadly dependent on the nature of the good or service being provided and the extent to which Council recognises an obligation to subsidise provision of the good or service. Council's Pricing Policy is subject to review on an annual basis or where appropriate, according to need. Where appropriate, Council will assess and apply a user pays model in setting its pricing based on the following provisions:

Cost of provision

The cost to Council of providing goods or services is a primary consideration when determining pricing. Council recognises that rational and relevant pricing decisions can only be made when there is a full understanding of the cost to Council and the community, of resourcing specific service areas.

Community Service Obligations

Council acknowledges that it has an obligation to provide some goods and services as a community service. As a result, Council accepts responsibility for at least partially funding these goods and services from other sources of revenue. This is reflected in varying degrees of pricing subsidy, dependant on the nature of the good or service being provided. Where it is not feasible to collect fees from private beneficiaries for a good or service, which provides a

wider community benefit, full subsidy will be applied. Where cost-recovery can be achieved but Council recognises an obligation in terms of equity and social justice considerations, and the merit and well-being of the community, an appropriate level of subsidisation will be applied.

Where cost-recovery can be achieved but Council recognises an obligation in terms of equity and social justice considerations, and the merit and well-being of the community, an appropriate level of subsidisation will be applied.

Private Benefit

Some goods and services provided by Council are not provided on the basis of wider community benefit, and are used by private beneficiaries. Goods or services of a commercial nature will be subject to commercially competitive pricing principles, which reflect market conditions and full cost recovery.

Where Council are engaged in providing any commercial/business operations, it will price such services at full cost recovery, to cover both the cost of capital and a commercial rate of return.

Council looks to generate an agreed positive return on assets so as to not reduce financial viability. Where required, Council will ensure compliance with 'competitive neutrality' provisions of the National Competition Policy and categorisation (i.e. category 1 or 2 business activity). Council has not identified any category 1 or 2 business activities for the 2021/22 budget.

Statutory Limitation

It is acknowledged that certain fees, charges and levies are set by legislation and Council has no control over pricing in these circumstances.

Planned 2021/22 Budget

Council's expected operating result for the 2021/22 financial year is:

Description	2021/22 Original \$M	2020/21 Original \$M	Difference \$M	COVID19 Impact \$M
Operating Revenue	355.1	344.5	10.6	(3.1)
Operating Expenditure	359.4	343.3	16.1	-
Operating Deficit (Including Capital Income)	(4.3)	1.2	(5.5)	(3.1)
Less Capital Grants and Contributions	31.2	35.0	(3.8)	-
Total Operating Result	(35.5)	(33.8)	(1.7)	(3.1)

The 2021/22 Budget is assessed against the 2020/21 Original Budget given that it provides a comparable base to assess the broader movement between financial years.

Council's Net Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions is estimated to be negative \$35.5M, reducing by \$1.7M when compared to Council's 2021/22 Original Budget.

Once capital grants and contributions are added, Council's projected Operating Result for the year is expected to be negative \$4.3M. There is forecast to be \$3.1M impact to Council's income in 2021/22 related to the COVID-19 crisis.

A break-up of both the Revenue and Operating Budgets proposed for the forthcoming financial year is shown below.

Revenue Budget

Council's Revenue Budget (excluding capital grants and contributions) is expected to be \$323.9 million, an increase of \$14.3 million (4.6%) to that originally planned for 2020/21. A break-up by income category is as follows:

Category	2021/22 Original \$M	2020/21 Original \$M	Variance \$M
Rates / Domestic	253.1	244.3	8.8
Charges /Fees	19.2	15.5	3.7
Interest	6.6	7.2	(0.6)
Grants - Operating	25.6	24.7	0.9
Other	19.3	17.8	1.5
Total	323.8	309.5	14.3

The variation of \$14.3 million, is a result of the following movements:

Component	Variance \$M
Rating Revenue	3.9
Domestic Waste	4.9
Other Fees and Revenues	1.5
Interest Income	(0.6)
User Fees & Charges	3.7
Operating Grants	0.9
Total	14.3

Revenue projections for 2021/22 have been set to reflect known elements and/or current year trends.

An explanation of the major variations is as follows:

- Council has factored in a loss of income for a six-month period in relation to the expected impact the COVID-19 pandemic will have on Councils services and operations totalling \$3.1M as summarised below;

Component	Variance \$M
Aquatics	(1.6)
Sports and Recreation	(1.3)
Other User Fees and Charges	(0.2)
Total	(3.1)

- Reflected the approved 2.0% rate-pegging limit to its rating revenue budget and expected growth in properties throughout the local government area;
- Council's annual Domestic Waste Levy for residential properties will increase by \$15 (2.6%) for former Bankstown residents and \$50 (9.3%) for former Canterbury residents per annum which reflects a general increase in the cost of providing the service and the longer term costs associated with replacing plant, bins and rehabilitating various waste facilities – see Domestic Waste Fee section above for detailed explanation;
- Operating Grants, including the Financial Assistance Grant, are included where the grant has been confirmed and the level of funding can be reliably calculated, and additional grant funds will be reported during the year as part of the quarterly budget reviews; and
- Council's level of interest income is expected to decrease by \$0.6M, which is a reflection expected market conditions and the estimated level of cash on hand throughout the year.

In terms of specific purpose capital grants and contributions, Council expects to receive approximately \$31.2 million in funds for various capital outcomes throughout 2021/22.

A summary of those contributions is as follows:

Type	Amount \$M
Development Contributions	13.0
Roadworks/Traffic – Various	9.2
Town Centres	2.6
Open Space	6.3
Other	0.1
Total	31.2

Operating Expenses (OPEX)

Council's proposed operating expenditure budget is analysed to ensure that allocations are comparable to current trends. Council's Operating Expenditure Budget is expected to be \$359.4M, an increase of \$16.1 million (4.7%) to that adopted for 2020/21. A break-up of each operating expenditure category is as follows:

Category	2021/22 \$M	2020/21 \$M	Variance \$M
Employee Costs	152.3	146.9	5.4
Borrowing Cost Expense	0.1	0.5	(0.4)
Depreciation	75.5	74.3	1.2
Materials & Contract	90.2	84.1	6.1
Other Expenses	41.3	37.5	3.8
Total	359.4	343.3	16.1

A summary of the major variations by category is as follows.

Employee Costs

A comprehensive planning process has been carried out to ensure that the Employee Costs budget accurately reflects required resources in managing Council's operations. Council resolved at the November 2020 meeting to set Council's full time equivalent (FTE) employee numbers (organisational structure) for the 2020/21 financial year at 1,473. The 2021/22 establishment of 1,473 FTE is an increase of 16 FTE on the original budget for 2020/21. The new roles include positions in Children Services, Customer Service and City Assets, and the increase in employment costs will be mostly offset by a decrease in contractor expenditure budgets, grant income and capitalised labour costs.

The budgeted increase in employee costs of \$5.4M is largely attributable to the Local Government Award Increase of 2.0% and its broader impact on employee entitlements (e.g. superannuation) as well as the costs associated with the new FTE positions. The budgeted employment costs also include the raising of the superannuation guarantee amount for employees from 9.5% to 10.0% for 2021/22.

Depreciation

Depreciation expense has increased by \$1.2M in 2021/22 to reflect capitalisation of new assets and infrastructure revaluations which provided amendments to infrastructure values and useful lives resulting in increased depreciation charges.

Material / Contracts and Other Expenses

Materials and Contracts and Other Expenses are expected to increase by around \$9.9 million or 8.6% when compared to Council's adopted 2020/21 budget. The increase in Other Expenses mainly relates to:

- Election costs \$2.3m (funded from councils dedicated reserves based on annual allocation to reserve);
- an increase in maintenance expenditure for Roads, Bridges, Footpaths and Stormwater of \$2.2 million – particularly given the ageing nature of certain infrastructure assets; and
- Other Expenses which include items such as utility costs, insurance costs, tipping fees, banking fees and other statutory levies (e.g. EPA levy). Increases in these expenses are largely of a non-discretionary nature.

Council's current financial position, although considered sound, suggests that the impact of increasing non-discretionary costs (those largely imposed upon us by the State), will continue to grow at a rate far greater than planned inflation/CPI. This will have an ongoing impact on our longer-term ability to absorb similar cost increases in the coming years and/or continue to preserve our current sound financial position.

Council's Budgeted Income Statement, which outlines the various OPEX categories, is attached in Annexure A of Part 4 of this Operational Plan.

Capital Works (CAPEX)

Council continues to improve its approach to managing its infrastructure, with a rolling schedule of comprehensive condition assessments of infrastructure assets from year to year.

This allows Council to clearly determine the extent of funding required to restore or rationalise certain assets within the City. Although the management and financial impact requires a long-term commitment well beyond the 2021/22 budget, the identified framework provides Council with a level of confidence in determining an effective approach to formulate its long-term planning.

In 2021/22, Council's focus will largely be to ensure the timely replacement / maintenance of existing assets throughout the Local Government Area.

As has been outlined above, Council's ability to maintain its ongoing funding for asset management purposes will be dependent on the outcome of Council's special rate variation application to IPART. Without increasing its revenue base (Rates) Council's ability to fund depreciation will continue to erode/reduce.

Council's total expenditure on assets throughout 2021/22 (excluding any potential carryovers from the current financial year) is expected to be approximately \$57.5 million.

A break-up of expenditure is as follows:

Project Area	Amount \$M
Bridges	0.3
Buildings	4.3
Car parks	0.8
Drainage Conduits	2.4
Waste Management	1.7
Town Centres	5.3
Open Space	11.0
Park/Street Furniture	0.5
Park Lighting	0.5
Park Signs, Fences & Screens	0.2
Pathways and Boardwalks	1.8
Road Pavement	11.5
Traffic Management devices	8.0
Water Courses	0.1
Water Quality Devices	1.0
Operational Assets	8.1
TOTAL CAPEX	57.5

As in previous years, the 2021/22 Budget is well balanced with a strong focus on asset maintenance/replacement, complemented with priority initiatives. Of Council's capital budget, an amount of \$34.0 million will be spent on replacing and/or restoring ageing infrastructure throughout the City.

Annexure J and K summarise Council's capital works program for 2021/22.

Cash Reserves

A large component of Council's capital works program is reliant on the use of dedicated Reserve funds, held to fund future projects and/or initiatives throughout the city and the prudent management of its liabilities.

In addition, Council's Development Contribution Reserves form an integral part of Council's capital works program.

In net terms, Council's level of Reserves, both those imposed by legislation or established by Council will total \$311.9 million, a net increase of \$18.0 million.

With the planned capital program of \$57.5 million, asset replacement reserves are estimated to decrease by \$6.8 million during 2021/22.

A summary of restrictions made and used can be found in Annexure D of Part 4 of this Operational Plan.

Liquidity and Performance Indicators

Based on the proposed 2021/22 Budget, Council's major financial indicators continue to meet accepted industry standards and convey a sound financial position.

Council's major financial indicators for the 2021/22 financial year are expected to be as follows:

	Target	2021/22
Unrestricted Current Ratio	>150%	291%
Debt Service Ratio	<10%	0.0%
Unrestricted Cash	>\$0	\$3.7M

Based on all the cash movements noted above, Council's budget reflects a decrease in cash of \$5.0 million, which accounts for both internal and external restricted funds expected to be received and utilised throughout 2021/22.

Council will continue to maintain a sound level of liquidity and reserves to manage any foreseen fluctuations and/ or uncertainties that may eventuate. This together with other measures are demonstrated by Council's financial indicators, which with the exception of the operating performance ratio (as highlighted in Council's Long Term Financial Plan) continue to meet and in some cases are estimated to exceed accepted industry levels.

Communication and Engagement

The draft 2021/22 Operational Plan (incorporating 2021/22 Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges) will be exhibited for a minimum 28 days concluding on the 28 May 2021.

COVID-safe community engagement activities will be undertaken making full use of digital media, Council's website and the Haveyoursay online forum to promote the plan and increase awareness.

Submissions will be reported to Council in June 2021 with recommendations for any necessary changes.

CONCLUSION

Council's goal is to continue to maintain and improve services, deliver on infrastructure, and ensure long-term financial sustainability.

The projects and budget outlined in the draft 2021/22 Operational Plan:

- preserves Council's sound financial position;
- aims to balance community expectations in terms of operational and infrastructure outcomes;
- remains flexible in responding to the changing needs and conditions; and
- focuses on best and safest community and staff outcomes.

The draft 2021/22 Operational Plan incorporating 2021/22 Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges are submitted for Council's consideration and approval for its release for public exhibition and comment.

The draft Operational Plan will be submitted for adoption in June 2021 following the conclusion of the exhibition period.

Governance and Administration Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 7.4 Cash and Investment Report as at 31 March 2021

AUTHOR Corporate

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

In accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the Responsible Accounting Officer must provide the council with a written report each month, which sets out the details of all money that council has invested under section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Council's investments are managed in accordance with Council's investment policy. The report below provides a consolidated summary of Council's total cash investments.

ISSUE

This report details Council's cash and investments as at 31 March 2021.

RECOMMENDATION That -

1. The Cash and Investment Report as at 31 March 2021 be received and noted.
2. The Certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer incorporated in this report, be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment](#)

- A. Imperium Markets Monthly Investment Report March 21

POLICY IMPACT

Council's investments are maintained in accordance with legislative requirements and its Cash and Investment Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Interest earned for this period has been reflected in Council's financial operating result for this financial year. Council's annual budget will be reviewed, having regard to Council's actual returns, as required.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

There is no impact on the community, the environment and the reputation of Canterbury Bankstown.

DETAILED INFORMATION

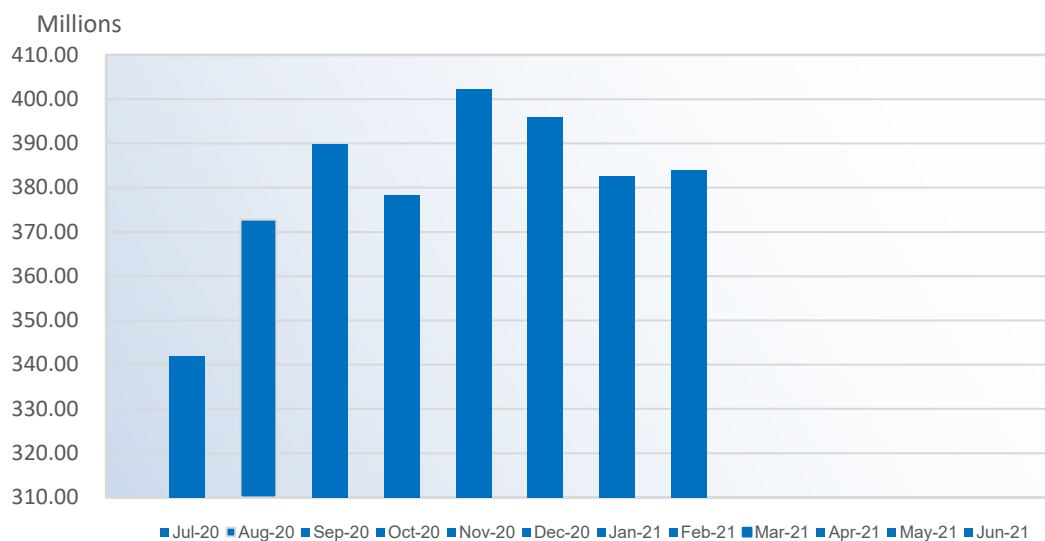
Cash and Investment Summary – as at 31 March 2021

In total, Council's Cash and Investments holdings as at 31 March 2021 is as follows:

Cash and Investments	\$
Cash at Bank	1,287,352
Deposits at Call	63,025,402
Term Deposits	244,611,000
Floating Rate Notes	57,671,134
Bonds	9,000,000
Total Cash and Investments	375,594,888

Council's level of cash and investments varies from month to month, particularly given the timing of Council's rates and collection cycle, its operations and carrying out its capital works program. The following graph outlines Council's closing cash and investment balances from July 2020 to June 2021.

Cash and Investment Rolling Monthly Balance 2020-2021



A summary of Council's investment interest income earned for the period to 31 March 2021 is as follows:

Interest Income	March 2021 \$	Year-to-date March 2021 \$
Budget	522,715	4,704,375
Actual Interest	435,359	4,443,614
Variance	(87,356)	(260,761)
Variance (%)	(16.71)	(5.54)

Council is also required to ensure that its portfolio has an appropriate level of diversification and maturity profile. This is to ensure that funds are available when required and where possible to minimise any re-investment risk.

The tables below outline Council's portfolio by maturity limits and investment type:

Maturity Profile		
	Actual % of Portfolio	Policy Limits %
Cash	17.1	100
Working Capital Funds (0-3 months)	3.1	100
Short Term (3-12 months)	20.8	100
Short – Medium (1-2 years)	20.4	70
Medium (2-5 years)	38.6	50
Long Term (5-10 years)	0	5
Total Cash and Investments	100%	

Portfolio Allocation	
	Actual % of Portfolio
Cash at Bank	0.3
Deposits at Call	16.8
Term Deposits	65.1
Floating Rate Notes	15.4
Bonds	2.4
Total Cash and Investments	100%

8 SERVICE AND OPERATIONAL MATTERS

The following items are submitted for consideration -

8.1 Adoption of the Active Transport Action Plan	105
8.2 Closing the Loop on Waste	111

Service and Operational Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 8.1 Adoption of the Active Transport Action Plan

AUTHOR City Future

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the feedback received on the draft Active Transport Action Plan (the Plan), outline updates proposed for the Plan based on community feedback, and to present the updated Plan for adoption and implementation.

ISSUE

The Canterbury-Bankstown Active Transport Action Plan is the first strategic plan focused on walking and cycling for the City. The Plan supports the aspirations of the Community Strategic Plan by seeking to provide an interconnected walking and cycling network for the people that live in, undertake activities within and pass through the entire Canterbury-Bankstown LGA, while integrating with the broader metropolitan strategies and bicycle network of neighbouring LGAs. The document will guide the actions and strategic priorities for active transport over the next 10 years.

The draft version of the document was placed on public exhibition from 9 December 2020 to 1 March 2021 to seek further feedback from the community and stakeholders. Following the exhibition period, the submissions have been considered and an updated Plan is presented for adoption.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Active Transport Action Plan (Attachment A) and consider the actions as part of future operational plans.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. Active Transport Action Plan
- B. Submission Table

POLICY IMPACT

The Active Transport Action Plan supports the aspirations of the Community Strategic Plan and contributes to the Moving and Integrated destination. The Plan supersedes the former Canterbury Council Bike Plan and represents an aligned approach to walking and cycling infrastructure for the City of Canterbury Bankstown.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The actions outlined in the Plan represent a significant investment into walking and cycling infrastructure across the City. There is no immediate financial impact as a result of the report however priority actions should be considered in the preparation of future delivery programs and operational planning budgets. Section 7.11 contributions, grants and delivery partnerships will also be utilised to deliver on actions outlined in the Plan.

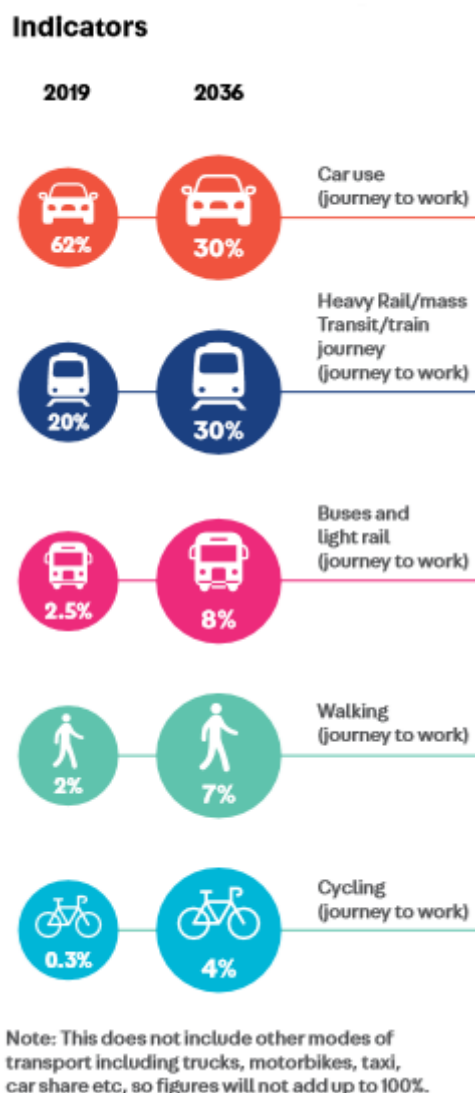
COMMUNITY IMPACT

Council has received an increasing number of requests about the provision of walkways and cycleways as our residents adapted to new ways of living, working and moving about during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Active Transport Action Plan identifies the priority infrastructure projects that are considered to have the biggest potential to improve the walkability and cyclability of our City through focusing on areas that connect people, transport and places.

DETAILED INFORMATION

The City of Canterbury Bankstown is covered by a network of over 908 kilometres of roads. Historical car-centric planning and a lack of safe walking and cycling infrastructure has led to a reliance on private vehicles and an increasing amount of traffic congestion across the City. As the City continues to grow, this is not sustainable. Council has an ambitious vision to see mode shift across the City, through an increase in the number of people using not only public transport, but also active transport as their preferred mode of travel.

In December 2019, Council adopted Connective City 2036, the Local Strategic Planning Statement which acts as 20-year plan to guide Canterbury-Bankstown's renewal and growth, in order to accommodate a population of 500,000 residents and 165,000 workers and visitors by 2036. Based on current travel patterns and the new infrastructure proposed across the City, Council established the mode shift targets outlined below;



Currently the City provides a number of cycling routes along waterways, greenspaces and local streets, however missing links mean the network fails to connect not only within the LGA, but also to the wider Sydney cycling network. The City's pedestrian network can also be unwelcoming in many centres with car dominated streets and poor amenity. Across the City,

the provision of footpaths is unevenly distributed, particularly with the western side of the City lacking in appropriate infrastructure.

Public exhibition process

The draft version of the Active Transport Action Plan (the Plan) was placed on public exhibition from 9 December 2020 to 1 March 2021 to seek further feedback from the community and stakeholders.

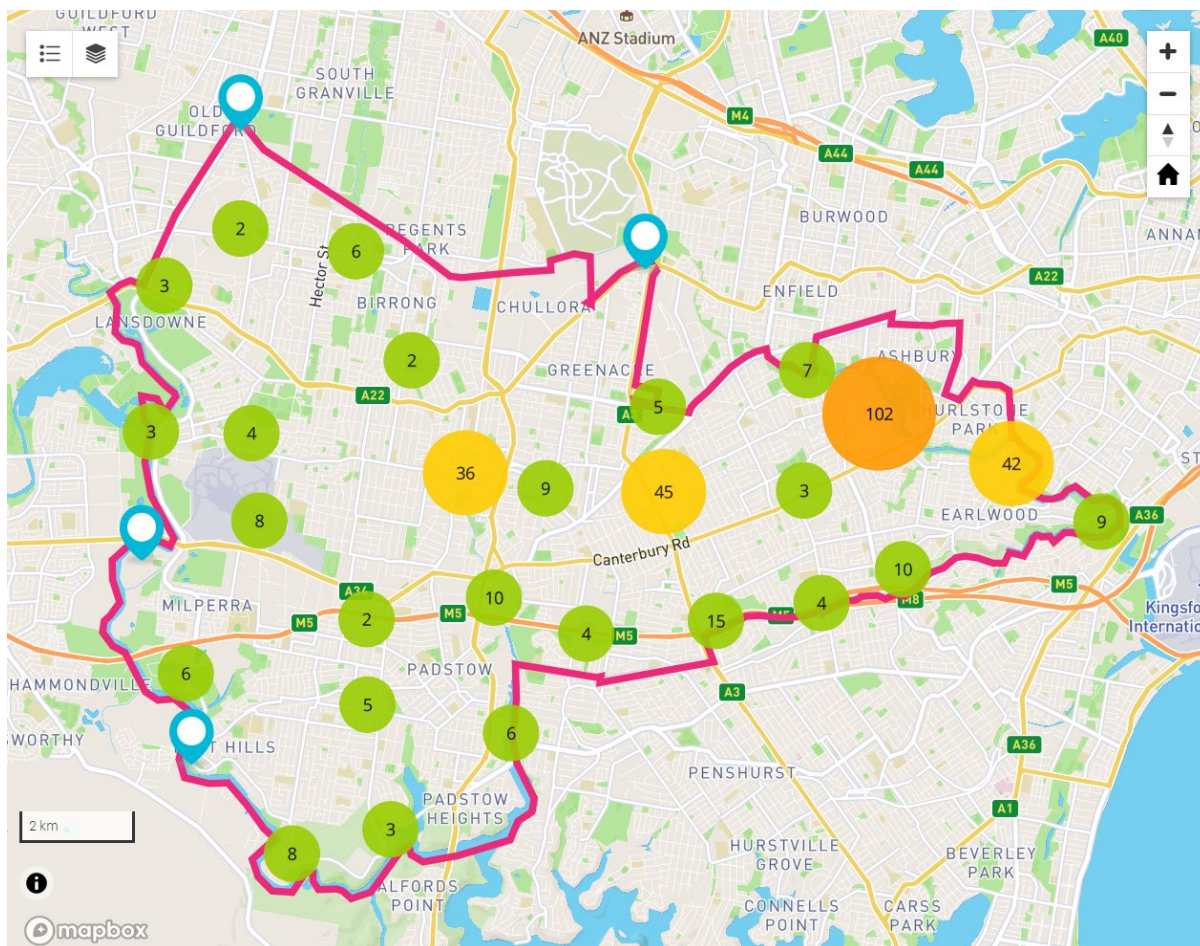
As part of this process, a number of tools were used to engage with stakeholders including Council's "Have Your Say" (HYS) page, social pinpoint tools, Facebook and social media. The public exhibition of the draft Plan was advertised in the Council News section of local papers and on Council's social media platforms. Following the exhibition period, the submissions have been considered and an updated Plan is presented for adoption.

Summary of public submissions

The community engagement activities primarily focused on digital engagement methods due to the impact of the pandemic. The HYS page allowed respondents to provide formal submissions with their comments or to put pointers on a map indicating things they love and areas that could be improved. Respondents were also able to provide direct submissions to Council via email.

- The HYS page was viewed by 1,280 people over the course of the exhibition period.
- There were 37 formal submissions received through the HYS platform. Of these submissions, 97% supported or partially supported the Plan with some respondents believing Council should be more ambitious with their active transport targets.
- A total of 365 social pinpoint submissions were made from 39 contributors on the HYS platform (see below map). Approximately 27% of these comments related to Route 12, the Cooks River shared path, and 25% related to Route 8 which proposes a shared path connection along the Metro line.
- There were 18 direct submissions made via email or letter to Council.
- In addition to the formal submission pathways, a resident established a good.do petition in support of the Active Transport Action Plan through which 45 emails of support were received.

The social pinpoint tool allowed respondents to identify directly on a map of the local government area where they saw issues or opportunities to improve active transport and to highlight infrastructure or areas they love. The information provided by the community identified current deficiencies or problems with infrastructure that could be addressed in the short term, broader issues that need to be considered such as wayfinding across the LGA, and detailed analysis of the proposed routes with a number of contributors providing street by street analysis of how routes could be delivered. The breadth and depth of submissions was significant, and reflected a holistic approach to improving opportunities for walking and cycling across the City. In addition to pathway and road improvements, contributors also provided submissions that identified areas where improved tree canopy or space activation through increased amenity would improve user experience.



The key themes that emerged from submissions were:

- High levels of support for infrastructure that improves access to our green grid corridors, respondents highlighted the Cooks River, Salt Pan Creek, Mirambeena and Lambeth Reserve as areas they love to walk and cycle. Opportunities to improve connections to Georges River National Park, the Duck River and sections of the Cooks River were specifically noted.
- Respondents loved the new Lang Road bridge installed in Hurlstone Park.
- Respondents highlighted the need to improve the Cooks River connection under Canterbury Road. This project has already been designed and funded and is ready to construct in the coming months.
- Respondents supported maintaining the bush tracks throughout the LGA, specifically the sections of recreational bushwalking tracks within Salt Pan Creek and Wolli Creek rather than converting them to shared paths.

Even though community members were supportive of the Plan, many have raised concerns regarding the need for more general signage, wayfinding signage, clearer road markings, improved pedestrian crossings and refuges, wider footpaths, kerb ramps and road surface quality. Some submissions indicated support for the Plan but believed Council should be more ambitious and set higher targets and expectations for active transport across the City.

Council would like to acknowledge the detailed contributions received and thank the community for their support and high level of engagement with this project.

Further detail on each of the submissions can be found in Attachment B.

Amendments to the Plan

Council has the opportunity to make significant upgrades to walking and cycling infrastructure across the City. After considering the feedback received during the public exhibition, the Plan has been updated to:

- Clarification on Route 3 to ensure the bush track at Padstow Heights remains a recreational walking track, not a shared path with cycle access. An alternative cycle route will be investigated.
- Clarification on Route 9 to ensure the bush track through Wolli Creek remains a recreational walking track, not a shared path with cycle access. An alternative cycle route will be investigated.
- Mapping of existing infrastructure has been updated to reflect some errors identified during the exhibition process, for example a section of Salt Pan Creek was inaccurately shown as an existing shared path.

Conclusion

The high level of engagement with the draft Active Transport Action Plan during the community consultation process demonstrates community interest and support in active transport infrastructure. The priority works outlined in the Plan will be considered as part of future Operational Plans, and the detailed submissions on route opportunities will be incorporated into the design of each route.

Service and Operational Matters - 27 April 2021

ITEM 8.2 Closing the Loop on Waste

AUTHOR City Future

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

In May 2018, Council resolved to submit an application under the Federal Government Smart Cities and Suburbs second round of funding to investigate ways new technology and better data can not only deliver a more efficient waste service, but also deliver a better outcome for the community and our environment.

This report provides a final overview of the Closing the Loop on Waste program at project closeout.

ISSUE

Until recently, the management of waste had slow and cumbersome reporting methods, an absence of useful data to make informed decisions and close the loop with customers and high levels of contamination in the recycling bins. Waste is everybody's challenge and at CBCity we wanted – and needed – to tackle the problems head on, starting at the kerbside.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Council note the outcomes as highlighted in the report and attachment.
2. Council investigate and further invest in the outcomes demonstrated as a result of the program, including:
 - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
 - Proactive Customer notifications
 - Vehicle routing
 - RFID
 - Data analytics and software (including the bespoke Loop platform)

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment](#)

- A. Closing the Loop on Waste - Case Study

POLICY IMPACT

The Closing the Loop on Waste program is closely aligned with our Community Strategic Plan's direction to be 'Clean and Green' and 'Prosperous and Innovative'. Additionally, this program delivers on our Smart CBCity Roadmap, which aims to use technology and data to improve the lives of our community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications in noting the findings at the conclusion of the Closing the Loop on Waste final report. This project was joint funded through the Federal Government Smart Cities and Suburbs Program, Council's Domestic Waste Levy, and contributions from core partners Western Sydney University, University of Technology Institute for Sustainable Future and Blue Chilli.

Funding arrangement for the program:

Project Partner	Contribution
Federal Government Smart Cities and Suburbs (Round 2) Funding Program	\$1,047,455.00
City of Canterbury Bankstown	\$1,027,455.00
University of Technology Sydney	\$15,000.00
Western Sydney University	\$15,000.00
Blue Chilli	\$10,000.00

Further investigations and funding as identified in this report will be considered as part of future operational plans.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Closing the Loop on Waste program has demonstrated that our community want to be connected, informed and active in our national waste challenge. The outcomes of this program provide the Council with a clear path forward to improve the waste service for residents and deliver on its Smart City Roadmap commitment to foster an informed and engaged community.

This pilot project included three community engagement activities, including:

- 2019 Community Survey – 811 responses
- Smart Waste Hackathon – 120 participants
- Street Sweeping Survey – Approximately 65 residents

DETAILED INFORMATION

What is the 'Closing the Loop on Waste' program?

In a world first, Closing the Loop on Waste piloted technology and data to dramatically improve our waste services for residents, our workers, and - ultimately - the environment.

This \$2.1 million technology-led transformation program is focused on improving liveability and sustainability for our residents. We want to drastically reduce recycling waste contamination, improve the city's data collection methods to make it easier to share information, and thus empower an informed and engaged community.

Closing the Loop's main goals are:

1. Use technology to detect issues with bin collection and contamination
2. Upgrade access to important information to allow us to close the loop with residents about their waste service
3. Use real-time data from our trucks to minimise delays to the domestic waste service

Some of the biggest challenges CBCity faces include:

- Connecting garbage and recycling bins to their home address.
- Keeping updated contact information for residents - particularly in apartment blocks where people are more transient.
- Addressing these first two challenges, whilst also maintaining resident privacy and security.
- Identifying which data to collect.
- Connecting data sources—removing silos and enabling data sharing across our organisation.
- Using the data we collect to identify patterns and insights that would help us improve service, efficiency and the customer experience.
- Optimising data processing, storage and retention.

Delivery partners in the Closing the Loop on Waste program:

To deliver our Closing the Loop on Waste program we sought the subject matter experts of internal stakeholders, consisting of four key streams:

- Waste operations
- Technology
- Sustainability & Engagement
- Customer experience

We had additional support from other project partners including:

- Institute for Sustainable Future, University of Technology Sydney – responsible for delivering a market horizon scan of the technology and research available to drive sustainable outcomes for CBCity.
- Western Sydney University – responsible for delivering research about our community, waste and community use of technology.

- Blue Chilli – responsible for delivering a community focused hackathon for the program.

Technology Trialled as part of the program:

- **Truck cameras**
Garbage trucks were kitted out with high resolution cameras and an interactive display. When a driver pressed a button to log a missed bin or a missing bin, the GPS coordinates of the truck's location were captured and reverse geocoded in Google Maps back to the nearest address. Bin spills were also logged in the same way and a work order automatically generated and sent to the council's City Clean team.
- **RFID (radio frequency identification)**
RFID was trialled in tandem with GPS cameras installed in the waste fleet to make bin address identification more accurate. By putting RFID tags on our bins, we know what type of bin it is, and importantly which bin belongs to which address. This helped reduce some inaccuracies with using GPS alone which could be off in matching bins to their address.
- **'Missed Bin App'**
An app has been developed to coincide with the GPS technology to notify drivers already out on their run of missed bin jobs for collection. If a bin is missed during a household regular pickup, a driver of another truck can divert to collect, thus saving time and effort with trucks having to go back out after their run is finished.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML)**
We installed cameras into the hopper, so that we can get video footage of the waste that's coming from each bin. We developed a bespoke Machine Learning algorithm to detect contamination in recycling, such as when plastics are present. We've tagged and modelled thousands of images to detect recycling contamination using this GPS waste truck video data.
- **Loop Software – custom built dashboard**
Data about our customers, the waste service and real time data about our waste trucks is aggregated in a custom-built platform called Loop – which provides access to real-time information allowing us to see the Waste Service at a glance, and communicate internally, with customers and our community with issues related to the waste service.
- **Street Sweeping website**
A bonus with having a fleet of garbage trucks fitted with cameras and GPS tracking is that residents can now use our new Street Sweeping website to find out when their street was last visited by our street sweepers, and when the next sweep date is likely to be.

Outcomes from the Closing the Loop on Waste program:

- Data collected from sensors, cameras, and resident requests now provide an opportunity to identify patterns in resident behaviour or other insights which could be used to improve services.
- Our custom-built AI's potential has now been demonstrated and CBCity is investigating scalability to amplify the reach of Council's Recycle Right program. Before the project,

only 1.4% of contamination was detected. Using AI, that rate has increased to 78%*. The detection time has dramatically reduced too, reducing the process from 5 years to 14 days*.

- The city's fleet of 30 garbage trucks is operational with GPS cameras and mobile recording devices.
- Council can now use GPS coordinates to identify waste management issues.
- Street Sweeping notification trials demonstrated an appetite for proactive notifications. After two trials, 72% of participants said they were "Very Likely" and "Likely" to sign up to instant notifications regarding the waste service and of 212 households contacted, only one resident opted out because they no longer lived there.
- Our customers have seen a 288x (28,700%) improvement in time spent identifying issues and triggering a resolution to challenges associated with their Domestic Waste Service*. Using the custom built 'Loop' system which aggregates data-sets, customers can now understand and learn next steps for waste related enquiries within 15 minutes, compared with the previous 72 hours*.
- Council now has access to Critical data related to proof of domestic waste service or service disruption, a previous blind spot impacting the level of service we could provide to customers.

For more information on the project, refer to attachment 1.

Next steps:

To ensure the value of this innovative project is not lost, Council is urged to seek opportunities to scale the outcomes from the Closing the Loop on Waste program and investigate opportunities to further invest in the outcomes. These include but are not limited to:

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
Introducing new contaminants and investigating opportunities to operationalise the outcomes demonstrated within the project.
- Proactive Customer notifications
Progressing our core back of house tools and seeking partnership opportunities to proactively notify customers about core Council services.
- Vehicle routing
Maximising operational and service efficiency through the use of vehicle routing.

- RFID
Consider the cost-benefit analysis in an RFID rollout for the domestic waste service, via retrofit, or within upcoming upgrade schedules.
- Data analytics and software (including the bespoke Loop platform)
Continue to invest in and maintain the Loop platform as a valuable, centralised hub for data related to Council services and customer enquiries.

**Figures are theoretical and can vary during implementation and introduction of emerging contaminants.*

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following items are submitted for consideration -

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 9.1 | Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held
17 March 2021 | 119 |
| 9.2 | Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 13 April 2021 | 123 |

Committee Reports - 27 April 2021

ITEM 9.1 Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 17 March 2021

AUTHOR Corporate

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Local Government Guidelines for Internal Audit, issued under section 23A of the Local Government Act (1993), Canterbury Bankstown Council has an established Audit Risk and Improvement Committee.

The purpose of this report is to consider the minutes of the meeting of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) held on 17 March 2021.

Matters arising from the meeting that may be of particular interest to Council include:

- **Item 5.3 Arrangements for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee:**
 - Ms Carole Ferguson has been appointed as an independent member of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee for a one year term commencing March 2021;
 - The annual review of the Charters for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee and Internal Audit has been completed and no changes to the roles and responsibilities as outlined in the Charters is recommended; and
 - The Committee has prepared its annual report to Council, a copy of which is attached to this report. It is proposed that the Chair of the ARIC will brief Council on this report at a date to be set in due course.

ISSUE

To consider the recommendations of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), including the approval of the revised Charters for the ARIC and Internal Audit.

RECOMMENDATION That -

1. The recommendations contained within the minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 17 March 2021, be adopted;
2. The revised Charters for the ARIC and Internal Audit be endorsed by Council;
3. The revised Charters for the ARIC and Internal Audit be adopted by Council; and
4. The contents of the Annual Report to Council are noted.

ATTACHMENTS

[Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. Minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 17 March 2021
- B. REVISED Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Charter
- C. REVISED Internal Audit Charter
- D. 2020 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Annual Report to Council

POLICY IMPACT

The reporting of the Minutes of the Committees meetings to Council complies with the requirements of the Internal Audit Guidelines (for Local Government) and the approved Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Charter.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts arising from the recommendations of the Committee.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Council maintains an independent Audit Risk and Improvement Committee in accordance with the local government guidelines.

Committee Reports - 27 April 2021

ITEM 9.2 **Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 13 April 2021**

AUTHOR **Operations**

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Attached are the minutes of the Canterbury Bankstown Council Traffic Committee meeting held on 13 April 2021.

The Committee have been constituted to advise and make recommendations in relation to traffic activities. It has, however, no delegated authority and cannot bind Council.

The recommendations of the Committee are in line with the objectives of the Committee and with established practices and procedures.

ISSUE

Recommendations of the Canterbury Bankstown Council Traffic Committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the recommendations contained in the minutes of the Canterbury Bankstown Council Traffic Committee meeting held on 13 April 2021, be adopted.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment](#)

A. Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 13 April 2021

POLICY IMPACT

This matter has no policy implications to Council.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Potential costs arising out of recommendations of the Traffic Committees are detailed in future Works Programs for Roadworks/Traffic Facilities.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The recommendations will improve road safety for the community whilst minimising the adverse impacts on residential amenity. Community consultations have been carried out where required.

10 NOTICE OF MOTIONS & QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

The following items are submitted for consideration -

10.1 Notice of Motions	127
10.2 Walk to School Day	129
10.3 Punchbowl Road	131
10.4 Street Tree Maintenance	133
10.5 Mass Covid-19 Vaccination Clinics	135

Notice of Motions & Questions With Notice - 27 April 2021

ITEM 10.1 **Notice of Motions**

AUTHOR **Office of the General Manager**

ISSUE

The attached schedule provides information to questions raised at Council's previous meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

ATTACHMENTS [Click here for attachment\(s\)](#)

- A. Notice of Motions Status Update
- B. Correspondence sent in relation to Notice of Motions

Notice of Motions & Questions With Notice - 27 April 2021

ITEM 10.2 Walk to School Day

I, Councillor Rachelle Harika hereby give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council I will move the following motion:-

“That Council, through Council’s established communication and social media channels, informs the community to get involved and support Walk to School Day throughout our City.”

BACKGROUND

Now in its 21st year, National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is an annual event where all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school.

It is a Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment. This year WSTSD will be Friday 14 May 2021.

Walking to school is a great form of exercise for you and your children. It reduces the risk of obesity and heart disease, improves mood and generally does wonders for your young adventurer's health and mind.

Aside from the obvious health benefits, it allows parents the opportunity to encourage and provide road safety education about the dangers caused by road accidents and explain ways to stay safe.

I am asking that Council start a campaign in the lead up to National Walk Safely to School Day to educate the community on Road Safety and how they can get involved.

GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENT

There are no cost implications arising from this proposed motion as written.

Notice of Motions & Questions With Notice - 27 April 2021

ITEM 10.3 Punchbowl Road

I, Councillor Bilal El Hayek hereby give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council I will move the following motion:-

“That Council writes to Transport for NSW, requesting that Punchbowl Road at Punchbowl be prioritised for investigation and improvements to address the significant congestion at this location.”

BACKGROUND

For anyone that travels along Punchbowl Road routinely, they will know that it is routinely at a standstill because of the congestion and the narrowness of the road. At its worst, there is only, in effect, one lane operating in each direction for this important link through our City.

I understand that there is some discussion of changes to the arrangements by Metro and my concern is that this will only make the situation worse.

Accordingly, I seek Council write to Transport for NSW to prioritise the investigation and improvements at this location to address the significant congestion at this location.

GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENT

There are no cost implications arising from the proposed motion as written.

Notice of Motions & Questions With Notice - 27 April 2021

ITEM 10.4 Street Tree Maintenance

I, Councillor Clare Raffan hereby give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council I will move the following motion:-

“That Council:

1. Reviews neighbour notification protocols for street tree maintenance;
2. Introduces a public tree register, to be available on Council’s website; and
3. Develops a strategy for the management of street trees and other trees in the public domain.”

BACKGROUND

Recently, I arrived home to find that the tree directly outside my property had been pruned, with approximately 30% of its canopy removed. For this to occur without my knowledge was a total surprise; the absence of shade, privacy and habitat – for the birds and bats that inhabit the area - that the removed canopy once provided will have an ongoing impact.

I understand that this tree was pruned in response to a customer request that was investigated; I expect that there are many hundreds of every year and as an adjoining landowner, I would have appreciated some forewarning that there may have been activity to prune this tree.

In today’s day and age, I also believe that data relating to street trees and their management should be made public, so those in our community who are invested in securing the urban tree canopy, can understand the bigger picture.

Whilst researching this Notice, it is clear that Council provides clear guidance on the management and removal of private trees, but I would like Council to adopt a position for the broader strategy for managing our street trees and other trees in the public domain. I believe there is an opportunity to develop such a strategy, to give our community confidence and clarity in what it is Council is doing and proposes to do to look after this valuable community and environmental asset.

GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENT

The proposed motion as written can be accommodated through our operational improvement initiatives as part of Council’s Operational Plan.

Notice of Motions & Questions With Notice - 27 April 2021

ITEM 10.5 Mass Covid-19 Vaccination Clinics

I, Councillor Steve Tuntevski hereby give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council I will move the following motion:-

“That Council write to the Federal and State Government requesting the establishment of mass Covid-19 vaccination clinic’s within the City of Canterbury Bankstown, so as to fast track the roll out of the Covid-19 vaccination program and safeguard our residents from Covid-19.”

BACKGROUND

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to cause significant social and economic disruption within our community.

Despite the invention of several vaccines, Australia’s overall vaccination rollout has been at a snail’s pace. Prime Minister Scott Morrison’s pledge that Australian’s would be at “the front of the queue” has not come to fruition. Australia has only administered nearly 600,000 doses of the Covid-19 vaccine, which is 3.4m shots short of a 4m dose target set by the prime minister for the end of March 2021.

At the time of writing and according the Financial Times, Australia’s Covid-19 response is on a par with Botswana according to one measure and is ranked 76th out of 152 countries in another.

The recent advice that the Astra Zeneca vaccine should only be administered to over 50 years old’s, although a setback, is also an opportunity to target this age group by establishing mass Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic’s within our city, either in our Community Hall’s, Sporting Venues or Parks to fast track the vaccination of over 105,000 of our residents.

As the largest Council in NSW in terms of population, it’s important that Council show leadership and call on both Federal and State Governments to establish mass Covid-19 vaccination clinic’s within Canterbury Bankstown to safeguard our residents from Covid-19 and reduce social and economic disruption in our City.

GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENT

There are no cost implications arising from this proposed motion as written.

11 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

11.1 Dunc Gray Velodrome - Interim Operating Agreement

11.2 T38-21 Provision of Insurance and Insurance Brokerage Services

General Manager's Statement

Confidentiality

Councillors and staff are reminded of their obligations in respect to the need for confidentiality and not disclose or otherwise misuse the information which is about to be discussed, failure to do so could result in a reference to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal and/or result in a prosecution in accordance with Sec. 664 of the Act for which the maximum penalty is \$5,500.

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 provides that Council may, by resolution, close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of matters as listed in that section, or for any matter that arises during the course of business during the meeting that should be treated as confidential in accordance with Section 10(2) of the Act.

Council's Agenda for this meeting contains reports that meet the criteria specified in Section 10A(2) of the Act. To consider these reports in confidential session, Council can adopt the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION

That, in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the Public and the Press be excluded from the meeting to enable Council to determine Items 11.1 , and 11.2 in confidential session for the reasons indicated:

Item 11.1 Dunc Gray Velodrome - Interim Operating Agreement

This report is considered to be confidential in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act, 1993, as it relates to commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Item 11.2 T38-21 Provision of Insurance and Insurance Brokerage Services

This report is considered to be confidential in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act, 1993, as it relates to commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.