

MARRICKVILLE council

BUSINESS PAPER

for

**COUNCIL
MEETING
01/06**

**6.30 PM, MONDAY,
20 FEBRUARY, 2006**

MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL

Administrative Centre
PETERSHAM

15 February, 2006

Dear Councillors

Notice is given of the **COUNCIL MEETING**, to be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, PETERSHAM, on MONDAY, 20 February, 2006, commencing at 6.30pm.

Yours faithfully



Candy Nay
General Manager

COUNCILLORS

Chairperson	Councillor Sam Byrne (Mayor)	West Ward	Ph: 9573-0745 Fax: 9335-2029
Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Dimitrios Thanos (Deputy Mayor)	West Ward	Ph: 9569-0199 Fax: 9550-0849
	Councillor Sam Iskandar	Central Ward	Ph: 9558-7777 Fax: 9554-7841
	Councillor Saeed Khan	Central Ward	Ph: 9569-8634 Fax: 9569-8746
	Councillor Victor Macri	Central Ward	Ph: 9569-2865 Fax: 9569-8750
	Councillor Fiona Byrne	North Ward	Ph: 9519 1110 Fax: 9550-6878
	Councillor Barry Cotter	North Ward	Ph: 9550-4601 Fax: 9590-9539
	Councillor Colin Hesse	North Ward	Ph: 0401 719124 Fax: 9559-8921
	Councillor Morris Hanna OAM	South Ward	Ph: 9569-1447 Fax: 9550-0636
	Councillor Peter Olive	South Ward	Ph: 0401 719148 Fax: 9559-6098
	Councillor Rae Owen	South Ward	Ph: 9559-5350 Fax: 9554-7842
	Councillor Penny Sharpe	West Ward	Ph: 0401 719141 Fax: 9550-6830

COUNCIL MEETING

The Council meeting is chaired by the Mayor Councillor Sam Byrne. The names of the Councillors and their contact details are listed on the previous page. Councillors are entitled to one vote on a matter. If votes are equal, the Chairperson has a second or casting vote. When a majority of Councillors vote in favour of a Motion it becomes a decision of the Council.

THE MEETING

The Meeting is conducted in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice. The order of business is listed in the Agenda. That order will be followed unless a request has been made by a member of the community to address the Council on an item on the Agenda. If a request has been made, the Chairperson will ask the Council whether it wishes to bring that item forward. If Council resolves to bring more than one item forward the items will be considered in the order they are listed on the Agenda, unless the Council decides otherwise. The procedures for addressing the Council are contained on the following pages, under the heading "Meeting Procedures - Public Forum".

Some items are *CONFIDENTIAL* in accordance with S10(2) of the Local Government Act. This will be clearly stated in the Business Paper. These items are not discussed in open Council and observers will be asked to leave the Council Chambers when they are discussed.

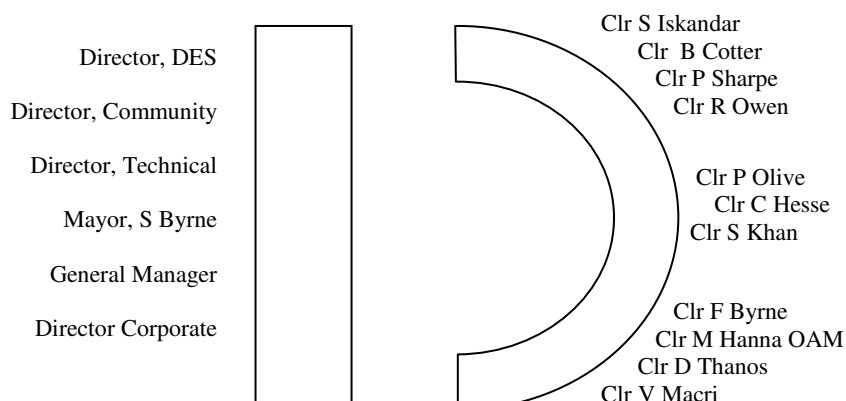
Items are *CONFIDENTIAL* if any of the following apply:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals;
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business;
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, and on balance, would be contrary to the public interest; or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, and on balance, would be contrary to the public interest; or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret,
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law, and on balance, would be contrary to the public interest;
- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property, and on balance, would be contrary to the public interest;
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege, and on balance, would be contrary to the public interest.

The grounds on which a meeting is closed to the public must be specified in the decision to close the meeting and recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

The number of items that are dealt with as *CONFIDENTIAL* are kept to a minimum.

LAYOUT FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS



THE ROLE OF THE ELECTED COUNCIL

Marrickville Council has twelve Councillors who are elected every four years to direct and control the affairs of the Council, in accordance with the Local Government Act. The Councillors review the performance of the Council and its delivery of services, the Council's financial and management plans and its annual budget.

The work of a Councillor is voluntary and a small allowance is paid to compensate them for the cost of attending the many Council Meetings and carrying out their civic duties.

In Marrickville, the Mayor is elected by the twelve Councillors to lead the Council, and is required to represent Council at many civic and community functions. The Mayor receives an additional allowance to undertake these duties.

MEETING TIMES

1st Monday of each month	6.00 pm	DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING <i>(Development Approvals, Monitoring Services, Planning Services, Environmental Services)</i>
	at conclusion of Development & Environmental Services	ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING (Development & Environmental Services Committee Matters Only)
2nd Monday of each month	6.00 pm	COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING <i>(Children's Services, Community Relations, Community Development, Library Services)</i>
	at conclusion of Community Services	CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING <i>(Finance, Administrative Services, Employee Services, Information Systems)</i>
	at conclusion of Corporate Services	TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING <i>(Parks & Reserves, Traffic, Engineering Services, Property Services, Business Units)</i>
3rd Monday of each month	6.30 pm	ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Each of Council's committees has delegated authority to make decisions subject to a number of limitations. Matters which cannot be decided by the committees are referred to the Ordinary Council Meeting for decision. Meetings are held on the 3rd floor of Council's Administrative Centre, 2-14 Fisher St, Petersham.

COUNCIL BUSINESS PAPERS

To enable Council to give consideration to items of business at each Meeting, a Business Paper, like this one, is prepared, containing reports by senior staff in relation to each item listed on the Agenda for the Meeting. The Business Paper for each Meeting is available for perusal by members of the public at Council's Libraries and Community Neighbourhood Centres on the Thursday prior to the Council Meeting.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are welcome to attend Council and Committee Meetings and are also permitted to address Council and Committee meetings if the subject is directly related to an item before the Meeting. Details of the procedures to be followed in addressing Council and its committees are contained in the section of the Business Paper entitled "Meeting Procedures - Public Forum"

INTERPRETER ASSISTANCE

If you do not understand any part of the information given above, or wish to obtain information in relation to Council, don't hesitate to come to any of Council's offices.

MEETING PROCEDURES - PUBLIC FORUM

1. Persons will be permitted to address Council/Committee Meetings only if the subject is related directly to an item before the Council/Committee at that meeting.
2. A precis of the address shall be submitted in writing and shall be delivered to the General Manager on the ground floor of the Administrative Centre by midday on the day of the meeting. The precis should include a reference to the item on the Business Paper, details of the speaker's name, telephone number, interest in the item, brief details of the points to be made in the address and whether the recommendation is favoured or opposed.
3. Copies of the precis received shall be given to all Councillors at the commencement of the Meeting.
4. All persons addressing the Meeting shall speak to the Chair.
5. The time allowed for each speaker shall be limited to three (3) minutes with one (1) extension of not more than three (3) minutes with the approval of the Council Committee. This time limit shall apply no matter how many items are addressed by the speaker.
6. Not more than one (1) member of a Group may speak.
7. Each item before Council Committee is restricted to three (3) speakers for and three (3) speakers against the Recommendation.
8. Any proposed variation from 1 to 7 above shall be subject of a procedural motion.
9. Councillors will not enter into general debate with, or ask questions of, speakers.
10. The Chairperson may curtail public participation where the information being presented is considered repetitive or irrelevant.
11. Questions or representations will be dealt with in strict sequence of the Agenda for the Meeting.

PRECIS

PAGE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PERIOD OF SILENCE FOR PRAYER, PLEDGE OR CONTEMPLATION

PRESENT

DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS (Section 451 of the Local Government Act and Council's Conflict of Interest Policy)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING 11/05 - 13 December, 2005 **1**

MINUTES OF MEETING CDM 11/05 - 6 DECEMBER, 2005 **6**

COMMUNITY SERVICES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

CD 3 **SELECTIVE TENDER FOR ASHFIELD FOOD SERVICE** **10**

File Ref: 35

Council is advised that an invitation to participate in a selective tender to provide food services to the Ashfield LGA was received from the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) on 13 December 2005. DADHC is seeking a suitably experienced organisation to re-auspice the food service and ensure continuity of service and quality of support. The closing date for the tender was Friday 27 January 2006. It is recommended that Council receive and note the report and endorse the recent submission of a tender to the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care to manage and operate the Ashfield Food Service program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

PRECIS

COMMUNICATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES MATTERS

CC 3 NEWTOWN ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT PROJECT UPDATE 13

File Ref: 940

Council is advised of the progress of the Newtown Entertainment Precinct Project; and the results of grant applications to the City of Sydney (Item CC 21, Meeting 10/05), and the Ministry for the Arts (Item CC13, Meeting 07/05). It is recommended that the report be received and noted; the \$20,000 grant from the Ministry for the Arts for the Newtown Art Board Project be accepted; and Council consider a budget adjustment at the next budget review

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES MATTERS

CS 1 ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES GRANTS FOR OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE 18

File Ref: 3078

Council is advised that the Australian Sport Commission has approved non-recurrent funding for Camdenville, Ferncourt, Stanmore and Wilkins Outside School Hour Care Centres for Terms 1 and 2 through the Active After-School Communities grants scheme. It is recommended that the report be received and noted; that Council accept the provision of funds under the Active After-School Communities grant scheme for \$2,816 at Camdenville, \$2,816 at Ferncourt, \$2,816 at Stanmore, and \$2,816 at Wilkins Outside of School Hour Care Centres; and that Council consider a Budget adjustment at its next Budget review for \$11,264.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

PRECIS

CS 2 COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND 20
COMMUNITY SERVICES MINOR CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM
2005

File Ref: 1854

Council is advised that an application was submitted for May Murray Children's Centre through the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services Minor Capital Upgrade Grant scheme in November 2005. Council has been notified that the application for the installation of a shade structure was successful. Funding to the amount of \$5,900 (GST exclusive) has been received. It is recommended that the report be received and noted; that the Common Seal of Council be executed and affixed by the Mayor and General Manager to the Funding Agreement; and that a budget variation be considered by Council at its next budget review

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

CS 3 YOUNG CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES FUNDING FOR 22
GLOBE WILKINS PRESCHOOL

File Ref: 39

Council is advised that the Department of Education and Training (DET) has approved funding of \$5,084 for Globe Wilkins Preschool under the Young Children with Disabilities Component of the Intervention Support Program. It is recommended that Council enter into an agreement for this funding and that the Common Seal of Council be affixed to relevant documents.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

PRECIS

TECHNICAL SERVICES

ENGINEERING MATTERS

ES 2

**RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT
PERCEIVED NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY**

24

File Ref: S4940-03

The December Technical Services Committee meeting, (Item ES42) deferred a report on the raised threshold in Unwins Bridge Road, Tempe outside the Tillman Park Child Care Centre to allow the resident time to consider the matter further. It is recommended that the matter be referred back to the Local Traffic Planning & Advisory Committee for consideration.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. Council continue to request the RTA's approval to the speed limit in Unwins Bridge Road being reduced to 50 km/h;
2. a further **REPORT** be presented to the Technical Services Committee meeting, within three months, on the RTA's response; and
3. the subject marked pedestrian crossing remains, in view of the high proportion of parents indicating the need for the raised crossing and the real pedestrian safety issues involved.

PRECIS

ES 3 ENGINEERING PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2006 33

File Ref: 4572-04

This is a report on the civil construction and maintenance works commissioned and coordinated by the Engineering Section for the period concluding 31 January 2006. It is recommended that the report be received and noted.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

PARKS & RESERVES MATTERS

PR 2 CAMDENVILLE PARK PRELIMINARY MASTERPLAN 37

File Ref: 10112-02

A Preliminary Masterplan has been prepared for Camdenville Park, St Peters. The report outlines the plan and recommends that Council endorse the plan as a basis for further site investigations and community consultation. A further report is to be provided to Council to advise the outcome of the investigations and present a draft plan of management to be approved as the basis for community consultation and project implementation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. Council endorse the Camdenville Park preliminary Masterplan and Feasibility Study as a basis for further site investigations and the preparation of a revised draft Plan of Management for the park; and
2. Council's Transportation Planner be consulted to advise on the best path alignments to service commuter cycling between Bedwin and Goodsell Streets; and
3. a further **REPORT** be provided advising the outcomes of the site investigations and presenting whole of project cost estimates, a draft Plan of Management and draft Masterplan for Council's endorsement to proceed to community consultation.

PRECIS

MAYORAL MINUTES

MM 1	FLYING OF TIBETAN FLAG ON FRIDAY, 10 MARCH 2006	43
MM 2	MAYORS FOR PEACE	44
MM 3	LOAN OF COUNCIL TRUCK FOR MARDI GRAS PARADE	46

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

GM 1	SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT TO MAYORAL MINUTE – REQUEST TO USE COUNCIL VEHICLE IN MARDI GRAS PARADE	47
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File Ref: 3513-02

A Mayoral Minute requests that Council endorse a request from a staff member to drive a Council vehicle in the Mardi Gras Parade in support of a volunteer organization, the Ankali Project, which is attached to the Albion Street Centre, Surry Hills.

PRECIS

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| GM 2 | LIFTING OF JAMES HARDIE PRODUCT BOYCOTT | 48 |
| <p>File Ref: 4056-03</p> <p>At its meeting on 15 February 2005 (Item GM 8), Council resolved to continue its boycott of James Hardie products until a 'Principal Agreement' had been signed by the organisation. At the time, James Hardie had signed a Heads of Agreement with the ACTU, Unions NSW and asbestos victims groups, agreeing to fund current and future compensation liabilities. The Agreement was not legally binding however, and Council resolved to continue its arrangements in regard to boycotting James Hardie products, until the legally binding Principal Agreement was finalised. Council has recently received notification that James Hardie has signed a Final Funding Arrangement with the NSW Government, which binds the organisation legally to provide long term compensation for asbestos-related personal injury claims.</p> <p>It is recommended that the report be received and noted and that Council lift its boycott on the purchase of James Hardie products.</p> | | |
| GM 3 | FIXING OF ANNUAL FEES FOR 2005/2006 FOR COUNCILLORS AND THE MAYOR AND A FEE FOR THE DEPUTY MAYOR | 51 |
| <p>File Ref: 4014-04</p> <p>Report in relation to the Special Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal of annual fees payable from 1 July 2005 to Mayors and Councillors. It is recommended that Council considers the Tribunal's determination and fixes the annual fee payable to the Mayor and Councillors and the fee payable to the Deputy Mayor.</p> | | |
| GM 4 | LOAN PROGRAM - RENEWAL MONEY - \$6,000,000 | 54 |
| <p>File Ref:</p> <p>This report seeks Council approval to apply to the Minister for Local Government for an additional loan allocation within 2005/2006 for renewal loan funds of \$6,000,000.</p> | | |

PRECIS

GM 5 ELECTION POSTERS ON STREET LIGHT POLES

56

File Ref: 4056-03

This report has been prepared in response to a resolution of Council at Meeting 10/05 Item NM21 regarding the issue of the impact of the proliferation of electoral posters on street light poles. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and a further report be prepared that examines possible options for incorporating “political” posters within the complying and exempt provisions of a new Comprehensive Development Control Plan.

A confidential report from Council’s Principal Solicitor has been prepared for Council’s consideration. That advice is contained in the **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT** which is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 as it contains advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege. During its debate on the item at the Meeting, the Committee may decide, by resolution, to discuss the confidential information in closed confidential committee. Before doing so, members of the public may be allowed to make verbal representations as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

GM 6 SECOND QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT PLAN

60

File Ref:

This business paper report summarises Council's performance over the second quarter of the financial year against service improvement projects and performance indicators set out in the 2005/2006 Management Plan. The attachment provides detailed information on the status of all projects and indicators as at 31 December 2005. The report indicates that generally Council is 'on track' to achieve 2005/2006 targets. It is recommended that the report is received and noted.

PRECIS

GM 7 OUTCOME OF FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON A PROPOSED NEW 137
LIBRARY AND CIVIC CENTRE

File Ref: 1974

Report on the outcome of the Feasibility Studies in relation to the redevelopment of the old Marrickville Hospital site for a proposed new Library and Civic Centre and residential and/or mixed use development. The Consultants' report concludes that there are a number of affordable options, however they rely on development of the site to certain building height levels, size and configuration and do not provide for the accommodation of all Council's administrative staff.

It is recommended that Council consider the outcomes of the Feasibility Studies and the issues raised in the report and determine whether to progress development of the Marrickville Hospital site for a new Library/Civic Centre.

GM 8 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION - INDEPENDENT 163
INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES

File Ref: 4577-03

In November 2005 (Meeting 10/05, Item GM 91), Council was advised that the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW (LGSA) had commissioned an Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of Local Government in NSW. Council has subsequently received a request to make a financial contribution to the cost of the Inquiry. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and that Council contribute the requested amount of \$2,997.50 towards the cost of the Inquiry.

PRECIS

GM 9	PRECINCT COMMITTEES	169
	<p>File Ref: 4577-03</p> <p>Report in relation to precinct committees in accordance with Council's request for investigation of "the establishment of precinct committees as a means of providing inclusive and local representation of community interests and two-way flow between citizens and Council" as part of Council's 2004/05 Management Plan. Information is provided in relation to objectives, advantages and disadvantages of precinct committees. The report also outlines and reviews Council's current consultation mechanisms and provides information on the implications for Council in establishing precinct committees. It is recommended that Council determine whether it wishes to establish precinct committees, and if so, a Councillor Conference be held to consider options for the operation of precinct committees and a public consultation process be undertaken in relation to the options for the operation of precinct committees.</p>	
GM 10	DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY STAFF	176
	<p>File Ref: 4325-02</p> <p>The report provides for the tabling of Disclosure of Interest Returns lodged by new Designated Persons in accordance with s450A of the Local Government Act 1993. It is recommended that the report be received and noted.</p>	
GM 11	PETITIONS RECEIVED - DECEMBER 2005/JANUARY 2006	177
	<p>File Ref 4577-03</p> <p>This report outlines the petitions received by Council during the period 6 December 2005 to 13 February 2006. It is recommended that the report be received and noted.</p>	
GM 12	COUNCILLORS' ACCESS TO INFORMATION	178
	<p>File Ref: 4015-04</p> <p>This report outlines requests for access to Council information by Councillors during the period 6 December 2005 and 13 February 2006. It is recommended that the report be received and noted</p>	

PRECIS

GM 13 OUTSTANDING CONFERENCES AND REPORTS REQUESTED 1791
BY COUNCILLORS

File Ref: 4577-03

A progress report on all outstanding conferences and reports requested by Council in respect of the General Manager and Corporate Development Section, with a note on the current

GM 14 PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES 180

File Ref: 1493

Report in relation to options for the upgrade of Council's Aquatic Facilities, following the second round of community consultation during December and January. The report provides background information in relation to studies which examined the long-term future of Council's Aquatic Facilities. Those studies identified the need to upgrade the pools to address major concerns in relation to their structural condition, water delivery and water handling facilities, which are limiting their likely useful life; and opportunities to upgrade the facilities in a way that improves their capacity to meet the aquatic and leisure needs of the Marrickville community. Information is provided in relation to the Aquatic Leisure Facilities Study 2004 and the two rounds of community consultation undertaken in relation to the Aquatics Upgrading Package for Enmore and Petersham Pools and the Waterplay Park at Marrickville South, totalling \$13.62m, which was adopted by Council in its Major Projects Resources Plan as part of the 2005/06 Budget. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and Council adopt the Aquatic Upgrading Package which was subject of the community consultation process and that the projects proceed as outlined in the Recommendation.

PRECIS

GM 15 DECEMBER 05/JANUARY 06 BUDGET REVIEW 204

File Ref: 328

A review of Council's 2005/06 Budget for the period to the end of December 2005/January 2006 revealed a number of variances. The net effect of these variances will result in no change on the call on Council funds. This results in Council having a balanced Budget for the 2005/2006 financial year. The anticipated working funds position as at 30 June 2005 will therefore be \$8,988,000. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and that the variations to the Budget be approved.

GM 16 *DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK AQUATIC FACILITIES* 210

File Ref: 849

This report recommends a model for the future operation and management of Council's Aquatic Facilities, as well as interim arrangements until a new management contract is devised and a new tender process is undertaken. It is envisaged that the new management model will be in place from 1 July 2006

NOTICE OF MOTION

NM 1 PORT BOTANY-ENFIELD PROJECT 218

NM 2 DECENCY DAY 219

NM 3 DEVELOPMENT ADJACENT TO MAJOR ARTERIAL ROADS 220

NM 4 BALL GAMES IN LOUISA LAWSON RESERVE 221

NM 5 REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO RE-CONSIDER CHANGE TO MEETING DAY 222

MINUTES OF MEETING 11/05 - 13 December, 2005

Meeting Commenced at 9.00 pm.

PRESENT

The Mayor, Councillor S Byrne, who occupied the Chair, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor D Thanos, and Councillors S Iskandar, M Hanna OAM, S Khan, C Hesse, P Sharpe, P Olive, B Cotter and F Byrne.

ALSO PRESENT

General Manager, Director Corporate Services, Director Development & Environmental Services, Director Technical Services, Director Community Services, Manager Administrative Services, Manager Parks & Reserves and Manager Corporate Development.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY BY CHAIRPERSON

We meet today on the special land of the Cadigal Wangal People and I acknowledge their care of the land over many generations and celebrate their ongoing survival and achievements in today's society.

PERIOD OF SILENCE FOR PRAYER, PLEDGE OR CONTEMPLATION

APOLOGIES

5246

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Hesse, seconded by Councillor Sharpe, **THAT** the apologies extended for Councillor Macri, who was unable to attend because of a childcare commitment, and Councillor Owen, who had a work commitment, be accepted and leave of absence be **GRANTED**.

For Motion: Unanimous

BUSINESS

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

File Ref: 4084

Nil

MINUTES OF MEETING 11/05 - 13 December, 2005

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

File Ref: 4322

- 5247** **RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor F Byrne, **THAT** the Minutes of the Council Meeting 10/05, held on Tuesday, 15 November 2005, as circularised, be **CONFIRMED**.

For Motion: Unanimous

MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

- 5248** **IT WAS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, ON THE MOTION OF COUNCILLOR S BYRNE, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR F BYRNE, TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE AS APPEARING ON THE BUSINESS PAPER FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

CD 44 **2005 NSW ABORIGINAL RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL KNOCKOUT**

File Ref: 3466-01

CD 45 **RECURRENT FUNDING OFFER TO INCREASE VOLUNTEER REIMBURSEMENTS AT TOM FOSTER COMMUNITY CARE**

File Ref: 1434

For Motion: Unanimous

MATTERS ARISING FROM CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

FINANCE MATTER

FS 22 **COUNCIL'S INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2005 AND REVISED INVESTMENT POLICY AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY MIX**

File Ref: 399; 675 & 490

- 5249** **RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor F Byrne, **THAT** the Recommendation of the Corporate Services Committee as appearing on the Business Paper be **ADOPTED**.

For Motion: Unanimous

MINUTES OF MEETING 11/05 - 13 December, 2005

MATTERS ARISING FROM TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

ENGINEERING, PARKS & RESERVES AND PROPERTY SERVICES MATTERS

5250 IT WAS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, ON THE MOTION OF COUNCILLOR S BYRNE, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR C HESSE, TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AS APPEARING ON THE BUSINESS PAPER FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

ES 43 **ENGINEERING PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2005**

File Ref: 4572-04

PR 34 **CAMPERDOWN MEMORIAL REST PARK – 2005/2006 RESOURCES PLAN BUDGET ALLOCATION – FURTHER INFORMATION**

File Ref: 10119-04

PR 35 **ALEX TREVALLION PLAZA – ADOPTION OF CONCEPT DRAFT MASTER PLAN**

File Ref: 1887

PW 20 **PROPOSED PURCHASE OF NO. 2A FANNING STREET, TEMPE**

File Ref: P1690.500-01

For Motion: Unanimous

MAYORAL MINUTES

MM 14 **CABONNE FLOOD APPEAL**

File Ref: 1077-02

5251 **RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor Khan, **THAT** the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be **ADOPTED**.

For Motion: Unanimous

PROCEDURAL MOTION

5252 **RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor P Olive, **THAT** Items MM 15 and GM 100 be dealt with together.

For Motion: Unanimous

MINUTES OF MEETING 11/05 - 13 December, 2005

MM 15 REQUEST FOR DONATION TO BALMAIN FOR REFUGEES

File Ref: 1873

**GM 100 SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT TO MAYORAL MINUTE - REQUEST
FOR DONATION TO BALMAIN FOR REFUGEES**

File Ref: 7105-5

- 5253 RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor Sharpe, **THAT** the Recommendations as appearing on the Business Paper be **ADOPTED** with a total amount of \$2,000 being donated.

Councillor Iskandar temporarily left the meeting at 9.11 pm.

For Motion: Unanimous
Absent: Councillor Iskandar

**MM 16 UPDATE ON THE INVITATION TO THE MAYOR OF SAFITA TO
VISIT MARRICKVILLE IN 2006**

File Ref: 190

- 5254 RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor Khan, **THAT** the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be **ADOPTED**.

For Motion: Unanimous
Absent: Councillor Iskandar

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

- 5255 IT WAS RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, ON THE MOTION OF
COUNCILLOR COTTER, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HANNA, TO
ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS APPEARING ON THE BUSINESS
PAPER FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

GM 101 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY STAFF

File Ref: 4325-02

GM 102 COUNCILLORS' ACCESS TO INFORMATION

File Ref: 4015-04

GM 103 PETITIONS RECEIVED - NOVEMBER 2005

File Ref: 4577-03

MINUTES OF MEETING 11/05 - 13 December, 2005

GM 104 OUTSTANDING CONFERENCES AND REPORTS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS

File Ref: 4577-03

GM 105 ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN SYDNEY REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (SSROC) HELD ON THURSDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2005 AT HURSTVILLE CITY COUNCIL

File Ref: 4567-19

GM 106 TENDER FOR CONSULTANTS TO PREPARE A NEW URBAN STRATEGY FOR THE MARRICKVILLE LGA AND REVITALISATION PLANS FOR MARRICKVILLE AND ST PETERS STATIONS

File Ref: 1938

GM 107 NOVEMBER 2005 BUDGET REVIEW

File Ref: 328

For Motion: Unanimous

Absent: Councillor Iskandar

Meeting closed at 9.17 pm

CHAIRPERSON

MINUTES OF MEETING CDM 11/05 - 6 DECEMBER, 2005

Meeting commenced at 11.04 pm

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor S Byrne (in the Chair), the Deputy Mayor, Councillor D Thanos and Councillors B Cotter, P Sharpe, R Owen, P Olive, S Khan, F Byrne, M Hanna and V Macri.

ALSO PRESENT

Director Development and Environmental Services, Manager Planning Services, Manager Development Assessment, Manager Monitoring Services and Team Leader Development Assessment (Planning).

PERIOD OF SILENCE FOR PRAYER, PLEDGE OR CONTEMPLATION

APOLOGIES

5243 **RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor Hesse, **THAT** the apology for Councillor S Iskandar, who had to attend to family business, be accepted and leave of absence be **GRANTED**.

For Motion: Unanimous

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The following Councillor indicated matters in the Business Paper where they had a Conflict of Interest, and the nature of that interest as follows:

Item No	Councillor	Nature of Interest	Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary
PS 26	P Sharpe	Issues relating to the State Government and she is now part of the State Government.	Non-Pecuniary Will not speak or vote
DA 104	P Sharpe	Issues relating to the State Government and she is now part of the State Government.	Non-Pecuniary Will not speak or vote

MINUTES OF MEETING CDM 11/05 - 6 DECEMBER, 2005

DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MATTERS

- 5244** **RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor Hesse, **THAT** Council **ADOPT** the recommendation of the Development and Environmental Services Committee for the following Item:-

PS 27 TWO ALTERNATIVE MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR COMMERCIAL AND RETAIL DEVELOPMENT AT SYDNEY AIRPORT

File Ref: 13056-06

A **MOTION** was moved by Councillor Thanos, seconded by Councillor Cotter, **THAT** the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be **ADOPTED** and that Council forward the submission with a covering letter from the General Manager to the State Government indicating Council's ongoing opposition and supporting their position of demanding that the airport make contributions to infrastructure costs should they go ahead with such developments.

An **AMENDMENT** was moved by Councillor Khan, seconded by Councillor Hesse, **THAT** the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be **ADOPTED** with the addition of the following point:-

Council initiate an immediate campaign on behalf of local shopping centres to oppose Sydney Airport Corporation's major development plans.

The **AMENDMENT** was put to the vote and was **LOST**.

For Motion: Councillors Olive, Hesse and Khan

Against Motion: Councillors Thanos, Cotter, Sharpe, Owen, F Byrne, S Byrne, Hanna and Macri

The **MOTION** was put to the vote and was **CARRIED**.

For Motion: Unanimous

For Motion: Unanimous

Councillor Sharpe retired from the Meeting at 11.06 pm.

- 5245** **RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor Hesse, **THAT** Council **ADOPT** the recommendation of the Development and Environmental Services Committee for the following Items:-

IT WAS RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE, ON THE MOTION OF COUNCILLOR THANOS, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HANNA, THAT THE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THE RECOMMENDATION AS APPEARING ON THE BUSINESS PAPER FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE ADOPTED:

EN 34 CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION PLUS GREENHOUSE PURCHASING ADVANCING ACTION PROGRAM

MINUTES OF MEETING CDM 11/05 - 6 DECEMBER, 2005

File Ref: 508

For Motion: Unanimous

(Note: Councillor Sharpe had not yet arrived when this item was considered by the Development and Environmental Services Committee.)

IT WAS RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE, ON THE MOTION OF COUNCILLOR THANOS, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MACRI, THAT THE COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THE RECOMMENDATION AS APPEARING ON THE BUSINESS PAPER FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE ADOPTED:

DA 138 MARRICKVILLE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2001 (AMENDMENT No. 29) - 72 AND 74 FITZROY STREET, MARRICKVILLE

File Ref: DA200400411

For Motion: Unanimous

(Note: Councillor Sharpe had not yet arrived when this item was considered by the Development and Environmental Services Committee.)

DA 104 2 - 12 METROPOLITAN ROAD, ENMORE

File Ref: DA200400782&DA200500289

A **MOTION** was moved by Councillor S Byrne, seconded by Councillor Olive, **THAT** the application be **DEFERRED** so that Council and local residents can meet with the Minister for Education and Training to discuss the application.

An **AMENDMENT** was moved by Councillor Cotter, seconded by Councillor Owen, **THAT** the Recommendation commencing on Page 221 of Volume 2 of the Business Paper be **ADOPTED**.

A **FORESHADOWED AMENDMENT** was moved by Councillor Khan, seconded by Councillor Olive, **THAT** in terms of the Motion and that Council also seek a meeting with the local State Member to ask their support for this matter to remain public use.

The **AMENDMENT** was put to the vote and was **LOST**.

For Motion: Councillors Cotter, Owen, Hanna and Macri

Against Motion: Councillors Thanos, Olive, Hesse, Khan, F Byrne and S Byrne

The **FORESHADOWED AMENDMENT** was put to the vote and was **LOST**.

For Motion: Councillors Khan

Against Motion: Councillors Thanos, Cotter, Owen, Olive, Hesse, F Byrne, S Byrne, Hanna and Macri

The **MOTION** was put to the vote and was **CARRIED**.

For Motion: Councillors Thanos, Olive, Hesse, Khan, F Byrne and S Byrne

Against Motion: Councillors Cotter, Owen, Hanna and Macri

(Note: Councillor Sharpe had not yet arrived when this item was considered by the Development and Environmental Services Committee.)

MINUTES OF MEETING CDM 11/05 - 6 DECEMBER, 2005

**PS 26 PROPOSED DESALINATION PLANT, KURNELL PENINSULA -
DELEGATION TO THE MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER TO
PREPARE A SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

File Ref: 15991-04

RECOMMENDED: *On the Motion of Councillor Thanos, seconded by
Councillor Cotter, **THAT:-***

- 1 Council receive and note the report;*
- 2 Council request an extension of time for the 8 February, 2006; and*
- 3 Council's staff prepare a report and draft submission outlining the
issues so that a decision can be made at the February 2006
Development and Environmental Services Committee Meeting.*

For Motion: *Unanimous*

Absent: *Councillors Sharpe and Hesse*

For Motion: Unanimous

Absent: Councillor Sharpe

Meeting closed at 11.07 pm.

CHAIRPERSON

***CD 3 - SELECTIVE TENDER FOR ASHFIELD FOOD SERVICE
For Recommendation***

File Ref: 35

A/Director, Community Services reports:

Synopsis

Council is advised that an invitation to participate in a selective tender to provide food services to the Ashfield LGA was received from the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) on 13 December 2005. DADHC is seeking a suitably experienced organisation to re-aspice the food service and ensure continuity of service and quality of support. The closing date for the tender was Friday 27 January 2006. It is recommended that Council receive and note the report and endorse the recent submission of a tender to the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care to manage and operate the Ashfield Food Service program.

Background

Council received an invitation to participate in a selective tender to provide food services to the Ashfield LGA from the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) on 13 December 2005. DADHC is seeking a suitably experienced organisation to re-aspice the food service and ensure continuity of service and quality of support to older people, people with a disability and their carers in the Ashfield LGA.

The closing date for the tender was Friday 27 January 2006. DADHC has also advised that the invitation to apply through this selective tender process does not commit the Department in any way to the provision of funding or assistance to any applicant. The outcome of the process is subject to the evaluation for all applications in accordance with the stated assessment criteria and the endorsement of any recommendations of the Assessment Panel by the Minister or delegated officer.

It is understood that Ashfield Food Services have been managed for many years by Ashfield Municipal Meals on Wheels Service Inc., which purchases meals from the Baptist Catering Service, under auspices of the Baptist Church. However, the service has indicated its intention to close and, hence, a selective tender process to re-aspice the service has been initiated by DADHC.

Council successfully tendered for the Leichhardt Food Service in 2004 on a very similar basis and it is now successfully integrated into the operations of Tom Foster Community Care. Leichhardt Council staff were pleased to referee Council's tender application along with the Meals on Wheels Association of NSW.

Discussion

Overview of Marrickville and Leichhardt Food Services

Marrickville Food Services (MFS) and Leichhardt Food Services (LFS) operate out of the Tom Foster Community Care centre in Newtown. They are Council operated, DADHC funded programs, that provide meals to the frail aged, people with a disability and their carers in the Marrickville and Leichhardt local government areas. Council received \$459,200 in 2005-06 (plus indexation, yet to be received) from DADHC, including \$345,965 for the provision of food services

***CD 3 - SELECTIVE TENDER FOR ASHFIELD FOOD SERVICE
For Recommendation***

in Marrickville and Leichhardt. Significant non-recurrent funding has also been provided by DADHC for minor capital projects and service improvements, particularly in the context of service expansion to Leichhardt.

Council operates its own commercial kitchen, which provides meals for clients of the Food Services Program. Operational costs of the kitchen are met through the sale of meals to clients, plus grants and subsidies received from the Department. The Food Services Program at Marrickville has developed a reputation for providing high quality, culturally appropriate meals to service users from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds across the Inner West of Sydney region, including bulk meals to the Jane Evans Day Care Centre, Canterbury Meals on Wheels and Concord Meals on Wheels.

The Marrickville and Leichhardt Food Services deliver a combined average of 180 meals per day. Clients can choose from one of three menu choices each day, which include at least one option for people with diabetes. There are currently 20 volunteers who assist with the delivery of meals each day and a total base of 40 MOW volunteers. All clients are assessed and reassessed at regular intervals to ensure that the meals meet their nutritional and cultural needs and choices.

Current Operational Status of the Ashfield Food Service

Ashfield Food Service currently provides 367 meals per week to 67 clients, therefore, the service is of a similar size and projected income level as that of the Leichhardt Food Service when integrated into TFCC in 2004. Currently Ashfield Food Service clients receive a change of meal every four weeks, however, there is no menu choice. No hot meals are provided. There are 53 volunteers assisting on meals runs.

Financial Implications of the Proposed Tender

If Council were to be successful in this tender, it would be able to provide the same high quality of service to clients who live in Ashfield LGA as it does in Marrickville and Leichhardt. Funds received as a result of the successful Leichhardt Food Services bid has enabled a staffing restructure at TFCC and the subsequent recruitment of additional highly skilled and experienced staff. Funding of approximately \$105,000 pa under the Ashfield bid will be used to consolidate the existing structure by increasing staff hours in the kitchen and for the assessment and referral function within the Social Support Program.

If successful, TFCC proposes to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ashfield Council's Community Services team to formalise arrangements whereby TFCC staff and volunteers will refer clients to external service providers when their changing needs indicate any need for support beyond the Food Services Program.

Above the estimated \$105,000 pa in additional grants and subsidies that would be provided by DADHC, an increase in the number of daily clients will also improve the viability of the Tom Foster kitchen, generating an estimated \$145,600 per annum in meal sales. There would be no additional costs to Council. Therefore, it is recommended that Council endorse the recent submission by Council officers of a tender for the Ashfield Food Service.

Conclusion

***CD 3 - SELECTIVE TENDER FOR ASHFIELD FOOD SERVICE
For Recommendation***

The potential to expand the provision of Food Services to residents of the Ashfield LGA provides Council with an opportunity to increase the viability of its existing service and positions it well for the future as Australia's population continues to age and demand greater choice and higher quality community care options.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council endorse the recent submission of a tender to the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care to manage and operate the Ashfield Food Service program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation appearing on the Business Paper be adopted.

CC 3 - NEWTOWN ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT PROJECT UPDATE
For Recommendation

File Ref: 940

Director, Community Services reports:

Synopsis

Council is advised of the progress of the Newtown Entertainment Precinct Project; and the results of grant applications to the City of Sydney (Item CC 21, Meeting 10/05), and the Ministry for the Arts (Item CC13, Meeting 07/05). It is recommended that the report be received and noted; the \$20,000 grant from the Ministry for the Arts for the Newtown Art Board Project be accepted; and Council consider a budget adjustment at the next budget review.

Background

The Newtown Entertainment Precinct Project evolved from existing strategies, such as the Newtown Urban Design Strategy, the Inner West Tourism Study and Council's Management Plan. Council is working closely with the Newtown Entertainment Precinct Association and the Newtown South Main Street Committee in the on-going implementation of these strategies.

Council was successful in obtaining part funding for the Newtown Entertainment Precinct Project from the Department of Transport and Regional Services' Regional Assistance Programme, Planning NSW's Urban Improvement Program, and the Australia Council. All project grants have been acquitted.

The Newtown Entertainment Precinct Project has aimed to:

- i. foster economic and cultural development through coordinating Newtown as a unique cultural and entertainment precinct by engaging the community, public and private sector partners;
- ii. improve the physical environment by enhancing the attractiveness, appeal, and liveability of Newtown through the creation of quality public spaces, and improved amenities for residents, visitors, workers and students; and
- iii. maximise Newtown's tourism potential by working with the community, public and private sectors to strengthen Newtown's unique local character and cultural identity and continue to develop domestic and international visitor interest.

The nine projects funded by Council and the above funding bodies were:

Ongoing Projects:

- The Newtown Precinct Website;
- The Newtown Precinct Art Space Program;
- The Newtown Precinct Guide;
- Newtown Square Art Board Project;
- The Newtown Arts Development Project;
- Telstra Plaza Upgrade; and
- Information and Booking Kiosk.

CC 3 - NEWTOWN ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT PROJECT UPDATE
For Recommendation

Completed Projects:

- Poster Bollards;
- The Arts Employment Experience Program.

Discussion

The Newtown Entertainment Precinct Project has a revised completion date of 2007 and is linked to Council's existing work on streetscape improvements and urban design. The project involves a range of actions aimed at achieving the above listed objectives, as follows:

Partnership Development

Council continues to develop strong working relationships with its project partners: Newtown Entertainment Precinct Association (NEPA); Newtown South Main Street Committee; local restaurants; Alternative Media Group; Addison Road Centre; Tourism Sydney & Tourism New South Wales; and the media.

Council has also established working relationships with Ish Group who are currently sponsoring the newtownprecinct.com.au website; and with the newly created Newtown Business Network.

Council continues to negotiate with the City of Sydney to establish a formal partnership for a range of projects and Mayor Byrne has written to the Mayor of City of Sydney requesting a meeting to discuss Marrickville Council's Partnership Proposal (Item CC 20, Meeting 10/05).

Council staff met with City of Sydney's Cultural Development Manager on 19 January 2006 and received a positive response to moving forward with the partnership proposal.

Precinct Promotion

A new promotional campaign for the precinct was launched at 'Upstage Newtown' Marrickville Council Arts Night. The campaign centers around the slogan 'Get into the precinct and get under Sydney's skin' and invites residents and visitors to scratch the surface of Sydney to discover an edgy, alternative, exciting area distinct from the rest of the city and proud of its difference. Visitors and locals alike are invited to *watch it, bite it, touch it and flaunt it...* representing the four main attractions of the Newtown experience: arts and entertainment, eating out, shopping for quirky items, and fashion.

In collaboration with NEPA, Council is promoting the precinct website newtownprecinct.com.au as Newtown's main online portal. The campaign targets:

- national & international visitors;
- metropolitan visitors; and
- local community.

The campaign incorporates a promotional postcard series; paid advertising in local papers, radio, Sydney Morning Herald and appropriate magazines and event guides; collaborations with Tourism NSW to reflect the campaign on their web site, and in trade journals and newsletters; setting up cross promotional opportunities with precinct event producers; and liaison with the media to obtain coverage for the precinct.

CC 3 - NEWTOWN ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT PROJECT UPDATE
For Recommendation

Editorial coverage includes positive mention of the website and Council in local papers and metropolitan radio including the Glebe, Inner City Courier, Cooks River Valley Times, City Hub, Eastside Radio, Fbi, 2SER, and 2NBC; and coverage of precinct events in the Daily Telegraph. The television show Getaway is producing a segment on fashion in the precinct, and Jetstar's in-flight magazine will be carrying a feature on Newtown in their April issue.

The campaign will continue until June 2006.

Precinct Funding

The grant application to Department of Transport and Regional Services Regional Partnerships Programme (Item CC21, Meeting 10/05) has been submitted; advice has been received from the City of Sydney that the grant application to the Cultural Grants and Sponsorships Program for the Newtown Art Board Project (Item CC21, Meeting 10/05) was unsuccessful; and advice has been received that the Ministry for The Arts (Item CC13, Meeting 07/05) has approved a grant of \$20,000 towards artists' fees and artist participants costs for the Newtown Art Board Project.

Council will be informed of further funding opportunities as they arise.

NEPA Website

Council staff are working on upgrading the newtownprecinct.com.au website in collaboration with NEPA; creating new web links and obtaining free web listings; paid web advertising; and promotion of the website in the Sydney Official Guide and Shopping Guide.

A link has been established from the precinct website to a Newtown South Main Street Shopping Guide located on the Council web site under local businesses Newtown.

Further development of this shopping guide will take place in collaboration with Newtown South Main Street over the next month.

The newtownprecinct.com.au website statistics indicate an average increase in visitors to the site of 79% since the start of the campaign compared to the same time last year. Previous increases over the last twelve months have averaged 39%.

The Newtown Precinct Art Space Program

Inner West Cultural Services continues to manage the Newtown Precinct Art Space Program with a curated program of exhibitions in precinct venues including @newtown RSL, PACT Youth Theatre, and Sidetrack Theatre.

The Newtown Precinct Guide

The Newtown Precinct Guide is an information guide printed monthly as part of the free City Hub. The Guide completed its production of 12 editions and was continued with a further six months funding from Council in 2004. Produced by the publisher of the City Hub, Alternative Media Group (AMG), the Guide has continued, through advertising support, as a 4 page lift-out showcasing arts and entertainment in the Newtown area. Recently Council agreed to release funds to produce a further six issues (Item CC20, Meeting 10/05).

***CC 3 - NEWTOWN ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT PROJECT UPDATE
For Recommendation***

A new funding agreement outlining an expanded editorial content has been made with AMG, and an editorial committee representing NEPA and Council has been established. The first issue under this agreement was published in January 2006.

Newtown Square Art Board Project

The Art Board is an innovative urban design initiative which will improve the physical environment of Newtown and create quality public spaces. The project has been put on hold until March 2006 (Item CC21, Meeting 10/05), whilst awaiting advice from DoTARS Regional Partnerships Programme regarding Council's grant application.

As mentioned above the Ministry for the Arts has approved a \$20,000 grant towards artists' fees and artist participants' costs for the project.

The Newtown Arts Development Project

Council resolved to provide additional \$15,000 funding in the 2005/2006 budget towards an extension of the Arts Development Project, currently based at the Addison Road Centre, and jointly funded by Council and the Centre. Council officers are currently in negotiation with the management of the Addison Road Centre regarding their proposal for the second stage of the Artsville Arts Directory, a major component of the Newtown Arts Development Project.

Telstra Plaza Upgrade

Council is continuing negotiations with Telstra regarding the ownership of Telstra Plaza. At this stage no further progress has been made and Council is waiting on further advice from Telstra.

Information and Booking Kiosk

The information and booking kiosk project continues to be managed by NEPA who are currently re-negotiating an on-line ticketing agreement for booking services for the Kiosk. A development application for the Kiosk to be situated in Newtown Square was approved in January 2004.

On the provision of a signed lease agreement Council will release previously approved funds (Item CC 18, Meeting 07/03) for the establishment of the Kiosk and contract the artist selected to provide an artwork on the exterior of the Kiosk (Item CC12, Meeting 07/05).

Conclusion

Over the past 6 months, the Newtown Entertainment Precinct Project has continued to raise the profile of Newtown as a significant entertainment and cultural destination, and contribute to the enhancement of the unique culture and identity of the local area, as well as supporting NEPA to continue their program of business development for local venues.

Director, Corporate Services Reports:

No provision has been made in the 2005/2006 Resources Plan for the \$20,000 grant from the Ministry for the Arts for the Artboard Project. Council can consider a budget adjustment at its next budget review.

CC 3 - NEWTOWN ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT PROJECT UPDATE
For Recommendation

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council accept the \$20,000 grant from the Ministry for the Arts towards artists' fees and artist participant's costs for the Newtown Art Board Project; and
3. Council consider a budget adjustment at its next Budget Review.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

**CS 1 - ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES GRANTS FOR
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
For Recommendation**

File Ref: 3078

Director, Community Services reports:

Synopsis

Council is advised that the Australian Sport Commission has approved non-recurrent funding for Camdenville, Ferncourt, Stanmore and Wilkins Outside School Hour Care Centres for Terms 1 and 2 through the Active After-School Communities grants scheme. It is recommended that the report be received and noted; that Council accept the provision of funds under the Active After-School Communities grant scheme for \$2,816 at Camdenville, \$2,816 at Ferncourt, \$2,816 at Stanmore, and \$2,816 at Wilkins Outside of School Hour Care Centres; and that Council consider a Budget adjustment at its next Budget review for \$11,264.

Background

Active After-School Communities is a national program, which is part of the Federal Government's \$116 million 'Building a Healthy Active Australia' package. It provides primary school aged children with access to free structured physical activity programs in after school care programs. The program is designed to engage traditionally non-active children in physical activities and build pathways with local community organisations such as sporting clubs.

The Active After-School Communities program aims to involve approximately 3,250 Australian primary schools and/or child care benefit approved Outside of School Hour Care Centres in the scheme, as well as aiming to involve 150,000 children.

The funding formula is determined by calculating the number of sessions per week the Outside of School Hour Care Centres propose to deliver as well as the number of children participating within each session. In addition to funding, services can access support through an Area Co-ordinator. The Area Co-ordinators assist with training of staff, budget development and grant applications for each term.

Discussion

Previous reports for receipt of funding under the Active After-School Communities grant scheme for Terms 1 through to 4 was considered by Council at its Community Services Committee meeting in June 2005 (Item CS 12 05/05) and August 2005 (Item CS 19, 07/05). For Terms 1 to 4, a total of \$17 539.80 was received under the grant scheme.

In deciding what programs to run during Terms 1 and 2 for 2006, staff spent time talking with children and seeking their feedback about possible activities. The outcome of these discussions with children led to the following activities being organised for Term 1:

Camdenville OSHC - Tae Kwon Do and sports clinic;
Ferncourt OSHC - Dance classes and sports clinic;
Wilkins OSHC - Basketball and sports clinic; and

***CS 1 - ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES GRANTS FOR
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
For Recommendation***

Stanmore OSHC - Multi sports for Kindergarten - Year 1 and multi sports for Year 2 - Year 6.

The Active After-School Communities Programs will commence 6 February 2006, and will be held twice a week in each service for a period of eight weeks. Coaches to run these sports programs were sourced from a register operated by the Australian Sports Commission. The sports clinics will involve children participating in ball games, sports races and learning new ball skills; whilst the additional activities will assist children in developing skills specific to the sports being run at each centre.

Conclusion

The funds received from the Australian Sports Commission's, Active After-School Communities program will be used to implement sports activities for children attending Council's Outside School Hour Care Centres. Ensuring children in the local community are physically active will support a healthier community.

Director Corporate Services reports:

Council can consider a budget adjustment of \$11,264 to reflect the Active After-School Communities Grant Scheme received in 2005/06 at its next Budget review.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council accept the funding from the Australian Sports Commission under the Active After-School Community Grants Scheme for Terms 1 and 2 2006, for \$2,816 at Camdenville, \$2,816 at Ferncourt, \$2,816 at Stanmore, and \$2,816 at Wilkins Outside of School Hour Care Centres; and
3. Council consider a budget adjustment at its next Budget review for \$11,264.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

***CS 2 - COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES MINOR CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM 2005
For Recommendation***

File Ref: 1854

Director, Community Services reports:

Synopsis

Council is advised that an application was submitted for May Murray Children's Centre through the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services Minor Capital Upgrade Grant scheme in November 2005. Council has been notified that the application for the installation of a shade structure was successful. Funding to the amount of \$5,900 (GST exclusive) has been received. It is recommended that the report be received and noted; that the Common Seal of Council be executed and affixed by the Mayor and General Manager to the Funding Agreement; and that a budget variation be considered by Council at its next budget review.

Background

The Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services Minor Capital Grant Upgrade scheme, offers both community based and Commonwealth funded childcare services the opportunity to apply for funds to improve facilities. The scheme allows for capital upgrades for work needing to be carried out to address health, safety and regulatory compliance matters required by childcare services. Funding for services located in urban areas in 2005 was available to a maximum amount of \$30,000.

Discussion

May Murray Children's Centre was recently re-licensed by the NSW Department of Community Services. The licensing visit identified a need for additional shading in the outdoor environment to ensure compliance to the Children's Services Regulation (2004).

As reported to the Community Services Committee Meeting on 13 December 2005 (Item CS 31, Meeting 11/05) an application was submitted to the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services requesting \$6,885 to fund the installation of a shade structure. Marrickville Council was successful in its application and \$5,900 has been granted.

The grant money is provided solely on the basis that:

- the operator commence and complete the project within 12 months; and
- the operator acknowledges the assistance of the Australian Government in any publicity material or promotional activity that the Centre may organise in relation to the grant.

It is anticipated that works will begin in March 2006 and will take approximately 2 weeks to complete.

***CS 2 - COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES MINOR CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM 2005
For Recommendation***

Conclusion

The Minor Capital Upgrade Program is an essential grant program for community based children's services. It ensures that capital works which may otherwise not be completed can be used to address health, safety and regulatory compliance projects.

The Director Corporate Services Reports:

Council can consider a Budget adjustment for \$5,990 for the installation of a shade structure at May Murray Children's Centre at its next Budget Review.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. the Common Seal of Council be executed and affixed by the Mayor and General Manager to the Funding Agreement; and
3. Council consider a budget variation to reflect the grant funding at its next budget review.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

**CS 3 - YOUNG CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES FUNDING FOR
GLOBE WILKINS PRESCHOOL
For Recommendation**

File Ref: 39

Director, Community Services reports:

Synopsis

Council is advised that the Department of Education and Training (DET) has approved funding of \$5,084 for Globe Wilkins Preschool under the Young Children with Disabilities Component of the Intervention Support Program. It is recommended that Council enter into an agreement for this funding and that the Common Seal of Council be affixed to relevant documents.

Background

The Young Children with Disabilities funding supports the integration of young children with disabilities into early childhood settings to ensure they have equal access to learning opportunities. The funding is used to employ an additional worker to support the successful inclusion of children into a mainstream service. An application for funding under the Intervention Support Program, which is managed by the Department of Education and Training, was submitted by Council to the Department in December 2005 to support the inclusion of two children with disabilities enrolled at Globe Wilkins Preschool.

Discussion

DET has advised that Council's application has been successful. The sum of \$5,084 has been approved. The funding will be allocated from the date of receipt of the first payment to 31 December 2006. This income will provide additional carer support for two children currently enrolled at Globe Wilkins Preschool.

Council is required to complete the Form of Acceptance, which requires the Common Seal to be affixed, and to submit this form to DET prior to receiving the funding.

Director, Corporate Services reports

Council can consider a budget adjustment of \$5,084 to reflect the increased funding and associated costs in 2005/06 at its next Budget review.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. Council enter into a funding agreement with the Department of Education and Training for the provision of funds to the amount of \$5,084 for Globe Wilkins Preschool under the Young Children with Disabilities Component of the Intervention Support Program, and that the document be executed under the Common Seal of Council; and
3. Council consider a Budget adjustment at its next Budget review.

Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

***CS 3 - YOUNG CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES FUNDING FOR
GLOBE WILKINS PRESCHOOL
For Recommendation***

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

***ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY
For Decision***

File Ref: S4940-03

Director, Technical Services reports:

Synopsis

The December Technical Services Committee meeting, (Item ES42) deferred a report on the raised threshold in Unwins Bridge Road, Tempe outside the Tillman Park Child Care Centre to allow the resident time to consider the matter further. It is recommended that the matter be referred back to the Local Traffic Planning & Advisory Committee for consideration.

Background

At the Technical Services Committee Meeting held on 13 December 2005 (Item ES 42, Meeting 11/05), it was resolved “***THAT*** the matter be deferred until the next Technical Services Committee Meeting in February 2006.”

Discussion

A copy of the report to the December Technical Services Committee Meeting is **ATTACHED** for the information of the Committee. It is recommended that the matter be referred back to the Local Traffic Planning & Advisory Committee for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the matter be referred back to the Local Traffic Planning & Advisory Committee for consideration.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. Council continue to request the RTA's approval to the speed limit in Unwins Bridge Road being reduced to 50 km/h;
2. a further **REPORT** be presented to the Technical Services Committee meeting, within three months, on the RTA's response; and
3. the subject marked pedestrian crossing remains, in view of the high proportion of parents indicating the need for the raised crossing and the real pedestrian safety issues involved.

Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

***ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05***

***UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY***

For Decision

ATTACHMENTS: Total 7 pages

Attachment A - Report to Technical Services Committee Meeting 11/05, Item ES 42, 2 pages

Attachment 1 - Photograph of the raised pedestrian crossing in Unwins Bridge Road, Tempe, 1 page

Attachment 2 - Site inspection notification, 4 pages

***ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY
For Decision***

ATTACHMENT A

File Ref: S4940-03

Director, Technical Services reports:

Synopsis

The Technical Services Committee on 8 November, 2005, considered a report about perceived noise from the raised pedestrian facility in Unwins Bridge Road. The Committee resolved to defer the matter, pending a site inspection. An inspection has been arranged on Saturday, 10 December 2005 at 8:45am. The Chair of the Technical Services Committee will update the Committee on the outcomes of the site inspections. Notwithstanding this, in view of the high proportion of parents indicating the need for the raised crossing during a questionnaire survey, and public policy implications of removing the raised threshold, it is recommended that the subject marked pedestrian crossing remains. To further improve the situation, it is recommended that Council continue to request the RTA's approval to the speed limit of Unwins Bridge Road being reduced to 50 km/h.

Background

Mr Bolzan of Bolzan & Dimitri Lawyers addressed the Technical Services C. I. Boros of 127 Terry Street, Tempe, raising concerns about noise generated from traffic travelling over the raised pedestrian crossing outside his premises in Unwins Bridge Road, opposite Tillman Park.

The Technical Services Committee resolved **THAT:-**

1. *the matter be **DEFERRED** pending a site inspection;*
2. *the matter of reducing the current speed limit in Unwins Bridge Road to 50 km/h be **REFERRED** to the Roads and Traffic Authority for consideration;*
3. *costings be provided at the site inspection for the cost of moving the raised threshold and the foot crossing approximately 50 m to the north and also for an alternative treatment to provide an at-grade marked foot crossing at the present location; and*
4. *a **REPORT** be presented to the next Technical Services Committee Meeting with the above costings and the public policy implications of Council removing the raised threshold altogether.*

***ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY
For Decision***

Report

The subject pedestrian crossing as shown in the attached photograph (**ATTACHMENT 1**) is used by parents and children going to and from the Child Care Centre in Tillman Park and by commuters walking to the nearby Sydenham Railway Station. The original marked foot crossing was raised to improve the sight distance for approaching motorists following requests from parents of the Primary School. In order to reduce the noise level, the raised approach ramps have been lengthened.

The estimated cost to move the raised threshold/foot crossing approximately 50 metres to the north of the current location is \$25,000, whereas the estimated cost for an alternative treatment to provide an at-grade marked foot crossing at the present location is \$13, 000.

Public Policy issues

A decision by Council to relocate the existing raised threshold/foot crossings based, on the request from only one resident, would have significant implications to Council, as it may encourage residents in other streets in the LGA to make similar requests. If on the other hand, Council decides on an alternative treatment to replace the existing raised crossing with an at-grade marked foot crossing, there is a strong possibility that speeds in the vicinity of the foot crossing will increase significantly and increase the probability of pedestrian accidents occurring in that location.

Site Inspection

It is proposed to conduct a site inspection on Saturday, 10 December 2005. A copy of the site inspection notification is attached to this report (**ATTACHMENT 2**).

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the subject marked pedestrian crossing remains, in view of the high proportion of parents indicating the need for the raised crossing and the real pedestrian safety issues involved; and
2. to further improve the situation, Council continue to request the RTA's approval to the speed limit in Unwins Bridge Road being reduced to 50 km/h.

ATTACHMENTS: Total 5 pages

Attachment 1 - Photograph of the raised pedestrian crossing in Unwins Bridge Road, Tempe, 1 page

Attachment 2 - Site inspection notification, 4 pages

Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

***ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05***

***UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY***

For Decision

ATTACHMENT 1



**ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT
PERCEIVED NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY
For Decision**

ATTACHMENT 2

INSPECTION

Technical Services Committee
Saturday 10 December, 2005 at 8.45am

**Location : at marked footcrossing outside
Tillman Park Child Care Centre**

ES 34 (Item B6) - Technical Services Committee 10/05 - 8 November 2005

**UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT NOISE FROM
RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY**

File Ref: S4940-03

At the Technical Services Committee Meeting 10/05 it was resolved **THAT:-**

- "1. the matter be **DEFERRED** pending a site inspection;
2. the matter of reducing the current speed limit in Unwins Bridge Road to 50 km/h be **REFERRED** to the Roads and Traffic Authority for consideration;
3. costings be provided at the site inspection for the cost of moving the raised threshold and the footcrossing approximately 50 m to the north and also for an alternative treatment to provide an at-grade marked footcrossing at the present location; and
4. a **REPORT** be presented to the next Technical Services Committee Meeting with the above costings and the public policy implications of Council removing the raised threshold altogether."

Copies of the Minutes of the Local Traffic Planning & Advisory Committee Meeting and the relevant Traffic Committee Report are **ATTACHED** for information.

Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

***ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY
For Decision***

TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE SITE MEETING

14 November 2005

**ITEM 1
S4940-03
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE (SOUTH WARD)
COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY**

Director Technical Services reports:

Synopsis

The Technical Services Committee on November 8, 2005, considered a report about perceived noise from the raised pedestrian facility in Unwins Bridge Road. The Committee resolved to DEFER the matter, pending a site inspection on Saturday 10 December 2005 at 8:45am.

Background

Mr Bolzan of Bolzan & Dimitri Lawyers addressed the Technical Services Committee Meeting of 8 November 2005 (Item ES 34/B6), on behalf of Mr. I. Boros of 127 Terry Street, Tempe, raising concerns about noise generated from traffic travelling over the raised pedestrian crossing outside his premises in Unwins Bridge Road, opposite Tillman Park. The Committee resolved to DEFER the matter pending a site inspection and a further report to the next Committee meeting. The report to the Committee would include costing for moving the raised threshold/foot crossing approximately 50 metres to the north of the current location, costs for an alternative treatment to provide an at-grade marked foot crossing at the present location and the public policy implications of Council removing the raised threshold altogether.

Report

The subject pedestrian crossing is used by parents and children going to and from the Child Care Centre in Tillman Park and by commuters walking to the nearby Sydenham Railway Station. The original marked foot crossing was raised to improve the sight distance for approaching motorists following requests from parents of the Primary School. In order to reduce the noise level, the raised approach ramps has been lengthened.

***ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05
UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY
For Decision***

The cost to move the raised threshold/foot crossing approximately 50 metres to the north of the current location is \$25,000, whereas the costs for an alternative treatment to provide an at-grade marked foot crossing at the present location is \$13, 000.

Public Policy issues

If Council decides to relocate the existing raised threshold/foot crossings based on the request from only one resident, such decision would have significant financial implications to Council, as it may encourage residents in other streets in the LGA to make similar requests. If on the other hand, Council decides on an alternative treatment to provide an at-grade marked foot crossing at the present location, there is a strong possibility that speeds in the vicinity of the foot crossing will increase significantly and increase the probability of accidents occurring in that location.

Recommendations

In view of the high proportion of parents indicating the need for the raised crossing during a questionnaire survey, and public policy implications, it is recommended that the subject marked pedestrian crossing remains. To further improve the situation, it is suggested that the speed limit of Unwins Bridge Road be reduce to 50 km/h.

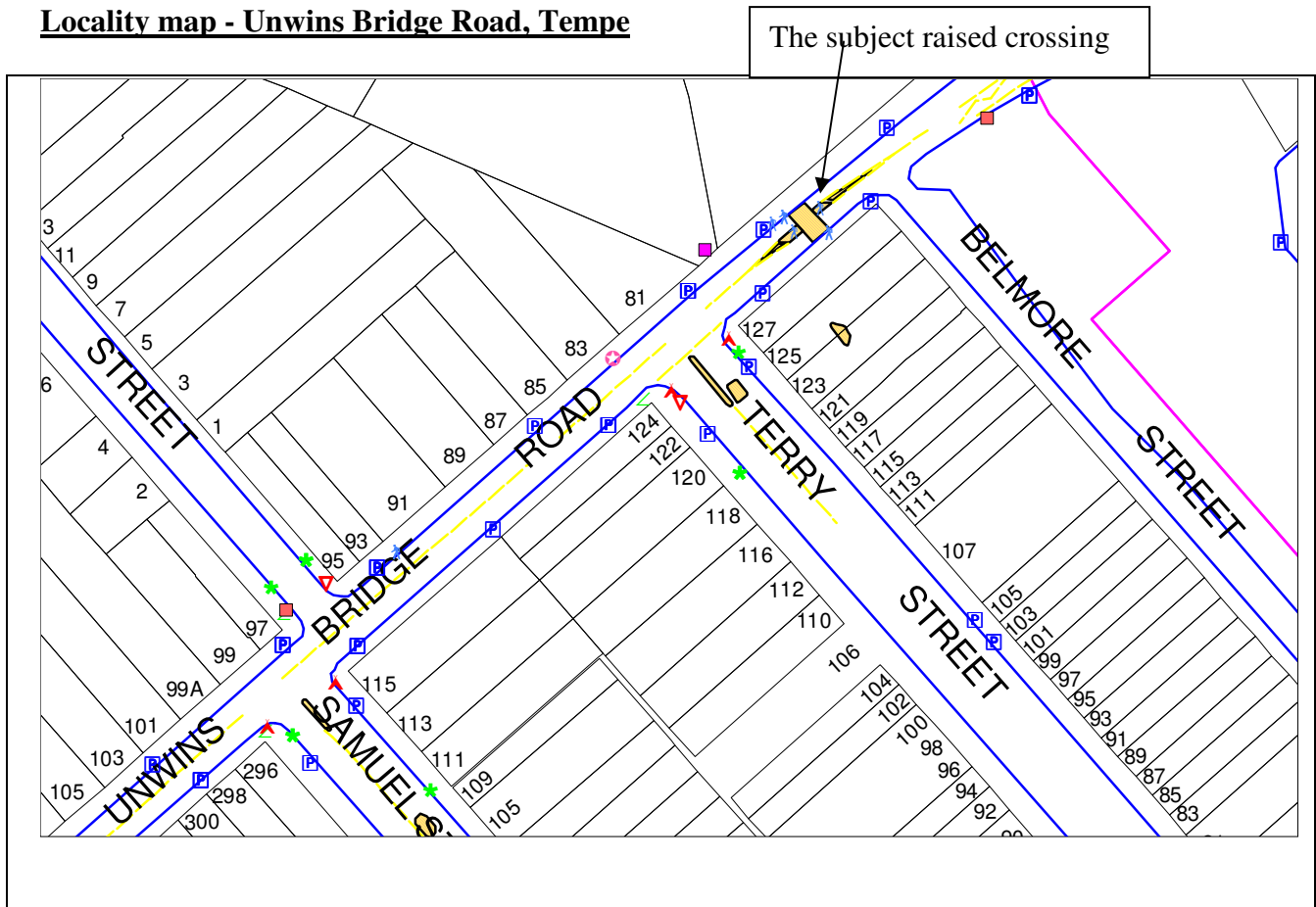
Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

**ES 2 - RE: ITEM ES 42 TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING 11/05**

**UNWINS BRIDGE ROAD, TEMPE - COMPLAINT ABOUT PERCEIVED
NOISE FROM RAISED PEDESTRIAN FACILITY**

For Decision

Locality map - Unwins Bridge Road, Tempe



ES 3 - ENGINEERING PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2006
For Recommendation

File Ref: 4572-04

Director, Technical Services reports:

Synopsis

This is a report on the civil construction and maintenance works commissioned and coordinated by the Engineering Section for the period concluding 31 January 2006. It is recommended that the report be received and noted.

Background

The status of the civil construction and maintenance program being undertaken as at 31 January 2006, is described in the **ATTACHED** tables. The Operating Budget Progress Report is **ATTACHED**. The Resources Plan Progress Report indicates the progress of the capital works approved for 2005/2006 projects currently underway. A summary of the Civil Construction Program to 31 January 2006 is as follows:

STATUS	PROJECT	PROGRAM
Completed in December 2005 & January 2006	Princes Highway, St Peters Beach Road, Dulwich Hill Neville Lane, Marrickville Merton Street, Stanmore Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan Works - Addison Road, Marrickville Oxford Street, Newtown	Footpath Reconstruction Drainage Works Lanes Reconstruction Footpath Reconstruction Footpath Reconstruction Road Reconstruction
In Progress	Macaulay Lane, Stanmore Schwebel Street, Marrickville Darley Street, Marrickville Abergeldie Street, Dulwich Hill	Lanes Reconstruction Road Reconstruction Footpath Reconstruction Footpath Reconstruction
Scheduled to commence in February 2006	Remainder of 05/06 Roads and Lanes Program (Salisbury Road, Stanmore, Trafalgar Street, Petersham Accessible Ramps - various locations Australia Street, Newtown Station Street, Newtown	Road Reconstruction Road Reconstruction Road Reconstruction Footpath Reconstruction Footpath Reconstruction Road Reconstruction

RESOURCE PLAN CHANGES

Road Construction Program

Analysis of the anticipated costs to complete the Roads Construction Program has been undertaken, which has highlighted the need for a review of the scope of works and associated budget adjustment.

The principle behind a 3 year Rolling Program of works is to allow for works to be planned and implemented in a timely fashion. The nature of roadwork is such that it is difficult to predict the exact cost of works in the absence of detailed survey, design and geotechnical information. It is often necessary for works to be deferred where pre-construction estimates differ markedly from the

***ES 3 - ENGINEERING PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2006
For Recommendation***

preliminary figures used in the annual budget. A three year Rolling Program enables works to be deferred to the following year where costs exceed the budget figure and, alternatively, for future years jobs to be brought forward where savings are achieved.

The estimated cost of reconstructing the road pavement in Schwebel Street is \$215,000 which is \$105,000 in excess of the budget. It is recommended that resurfacing works in Petersham Road and Cardigan Place be deferred to enable Schwebel Street to be completed.

Further, there is an allocation of \$130,000 in the Roads and Drainage Assets Program to provide for data collection associated with the new Assets Management System. The present data collection needs have been satisfied and it is recommended that these funds can be better spent on resurfacing works.

The net impact of these changes to the Roads Program is an estimated deficit of \$9,693. It is expected that projected savings during the remainder of the year will enable this deficit to be made up.

3 x 3 Repair Program

Council has received advice that the resurfacing of Llewellyn Street, Enmore has been tentatively included for funding in the RTA's 2006/2007 REPAIR Program. Given Council will receive grant funds for this project, it is proposed to use the current 3 x 3 funding for a project that is less likely to attract RTA funding. As such, it is recommended that the current 3 x3 budget of \$48,000 be allocated to resurfacing Illawarra Road, between Warren Road and Renwick Street, Marrickville. This work will continue and complete last years resurfacing of Illawarra Road.

Traffic Program

The RTA advised Council of a dollar for dollar grant for the construction of a pedestrian refuge island in Livingstone Road, Marrickville at the intersection of Randall Crescent. Whilst the RTA provided a budget of \$13,000, the estimated cost of the work is \$9,000 meaning Council's contribution is \$4,500. It is recommended that savings within the Urgent Traffic Matters budget (1-4102-1300-7874-00) be used to match the RTA funds.

West St Bike Facilities

With the closure of West Street at Railway Parade, Petersham, Council has been working with MASSBUG and the RTA to improve access for bicycles. The LTPAC recently considered the redesign of the intersection to incorporate cycle lanes.

The RTA have agreed to meet the cost of these works to the value of \$20,000. It is recommended that the grant be accepted and that Council include the works in its current construction program.

40kph High Pedestrian Zones

Council included a project in the current resources Plan for the establishment of a 40kph High Pedestrian Zone in Marrickville Road, Marrickville. The proposal was similar to that recently implemented in the Dulwich Hill Shopping Centre. Whilst the Dulwich Hill initiative was fully funded by the RTA, Council has not received similar funding for the Marrickville Shopping Centre. As it was initially proposed that this project also be fully funded by the RTA, it is not possible to proceed with this project and accordingly it is recommended the project be dropped from the current program.

***ES 3 - ENGINEERING PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2006
For Recommendation***

5% Rate Levy - Street Lighting Program

In May 2005 Council constructed works to implement a 40kph High Pedestrian Zone in Marrickville Road, Dulwich Hill. Whilst the Dulwich Hill initiative was fully funded by the RTA the grant was conditional on Council meeting the costs for drainage, street furniture and street lighting.

The works involved the installation of two pedestrian crossings at the intersections of Marrickville Road and Seaview and Durham Streets. Energy Australia were requested to provide lighting designs and quotations to improve the required lighting in accordance with Australian Standards.

The quotes for the two locations are:-

Seaview Street corner Marrickville Road, Dulwich Hill	\$15,800
Durham Street corner Marrickville Road, Dulwich Hill	\$7,020
Total	\$22,820

It is proposed to fund these works from savings in the 5% Rates Levy - Street Lighting Program. DCS reports Council can consider a budget adjustment at its next Budget Review to reflect the changes identified in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted;
2. roadworks in Cardigan Lane and Petersham Road be deferred to enable Schwebel Street resurfacing to be completed;
3. Llewellyn Street, Enmore be deferred pending receipt of RTA grant funds and in its place undertake resurfacing of Illawarra Road, between Warren Road and Renwick Street, Marrickville;
4. the construction of a pedestrian refuge island in Livingstone Road, Marrickville at the intersection of Randall Crescent be included in the current Resources Plan budget with a budget allocation of \$9,000 funded from savings in the Urgent Traffic Matters budget (1-4102-1300-7874-00);
5. Council accept the RTA grant of \$20,000 for full funding of modifications to the West Street Road Closure and include the project in the current Resources Plan;
6. Council defer the 40kph High Pedestrian Zone Project in Marrickville Road, Marrickville until such time as it is fully funded by the RTA;
7. funding from the 5% Environmental Levy Special Rates allocation be used to complete the street lighting improvements in the Dulwich Hill 40kph High Pedestrian Zone in Marrickville Road, Dulwich Hill as outlined in the report; and
8. Council consider a budget adjustment reflecting these changes at its next Budget Review.

Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

ES 3 - ENGINEERING PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2006
For Recommendation

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Recommendation as appearing on the Business Paper be adopted

ATTACHMENTS: Total 4 pages

Operating Budget - Civil Maintenance, 1 page

Engineering Resources Plan 2005/2006, 3 pages

***PR 2 - CAMDENVILLE PARK PRELIMINARY MASTERPLAN
For Recommendation***

File Ref: 10112-02

Director, Technical Services reports:

Synopsis

A Preliminary Masterplan has been prepared for Camdenville Park, St Peters. The report outlines the plan and recommends that Council endorse the plan as a basis for further site investigations and community consultation. A further report is to be provided to Council to advise the outcome of the investigations and present a draft plan of management to be approved as the basis for community consultation and project implementation.

Background

Camdenville Park is located in St Peters and is classified as a Significant Area Park serving residents from large areas within the Marrickville Council area as well as areas outside the area. The park occupies an area of approximately 3 hectares and is bound by the Bankstown train line, Bedwin Road, May Street and Council Street. It currently includes a sports field with amenities building, children's playground, fenced flood detention basin, a storage area for bulky materials and a derelict terrace building on the corner of May and Council Streets. A number of privately owned terrace cottages fronting May Street directly adjoin the Park.

The Camdenville Park Plan of Management 1998 and Council's Playground Strategy 2002 identify that significant upgrading is required to improve the park amenity and facilities and realise the potential of the park as an open space resource.

The Camdenville Park Masterplan and Feasibility Study project commenced in 2005 with the aim of assessing site constraints and opportunities and providing a comprehensive design and indicative staging and cost plan to guide the future upgrading of the park.

A preliminary Masterplan and Feasibility Study have now been completed by a team of consultants. Consultation with various sections of Council has also been undertaken and various recommendations provided have been incorporated into the preliminary plan.

The preliminary Masterplan is provided as **ATTACHMENT 1**. The preliminary feasibility study report will be available at the Council meeting.

The principal features and proposals of the plan are:

1. Holding Basin

The existing stormwater holding basin is to be reshaped and enlarged to create an urban wetland setting within the park. The area will include:

- permanent water storage for sports field irrigation;
- improved flood detention capacity;
- planting of indigenous wetland vegetation;

***PR 2 - CAMDENVILLE PARK PRELIMINARY MASTERPLAN
For Recommendation***

- ground shaping and planting to provide natural wetland habitat and address water quality, mosquito habitat and public safety and access issues;
- walkways, a boardwalk, viewing platform and jetty to enhance recreational use of the wetland surrounds; and
- removal of the existing man-proof fence which currently surrounds the basin.

The proposed wetland will provide a Water Sensitive Urban Design model which will form part of Council's water management practices and educational programs.

2. Materials Storage Area

The existing Council material storage area is to be relocated and the area used to accommodate the development of the new wetland area. A new material storage area is proposed as part of the Tempe Lands redevelopment in a location formerly used by Council as a recycling depot.

3. Playing Field

The existing playing field does not meet current standards for field sports. It is currently used for soccer training. The field is to be enlarged and new field lighting provided to meet standards for local soccer competition. The field surrounds will be reshaped and the existing fence removed to improve the appearance and informal use of the field. Internal upgrading of the amenities building is also proposed.

4. Recreation Facilities

Improved facilities for passive recreation include:

- upgrading of the existing playground area with an enlarged fenced playground, picnic and BBQ facilities, public toilet, and removal of 63 May Street derelict building;
- the central area of the park is to be developed to accommodate events such as the Summer Sessions currently held annually in the park. The area will provide a suitable level area for a temporary stage and an adjoining spectator area with views toward the wetland area. The area will provide an attractive area for informal recreation when not in use for events.

5. Pathworks

An integrated system of paths is proposed for the site including:

- shared pedestrian / cycle commuter link through the park between May Street and Council Street;
- circuit paths through and around the park linking with entrances on Bedwin Road, May Street and Council Street;
- equal access within the park is maximised and hand rails provided for safety and mobility where required;
- pathworks also provide for maintenance and service vehicle access.

***PR 2 - CAMDENVILLE PARK PRELIMINARY MASTERPLAN
For Recommendation***

6. Landscaping and Tree Management

- an arborist's report has been prepared for the park. The plan incorporates recommendations of the report to remove a number of existing trees. Substantial new tree planting is proposed including large trees on the May Street frontage, wetland grove planting, general shade tree planting and additional screen planting to the railway boundary;
- extensive areas of understory planting are proposed for the detention basin surrounds and steep slopes unsuited to mowing;
- all planting is to provide a clear mid story to allow open views throughout the park; and
- long term maintenance is to be minimised by the use of mulched planting areas and tree surrounds, appropriate species selection and attention to initial plant establishment.

7. Public Art and Interpretation

Indicative opportunities for public art and the interpretation of the historic and environmental aspects of the park have been identified during the development of the plan. A public art concept for the park is to be developed as part of further investigations to be undertaken (see below).

8. Site Constraints

The Plan has been prepared to accommodate various site constraints including:

- flood mitigation requirements;
- the existing Transgrid cable adjacent to the rail line;
- existing May Street terrace houses; and
- extent of the area available to accommodate the playing field.

Further investigations are required to determine the full extent of geotechnical constraints (see Further Investigations below).

9. Preliminary Cost Estimate and Construction Staging

It is proposed that Stage 1 construction works will consist of upgrading the playground area including picnic and bbq facilities, paths and lighting to a cost of \$250,000.

Future construction stages will involve major earthworks associated with enlargement of the playing field and construction of the wetland area. The scope and estimated cost for these works will be subject to the results of the proposed soil and water studies (see below) and will be advised in a further report to Council.

Discussion

Further investigations

Further site investigations are required before finalising a draft Masterplan and undertaking community consultations. Proposed investigations are as follows:

***PR 2 - CAMDENVILLE PARK PRELIMINARY MASTERPLAN
For Recommendation***

1. Geotechnical Studies

A brickworks and brick pit was established on the site in the 1800's and is believed to have continued operation until the 1930's. Camdenville Park was created on the site in 1957. To create the park the site was filled and reshaped to the current levels.

The site reshaping proposed in the preliminary Masterplan assumes site material can be relocated within the site.

Further investigations of the site soil material is required to determine:

- the nature of the fill material and whether the site contains contaminated soils;
- whether soil material will need to be removed from the site and imported fill material used;
- the nature of any remediation works which may be required; and
- whether the proposed site reshaping can be reasonably achieved.

It is proposed that these investigations be designed to form the basis of a remediation plan if required.

2. Water Quality

The preliminary feasibility study has identified general guidelines for minimising poor water quality and mosquito populations in the proposed wetland area.

Further investigations are required to ensure the proposed wetland water storage will provide adequate water quality for playing field irrigation.

3. Risk Management

The current operation of the holding basin includes rapid fluctuation of water levels during and after heavy rain. The proposed design includes enlarged detention capacity and permanent water storage. Assessment of the potential risks associated with the design, and mitigation of unacceptable risks through design changes, will also be undertaken.

4. Existing Billboard

Investigations into the status of the existing billboard located on community land adjacent to Bedwin Road indicate that the board is administered by Railcorp who rent it to Australian Posters Pty Ltd. The land was formerly owned by Railcorp but has since been acquired by Council. No arrangement was made to transfer the billboard rental arrangements to Council when Council acquired the land.

The preliminary Masterplan proposes that the billboard be removed to improve the visual amenity of this entry to the park and allow additional tree planting. Before finalising this proposal further investigations will be made to determine if retention of the billboard and receipt of the rental generated would be in Council's interests.

***PR 2 - CAMDENVILLE PARK PRELIMINARY MASTERPLAN
For Recommendation***

5. Public Art

It is proposed that a public art consultant be engaged to provide a site wide public art concept for the park in accordance with guidelines set out in the Marrickville Public Art Strategy. The development and installation of individual art items would form part of the detailed design and implementation of each construction stage. Where appropriate public art will incorporate site interpretation information.

6. Draft Plan of Management

The preliminary Masterplan proposes significant redevelopment of the site. The works will require a revision to the current Plan of Management. It is proposed that a draft Plan of Management be prepared on completion of the investigations outlined. The draft Plan of Management would include the preliminary Masterplan. If required, the plan would be modified to accommodate the results of the investigations. It is proposed that the draft Plan of Management form the basis of community consultation for the project.

Program

The proposed Masterplan development and preliminary implementation program is as follows:

Funding Year	Proposed Budget	Details
2005 - 2006	\$80,000 (current)	Further investigations, design development and risk assessment
2006 - 2007	\$30,000	Draft Plan of Management & community consultation
2007 -2008	\$60,000	Stage 1 - Detailed design - Playground area upgrade
2008 - 2009	\$250,000	Stage 1 - Construction
2009-2010	\$60,000	Stage 2 - Detailed design - Major earthworks construction of wetland and playing field and priority planting, pathworks and infrastructure including sports lighting
2010-2011	To Future Program	Stage 2 - Construction
From 2011	To Future Program	Future Stages - Site embellishment including pathworks, lighting, boardwalks, furniture and public toilet

An amount of \$80,000 is allocated in the current 2005/06 Budget. Further funding allocations will be considered by Council each year as part of the Annual Budget Process, subject to availability of S94 funds and any other available funds.

It is proposed that a further report be provided to Council in 2006 - 2007 to advise the results of further investigations and present a draft Plan of Management and draft Masterplan to Council.

It is intended that the community consultation will comprise:

- consultation with specific stakeholders including residents of the terrace houses directly adjoining the park, sports users and bicycle user groups; and

***PR 2 - CAMDENVILLE PARK PRELIMINARY MASTERPLAN
For Recommendation***

- broader community consultation inviting comments from citizens living or working in the surrounding area and other interested community members.

Conclusion

The Camdenville Park preliminary Masterplan provides an outline for a long term program of park improvement works. Further investigations, whole of project cost estimation, the preparation of a plan of management and community consultations are required before finalising the plan and proceeding to the detailed design and construction phase.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. Council endorse the Camdenville Park preliminary Masterplan and Feasibility Study as a basis for further site investigations and the preparation of a revised draft Plan of Management for the park; and
2. a further report be provided advising the outcomes of the site investigations and presenting whole of project cost estimates, a draft Plan of Management and draft Masterplan for Council's endorsement to proceed to community consultation.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. Council endorse the Camdenville Park preliminary Masterplan and Feasibility Study as a basis for further site investigations and the preparation of a revised draft Plan of Management for the park; and
2. Council's Transportation Planner be consulted to advise on the best path alignments to service commuter cycling between Bedwin and Goodsell Streets; and
3. a further **REPORT** be provided advising the outcomes of the site investigations and presenting whole of project cost estimates, a draft Plan of Management and draft Masterplan for Council's endorsement to proceed to community consultation.

ATTACHMENT: 1 Page

Camdenville Park Preliminary Feasibility and Masterplan

MM 1 - FLYING OF TIBETAN FLAG ON FRIDAY, 10 MARCH 2006
For Decision

Councillors

File Ref: 4577-03

On March 10 each year, Tibet Support Groups around the world ask local governments to fly the Tibetan flag as a gesture of support for the Tibetan people. Flying the Flag is a tangible gesture of support for a peaceful, just and negotiated settlement of the Tibet-China issue. The Australia Tibet Council participates in this international campaign and has sought the support of councils to fly the Tibetan flag on Friday, 10 March 2006. Flying the Tibetan flag helps to raise awareness in the general community of the peaceful struggle of the Tibetan people.

Friday 10 March is the anniversary of the 1959 Lhasa Uprising, in which thousands of Tibetans lost their lives protesting the invasion and occupation of their country by China's People's Liberation Army. As Tibetans are now prohibited from flying their national flag in their own country, this day is commemorated around the world as Tibet's National Day. It is a focus for raising support and awareness for the Tibetan struggle for freedom and fundamental human rights.

The Australia Tibet Council has requested (copy of letter ATTACHED) that Council join in the spirit and tradition of this important event by agreeing to fly the Tibetan flag on Friday 10 March. If Council agrees to this gesture of support for the Tibetan people, the Australia Tibet Council will make arrangements to deliver a flag for use on the day.

I seek Council's support to fly the Tibetan flag each year on March 10th.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council flies the Tibetan flag every 10 March, as a gesture of solidarity and support for the Tibetan people and to raise awareness of the Tibetan struggle for freedom and fundamental human rights.

Councillor Sam Byrne
Mayor

ATTACHMENT: **1 page**
Letter from Australia Tibet Council

MM 2 - MAYORS FOR PEACE
For Decision

File Ref: 4577-03

Councillors

Mayors for Peace is comprised of cities around the world that have formally expressed support for the Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons.

The program was established by then Mayor Takeshi Araki of Hiroshima at the 2nd United Nations Special Session on Disarmament held on 24 June 1982. The Program offered cities a way to transcend national borders and work together to press for nuclear abolition.

In December 2005, membership stood at 1,253 cities in 114 countries and regions, including 11 Sydney Metropolitan Councils.

The formal Mission of Mayors for Peace is:

“to build solidarity and facilitate coordination among the cities that support the Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons. Its primary goal is to work internationally to raise consciousness regarding nuclear weapons abolition. It is also formally committed to pursuing lasting world peace by working to address starvation, poverty, refugee welfare, human rights abuses, environmental destruction, and other problems that threaten peaceful coexistence”.

More information can be found at www.mayorsforpeace.org.

I propose that Council joins Mayors for Peace. There is no annual fee or other financial obligation involved. As a member “Solidarity City”, Council’s commitment, under the covenant of Mayors for Peace, is to undertake activities to assist in achieving the purposes of Mayors for Peace. These include:

- holding gatherings and events devoted to the cause of disarmament and peace, and/or to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation and sending copies of any statement, resolution or proclamation, associated with these events, to other Solidarity Cities;
- transmitting messages advocating the total abolition of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations during the United Nations Disarmament Week. In addition, copies of the messages are to be exchanged with other Solidarity Cities;
- sponsoring workshops or meetings on peace, disarmament and security issues, and/or to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses and environmental degradation and sending relevant pamphlets, books and materials reporting these results to other Solidarity Cities.
- publishing or obtaining materials, brochures or books related to peace, disarmament and security issues, and/or to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight

MM 2 - MAYORS FOR PEACE
For Decision

of refugees, human rights abuses and environmental degradation and bringing them to the attention of the Solidarity Cities; and

- bearing in mind the current international situation and the urgency and importance of nuclear disarmament, holding photographic exhibitions which describe and depict to citizens around the world the actual nature of the devastations wreaked by the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

I believe that the goals of Mayors for Peace align with those that Marrickville Council has been pursuing for the benefit of our community and, accordingly, I seek Council's support to becoming a member of the Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Marrickville Council becomes a member of Mayors for Peace.

Councillor Sam Byrne
Mayor

***MM 3 - LOAN OF COUNCIL TRUCK FOR MARDI GRAS PARADE
For Decision***

File Ref: 4577-03

Councillors,

An approach has been made to Council by a member of staff on behalf of the Ankali Project requesting that Council makes available a small truck or utility for the Mardi Gras Parade.

The Ankali Project is a volunteer organisation which provides emotional support for people with HIV-AIDS or in some cases, their family. Volunteers come from all walks of life, all ages, and from the Gay and Lesbian community, as well as the general community, with several from the Marrickville community. Many of the clients come from Marrickville and surrounding suburbs. Volunteers undergo scrutiny before selection for some 30 hours of training over two weekends and are committed to give a specified time each week to their client.

The staff member who made the approach to Council states that he has driven the Ankali vehicle in the Parade for several years to allow the volunteers to participate in the fun of the night. He states that participation in the Parade provides not only an opportunity for the volunteers to have a bit of fun, but it promotes the service to potential clients and aims to attract volunteers. He states that as clients are receiving better treatment, they are surviving longer, requiring longer term support from the Project, hence the need for volunteers grows. Many do not survive the emotional pressure involved.

The vehicle would carry a small Alternator set which runs a sound system, plus decorations and the personal belongings of the volunteers. The loan of a vehicle would release scarce funds for other uses. The vehicle would be required from about 2pm on Friday, 3 March 2006 and could be returned to the Depot in time for Monday morning duty.

He states that if the Council wishes, some signage along the lines of "Marrickville Council Supports Ankali" could be carried.

I consider that this is a very positive and cost effective way for Council to support the Ankali Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council:

1. loan a Council truck or utility to the Ankali Project for use in the Mardi Gras Parade; and
2. promote its support of the Ankali group by way of signage on the vehicle during the parade.

Councillor Sam Byrne
Mayor

***GM 1 - SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT TO MAYORAL MINUTE –
REQUEST TO USE COUNCIL VEHICLE IN MARDI GRAS PARADE
For Decision***

File Ref: 3513-02

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

A Mayoral Minute requests that Council endorse a request from a staff member to drive a Council vehicle in the Mardi Gras Parade in support of a volunteer organization, the Ankali Project, which is attached to the Albion Street Centre, Surry Hills.

Background

The Community Grants Policy, which was endorsed by Council at the Community Services Committee meeting of 13 September 2005 (Item CD 20, 08/05) represents Council's requirement to treat all donations for cash or in kind support under a coherent policy framework. This includes requests under the Community Grants Program, the Contingency Program and Notices of Motion.

Organisations requesting consideration are required to apply in writing, outlining the need or issue and may request funding up to \$1,000. These requests are considered by a Panel comprising the Chairperson of the Community Services Committee, the General Manager and the Director of Community Services. A report is then submitted for Council's consideration.

In 2005/2006, \$5,000 is set aside for cash or in kind donations that are brought to Council as Notices of Motion. Whilst funds for the Community Grants Program and Contingency Program have been exhausted for this financial year, a balance of \$605 is available to support Notices of Motion.

Discussion

To assist Council in its decision making, an assessment against the Eligibility Criteria under the Community Grants Policy is detailed in the **ATTACHED** schedule. (**ATTACHMENT 1**).

Conclusion

The Community Grants Policy sets a \$1,000 limit on donations of cash or in kind support arising from a Notice of Motion, however, there are no substantive costs associated with this request.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council agree to the request in the context of the Mayoral Minute.

ATTACHMENTS: Total 1 page

Summary of Eligibility Criteria under the Community Grants Program, Part 3, Notices of Motion

GM 2 - LIFTING OF JAMES HARDIE PRODUCT BOYCOTT
For Decision

File Ref: 4056-03

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

At its meeting on 15 February 2005 (Item GM 8), Council resolved to continue its boycott of James Hardie products until a 'Principal Agreement' had been signed by the organisation. At the time, James Hardie had signed a Heads of Agreement with the ACTU, Unions NSW and asbestos victims groups, agreeing to fund current and future compensation liabilities. The Agreement was not legally binding however, and Council resolved to continue its arrangements in regard to boycotting James Hardie products, until the legally binding Principal Agreement was finalised. Council has recently received notification that James Hardie has signed a Final Funding Arrangement with the NSW Government, which binds the organisation legally to provide long term compensation for asbestos-related personal injury claims.

It is recommended that the report be received and noted and that Council lift its boycott on the purchase of James Hardie products.

Background

In August 2004, Council considered two Notices of Motion (NM 22 and NM 23) urging Council to boycott James Hardie products until the company guaranteed full compensation to existing and future victims of asbestos related diseases. Council passed the following Resolution:

- "1. Marrickville Council boycotts all James Hardie products until full compensation is guaranteed to existing and future victims of asbestos-related diseases;*
- 2. until such time as James Hardie complies with its funding proposal, the General Manager is asked to:*
 - (a) request all existing contractors working on Council projects to not purchase or use James Hardie products unless there is no alternative product available;*
 - (b) require all new contractors not to use James Hardie products on Council projects unless there is no alternative product available; and*
 - (c) direct Council staff not to purchase any new James Hardie products, except where an existing Council contract requires the use of James Hardie products, or there is no alternative product available;*
- 3. the Mayor, on behalf of Council, writes to James Hardie Industries informing them of our decision to boycott their products and the reasons for the boycott;*
- 4. the Mayor, on behalf of Council, writes to the Labor Council of NSW, the CFMEU and the AMWU informing them of our decision to boycott James Hardie Industries;*

GM 2 - LIFTING OF JAMES HARDIE PRODUCT BOYCOTT
For Decision

5. *Council refer the above to the Local Government Association for debate at the forthcoming conference;*
6. *the Mayor write to the State Member urging the State Government to adopt a similar policy; and*
7. *Council calls on the Liberal, National Parties, the Australian Democrats and the Coalition to follow the position of the Labor Party that all political donations from James Hardie Industries received over the last 3 years be directed to a fighting fund for persons affected by asbestos-related diseases."*

Discussion

Further to Council's decision to boycott James Hardie products at its August 2004 Meeting, on 21 December 2004, James Hardie signed a Heads of Agreement with the ACTU, Unions NSW and asbestos victims groups agreeing to fund current and future compensation liabilities.

The Heads of Agreement provided for:

- An open ended funding commitment;
- No cap on payments to victims;
- The creation of a special purpose fund to receive funding from James Hardie to make payments to victims;
- The payment of an up front cash buffer of approximately \$250 million;
- Annual payments from James Hardie based on an annual actuarial assessment of the liability for asbestos claims;
- A maximum cap on the annual James Hardie payment set at 35% of free cash flow;
- A minimum term of the funding arrangement of 40 years. To be extended indefinitely if required; and
- Funding from James Hardie for asbestos education and medical research.

At Item GM 8 of Council Meeting 01/05, it was noted that although the signing of the Heads of Agreement was to be commended, it did not create a legally-binding arrangement which enforced James Hardie to provide long-term compensation for current and future asbestos related personal injury claims. Council resolved at the time to continue its boycott of James Hardie products until a Principal Agreement was finalised.

On 22 December 2005, Council received notification from James Hardie that a Final Funding Arrangement had been signed with the NSW Government (**ATTACHMENT 1**). The Final Funding Arrangement was signed on 1 December 2005, binding James Hardie to provide long-term support for claims that result from exposure to products made by former James Hardie Group subsidiaries.

Council has also received subsequent notification from the ACTU, advising that boycotts against James Hardie products have been lifted due to the signing of the Final Funding Arrangement.

***GM 2 - LIFTING OF JAMES HARDIE PRODUCT BOYCOTT
For Decision***

Conclusion:

As stated above, the Final Funding Arrangement signed by James Hardie on 1 December 2005 forms a legally-binding agreement for the organisation to provide continued support of current and future compensation liabilities. Following its resolution at Council Meeting 01/05 (Item GM 8), Council may wish to re-consider its continued boycott of James Hardie products in light of the completion of the Final Funding Arrangement.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council lift its boycott on the purchase and use of James Hardie products

ATTACHMENT: Total 8 pages

Letter to the Mayor regarding the signing of the Final Funding Arrangement by James Hardie

***GM 3 - FIXING OF ANNUAL FEES FOR 2005/2006 FOR
COUNCILLORS AND THE MAYOR AND A FEE FOR THE DEPUTY
MAYOR
For Decision***

File Ref: 4014-04

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

Report in relation to the Special Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal of annual fees payable from 1 July 2005 to Mayors and Councillors. It is recommended that Council considers the Tribunal's determination and fixes the annual fee payable to the Mayor and Councillors and the fee payable to the Deputy Mayor.

Background

Section 241 of the *Local Government Act* provides that the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal must, not later than 1 May in each year, determine in each of the categories for Councils and Mayoral offices determined by the Tribunal, the maximum and minimum amounts of fees to be paid during the following year to Councillors and Mayors.

In its Determination of 13 April 2005, the Tribunal decided to defer making any changes to the fee structure payable to the Mayor and Councillors, until the results of the Government Inquiry into Council expense policies were available.

Council decided, at meeting 04/05, Item GM 34, on 17 May 2005, to fix the annual fee for Councillors, and for the Mayor, to maintain the maximum amount in accordance with the Tribunal's decision, as follows:

ANNUAL FEE

Councillors - \$12,925

Mayor - \$36,270 (Councillor's fee of \$12,925 plus \$28,215 Mayor's allowance minus \$4,870 Deputy Mayor's allowance)

Deputy Mayor - \$17,795 (Councillor's fee of \$12,925 plus \$4,870 Deputy Mayor's allowance)

Those fees are payable monthly in arrears for each month (or a part of a month) for which he/she holds office.

Remuneration Tribunal's Special Determination for 2005/2006

Following the Tribunal's Determination of 13 April 2005, the Minister for Local Government requested the Tribunal review its Determination as the Inquiry into council expense policies was nearing completion.

**GM 3 - FIXING OF ANNUAL FEES FOR 2005/2006 FOR
COUNCILLORS AND THE MAYOR AND A FEE FOR THE DEPUTY
MAYOR
For Decision**

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal handed down its Report and Special Determination on 19 December 2005 on categorisation of councils and fees for Councillors and Mayors for 2005/2006.

In summary, the Tribunal has decided to increase the minimum and maximum fees payable by 4 percent for all Mayors and Councillors having regard to the latest economic indicators, such as the Consumer Price Index (increased by 2.4%), backdated to 1 July 2005.

The increases range from \$235 to \$1,035 for Councillors' fees depending on the category, and from \$250 to \$5,675 for Mayors' fees depending on the category.

Council is in Category 2 and the increases in the maximum fees are \$515 for Councillors' fees and \$1,130 for the Mayor's fee.

The Tribunal's Special Determination of annual remuneration fees is shown in the schedule below, with it being noted that Council is in Category 2:

Category	Councillor/Member Annual Fee		Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee*	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Category 5	6,110	6,720	6,490	11,040
Category 4	6,110	8,060	6,490	17,595
Category 3	6,110	13,440	12,990	29,345
Category 2	6,110	13,440	12,990	29,345
Category 1	9,160	17,110	19,480	45,455
1A	12,215	20,160	25,970	58,765
S4	1,220	6,720	2,600	11,040
S3	1,220	4,030	2,600	7,335
S2	12,215	20,160	25,970	58,765
S1	18,330	26,885	112,155	147,575

*This fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor as a Councillor (s249[2]).

Discussion

Under Sections 248 and 249 a council may fix the annual fee for Councillors, and for the Mayor, in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal, and a council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

A council may also, under section 249(5) of the Act, pay the Deputy Mayor a fee determined by the council for such time as the Deputy Mayor acts in the office of the Mayor, which must be deducted from the Mayor's annual fee.

***GM 3 - FIXING OF ANNUAL FEES FOR 2005/2006 FOR
COUNCILLORS AND THE MAYOR AND A FEE FOR THE DEPUTY
MAYOR
For Decision***

Conclusion

As stated above, the Remuneration Tribunal has altered the category and fee structure in arrears for the 2005/2006 financial year. It is a matter for each council to determine within those parameters its own fees based on its particular circumstances. Accordingly, it is necessary for Council to fix the annual fees payable to the Councillors, the Mayor, and the Deputy Mayor, for the remainder of the 2005/2006 period. Should Council decide to increase the fees payable to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors, back payment will be made to 1 July 2005.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council:

1. receive and note the report;
2. fix the annual fees to be payable to Councillors, and the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor combined, for 2005/2006 at the maximum fees as determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal; and
3. fix the Deputy Mayor's allowance at \$5,064.80.

ATTACHMENT: Total 8 pages

Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Report dated 19 December 2005

***GM 4 - LOAN PROGRAM - RENEWAL MONEY - \$6,000,000
For Decision***

File Ref: 2196

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

This report seeks Council approval to apply to the Minister for Local Government for an additional loan allocation within 2005/2006 for renewal loan funds of \$6,000,000.

Background

In adopting the 2003/2004 Budget, Council adopted a loan program totaling \$7,876,000. The Minister for Local Government determined this amount as Council's Borrowing Limit for 2003/2004 (**ATTACHMENT A**).

At the Council Meeting 03/04 on 18 May 2004, Council resolved (in part) to raise a loan in the amount of \$1,876,000 for a period of ten years at a fixed interest rate and to raise a loan in the amount of \$6,000,000 for a period of two years (interest only loan) at a fixed interest rate.

In relation to the \$6,000,000 loan, the loan program for 2003/2004 comprised the following project:

4460- INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

1-4460-7201-9104-00	Leachate Drain Remediation Costs	\$6,000,000
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The Council report also stated "It is proposed that the \$6,000,000 principal be repaid from proceeds from the sale of land within the Tempe Lands Parcel. Contracts have been exchanged in relation to this sale".

Discussion

At present, the two year loan matures with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia on 18 June 2006 and requires the \$6,000,000 principal be repaid at that time. However, the sale of land within the Tempe Lands Parcel has not been finalised and at present, a final settlement date has not been determined.

Council's current 2005/2006 Determined Borrowing Limit from the Minister for Local Government is \$1,298,000 (**ATTACHMENT B**). However, due to the uncertainty of when the funds will be available from the sale of the Tempe Lands Parcel to repay the \$6,000,000 loan, it is proposed to seek Ministerial approval to add under Old (Renewal) Money, \$6,000,000 to Council's existing 2005/2006 Loan Program of \$1,298,000.

Should the Minister approve the request, Council's amended 2005/2006 Determined Borrowing Limit will be \$7,298,000

***GM 4 - LOAN PROGRAM - RENEWAL MONEY - \$6,000,000
For Decision***

Conclusion

Given that a fixed settlement date cannot be resolved in relation to the settlement of the Tempe Land Parcel, it is proposed that Council seeks Ministerial approval for renewal money of \$6,000,000.

A further report would be provided to a future Corporate Services Committee Meeting on the outcome of the application to the Minister for Local Government. If the application is successful, then quotations would be called for:

- A. an interest only loan in the amount of \$6,000,000 for a period of two years at a fixed interest rate; and
- B. a ten year fixed loan (Principal and Interest) in the amount of \$1,298,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council:

- 1. receive and note the report; and
- 2. approve an application to be submitted to the Minister for Local Government to add \$6,000,000 renewal money to the 2005/2006 Determined Borrowing Limit.

ATTACHMENT: Total 4 pages

- A. Appendix A – Minister For Local Government – Determined Borrowing Limit 2003/2004 – 2 pages.
- B. Appendix B – Minister For Local Government – Determined Borrowing Limit 2005/2006 – 2 pages.

GM 5 - ELECTION POSTERS ON STREET LIGHT POLES
For Decision

File Ref: 4056-03

Synopsis

This report has been prepared in response to a resolution of Council at Meeting 10/05 Item NM21 regarding the issue of the impact of the proliferation of electoral posters on street light poles. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and a further report be prepared that examines possible options for incorporating “political” posters within the complying and exempt provisions of a new Comprehensive Development Control Plan.

A confidential report from Council’s Principal Solicitor has been prepared for Council’s consideration. That advice is contained in the **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT** which is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 as it contains advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege. During its debate on the item at the Meeting, the Committee may decide, by resolution, to discuss the confidential information in closed confidential committee. Before doing so, members of the public may be allowed to make verbal representations as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

Background

Council considered a Notice of Motion at Meeting 10/05, Item NM21, and resolved:

THAT the Directors of Development and Environmental Services and Technical Services be requested to provide a joint report to Council on ways of improving safety and protecting the environment resulting from the proliferation of electoral posters on street light poles.

Advice was sought from Council’s Principal Solicitor and has been incorporated into this report. A copy of that advice is **ATTACHED** as a **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT**.

Discussion

The report by the Directors of Development and Environmental Services and Technical Services is provided below.

The proliferation of electoral posters on street light poles occurs from time to time in the lead up to Local, State and Federal government elections. The common practice of using street light poles for such posters is not restricted to the Marrickville Local Government Area, but occurs across the country.

Advice from Council’s Principal Solicitor confirms that the erection of an election poster would constitute an “advertisement” which requires development consent pursuant to Clause 41 of Marrickville Local Environmental Plan 2001.

***GM 5 - ELECTION POSTERS ON STREET LIGHT POLES
For Decision***

Furthermore, while Council's DCP No. 36 – Complying and Exempt Development provides that a temporary advertisement “for a social, cultural or recreational event” is exempt development if it is displayed for no longer than 28 days before the event and removed within 7 days after the event, a poster that relates to a “political” event does not satisfy the description of an exempt event (ie social, cultural or recreational).

An election poster that is erected without consent could be subject to the usual range of enforcement options available to Council. These include monetary penalty (penalty infringement notices), notices and orders or warning letters. However, Council's Principal Solicitor advises that “on a practical level, the time and cost to Councils of regulating the display of such posters (and similarly bill posters) has proven problematic because the number and manner in which such posters are erected, and identifying and prosecuting the offenders is difficult”. If a particular election poster is considered to be adversely impacting on public safety there is capacity for Council to pursue action to achieve its immediate removal (for example where it obscures a traffic sign or overhangs a roadway).

In addition, even if Council were to apply a punitive approach, due to the nature of the political campaign process (high intensity over a limited duration) it is unlikely that this would act as sufficient deterrent to address the issue.

Alternatively, removal and impounding of electoral posters by Council staff would be associated with both significant costs to Council and occupational health and safety implications.

Conclusion

Council's current approach to the regulation of unauthorised development involves careful consideration of the seriousness of the offence, the circumstances of the matter and whether Council has the necessary evidence to establish a strong and robust case should the matter proceed to Court.

In the case of election posters on street light poles the same balanced approach is required for the proper exercise of Council's discretion.

For the reasons outlined above it is considered that active regulation by Council is not the preferred option, as it would be impractical and expensive to enforce.

If Council wishes to legitimise the practice of erecting election posters (without the need for development consent) it would be necessary to amend Council's current exempt and complying development provisions to include a reference to temporary “political” advertisements and improve parameters to control their size, location etc.

Whilst these provisions are currently administered through the Marrickville Development Control Plan No. 36, a report to Council's 6 February, 2006 DES Committee Meeting, highlighted the restrictions on changes to existing DCP's created by the State Government's Policy Reform. In response to these restrictions, Council resolved at this meeting to prepare a new Comprehensive DCP to enable shorter-term policy amendments to be advanced prior to the completion of a new Council wide LEP.

GM 5 - ELECTION POSTERS ON STREET LIGHT POLES
For Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council:

1. receive and note the report;
2. determine whether it wishes to regulate the erection of election posters through the preparation of appropriate exempt and complying provisions relating to “political” posters within the new Comprehensive Development Control Plan; and
3. treat the **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT** as **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 as it contains advice that would be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege

ATTACHMENT: 2 pages

CONFIDENTIAL Advice from Council’s Principal Solicitor 2 pages

Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

GM 5 - ELECTION POSTERS ON STREET LIGHT POLES
For Decision

**THAT ADVICE IS CONTAINED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT WHICH IS
CONFIDENTIAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 10A(2)(g) OF THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 AS IT CONTAINS ADVICE THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE
PRIVILEGED FROM PRODUCTION IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS ON THE GROUNDS
OF LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGE**

GM 6 - SECOND QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT PLAN
For Decision

File Ref:

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

This business paper report summarises Council's performance over the second quarter of the financial year against service improvement projects and performance indicators set out in the 2005/2006 Management Plan. The attachment provides detailed information on the status of all projects and indicators as at 31 December 2005. The report indicates that generally Council is 'on track' to achieve 2005/2006 targets. It is recommended that the report is received and noted.

Background

This quarterly report is the second for Council's current 2005/2006 Management Plan.

The attached report details the status of the service improvement projects set out in the Management Plan. It also provides information on Council performance against program performance indicators identified in the Management Plan.

The service improvement projects selected to go into the Management Plan are priority projects for enhancing the look, feel and a sustainable future for the Marrickville area, as well as those for improving Council operations. These projects generally are in addition to the delivery of ongoing services and programs.

The performance indicators provide quantitative and qualitative information on program performance. They provide an indication of how well the program is performing overall and the benefits being received by the community.

The following is a summary of the progress made in the second quarter of 2005-2006 in implementing the 2005/06 Management Plan:

Enhancing the look of public places:

- Council appointed a consortium of external consultants to assist in the preparation of a new Urban Strategy
- The first meeting of the re-activated Transportation Committee was held and included a briefing on the progress of the Integrated Transport Strategy currently being developed
- Works to replace damaged footpaths and continue the Heritage Brick footpaths program were progressed with work completed in Augustus St and Charles St in Enmore, Kent St in Newtown, Merton St in Petersham, Railway Rd in Sydenham and Kays Ave in Marrickville
- Pedestrian crossings were upgraded in West Street and in Illawarra Road
- Road resurfacing work was completed in Percival Rd in Stanmore, Arlington St in Dulwich Hill, Rawson St and Oxford St in Newtown, and Convent Lane and Neville Lane in Marrickville
- Remediation, landscaping and development works at Tempe Lands were completed and the Lands opened to the public in December 2005
- On 17 November 2005, two Rangers set up a display at Marrickville Metro and discussed responsible pet ownership with 30 people

GM 6 - SECOND QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT PLAN
For Decision

- A temporary register for premises that have footway dining, display of goods, A-frame signs, hoardings and fences, and advertising structures was put in place to allow applications to be received and processed. Development of a permanent register is pending Proclaim capacity to process debtors
- A Cooling Tower and Warm Water System Register was completed

Enhancing the feel of community life:

- Under the 2005 Community Grants Program, Council funded 22 community based projects that are consistent with the aims and directions of Council's Social Plan
- All of Council's childcare services that were to be accredited in 2005 have been accredited to a high quality
- A report to the Community Services Committee confirmed compliance with the NSW Children's Services Regulations 2004 subject to installation of final safety glass film by 1 January 2006
- As part of work to develop a community awareness strategy for accessible transport in Marrickville, a workshop on accessible transport was facilitated for the Access Committee in October
- With funding from Families First, the Inner West Aboriginal Children Youth and Family Strategy Reference Group developed and established a position for an Aboriginal Youth Coordinator. A temporary worker was appointed pending a permanent appointment in early 2006
- The Inner East Regional Affordable Housing Strategy was completed
- Two stakeholder workshops were held to consider future management options for the pools in preparation for the February Councillor Conference
- There was an 8% increase in pool attendance (against the same quarter last year)
- A new recreation publication was developed called *Girls & Women, Active in Marrickville*
- The Tom Foster Centre had a marked increase in usage of the Centre by local groups in December 2005. The use of the bus also increased from the previous quarter due to growing demand for transport from elderly groups in the LGA
- The Major Community Events Program in the second quarter included:
 - Bali Memorial on 12 October 2005 with 80 people in attendance
 - Dulwich Hill Street Fair on 3 December 2005 attended by 3,000 people
- Council presented a number of exhibitions to celebrate the heritage of Marrickville including:
 - an exhibition of photographs and toys - *The Social History of Childhood & Play* - as part of Children's Week (24-28 October 2005)
 - a historical exhibition about housing styles as part of the Housing Choices Expo (23 October 2005)
 - An exhibition exploring the impact of cultural diversity on the shopping centre - *Back to Marrickville Road* - held in Alex Trevallion Plaza (12 November 2005)
- The Marrickville Council Arts Night 'Upstage Newtown' on 17 November 2005 showcased the precinct and received coverage in the local press and radio
- Council won a Community Based Planning Award in the *Planning Institute of Australia NSW 2005 Awards for Excellence* for the development and implementation of the Marrickville Public Art Strategy: People, Place & Art.
- A reorganisation of the Central Library was carried out resulting in positive community feedback
- A new section of Council's website was developed to act as an information exchange and community service for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community of Marrickville. The site will become active in 2006

GM 6 - SECOND QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT PLAN
For Decision

Building a bright and sustainable future:

- Council was the NSW winner of the 2005 Case Earth Award in Environmental Excellence (Category 3, project over \$10 million) for the Tempe Lands Remediation and Development Project
- Council accepted a \$30K grant from Metro Greenspace to develop the Cooks River to Iron Cove Greenway Coordination Strategy
- Domestic green waste increased by 7.76% (4 tonnes) in the quarter over the same period in 2004/05. Domestic waste increased by 3.13% (125 tonnes) over the same period last year
- Work is underway on the program to map remnant and revegetated areas across Marrickville including consultations with participating councils to develop a user friendly database to record information about the mapped sites
- Water tanks have been installed in all of Council's Early Childhood Services. Water saving taps with timers have been installed at the Addison Road and Cavendish Street Children's Centres respectively
- Council won awards for its Bagbusters program and RiverLife Sustainable Water Environment program respectively in the LGSA Excellence in Environment Awards
- The Library Community Consultation Project undertaken as part of the review and update of the Library Services Strategic Plan was completed and the findings are currently being analysed
- Council's *Marrickville What Future Do You See?* public consultation program continued including public meetings, and stalls at community events and festivals. Distribution of the community discussion paper was made directly to 33,000 households and through a range of community centres and public sites. A telephone survey of 600 residents that included questions seeking input into the Marrickville Plan was also conducted by Micromex Research

Improving Council operations:

- An Asset Management Steering Committee was established to guide Council's use of its new asset management system, Asset Master
- Council's online mapping program - Exponare - was upgraded to provide a new residential parking layer showing areas where citizens can apply for off street parking permits
- Council's new Citizen Request Management System (MERIT) was upgraded to improve its operation including completion of work to enable use by staff with a visual disability
- A number of reviews were carried out to ensure efficient and effective service delivery to citizens including review and update of the WellDone process document and completion of the review of the Hall Booking process
- Cash Audit Reviews of external centres were completed. A report with recommendation and management comments has been prepared for submission to the Audit Committee in March 2006
- 'Business One' budget development software was implemented in all Business Units
- An independent review of Business Unit operations continued for completion in late January 2006
- Two briefing notes concerning the Land and Environment Court were provided to staff and a seminar conducted about procedures for prosecution matters
- Council received a WorkCover NSW Safe Work Award finalist certificate in October for the design by Business Units staff of a streetscape maintenance trailer that has led to a 97% reduction in manual handling risks
- Council won the Metro Pool Award for Excellence in Risk Management for right sizing of Council vehicles

***GM 6 - SECOND QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT PLAN
For Decision***

- Work was undertaken to enhance the planning and building advice service including preparation of a prelodgement practice note and drafting of a prelodgement application form. The Housing Approvals Guide was also updated and reprinted
- Questions about citizen satisfaction with Council services were included in a telephone survey of 600 residents conducted by Micromex Research in November 2005. Results indicated a high satisfaction with Council's Citizens' Services Centre, website and waste collection service.

Conclusion

Council has continued to make good progress in implementing the wide range of projects identified in the 2005/2006 Management Plan that enhance the look, feel and future of the Marrickville area. The significant majority of service improvements are currently on track.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report be received and noted.

ATTACHMENT: **Total 73 pages**
2005/2006 Management Plan - December Quarter Progress Report

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Community Development		Key Activity Area 1: Marrickville's People	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
CD1	Oversee the implementation of the strategic actions contained in the Belonging in Marrickville Social Plan in partnership with relevant sections of Council, government agencies, community organisations and the community	On Track	On Track
		Proposal on the strategic implementation of the Belonging In Marrickville Social Plan – including conceptual diagram - endorsed by Senior Staff 18 August 2005. Proposal is consistent with Council's suite of Corporate strategic planning and budgetary processes.	A total of 22 community based projects consistent with the aims and directions of the Social Plan were funded by Council under the 2005 Community Grants Program. The Social Plan has been posted to the website and compact discs are being produced to be made available to the community as an alternative to hard copies.
CD2	Further promote the transport needs of people with a disability through the implementation of appropriate infrastructure provisions of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 and consultation with other State agencies to improve access to transport services in Marrickville	On Track	On Track
		Due to a Ministerial portfolio change in State Government Council received a poor response to previous offer to work collaboratively on planning and delivering urgently needed improvements to the local area which will satisfy the National Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport. This matter was reported to Community Services Committee (CD 21) on 9 August 2005 when Council resolved to write again raising the same issues as in previous correspondence. A workshop to develop further advocacy strategies for the improvement of accessible public transport options is planned for the October meeting of Council's Access Committee.	A workshop on Accessible Transport was facilitated for the Access Committee in October. The aim was to generate ideas in the first stage of developing a community awareness strategy for accessible transport in Marrickville following a poor response to previous approaches to the Ministry of Transport. Ideas to further advocate for local needs and gain support from key stakeholders involved in transport planning and provision were discussed. The results generated from the workshop are being collated and proposed actions assessed for implementation in 2006.
CD3	Through the promotion of the Missed Business Guide assist local small businesses in complying with the Disability Discrimination Act highlighting simple and cost effective ways to making local businesses more accessible and in turn more successful	On Track	On Track
		Council has endorsed at the Community Services Meeting on 13 September 2005 (CD23) to write to the Local Government and Shires Associations requesting support to further promote the Missed Business Guide state-wide. Further local strategies and presentations planned with Main Street Coordinators.	A consultant has been engaged to develop a marketing strategy. Improving community understanding and local business responses to access needs is a part of that brief. A second run of guides has been printed for local distribution once the strategy is completed. In addition, Council has approached the LGSA to assist with state wide promotion of the guide. The LGSA have advised that it will be promoted through their website and an article outlining the benefits of implementation will be included in an upcoming LGSA newsletter.

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CD4	Through initiatives such as the development and support of a Multi Faith Roundtable of religious and community leaders, continue to influence, endorse and support the promotion of the equal rights and responsibilities of all Marrickville people within a cohesive and harmonious multicultural society	Behind Schedule	Behind Schedule
		No action this quarter, awaiting recruitment of Cultural Diversity Officer.	Recruitment process for Cultural Diversity Officer underway in late January.
CD5	Strengthen connections with emerging communities in Marrickville with an emphasis on the Pacific Islander, African and Asian communities in partnership with settlement service providers and community based organisations to develop appropriate outreach strategies	On Track	On Track
		Following initiatives undertaken: maintained involvement with Pacific Unity during preparation for the next PU Festival with significant focus on youth involvement and participation; provided advice to two local Tongan groups for future project developments; enlisted three young Pacific Island young people onto Marrickville Youth Council including supporting a Pacific Island Youth radio program on Koori Radio.	Currently assisting Pacific Unity to plan for a Pacific Island Festival at Tempe Reserve in March 2006, which will feature sporting competitions and the performing arts.
CD6	Identify opportunities to improve access to employment and training for residents of the Marrickville area with a focus on the employment and training needs of residents of Marrickville South	On Track	On Track
		Council and TAFE, as partners in the Women's Employment Program in Marrickville South, await a response from the NSW Department of Housing on the availability of funding.	Funding from Dept of Housing not forthcoming. Working party re-grouping to consider other funding options. Plans for International Women's Day activities to include a Work Opportunities for Women Workshop which will be delivered by Petersham TAFE highlighting training/learning and employment opportunities.
CD7	Progress the 'Within Reach Project' to develop a holistic support and service approach to people dealing with complex needs simultaneously, such as drug and alcohol issues, mental health issues and enhancing support networks for their families, friends and carers	On Track	On Track
		Held two workshops during School Youth Forum on Mental Health on 2 September 2005. The recommendations will be included in the revised Youth Strategy currently being developed; met with SSWAHS and NSWCAG with view to support the promotion of a holistic youth mental health outreach service approach. Plan to involve other relevant stakeholders for future meetings.	Planning commenced for shared activities with community partners throughout Youth Week 2006. Youth Inter-Agency progressed development of a mental health training program for local youth service providers. Council is also working with the Central Sydney Division of General Practice professional development program for GPs re young people and their mental health needs.

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CD8	Support the provision of services for Aboriginal Young people as identified in the Aboriginal Children Youth and Family Strategy working with the Aboriginal community and service providers to increase resources	On Track Council is supporting IWACC to recruit and induct a part time Youth Worker funded through Families First. Final report from Project Reference Group presented to Community Services Committee Meeting (CD24) on 13 September 2005. As an outcome of the report, a series of letters have been written to the State Government Ministers, local Members of Parliament and Inner West Councils.	On Track With funding from Families First, Inner West Aboriginal Children Youth and Family Strategy Reference Group established a position for an Aboriginal Youth Coordinator and recruitment process for this position. Temporary worker appointed pending permanent appointment in early 2006.
CD9	Continue to support the Inner East Affordable Housing Strategy to define regional housing needs and develop regional strategies to provide greater choice in housing options and to continue to work with members of the Marrickville/Leichhardt Housing Forum to develop actions regarding local housing, accommodation and tenancy issues across public, community and private housing sectors	On Track Community Development is working in conjunction with Planning Services to provide input into the development of the Inner East Regional Housing Strategy, due for endorsement by the end of 2005. Also, Council has provided \$2000 to assist the Marrickville Leichhardt Housing Forum organise a Housing Choices Expo to be held on 23 October 2005. A further \$15,000 has been allocated to the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre to support people living in boarding houses in the Marrickville LGA. This was report to Council (CD16) on 21 June 2005.	On Track The Inner East Regional Affordable Housing Strategy has been completed. The Housing Choices Expo organised by the Leichhardt/Marrickville Housing Forum was held on Sunday 23 October 2005 and was a great success. Approximately 150 people attended workshops and took opportunities to speak to a range of stall holders about buying a home, renting and environmental issues.
CD10	Co-ordinate partnerships with the local Aboriginal community, IWACC, employment agencies, universities and TAFE to increase local employment opportunities to provide assistance with recruitment, work experience placement and skill development	On Track Initial focus on Marrickville Council's Aboriginal Employment Strategy. Planning has commenced with UNSW on a series of breakfast meetings with Council's Aboriginal staff to be held mid-2006. As member of the Aboriginal Youth Strategy Reference Group, currently assisting with drafting a job description for an Aboriginal Youth Co-ordinator, as identified in the Aboriginal Children, Youth and Family Strategy (See CD8). This position is to be employed by IWACC.	On Track Worked with Employee Services to agree on Community Development's role in the Aboriginal Employment Strategy, which will include advice and participation in recruitment process, training consistent with Aboriginal Cultural Protocols, as well as a coordinated approach to network development.

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CD11	In alignment with Council's strategic directions, complete the development and implementation of the Ageing Community Strategy to identify appropriate responses in the areas of housing, education, recreation, transport and community care	On Track A draft background paper has been developed providing a policy context at the National and State levels and outlines some of the key issues to be addressed locally. An update report was presented to the Community Services Meeting (CD14) on 14 June 2005. A framework for the implementation of the Ageing Strategy in Marrickville LGA is being developed with a completion date of June 2006.	On Track Research continues and project remains on track.
CD12	Continue to develop and deliver services and programs at Tom Foster Community Care with a focus on recreation and leisure programs for frail, older people	On Track Senior staff recruitment at Tom Foster completed August and September 2005. Provisional approval received from Department. Ageing, Disability & Home Care to retain unexpended funds for renovations of Tom Foster Community Care Centre with planning underway.	On Track Tom Foster Centre had a marked increase in usage of the Centre by local groups in December 2005. The use of the bus also increased from the previous quarter due to the growing demand for transport from elderly groups in the LGA. Newly recruited Social Support Program Officer commenced work in December 2005. Planning for renovations continues.
CD13	Ensure that there are both formal and informal mechanisms in place that will provide all families accessing Council's Children's Services with accepting, inclusive and welcoming experiences	On Track Through following Council Social Justice Policy, Centres are guided in the provision of inclusive programs such as exploring different families types and challenging perceptions of children and staff on a daily basis. Inclusive resources that include posters, books, photographs are also use on a daily basis.	On Track Recently the staff at Council's Early Childhood Centres reviewed the social justice policy and strategies for implementation with children and families. Educators in children's centres have undertaken a review of resources including books and images on display, to ensure they are reflective of the diversity of the Marrickville community. This approach aims to ensure that services are welcoming and inclusive for all families and children

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CD14	Work with members of the Gay and Lesbian Liaison at Marrickville Committee (GLL@M) to identify needs of members of the local gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersexual community to encourage locally responsive events and services	On Track Currently within the Community and Cultural Services portfolio, GLL@M continues to meet Quarterly. In September 2005, GLL@M held a stall at the Marrickville Festival, and conducted a focus group with the Gay and Lesbian community. The Committee is currently planning the GLL@M Big Day Out to be held 27 November 2005.	On Track Facilitated by Communication and Cultural Services, the GLL@m Committee set up a working party to produce the GLL@M Day Out which was to be held on 27 November 2005. The event was cancelled due to poor weather conditions. A new page on the Council website is under construction to act as an information exchange and community service for this community. GLL@M fridge magnets were produced for distribution to raise awareness of the Committee.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMCD1	Number of meals provided through Tom Foster Community Care Food Service	Total clients for the Centre is 821. This includes: 271 Meals on Wheels; 20 Social Support Service; 81 Tom Foster Group; 143 Transport users (not including Tom Foster Groups) and 306 clients from other day centres. 11,960 meals were delivered to eligible clients in their home in the Marrickville and Leichhardt LGAs, 272 meals were served at the Tom Foster Community Centre and 1,170 meals were provided to other day centres. There are 45 active Volunteers at the Centre.	Total number of clients for the Centre for this quarter was 939. This includes 270 Meals on Wheels; 20 Social Support Service; 81 Tom Foster groups; 230 transport users and 358 from other day centres and services in the area. 11,650 meals were delivered to eligible clients in their homes in the Marrickville and Leichhardt LGAs. 552 meals were served at the Tom Foster Community Centre and 1,150 meals were provided to other services and day centres. There are 45 active volunteers at the Centre.
PMCD2	Number of Employment and Training related programs provided for people from Marrickville Local Government Area	4 new employment and training programs were developed across the LGA.	3 programs targeting high school students, including a focus on the arts.
PMCD3	Number of people accessing the Cadigal Wangal Website	Not available to date.	Unavailable.

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Community Facilities and Recreation		Key Activity Area 1: Marrickville's People	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
CR1	Implement the recommendations from the October 2004 Review of Community Facilities relating to the hire of community facilities, tenanted community building and building maintenance of community services facilities	On Track	On Track
		Application forms have been updated for hire of Town Halls and Community Facilities. Work has also commenced on the items identified in the 2004 Condition Audit in accordance with the Budget allocation listed in the 2005/6 Resources Plan.	Expressions of Interest were sought for 2006 Community Facilities Hire. A number of forms were designed and distributed to regular users and placed on the website. These included booking enquiry forms, key register forms, terms & conditions of hire booklets, casual hirers booking enquiry forms and key register forms. Bookings were also confirmed for 2006.
CR2	Review future directions for the Marrickville Aquatic Facilities by considering available strategic options and the ongoing management of the pools	On Track	On Track
		A report was presented to the Community Services Committee (CF5) 9 August 2005 regarding the ongoing management of the pools. Pamstream (the current pool operators) were granted a six month contract extension until 1 April 2006. A Councillor Conference was also arranged to review the strategic options for the upgrade of the Aquatic Facilities. Visits to NSW Water Play Parks were undertaken to help refine the concept for a Marrickville South facility.	Two stakeholder workshops were held to consider future management options for the two pools and a Councillor Conference is scheduled for 7 February 2006.
CR3	Develop and promote wider use of the Debbie and Abbey Borgia Community Recreation Centre by supporting PCYC in their operation of the Centre and by taking a role in program development at the Centre	On Track	On Track
		Information on the programs and services at the Centre were placed in the Marrickville Matters September edition. The wider use of the Centre was promoted through the DABCRC Advisory Committee and through regular meetings with the new Manager. Council Officers also helped to develop new Seniors programs including new indoor bowls sessions. Support was also extended to PCYC in developing their facility for two new sporting activities (Futsal and Handball).	Indoor bowls for seniors was established on Mondays from 10am - 1pm. Meetings were also held to develop Youth Zone and other activities for young people.

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CR4	Extend support to community based leisure organisations and local licensed clubs by:- (1) providing an annual program of training opportunities (2) holding leisure forums to provide information sharing opportunities (3) Informing leisure organisation about potential funding sources. (4) Providing organisations with the opportunity to promote themselves at Community events such as the Marrickville Festival	On Track The following support was provided to Community based leisure organisations and local clubs: On 20 July 2005, a training session on Club Planning was held to assist sporting clubs with their organisation; July edition of the Active Marrickville newsletter was produced; Active Marrickville Showcase was held at the Marrickville Festival on 18 September 2005 where eight community groups took part in a wide range of demonstrations; on 14 September 2005 over 30 local sporting organisations attended the third Leisure Forum titled "Risky Business". The content of this forum was well received by all participants.	On Track The October Active Marrickville Newsletter was distributed to all clubs, sporting and recreation organisations, Citizens' Services Centre & libraries. The Dulwich Hill Active Showcase was held at the Dulwich Hill Street Fair with approximately 300 people watching throughout the day.
CR5	Updating leisure information available to the community in Marrickville and ensuring a comprehensive distribution strategy is employed including use of our website	On Track The three leisure guides - Young and Active, Children and Families and Active for Later Life - were distributed at the Marrickville Festival. A new leisure Guide for Women and Girls in Marrickville is being prepared. Updating of the sport and recreation sections of the website began including new information about the Debbie and Abbey Borgia Community Recreation Centre (DABCRC) and the Robyn Webster Sport Centre.	On Track A new recreation publication has been developed this quarter called <i>Girls and Women, Active in Marrickville</i> . The booklet will be distributed next quarter.
CR6	Developing formal and informal leisure opportunities for the aged, people with disabilities, women and youth	On Track The new indoor bowls sessions and gentle exercise sessions for seniors at the DABCRC were developed and will be commencing in October. Council Officers worked with Aftercare, a local special needs group, to assist them in relocating their table tennis club for people with disabilities to a Council venue. Work was undertaken with worked with young indigenous people during NAIDOC Week in July 2005 to provide informal recreation opportunities at DABCRC.	On Track The new women and girls publication encourages greater leisure participation from this group.

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CR7	Encourage and support the community, Council staff and elected members to participate in community recreational events and be involved in healthy and active lifestyles	On Track In conjunction with Development and Environmental Services Council officers helped to promote the Walk to Work Day by encouraging staff to become involved in the event held on 7 October 2005.	On Track There were no specific initiatives this quarter.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMCR1	Number of initiatives to increase the level of contact and communication with local organisations	There have been 10 events/initiatives this quarter aimed at increasing the level of contact with local recreation organisations, these included 3 training events, 4 promotional opportunities and 3 healthy lifestyle events where approximately 400 people attended.	7 new initiatives this quarter, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ organisation of the Dulwich Hill Active Showcase; ■ development of the Girls & Women Active in Marrickville Booklet; ■ assisting PCYC in the development and promotion of Indoor Bowls for older people; ■ assisting a local club in finding a new venue for their organisation; ■ further development of Youth Zone through the advisory committee; ■ assisting in promotion development for Sydney Gymnastics Factory; and ■ assisting in promotion development for Wicks Park Tennis Club.
PMCR2	Attendance at swimming pools. Target: Annette Kellerman 80,000 p.a. Petersham Pool 30,000 p.a	Attendance at the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre for the quarter was 17,364 which represents an increase of 19% over the same quarter in 2004/05. The attendances for last year were: First Quarter: 14,564: Second Quarter: 27,207: Third Quarter: 26,075 Fourth Quarter: 18,530 . Please note that Petersham Pool was closed this quarter.	Attendance at the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre for the quarter was 34,888. This represents an 8% increase over the same quarter in 2004/2005. Attendance at the Petersham Pool this quarter was 20,827. This represents 8% over the same quarter in 2004/2005.

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PMCR3	Number of bookings for hire of community facilities	Bookings for the quarter were as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herb Greedy Hall - 176 • St Peters Town Hall - 239 • Seaview Street Hall - 212 • Marrickville Town Hall - 83 • Petersham Town Hall - 210 Total - 920 bookings	The number of bookings for this quarter was 888. These are for the 2006 calendar year.
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Library Services		Key Activity Area 1: Marrickville's People	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
LS1	Review and update the Library Services Strategic Plan to ensure it reflects current community needs and provides clear direction for the further development of the Service	On Track During August 2005, a revised draft of the Library's Draft Strategic Plan (2001) was circulated to the Library's Senior Staff for comment, feedback and input. The data has been collated and together with wider staff consultation, will be combined with the findings of the Library's recent Community Consultation Project, for finalisation and adoption by Council.	On Track The Library Community Consultation Project was completed in this quarter and the findings are currently being analysed. Proposed strategies and initiatives will be fed into the Draft Strategic Plan and Management Plan.
LS2	Conduct a user/non-user survey for the Library Service to ensure the delivery of Library programs that meet community needs and expectations	On Track Council received funding from the Library Council of NSW for a special purpose grant of \$29,560 to undertake a user/non-user community consultation program. The AECgroup, led by Dr Veronica Lunn have been appointed to the Project. Stages 1 and 2 of the project have been completed. Stage 1 - development of consultation, schedule and instruments. Stage 2 - market research comprising a review of the demographic profile, a direct community telephone survey and a consultation with staff and relevant stakeholders including focus groups. Stage 3 - reporting, recommendations, action plan, final workshop with stakeholders and further reporting to Council is scheduled for completion by the end of 2005.	On Track The Library undertook market research in August-October 2005 in order to identify community needs and perceptions in relation to the provision of library services. An extensive series of consultations were held across the community and a library user and non-user survey was conducted with 424 residents. Overall, 574 persons were consulted over the 3 month period. A demographic analysis was also undertaken to identify the current make-up of the population in the Marrickville LGA. The consultation highlighted the value of the library in the community. Ten recommendations were made on the basis of the findings, to be achieved in the short, mid and longer term. A report to Council on the findings of the Community Consultation Project is scheduled for the first quarter of 2006.

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LS3	Commence investigation of options for the redevelopment of the Library Service to meet industry best practice	On Track	On Track
		As stated above, circulation and development of the Library's Draft Strategic Plan and the outcomes of the Library Community Consultation Project will provide input to the redevelopment of Library Services. Work is currently being planned to reorganise the Marrickville Central Library to improve access to and usage of the collections and services. (Report to October Community Services Meeting, LS11)	The preliminary findings from the Library Community Consultation Project, conducted during this quarter, identify the need to review the quality and currency of the Library's collections. Findings of the Project will be presented to Council in the next quarter.
LS4	Improve the presentation of all libraries to create a welcoming atmosphere	On Track	On Track
		Stanmore and Dulwich Hill Branch Libraries have installed new display shelving on bay end panels for presenting multi-media items. St Peters/Sydenham Branch Library is gradually replacing top level shelving with display shelving to promote items "Face-Out" and encourage borrowing. Marrickville Central Library has also installed new signage on all bay end panels. The library is in preparation for the reorganisation of the Library from 21 to 27 November 2005.	The reorganisation of the Central Library was achieved within the specified timeframe. Community feedback has been most positive. Self Check units are installed in the Central Library and operational and staff are acting as train-the-trainers to the community. Painting of the Central Library was completed within the quarter. St. Peters/Sydenham Branch has replaced all top level shelving with display shelving. Stanmore Branch is not installing new shelving on bay end panels because of restricted space in walkways. This shelving has been relocated to Dulwich Hill Branch and installed on bay ends.
LS5	Implementation of new technology in the Library Service through further development of the Library Management System	On Track	On Track
		As reported to Council on 14 December 2004 (LS15), the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology is being implemented at the Marrickville Central Library. The Library is only one of a few public libraries in NSW currently implementing this technology in full. Two self checkout units are due to be installed in November 2005.	The RFID project is fully implemented and operational with two Self Check units providing community self service for the borrowing of books. The Self Check units, located close to the Circulation Desk, are proving most popular with the community and usage is increasing. Marrickville Library Service is only the second library in Australia to implement the 3M One-Tag RFID system. A launch of the RFID operation was conducted on the evening of 12 December 2005 by the Mayor.

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LS6	Develop co-operative relationships with other relevant Council Library Services for the cataloguing of community language material as a resource sharing initiative	On Track	On Track
		The National Bibliographic Database is implementing a new Unicode database due for release in December 2005. This will provide access to community language catalogue records for public libraries. Staff are also consulting with the State Library of NSW to identify improved acquisition and cataloguing of community languages	Preliminary discussions with Ashfield and Fairfield Councils, and possibly with other Councils operating the Dynix Horizon Library Management System, indicate strong interest in joint cataloguing of community language materials. A meeting of relevant staff is to be scheduled, following commencement of the new Collection Management Team Leader and the new Multicultural Librarian, to investigate options. Similarly, a meeting with the State Library's Multicultural Section is to be scheduled, during the next quarter, to discuss cooperative purchasing arrangements for community language materials.
LS7	Develop a volunteer program in conjunction with other sections of Council to enhance Library Services and increase community involvement	On Track	On Track
		An across Council working party which was formed in September 2005 plans to discuss ways of creating and implementing a volunteer policy for all Council. Manager, Library Services is coordinating and a briefing paper will be forwarded to Senior Staff	The working party has met on three occasions and has compiled a draft set of procedures for the recruitment, training and retention of volunteers. Distribution of the draft is on hold pending a review of volunteer management in Marrickville by Development and Environmental Services. The initiative proposes a joint funding bid from the involved Divisions - Environmental and Community Services - via Council's Resources Plan to identify the capacity and potential for expanding volunteer programs across Council; the support programs established for volunteers and the reporting and accounting for volunteer contributions.

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LS8	Develop an environmental Resource collection and expand partnerships with other areas of Council and local community organisations to raise awareness of environmental concerns and solutions	On Track	On Track
		It is proposed to apply for a seeding grant through the Library Council of NSW for an environmental resource collection due at the end of February 2006. Further, Library Services have combined with Environmental Services to present programs for children with an environmental theme e.g. Pre-School Storytime sessions during Local Government Week featured an environmental theme and Library Spring School Holiday Activities between 27 September and 7 October 2005 included a Bugs Workshop.	This strategy will be examined in conjunction with consideration of the outcomes of the Community Consultation Project with a report to be presented to Council.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMLS1	Total number library membership per quarter	*43,612 (5%+) { * Total membership increase is reflecting last years deletion of inactive membership records prior to implementation of the new LMS. }	Note: i. retrieval not possible at this time. ii. the Central Library was closed to the public for reorganisation and refurbishment during the 7 day period from 21 to 27 November, 2005 inclusive.
PMLS2	Total number library loans per quarter	135,871 (6%+)	121,784 (-9%)
PMLS3	Number of information enquiries per quarter	**5,316 (-52%) { ** The number of information enquiries reflects recent changes to improve accuracy and relevance. Public libraries have been encouraged by the State Library to improve statistical analysis in order to better benchmark across the State. Marrickville Library Service has recently taken the decision to provide data in the PLEG (Public Library Evaluation Group) format as per State Library of NSW requirements }	9,620 (+55%)
PMLS4	Number of initiatives to provide educational and recreational events and activities to strengthen links with community groups	*** 79 Programs 1,393 participants { *** No comparison available due to change in data collection methods to improve accuracy and relevance }	Regular educational and recreational programs targeting specific community groups include preschool story times (parents and young children), homework help (students), internet and email classes (adults from English-speaking and CALD backgrounds) and adult reading clubs (adults). These attracted approximately 2,462 visitors to the library.

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			Additional initiatives this quarter included a focus group of young people to discuss the "Library Behaviour Guidelines", Refugee Week display and event, Children's Week display and events, an author talk, storytelling at the Magic Yellow Bus, visits to schools and participation in Youth events. The adult reading club will be expanding to the branches in the New Year.
PMLS5	Number of internet users per quarter	9473 (-7%)	10,422 (+9%)

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Children & Family Services		Key Activity Area 1: Marrickville's People	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
CF1	Following the completion of the Children & Family Services Strategic Plan, as outlined in the Social Plan, to implement the strategies within the required timeframes	On Track	On Track
		The annual funding document ASPARD Department of Community Services funding occurred in September 2005 with documentation to be completed in November 2005. Centres currently collecting information for the reporting period that includes statistics that will reflect this question. The results of the survey and performance indicators will be completed in December.	A number of strategies identified in the social plan have been implemented across children's services. These strategies are also reflected in the below listed management plan targets.
CF2	Ensure the effective implementation of new State Regulations relating to Early Childhood, Family Day Care and Mobile Children's services, as well as implement any changes arising from the federal funding of the Inclusion Support Program and the Accreditation	On Track	On Track
		May Murray, Deborah Little, Cavendish Street, Addison Road, Enmore and Tillman's Park centres are currently undergoing the NSW Licensing process; Centre Directors and Family Day Care staff attended an update sessions held during July/August 2005 for new regulations that come into effect in January 2006; Tender submitted for Inclusion Support Agency Program as per report to Council on 9 August 2005 (CS21).	Report submitted to Community Services Committee Meeting December 2005 (Item CS 29, 11/05) outlining the progress made to ensure compliance with the NSW Children's Services Regulations (2004). Most actions are fully compliant with the Regulations with final safety glass film to be installed in February 2006, making all services fully compliant.
CF3	Initiate and participate in programs that promote local diversity and community living for families and children who utilize Council's Children & Family Services	On Track	On Track
		Many initiatives were undertaken this quarter. Highlights are as follows: Children's Services involved with Moon Festival celebrations, increased community focus for children's centres with more community excursions and home visiting programs established in many services; Family Day Care Staff attended Social Justice stories training Part 3 on 13 September 2005. An OSHC "Schools out" newsletter was updated this quarter for families living in Tempe, Sydenham and St Peters.	Council services continue to implement initiatives which ensure that families and community members participate actively in the community. Services have been vigilant in ensuring that council and non-council organised events are promoted to families through service newsletters and the distribution of fliers. In addition events for families are currently been planned for the 2006 calendar year.

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CF4	Continue to adopt environmental sustainability principles and practices into daily operations of Councils Children & Family Services through purchasing, community activities and educational programs	On Track Following initiatives undertaken this quarter: installation and use of water tanks being organised at children's centres; environmental design consideration for new playgrounds e.g. natural shade, irrigation; children involvement encouraged in recycling and reuse projects e.g. worm farming, paper recycling, Reverse Garbage. Children's Centres moving towards use of environmentally friendly and less toxic cleaning products.	On Track Water tanks have been installed in all of Council's Early Childhood Services. In addition, water saving taps with timers have been installed at Addison Road, Enmore and Cavendish Street Children's Centres. Additionally, a number of services have been working on projects to ensure environmental /sustainability principles are embedded into daily practices with children.
CF5	In partnership with the Primary School Principals Consultative Committee develop a parent/carer supported playgroup model that can be incorporated into local school environments	On Track At the Primary Principals Consultative Committee meeting 3 August 2005, it was decided that schools need to further investigate the needs of school communities. Feedback from existing playgroups in local schools will be considered at the next meeting to be held on 25th October 2005.	On Track Guest speaker from the Playgroups Association has been organised to attend the next Primary School Consultative Committee meeting to discuss protocols and opportunities for the establishment of playgroups on the premises of schools.
CF6	Support and work with the Marrickville South community and local agencies to develop whole of family Early Literacy programs	On Track The Marrickville Children and Family Interagency, Early Literacy working party is convened with representatives from Council and local agencies with a focus on having a shared understanding of multi –literacies. The working party planned and implemented two Bookweek Events. Two storytelling sessions were held by Rose Costello, a children's storyteller. They were held at a variety of local playgroups operating across Marrickville as well as with the Magic Yellow Bus.	On Track Council staff continue to be involved in the Early Literacy working group. In December 2005 a planning day was held for the Marrickville Interagency and actions for 2006 were established including goals for working groups. In addition, Council has been advised that its application to continue running the Interagency has been successful.

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CF7	Through the Children & Family Interagency develop a new Children and Family Support workers kit to ensure a collaborative approach to their work with the local community	On Track	Completed
		The Marrickville and Children and Family Interagency, Community Connectedness working party has undertaken and completed a draft of a New Children and Family Support workers kit. The Kit was presented during the Interagency meeting on 10 August 2005 for preliminary feedback. The kit will be distributed to New Workers at the next meeting in October 2005 to be trialled.	Task completed
CF8	Extend parent/carer support programs and community support outreach programs through the Magic Yellow Bus	On Track	On Track
		Through a collaborative approach to supporting families, the Family Services Development Officer and the Magic Yellow Bus presented a Musical Workshop for young children and their parents during their September 2005 School Holiday Program at Camperdown Park, where more than 50 families attended.	<p>Magic Yellow Bus continues to be involved in a number of outreach programs across the LGA. In December 2005, the MYB worked in collaboration with the IWACC and ran a playgroup on site as part of the end of year celebrations. There is continued involvement in a number of community projects.</p> <p>At the Community Services Committee meeting of Council held on 13 December, a recommendation that the MYB service be expanded into both Steel Park and Tillman Park was adopted, together with a recommendation that external funding opportunities be sought to support the on-going operational costs of the MYB.</p>
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMCF1	Quality of services as indicated by the percentage of Council childcare services meeting national quality assurance standards and state licensing.	Ferncourt, Wilkins and Camdenville OOSH and Deborah Little Children's Centre have been Accredited by National Childcare Accreditation Council. The next review for these services will be completed in 2007. May Murray, Deborah Little, Cavendish Street, Addison Road, Enmore and Tillman's Park centres currently going through NSW Licensing process.	All of Council's services that were to be accredited in 2005 have been accredited and received high quality. Preparations are underway for the reaccreditation at Cavendish Street, Enmore and May Murray Children's Centres in 2006.

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PMCF2	Parent satisfaction with child care services –for different centres and services as measured by annual parents survey	Surveys are being developed to determine parent satisfaction for all services. These are to be distributed next quarter.	Surveys have been sent out to families and responses are being collated.
PMCF3	Identified use of child care services by different sectors of the community, including children of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, children from families of a language background other than English and children with a disability as reported in the annual ASPARD document	The representative week for the annual funding document ASPARD (Department of Community Services) occurred in September 2005 with all documentation to be completed by November 2005. This document included statistics relevant to this performance measure.	Child Care needs analysis was released in November 2005, and a consultancy firm has been awarded the contract to carry out this task. Community forums will assist in identifying users of the services and possible barriers.
PMCF4	Utilisation of child care services. Target 100%	The average utilisation rate for Children and Family Services is as follows: Children's Centres 94.46% utilisation rate OOSH Services 76.89% utilisation rate Family Day Care 98% utilisation rate.	New systems have been put into place to ensure that vacancies are filled immediately. Fee targets have been met through greater analysis, vigilance and follow through of debts. Specific figures pertaining to utilisation not available this quarter due to the fact that children beginning school in 2006 who attended a Council early childhood service in 2005, continue to attend in January 2006 and staggered enrolments occur during January and February.

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Communication & Cultural Services		Key Activity Area 1: Marrickville's People	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
CC1	Oversee the implementation of Council's new Major Community Events Program to engage with whole community and ensure the ongoing vibrancy of Marrickville's public places	On Track	On Track
		Implementation of the Major Community Events Program in the first quarter is on track and has included the launch event for Gift Given mural at Tempe Reserve on 7 August 2005, attracting an audience of 300; a Meet the Candidates by-election forum on 7 September 2005 attracting 150 people; Marrickville Festival on 18 September 2005 attracting 50,000 people; and Feastability Food and Wine Fair on 25 September 2005 attracting 15,000 people.	Implementation of the Major Community Events Program in the second quarter is on track and has included the Bali Memorial on 12 October 2005 with 80 people in attendance and the Dulwich Hill Street Fair on 3 December 2005, attracting 3,000 people. In addition to the Major Community Events Program, CCS assisted the Sister Cities Committee in the delivery of a Sister Cities Multicultural evening, attracting an audience of 400; and prepared the GLL@M Day Out scheduled for 27 November 2005 which was cancelled due to poor weather conditions.
CC2	Implement strategies to improve Council's communication with communities from diverse backgrounds and work across council to reinforce environmental sustainability messages	On Track	On Track
		Following adoption of the Ethnic Communication Strategy in May 2005, Council has commenced implementation of the strategy through providing on-going advice to sections of Council regarding the placement of advertisements in the ethnic media and distribution of relevant media releases to the preferred ethnic media outlets identified in the Strategy.	Council continues implementation of the Ethnic Communications strategy through utilising preferred ethnic media outlets to advertise Council projects and activities; a new section of the Marrickville Council website was developed to act as an information exchange and community service for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community of Marrickville - the site will become active in 2006.

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CC3	Promote Marrickville as a centre for the arts through the development of the Newtown Entertainment Precinct brand and cultural projects throughout the local government area and develop partnerships with relevant agencies and organisations	On Track Projects progressed in relation to NEPP and cultural development include continuation of the development of the profile for the Newtown Entertainment Precinct in conjunction with NEPA and Addison Road Centre; distribution of a brief for the Newtown Art Board Project; submission of grant applications to City of Sydney Council for the funding of the Art Board; renegotiation of the service agreements with Inner West Cultural Services and Stone Villa Artists; the completion of the Robyn Webster Sports Centre Aboriginal mural Gift Given at Tempe Reserve, launched on 7 August 2005; the implementation of the Illuminart arts grant, a series of projected light shows on buildings throughout the LGA. CCS has also worked in partnership with the NSW Ministry for the Arts through a grant of \$25,000 to prepare a brief for the development of a management model for a potential flagship artist studio complex for Sydney situated in Marrickville. Expressions of Interest closed on 30 September 2005. Report to Council (CC11) 26 July 2005.	On Track Development of the profile of the Newtown Entertainment Precinct continues in conjunction with NEPA and other project partners including a successful promotional campaign 'Get into the Precinct and get under Sydney's skin' - increasing visitors to the newtownprecinct.com.au website by 79% compared to the same period last year (previous average increase over the last twelve months has been 39%); submission of a grant application in regards to the Newtown Art Board Project and other precinct projects to the DoTARS Regional Partnerships Programme. Development of the arts continued through production of the Marrickville Council Arts Night 'Upstage Newtown' on 17 November 2005 showcasing the precinct and receiving coverage in the local press and radio; and continued negotiation with the Addison Road Centre regarding the second phase of the 'Artsville' project. CCS has also continued working in partnership with the NSW Ministry for the Arts through a grant of \$25,000 to prepare a brief for the development of a management model for a potential flagship artist studio complex for Sydney situated in Marrickville. A consultant has been engaged and is preparing a management model for consideration. In November, Council won a Community Based Planning Award <i>in the Planning Institute of Australia NSW 2005 Awards for Excellence</i> for the development and implementation of the Marrickville Public Art Strategy: People, Place & Art.
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CC4	Develop and strengthen the Main Street Program, with the view to enhancing local character and the profile of shopping strips as centres of community life including encouragement for the extended operation of entertainment and restaurant facilities	On Track All Main Street Committees have commenced the implementation of their new work plans for the year. Dulwich Hill has commenced pre-production of the Dulwich Hill Street Fair; Marrickville has organised an advertising feature and performances in Alex Trevallion Plaza; Newtown has successfully produced Feastability Food and Wine Fair; and Petersham has pursued the production of a business operators newsletter. A meeting with all Main Street Coordinators was held in August to discuss the standard terms of reference for Committee. Coordinators job specifications have been standardised and positions graded.	Main Street Committees continue implementation of their annual work plans. Dulwich Hill produced a successful Dulwich Hill Street Fair on 3 December 2005 attracting 3,000 people; Marrickville assisted in the implementation of Council's rollershutter policy, Alex Trevallion Plaza design consultation, and commenced discussions with cafe and restaurant owners about extended operating hours; Newtown has provided leadership in holding regular Newtown Business Network meetings to provide opportunities for professional development of businesses in the area and sharing of information. Newtown is also contributing a fashion and retail directory for inclusion on the NEPA website; Petersham has finalised production of a local services guide and has begun production of the 2006 Bairro Portuguese Food and Wine Fair. All Main Street areas took part in Christmas festivities including a lighting program whereby white lights in shopping strips were temporarily replaced by coloured lights.
CC5	Commence the development of a model for a Cultural Plan for Marrickville LGA in accordance with the Guidelines produced by the NSW Ministry for the Arts.	On Track In regard to the development of a model for the Council's cultural plan and to explore potential research partnerships, CCS has met with Centre for Social Inclusion, Macquarie University; the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and Shopfront, University of Technology (UTS); the Centre of Cultural Research, University of Western Sydney (UWS); and the Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales (UNSW), who are all well regarded as specialists in arts, community and cultural research.	On Track With potential research partners previously identified unable to participate, CCS began to explore alternatives for the most effective means of carrying out research to inform a Cultural Plan.

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CC6	In consultation with the Sister Cities Committee, review the administration of Council's Sister City relationships to ensure the most effective outcome for the Marrickville community and Sister City partnerships	On Track Following discussion with the Sister Cities Committee at its August 2005 meeting, a draft Sister City Program and Policy Review document has been prepared and will be tabled at the November meeting of the Sister Cities Committee for their consideration.	On Track A draft Sister City Program and Policy Review document was tabled at the November Sister Cities Committee meeting for consideration. Draft recommendations were prepared and forwarded to Councillors and Senior Staff for comments which will be tabled at the Sister Cities Committee Meeting in February 2006.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMCC1	Overall satisfaction of community functions and events organised by Council as measured by customer satisfaction surveys.	Customer satisfaction surveys for events have not been undertaken in the quarter except for Marrickville Festival on the 18 September 2005. The results of this survey are currently being compiled.	The results of the recent Community Survey conducted by Micromex Research indicated that 70% of respondents had attended festivals or events organised by Marrickville Council in the past 12 months. More than 60% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied that festivals and events were offering good cultural opportunities Marrickville Festival survey results were compiled and showed that the community values the festival's atmosphere, entertainment programming and cultural diversity. Evaluation surveys have been developed to gather feedback at the Australia Day Celebrations in the next quarter and will be applied to smaller scale events in the major community events program.
PMCC2	Number of visitors to community functions and events	Overall attendance at events in the quarter has been pleasing; launch event for Gift Given mural at Tempe Reserve on 7 August 2005 attracting an audience of 300; a Meet the Candidates by-election forum on 7 September 2005 attracting 150 people; Marrickville Festival on 18 September 2005 attracting 50,000 people and Feasibility Food and Wine Fair on 25 September 2005 attracting 15,000 people.	Attendance at events in the second quarter has been strong with the exception of the GLL@M Day Out which was cancelled due to poor weather conditions: Bali Memorial on 12 October 2005, with 80 friends, family and supporters of the victims; Sister Cities Multicultural evening on 5 November 2005 attracting an audience of 400; Upstage Newtown on 17 November 2005 attracting an audience of 400; and Dulwich Hill Street Fair on 3 December 2005, attracting an audience of 3,000.

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History Program		Key Activity Area 1: Marrickville's People	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
HP1	Create a directory of local heritage and cultural organisations and their history within the Marrickville LGA	On Track	On Track
		Council's Arts Officer has produced a "Guide to Marrickville Galleries and Museums". The History Program will further build on this publication giving a brief history of each organisation.	Historical information available on listed museums. Consultation to be held with new Arts Officer.
HP2	Promote the History Centre through:- (i) the development of a marketing strategy; (ii) active participation in the activities of the Heritage Promotions Committee; (iii) involvement in Heritage Week & History Week; and (iv) the development of other relevant partnerships	On Track	On Track
		i) marketing strategy is in the preliminary stages (ii) Participated with the Heritage Promotions Committee at Marrickville Festival with their shopfront and the showing of a new revised "Marrickville Retro". (iii) History Week was held 18 - 23 September 2005 with historical photographic display of Marrickville in the 1940s. The History Centre operated on extended opening hours. (iv) This was displayed at Marrickville Festival and at the History Centre throughout the week. A significant relationship exists with the Marrickville Aboriginal Consultative Committee where the History Program is represented on the Cultural Working Group.	(i) Brief for marketing strategy being prepared ii) History staff attend monthly Heritage Promotions Committee meetings and are contributing to the Plaque Project which involves identifying relevant sites in the LGA for plaques iii) planning for Heritage Week is underway with History staff being responsible for the exhibition on early industries iv) partnership developed with Marrickville Mainstreet through Back to Marrickville Road event
HP3	Engage the community by conducting historical walks with accompanying historical pamphlets in the Marrickville LGA in consultation with the Heritage Promotions Committee	On Track	On Track
		Historical walks of Petersham were held during Local Government Week 1-7 August 2005. These were well attended by both the community and Council staff.	Due to the number of significant exhibitions held in this quarter, no further historical walks were held.
HP4	Develop a volunteer program to utilise local skills and knowledge for the history program	On Track	On Track
		The Volunteer Program across Council is being coordinated by Manager, Library Services. Preliminary meeting scheduled in September 2005.	Suitable project for volunteers in History Centre being identified. Submissions from community to join program will be called in February 2006

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HP5	Engage citizens in their local history by further developing online exhibitions and information accessible through Council's website	On Track General historical information is accessible through Council's website. The Heritage Promotions Committee now has a link on the website to its brochures and the Historical Photographic Digital Database. Online exhibitions are to be developed in cooperation with Corporate Development.	On Track Online exhibition on industrial Marrickville will be in place for Heritage Week 2006
HP6	Hold a range of workshops and promotional events to celebrate the culturally diverse heritage of the Marrickville LGA	On Track Marrickville Aboriginal History Project launched on 27 June 2005 was also displayed at both Petersham Town Hall and at the launch of the Gift Given mural at the Robyn Webster Sports Centre on 7 August 2005. Up to 200 people saw the exhibition. During History Week, which focused on the 1940s where Marrickville transformed into an industrial reality, a talk and display on the history of Stanmore was held at Stanmore Library on 13 September 2005. During Adult Learners Week which was held between 1 - 8 September 2005, a bus tour of the Marrickville LGA was held to promote the history of the area and the work of the History Centre to Council's staff.	On Track <i>The Social History of Childhood & Play</i> was held as part of Children's Week. The exhibition consisted of photographs and examples of toys, past and present. It was launched at Marrickville Library on 24 October and was displayed until 28 October 2005. A ghost tour of Camperdown Cemetery was held on 24 October. A historical exhibition on housing styles was displayed at the <i>Housing Choices Expo</i> on 23 October 2005 <i>Back to Marrickville Road</i> exhibition held in Alex Trevallion Plaza on Saturday 12 November 2005. The exhibition of photographs was held in conjunction with Marrickville Mainstreet. The photographs were a mixture of contemporary and historical themes, which also explored the impact of cultural diversity on the shopping centre.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMHP1	Number of users of the service	There were 82 visits to the History Centre compared to 66 visits in 2004/2005. This represents an increase of 24%. Visits for 2004/2005: 1st Quarter: 66; 2nd Quarter: 35; 3rd Quarter: 43; 4th Quarter: 55.	There were 49 visits to the History Centre compared to 36 visits in 2004/2005. This represents an increase of 36%.

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PMHP2	Number of enquiries and requests handled by the History programme	232 enquiries this quarter. Of these 67 were by email/correspondence and 165 were telephone enquiries. Enquiries 2004/2005 1st Quarter: 208; 2nd Quarter: 287; 3rd Quarter: 294; 4th Quarter: 259.	248 enquiries received this quarter. Of these, 123 were by email/correspondence and 125 were telephone enquiries. This was slightly down on 2nd quarter 2004/2005 which received 287 enquiries.
PMHP3	Number of initiatives to engage the community through events/exhibitions/activities	Four exhibitions were held with 495 people in attendance. The Marrickville Aboriginal History Project approximately 200 people; the History Week Exhibition approximately 130 people; the Stanmore Library talk approximately 105 people and Local Government Week walks 60 people.	Four exhibitions/events were held with approximately 550 people in attendance. The Social History of Childhood and Ghost tour of Camperdown Cemetery in Children's Week had 150 people. The Housing Choices Expo had 50 people. Back to Marrickville had 350 people.
PMHP4	Number of donations to the History Collection	There were twelve (12) donations of individual items, including photographs, family histories, two bricks and a history of St Brigid's Catholic Church.	There were eight (8) donations of individual items, including two photographs and six bricks.

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Planning Services		Key Activity Area 2: Marrickville's Built Environment	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
PS1	To develop a series of local planning documents arising from the final directions of the NSW Government's Planning Reform Package, including input to Council's Strategic Plan process and to develop an Urban Strategy, new Local Environmental Plan, and revised Section 94 Plan	On Track	On Track
		Initial reports and briefings to Councillors held for the scoping of the Urban Strategy and Section 94 projects. A revised Draft LEP template was placed on public exhibition by the Department of Planning in late September, 2005, and reported to the October DES Committee Meeting. Also working closely with the Manager Corporate Development to better co-ordinate the Marrickville Plan/Strategic Plan and the Urban Strategy processes.	Following a Tender process in November, Council approved the appointment of a consortium of external consultants to assist in the preparation of a new Urban Strategy at its December Meeting. An Inception Meeting has been held with the consortium, and work on the Strategy will commence over December/January. Following a Councillors' Conference in September, a report on a revised Section 94 Plan will be submitted to the February DES Committee Meeting. The Department of Planning has recently advised that the new LEP Template will be finalised in March, 2006.
PS2	Develop an integrated transport strategy that coordinates all forms of road and rail transport, encourages alternatives to car use and reduces heavy traffic on local roads	On Track	On Track
		Reports on the proposed Strategy process were endorsed by Senior Staff and Council at the July DES Committee Meeting. Council's Transport Planner has completed an extensive period of consultation with key officers across Council and with external stakeholders. It is aimed to report to Council with a draft Strategy in late 2005. Council has also endorsed the reformation of the Transportation Committee, with a revised Terms of Reference.	The first meeting of the re-activated Transportation Committee was held in November, and included a briefing on the progress of the Integrated Transport Strategy. A Draft of the Strategy is expected to be reported to Council in early 2006.

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PS3	Develop a series of preferred planning mechanisms to create a greater supply of affordable housing in the Marrickville LGA for Council's consideration	On Track	On Track
		PS officers have worked collaboratively with the Community Services Division to provide significant input and policy input to the Inner East Regional Affordable Housing Strategy process, which is due for completion in October, 2005. Through various reports and a Councillors Conference, the PS and CD Sections have continued to keep Council informed on the best means of advancing local affordable initiatives, such as the retention of existing low cost housing and the community development actions of the South Marrickville Project.	There has been a slight delay in the final production of the Inner East Regional Affordable Housing Strategy, which is now due by the end of December. The Planning Services Section will submit a report on the final Strategy to the DES Committee in early 2006, including a detailed investigation of the Waverley Council Affordable Housing Developer Agreement FSR bonus, as requested by Councillors at the September Section 94 Plan Conference.
PS4	To continue to seek guidance from DIPNR and the NSW Heritage Office and advise Council on the most appropriate ways of advancing the recommendations of the Marrickville Heritage Study Review, 2001	On Track	On Track
		Planning Services officers conducted extensive liaison with DIPNR and the NSW Heritage Office throughout this period to develop a preferred strategy for advancing heritage planning mechanisms. The current Council has resolved only to proceed with the completion of the 2 new heritage conservation areas for King Street/Enmore Road and the Abergeldie Estate, Dulwich Hill. These HCAs are close to being gazetted. The further assessment and recommendation of the HSR has been incorporated as an important component of the upcoming Urban Strategy investigations, which is expected to commence in late 2005/ early 2006.	Planning Services officers have made every effort to advance the Draft LEP Amendment for the 2 Heritage Conservation Areas, and are awaiting the final determination by the Department of Planning and the Minister. The brief for the Urban Strategy Tender contains a priority for the appointed consortium to review and advise Council on the recommendations of the Marrickville Heritage Study Review, 2001.

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PS5	To provide effective professional input and support to a series of emerging local community transport initiatives such as Greenway and Car Share, as well as the broader urban design and transport actions within the State Government's Parramatta Road Corridor project	On Track Council's Transport Planner has added great value not only in the formulation of a new Integrated Transport Strategy, but also in his input to a wide range of projects across Council including a revitalisation of the Bicycle and Transportation Committee activities, the Greenway and Car Share projects, and also in the response to major State Government planning (Metro and Parramatta Road Strategies) and road proposals (M4 East and F6).	On Track Council's Transport Planner has continued to be highly active and effective in advancing a range of initiatives, including a successful bid for Department of Planning funding for the Greenway project, achieving significant progress on the review of Council's Bike Plan, and walking/cycling programs with local schools and community groups. He has also made significant contributions to the investigations and strategic advice on the major State Government planning policies and road transport proposals.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMPS1	Development of integrated transport strategy underway by December 2005	Reports on the proposed Strategy process were endorsed by Senior Staff and Council at the July DES Committee Meeting. Council's Transport Planner has completed an extensive period of consultation with key officers across Council and with external stakeholders. It is aimed to report to Council with a draft Strategy in late 2005. Council has also endorsed the reformation of the Transportation Committee, with a revised Terms of Reference.	Council's Transport Planner has made substantial progress on the Draft Integrated Transport Strategy and, due to the busy end of year commitments of Council, it is now aimed to report the Draft Strategy to Council in early 2006.
PMPS2	Development of a series of preferred planning mechanisms for affordable housing underway by December 2005	PS officers have worked collaboratively with the Community Services Division to provide significant input and policy input to the Inner East Regional Affordable Housing Strategy process, which is due for completion in October, 2005. Through various reports and a Councillors Conference, the PS and CD Sections have continued to keep Council informed on the best means of advancing local affordable initiatives, such as the retention of existing low cost housing and the community development actions of the South Marrickville Project.	Progress on new affordable housing mechanisms has been impacted upon by the delay in the final production of the Inner East Regional Housing Strategy, as well as the need to clarify the recent Planning Reforms of the State Government, particularly in terms of the opportunities to create new affordable housing supplies through voluntary Planning Agreements. Planning Services officers have made substantial investigations into these issues over the last period and now aim to report a preferred approach to Council in early 2006.

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PMPS3	Number of planning processes where equity, access and environmental sustainability principles have been incorporated	The planning for the upcoming Integrated Transport and Urban Strategy processes has placed a great priority on the need to incorporate ESD principles. In terms of more immediate policy actions, Council recently adopted the Waste DCP, a best practice plan, with strong ESD principles. The Planning Services Section has also collaborated with the Community Services Division to commence stakeholder consultation for the review of Council's Access DCP.	These principles have been strongly reinforced through the ongoing development of the Draft Integrated Transport Strategy, and were featured prominently in the Urban Strategy brief for external consultants.
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Development Assessment		Key Activity Area 2: Marrickville's Built Environment	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
AP1	Continue to review the issuing of construction certificates to ensure citizens receive an expeditious, high quality service.	On Track	On Track
		Checklists integrated into Proclaim for testing to streamline process.	Ongoing refinements made following testing. Class 1 checklists fully integrated into Proclaim. Delegations for CCs extended to improve efficiency.
AP2	Up-skill staff in the assessment of development and building finishes and to use external assistance as required; and review the consent process and institute means by which Council can have more control over the materials and finishes selected and used in development	On Track	On Track
		Approval of finishes and colours integrated into consent conditions to facilitate monitoring by Principle Certifying Authority. No external training in assessment of finishes this quarter.	Task allocated to Planner as a special project, internal workshop in initial planning stage.
AP3	Continue and expand the 'renovator's workshops' run during 2004. Additional target audiences include local architects and building designers as a group, and people wishing to occupy shops (including prospective tenants, local real estate agents and Chamber of Commerce members).	On Track	On Track
		Not held this quarter - deferred until third quarter to allow further planning of workshop.	Not held this quarter - deferred until third quarter to allow further planning of workshop.
AP4	Review the planning and building advice service currently provided by phone and in person from Council's Administration Centre. The provision pre-development application advice would be the focus of the review, although the entire system and physical environment are due for reconsideration after many years without review	On Track	On Track
		Minor review of formal prelodgement process carried out to improve service and turnaround time to schedule meeting.	Prelodgement practice note prepared. Prelodgement application form drafted and finalised. Housing Approvals Guide updated and reprinted.

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMAP1	Reduction of mean processing times for building approvals	Mean processing time this quarter = 23 days.	Mean processing time this quarter = 21 days.
PMAP2	Reduction in number of applications outstanding	No. of outstanding Development Applications reduced by 14%, from 203 at beginning of quarter to 174 at end of quarter.	No. of outstanding Development Applications stable at around 176 this quarter.
PMAP3	Overall satisfaction of citizens with Council's planning service as measured by customer satisfaction surveys	Corporate customer satisfaction survey not conducted this quarter.	Survey conducted included a small sample of 45 who used the development assessment service in the last year. The service was rated by respondents as 3.2 (out of 5).
PMAP4	Number of attendees to renovators workshops per quarter	Not held this quarter.	Not held this quarter.

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Monitoring Services		Key Activity Area 2: Marrickville's Built Environment	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
MO1	Develop a Food Safety Program that will encompass the regulated inspection of medium risk food premises.	On Track	On Track
		Inspection of medium risk food premises has commenced. At this stage the focus is identifying food premises operating within the Council area and ensuring compliance with food safety standards.	Inspection of premises continue.
MO2	Develop of a Mobile Food Vending and a Temporary Food Stalls Policy.	On Track	On Track
		Research has commenced on the current literature from other Council's recognised as leaders in the field of food safety.	Analysis of the current literature commenced and continues.
MO3	Maintain a register for all premises that have cooling towers and warm water systems	On Track	On Track
		90% of the known systems have been inspected. Work will commence in the next quarter on the creation of a register.	All of the known premises have been inspected and a register has been created.
MO4	Improve general health, and living standards for shared accommodation premises to ensure they are operating in accordance with industry best practice and the relevant legislation.	On Track	On Track
		20% of boarding houses inspected for general health and living standards.	30% of known boarding houses inspected.
MO5	Improve the service for CRMS, specifically for building, health, planning and environment requests.	On Track	On Track
		The new request management system MERIT was launched in August	Report prepared and considered by Senior Staff for a revised service standard that better reflected Council's current capacity.
MO6	Develop a Footway Licensing Policy that incorporates footway dining, display of goods, A-frame signs, hoardings and fences	On Track	On Track
		Research has commenced.	Research continues.

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MO7	Maintain a register for all premises that have footway dining, display of goods, A-frame signs, hoardings and fences and advertising structures	On Track	On Track
		Work is currently underway on the development of this register.	Temporary register in place that allows application to be received and processed. Work on the permanent register will not commence until Proclaim can process debtors.
MO8	Develop a strategy to address after hours parking issues and resident parking schemes	On Track	On Track
		Discussions have commenced with Technical Services.	Strategy developed and operating for after hours parking. Discussions continue for Resident Parking Schemes Strategy.
MO9	Develop education initiatives to target dog owners/ walkers that will highlight the proper disposal of dog faeces.	On Track	On Track
		The first initiative was developed for delivery at the recent Marrickville Festival. Dog owners were approached by the Rangers and provided with a range of dog products. At that time the Rangers delivered the message regarding dog owners options for proper disposal of dog faeces.	The second initiative was developed for delivery at Marrickville's busiest shopping centre, Marrickville Metro. Dog owners were approached by the Rangers and provided with a range of dog products. At that time the Rangers delivered the message regarding dog owners options for proper disposal of dog faeces.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMMO1	Successful completion of a program for assessing standards of food safety for medium risk health premises	25% of medium risk health premises inspected.	50% of medium risk health premises inspected.
PMMO2	Policies developed and adopted for Mobile Food Vending and Temporary Food Stalls and Footway Licensing		Work has not commenced on policy development for the three areas.
PMMO3	Registers are created for premises with cooling towers/ warm water systems and footway licenses		Cooling tower and warm water system register created.

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PMMO4	Level and quality of initiatives to increase boarding house health and living standards		Nil initiatives commenced.
PMMO5	Level and quality of initiatives to improve service to CRMS		Nil initiatives commenced.
PMMO6	Strategy developed to address after hours parking issues and resident parking schemes		Strategy developed and operating for after hours parking.
PMMO7	Level and quality of initiatives to promote responsible pet awareness specifically, faeces disposal	At Marrickville Festival, three Rangers attended and discussed responsible pet ownership with 230 dog owners (130 with dogs at the festival). Information sheets were provided to reinforce Council's message.	On 17 November 2005, two Rangers attended Marrickville Metro, set-up a display and discussed responsible pet ownership with 30 people (20 of those being dog owners). Information sheets were provided to reinforce Council's message.

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Engineering Services		Key Activity Area 2: Marrickville's Built Environment	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
EN1	Ensure the long term viability and quality of Council's footpath network by replacing damaged footpaths in thirteen streets and continuing the Heritage Brick footpaths program	On Track	On Track
		Footpath projects have been designed and are being scheduled for construction in 2nd quarter.	Footpath work completed in: Augustus St; Enmore Kent St; Newtown Merton St; Petersham Railway Rd; Sydenham Charles St; Enmore Kays Ave, Marrickville
EN2	Continue to work with citizens by continuing the development of the new Marrickville Bicycle Strategy.	On Track	On Track
		Work by the Consultant is progressing on the Marrickville Bike Plan.	Marrickville Bike Strategy being reviewed by Consultant to mid '06.
EN3	Improve safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians through a variety of traffic works and implement priority initiatives within the Road Safety Strategic Plan.	On Track	On Track
		Feedback on status of current actions has been sought from key stakeholders. The Road Safety Officer will commence complying results in 2nd Quarter for a report to Council.	Progress has been made towards the implementation of some of the strategies within the Road Safety Strategic Plan.
EN4	Improve the amenity and safety of residents through enhancements to the local area traffic management (LATM) schemes in Lewisham, Morton Park and Petersham.	On Track	On Track
		Design work complete on all LATM's. Projects are being scheduled for construction in 3rd quarter.	Design work complete on all LATM's. Projects are being scheduled for construction in 3rd quarter.
EN5	Improve accessibility by continuing the implementation of the Marrickville Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plan (PAMP) in Addison Road and extending the accessible footpaths program.	On Track	On Track
		Design work complete.	Works in Addison Road are nearing completion however it has been necessary to scale back works to fit within the available budget.

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EN6	Improve safety at marked pedestrian crossings through improvements to lighting and signage.	On Track	On Track
		Investigation is to commence on identifying priority locations to develop a program of works.	Upgraded Pedestrian Crossings at: West St at Petersham Park West St at Station Street Illawarra Rd at Schwebel St Illawarra Rd at Grove St
EN7	Continue the stewardship of Council's civil infrastructure assets by accelerating the resurfacing of regional and local roads and rear service lanes and reconstruction of damaged and failed footpaths in residential streets.	On Track	On Track
		Work is complete in: Warwick Lane, Stanmore Stafford Lane, Stanmore Gibbs Lane, Newtown Work has commenced: Percival Road, Stanmore Arlington Street, Dulwich Hill Rawson Street, Newtown Convent Lane, Marrickville Neville Lane, Marrickville	Work is complete in: Warwick Lane, Stanmore Stafford Lane, Stanmore Gibbs Lane, Newtown Percival Road, Stanmore Arlington Street, Dulwich Hill Rawson Street, Newtown Convent Lane, Marrickville Neville Lane, Marrickville Oxford Street, Newtown Work has commenced: Salisbury Road, Camperdown Chelmsford St, Newtown Macauley Lane, Stanmore
EN8	Improve stormwater management through upgrading and repairing damaged and inadequate drainage systems in Ewart Street and investigating improvements in the Tennyson Street catchment area including water sensitive urban design principles	On Track	On Track
		Design work on Ewart Street is nearing completion. The Tennyson Street Catchment investigation is awaiting commencement of Environmental Engineering position.	Work in Beach Road, Dulwich Hill is complete. Design work for all projects is complete except for Ewart St. The position of Environmental Coordinator/Specialist was not filled in November 2005 as anticipated, resulting in a delay in implementing some of the initiatives planned for in the 2nd quarter. The program will be accelerated when the Environmental Coordinator/Specialist is appointed.

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EN9	Investigate sustainable stormwater management practices through modelling of four stormwater drainage catchments and investigating water sensitive urban design opportunities.	On Track	Behind Schedule
		Awaiting recruitment of Environmental Engineer.	Awaiting recruitment of Environmental Engineer. Position is to be re-advertised.
EN10	Improve pedestrian safety and amenity of local shopping strips through the implementation of 40 kph speed zones using RTA funds.	Will not complete	Will not complete
		Council had budgeted on 100% RTA funding however the RTA has not funded this program in the current year. As such, it is not intended to proceed with this program in the current year.	Council had budgeted on 100% RTA funding however the RTA has not funded this program in the current year. As such, it is not intended to proceed with this program in the current year.
EN11	Encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce traffic volumes through improved facilities for cyclists, including stage 1 of works along the Cooks River cycleway, further efforts to establish the Greenway Route from Cooks River to Iron Cove and other enhancements to the on-road bicycle network.	On Track	On Track
		Working with Transport Planner to progress this as part of the Marrickville Bike Plan. Some funds are available from DIPNR for works associated with the Greenway Route.	Working with Transport Planner to progress this as part of the Marrickville Bike Plan. Some funds are available from DIPNR for works associated with the Greenway Route.
EN12	Plan for the ongoing provision of effective local emergency services in Marrickville by investigating the development of suitable local headquarters facilities including preparation of a suitable financial plan.	On Track	On Track
		Being considered as part of Council's Major Projects Program.	Council has contacted the Real Estate Agents in Marrickville to identify suitable sites that are on the market that are within Council's budget. To date no suitable site has been identified.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMEN1	Completion of Resources Plan projects within agreed timeframes and budget	Presently working within current budget allocations.	Presently working within current budget allocations.
PMEN2	Number and percentage of Drain Safe improvements completed	Program not funded by council in 2005/2006	Program not funded by council in 2005/2006
PMEN3	Extent of works to enhance safety and accessibility of infrastructure		A review of potential sites has been undertaken. A budget provision is required to progress implementation.

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PMEN4	Km of roads reconstructed and footpaths upgraded	Gibbs, Stafford, Warwick	ROADS: 1.695km Oxford St - Albermarle St/Horbury Lane -; Neville Ln - Norwood/Un-Named Ln -; Convent Ln - Warham Ln to End - M'Ville; Warrick Ln - Ravenue Ln/Rosevear St -Rawson St - Station/Reiby St, Newtown; Bruce St - Albany Rd/Douglas St -; Arlington St - Old Canterbury/Constitut; F/P: 1.260km Augustus St, Enmore; Kent St - College St/Ferndale St - Newtown; Merton St - Stanmore Rd/Trafalgar St -; Railway Rd - Unwins Bridge Rd/Burrows Av; Charles St - London/Phillip St -; Kays Ave, Marrickville (East)
PMEN5	Number of new kerb ramps	0	0
PMEN6	Number of new / upgraded street lights	0	0
PMEN7	Number of pedestrian crossing safety improvements implemented	0	Upgraded Pedestrian Crossings at: West St at Petersham Pk West St at Station Street Illawarra Rd at Schwebel St Illawarra Rd at Grove St Beach Rd at Hercules St

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Property Services		Key Activity Area 2: Marrickville's Built Environment	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
PR1	Progress repairs to Council's administration building and depot to ensure maintenance of current infrastructure and compliance with legislative changes.	On Track	On Track
		Forecourt repairs and general maintenance works at the Administration building completed. Quotations invited for construction of the Retaining Wall (southern boundary), Awning and Waterproof Membrane to southern and eastern wall of Building A at the Marrickville Depot.	Forecourt repairs and general maintenance works at the Administration building completed. Quotations invited for construction of the Awning and Waterproof Membrane to southern and eastern wall of Building A at the Marrickville Depot. The Retaining Wall (southern boundary) is complete.
PR2	Working with SSROC, identify options for long term waste disposal using alternative technologies and implement waste management strategies in accordance with the NSW Waste Strategy.	On Track	On Track
		SSROC regional putrescible waste contract was finalised in this quarter with commencement effective from 1 June 2005. EOI for dry waste initiative due for completion in October/November 2005 and awaiting ACCC's determination. Stage 2 of Alternative Waste Technology(AWT) to proceed following finalisation of the dry waste initiative.	ACCC allowed EOI for dry waste initiative to proceed, 5 OEI's received and reviewed. Will go to selected tender next quarter. Stage 2 of the AWT to proceed following finalisation of the dry waste initiative.
PR3	Complete remediation works at Tempe Lands, including the landscaping works and the sale of land.	On Track	On Track
		Remediation and Development Works completed with the exception of the round two landscaping works. Planting to be carried out between late September to Early November 2005. Council awarded the Case Earth Award for Environmental Excellence. Sale of 5.85 ha of Land north of SPIRE pending on rezoning and completion of land subdivision	Remediation, landscaping and development works completed. Council awarded the Case Earth Award for Environmental Excellence. Sale of 5.85 ha of Land north of SPIRE pending on rezoning and completion of land subdivision
PR4	Implement Council's car parking strategy including the installation of new lighting in Seaview St Stage 2 Car park to enhance the safety and the look of the area.	On Track	On Track
		Quotations invited for the Seaview Street (South) Car Park lighting and the Lennox Street Car Park planter boxes redesign and upgrade.	Quotations invited for the Seaview Street (South) Car Park lighting and the Lennox Street Car Park planter boxes redesign and upgrade.

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PR5	Complete repairs to external walls of Council Administration centre to eliminate any risk of failure.	On Track	On Track
		Tenders invited and received for the Facade Remedial Building Works at the Administration Building. Report on tender analysis and recommendation ready for presentation to the October 2005 Council Meeting.	Facade Remedial Building Work at the Administration Building is 90% complete. Quotations for further works for the south and west facades are being analysed, and will be completed prior to the end of March 2006.
PR6	Further develop Council's strategies for reducing illegal dumping, including further targeted education programs, appropriate signage, the installation of surveillance cameras at dumping hotspots and random patrols.	On Track	On Track
		Surveillance cameras have been installed at Murray Street and Frampton Lane, Marrickville. Illegal Dumping Officer to target illegal dumping activities in the area commenced in this quarter. The development of a targeted education program is underway.	Surveillance cameras remain operating and proven success with no dumps sighted in these areas. Education program continues in problem areas.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMPR1	Increased tonnages of domestic recyclables diverted from landfill	Domestic recyclables have increased by 98 tonnes (4.9%) for the same period last year.	Domestic recyclables have increased by 4 tonnes (0.17%) for the same period last year.
PMPR2	Increased tonnages of domestic green waste diverted from landfill	Domestic green waste has increased by 3.13 tonnes (0.7%) for the same period last year.	Domestic green waste has increased by 48 tonnes (7.76%) for the same period last year.
PMPR3	Decreased tonnages of domestic putrescible waste per head of population per annum.	Domestic waste has increased by 11.9 tonnes (0.3%) for the same period last year.	Domestic waste has increased by 125 tonnes (3.13%) for the same period last year.
PMPR4	Improved commercial return on Council's property assets	The 2004/05 achieved a net surplus of approximately \$179,000. This was largely due to the increased rental from Council's commercial operations at Tempe Lands. The commercial return for 2005/06 is on track.	The commercial return for 2005/06 is on track.

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Parks and Reserves		Key Activity Area 3: Marrickville's Natural Environment	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
PK1	Plan for the development of parks within the local area as a resource for families, groups and individuals including finalising of Toilet Strategy and Dog Off Leash Strategy.	On Track	On Track
		Councillor Conference Parks Strategic Planning held September 26. Strategies for Dogs, Picnic/BBQ, Toilets, Playgrounds 90% complete, Sports Grounds 50% complete. Proposed report to Council in early 2006 prior to extensive community consultation.	Proposed report to Council deferred to May 2006 prior to extensive community consultation.
PK2	Implement the next phase of the Parks Improvement Program to provide significant upgrading at a range of parks.	On Track	On Track
		Master planning and heritage consultancies for Camperdown, Petersham and Marrickville Parks, and design for Weekley Park to be commenced by December 2005. Sydenham Green 'Loungeroom' paving currently at design stage. Enmore Park master plan on hold until footprint of new aquatic facility confirmed.	Petersham Park heritage and pool upgrade impacts; Camperdown Park tree and traffic management and heritage issues and Marrickville Park master plan and heritage assessment to commence March 2006. Weekley Park design to commence February 2006. Sydenham Green community consultation February with construction in May 2006.
PK3	Undertake park furniture replacement and tree planting across a range of parks to maintain the quality, amenity and green look of parks.	On Track	On Track
		Guidelines for park furniture procurement currently being prepared. Guidelines to emphasise compliance with standards, use of recycled materials and durability. Proposed review of suitable commercially available products in 2006.	Preliminary guidelines document prepared. Review and installation of demonstration models scheduled for May 2006
PK4	Continue landscape planting and establishment, and open space embellishment at new Open Space areas at Tempe Lands	On Track	On Track
		Works on track for areas to be open to public in December 2005. Preparation for further planting being undertaken.	Tempe Lands opened to public in December 2005. Preparation for further planting being undertaken.
PK5	Undertake riverbank restoration and other park embellishments at Kendrick Park including wetland, regional cycleway, picnic facilities artworks and planting improvements.	On Track	On Track
		Concept planning works well advanced. Proposed to provide Council with a draft master plan for riverbank restoration and other works in December 2005.	Concept Master Plan completed. Currently arranging internal consultation prior to report to Council.

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PK6	Institute a program to improve water storage and diversify irrigation water supply to enable continuing improvements to sportsgrounds.	On Track	On Track
		Draft 3-year program provided to Council in October 2005	Review of program and funding undertaken. Feasibility study being undertaken on water storage at Camdenville Park.
PK7	Undertake major sportsground field and facilities upgrading at a range of parks	On Track	On Track
		Currently preparing for field and toilet/amenity upgrading at Mahoney Reserve commencing January 2006. Toilet/amenity upgrade at Steel Park scheduled for early 2006.	Mahony Reserve works rescheduled to commence April/May and completed September/October 2006. Steel Park toilets upgrade scheduled for May 2006
PK8	Improvement safety and amenity at a range of playgrounds by implementing the next phase of the Playground Program	On Track	On Track
		Works program attachment to Playground Strategy currently being finalised. Implementation has commenced on works to improve playground safety.	Prioritised works schedule completed. Works at Quinn Playground commence February, Salmon Playground consultation in March and Steel Park construction in April.
PK9	Extend street tree planting, to provide large scale advanced tree plantings in prominent streets and continuing infill plantings in residential areas	On Track	On Track
		Currently planning for advanced tree planting in Sydenham Road from Livingstone to Illawarra Roads and Gladstone St. Also Pile Street Paperbark replacement. Consultation all streets in November 2005. Planting in the cooler months - April, May, June 2006.	Currently planning for advanced tree planting in Sydenham Road from Livingstone to Illawarra Roads and Gladstone St. Also Pile Street Paperbark replacement strategy. Consultation deferred to February/March. Planting in the cooler months - April - June 2006.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMPK1	Implementation of Camperdown Memorial Rest Park and Tom Kenney Reserve parks improvement programs by January 2006.	Camperdown Memorial Rest Park works delayed by Council resolution. Report to Council in December 2005 to clarify scope of works and program. Tom Kenny Reserve community consultation in 2005, report to Council March 2006, construction completed by June 2006	Camperdown Memorial Rest Park soft works commence March and hardworks undertaken June - September 2006. Tom Kenny Reserve community consultation completed December 2005, report to Council March 2006, construction completed by October 2006

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PMPK2	Implementation of public consultation for Toilet strategy and Dog Off Leash strategies to be commenced by December 2005	Propose to delay consultation on Toilets and Dogs to coincide with extensive community consultation proposed for remainder of Strategies in 2006. [See PK1 above]	Deferred consultation on Toilets and Dogs to coincide with extensive community consultation proposed for remainder of Strategies in 2006. [See PK1 above]
PMPK3	Success in obtaining Government funding for park improvements for Marrickville	No suitable grant applications available at this point in the year.	Grants for \$90,000 for Tempe Reserve Cycleway and \$62,000 for Steel Park playground approved by Cooks River Foreshores Improvement Program 2005/06.

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Environmental Services		Key Activity Area 3: Marrickville's Natural Environment	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
EV1	Develop key strategies to improve the recreation, access, ecology and biodiversity of the Cooks River and Foreshores in partnership with other Foreshore Councils	On Track	On Track
		RiverScience: The Australian Catholic University has been appointed to develop the ecological monitoring program for the Cooks River. A report from UNSW compiled from a survey which analysed the benthic ecology and sediment characteristics and geochemical of the river has been completed. This will assist in providing baseline data from which a monitoring program can be established. CREW continue to collect rubbish along the river improving visual amenity a proposal to extend the program for another year has been put to Council. RiverLife: Planting the Seed - A consultant has been appointed to deliver the ecological mapping component of the project. On the ground mapping will commence in mid October.	RiverScience: The ACU's draft plan for the Cooks River ecological monitoring program is currently being reviewed by the Project Steering Committee. CREW has been extended for another year. The Cooks River Foreshore Path Improvement Study has identified a range of works and strategies for improving the safety, functionality and amenity of the foreshore pedestrian/cycle path, the Final Report is to be completed in early 2006. The NSW Department of Planning is to develop an Open Space Plan for the Cooks River foreshores and Landscape and Vegetation Guidelines; Council and CRFWG representatives are involved in both of these projects. The Foreshore Signage Strategy has seen further progress on designs and maps for a proposed new regional system of orientation, directional and informational signage, which will improve access to and along the foreshores.
EV2	Develop an Interpretive Plan for the Cooks River Foreshores Improvement Program application and install interpretive signage in key locations in Marrickville.	On Track	On Track
		A regional Steering Committee for this project has been established and met twice. A Forum was held to showcase best practice in Interpretational signage and concepts and the next stage will be to develop a brief to engage a suitable consultant	A brief is currently being finalised for the development of a Cooks River Interpretation Strategy.

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EV3	Expand Watershed programs and services that address waste, water conservation and pollution, and sustainable living to meet community demand	On Track A new Watershed Coordinator has been appointed and a Memorandum of Understanding is in draft for the partnership with City of Sydney Council. Three Project Officer positions are in draft and when the positions are in place targeted programs for the community and local businesses will be developed for the Newtown precinct and surrounding area. A Bagbusters Officer has been employed to expand the program to the Marrickville and Dulwich Hill shopping strips.	On Track The Watershed continues to deliver a range of sustainability workshops with good attendance levels for the quarter. Two further Project Officer positions are awaiting sign off from the City of Sydney before recruitment can take place. These positions will target programs for the community and local businesses. Council won an award for its Bagbusters program in the LGSA Excellence in Environment Awards
EV4	Undertake the second stage of the Urban Stormwater Integrated Management (USWIM) project. In tandem with the Water Futures Modelling to be carried out by Engineering Services engage with the community on actions to achieve sustainable / integrated urban water management	On Track A Water Futures Planning Forum for the Illawarra Road sub-catchment was held in July, 2005, and was well supported with the participation of residents, community groups, and State agencies. A community vision was developed and goals for 2050 were set. A full-time project officer will be recruited for the next stage.	On Track Council won an award for the RiverLife Sustainable Water Environment program in the LGSA Excellence in Environment Awards The USWIM Project Coordinator, appointed in October 2005, has been working on the Guidelines for Sustainable Water Planning, which will be a compilation of all USWIM research findings. Funding is being sought to publish and distribute these guidelines to councils Australia wide. Other projects currently in planning stage include a Rainwater Tank Incentive Scheme and a Sustainable Water Showcase. A community working group has been established for the Illawarra Road sub catchment. The first meeting of the internal Integrated Urban Water Management group is planned for early February 06. Work is ongoing with Engineering Services who are in the process of engaging an Environmental Engineer/Specialist.

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EV5	Participate in the development of a strategic plan for the Greenway link between Iron Cove and Cooks River with community groups, neighbouring councils, State Government and non-government organisations.	On Track	On Track
		An application for funding to the Metro Greenspace program has been submitted. Awaiting confirmation of approval and subsequent Ministerial announcement.	Funding for the Metropolitan Greenspace grant has been successful and is being managed by Planning Services in partnership with the Environmental Services and Technical Services sections. Works on the strategy development will commence once funds are confirmed.
EV6	Implement the Every Drop Counts Water conservation program across Council	On Track	On Track
		Recruitment of the Environmental Management Systems Coordinator is complete. Projects will be implemented when the SAFE work plan is approved by the Safe Team and OH&S committee.	Work has commenced on the mandatory Water Savings Action Plan due in March 2006. All aspects of water management from the USWIM project and previous work completed through Sydney Water's Every Drop Counts Program will be included in the new Water Plan. Water saving projects identified through the plan will be implemented through the Strategic Water and Energy Team.
EV7	Map remnant and revegetated areas	On Track	On Track

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	across the Marrickville area to better understand the state of native vegetation in Marrickville and assist with protection and enhancing biodiversity.	RiverLife: Planting the Seed - A contractor has been engaged to begin work on mapping early next quarter.	RiverLife: Planting the Seed -Consultation is underway with the IT departments at the three participating Councils to create a user friendly database to record information about the mapped sites. Sites to be mapped have been identified and stakeholders are in the process of being contacted.
EV8	Develop a biodiversity web tool that showcases existing native gardens and plants e.g. Cooks River Valley Garden at Tempe and Marrickville Community Nursery, and provides horticultural advice, to promote local indigenous plants and assist people use local natives in domestic situations	On Track	On Track
		Preliminary work has begun with the mapping of remnant vegetation and revegetated sites along the Cooks River. This needs to be complete before a web tool can be developed.	information from the Planting the Seed project will assist in getting information onto the web site. Funding will need to be sought for the development of a web-based biodiversity tool.
EV9	Undertake a cost benefit analysis of a range of options for reducing energy consumption for Council buildings such as solar and greenpower. Implement the most effective projects that will assist in reaching the 20% greenhouse gas reduction goal set for 2010	On Track	On Track
		Recruitment of the Environmental Management Systems Coordinator is complete and this project will now progress through the Strategic Energy & Water Team.	The Environmental Management Systems Coordinator commenced employment. The implementation of projects will continue to progress through the Strategic Water & Energy Team. Work has commenced on the development of a green vehicle fleet policy and the CCP Advanced Action Project - Greenhouse Purchasing. Both projects will contribute to Councils greenhouse gas reduction goal. 318 tonnes of CO ₂ emissions have been saved so far this financial year.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMEV1	Number of volunteer hours worked to enhance the local environment. Target 2000 volunteer hours p.a	Total Volunteer hours for this quarter for the following programs: Camperdown Cemetery, The Watershed, Landcare, Marrickville Community Nursery, Cooks River Valley Garden & Riverlife are - 1157 hours	Total volunteer hours for this quarter are: 648.5

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PMEV2	Number of participants at workshops targeting environmental sustainability, resources use and increased environmental sustainability. Target 400 attendances at 40 workshops	29 workshops with 307 participants were held during this quarter	15 Workshops were held at The Watershed with 178 participants.
PMEV3	Number of plants propagated to protect and restore native vegetation. Target 3500 plants	3660 plants have been propagated during this quarter. 2,391 have been sold or dispatched for community planting projects.	2272 plants propagated with 2291 dispatched.
PMEV4	Development of a high level of environmental responsibility amongst local businesses and industries by visiting organisations as part of the Environment Means Business Program. Target 70 businesses visited	Council visited 80 businesses, during 2005 located in the Chalder Estate, Marrickville. The assessment found that 15 businesses were polluting stormwater drains, 9 businesses were causing air pollution, 16 businesses had inadequate housekeeping and seven businesses had inadequate waste management.	Preparation for Mitchell Estate Environment Means Business assessment program will be underway in the new year.

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Corporate Development		Key Activity Area 4: Marrickville's Council	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
CO1	Continue community consultation and coordinate the development of a 10 year Marrickville Plan so that all sectors of Marrickville's diverse community are involved in creating a blueprint for Marrickville's future	On Track	On Track
		Public consultation begun with Council's What future do you see? stalls at Marrickville Festival & Newtown Feastability in September. Corporate Development produced and begun distribution to Marrickville Community of 45,000 copies of the new community discussion paper, Marrickville: 'What future do you see? Detailed program of community consultation planned over 2005/06.	Public consultation continued including public meetings, stalls at Newtown Festival and Dulwich Hill Street Fair respectively, attendance at the Marrickville South BBQ, facilitated group discussion sessions as part of Citizen Panel Bus Tours, and invitations to contribute feedback made through a variety of Council and other community publications. Distribution of the community discussion paper, <i>Marrickville: What future do you see?</i> was made to 33,000 households and also continued through a range of community centres and public sites. A telephone survey of 600 residents that included questions seeking input into the Marrickville Plan was also conducted by Micromex Research.
CO2	Facilitate the development of a Council Strategic Plan to ensure that Council efforts are clearly directed towards the achievement of the Marrickville Plan and Council's social, environmental and urban strategies are integrated within the one planning framework.	On Track	On Track
		First Councillor Planning Workshop undertaken in September with brief provided on development process of Planning Framework, including the 2006-11 Strategic Plan. September Council Meeting endorsed planning framework	A Councillor Conference was held on 7 December to report back on community consultation and commence work on drafting strategies and actions/programs.

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CO3	Implement outcomes to ensure that citizen input is informed and representative of community interests including participation from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) citizens.	On Track	On Track
		Active use of Citizen Panel is planned in 2005/06 in consultation process in developing the Marrickville Plan and supporting plans, including use in focus group research. The Citizen Panel will be also be revitalised as part of this process.	Two Citizen Panel bus tours (involving a total of 18 Citizen Panel members) were held in November providing a guided tour of Marrickville by the Historian. A facilitated discussion group session was held at the conclusion of each tour to gather input into the Marrickville Plan and Strategic Plan. Work commenced on the development of a program of facilitated discussion groups to be conducted in 2006 that will seek input from specific target groups including CALD citizens.
CO4	Work with Employee Services to implement the second year of the staff leadership program, extending training in leadership skills to all levels of staff throughout Council.	On Track	On Track
		General manager presented certificates to graduates of 2004/05 Leadership program in September. Expressions of Interest for new round of Leadership Program will be called for in October for a November start.	Expressions of Interest for the 2006 Leadership Program were called. Successful applicants attended a Welcome and Afternoon Tea on 20 December 2005 where they were addressed by the General Manager.
CO5	Work with Marrickville Historian to brand the local area and engage citizens in local history by developing online exhibitions, including: • At the Edge of the City - an exhibition of Marrickville's distinctive and unique character, compiled from citizens' images; and • Diverse, vibrant, innovative - an exhibition of the changing 'face' of Marrickville, compiled from historical images of Marrickville Festival.	On Track	On Track
		Council Historian is active in developing and promoting Marrickville's history program. Council's website is supporting promotion of History program. Further development of website will be undertaken in 2nd Quarter.	Work has continued to support the history program on Council's internet site. Discussions commenced during the quarter to develop the online exhibitions.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMCO1	Number of citizens participating in citizen panels.	Currently approximately 320 Citizens are on the Citizen Panel database.	Currently approximately 320 citizens are on the Citizen Panel database.

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PMCO2	Number of CALD citizens represented on citizens panel	Currently approximately 30% of 320 total. Activities planned to increase % by end of 2005/06.	Currently approximately 30% of 320 total. Activities planned to increase % by end of 2005/06.
PMCO3	The community is aware of ways they can be involved in Council activities (confirm by survey).	Begun distribution of 45,000 discussion brochures through LGA begun which details various methods of community input into Council activities. 3,000 distributed by end of September Quarter.	<p>A telephone survey of 600 residents undertaken by Micromex Research was conducted and included advice that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 31% of respondents confirmed that they had received the brochure - <i>Marrickville - what future do you see?</i> - (63% indicated that they had read the brochure) ■ 67% of respondents had seen or read information relating to Council in <i>Marrickville Matters</i> ■ 39% of respondents had visited Council's website (72% were satisfied with the ease of access and 76.3% were satisfied with the usefulness of information)

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Finance		Key Activity Area 4: Marrickville's Council	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
FN1	Introduce new methods of data exchange with Commonwealth Bank and Australia Post for rate payers and. examine the possibility of extending payment options to other Council services.	Completed	Completed
		New payment methods introduced from the first instalment of the 2005/2006 Rate Issue for: Australia Post - In Person; Australia Post - By Phone; Australia Post - By Internet; and BillEXPRESS - In Person.	Service Improvement implemented.
FN2	Introduce improvements to financial business processes which produce efficient services and outcomes for Marrickville citizens.	On Track	Completed
		New payment methods introduced for Children & Family Services child care fees in 2005/2006 for: Australia Post - In Person; Australia Post - By Phone; Australia Post - By Internet; and CBA Bpay.	Service Improvement implemented.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMFN1	Introduction of new payment options with Australia Post by 1 July 2005 for rates revenue	New payment methods introduced from the first instalment of the 2005/2006 Rate Issue.	System Operational.
PMFN2	Completion of financial reports 100% on time and ensuring that they meet Council's budgeting objectives	Draft Financial Reports presented to Council and Audited Financial Reports scheduled for presentation to Council in the next quarter, on 18 October 2005.	Audited Financial Reports presented to Council on 18 October 2005.
PMFN3	Independent certification of accounts by Council's auditors	Draft Financial Reports presented to Council and final audit completed by PricewaterhouseCoopers. Independent certification of accounts by Council's auditors scheduled for next quarter, on 4 October 2005.	Independent certification of accounts by Council's auditors completed on 4 October 2005.
PMFN4	Introduction of new business processes for non-rate accounts	New payment methods introduced for Children & Family Services child care fees in 2005/2006.	New payment methods for Children & Family Services child care fee operated during the quarter.

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Information Systems		Key Activity Area 4: Marrickville's Council	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
IS1	Enhance the tools available to staff and citizens through further development, integration and use of Council's core applications, including migration to the latest release (.net platform where available).	On Track	On Track
		Council has implemented a new Citizen Request Management System (MERIT). The new system operates on a MS SQL relational database in a .net environment. MERIT integrates to other core applications and includes advanced reporting and functionality for use by Council's 24 hour call centre, providing improved after hour service to citizens. Council staff were trained in the use of the new system.	<p>Council's CRM system, Merit was upgraded from 9.2.13 to 9.2.22. The new version provides owner location bookmarks allowing staff to view details from within Merit, without the need to go to an external application. Merit web client was upgraded to improve functionality to the remote call centre, WellDone. In addition the integration between Merit and JAWS (the application used by Council's visually impaired staff) was completed. This has enabled Council's visually impaired staff to log citizen calls when working at the Call Centre.</p> <p>Council's property system, ProClaim was upgraded to 9.5.1.6 in a Beta environment, providing new functionality in eProClaim to enhance the service that the remote call centre, WellDone, can provide to citizens.</p>
IS2	Continue the rollout and use of the new civil, infrastructure and facilities asset management system, Asset Master, to provide for whole of life cycle planning for assets and minimising data duplication/ replication between systems	On Track	On Track
		Council's new asset management system, Asset Master went live on 12 September 2005. The system integrates to Council's new CRM system, MERIT and Council's record management, GIS, financial, and property systems. Asset Master is now being used to also manage internal work orders and restoration processes, eliminating duplication which existed in the previous works ordering system. Further work will continue over the next nine to twelve months as the system is fully populated and refined to deliver advanced modelling and reporting as well as a new booking system to be made available to the public.	An asset management steering committee commenced this quarter with key stakeholders in the asset management system as members of the committee. Milestones achieved this quarter include further training of staff members to make use of the works ordering system; standardised classification of assets with the assistance of Finance; consultation to reach a standardised asset conditioning rating across Council; asset data collection; a review of the second draft of the Booking System; and a planned timeframe to withdraw the use of the legacy systems.

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IS3	Provide enhanced and simple to use mapping to citizens through Council's website and MapInfo Exponare to enable a visual representation of facilities, services, zoning and other spatial layers.	On Track	On Track
		Exponare Public was launched and is available to citizens from Council's webpage or by the URL http://www2.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/exponare/disclaimer.aspx Exponare Public reads and delivers live GIS data, replacing static maps previously provided through Council's website. Citizens can view different GIS base layers, with the ability to turn on and off layers as required. Built in queries are also available such as address search. A help file in PDF format and an e-mail contact are included to assist citizens as hyperlinks from the main map page. Maps related to Planning such as LEP Zones remain in a static format and will be moved to the interactive mapping at a later time.	Exponare Enquiry and Exponare Public was upgraded to version 2.4. A new Residential Parking layer, showing areas where citizens can apply for off street parking permits has been added to the webpage interactive maps. A number of shortcuts have been created in Exponare Enquiry and Public. This has the advantage of reducing the need by users to change the layer settings from the Legend Panel. Similarly, queries can be run instantaneously by launching appropriate links. Printing templates for Online Mapping have been created and will be made available to the public next quarter.
IS4	Refresh Council's key IT server, network switch and UPS infrastructure to provide a platform with sufficient primary and secondary memory, bandwidth and up to 30kVA capacity to meet the demands of storage, new technology and data transmission.	On Track	On Track
		Two 'Request for Quotations' were sought with contracts subsequently being awarded for the refreshment of 11 core servers, the network switch backbone, secondary firewall appliance with intrusion detection technology and a UPS.	The electrical infrastructure of Rack1 in the IT Server has been upgraded from a single 10 Amp circuit to three 15 Amp and a 10 Amp circuit. Eleven Proliant file servers, HP Layer 3 frame managed switches, a UPS for the Library and a Cisco hardware firewall appliance was deployed and commissioned this quarter. Connectivity between all servers is now at least 1 gigabit. A new switch cabinet was installed at Petersham Town Hall with HP ProCurve switches. An additional Avaya frame, providing for network port expansion was also installed.

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IS5	Provide the necessary hardware, infrastructure, security and software to support the implementation of the Digital Photograph Policy	On Track Draft Digital Photograph Policy and report to senior staff submitted this quarter. Hardware infrastructure has been supplied to deliver the objectives of the policy. Initial meeting with Tower Software, the distributors of Council's record management software, Trim has taken place. A Software Specification Requirement has been developed and is with Tower Software for comment.	On Track A software developer was engaged to develop a solution using MS SharePoint to support Council's new Digital Photograph Policy. Version 1 of the solution was trialled by the Parks Section in October and November, with feedback incorporated into Version 2 of the product. Version 2 is now being tested and will be deployed to other sections next quarter before the product is rolled out to all staff.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMIS1	Number of system downtime hours and occurrences	Record management server, document store authentication problem: 9 hours and 20 minutes. Internet Proxy server, peer provider problem: 52 minutes	Total of 5 hours and 35 minutes downtime during the quarter, comprising 3 hours and 10 minutes during normal business hours. 3 hours were related to power failure in the IT Server room and only 10 minutes related to a process hanging on the Exchange server.
PMIS2	Number of requests processed using the Help Desk facility and Proclaim (GIS)	295 Help Desk and 43 mapping requests processed, representing calls that were logged because they could not receive immediate attention	245 Help Desk and 60 mapping requests processed, representing calls that were logged because they could not receive immediate attention
PMIS3	Number of Core Application Systems upgraded to a newer version or undergoing significant development within the quarter	Four - comprising CRM (Merit), Finance and Property system integration and new asset management system.	Three - comprising CRM (Merit), asset management (AssetMaster) and Property (ProClaim) in Beta and Training.
PMIS4	Hardware acquired during the year meets the demands for storage, data transmission, DR and requirements for new policies as well as being energy efficient and OH&S friendly	The servers have increased primary and secondary storage, dual processors with HT technology. The switches are fully managed and offer gigabit connectivity between servers and the UPS has 50% better run capacity than the one it is replacing. One of the servers will act as a primary DR SQL log server. All equipment acquired was done so under State Government Contract from Tier 1 vendors.	A Disaster Recovery Server to facilitate transactional log shipping of all SQL based core applications was commissioned this quarter. All servers and switches deployed this quarter met Council's storage and data transmission requirements for the next 36 months. The equipment purchased was from Tier 1 vendors and considered OH&S and EM principles.

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PMIS5	Mechanisms to protect computer system from breaches of security and virus infection are in place	Asset Management system deployed in September as per the original project time plan. Advanced features being developed and running to schedule.	The primary software based firewall was upgraded to the latest release. A secondary hardware appliance firewall was installed with intrusion prevention technology. It also has VPN (virtual private network) and SSL (secure socket layer) technology providing increased security to Council's network.
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Administrative Services		Key Activity Area 4: Marrickville's Council	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
AS1	Implement a new Citizen Request Management System in partnership with key citizens' service stakeholders to facilitate improved handling of citizen requests and the capture and reporting of management information.	Completed	On Track
		Following the establishment of an implementation project team and many months of planning, the new Citizen Request Management System - MERIT, went live across Council on 5 September 2005. Merit offers many benefits over Council's previous system, including greatly enhanced statistical and reporting capability, the ability to monitor 'quick calls' that don't require logging of a full request for further action and more flexible workflows.	Further work has been completed in the post implementation of the MERIT system, including further training updates, data correction, review of system use and correction of glitches. Work has also been completed on updating information for Council processes within the information icons, and improvements to workflow.

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AS2	Review internal business processes for selected services, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to remove any unnecessary 'red tape' and to ensure efficient and effective service delivery to citizens.	Completed	Completed
		Internal business processes were reviewed for all of Council's major service categories as part of the MERIT project implementation, with two of the major categories undergoing review and improvement being waste services and monitoring services. These two areas account for a significant proportion of citizen requests to Council. The process reviews involved breaking down processes to ensure that all steps were relevant and that the process was working efficiently from both a Council and citizens perspective. Ensuring that our processes are streamlined and efficient is an ongoing priority and we will continue to address such issues on an ongoing basis through the newly established internal Citizens' Service Forum, of which all areas of Council are invited to participate.	<p>WellDone process document reviewed and updated, including a site visit to identify requirements.</p> <p>Over the quarter, Community Services has been incorporated into the MERIT network, with the categories built up around the services provided by the Division.</p> <p>Hall Booking process and document review completed, with procedures enhanced to create a more efficient booking process for both citizens and Council staff.</p> <p>Preparations for Booking system to be introduced through Asset Master complete, with recommendations forwarded on how the system should operate.</p> <p>Updates to forms and processes on website.</p> <p>DA checklists updated to reflect new DCP's released over the quarter.</p> <p>Further detail work continued on streamlining links between the WellDone external call centre and the Citizens' Services Centre, with updated procedures, forms and call lists forwarded and a number of site visits further strengthening links between the two centres.</p>

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AS3	Develop a program of service excellence training for front line citizens' service staff, including a quarterly training program for Council's out of hours call centre contractor.	<p>On Track</p> <p>During this quarter all Citizens' Service staff attended training through the Australian Commercial Disputes Centre called "Complaints are a GIFT". This training specifically focused on changing attitudes about complaints so that we can appreciate complaints more as opportunities for improvement and valuable feedback. The next phase of our Citizens' Service training will be "Are you a Customer Service Saint or Sinner?" to be presented by Janelle Nisbet of Progress Training Systems in early 2006.</p>	<p>On Track</p> <p>Investigations commenced into options available to Council through TAFE for call centre staff to complete Certificates in Customer Contact with a focus on Service Quality. Preliminary findings have been positive, with plans to have further discussions and draw up a training program over the coming quarter.</p> <p>The Coordinator has also been working through the Customer Service Networking Group in a bid to reduce training fees by combining Council staff for the "Are you a Customer Service Saint or Sinner" program.</p>
AS4	Enhance corporate governance systems and performance through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementation of the Corporate Review Workplan as endorsed by the Audit Committee: and • review and enhancement of tendering/quotation procedures and provision of training seminars for staff. 	<p>On Track</p> <p>Implementation of Corporate Review Workplan 2005/2006 as planned.</p> <p>Purchaser/Provider Arrangements Review currently being completed by Kevin Hough of Kevin Hough & Associates, analysing the procurement relationships within Technical Services. Final Report on the review expected October 2005.</p> <p>Access to Information Seminar Held in September to raise awareness of options for Citizens to access Council information and also the issues affecting access, encompassing privacy and confidentiality compliance.</p> <p>Code of Conduct Induction Training Continued this quarter, with 27 staff attending induction training.</p> <p>Service Review Framework Background research into development of a framework for Council Service Reviews has commenced, with a draft expected to be completed in October 2005.</p>	<p>On Track</p> <p>Continuation of Corporate Review Workplan 2005/2006 as tracked at each Audit Committee meeting, comprising internal investigations, policy and procedural reviews, delivery of training and enhancements to promoting governance initiatives through Council.</p> <p>Cash Audit Reviews of external centres completed over the quarter, with report, recommendations and management comments to be forwarded to Audit Committee meeting March 2006.</p> <p>Preliminary work and planning on launch of 'Governance Gateway' completed. To be launched by end of January 2006, the Gateway will act as a focal point for the communication of governance initiatives, new policies/guidelines and the availability of training programs.</p> <p>Code of Conduct Induction training continued over the quarter with 19 staff in attendance.</p> <p>Procurement An audit of 10 transactions carried out over the quarter was completed, analysing adherence to procedures for</p>

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		<p>Procurement</p> <p>Audit of 10 transactions carried out over the quarter was completed, analysing adherence to quotations procedures, delegations and payment processes. Progress on all individual items of the Workplan over Q1 reported back to Audit Committee meeting on 11 October 2005.</p> <p>Tenders and Quotations Procedure revised to incorporate the introduction of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and adoption of Council's Statement of Business Ethics. Updated procedure distributed to all relevant staff, with information seminar scheduled for November 2005.</p>	<p>quotations, delegations and payment processes. Further analysis of a tender completed over the quarter was also completed, for report to the Audit Committee.</p> <p>Further revision of the Tenders & Quotations Procedure to reflect additional refinements to the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and changes to some internal processes was completed and the revised Procedure was distributed.</p> <p>Progress on all individual items of the Workplan over Q2 will be reported back to Audit Committee meeting on 20 February 2006.</p>
AS5	<p>Increase citizen/staff understanding of, and access to, Council's archival collection by way of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better utilising Council's website; • increasing the opening hours of the Archives during History and Heritage Weeks; and <p>presenting a workshop for citizens wishing to research their own House History during History and Heritage Week</p>	<p>On Track</p> <p>Some digitised Council records (e.g. Petersham Council Minutes from 1872 to 1949) are now in a format to enable access via Council's website. This represents the commencement of our program to digitise the Archives. The opening hours of Archives Room in Petersham Town Hall were extended during History Week in September.</p>	<p>On Track</p> <p>Digitised versions of Petersham Council Minutes refined further over the quarter, to enable easier access through Council's website.</p> <p>Preliminary work on a program to digitise a wider range of archived material to be accessed through the website has commenced, tied to the SSROC Digital Imaging Tender.</p> <p>Council's Records & Archives section of the website reviewed to refine services provided and ease of access for citizens; upgrades to be completed over the coming quarter.</p> <p>Opening hours of the Archives extended for Heritage Week through October 2005.</p> <p>Trial of changes to the setup of citizen workshops for researching House Histories proved successful. Guidance during research sessions was provided on an individual level as opposed to a group level, with attendees responding positively to the change.</p>

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AS6	Undertake PABX upgrade to link Administration Centre and Depot PABX systems, enabling Depot access to voicemail services, Depot numbers to be accessed via internal extensions and opportunities to centralise telephone administration [requires Resources Plan funding of \$14k and is the 2nd phase in a staged PABX upgrade plan. Phase 1 implemented in 2004/2005]	On Track Preliminary meetings have been held with Ericsson and an updated proposal for the project was received in September 2005. Over the quarter, ongoing problems have been experienced with the existing voicemail system. Due to the diminishing capacity of the system to provide a reliable service, investigation into the possibility of promoting the upgrade of the voicemail system over the linking of the Administration Centre and Depot PABX systems has commenced.	On Track Further investigations into viable Depot PABX access and voicemail service solutions have continued, with a number of organisations demonstrating alternate cost-effective solutions to upgrading the PABX. The process of receiving and assessing formal proposals for voicemail solutions has commenced, with quotes being sought from a range of suppliers. Options presented to Council have been examined based on cost effectiveness, quality of service provision and ability to adapt to changing technologies over time.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMAS1	Achievement of Citizens' Service Centre service standards of 75% of calls answered within 2 minutes	Performance against service standards has been less than satisfactory during the quarter due to two position vacancies, staff leave and the MERIT system implementation. Performance is summarised below: JULY: 55% within 2 minutes, 81% within 5 minutes, 19% of total calls went to external call centre, total calls 9659 AUGUST: 46% within 2 minutes, 71% within 5 minutes, 28% of total calls went to external call centre, total calls 11901 SEPTEMBER: 49% within 2 minutes, 80% within 5 minutes, 20% of total calls went to external call centre, total calls 10356	New recruits started at the end of November, along with the return of one staff member from the MERIT project group. Although this has resulted in the statistics increasing over the last quarter, we have still fallen short of the required standard. It is anticipated results will strengthen further over the next quarter, as the 2 new recruits become more familiar with Council processes. OCT: 45% within 2 minutes, 85% within 5 mins, 14% went to external call centre. Total calls 9836 NOV: 67% within 2 minutes, 81% within 3 minutes, 19% went to external call centre. Total calls 9243 DEC: 64% within 2 minutes, 89% within 5 minutes, 11% went to external call centre. Total calls 7506
PMAS2	Implementation of new citizen request management system by September 2005	Completed. Refer report above.	

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PMAS3	Freedom of Information requests processed within 28 days. Target 100%.	All Freedom of Information requests were processed within the statutory timeframe during the quarter.	All Freedom of Information requests were processed within the statutory timeframe during the quarter.
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Employee Services		Key Activity Area 4: Marrickville's Council	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
EM1	Reviewing all processes 'owned' by the Employee Services section to ensure that they are fully documented and that guidance notes are available to assist managers and/or staff.	On Track	On Track
I		In the first quarter processes were identified for review and work that has commenced has included a new process for SAFE inductions, establishment control, job grading, job competencies and learning and development assistance. Work on the HR strategy is also ongoing with a view to completion at the end of the second quarter.	In the second quarter the work on the new SAFE induction process has continued, the learning and development assistance process has been updated and a proposal to add time limitations into the competency system agreed by senior staff and the consultative committee. The framework for the HR Strategy has been agreed by senior staff and consultation will commence in the next quarter.
EM2	Produce specific workforce strategies to address key HR issues, these will include recruitment and retention in key areas, the ageing workforce and managing absenteeism.	On Track	On Track
		During this quarter we have provided input into the local government surveys around skills shortages. A first outline of work to be considered for the ageing workforce plan has been drafted. No progress has been made on the absenteeism project in this quarter.	The successful recruitment into two hard-to-fill jobs was achieved via changing advertising copy and media. Joint initiatives with the Disability Community Worker raised Council's local profile as an employer keen to attract more applicants from people with disabilities. Key areas of Council were identified to target for absenteeism input.
EM3	Increase the number of Employee Services transactions on line and reduce paperwork and duplication by undertaking a thorough systems review and implementing new modules of CHRIS or other related on line systems to support the outcome.	On Track	Behind Schedule
		Frontier, Council's HR software provider, has worked with the team to load base data. This process will be completed in the next quarter when it is hoped to commence pilots of the on-line leave systems. There will be further roll-outs of the self service and on line time sheet process in 2006.	Frontier has not met requirements to enable roll out of HR21 (self service and on line forms); this is a serious concern. No further progress can be made until these systems issues are resolved by the vendor. This project is not on track at this point in time and roll out will be delayed.
EM4	Monitor and review the risk strategy to ensure Council continues to minimise risks and optimise insurance costs.	On Track	On Track
		Council has entered a risk award competition in relation to redesign of parks trucks	Council won the award in the Metro Pool area.

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMEM1	Achieve staff turnover rates of less than 15% per annum	The turnover in the quarter was 3.1%, this compares to 3.6% at the same quarter last year.	The turnover in the quarter was 1.6%, this compares with 1.3% at the same quarter last year.
PMEM2	Working days lost due to industrial disputes. Target 0 days	There were no days lost due to industrial disputes in the quarter.	There were the equivalent of 14.32 days lost in the Child Care Centres as a result of unauthorised action in relation to the introduction of the Workchoices legislation.
PMEM3	Workers' compensation premium is within budget. Target 100%.	The performance in the first quarter ensures that the premium is on target to be met within budget.	The performance in the second quarter ensures that the premium is on target to be met within budget.
PMEM4	Evidence of safe and fair working environment - as measured by trends in accident rates and workers' compensation claims, training participation rates and achievement of EEO strategies	There were 42 workplace incidents in the quarter resulting in 12 Workers Compensation Claims but only one with lost time. There were 791 internal training episodes in the quarter. There have been investigations into five EEO type complaints in the quarter.	There were 37 workplace incidents in the quarter resulting in 11 Workers Compensation Claims. There were 596 internal training episodes in the quarter. There have been no EEO investigations or formal complaints in the quarter.
PMEM5	Public liability claim trends remain downward	There were 30 public liability claims in the quarter with 9 being declined. In the same period last year there were 15 claims.	There were 21 public liability claims in the quarter with 4 being declined. In the same period last year there were 21 claims.

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Business Units		Key Activity Area 4: Marrickville's Council	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
BU1	Improve cost control, estimates and work flow management through the introduction of field data recorders and associated systems	On Track	On Track
		All Business Unit operations currently being reviewed by an independent management consultant. Review to include field system improvements and outcomes are expected to be presented in late October 2005.	Independent consultant review extended to late January 2006. Move to A5 works order system currently in progress.
BU2	Develop and implement a Parks Maintenance Model to provide consistency in Parks preparation cycles through resource levelling measures	On Track	On Track
		Data collection is currently in place to record service dates, plant utilisation, downtime etc. Establishment of a formal program deferred pending introduction of new asset management system.	Establishment of a formal program deferred pending introduction of new asset management system.
BU3	Establish greater rigour in Business Unit project costing through the development of systems in partnership with Finance which meet external audit requirements and comply with Australian accounting standards.	On Track	On Track
		All Business Unit operations currently being reviewed by executive management consultant. Review to include field system improvements and outcomes are expected to be presented in late October 2005.	Business Unit operations review by executive management consultant expanded for further investigation due January 2006. "Business One" budget development software has been implemented in all BUs. Monthly fiscal reporting format under review.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
PMBU1	Financial performance of each Business Unit is within budget. Target 100%.	100% Business Units within budget. Impact of unprecedented cost of fuel increase being monitored as it will have an adverse affect on budget.	All Business Units except building Cleaners are within budget. This area is currently under review to establish true costs of services.
PMBU2	Streetscape maintenance service standards, including cycle times are met. Target 100%.	Average service cycle period of 4.5 weeks achieved. Target cycle during this period is 6 weeks. 100% cycle times met.	Average service cycle period of 5.2 weeks achieved during Oct & Nov (Target 4 weeks) and 3.9 weeks during December (Target 3 weeks).
PMBU3	Achievement of capital works projects within established timeframes and budgets. Target 100%	100% capital projects completed within timeframe and budget.	Capital works are being completed within budgets. The current program shows a slight lag due to staff vacancies - this should be resolved in the forthcoming quarter.

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Legal Services		Key Activity Area 4: Marrickville's Council	
SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS		1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER
LG1	Provide regular legal training and education in conjunction with the Council's panel of external legal service providers to staff and councillors.	On Track	On Track
		Two briefing notes have been provided to staff this quarter. 1 - the imposition of landscaping bonds as a condition of consent; 2 - the appropriate form of letter to 'stop the clock' in relation to development applications.	Two briefing notes have been provided to staff this quarter. 1 - the circumstances for acceptance by the Land and Environment Court of amended plans; 2 - the application of 'planning principles' by the Land and Environment Court. A seminar was also conducted by the Council's Local Court solicitors in relation to procedures for prosecution matters.
LG2	Limit the number of proceedings commenced against the Council which are actually heard by the Land and Environment Court	On Track	On Track
	by providing strategic and timely advice to staff and councillors	Three proceedings were finalised by the Court this quarter. Only one of those proceedings resulted in a full hearing by the Court.	Three proceedings were finalised by the Court this quarter. Only one of those proceedings resulted in a full hearing by the Court.
LG3	Ensure that costs awarded to Council in litigation are recovered promptly and in a cost effective manner.	On Track	On Track
		A total of \$66,810 was recovered in legal costs. The majority of this related to an award of costs in a Land & Environment Court matter prior to 2005/06.	A total of \$18,399 was recovered in legal costs. No costs awards to the Council were made during the quarter.
LG4	Minimise the amount of legal costs paid to the Council's panel of external legal services providers by providing timely and professional in-house advice as required.	On Track	On Track
		The legal services budget expenditure for the quarter is 18.4% against an indicative target of 25%.	The legal services budget expenditure for the quarter is 35.3% against an indicative target of 50%.
PERFORMANCE MEASURES			

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PMLG1	Decrease in the number of matters mediated or settled without litigation	The actual number of proceedings commenced in the Land and Environment Court is exactly the same as last year's quarterly average being 5 x Class 1 and 1 x Class 4 proceedings per quarter.	There were 9 x Class 1 proceedings commenced in the Land and Environment Court this quarter. This is above the quarterly average. There were no new Class 4 proceedings.
PMLG2	Decrease in the number of Council matters before the Land and Environment Court	As indicated above, the actual number of proceedings commenced in the Land and Environment Court is exactly the same as last year's quarterly average.	There has been a slight increase in Class 1 proceedings compared to the quarterly average for 2004-2005.
PMLG3	Increase in percentage of Orders made by the Land and Environment Court that are in favour of Council	Only 1 contested proceeding was determined this quarter. The Council was unsuccessful.	Only 1 contested proceeding was determined this quarter. The Council was unsuccessful.

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LEGAL SERVICES REPORT FOR 2005-2006 DECEMBER QUARTER

SUMMARY OF LEGAL COSTS

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06 (Budget)	2005/06 (up to end Dec quarter)
L&E Court	214,331	173,816	64,750	62,661	80,304	120,000	24,494
Local Court	45,992	23,775	30,676	17,993	40,361	30,000	13,931
Advice from external solicitors	182,591	169,582	171,157	116,954	130,277	160,000	53,602
Legal Office Costs	82,931	174,249	190,946	170,779	177,885	185,504	94,298
Other Legal Office Costs	31,590	48,073	28,028	62,594	72,080	78,508	27,399
TOTAL	\$557,438	\$589,495*	\$485,557**	\$430,981#	\$500,907##	\$574,012	\$213,724+

* Less \$105,735 recovered in legal costs

** Less \$153,543 recovered in legal costs

Less \$42,559 recovered in legal costs

Less \$23,083 recovered in legal costs

+ Less \$18,399 recovered in legal costs

Note: see also section 7 – Legal income

ATTACHMENT: 2005/06 Management Plan - December Quarter Council Meeting
Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

1.SUMMARY OF LITIGATION

	1995 /96	1996/97	1997/98	1998 /99	1999 /00	2000 /01	2001 /02	2002 /03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06*
Land & Environment Court Class 1, 2, 3 Appeals	15	21	15	23	21	11	24	23	25	20	14
Land & Environment Court Class 4 and 5 Proceedings	18	10	12	18	12	14	9	5	3	4	1
Local Court	71	112	80	94	57	100	40	61	160	140	59
Other litigation	2	1	6	3	0	2	3	2	0	2	0
TOTAL	106	144	113	138	90	127	76	91	188	166	74

* The 2005/06 figures are new matters only.

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3. LAND AND ENVIRONMENT COURT

The following information relates to matters carried over from 2004-2005 and for new 2005-2006 matters.

- **Class 1 and Class 2 (merit appeals)**

There were 17 x Class 1 proceedings before the Court this quarter. Two matters were settled by way of consent orders. The Council was unsuccessful in one appeal. The other fourteen appeals are continuing.

Costs:

Average expenditure per quarter for 2004-2005 = \$19,742

Actual expenditure for 2005-2006 December quarter = \$10,021

Average cost of Class 1/2 matter for 2004-2005 = \$3,905

Average cost of a Class 1/2 matter for 2005-2006 December quarter = \$589

- **Class 4 and Class 5 (enforcement and criminal proceedings)**

There were 2 x Class 4 proceedings before the Court this quarter. Both proceedings are continuing.

Costs:

Average expenditure per quarter for 2004-2005 = \$332

Actual expenditure for 2005-2006 December quarter = \$89

Average cost of a Class 4/5 matter for 2004-2005 = \$332

Average cost of a Class 4/5 matter for 2005-2006 December quarter = \$45

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4. LOCAL COURT

The following information relates to matters carried over from 2004-2005 and for new 2005-2006 matters.

The Council was a party in 37 matters in the Local Court this quarter.

Costs:

Average expenditure per quarter for 2004-2005 = \$10,090

Actual expenditure for 2005-2006 December quarter = \$4,720

Average cost of a Local Court matter for 2004-2005 = \$285

Average cost of a Local Court matter for 2005-2006 September quarter = \$127

5. SUBPOENAS

The Council was served with three subpoenas this quarter.

Costs:

Nil.

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6. GENERAL ADVICE, PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS AND OTHER LITIGATION

	No. of matters carried forward	No. of new matters – Dec quarter	Total 2004/05 Costs	Costs for Dec quarter 2005/06	Total 2005/06 Costs
Property	13	2	\$80,207	\$29,163	\$40,229
Commercial	3	1	\$18,801	\$2,051	\$2,051
General Advice	0	6	\$ 7,069	\$0	\$2,749
Other Litigation	1	0	\$24,200	\$18	\$8,573

- **Property transactions**

A total of 15 property matters (leasing and licensing) were dealt with during the quarter.

- **Commercial advice**

A total of 4 commercial transaction matters were dealt with during the quarter.

- **General advice**

A total of 6 advices on general matters were current during the quarter. Three of those matters were finalised.

- **Other litigation**

There was one other litigation matter current during the quarter. The Council obtained judgment in its favour.

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Total Costs:

Average expenditure per quarter for 2004-2005 = \$32,561

Actual expenditure for 2005-2006 December quarter = \$31,232

Average cost of each matter for 2004-2005 = \$1,906

Average cost of each matter for 2005-2006 December quarter = \$1,249

7. LEGAL INCOME

A total of \$18,399 has been received in litigation costs and for conduct money for subpoenas being a quarterly average of \$9,199. The average quarterly income in 2004-2005 was \$5,770.

8. MATTERS SUBMITTED TO THE MAYOR FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS

No matters were submitted to the Mayor this quarter.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION

During this quarter, the Principal Solicitor:

- continues to represent the Council in all current Land and Environment Court proceedings; and
- **provided 5 of the 6 requests for general legal advice current this quarter.**

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File Ref: 1974

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

Report on the outcome of the Feasibility Studies in relation to the redevelopment of the old Marrickville Hospital site for a proposed new Library and Civic Centre and residential and/or mixed use development. The Consultants' report concludes that there are a number of affordable options, however they rely on development of the site to certain building height levels, size and configuration and do not provide for the accommodation of all Council's administrative staff.

It is recommended that Council consider the outcomes of the Feasibility Studies and the issues raised in the report and determine whether to progress development of the Marrickville Hospital site for a new Library/Civic Centre.

Background

1. 1995-2003

1.1 Purchase of site

Council purchased the old Marrickville Hospital site in 1995 following an extensive community consultation process. The proposal to use the site to establish "Marrickville Civic Centre" received widespread support. It was identified at that time that the size of Council's library is insufficient to meet community needs and falls below the State Library benchmark; and that there was a need to address accommodation standards to improve citizen service and to accommodate Council's administration staff in one building.

1.2 Planning Controls

In 1995, Council resolved to place a draft LEP and DCP for the site on public exhibition. In March 1996, following public exhibition in February, Council resolved to submit draft LEP 124 to DUAP for final making and to delegate authority to the Mayor to adopt Draft DCP 18 following gazettal of the LEP. The LEP was gazetted on 6 September 1996.

The LEP zoned part of the site 5(a) Special Uses (Civic Centre); part 2(a) Residential (the three NSW Health properties, Nos. 182, 184 and 186 Livingstone Road); and part 2 (c7) Residential (land at the rear of the site, including the 8 storey former Nurses Home building). The LEP created specific controls for each of the main parts of the site, including an extended range of permissible uses in the 5(a) zone: child care centre, public building, open space, commercial premises, car parking, community facilities or residential uses, with a maximum floor space ratio of 2:1. This FSR allowed for the exclusion of floor space calculation of any heritage items retained.

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The LEP also revised the heritage controls affecting the site, replacing the former listing in the Marrickville Planning Scheme Ordinance with the following heritage items:

- the old nurses quarters and ward block in Lilydale Street; and
- the three Victorian cottages at Nos. 182, 184 and 186 Livingstone Road.

In its final determination of the LEP, DUAP sought the retention of these three cottages. Council had previously sought their demolition and incorporation of the sites in the Civic Centre redevelopment.

DCP 18 was also adopted by Council, through the delegated authority of the Mayor, following the gazettal of the LEP. The DCP contains more detailed urban design planning principles and controls for the site, including building envelopes and maximum height planes. In general terms, the DCP provides for the retention of the new Nurses' Quarters at a height of 7+1 level; an extension to the building for residential at Ground +2 levels; residential building on the boiler house site of Ground +2 levels; and new Library/Civic Centre with residential/commercial above with a building profile of Ground +2 levels at Lilydale Street and Marrickville Road frontages stepping up to a maximum of Ground plus 6 levels. The main zoning and heritage controls of LEP 124 were subsequently incorporated into the consolidating plan, Marrickville Local Environmental Plan, 2001.

1.3 Development Options

In 1995, a Steering Committee was formed to guide the redevelopment of the site, comprising the Mayor, nominated Councillors and Senior Staff. A number of options were explored, with the optimal solution identified being redevelopment of the site involving a Civic Centre/Library and residential and/or mixed use development sympathetic to the heritage aspects of the site and surrounding built and natural environment.

In June 1996, Council adopted a Design Brief for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) and advertised for EOI in late 1996. Three firms were shortlisted by the Steering Committee.

During that period, negotiations were conducted with the Department of Health to purchase the houses adjoining the site to improve the configuration of the site and its development potential, which were unsuccessful.

Options to progress the proposal to build a new Library and Civic Centre on the site continued until December 1997 when Council resolved to terminate the Expression of Interest process for the development and requested the Steering Committee to report back on redevelopment options once further information was obtained. Further investigation of redevelopment plans was deferred given the emergence of other priorities, particularly the need to address the remediation of the Tempe Lands, at a total cost of approximately \$18 million, which has subsequently been Council's focus since 2003/04.

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1.4 Subdivision of Site

In 1998, Council resolved to prepare a plan of subdivision of the former Marrickville Hospital site *“to give flexibility for leasing or disposal of the residential portions of the site”*. In 2003, Council approved a development application (DA200200281) to subdivide the site into four allotments. A final plan of subdivision has not yet been submitted to the Land Titles Office.

1.5 Funding to Progress Project

In June 2003, Council allocated \$60,000 in the 2003/04 Resources Plan for preliminary concept development of the new Library/Civic Centre.

In its adopted Resources Plan for 2004/05, Council resolved to allocate a projected amount of funds to progress the project, including \$500,000 in 2005/06 and \$19.5 million in 2006/07 for construction costs for the new Library/Civic Centre.

2. Development of Major Projects Financial Plan

At Councillor Conferences held on 12 and 13 March and 31 March 2005 in the lead-up to the adoption of the 2005/06 Draft Budget, Councillors considered information in relation to:

- i) the aims of the project to:
 - replace and enhance existing Marrickville Library facilities;
 - create a civic presence in Marrickville as the centre of the LGA;
 - create additional public meeting spaces; and
 - alleviate crowded accommodation in the existing Administration Centre; and
- ii) available options, including the optimal solution involving redevelopment of the entire hospital site sympathetically to the surrounding built and natural environments and the need for the solution to be affordable.

Councillors were advised that:

- i) a property consultant would shortly be engaged to provide advice on the feasibility of the project, funded by the \$60,000 allocated for that purpose in the 2003/04 Resources Plan; and
- ii) a report would be presented to Council to form a Steering Committee to oversee the project, comprising Mayor and Councillors appointed by Council and Senior Staff, with the opportunity for all Councillors to participate; and seeking approval to recommence negotiations for ownership of the Department of Health properties.

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The Financial Model presented to Councillors identified the following potential funding for the project:

	\$M
Property Reserve	13.0
Sale of Lots 21 and 22 of Marrickville Hospital Site	4.5
Sale of Administration Building, Fisher Street	4.1
Working Funds	5.0
	26.6

with some s94 funding also available.

3. Feasibility Study for new Library/Civic Centre - Project Manager

Michael Collins & Associates were appointed in May 2005 to co-ordinate a feasibility study for the proposed redevelopment of the Marrickville Hospital site as a new Civic Centre comprising a new library, administrative centre, and Council Chambers, including the potential to realise residential and/or mixed use development in harmony with the civic centre use.

4. 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan

The 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan was adopted by Council as part of the 2005/06 Budget on 26 June 2005.

The 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan includes funding of \$26.6 million to be allocated towards the cost of the new Library/Civic Centre, if required.

5. Feasibility Studies – Appointment of Consultants

In June/July 2005 briefs were prepared, quotations sought and appointments made for the following studies:

- Heritage Assessment of the site to determine the heritage significance of the site to be undertaken by Godden Mackay Logan;
- Facilities Planning and Functional Design Study to determine the general size and configuration of the new Civic Centre accommodation to be undertaken by Architectus; and
- Urban Design and Planning Study to draw upon the results of the Heritage Assessment and Facilities Planning Studies to determine the likely supportable development envelopes for the site and the likely extent of finished floor space that could be developed on the site, to be undertaken by Architectus. This would have the capacity to form the basis for appropriate rezoning of the site, a development control plan and initial development application in relation to the site.

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In September 2005 following preparation of a brief and a quotation process, Michael Collins & Associates were appointed to undertake the Financial Feasibility Study. The aim of the Financial Feasibility Study is to assess the results of the other studies and determine the indicative sources and extent of funds available from the project (including the sale of lands made surplus by the delivery of the project) and the likely costs associated with delivering the project.

6. Council Resolution – 16 August 2005 (GM 62)

Council considered a report on the Major Projects at its meeting on 16 August 2005. In relation to the new Library/Civic Centre, Council was advised of the appointment of consultants to undertake the Feasibility Study, as outlined in 5 above.

It was noted that: *“The purpose of the studies is to inform Council, on the basis of professionally obtained advice, of the planning and development potential of the site, including the feasibility of redeveloping the site as Council’s Civic Centre. Council will then be in a position to make informed judgements about the future of the site and its relocation objectives”.*

Council was also advised of the proposal discussed at the Councillor Conference on 31 March 2005 to establish a Steering Committee to oversee the Major Projects and it was recommended that the Steering Committee be formed.

Council was also advised that at the Councillor Conference on 31 March 2005, Councillors were advised that the Feasibility Studies would include the adjoining properties owned by the Department of Health, which Council had previously unsuccessfully negotiated to acquire. It was recommended that the General Manager be authorised to commence discussions with the Department of Health to determine its plans for the properties and to explore acquisition by Council.

Council resolved in part **THAT:**

- “2. The General Manager be authorised to commence negotiations with the Department of Health to obtain the Department’s properties adjacent to the old Marrickville Hospital site and to report to Council on progress;
3. a Major Projects Steering Committee be formed comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors Olive, Macri and Sharpe and Senior Staff and relevant Council staff”.

7. Communication Strategy

In late August and early September 2005, the General Manager conducted staff briefings in relation to the project for all staff in the Administration Building, Petersham Town Hall and the Library. Business Units’ staff were also briefed at a brunch on 27 September 2005. A special edition of the staff newsletter *FYI* was published in early November.

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Discussion

1. Major Projects Steering Committee Meetings

Six Major Projects Steering Committee Meetings have been held on 29 August 2005; 19 September 2005; 10 October 2005; 31 October 2005; 21 November 2005; and 24 January 2006 to receive progress reports from the consultants in relation to the Feasibility Studies. At each meeting Councillors had an opportunity to discuss information and options put forward by the consultants and to generally guide the development of further options by the consultants.

At the last Steering Committee Meeting on 24 January 2006, Councillors considered the Feasibility Study 3rd Discussion Draft Report and requested that a number of further options be modelled for incorporation into the Feasibility Study Final Report and for additional information to be provided to assist Council's consideration of the Feasibility Study Final Report at its February Meeting.

2. Feasibility Study Final Report

The Feasibility Study Final Report has been prepared by the Consultants, comprising:

2.1 Marrickville Hospital Heritage Report, September 2005 – Godden Mackay Logan

The Heritage Report relating to the Marrickville Hospital site is **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 4**. The report provides:

- i) information in relation to the historical development of the site drawn from material contained in the Conservation Plan prepared for the site by Partridge and Davies (Paul Davies) Architects and Heritage Consultants in January 1993 and a Conservation Plan Addendum prepared by Paul Davies Pty Limited in July 1996; and
- ii) a review of the heritage significance of each building on the site, including the 3 former dwellings fronting Livingstone Road.

The report concludes that the heritage significance of the buildings on the site is as shown on the Diagram 'Heritage Significance of Elements' contained in the report summarised as follows:

- i) No Significance/Intrusive:
 - Addition to 182 Livingstone Road; and
 - Various small additions to the Hospital Building.

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ii) Low Significance:

- the Operating Theatre and Kitchen Block (Building D) built in 1940;
- the New Nurses' Home (Building W) built in 1960; and
- new Laundry and Boiler House (Building X) built in 1960.

iii) Moderate Significance – elements to be retained where practical but not essential:

- Palm trees – from after 1936; and
- Camphor Laurel tree which dates from the houses that fronted Marrickville Road.

iv) High Significance – recommended for retention:

- Hospital - Building A & B
The first stage of cottage hospital completed in 1899, comprising two portions: a front portion to Lilydale Street (Building A) which was subsumed into the main hospital wing in the 1920s; and a rear portion immediately behind it with direct access to the rear laneway (Building B) which still survives largely in its original form. A new kitchen block with other rooms was added to Building B in 1902 which still survive largely intact. In 1905, a new ward was constructed which is part of Building A which survives largely intact despite the construction of a second story above it in the 1920s. In 1913, a new main entry (part of Building A) was constructed between the two existing wings which is a landmark feature with the landscape of Lilydale Street. Between 1925 and 1927, a new ward (part of Building A) was constructed at the southern end, following the purchase of the laneway running parallel with Marrickville Road.
- Nurses Home – Building D
Constructed in 1909 in Federation period style which survives with many of its original features intact.
- Building C – Xray
Shown on 1925 site development drawing.
- Alignment of Laneway
- 3 Livingstone Road Cottages

The report also identifies areas for potential development in the plan “Development Potential”, noting that:

- the footprints shown are the maximum recommended having regard to the need to retain an appropriate curtilage for retained items; and

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- the suggested height limits in storeys are an ideal maximum having regard to the heritage constraints, ie: the need to respect the visual setting of retained heritage buildings on the site and in the vicinity.

The suggested development heights are as follows:

- 4 storeys on the Marrickville Road frontage, stepping back to 2-3 storeys next to the 3 Livingstone Road cottages.
- 2 storeys between Livingstone Road cottages and lane alignment.
- 2-3 storeys on new Nurses Quarters site on Livingstone Road frontage stepping up to 4-5 storeys up to the lane alignment.
- 2-3 storeys on the Laundry and Boiler House sites.

It is also acknowledged in the report that retention of heritage elements on the site and these heights may need to be reviewed having regard to other constraints such as urban design considerations and/or financial viability considerations.

The Heritage Study was provided to the consultants, Architectus, for consideration in their Urban Design Plan.

2.2 Facilities Planning & Functional Design Study Final Report October 2005 – Architectus Sydney Pty Ltd.

The Facilities Planning and Functional Design Study Final Report is **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 3**. The Appendices have previously been provided to Councillors. The main purpose of the study was to identify optimum space requirements for Council's accommodation in a new Library/Civic Centre, which is as follows:

	Gross Floor Area sqm	MCA Net Floor Area sqm
Library (includes staff accommodation)	2,494	2,120
Council Chambers, Councillors' accommodation and Meeting Rooms	1,013	861
- Chamber	373	317
- Councillors		
Citizens' Service Centre	1,386	1,178
	221	188
Council Staff accommodation	3,242	2,755
Additional space available in current Xray block with heritage significance	7,343	6,241
	50	43
	7,393	6,284

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The required Net Floor Area of 6,284 sqm for Council accommodation has been used in the Options modelled in the Final Financial Feasibility report. Reduced Council accommodation space has also been modelled on a number of Options.

The identified Council accommodation space requirements are based on:

- a projected increase in staff numbers from 210 to 239;
- improved public entry presentation;
- additional meeting rooms which would be available for community use;
- increased space for an improved contemporary new Library based on State Library standards;
- larger Councillor accommodation;
- larger Chamber which would be available for community use; and
- Council staff accommodation that conforms with contemporary space standards.

The identified space requirements have not yet been reviewed in detail and there may be capacity to reduce them if Council accommodation needs to be reduced, particularly in relation to the projected increase in staff numbers which appears generous although additional temporary staff funded by Government Grants need to be accommodated from time to time; and the Councillor accommodation.

The Study has identified principles for accommodation which are important to be met, including sense of community; flexibility; an open work environment to encourage innovation; and sustainability. Information in the Study relating to interrelationships between functions and proximity; facilities; space allocations; and fit out of office areas will be reviewed in detail if the project proceeds and will assist in future decision making.

2.3. Marrickville Hospital Site – Urban Design Study: Analysis and Options November 2005 – Architectus

A copy of the Urban Design Study is **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 2**. The Study draws upon the results of the other studies to determine the likely supportable envelopes for the site and the likely extent of finished floor space that can be developed on the site. The Study examined the local context; surrounding built form; heritage significance of the site; views; access; planning controls; and opportunities and constraints.

Eight Options were developed in consultation with MCA in undertaking the Financial Feasibility Study as follows:

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- Options 1-3 (Council building 5 storeys with stepdown to 3 storeys; residential 4+1 on Nurses' Quarters site and 3+1 on Boiler Room site), were a direct result of initial context and heritage analysis of the site;
- Options 4 and 5 were developed to indicate largest area of building footprints that the site can sustain in purely urban design terms;
- Options 6, 7 and 7a) combined the results of Options 4 and 5 with heritage constraints to produce the most realistic options in urban design and heritage terms; and
- Option 8 (Least Cost Example in the Financial Feasibility Study), was developed in response to comments from the Financial Feasibility consultant to test the impact of a least cost option to Council on the site.

All options include the required Council accommodation areas (6,284 sq m net) resulting from the Facilities Planning and Functional Design Study and were tested in the Financial Feasibility Study, as outlined in detail in Section 2.4 of this report below.

Architectus have also provided Design Guidelines in relation to height; street frontage and setbacks; form and character; heritage; open space and landscaping; uses for former hospital buildings on pages 26-32.

The Study concludes that Options 1, 6, 7 and 7a) are the most successful in combining urban design and heritage requirements.

2.4 Financial Feasibility Assessment Report – Michael Collins & Associates (MCA).

2.4.1 Introduction

The Financial Feasibility Assessment Report is **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 1**. The Report includes additional options which have been modelled as requested at the last Steering Committee meeting. MCA was also requested to model four additional options, 8(c), 11, 11(a) and 12(a) to assist Councillors in considering available alternatives. Appendix 1 has not been provided as it contains confidential commercial information on Relevant Sales and Current Market Research which has previously been provided to Councillors. That information has been used by the consultants to support their assumption that the value of surplus space allowed in the options modelled is \$100,000 per residential apartment site capable of being delivered.

In undertaking the Financial Feasibility Study, MCA worked closely with Architectus to determine “the highest and best use” of the available floor space “to ensure that all available sources of revenue have been captured from both the development of the former Marrickville Hospital site and from the potential sale of resultant surplus assets.” The scope of work undertaken is outlined in Section 2.0 of the Report.

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2.4.2 Study Assumptions

MCA used a number of assumptions in the Financial Feasibility Study as outlined in Section 4.0 of their Report. The key assumptions are as follows:

	Assumption	Comment
1. Council Space	6,284m ² Net Floor Area 79 car spaces	Based on Architectus Facilities Study. Reduced Council space is used in some options to improve financial viability.
2. Highest & Best Use Surplus Space.	Medium Density Residential.	
3. Value per residential apartment.	\$100,000 per residential apartment.	Value drawn from market research (Appendix 1 provided to Councillors under separate cover).
4. Revenue from surplus office space:		
- Sale	\$3,500/m ²	Used in Options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11.
- Leased	\$300/ m ² pa net and capitalised income stream at 8.4% on completion.	Used in Option 7(a), 7(a) Preferred, 8(a), 9, 12, 12(a) and 13.
5. Purchase price of Livingstone Road properties	\$500,000 each	Used in Options 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 13.
- Where part land purchased for realignment of boundary	\$100,000	Acquisition of 114m ² of land – used for all options where 3 Livingstone Rd properties are not purchased.
6. Construction Costs		
- building	\$2,500 m ² FSA	Quantity Surveyor's costs used for options 7a) preferred, 8a), 8b) and 9 assuming lump sum contract. Cost escalations provided for in other options.
- car spaces	\$25,000 per car space	
- fit-out	\$1,100 m ² FSA	
- project contingency	10%	
7. Funding		
- Sale of Administration Building in Fisher Street.	\$4,600,000	Used in all Options exceptions Options 9, 11 and 11(a).
- Council's cash contribution.	\$18,000,000	Property reserve \$13m and Working Funds \$5m used in all Options except Option 12(a) which uses \$20m for Council's cash contribution.

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2.4.3 Options Tested

MCA have tested nineteen (19) Options as outlined in Section 3.0 of the Report and the additional sheet relating to the additional models tested, as well as the least cost example.

The Options have tested various scenarios for the development of the site to determine the level of development necessary to provide sufficient funding to meet the gap between Council's available funds and the cost of building a Library/Civic Centre on the site. The Options involve redevelopment of the site with:

- i) the construction of residential buildings on the Nurses' Quarters site; Boiler Room site; and on the site of the three Livingstone Road Cottages in some options;
- ii) the adaptive re-use of the Old Nurses' Home building for residential purposes; and
- iii) the construction of the Library/Civic Centre on the Operating Theatre and Kitchen Block site adjacent to Buildings A and B of the Hospital, together with the adaptive re-use of Buildings A and B and the Xray Room of the Hospital for civic purposes.

The Options have various assumptions in relation to heritage considerations; level of development in terms of height, size and configuration of the buildings; and the use of floor space in excess of Council's accommodation requirements for a mix of residential and commercial purposes, as follows:

i) Heritage

The Options are consistent in providing for the retention and adaptive re-use of the old Hospital buildings assessed by the Heritage Consultant as being of high significance and recommended for retention, being Ward Buildings A and B, Nurses' Home (Building D), Building C – Xray and the Laneway Alignment.

Most Options provide for retention of the Livingstone Road Cottages, other than acquisition of 114m² of land to adjust the boundary alignment. Options 2, 3, 4, 5 and 13 provide the development of the Livingstone Road Cottage sites requiring demolition of the cottages and Options 6 and 7 involve development of the site of one of the cottages.

All consultants have advised that retention and sensitive re-use of the buildings identified as of high heritage significance by the Heritage Consultant is a good outcome for the development of the site.

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ii) Urban Design

The Options have tested varying heights, size and configuration of buildings to determine the level of development necessary to make the project financially viable. Option 1, which is based on the initial context and heritage analysis but at generally one level higher than recommended by the Heritage Consultant, provides for the lowest level of development on the site being:

- 4 + 1 levels on the Nurses' Quarters site;
- 3 + 1 on the Boiler Room site; and
- 5 & 3 levels on the Library/Civic Centre site.

That Option is not affordable. Options 10, 11 and 11(a) were also modelled based on the Option 1 height level scheme amended to increase the height of the building on the Nurses' Quarters site to 7 + 1 levels, being the same height as the current building. Only Option 11(a), which provides for a minimal Council presence on the site, is affordable, however it is not financially viable when the cost of extending and upgrading the current Administration Building is factored in, as discussed in the assessment of Options in Section 2.4.4 of this report.

Options 2 to 7 and 7(a) Preferred, which also require development of all or one of the Livingstone Road Cottage sites following demolition of the cottages, tested varying increased building heights and size to determine viability up to a level of:

- 6 + 1 levels on the Nurses' Quarters site;
- 5 & 3 levels on the Boiler Room site; and
- 6 + 1 levels on the Library/Civic Centre site.

Those Options are not affordable. Option 7 was the most affordable and a Quantity Surveyor was engaged to test the construction cost assumptions which became Option 7(a).

A number of Options were then tested using the Option 7 building height levels, with a different mix of Council space allocation and use of surplus space for residential and commercial purposes. Two of those Options are affordable, being Options 8(b) and 9.

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Affordability was also achieved in Options 8(c) and 12(a) which were modelled to increase the height of the building on the New Nurses' Quarters site to 7 + 1 levels, which is the level of the current building with building heights being as follows:

- 7 + 1 levels on the Nurses' Quarters site;
- 5 & 3 levels on the Boiler Room site; and
- 6 + 1 levels on the Library/Civic Centre site.

The Options demonstrate that for the project to be affordable, development of the site must be at least at the levels shown in the latter two boxes above.

Development at that height level, size and configuration of buildings has implications in relation to heritage buildings retained on the site, including the need to retain an appropriate curtilage for retained items and respect for the visual setting of the retained heritage buildings on the site and of other heritage buildings in the vicinity.

Accordingly, in considering the project, Council needs to decide whether development at that height level, size and configuration of building is appropriate.

iii) Council Accommodation Requirements

One of the primary objectives of the proposed Library/Civic Centre is to locate all of Council's Administration staff at the one location.

The majority of Options modelled provide for Council accommodation space of 6,284m² net, arising from the Facilities Planning and Functional Design Study. As those Options were not achieving a financially viable outcome, a number of Options, being Options 8(a), (b) and (c), 9, 11, 11(a) and 12(a), were modelled with varying amounts of reduced Council space.

In assessing each of the Options, Council needs to consider the impacts where Council's administration staff can't be located at the site in terms of alternative locations and refurbishment or additional building construction costs at other locations, as well as operational impacts, as outlined in the assessment of options in the following section.

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2.4.4 Assessment of Financial Feasibility Study Options

The Options modelled by MCA are shown in the Final Report **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 5**, in the Summary of Options Table which summarises each Option and provides the funding shortfall; and on individual Option Sheets which show, for each Option, the Site Area and Yield; Project Revenue; and Project Expenses and Financial Analysis.

In assessing the financial viability of those Options, it is important to note that they are based on Council's ability to contribute \$18 million from the property reserve (\$13m) and working funds (\$5m). That amount has been identified as part of the Major Projects Financial Plan and Council's 2005/06 Resources Plan as being available if Council's other Major Projects are funded as projected in those Plans. Any decision by Council to allocate increased Council funds to another project will reduce the funding amount available and the financial viability of each Option by that amount.

Council's current capacity to contribute property reserve funds of \$13m is dependent on settlement of the sale of land to IKEA and the sale of an adjacent land parcel. Any delay in progressing these land sales will adversely impact on Council's cash flow.

To assist in Councillors' consideration of the Options, a further Summary has been prepared which categorises the Options and summarises the key features in relation to each Option into one document, which is provided on the following three pages.

SUMMARY OF FEASIBILITY STUDY DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

Option	3 Liv. Rd Props Retained	Height Levels				Residential Units No.	Surplus Office Space	Council Space		Council Space Deficiency at Hospital Site sq m	Net Cost \$	Affordable	Comments												
		Nurses Qtrs Site	Boiler Room Site	Liv Rd Site	Council Site		Sale Net m²	Net m²	All Council accom. needs met																
A. Options based on initial Context and Heritage Study of Site																									
1	Yes	4+1	3+1	-	5&3&5	58	1,971	6,284	Yes	-	-15,540,604	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develops site to heights and configuration arising out of initial context and heritage study.Mix residential and commercial.All Council accommodated.Not affordable.												
10	Yes	7+1	3+1	-	5&3&5	82	1,971	6,284	Yes	-	-13,313,538	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Same as Option 1 with Building on New Nurses' Quarters site increased to 8 levels to be at the same height as current building.Not affordable.												
11	Yes	7+1	3+1	-	5&3&5	82	4,957	3,298	No	2,986 Note: Administration Building not sold and space available for staff accommodation	-5,496,060	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Same as Option 10 but reduced Council space to accommodate only:<table><tr><td></td><td><u>GFA m²</u></td><td><u>NFA m²</u></td></tr><tr><td>Council Chambers & Meeting Rooms</td><td>1,386</td><td>1,178</td></tr><tr><td>Library</td><td><u>2,494</u></td><td><u>2,120</u></td></tr><tr><td></td><td><u>3,880</u></td><td><u>3,298</u></td></tr></table>To meet Council's objectives, 3,800 m² of Council accommodation required because of need for additional foyer space, meeting rooms etc. at current Administration Building (2,392m² net), with building extension required of 1,400m². Preliminary cost to extend and refurbish is \$22.986m resulting in a deficit in funding of \$28.482m.Surplus office space converted to commercial space for sale.		<u>GFA m²</u>	<u>NFA m²</u>	Council Chambers & Meeting Rooms	1,386	1,178	Library	<u>2,494</u>	<u>2,120</u>		<u>3,880</u>	<u>3,298</u>
	<u>GFA m²</u>	<u>NFA m²</u>																							
Council Chambers & Meeting Rooms	1,386	1,178																							
Library	<u>2,494</u>	<u>2,120</u>																							
	<u>3,880</u>	<u>3,298</u>																							
11(a)	Yes	7+1	3+1	-	5&3&5	145	-	3,298	No	2,986 As above	8,777,166	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Same as Option 11 but surplus office space converted to residential use.Provides a surplus of \$8.777 million.To meet Council's objectives, 3,800 m² Council accommodation required because of need for additional foyer space, meeting rooms, etc. ie: current Administration Building (2,392m² net), with building extension required of 1,400m² Preliminary cost to extend and refurbish is \$22.986m resulting in a deficit of \$14.209m.												
B. Options based on Initial Context and Heritage Study with development of Livingstone Road properties																									
2	No	4+1	3+1	4+1	5&5	84	2,279	6,284	Yes	-	-15,511,592	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">As in Option 1 above with Livingstone Road Properties not retained.different building configuration.												
3	No	5&4	3+1	4	5&5	70	4,505	6,284	Yes	-	-19,837,025	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">As in Option 2 above with different building configuration.												
C. Options with higher floor space with development of Livingstone Road properties																									
4	No	4+1	3+1	5+1	5+1&5	130	3,610	6,284	Yes	-	-12,738,701	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Higher floor space allowances provided for than Options 1, 2 & 3 to provide maximum building envelopes.Mix residential and commercial.All Council accommodated.Not affordable.												
5	No	7+1&3	7&3	6+1	6+1&5	160	3,771	6,284	Yes	-	-10,626,642	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">As in Option 4 above with further increased heights.												

SUMMARY OF FEASIBILITY STUDY DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

Option	3 Liv. Rd Props Retained	Height Levels				Residential Units No.	Surplus Office Space	Council Space		Council Space Deficiency at Hospital Site sq m	Net Cost \$	Affordable	Comments																											
		Nurses Qtrs Site	Boiler Room Site	Liv Rd Site	Council Site		Sale Net m²	Net m²	All Council accom. needs met																															
D. Options using results Options 4 & 5 to produce most economically viable options with retention of 2 Livingstone Road properties																																								
6	2 retained	6+1	5&3	Part other buildings	5+1&5	150	-	6,284	Yes	-	-4,435,745	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Residential only to get most economically viable option.2 Livingstone Rd properties retained.Council building extends over Livingstone Road cottage site.Building configuration and heights varied.All Council accommodated.Not affordable.																											
7	2 retained	6+1	5&3	Part other buildings	6+1&5	170	-	6,284	Yes	-	-2,610,048	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">As in Option 6 with extra level on Council building.More economically viable than Options 1-6.																											
E. Options using most economically viable Option 7 modified to retain Livingstone Road properties Same footprints and Total Floor Space used for Options 7(a) to 9 below.																																								
7(a)	Yes	6+1	5&3	-	6+1	140	343	6,284	Yes	-	-5,430,129	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Variation of Option 7 to retain the 3 Livingstone Road properties.Mix residential and leased commercial space.Building configuration for Council building extended at 6+1 level compared to Part 5 level in Option 7.All Council accommodated.Not affordable.																											
7(a) Preferred	Yes	6+1	5&3	-	6+1	140	343	6,284	Yes		-7,405,980	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Same as Option 7(a) but costings based on Quantity Surveyor's advice.Not affordable.																											
8(a)	Yes	6+1	5&3	-	6+1	140	1,260	5,365	No	919	-2,894,320	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Same footprints and total floor space as Options 7(a) and 7(a) Preferred.Quantity Surveyor's costs used.Council space reduced by 919 sq m so that Council occupies 3 levels rather than 4 levels releasing 1 level for commercial space.Alternative Council accommodation would need to be provided at another location eg: Depot, with additional cost.																											
8(b)	Yes	6+1	5&3	-	6+1	160	-	5,365	No	919	904,943	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Same as Option 8(a) but 1 level is released for residential rather than commercial.Affordable.Alternative Council accommodation of 919 sq m would need to be provided at another location involving an additional cost eg: refurbishment/fit-out of Building B at Depot.																											
9	Yes	6+1	5&3	-	6+1	175	-	4,106	No	2,187 Note: Administration Building not sold and available for staff accommodation	5,832,379	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Same building footprint and total floor space as Options 7(a) to 8(b) above.Council space reduced by 2,178 sq m to provide for:<table><tr><td></td><td>GFA m²</td><td>NFA m²</td></tr><tr><td>Library</td><td>2,494</td><td>2,120</td></tr><tr><td>Citizens' SC</td><td>221</td><td>188</td></tr><tr><td>Council Chambers & Meeting Rooms</td><td>1,386</td><td>1,178</td></tr><tr><td>Office Space</td><td>730</td><td>620</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>4,831</td><td>4,106</td></tr></table>Council accommodation would be housed as follows:<table><tr><td></td><td>GFA m²</td><td>NFA m²</td></tr><tr><td>Old Hospital Building</td><td>1,865</td><td>1,585</td></tr><tr><td>New Building</td><td>2,966</td><td>2,521</td></tr></table>		GFA m²	NFA m²	Library	2,494	2,120	Citizens' SC	221	188	Council Chambers & Meeting Rooms	1,386	1,178	Office Space	730	620		4,831	4,106		GFA m²	NFA m²	Old Hospital Building	1,865	1,585	New Building	2,966	2,521
	GFA m²	NFA m²																																						
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SUMMARY OF FEASIBILITY STUDY DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

Option	3 Liv. Rd Props Retained	Height Levels				Residential Units No.	Surplus Office Space	Council Space		Council Space Deficiency at Hospital Site sq m	Net Cost \$	Affordable	Comments
		Nurses Qtrs Site	Boiler Room Site	Liv Rd Site	Council Site		Sale Net m ²	Net m ²	All Council accom. needs met				
													<div> <div>4,831</div> <div>4,106</div> </div> 2,178 sq m required for Council accommodation at the current Administration Building which is available (2,392 sq m net currently). Surplus of \$5.832 can fund refurbishment and fit-out.
F. Options with modification of Option 7(a) Preferred to increase height of building of new Nurses' Quarters site to 7+ levels.													
8(c)	Yes	7+1	5&3	-	6+1	169	-	5,365	No	919-	1,730,493	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as Option 8(a) but building on new Nurses Quarters site increased to 7+1 to same level as current building.
12	Yes	7+1	5&3	-	6+1	153	343	6,284	Yes		-6,181,380	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 7(a) Preferred with increase in height of building on new Nurses' Quarters site to 7+1.
12(a)	Yes	7+1	5&3	-	6+1	153	1,251	5,376	No	908	284,137	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modification of Option 12 with reduction of Council space to make option affordable. Council's cash contribution increased by \$2m to \$20m, with total funding increasing to \$24.6m. Council accommodation of 908 sq m required at alternative site eg: Depot, at an additional cost.
13	No	7+1	5&3	5+1	6+1	196	343	6,284	Yes	-	-4,059,396	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as Option 12 with Livingstone Road properties not retained and building developed for residential purposes at 5+1 levels.
G. Least Cost Example													
	No	10	8	12	12	455	-	6,284	Yes		10,975,156	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notional example only – used to determine most economically viable scheme.

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i) Options that are not affordable

In summary, Option 1, which involves the lowest level of development, is not affordable.

Options 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 13, involving development of all or one of the Livingstone Road properties, are also not affordable, with funding shortfalls of \$15.51m, \$19.837m, \$12.738m, \$10.626m, \$4.4m, \$2.61m and \$4.059m respectively. The most affordable is Option 7 which involves development of one of the Livingstone Road properties and provides for all of Council's requirements, but the funding shortfall is \$2.61m.

Development of those properties is problematic because it is not known if Council will be able to acquire them from the Department of Health and there is uncertainty as to the ability to demolish and develop them because of their current heritage status. Accordingly, as their acquisition does not achieve affordability of the project, it is considered that purchase of those properties should not be pursued at this stage unless Council considers that acquiring the cottages and demolishing them will provide urban design benefits relating to the development of the site that outweigh the heritage considerations.

Options 7(a), 7(a) Preferred and 8(a) are not affordable. They are based on the Option 7(a) scheme of the 6+1 levels on Nurses' Quarters site, 5 & 3 levels on the Boiler Room site and 6+1 levels for the Library/Civic Centre, with surplus space sold for commercial use and reduced Council space for Option 8(a). The funding shortfalls are \$5.43m; \$7.405m; and \$2.894m respectively.

Option 12, which is also based on the Option 7(a) scheme, with an increase in the height of the building on the Nurses' Quarters site to 7+1 levels and lease of surplus space for commercial use, is not affordable, with a funding deficit of \$6.181m. Option 13, which modifies Option 12 by developing the Livingstone Road cottage sites, is also not affordable with a funding deficit of \$4.059m.

ii) Affordable Options

The only affordable options identified in the MCA Feasibility Study Options, involve development to the following heights, with reduced Council accommodation space available at the hospital site, as follows:

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1. Administration Building Sold

Options	Nurses' Quarters Site	Boiler Room Site	Council Site	Council Space	Council Space Deficiency at Hospital Site	Net Cost \$
8(b)	6 + 1	5 & 3	6 + 1	5,365	919	904,943(S)
8(c)	7 + 1	5 & 3	6 + 1	5,365	919	1,730,493(S)
12(a) *	7 + 1	5 & 3	6 + 1	5,376	908	284,137(S)

* Assumes additional Council funding of \$2m to \$20m.

2. Administration Building Not Sold

9	6 + 1	5 & 3	6 + 1	4,106	2,178	5,832,379(S)
11(a)	7 + 1	3 + 1	5 & 3 & 5	3,298	2,986	8,777,166(S)

As shown in the above table in the options that are affordable in the MCA Feasibility Study, space for staff accommodation is required to be provided at another site {Options 8(b), 8(c) and 12(a) because the current Administration Centre is sold; or in the current Administration Centre (Options 9 and 11(a))}.

The impact of this is summarised below:

1. Space Required at Alternative Site

Option	Space Deficiency at Hospital Site (m sq)	Available Funds \$	Comment
8(b)	919	904,943	If space required at alternative site reduced, available funds would be sufficient to fund fit-out.
8(c)	919	1,730,493	Available funds sufficient to fund fit-out but space needs to be reduced if accommodation is to be provided at Depot.
12(a)	908	284,137	Available funds not sufficient to fund fit-out.

Options 8(b), 8(c) and 12(a) require some staff to be located at another location. While that outcome is not ideal, it is considered that the benefits of achieving construction of a new Library and the accommodation of the majority of staff at the new Library/Civic Centre outweigh the disadvantages. A comprehensive review of the space allocation determined by Architectus should be undertaken to reduce the amount of space required at another location. It is considered that a reduction in required Council space could be achieved without compromising Council's objectives for the Library/Civic Centre accommodation and still providing for some future growth. If the amount of space required to be provided at an alternative site is reduced to approximately 500 sq m, it will be able to be provided at the Depot, which has advantages in co-locating staff with other

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Council staff rather than another location, reducing the number of Council's administrative worksites from 4 (Administration Building, Petersham Town Hall, Marrickville Town Hall and Depot) to 2 (new Library/Civic Centre and Depot). That amount is equivalent to the space required by one Division. Refurbishment would be required to be undertaken at the Depot to provide for additional staff accommodation. As a guide, using the estimated cost of fit-out used by MCA of \$1,100 sq m, the cost would be between \$500,000 and \$750,000 as a conservative estimate.

If Council decides to pursue any of those Options, further work can be undertaken on space requirements and recommended staff locations and on costing the Depot refurbishment.

2. Administration Centre Retained

Option	Space Deficiency at Hospital Site (sq m)	Space required in Admin Building (sq m)	Available Funds \$
9	2,178	2,392	5,832,379

Comment: The Option provides for the Citizen Service Centre, Council Chambers and meeting spaces and 730 sq m net of office space at the Library/Civic Centre, in addition to the Library. Accordingly, the equivalent of part of the Ground Floor, one other floor and the third floor of the current Admin Building is freed up to accommodate administration staff currently located at Petersham Town Hall and the Depot and there is sufficient space to improve staff accommodation generally through additional space and better facilities and meeting rooms.

Option	Space Deficiency at Hospital Site (sq m)	Space required in Admin Building (sq m)	Available Funds \$
11(a)	2,986	3,800	8,777,166

Comment: This Option provides for only the Chamber and meeting rooms to be located at the new Library/Civic Centre, in addition to the Library. Accordingly, there is little impact in terms of freeing up space in the current Administration Building, which is 2,392 sq m net, as the 3rd Floor meeting rooms are currently well used throughout the day. To achieve Council's objectives of accommodating administration staff from Petersham Town Hall and the Depot with other staff; improve overcrowding of staff; provide meeting rooms; allow for some future growth; and improve facilities generally, the current building would need to be extended by 1,400 sq m at an indicative cost of \$22.9876m. That cost also involves upgrading of services including the lift, air conditioning and providing additional car parking. This is not financially viable as there is only \$8.777m in available funding after development of the Hospital Site in this Option. A lower cost alternative would be to extend the building over the current first floor deck area for 3 floors, which is approximately 900 sq m net; however, Council's space requirements would not be met.

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It is considered that Options 8(b), 8(c) and 12(a) provide a better outcome than Option 9 and Option 11(a) as they result in the majority of staff being accommodated in the new Library/Civic Centre, with staff not being able to be accommodated to be located at an alternative site, being the Depot.

Option 12(a) is not recommended as it is not as financially viable as Options 8(b) and 8(c) as it requires an additional \$2m of Council funds.

Options 8(b) and 8(c) provide the same outcome in relation to Council accommodation. Option 8(c) provides an additional level of residential space on the building on the New Nurses' Quarters site and accordingly, provides a better financial outcome of \$1,730,493, which is \$825,550 greater than Option 8(b).

In Options 9 and 11(a), the Administration Building is retained which results in greater operational challenges. Option 9 is preferred as it does not require extension of the current building and is affordable.

2.5 Other Issues

2.5.1 Available Loan Financing

As discussed above, funding for the project includes \$18 million in Council funds, comprising \$13m from the property reserve and \$5m from Working Funds. At the last Major Projects Steering Committee meeting, information was requested in relation to Council's capacity to raise additional debt.

The Department of Local Government monitors the debt management capacity of councils using the Debt Service Ratio reported in each Council's financial reports as a guide. The ratio measures Council's net debt service costs (ie: principal and interest payments) as a percentage of its revenue from ordinary activities (ie: revenue excluding capital grants and contributions).

A Debt Service Ratio of up to 10% is generally considered to be good. At 30 June 2005, Council had outstanding debt amounting to \$16.465m. Its Debt Service Ratio in 2004/05 was 4.88%. An amount of \$1.298m will be borrowed in 2005/06.

The Future Debt Service Ratio for any financial year depends on changes in Council's income levels, additional debt being raised and the timing of principal and interest repayments.

In 2005/06, the Debt Service Ratio will peak at approximately 14.9% due to the repayment of a \$6m loan used to fund the Tempe Lands Remediation.

Borrowings for Aquatic Facilities will raise the Ratio to 5.3% in 2006/07 and to 6.25% in 2007/08. Further borrowings for the Civic Centre would increase the ratio by approximately 0.2% for every \$1m borrowed. More importantly, any

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additional borrowings would increase the call on operating funds at the rate of \$142,000 annually for each \$1m of additional debt. This would require a scaleback of current services to be affordable.

2.5.2 Project Delivery Options

The issue of the best way to achieve delivery of the Project was discussed at the last Major Projects Steering Committee meeting, particularly the option of Council managing contractors in building the Library/Civic Centre buildings which includes residential and/or commercial space, and then selling that space. That option is not recommended because of the high level of financial and other risks.

In that regard, a project of the magnitude and complexity being proposed is a significant undertaking and there will always be risks attached. Cost estimates can be affected adversely by a range of factors which are outside of Council's control and even a small escalation in costs on a \$40,000,000 project will result in a substantial increase. As a public authority, Council should not be shouldering undue risk and that is why most public authorities seek to transfer the risks to other parties on entrepreneurial projects.

Depending on the option adopted by Council, the project incorporates demolition, construction of a civic building, library, commercial and residential accommodation, together with the refurbishment of existing heritage buildings. It is indeed a complex project and, as has been demonstrated to Council, requires detailed financial management to ensure it can be delivered with the limited cash resources available. Simply, there is no "fat" in the budget to enable Council to withstand any shocks related to unforeseen circumstances which are in excess of the budget contingency sums. These include poor foundations, site contamination issues, industrial action and external influences such as downturn in the real estate market.

In order to meet Council's minimum obligations under the Local Government Amendment (Public Private Partnerships) Act 2004, Council would be required to demonstrate to a Project Review Committee comprising representatives from the Department of Local Government, NSW Treasury, Premiers Department, the Cabinet Office and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources that it had, among other things:

- prepared a risk management plan in accordance with AS/NZS 4360 : 2004, including a risk allocation table outlining risk mitigation strategies employed; and
- prepared a governance and management plan, including probity and project management arrangements.

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A method of project delivery that minimised the level of risk would be preferred and this could best be facilitated by externally delivering the project.

In that regard, the Page Kirkland Quantity Surveyor estimate is based on a Lump Sum Construction Contract which forms the basis of an Expression of Interest/Tender Process, for example. It is considered that delivery of the project requires specialist contract management skills and resources. This project will require a dedicated project management team which is established to safeguard the interests of Council and whose success is measured by the degree to which they offset the project risks. Whilst these skills exist within Council, the necessary resources are occupied on other tasks which are funded by Council's Operating Budget and Resources Plan. Council's in-house resources will be more effectively utilised in the role of the "client's representative" in dealing with the project manager. Accordingly, it is strongly recommended the Council engage external project management expertise to co-ordinate the delivery of the Civic Centre.

Further information will be provided to Council in relation to the proposed Project Delivery method if the project proceeds.

2.6 Future Process

The objective of the Feasibility Studies has been to identify whether it is financially viable to build a new Library and Civic Centre on the site, funded by proceeds from development of the part of the site not required for Council purposes, and available Council funds.

As discussed above, a number of Options modelled are affordable, however Council needs to determine whether it considers that the level of development of the site, which is required under those Options, is appropriate.

If Council decides to progress a Preferred Option, the process will include the following matters:

Planning Issues:

- Development of a Development Control Plan (DCP) for the site, based on the Urban Design Study and Preferred Option; and
- Development Application (DA).

Community Consultation:

- on the DCP and DA;
- on the Preferred Option generally;
- on elements to be included in the new Civic Centre/Library to meet community needs; and
- communication strategy.

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Project:

- development of design brief for the new Library/Civic Centre building and adaptive re-use of the Hospital buildings;
- commissioning of architect to develop a design;
- detailed costing of the Project and refurbishment/fit-out of other required staff accommodation; and
- Tender Process and Assessment.

Finance:

- Financial viability assessment at each stage;
- Department of Local Government Capital Expenditure Review; and
- Full compliance with the provisions of the Local Government Amendment (Public Private Partnerships) Act 2004.

If Council decides to progress the Project, further work will be undertaken in developing a Project Plan of all required steps, issues and timing.

2.7 Alternative Option

If Council decides not to proceed with a preferred affordable Option because it cannot support the level of development of the site required by those Options, the only alternative Option that could be progressed of the Options tested to date, is Option 11(a) to build a Library and Council Chambers and Meeting Rooms on the site. That Option achieves two of Council's objectives – for a civic presence on the site and a new library. As outlined above, after funding that Option with \$9,222,834 of the available Council funds of \$18m, an amount of \$8,777,166 of Council funds will be left.

That amount of \$8.777m is not sufficient to fund the extension of the current Administration Building to achieve re-location of Community Services staff and other staff from the Depot and alleviate crowded conditions and allow for future staff growth. However, it could be used to upgrade the building services that need essential works in the Administration Building; undertake some refurbishment of the Administration Building and Petersham Town Hall offices; and to provide additional office space at the Depot to alleviate crowded conditions in the Administration building. The disadvantage of that will be further dislocation and operational inefficiencies.

It is considered that Option 11(a) is not a good outcome in relation to Administrative staff accommodation although it will achieve some improvement. However, it would have the benefit of delivering a contemporary, larger, new Library which would have a significant community benefit.

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Conclusion

Comprehensive Feasibility Studies have been undertaken in relation to the development of the Marrickville Hospital site to build a new Library and Civic Centre that accommodates Council's Administrative staff. The financially viable options require development at a building height level of 6+1 or 7+1 levels on the Nurses' Quarters site; 5 & 3 levels on the Boiler Room site; and 6+1 levels for the new Library/Civic Centre, as well as adaptive re-use of the buildings on the site and the laneway, which are considered to be of high significance in the Heritage Study.

Council needs to determine whether it considers, in principle, that that level of development is appropriate, subject to community consultation as part of the process for a new DCP for the site. The Project can then be progressed as outlined in Section 2.6 of this report.

If Council decides not to progress a financially viable option, it needs to determine how it wishes to proceed. As outlined in Section 2.7 above, an alternative Option is Option 11(a), which achieves a civic presence on the site, including a new contemporary, larger Library, although it is not a good outcome in relation to Administrative staff accommodation.

If that Option is not supported, Council needs to give further consideration to its future requirements for the site. In that regard, it is unlikely that Council will be in a better financial position in the short to medium term to warrant retention of the site in anticipation of an ability to being able to fund the amount necessary to make the Project viable with a reduced level of development on the site.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council:

1. receive and note the report; and
2. consider the outcomes of the Feasibility Studies and the issues raised in this report and determine whether to progress development of the Marrickville Hospital site for a new Library/Civic Centre.

ATTACHMENTS: Total 117 pages

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Annexure 1: | Financial Feasibility Assessment Report – Michael Collins & Associates (MCA) (30 pages) and Assessment of Financial Feasibility Study Options (1 page) |
| Annexure 2: | Marrickville Hospital Site Urban Design Study: Analysis and Options November 2005 – Architectus (34 pages) |
| Annexure 3: | Facilities Planning & Functional Design Study Final Report October 2005 – Architectus Sydney Pty Ltd. (30 pages) |
| Annexure 4: | Marrickville Hospital Heritage Report, September 2005 – Godden Mackay Logan (22 pages) |

***GM 8 - REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION - INDEPENDENT
INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES
For Decision***

File Ref: 4577-03

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

In November 2005 (Meeting 10/05, Item GM 91), Council was advised that the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW (LGSA) had commissioned an Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of Local Government in NSW. Council has subsequently received a request to make a financial contribution to the cost of the Inquiry. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and that Council contribute the requested amount of \$2,997.50 towards the cost of the Inquiry.

Background

In November 2005 (Meeting 10/05, Item GM 91), Council was advised that the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW (LGSA) had commissioned an Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of Local Government in NSW.

At that Meeting, Council resolved to:

- “1. receive and note the report; and*
- 2. authorise the Mayor and General Manager to lodge a written submission to the Inquiry on behalf of Council.”*

Council made a submission to the Inquiry in accordance with that resolution.

Discussion

Much of the Inquiry's initial research and interviews have now been completed and the LGSA advises that an Interim Report is to be released on 28 February 2006. Councils will have the opportunity to comment on the Interim Report before the Final Report is released on 1 May 2006.

This Inquiry is a major initiative that is critical to the future of Local Government in NSW, given the growing demands for infrastructure and services and the increasing financial constraints faced by councils. The cost of the Inquiry has been finalised at \$550,000 and given the widespread importance of the Inquiry, the LGSA has resolved to seek member contributions to cover 50% of the cost of the Inquiry. Marrickville Council's share of that cost is \$2,997.50.

Director, Corporate Services reports:

Funds are available in the existing Contributions Contingency budget allocation to fund the \$2,997.50, therefore no budget adjustment is required.

***GM 8 - REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION - INDEPENDENT
INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES
For Decision***

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council contribute \$2,997,50 towards the cost of the Inquiry as requested by the LGSA.

ATTACHMENT: Total 2 pages
LGSA Request for Funding Assistance

GM 9 - PRECINCT COMMITTEES
For Decision

File Ref: 4577-03

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

Report in relation to precinct committees in accordance with Council's request for investigation of "the establishment of precinct committees as a means of providing inclusive and local representation of community interests and two-way flow between citizens and Council" as part of Council's 2004/05 Management Plan. Information is provided in relation to objectives, advantages and disadvantages of precinct committees. The report also outlines and reviews Council's current consultation mechanisms and provides information on the implications for Council in establishing precinct committees. It is recommended that Council determine whether it wishes to establish precinct committees, and if so, a Councillor Conference be held to consider options for the operation of precinct committees and a public consultation process be undertaken in relation to the options for the operation of precinct committees.

Background

1. Previous Review of Precinct Committees

Council resolved at Meeting 4/97, Item NM 3, that a report be prepared on the options for introducing a precincts system in Marrickville in light of the experience of other councils and that the report address:

- "a) participation in community consultation by people from non-English speaking backgrounds; women; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; young people; elderly people; people with disabilities; workers working non-standard hours, ie: shift workers; and*
- b) the anticipated budgetary costs to Council of the operation and administration of precinct committees or similar consultative mechanisms in Marrickville having regard to the above criteria."*

Council resolved at Meeting 5/97, Item GM 82, that all issues raised during the consultation process on the 1997/2000 Management Plan be addressed, including action to improve Council's communication/consultation policies, including the options for introducing a precincts system; and a review be undertaken of Council's Local Ethnic Affairs Policy Statement with local groups to discuss how Council can best relate to people from non-English speaking backgrounds.

A report was presented to Council at Meeting 7/97, Item GM 108, proposing that a comprehensive review be undertaken of Council's community consultation processes. Council adopted terms of reference for the review and resolved that a Councillor Conference be held on the results of the review; and that a draft model for community consultation for Marrickville Council then be submitted to Council.

GM 9 - PRECINCT COMMITTEES
For Decision

A report on the review of community consultation and of the effectiveness of introducing a system of precinct committees or similar bodies for consulting with the various sectors of the Marrickville Community was presented to Council Meeting 2/98, Item GM 22. The report included a comprehensive assessment of four broad options:

- i) introduce a system of precinct committees;
- ii) build on Council's existing system of advisory committees;
- iii) improve the existing system of (ongoing) consultations on major issues; and
- iv) improve mechanisms for communicating issues to the community;

using three criteria:

- **representativeness** - how well the approach captures the views of all members of the community and includes them in the decision-making process.
- **inclusiveness** - how well the approach involves the community in the range of decision-making matters – from broad planning and policy development to decisions on single issues, projects and services.
 - how well it builds informed participation in community affairs, as well as input and advice on single issues; and
 - how well it engages the community as citizens and helps to 'empower' them to identify, own and solve issues for the overall good of the community.
- **effectiveness** - how successful the approach is in engendering real community involvement and making best use of (limited) Council resources.

In relation to the effectiveness of precinct committees, the report concluded that "*a system of precinct committees would involve a considerable cost for a methodology that:*

- *discriminates against the involvement of many sectors of Marrickville's community;*
- *focuses largely on local issues and can lead to decision-making motivated solely by self interest;*
- *provides opportunities for advisory input but not true participation in community affairs;*
- *can lead to heightened levels of (unconstructive) conflict rather than the reaching of common ground; and*
- *does not clearly have as an outcome the building of community trust, confidence and tolerance - elements which are an important part of Council's vision for Marrickville."*

GM 9 - PRECINCT COMMITTEES
For Decision

In relation to the existing system of Advisory Committees, the report concluded that the committees provide an important ongoing means of ensuring diverse input into decision making and that there were a number of ways to build on them including reviewing their terms of reference; improving liaison between the committees and the Council; supporting the committees in developing broader networks; assessing initiatives to involve community members in a range of decision-making processes; and extension of the Working Group approach to other community programs and projects. The report provided comprehensive information in relation to best practice for consulting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; people from non-English speaking backgrounds; young people; people with a disability; older people; women; and others working non-standard hours. A summary of key factors in consulting processes for those different sectors is attached as **ANNEXURE C**.

In relation to improving mechanisms for communication of community issues, the report identified mechanisms for consideration by Council in the future, including focus groups and meetings between Council officers and users of services.

The report concluded that *“despite the documented benefits of precinct committees in other local government areas, this system of consultation would be inappropriate in providing for the best participation of all members of Marrickville's diverse community. Other mechanisms may be more effective in building trust, confidence and two-way communication with different sectors of the community”*. The report recommended that improvements be made to the existing system of advisory committees, issue-based consultations and community communication programs; that as an integral part of improving those processes consultation be undertaken with the community on their preferred approach to consultation; and further work be undertaken on longer-term participatory approaches to consultation. Council adopted the recommendation.

2. Inclusion of Review of Precinct Committees in 2004/05

As part of its consideration of the 2004/05 Budget and Management Plan, Council resolved to make an amendment to include \$20,000 to *“investigate the establishment of precinct committees as a means of providing inclusive and local representation of community interests and two-way flow between citizens and Council”*. It was noted that the review was to be conducted in-house and the allocation of \$20,000 was for community consultation on options if Council decided to proceed with the establishment of precinct committees following the review.

Discussion

1. Precinct Committees

1.1 Precinct Committees – a definition

Precinct committees provide a forum for residents to actively participate in council decision making relevant to their area. They are organisations which are made up of members of the community from a defined geographic area or from an area of community interest. The committees meet regularly to discuss issues and give input on local issues which affect them. Most precinct committees are characterised by a formal charter and formally established meeting procedures and office bearers.

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For Decision

Most precinct committees have formal links with the council through a coordinator or other officer, although they are run by community members.

Precinct committees have been established in a number of council areas. A short questionnaire was sent by Corporate Development Section in April 2005 to 13 local councils (Coffs Harbour, Manly, Port Stephens, Newcastle, Bega Valley, Glenorchy, Onkaparinga, North Sydney, Sutherland, Waverley, Leichhardt, Sutherland and Randwick), to ask for feedback in regard to their experience with the effectiveness, workings and management of a precinct committee system (report attached at **ANNEXURE A**). Information and findings from a report into precinct committees prepared by Kempsey Shire Council in 2004 was also used in developing this report (report attached at **ANNEXURE B**). This feedback and information was used in preparing this report.

1.2 Objectives of Precinct Committees

Objectives of precinct committees include but are not limited to:

- maintaining open and accountable government;
- promoting good working partnerships between council and the community;
- providing a forum for the community to discuss issues affecting their local area;
- establishing a two-way flow of communication and exchanging of views;
- encouraging citizens to be actively involved in planning, decision making and managing of their local area; and
- being used as a forum for local area consultations.

1.3 Summary of advantages and disadvantages of precinct committees

The advantages and disadvantages of precinct committee systems were drawn from available information, the feedback to Council's questionnaire and from information contained in the Kempsey Shire Council report. These are as follows:

Advantages

- building of social capital and positive interaction between citizens and their local area;
- provides citizens with skills development in regard to leadership and committee processes and procedures;
- good source of community opinion on local issues;
- good conduit for flow of information between council and citizens;
- good mechanism for council to get feedback on plans and projects;
- encourages involvement in the decision making process; and
- good public relations strategy for council.

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For Decision

Disadvantages

- not usually representative of diverse (culturally, linguistically or socially) community groups - more mainstream;
- time and resource demand on council officers;
- can become a forum for special interest groups - political stands, eg: local interest pressure groups motivated by sole aim of stopping certain types of development rather than seeking common ground or compromise;
- the involvement of the same people long term can result in single/same issue/narrow range and local issues focus;
- number of participants can be small and therefore claims that they represent an 'area' not realistic; and
- participants may tend to think 'locally' only and not of whole of area impacts.

1.4 Operation of Precinct Committees

1.4.1 Community representation

Each precinct committee is formed with the objective of being a reflection of the community which it represents. Information reviewed and feedback received indicates that there are usually two methods for establishing eligibility to become a member of a committee. These are as follows:

- open to all citizens of the community over 18 years of age (includes property owners who live in the area, property owners who live outside the area, renters and business owners); or
- have a set number of citizens appointed by council from responses to an advertisement calling for Expressions of Interest.

1.4.2 Type of information referred to precinct committees

The following issues are generally referred to precinct committees for comment and discussion:

- major development applications, building applications, traffic management and landscaping works;
- draft development control plans, draft strategic or management plans, draft local environmental plans and council policies;
- proposed improvements or alteration to usage of public open space;
- changes to local services; and
- community services and local events.

1.4.3 Other operational features

- most precinct committees meet on a monthly basis. In fewer cases, meetings are held every two months or quarterly;
- most precinct committees are either responsible for their own operation in accordance with a constitution, or operate in accordance with the council's guidelines and constitution; and

GM 9 - PRECINCT COMMITTEES
For Decision

- office bearers are usually elected from the floor at an Annual General Meeting. These may include President/Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

1.4.4 Council and council officer involvement with precinct committees

The involvement of councillors and/or council officers varies from one precinct committee system to another. The most common scenario (detailed in the responses from local councils contacted for Council's precinct committee survey and the Kempsey Shire Council report), is councillors and council officers being invited to attend meetings by the committee on an issue by issue basis. Less common scenarios included:

- councillors and council officers participating as members of the committee in their capacity as a resident of the area (like any other precinct committee member they would apply to join and have the same voting rights);
- attending as a designated member of the committee; or
- attending as a matter of interest but with no voting rights.

The level of involvement from councillors and/or council officers is addressed in the terms of reference for the particular precinct committee system.

Comments and recommendations of the Precinct committees are forwarded to the council and are considered as part of the decision-making process.

1.4.5 Council Resources

Council support to Precinct Committees varies but may include:

- a designated staff member/s to assist with the operation of the committees;
- in kind support to ensure effective operation;
- a cash contribution for administration, operation and out of pocket expenses;
- training for committee members;
- marketing assistance;
- provision of advice;
- access to senior staff or Councillors to address meetings as necessary;
- maintenance of a mailing list and distribution of business papers to committees;
- the conduct of briefings for committee officers on Council initiatives and major projects; and
- no financial support.

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2. Council's Existing Consultation Mechanisms

Advisory Committees

Council has established a broad range of advisory committees, including those representing the different sectors of the community and those dealing with specific issue areas. Current advisory committees with Councillor representation are:

- Marrickville Access Committee;
- Youth Council;
- Aboriginal Consultative Committee;
- Marrickville Ethnic Communities Committee;
- GLL@M: Gay and Lesbian Community Liaison Committee;
- Mainstreet Committees (Marrickville, Petersham, Dulwich Hill and Newtown);
- Heritage Promotions Committee;
- Local Traffic, Planning and Advisory Committee;
- Safety in Marrickville Committee;
- Sister Cities Community Committee
- Debbie and Abbey Borgia Community Recreation Centre Advisory Committee;
- Marrickville Transportation Committee;
- Watershed Committee;
- Marrickville Cooks River Committee; and
- Bicycle Technical Advisory Sub-Committee.

Council has also an Aged Services Committee and Seniors Reference Group.

The use of these advisory committees has a number of benefits including: a degree of representation of the various sectors of our community in Council decision-making; the involvement of the community in setting the agenda of issues to be considered by Council; an ongoing relationship with our community; and the opportunity for two-way communication including the opportunity for Council to disseminate information on a variety of issues.

Citizens' Panel

Council established a Citizens' Panel in late 2002. The Marrickville Citizens' Panel is a group of approximately 320 members selected from across the LGA. The Panel is used to test public opinion on significant and topical matters and obtain community input on policy and planning issues. It can also be used to help assess the quality of our project work and programs.

Its makeup mirrors the demographics of the LGA and panel members' opinions were tested against the annual community survey results in 2002 to ensure it is representative of the community as a whole. Corporate Development is currently working on increasing the numbers back to the original base of 400 with an emphasis on recruiting members from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

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For Decision

Ongoing Consultations on Issues

Council has established formal processes for consulting the community on:

- building and development;
- park, plans of management and concept designs;
- strategic plans;
- infrastructure projects; and
- traffic plans.

Council continues to make these consultations more accessible to the community or those citizens affected by the proposals through letters, signage, surveys, draft master plans, consultation notifications, and extensive use of our website.

One such example is the *Marrickville Plan – what future do you see?* public consultation program. Council is currently undertaking an extensive community consultation phase for the future planning of Marrickville. This includes: the production and distribution of information (and feedback) brochures to every household in the LGA; distribution of brochures at points of contact such as festivals, childcare centres, libraries, train stations and local shops; detailed website information; telephone feedback lines; public meetings and focus groups.

Consultation via the website

Council has established an extensive consultation mechanism on its website. This includes the following opportunities for citizens:

- *Have Your Say* sub site including links to all current consultation being undertaken in many sections including parks, building and development and community development;
- Citizen Satisfaction Surveys;
- Management Plan consultation; and
- any one-off consultation activities for a variety of plans and projects such as the Recreation Plan or Safety Plan.

3. Assessment of Proposal for introduction of Precinct Committees

It is considered that a variety of community consultation and communication mechanisms is needed to ensure that the views of all sectors of the Marrickville community are included in decision making.

In considering whether to introduce precinct committees, Council needs to consider whether their introduction will enhance and complement the current consultation and communication framework and whether that benefit warrants the cost of resourcing them, which will vary depending on the model of operation adopted for the precinct committees.

In that regard, as outlined in Section 1.3 of this report, there are a number of benefits in establishing precinct committees, however there are also some disadvantages.

GM 9 - PRECINCT COMMITTEES
For Decision

In the previous report to Council, it was noted that it is often argued that precinct committees and similar bodies fail to adequately represent the local communities in which they are established, particularly those communities that are linguistically, culturally or socially diverse. Feedback received in response to Council's questionnaire suggests that, in the experience of the responding councils, precinct committees are not effective in reaching the range of sectors in the community. It was also noted in the previous report that it can be argued that "institutionalised" participatory programs fail to represent "ordinary" people and only increase the opportunities for a small, well-educated and articulate group to have its influence felt and that precinct committees may prove restrictive to many of our community groups including:

- young people – who do not like the formality of the operation of precinct committees;
- older people and people with access issues – who may find the night time schedule of meetings restrictive; and
- people from a non-English speaking background – who may not find the format of the meetings conducive to articulating their views and who may require translators for dialogue and the comprehension of the written information (expensive and difficult to coordinate).

Those issues need to be assessed by Council in determining whether to introduce precinct committees and, if so, their method of operation.

In relation to options for administrative arrangements and Council's resource commitment, the resource implication for Council depends on the level of input Council has in the formation and management of a precinct committee system. This can range from minimal (where Council allocates an annual sum for printing and mailing costs) to significant input (where Council establishes and manages all precinct committees). The latter is the most common scenario with all of the councils which responded to Council's questionnaire having dedicated staff member/s to manage the precinct committee system in the form of a Forum Coordinator, Consultation Coordinator or similar position/s. Information included as part of the Kempsey Shire Council report also supports that approach.

The cost for staffing the management of a precinct committee system is dependent on the number of positions allocated to the program and the basis of that employment (full time or part time). Information gathered from the precinct committee questionnaire includes the financial detail for the following councils:

- Glenorchy Council - \$190,000 budget for the employment of two full time and one part time officer and associated costs such as printing; and
- Newcastle City Council - \$143,000 budget for the employment of one full time and one part timer officer plus associated costs such as printing.

Based on this information, the anticipated cost of staffing and running costs of a precinct committee program would be in the vicinity of a minimum of \$100,000 if there was one staff member to service the committees.

GM 9 - PRECINCT COMMITTEES
For Decision

If Council wishes to pursue the proposal, a community consultation process could be undertaken on operational options to assist in determining the precinct committee framework, as provided for in the 2004/05 Budget allocation of \$20,000, which has been re-voted into the current year's Budget. It may be appropriate for a Councillor Conference to be held to assist in developing options for consideration in the community consultation process. Another available option following the community consultation process is to implement a precinct committee trial for a set period in one defined area to test the effectiveness, appropriateness, resource implications and cost of introducing a precinct committee system and for Council to consider the outcomes.

If Council does not wish to pursue the introduction of a precinct committee system, further work can be undertaken on the existing consultation mechanisms and community consultation strategies including:

- more extensive use of the Citizens' Panel across the organisation to give Council a body of data of community views on a range of subjects and be available for staff to examine. The Panel can also be used to seek out people interested in attending and participating in public meetings, workshops and community programs;
- addressing any gaps that may exist in Council's advisory committees, to make them more representative of Marrickville's community;
- greater use of Council's diverse range of advisory committees by Council and ensuring that matters are referred to these committees on a routine basis; and
- increasing the informed participation of citizens in a range of decision-making processes by providing them with communication that details the role and functions of Council, and the current issues being faced by the community, such as the "*Marrickville Plan: what future do you see?*" Community Discussion Paper.

Conclusion

The case for introducing precinct committees is not overwhelming due to Council's existing strong system of community advisory committees and consultation mechanisms, and the culturally and linguistically diverse nature of the Marrickville community.

It is recommended that Council consider the information provided in this report and determine if it wishes to proceed with the proposal. If so, a proposed community consultation process will be developed. It is proposed that a Councillor Conference also be held to assist in developing options for the operation of precinct committees to be the subject of the community consultation process; and that a community consultation process be undertaken in relation to options for the operation of precinct committees, with a further report to be presented to Council on the outcomes of that process.

GM 9 - PRECINCT COMMITTEES
For Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Council determine whether it wishes to proceed with the proposal to introduce precinct committees; and
3. if Council decides to proceed with the proposal:
 - a) a Councillor Conference be held in relation to the development of options for the operation of precinct committees;
 - b) a public consultation process be undertaken in relation to options for the operation of those precinct committees; and
 - c) a further report be presented to Council on the outcomes of the public consultation process.

ATTACHMENTS: Total 10 pages

- A. Marrickville Council Precinct Committee Questionnaire Summary 2005 (3 pages)
- B. Precinct Committee Kempsey Shire Council 2004 (6 pages)
- C. Summary of Key Factors in Consultation Processes to different sectors of the community. (Reproduced from Council Meeting 2/98, Item GM 22) (1 page)

GM 10 - DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST BY STAFF
For Decision

File Ref: 4325-02

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

The report provides for the tabling of Disclosure of Interest Returns lodged by new Designated Persons in accordance with s450A of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It is recommended that the report be received and noted.

Discussion

Section 449(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires that “a councillor or designated person must complete and lodge with the General Manager, within 3 months after becoming a councillor or designated person, a return in the form in Part 1 of Schedule 3.”

Section 450A of the Act requires that Disclosure of Interest Returns lodged by Councillors and Designated Persons within the 3 month period, are to be tabled at the next available Council meeting after lodgement.

A ‘designated person’ is described in Section 441 of the Act and includes the General Manager, other Senior Staff of the Council and persons who hold a position identified by the Council as the position involves the exercise of functions under the Act, or any other Act, that in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the person’s duty as a member of staff or delegate and the person’s private interest. The relevant staff positions were adopted by Council in Policy AS 1. The General Manager also has delegated authority under Clause 6 of the General Manager’s Delegations 2005 to further determine appropriate staff positions.

The following ‘designated persons’, being new members of staff, have submitted a return which is **TABLED** for information pursuant to the Act:

- Bianca Lewis
- Nick Murphie

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report be received and noted.

***GM 11 - PETITIONS RECEIVED - DECEMBER 2005/JANUARY 2006
For Decision***

File Ref: 4577-03

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

This report outlines the petitions received by Council during the period 6 December 2005 to 13 February 2006. It is recommended that the report be received and noted.

Discussion

The procedure for handling petitions requires all petitions to be tabled at a Council meeting.

The following petition was received during the period 6 December 2005 to 13 February 2006 and referred to the appropriate Division for attention:

1. from 97 people requesting that the gates of the Henson Park Oval be locked at 9pm every night.

This petition is TABLED for the information of Council. The status of this petition will be reported to the relevant committee of Council in the Director's monthly Outstanding Reports, Conferences and Petitions report.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report be received and noted.

***GM 12 - COUNCILLORS' ACCESS TO INFORMATION
For Decision***

File Ref: 4015-04

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

This report outlines requests for access to Council information by Councillors during the period 6 December 2005 and 13 February 2006. It is recommended that the report be received and noted.

Background

Councillors' Access to Information Policy (AS 11) provides a framework for Councillors to access Council information necessary for them to exercise their statutory role as a member of the governing body of Council.

The policy provides in clause 10.6 that the "General Manager is to report monthly to Council in relation to Councillor requests for information, including the nature of the information requested, whether access was provided and, if access was refused or restricted, the reasons for the determination, and any other information considered appropriate."

The policy also provides, in clause 13, that an annual review be carried out with a report to Council. The next review is due in July 2006. It will be based on the collation of data from this and other monthly reports.

Council is advised that there were no access to information requests from Councillors during the period 6 December 2005 to 13 February 2006.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report be received and noted.

**GM 13 - OUTSTANDING CONFERENCES AND REPORTS REQUESTED
BY COUNCILLORS
For Decision**

File Ref: 4577-03

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

A progress report on all outstanding conferences and reports requested by Council in respect of the General Manager and Corporate Development Section, with a note on the current

A. Outstanding Conferences

There are no Outstanding Conferences at this time.

B. Outstanding Reports

There are no Outstanding Reports at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report be received and noted.

***GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

File Ref: 1493

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

Report in relation to options for the upgrade of Council's Aquatic Facilities, following the second round of community consultation during December and January. The report provides background information in relation to studies which examined the long-term future of Council's Aquatic Facilities. Those studies identified the need to upgrade the pools to address major concerns in relation to their structural condition, water delivery and water handling facilities, which are limiting their likely useful life; and opportunities to upgrade the facilities in a way that improves their capacity to meet the aquatic and leisure needs of the Marrickville community. Information is provided in relation to the Aquatic Leisure Facilities Study 2004 and the two rounds of community consultation undertaken in relation to the Aquatics Upgrading Package for Enmore and Petersham Pools and the Waterplay Park at Marrickville South, totalling \$13.62m, which was adopted by Council in its Major Projects Resources Plan as part of the 2005/06 Budget. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and Council adopt the Aquatic Upgrading Package which was subject of the community consultation process and that the projects proceed as outlined in the Recommendation.

Background

1. Introduction

Marrickville Council currently operates two swimming pools which are recognised as an important part of Marrickville community life, the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre (Enmore Pool) and the Fanny Durack Pool (Petersham Pool), both constructed in the early 1960s.

Petersham Pool is an outdoor facility located in Petersham Park, Station Street, Petersham. The facility consists of a 33m 6 lane wide heated outdoor pool and a separate toddler's pool and is open from October to March each year. Enmore Pool is located in Enmore Park, Black Street, Enmore. It consists of a 33m 6 lane wide heated indoor pool and separate toddler's pool located outdoors and operates twelve months of the year. Both facilities were originally unheated outdoor pools. However in 1990, Council enclosed and heated Enmore Pool and in 2001 decided to heat Petersham Pool.

A third pool, the Greg Pierce Pool in Marrickville, built in the early 1960s, was also operated by Marrickville Council until 1994. This pool was closed due to structural problems caused by settlement of the site. The site is now the newly refurbished McNeilly Park.

From the 1960s up until 2000, Council managed the pools directly through an in-house arrangement. However, in the 1990s the facilities operated at a net loss of approximately \$400,000 per annum and there was an identified need to improve the financial, facility and service management of Council's pools. As a result, it was decided in 2000 to tender for a specialised aquatic management provider to ensure that high quality, efficient and responsive aquatic services were provided and from October 2000 onwards both the Fanny Durack and the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre have been operated on behalf of Council under a management agreement by

***GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
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Pamstream Aquatic and Leisure Management. A report on the proposed future management of Council's Aquatic Facilities is also on this Business Paper.

While the pools continue to meet the needs of the local community, it is recognised that the age and condition of the facilities significantly restricts the range of uses which can be made of them. In addition, recreation interests and needs have changed significantly over recent years and alternative indoor venues have been developed elsewhere in the local area and across Sydney. Further, the structure and mix of the community has altered and its health and leisure needs have changed.

Increasingly, aquatic programs are being seen as very important in meeting the needs of a wide range of the community. These programs include sports and sports competitions, accident rehabilitation, physiotherapy, sports training and injury rehabilitation, healthy lifestyle exercise programs for people with disabilities, the aged and the frail, social programs for young people, families, the aged and others. This wide range of functionality needs to be considered when planning for the future needs and aspirations of the diverse Marrickville community in the next decade.

2. Condition of Pools

Council has previously undertaken a number of studies to examine the long term future of aquatic leisure facilities in Marrickville, as follows:

- 1995 – a strategic review of the aquatic facility provisions for Marrickville by LRM Australia Pty Ltd;
- 1996 – feasibility study for the redevelopment of Enmore Pool by LRM Australia Pty Ltd; and
- 1998 – review of swimming pool development options by Thompson Tregear Pty Ltd.

The studies recognised the deteriorating condition of the pools and noted that declining attendances and continuing high deficits were symptomatic of the failure of the facilities to meet market demands, particularly due to the outdoor nature of Petersham Pool; programming restrictions from the design and size of water area; and ageing support facilities such as change rooms, catering and administration, which are not at the standard necessary for effective operation.

The studies recommended the upgrading of Enmore Pool to address structural problems to meet unsatisfied elements for contemporary aquatic services and facilities through an integrated wet/dry leisure centre and reduce ongoing operating costs; and the maintenance of Petersham Pool at a level to maintain appropriate health and safety standards.

In view of the high capital cost, Council did not pursue major upgrading of the pools. Further concerns about the ageing facilities, particularly the structural condition of the pools and about water treatment, led the Council in 2003 to seek advice from Aquatic Engineering Consultants, Ninnes Fong and Partners about the condition of the pool structure, the water delivery and water handling facilities and their likely useful life, for both of the Marrickville pools. This report concluded that the technical upgrading proposals for both venues, which had been made in various

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1990s reports, would not now be sufficient to guarantee the continued availability of the pools and that Council would have to either replace the existing facilities or provide a totally new venue.

It was concluded that:

- structurally both facilities have a maximum life expectancy of 10 years for the pool shells and balance tanks;
- the filter cells have a slightly longer life expectancy of 10-15 years; and
- the pool surface, ie: tiles, was considered to be in poor condition with a recommendation that at both facilities the main pool be resurfaced (before requiring major repairs) within 2 years (2005) and the toddler's pool within 4 years (2007).

In summary, Geoff Ninnes Fong recommended that the following works needed to be completed at both pools:

- upgrading of toddlers' pools to current NSW Health Department Guidelines;
- retiling of toddlers' pools;
- upgrading of filtration systems, balance tanks, pipes and gutters; and
- retiling of main pools and repair of joints.

The need to immediately address structural concerns was recognised by Council and funds were allocated to undertake major works to improve the pools. In 2003 and 2004 works undertaken included:

- significant structural repairs to the pool hall building at the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre at a cost of around \$380,000;
- replacing heat pumps at the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre at a cost of around \$60,000; and
- repairs to pathways and concourses at around \$35,000.

The Resources Plan for 2004/05 included \$300,000 for the separation of the filtration system at Fanny Durack Pool and \$50,000 for repair of joints at the pool. Those works haven't been undertaken to date pending the outcome of the 2004 Aquatic Leisure Feasibility Study.

3. The 2004 Aquatic Leisure Feasibility Study

A budget of \$60,000 was set aside in the 2003/04 Resources Plan to engage consultants to undertake an Aquatic Leisure Feasibility Study. Council commissioned the Study by HM Leisure Planning, C Leisure and Prior and Cheney Architects to assess the aquatic leisure facility needs of the Marrickville community, both now and into the future. The Study considered the demographics of the community, included extensive community consultation and examined the existing aquatic facilities, both in Marrickville and the surrounding region. The Study aimed to provide Council and the community with a sound indication of how the current and future needs of the community can be met.

The issues assessed in the Study included:

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- reviewing the existing aquatic leisure facilities in Marrickville and the surrounding region;
- looking at how the Marrickville community is likely to change over time and what needs to be done to meet both the current and future aquatic and leisure needs of the community;
- finding out what aquatic leisure facilities and services the Marrickville community believes are important to the community;
- looking at trends in aquatics and leisure and how community expectations impact on the provision of facilities, programs and services; and
- identifying if new or redeveloped aquatic facilities are required for the Marrickville community.

A Councillor Conference was held on 3 May 2004 to outline the scope of the project and seek comments from Councillors regarding the proposed first phase of the community consultation. Consultation then occurred throughout June and July 2004. The Consultants collated the outcomes from the consultation and identified preliminary future options.

The second Councillor Conference was held on 11 August 2004 to discuss the outcomes from the initial community consultation process and preliminary options for the future development of aquatic leisure facilities in the Marrickville LGA. In September 2004, following discussion with Councillors, the scope of the brief was altered to include options for an aquatic facility at costs of \$5, \$10, \$15 and \$20 million.

A Councillor tour was undertaken on 6 September 2004 of three of the key facilities within a 10km radius of Marrickville. This included Leichhardt, Ashfield and Hurstville Aquatic Centres.

In December 2004, the Consultants produced their final report based on extensive research and consultation. The key findings are outlined below.

Key Findings of the Research

The key findings of the Consultants' report can be summarised as follows:

- The physical condition of both pools is poor, with short future life spans of less than 10 years according to the 2003 Ninnes Fong Study and there is a threat of failure of the pool tanks, which would result in pool closure.
- Use of the pools is discouraged by their length of 33 metres, which does not meet FINA 25 and/or 50 metre standard; depths; disability access; lack of water space; lack of complementary dry leisure facilities; poor use of parkland settings; amenities; lack of seating; water treatment capacities; and the seasonal nature of Petersham Pool.
- There was a general consensus in the community that the existing facilities were outdated and needed to be upgraded to attract usage. There are large sectors of the Marrickville community who do not and cannot use the pools at all as their characteristics, facilities, services and temperatures are inappropriate to their needs. Further, the community consultation program, and even user surveys at the existing pools, showed that many residents are using facilities in surrounding Councils.

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- Future aquatic provision in Marrickville must provide for formal and informal aquatic pursuits, dry health and fitness activities, indoor and outdoor settings, play and informal social opportunities if it is to be relevant to the changed make-up of the Marrickville community. The provision must also ensure access to people of all abilities and cultures and have an extensive programming regime.
- New aquatic facilities should include multi-purpose water spaces providing children's pools, warm water program/secondary hydrotherapy pool, indoor leisure pool, indoor water play, lap pool, learn to swim pool, outdoor water play, spa/sauna and waterslides or whirlpool.
- A site of 12,000-15,000 square metres or 0.2 to 1.5 hectares is necessary to accommodate the ideal mix of facilities and its associated parking and other services and to provide for future additions.
- The process of site analysis has led to the conclusion and recommendation that the preferred location for a new aquatic leisure centre in Marrickville would be on the site of the existing pool complex at Enmore Park. Of 19 sites assessed, no others were found to be suitable in terms of size, accessibility and centrality for Marrickville residents, site ownership or existing uses. The only other sites discussed as possibilities arising from the assessment were Henson Park and Wilkins Primary School. Subsequent design modelling undertaken indicated that the development of a new, replacement centre on Enmore Park could be achieved within the current space requirement or a small increase in space.
- The capital costs for a new Enmore Aquatic Leisure Centre with all the recommended components was \$13.66m. (This compares with the \$8.8m of works which was defined as being needed in 1996).
- While the Petersham Pool tank will need to be replaced within the next ten years, the wider community needs will be met through the actions recommended at the Enmore Pool, therefore works at Petersham Pool should be delayed until the major initiatives at Enmore have been completed.
- In the course of the community consultations conducted during the study, the issue of whether Marrickville needed a third pool in the South Marrickville area was raised on several occasions. Rather than build a third pool, it is recommended that Council initiate development of an outdoor, summer-only water play park in the southern part of the Local Government Area (LGA), to provide a far more appropriate, attractive and unique facility in the southern part of Marrickville at a cost which would be one-twentieth of a new indoor pool. It is further recommended that Marrickville Council assess the longer term opportunities for partnering Rockdale Council or other agencies in the development of a (potentially more regional) pool which has good accessibility to residents in the southern part of Marrickville.

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- A 50m pool was not recommended as it is considered to be a more specialist facility which generally attracts a comparatively small local market. It was noted that to be viable, it would need to attract higher overall use and regional use from a market which already has a high level of provision of these facilities and that this would mean that it would be financially marginal at best. It was also noted that provision of a 50m pool would have to be complemented by a 25m pool if needs were to be effectively met and if the 50m pool was to be kept free for 50m use such as lap swimming. The cost of a 50m pool would also be expensive:
 - an outdoor 50m pool would cost approximately \$2.7m compared with \$1.8m for a 25m pool; and
 - an indoor 50m pool would cost \$5.8 m as opposed to \$3.7m for an indoor 25m pool;and the additional expenditure of \$0.9m to \$2.1m “would be spent to the detriment of other greater needs”. It was also noted that a 50m pool has a very large footprint and that no site in Marrickville could accommodate that size of the facility without significant impact on the site used.
- Five possible options for the upgrade of the aquatic facilities was presented for Councillors’ further consideration, as requested at the Councillor Conference, including retaining the existing facilities and new facilities at a cost of \$5m, \$10m, \$15m and \$20m.

4. Allocation of Funds for Aquatic Upgrades in Council’s Major Projects Financial Plan in 2005/06 Budget

Further consideration was given by Councillors to the Aquatic Upgrades as part of the process to develop Council’s Major Projects Financial Plan and 2005/06 Budget.

At the Councillor Conferences on 12, 13 and 31 March 2005, a briefing paper was presented providing information in relation to the need to upgrade the pools to address structural problems and the findings of the Aquatic Leisure Feasibility Study December 2004, as outlined in Section 3 of the Background to this report. Councillors considered two options:

1. a minimalist approach to address structural problems - \$6m; and
2. an optimal mix of investment in aquatic leisure facilities, which was considered affordable in the context of the financial model, which included:
 - modernising the Petersham facility including replacing the existing pools and supporting plant, ensuring reticulation rates meet health standards, refurbishing the 40 year old shower, toilet and change rooms, installing some basic shade structures and improving the café and timber decking area bridging the pool area with the larger Petersham Park in which it is set (\$3m);

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- redeveloping the Enmore facility to provide a 25m 8 lane indoor pool, 10m x 15m warm program pool, an indoor waterplay area, concourse space for groups, standard and specialist change rooms, multi-purpose health and fitness and programmed use spaces, an indoor crèche (14 children), an outdoor children's dry play area, sunshading, timber decking, lawn and BBQ areas, a café, a foyer with circulation area and office space (\$10m); and
- investigating the establishment of a waterplay park in the Marrickville South area at an estimated cost of \$620,000.

In relation to Option 2, it was noted that total funding of \$13.62m will be required to complete all elements.

Councillors were advised that it was proposed to fund the aquatics upgrading work through a Special Rate Levy subject to the Minister's approval. The financial model put forward at the Conference on 31 March 2005 proposed funding the works totalling \$13.62m by a 5% Special Rate Levy over 10 years, with the proceeds being applied to fund both internal and external borrowings.

Councillors requested that further information be provided to them on other options for upgrading, including indicative costings; and options for reduced Special Rate Levy percentages over 15 years to fund the works.

In Councillor Briefing Paper Number 10, Councillors were provided with costings for two sets of options for the Enmore facility, together with costings for the Petersham upgrade and the waterplay park. Upgrade costs for the Enmore facility were separately identified – firstly, based on re-use of the existing lap pool and pool hall; and secondly, based on its demolition and re-siting. Within each option, an optimal solution, together with a low cost solution, was costed.

In summary the following options were presented:

- Enmore Pool – use of the existing pool and extending the existing pool hall, with the works previously proposed (\$9.2m); and with a reduced scope of works, which does not provide for health and fitness or indoor waterplay (\$6m);
- Enmore Pool – new site – use an alternate footprint incorporating the existing one but not protruding into the centre of the park (\$10.4m); and a reduced scope of works, which does not provide for health and fitness or indoor waterplay (\$7.6m);
- Petersham Pool – option including new 25m pool, program pool, change room refurbishment, café, and associated works (\$2.95m); and
- Waterplay Park at Marrickville South (\$630,000).

Councillors were also provided, in Councillor Briefing Paper Number 11, with a model of the lowest percentage Special Rate Levy over 15 years, which was 3.5% and could fund the \$13.6m upgrading works.

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At its meeting 03/05 on 19 April 2005, Council adopted the 2005/08 Draft Management Plan and 2005/06 Draft Budget for public exhibition and resolved to apply to the Minister for a Special Rate variation of 3.5% to be retained for 15 years "to fund Major Projects", principally the aquatic facilities upgrade. In consulting with the community on the Draft Management Plan and Budget, it was stated in relation to the Major Projects package, that Council would undertake a comprehensive process of review and community consultation and a financial viability assessment before a decision would be taken to proceed and before determining the final form of each project.

A Special Rate Variation application was made to the Minister on 2 June 2005 which was subsequently approved by the Minister on 20 June 2005 to fund "the costs associated with the upgrade and creation of aquatic facilities".

At its meeting on 21 June 2005 (No. 05/05 – Item GM 42), Council approved the 2005/08 Management Plan and 2005/06 Budget incorporating funding to commence work on each of the Major Projects. In relation to the Major Projects for the Aquatics Upgrade, Council was advised in the report that:

"Some respondents commented favourably on the aquatic facilities proposal while others were concerned about a possible expansion that may reduce available park space. In that regard, a number of respondents referred to a leaflet that had been distributed in the Enmore Park area referring to a proposal for a 'super aquatic centre' and expressed concern about such a proposal."

The 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan provides for a funding allocation of \$13.62m, funded by a 3.5% Special Rate Levy over 15 years, as follows:

	\$
Enmore Pool	10,000,000
Petersham Pool	3,000,000
Waterplay Park	620,000
Total	13,620,000

with the funding projection being as follows:

	\$
2005/06	1,620,000
2006/07	9,000,000
2007/08	3,000,000
	13,620,000

5. Further Development of Aquatics Upgrade Options

Council considered a report on the Major Projects (GM 62) at its meeting on 16 August 2005. In relation to the aquatics upgrade, Council was advised of the proposals funded in the 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan and the background to that decision, including the options provided to Councillors for consideration as part of the Budget Process in Councillor Briefing Paper No. 10. In that report, it was recommended that a Councillor Conference with the Consultants be arranged during September to review the current aquatics options. It was stated that:

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"It is expected that following this Conference, Council will be in a position to determine its preferred option for the final form and cost of the aquatics proposals and be in a position to proceed to the final stage of community consultations. Council will then consider the results of the second round of consultations and make its final decision on the final form and cost and upgrading work will then commence."

In relation to GM62 Council resolved that:

"A Councillor Conference be held in relation to options for the final form and cost of aquatic facilities to be considered by Council before commencing to the final stage of community consultations; and any future report submitted to Council include information on the impact on viability of the aquatic facilities of the Leichhardt Facility Upgrade".

A further Councillor Conference consequently took place on 5 October 2005. A copy of the Aquatic Leisure Facility Feasibility Study Report 2004 was provided to all Councillors. The purpose of the meeting was to inform Councillors about the outcomes of the Study and discuss the options that have emerged from the research and community consultation undertaken to date. It was noted that the Consultants had taken into account the feedback from the first stage of consultation and developed options including appropriate upgrading works which would be the subject of the second round of the consultation process. There was discussion in relation to pool location; options for each pool; 25m versus 50m option; and waterplay park proposal, with it being noted that feedback from the second round of consultation would assist in Council's decision on those matters.

There was also discussion on the Leichhardt Aquatic Masterplan with the Consultants commenting on the impact of a number of new aquatic developments in the locality, including the Leichhardt Aquatic Master Plan and The Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre. The Consultants outlined the two stages of the Leichhardt project, Stage 1 being a \$5 million upgrade of the existing pool and Stage 2 being a \$16 million redevelopment of the site. Stage 2 includes a 400 square metre water playground, an indoor warm water pool, a deep water training pool, a water polo and diving pool, refurbishment of the 50 metre pool, improved access and landscaping works. The Consultants noted that they considered that these developments would not impact on the upgrade of community aquatic provision in Marrickville.

A report was presented to Council's November 2005 Meeting 10/05, Item GM98, in relation to the conference and the plan for the second round of community consultation, which had been developed in consultation with the Consultants. It was noted that the consultation would take place between 21 November 2005 and 16 January 2006 and include a brochure distributed to all households in the LGA, a letter to local residents in the immediate vicinity of the current pools, displays at Council facilities inviting written submissions, question and answer sessions and a public meeting, to be promoted through *Marrickville Matters*, Council's website and local media advertising.

It was also noted that the results of the second round of community consultation would be presented to the Major Projects Steering Committee and that the findings would then be presented to Council to assist in its determination of the nature and extent of the upgrading to be undertaken.

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Discussion

1. Major Projects Steering Committee – 7 February 2006

The results of the second round of community consultation were presented to the Major Projects Steering Committee at its meeting on Tuesday, 7 February 2006. At that meeting, further information was provided by the Consultants in relation to the cost of the Upgrading Options, including the Option for a 50m pool. Councillors requested further information in relation to the indicative layout site areas of the swimming pool for the New Pool 25m and 50m Option and in relation to a Waterslide proposal at Enmore Pool which was provided by Memorandum dated 10 February 2006. Information in relation to the outcomes of the second round of consultation and upgrading options is provided below.

2. Second Round of Community Consultation

2.1 Community Consultation Process

The second round of community consultation was based on the Consultants' recommended Options having regard to the outcomes of the first round of consultation, which formed the basis of Council's adopted 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan for the Aquatic Upgrades. The aim of the second round of community consultation was to ensure the maximum opportunity for feedback from the widest possible cross section of the community in relation to those proposals:

- possible wet and dry elements for an updated Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre;
- possible wet and dry elements for an updated Fanny Durack Pool; and
- a new Waterplay Park in Marrickville South.

Information provided as part of the consultation process noted the key findings of the 2004 community consultation in relation to redeveloping the aquatic facilities and advised of the allocation of \$13.6m by Council to fund the upgrading works. Feedback was sought on the ideas for aquatic facilities which are contained in the funding package and it was stated that the feedback would be considered by Council in deciding on the final form of upgrading works.

The consultation included the following:

- an article about the Aquatic Upgrade on the front cover page of the December 2005 edition of the *Marrickville Matters*, asking for community feedback. The article referred to the community consultation in 2004 and Council's Financial Plan to support a \$13m overhaul of the pools. It was noted that residents would be able to comment on ideas identified in the first round of consultation, including converting the two existing pools at Petersham and Enmore Park to 25 metre, 8 lane pools, providing new children's play areas, activity program pools, cafes and improved change rooms and the idea of a summer waterplay park in the southern part of Marrickville.

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- 30,000 brochures outlining the key proposals contained in the funding package and 3,000 questionnaires. The brochures were distributed widely, encouraging community feedback. Distribution included all households in the Marrickville LGA;
- an additional leaflet outlining the existing facilities and facilities contained in the funding package, which was prepared to clarify that the proposals involved replacing the 33m pool at both Enmore and Petersham Pool, with a 25m pool and a program pool.
- a letter and questionnaire was sent to local residents in the immediate vicinity of the current pools (500 in total);
- information and displays at Council facilities inviting written submissions and completion of the questionnaire at:
 - Fanny Durack Pool;
 - Annette Kellerman Pool;
 - Debbie and Abbey Borgia Community Recreation Centre;
 - Marrickville libraries;
 - Council's Citizen Services Centre; and
 - Marrickville Metro Shopping Centre.
- 21 question and answer sessions were held at the above venues between 28 November 2005 and 16 January 2006;
- consultation at the Marrickville South Barbeque on 1 December 2005 and at the Dulwich Hill Festival on 3 December 2005;
- a public meeting held on 12 December 2005. This included a presentation by the Study Consultants, HM Leisure Planning;
- a number of outreach services such as the Magic Yellow Bus (MYB), Meals on Wheels Services and the Library Home Services were also used to distribute information;
- advertising on local ethnic community radio stations including 2MM – Greek, SBS – Vietnamese, 2ME – Arabic and 2000FM – Chinese and Portuguese Radio;
- a number of advisory community groups were also involved, these included:
 - Marrickville Youth Council;
 - Marrickville Youth Interagency Group;
 - Marrickville Aged Services Committee;
 - Marrickville Access Committee; and
 - Marrickville Primary Principals Group.
- promotion through Council's website and local media releases.

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In total, 24 public sessions were held at venues and events across the Marrickville Local Government Area (LGA).

2.2 Community Consultation Results

The feedback from the community included 12 written comments and 838 completed Questionnaires. 822 Questionnaires were clear enough for review.

2.2.1 Questionnaire Feedback

The Questionnaire was a self-completion style which stated that Council was seeking feedback on ideas outlined in the Aquatic Facilities Upgrade Brochure and the questions asked and a summary of responses is provided below.

Q1.	Do you currently use:	Yes %	
	• Fanny Durack Pool at Petersham	411	
	• Annette Kellerman Pool at Enmore	461	
Q2.	Do you support	Yes %	No %
	(a) Upgrading of Fanny Durack Pool	663	75
	(b) Upgrading of Annette Kellerman Pool	711	37
	(c) Development of a new Waterplay Park in Marrickville South	637	75

If No to any of the three ideas listed above, why not?

Reasons for Not Supporting Upgrades	No. Respondents
Facilities are currently adequate	46
Expense is not justified	22
Will cause traffic problems, noise, pollution, etc.	11
Not a good design	10
Change will have a negative effect on the historical character	10
Pool needs to be well maintained	9
Would not use it	6
Needs to be longer	5
Other specific comments	26

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Q3.(a) Elements for Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre

Possible Wet and Dry Elements	No Respondents who said this was very important	% Respondents
Indoor 25 Metre Pool	436	53
Special needs/family changing rooms	408	50
Outdoor Parkland	386	47
Indoor water play area	356	43
Indoor program pool	325	40
Café and deck	317	39
Health & Fitness	287	35
Crèche	270	33

Mean Importance of Elements for Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre

Elements	Rank Order	Mean Rating
Indoor 25 Metre 8 Lane Pool	1	4.31
Dedicated family/special needs changing facilities	2	4.25
Outdoor Parkland	3	4.22
Indoor 15m x 10m program pool	4	4.02
Indoor water play area including shaped pools and waterslides/whirlpools	5	3.97
Café and deck	6	3.94
Health & Fitness Area	7	3.81
Crèche	8	3.73
BASE	9	822

Mean importance: Very(5); Quite(4); Average(3); Not very(2); Not(1); No answer (0)

Are there other Wet or Dry Elements you think could be provided?

This includes elements put forward by 10 or more respondents.

Element Proposed	No. Respondents suggesting this Element
Longer Pool	38
Shaded areas	25
Pool for children and babies	23
Improvements to changing rooms including lockers	23
Water sprinklers and slides	15
Aqua Vacuum Cleaner	14
Facilities allowing easy access to pool	13
Healthy choices in the café	13
BBQ area with picnic tables	12
Spa and sauna	12

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Q3(b) Elements for Fanny Durack Pool

Possible Wet and Dry Elements	No Respondents who said this was very important	% Respondents
25 Metre Pool	417	51
Special needs changing rooms	347	42
Refurbished changing rooms	329	40
Program Pool	286	35
Café	282	34
Refurbished management area	202	25

Mean Importance of Elements for Fanny Durack Pool at Petersham Park

Elements	Rank Order	Mean Rating
25 Metre 8 Lane Pool	1	4.36
Dedicated family/special needs changing facilities	2	4.19
Refurbished changing rooms	3	4.16
15m x 10m programme pool	4	3.99
Café	5	3.94
Refurbished management area	6	3.58
BASE		822

Mean importance: Very(5); Quite(4); Average(3); Not very(2); Not(1); No answer (0)

Are there any other Wet or Dry Elements you think could be provided?

This includes elements put forward by 10 or more respondents.

Element Proposed	No. Respondents suggesting this Element
Pool for kids and babies	33
Shaded areas and trees for shade	30
Longer pool	23
Parkland and BBQ area	20
Healthy choices at the café	17
Longer operating hours	15
Water features such as sprinklers	15
Heated pool	13
Better maintenance	13
Improved lockers and changing areas	10

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Q3.(c) Waterplay Park

Possible Wet and Dry Elements	No Respondents who said this was very important	% Respondents
Water playground features	353	43
Water bubblers	308	37
Splash decks	303	37
Interactive fountains	302	37
Sprinklers and soakers	297	36
Walls of water	296	36
Zero depth pools	292	36
Misty spray features	284	35
Geysers and sprayers	281	34

Mean Importance of Elements for Waterplay Park

Elements	Rank Order	Mean Rating
Water playground features	1	4.29
Water bubblers of varying heights and intensities	2	4.13
Plash pads or wet decks	3	4.11
Interactive fountains	4	4.07
Zero depth pools	5	4.07
Sprinklers and soakers	6	4.06
Geysers and sprays	7	3.96
Misty spray features	8	3.95
Walls of Water	9	3.94
BASE		822

Mean importance: Very(5); Quite(4); Average(3); Not very(2); Not(1); No answer (0)

Are there any other water features or other facilities which you think could be provided at the Waterplay Park?

This includes elements put forward by 10 or more respondents.

Element Proposed	No. Respondents suggesting this Element
Water slide	26
Toilets and changing rooms	12
Café or kiosk	11
Shaded area	11

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- Q4. If a waterplay facility was developed in the Marrickville South area, how often would you use it in the summer season?

Frequency of Use	No Respondents	% Respondents
Every day	53	6
2 or more days a week	147	18
Once a week	208	25
Once a month	99	12
Once during summer	64	8
Never	141	17
Not answered	110	13
Total	822	100

- Q.5 Any other comments regarding the Aquatic Facilities?

Issue Raised	No people who raised the issue
Need a longer or a 50 metre pool for laps and racing	33
Longer opening hours and longer season	22
Affordability	20
Improve heating/cover	20
Better maintenance	17
Use money for other things	15
Improve food in café	12
Make more family friendly	10
Good changing rooms	10
Cleaner water	9
More children's classes	8
Provide good parking area	8
Include a children's pool	7
Upgrade pools in winter months	6

- Q6. Age Group

Age Group	No Respondents	% Respondents
Under 18	132	16
18 – 35	227	28
36 – 50	335	41
50 plus	116	14

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2.2.2 Written Responses

Twelve written responses were received. Three respondents supported the upgrading proposals, while eight were not in favour. Ten respondents stated that they wanted a 50 metre pool for lap swimming. The issue of space at the deep end of the pool to dive and play away from other swimmers at the shallow end, was also mentioned, with the concern expressed that a 25m pool length would significantly constrain those spaces.

2.2.3 2005 Community Survey

Questions in relation to Council's Aquatic Facilities were also included in the recent Community Survey.

Of the 600 residents completing the survey, 29% used the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre, 24% of respondents used a pool outside Marrickville, 17% used the Fanny Durack Petersham Pool and 52% indicated that they had not used any pools in the previous 12 months. The most common reasons for using the pools were recreation swimming (53% Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre Enmore, 63% Fanny Durack Pool Petersham) and lap swimming (24% both Enmore and Petersham). Learn to Swim programs were also a significant driver with 21% of users at the Enmore facility (only 9% at Petersham). Approximately 20% of users nominated accompanying a child as a reason for attendance.

The survey asked users of pools outside the LGA their reasons for not using the local pools. Of the 24% of respondents (146/600) who used a pool outside the Marrickville LGA, 10 respondents identified 50 metre facility/ lap facility as the reason for using other facilities.

3. Aquatic Upgrading Options

3.1 Introduction

The Aquatic Leisure Facilities Study 2004 and previous studies recognised the need to undertake urgent upgrading work at Enmore and Petersham Pools and recommended that the upgrading achieve the provision of quality, contemporary, aquatic and dry health and fitness facilities to meet community needs; and ensure future financial viability in the operation of the facilities.

This need was recognised by Council in allocating \$13.62 million in the Major Projects Financial Plan and 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan for Aquatic Upgrades of Petersham and Enmore Pools, funded by the 3½% Special Rate Levy over 15 years and a new Waterplay Park in Marrickville South funded by s94 contributions.

***GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

The second round of consultation undertaken shows strong support for the upgrading of Enmore and Petersham Pools and provision of a Waterplay Park in Marrickville South, as provided for in the funding package. Comments were received in relation to other issues as outlined in the previous section of this report, including the option of a 50 metre pool instead of a 25 metre pool at Enmore Pool, which has also been discussed by Councillors. The option of providing a waterslide at Enmore Pool for use by young people has also been discussed by Councillors. Those options are assessed below.

3.2 Enmore Pool

\$10 million has been provided for Enmore Pool upgrading in the \$13.62m Aquatic Upgrade Funding Package in Council's Major Projects Financial Plan and 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan, funded by the 3½% Special Rate Levy over 15 years.

The \$10m allocation was based on options provided by the Consultants for upgrading the existing Lap Pool and Hall or building a new pool on the site, costing \$9.21m and \$6.975m (reduced scope); and \$10.413m and \$7.595m (reduced scope), respectively, which were provided to Councillors in Councillor Briefing Paper No. 10 as part of the 2005/06 Budget process. The two options which aren't of a reduced scope provide for a 25m pool; program pool; indoor waterplay; crèche and outdoor play; health and fitness; café; and foyer, circulation, offices, change rooms, sunshading and timber decking.

Those options formed the basis for the community consultation process to gain community feedback on the elements and their importance to assist Council to determine which elements to include in the upgrading.

The reduced scope options do not include health and fitness which would impact on future operational viability of the pools; do not include indoor waterplay; and involve a reduced scope of all facilities.

To assist in deciding on the upgrading options, Councillors requested:

- i) updated indicative costings on the two options for a 25m pool and a 50m pool alternative; and
- ii) information on the indicative layout site areas for the 25m pool option and the 50m pool option.

The indicative costings are shown below, together with the total site area required for each option. Indicative layouts based on a new site only are provided in **ANNEXURE 1**.

GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision

Site	Cost 25m \$	Space/ sq m **	Cost 25m Reduced \$	Cost 50m \$	Space/ sq m **	Cost 50m Reduced *
New Site	10,413,313	3,696	7,595,369	13,087,090	4,650	10,675,480
Existing Site	8,939,580		6,251,920	11,809,182		-

* Does not include Health & Fitness or Indoor Water Play. Has reduced size facilities. May not be operationally financially viable.

** Current space used by pool is 4,207 sq m.

The Consultants state that the new site options are preferred because they provide for the removal of existing assets and the building of a new facility, allowing for the best design of the layout of the Aquatic and Leisure Facility.

The Consultants' indicative layouts show that the New Site 25m Pool Option indicative cost of \$10,413m can be built in an area less than the site area of the existing pool. While the indicative cost is slightly over the allocated Budget, Council could decide to progress the option with a detailed design, community consultation and detailed costing and can assess allocation of the funds having regard to the cost of upgrading Petersham Park Pool, which has a revised estimated cost of \$2,615,624, which is \$384,376 less than the \$3m allocation in the Major Projects Resources Plan.

The New Site Reduced 25m Pool Option is also not preferred as it does not provide for health and leisure facilities, which would assist in ongoing financial viability of the centre. It also does not provide for indoor waterplay and restricts the areas available for citizen and administration amenity.

In providing the New Site Reduced 50m Option, the Consultants advised at the Steering Committee Meeting that they have costed the 50m reduced option to fit within the \$10m allocated budget but that it may not be viable financially because the health and fitness area has been reduced by 300 sq m to 300 sq m and the space allocated to facilities, including change rooms, foyer, circulation offices and café have been significantly reduced, impacting on amenity.

The New Site 50m Pool Option indicative cost is \$13.087m, which is significantly over Council's allocated budget of \$10m. The Consultants have advised that the additional operating cost of providing a 50m pool rather than a 25m pool, is \$150,000pa, with little or no likely offset in additional attendance and income; and that they do not recommend that Option. If Council decides to proceed with that Option, it will need to fund the additional amount from the Property Reserve as it cannot be funded from the 3½% Special Rate Levy. That would reduce the funding allocations from the Reserve to other Major Projects (new Library/Civic Centre - \$18m and new Childcare Centre - \$2m). The financial plan for the operation of the new Centre, prepared by the Consultants, will also need to be reviewed to take account of the annual additional operating expenditure.

GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision

As outlined in Section 2.2.1 in relation to the outcomes of the second round of community consultation, there was generally very positive community support for the proposed upgrading package of elements for Enmore Pool. A small number of respondents (38) stated that a longer pool was needed and 10 respondents providing written comment also supported a 50m pool. In that regard, there was comment that there was overcrowding and that reducing the pool to 25m would make overcrowding worse. It is unclear whether those respondents are aware that the proposal involves adding two lanes to the 25m pool and building an additional 15m x 10m program pool which will increase the total water space and free up water space for lap swimmers.

In considering the outcomes of the community feedback and whether to allocate an additional \$3m to fund a 50m pool rather than a 25m pool, Council needs to weigh up the community benefit, not only in terms of aquatic and leisure needs, but also in relation to whether that decision will adversely impact on Council's ability to fund a new Library; and whether the additional annual operating costs of the 50m pool will adversely impact on future financial viability of the Pool.

3.3 Petersham Pool

The proposed upgrading of Petersham Pool provides for a new 8 lane 25m pool; new program pool; waterplay pool; refurbishment of change rooms and offices; and café at a projected cost of \$2.615m (revised). A copy of the indicative site plan for the proposal is **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 1**. There was general support for the proposal in the community consultation process, as outlined in Section 2.2.1 above.

The Consultants have recommended that the upgrading of Petersham Pool be undertaken after Enmore Pool because of the significant benefits arising from the upgrading of Enmore Pool in meeting aquatic, health and fitness, leisure and social needs of the community.

3.4 Waterplay Park in Marrickville South

The Waterplay Park in Marrickville South was recommended by the Consultants in response to feedback in the first round of community consultation, as outlined in their Aquatic Leisure Facilities Feasibility Study 2004 Report.

The Waterplay Park option was included by Council in its Aquatics Upgrade package in its Major Projects Financial Plan and 2005/06 Major Projects Resources Plan, funded by s94 contributions.

There was strong support for the Waterplay Park in the second round of community consultation, as outlined in 2.2.1 above. If Council wishes to proceed with that option, it is recommended that a further report be presented to Council in relation to location options and suggested designs and associated costings. In that regard, some images of existing waterplay park features, which are in the nature of public art, are **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 2**.

***GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

3.5 Waterslide for Enmore Pool

At the last Steering Committee Meeting on the Aquatic Upgrades, Councillors requested additional information in relation to the cost of providing a waterslide and indicative designs. That request was in recognition of the need to provide facilities that would attract young people to Enmore Pool, while needing to provide a balance between meeting those needs and the impact of such a facility in terms of space, height and visual amenity in the Enmore Park setting. That information was provided to Councillors by Memo dated 10 February 2006. The report from C Leisure is **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 3**. Some images of waterslides are **ATTACHED** as **ANNEXURE 4**.

In that regard, C Leisure estimate that it would cost in the order of \$1.1m for a two flume waterslide at Enmore and that its operation would achieve a net surplus of \$48,000 per annum (Income \$134,200 and Expenditure \$76,200) based on the same operating process and fee structure as at Botany Aquatic Centre, which operates a waterslide, and 20 users per session. The net surplus would be \$24,450 based on 15 users per session and \$91,550 based on 25 users per session.

In considering the Waterslide Option, other issues that need to be taken into account as outlined in the C Leisure report are:

- the actual siting or location of the waterslide within the context of the overall development of aquatic services for the Marrickville community;
- the visual impact of the waterslide tower on Enmore Park (or any site) and surrounds;
- extended footprint on site into open space of Enmore Park or any site; and
- long term drop off in usage due to attraction becoming stale. Management will need to market the waterslide as an integral part of the facility at all times.

It should be noted that the proposal can be progressed independently of the Aquatic Upgrades, although it needs to be complementary to the other facilities.

If Council wishes to progress this Option, it is recommended that a further report be presented to Council following further examination of the proposal, including in relation to size, height, area needed and likely impacts; and that community consultation be undertaken in relation to the proposal.

***GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

Conclusion

It is considered that there has been strong community support for the Aquatic Upgrading Package, which was subject of the second round of community consultation. As outlined in this report however, there was support (38 respondents to the Questionnaire) that specifically requested a 50m pool at Enmore, rather than a 25m pool, as well as 33 other general comments and 10 written comments. The other issues raised in the consultation process are addressed in the proposed upgrades or relate to operational, management and maintenance issues and can be taken into account in the future operation of the upgraded facilities. In assessing options, it should also be noted that 35 respondents to the Questionnaire indicated that affordability was important, with 15 specifically stating that the money should be used on other things. 22 stated that the expenditure was not justified.

There have been a number of comments from the community in relation to whether the proposals include a toddlers' pool. The Consultants have advised that the needs of young children are catered for in both the Enmore Pool and Petersham Pool proposals through the waterplay pools and program pools. It is recommended that the issues raised be carefully considered at design stage and that the needs of young children should be specifically covered in community consultation to ensure that those needs are taken into account in the design.

In assessing whether to allocate an additional \$3m from the Property Reserve to fund a 50m pool, Council needs to give consideration to the community benefit of doing so, particularly in the context of whether it makes funding its other Major Projects, including a new Library and Childcare Centre, less viable or not viable. In considering the allocation of funds, it is also important to note the impact of the additional annual operating costs of \$150,000 which also needs to be considered in relation to the future financial viability of operating the pool, including the impact on the Financial Plan, which will form the basis of the Tender Process for management of the Aquatic Facilities, which is the subject of a report on this Business Paper.

On the basis of the recommendation of the Consultant that a 25m pool should be provided at Enmore rather than a 50m pool, and that development of a new site at Enmore will provide an optimal result in terms of design and new pools and facilities, it is recommended that Council adopt the Aquatic Upgrading Package that was the subject of extensive community consultation as detailed in the recommendation below, based on the Enmore Pool New Site Option. It is also recommended that Council consider the information in relation to the Waterslide proposal and that if it wishes to process the proposal, a further report be presented to Council following further examination of the proposal and that community consultation be undertaken.

Following Council's decision on elements to be included in the upgrade package for the two pools, the Enmore Pool proposal will be progressed first, with a more detailed design to be prepared with a more detailed costing and further community consultation can be undertaken. If Council wishes to progress the Waterplay Park in Marrickville South, a further report will be presented to Council in relation to the options on the site, features, costs, etc.

GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. Council adopt the Aquatic Upgrade Package including the upgrade of Enmore Pool, based on the New Site Option; the upgrade of Petersham Pool; and building of a Waterplay Park in Marrickville South, which was the subject of the comprehensive public consultation process, as follows:

Pool	Features	Cost
Enmore Pool New Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indoor 25m x 8 lane pool• Indoor 15m x 10m program pool• Indoor Waterplay areas, including children's pool• New changing rooms, including family/special needs changing rooms• Café and deck• Crèche (75sq m)• Health and fitness (600 sq m)• Outdoor lawn and play area• New foyer and administration area	\$10,413,313
Petersham Pool	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor 25m x 8 lane pool• Outdoor 15m x 10m program pool• New waterplay pool• Refurbished changing rooms and family/special needs changing rooms• Café and deck• Outdoor lawn and play area• Refurbished foyer and administration area	\$2,615,624
Waterplay Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be determined by Council from consultation process feedback• May include water bubblers, playground features, splash pads, interactive fountains, mist spray features, sprinklers and soakers, etc.	\$630,000

2. the Enmore Pool upgrading be undertaken before the Petersham Pool upgrading; and a detailed design of the Enmore Pool upgrading be prepared, together with detailed costing for further community consultation; and that as part of that process the needs of young children be specifically addressed to ensure that they are met;
3. a further report be submitted to Council in relation to the Waterplay Park in Marrickville South if Council decides to proceed with that proposal; and
4. Council determine whether it wishes to give further consideration to the Waterslide proposal for Enmore Pool, and if so, a further report be submitted to Council.

GM 14 - PROPOSED UPGRADE OF COUNCIL'S AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision

ATTACHMENTS: Total 18 pages

- Annexure 1:** Indicative Layouts – Enmore Pool and Petersham Pool (7 pages)
Annexure 2: Waterplay Features (2 pages)
Annexure 3: Waterslide Cost Benefit Analysis – C Leisure (3 pages)
Annexure 4: Waterslides (6 pages)

GM 15 - DECEMBER 05/JANUARY 06 BUDGET REVIEW
For Decision

File Ref: 328

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

A review of Council's 2005/06 Budget for the period to the end of December 2005/January 2006 revealed a number of variances. The net effect of these variances will result in no change on the call on Council funds. This results in Council having a balanced Budget for the 2005/2006 financial year. The anticipated working funds position as at 30 June 2005 will therefore be \$8,988,000. It is recommended that the report be received and noted and that the variations to the Budget be approved.

Discussion

In accordance with Clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the following Budget Review Statement is provided of revised estimates of income and expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2006.

ATTACHED to this report is the December 2005/January 2006 Financial Report comprised of the Operating Budget at Division Level, the Operating Budget at Program Level and the Operating Budget and Resources Plan summarised at Activity Level.

Details of the budget variances requested in December 2005/January 2006 are provided below. The variances outlined below will result in a balanced budget for 2005/06.

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ITEM</u>
	\$	
General Manager		
Corporate Development	37,997 (D)	It is proposed to transfer the savings within the Community Panel Project budget to meet additional costs associated with the Community Satisfaction Survey Project in the Operating Budget. The expenditure budgets will be adjusted accordingly.
OPERATING BUDGET	37,997 (D)	
TOTAL		

GM 15 - DECEMBER 05/JANUARY 06 BUDGET REVIEW
For Decision

RESOURCES PLAN:

General Manager

Corporate Development	37,997 (S)	It is proposed to transfer the savings within the Community Panel Project budget to the Community Satisfaction Survey Project in the Operating Budget. The expenditure budgets will be adjusted accordingly.
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Community Services

Children & Family Services	No net effect	It is proposed to transfer the budget of \$2,000 for Inner West Small Grants Scheme from Enmore Child Care Centre to Children Services Co-ordination where expenditure of funds is now being coordinated. Income and expenditure budgets are being adjusted accordingly.
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Technical Services

Parks & Reserves	No net effect	<p>Council has been successful in obtaining a Sports and Recreation grant of \$24,000 for the Jarvie Park Project. It is proposed to increase the income and expenditure budgets for this project accordingly.</p> <p>It is proposed to transfer an amount of \$10,000 from the Parks Pathways project to the Collyer Playground park improvement project to enable that project to be fully funded. It is proposed to adjust the income and expenditure budgets accordingly.</p>
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Engineering	No net effect	<p>As reported in the Technical Services Committee Meeting of 1/06 of 13 February 2006 it is proposed to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Allocate an additional budget of \$105,000 to the Schwebel Street Project from savings in the Road and Drainage Assets Program as the present data collection needs have been satisfied.- Defer the resurfacing of Llewellyn Street, Enmore project of \$48,000 which is to be funded in the 2006/2007 RTA REPAIR
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GM 15 - DECEMBER 05/JANUARY 06 BUDGET REVIEW
For Decision

program and transfer the 3x3 RTA grant funds to the Illawarra Road, between Warren Road and Renwick Street, Marrickville Project.

- Accept RTA grant funding of \$4,500, to be matched on a dollar for dollar basis by savings within Traffic Administration for the construction of a pedestrian refuge island at Livingstone Road, Marrickville.
- Accept RTA grant funding of \$20,000 to undertake improvements to bicycle access at West Street.
- Complete the street lighting improvements in the Dulwich Hill 40kph High Pedestrian Zone in Marrickville Road, Dulwich Hill using 5% Environmental Levy Special Rates budget allocation for street lighting improvements.

It is proposed to adjust the income and expenditure budgets accordingly.

Engineering

No net effect

It is proposed to reallocate small savings within some Roads to Recovery grant Projects to other Roads to Recovery projects to align income and expenditure to acquit the grant. Income and expenditure budgets are being adjusted accordingly.

No net effect

It is proposed to transfer \$17,526 of savings from the Darley Street project in the Heritage Footpath Program to fund an increase in scope of works of the Kays Avenue, Marrickville project also within the Heritage Footpath Program. Income and expenditure budgets are being adjusted accordingly.

No net effect

The RTA has advised that they will not be funding the 40kph High Pedestrian Zones project of \$100,000. It is proposed that the income and expenditure budgets are adjusted accordingly.

GM 15 - DECEMBER 05/JANUARY 06 BUDGET REVIEW
For Decision

Property Services	No net effect	As reported to the Technical Services Committee Meeting 11/05 of 13 December 2005 it is proposed to purchase No 2 A Fanning Street, Tempe to be funded from s94. It is proposed to adjust the income and expenditure budgets accordingly.
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RESOURCES PLAN

TOTAL	\$37,997 (S)
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0 (S)

TOTAL BUDGET

S=Saving, an improvement in Council's position.

D=Deficit, a reduction of Council's position.

Responsible Accounting Officer Report

Clause 203 of the Local Government Regulation 2005 requires that the Responsible Accounting Officer reports whether the revised financial position is satisfactory having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure and if that position is unsatisfactory to recommend remedial action. Accordingly, the Responsible Accounting Officer (Director Corporate Services) reports that having regard to Council's overall financial position, the current position is satisfactory, but the position will continue to be monitored.

GM 15 - DECEMBER 05/JANUARY 06 BUDGET REVIEW
For Decision

Conclusion

Council's anticipated result for the 2005/2006 Budget will be a surplus as shown in the Budget Summary below:

Adopted Budget		\$0
	\$	\$
July Review	(17,600)	
August Review	185,956	
September Review	81,254	
October Review	15,432	
November Review	(265,042)	0
December/January Review	0	
		<hr/>
Anticipated (Surplus)/Deficit 2005/06		0

SUMMARY OF 2005/06 APPROVED BUDGET

1. 2005/06 Budget Position	\$
Operating Budget Surplus	(2,492,797)
Resources Plan Revenue Funding	2,492,797
OVERALL BUDGET	0
2. Projected Working Funds Position based on 2005/06 Budget	
Workings Funds Position	(10,646,000)
Less: 2005/2006 Revotes	1,658,000
Council's Net Working Funds Position as at 30 June 2005	(8,988,000)
Less: Anticipated deficit for 2005/2006	0
Projected Working Funds Position at 30 June 2006	(8,988,000)
Benchmark Figure as at 30 June 2005	1,172,000

***GM 15 - DECEMBER 05/JANUARY 06 BUDGET REVIEW
For Decision***

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council:

1. receive and note the report; and
2. approve the variations to the budget.

ATTACHMENT: Total 46 pages

Operating Budget at Division level, 5 pages
Operating Budget at Program level, 6 pages
Operating Budget at Activity Level, 20 pages
Resources Plan at Activity Level, 15 pages

***GM 16 - DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT
MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK
AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

File Ref: 849

General Manager reports:

Synopsis

This report recommends a model for the future operation and management of Council's Aquatic Facilities, as well as interim arrangements until a new management contract is devised and a new tender process is undertaken. It is envisaged that the new management model will be in place from 1 July 2006.

Background

At Community Services Committee Meeting 2/00 of 14 March 2000 (Item CF 1), Council considered a report on the performance of Council Pools at Enmore (Annette Kellerman Aquatic Facility) and Petersham (Fanny Durack Pool). At that time, Council managed these facilities in-house. The report documented difficulties in:

- attracting qualified staff in management and operational roles;
- supervision of staff manifested in cash handling shortfalls, stock management irregularities, cost overruns and OH&S risks, Code of Conduct breaches, failures in carrying out standard pool maintenance and operational tasks, inadequacy of pool supervision and related duty of care responsibilities, breaches of EPA regulations concerning water discharges to the stormwater system and complaints from patrons about water quality, cleanliness of the pool deck and change room facilities and the diligence and attitude of staff;
- ballooning costs of maintenance of the facilities; and
- meeting changing community expectations of aquatic facilities and increasing levels of regulation associated with pool operations.

Following a further report to Council Meeting 8/00 of 12 September 2000 (Item GM 77), Council resolved to accept the tender of Pamstream Pty Ltd to manage pool operations. The contract was for an initial period of four years with a further one year option available at Council's discretion. Pamstream commenced operation of the facilities in October 2000 and Council ceased to manage the facilities in-house.

Under Council management in 1999/2000, the net operating costs of managing Council's aquatic facilities had risen to \$446,000. Capital expenditure costs were also increasing as the infrastructure continued to age and fail.

***GM 16 - DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT
MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK
AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

Operating costs from 1999/2000 have been as follows:

Net Operating Cost of Enmore and Petersham Pools

Table 1

Year	Cost
1999/2000	\$445,948
2000/2001	\$356,509
2001/2002	\$306,014
2002/2003	\$296,240
2003/2004	\$295,002
2004/2005	\$333,415

The Community Services Committee at meeting 03/04 held on 18 May 2004 (Item CF 2) resolved to approve the extension of the contract with Pamstream for a further year to conclude at the end of September 2005. At Community Services Committee meeting 07/05 held on 9 August 2005 (Item CF 5), Council further resolved to extend the contract with Pamstream until 1 April 2006 on a monthly hold-over basis.

Following the completion of the Aquatic Leisure Facility Feasibility Study in December 2004, Council has incorporated the upgrade of the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre and the Fanny Durack Pool, as well as the creation of a new waterplay park in Marrickville South in its long term Financial Plan. A separate report on proposed upgrades of Council's Aquatic Facilities is included in this Business Paper.

While progressing Council's consideration of the nature and location of aquatic facilities to be provided, consideration also needed to be given to the management of any future facilities. In November 2005, C Leisure Pty Ltd was engaged to assist in determining an appropriate management model for future aquatic facilities and the development of tender documentation necessary to select a future operator.

At the Councillor Conference on 7 February 2006, C Leisure Pty Ltd outlined its findings. In referring to the Aquatic Leisure Facilities Feasibility Study of 2004, the following recommendations were noted:

- the need to develop and deliver a broader range of services and leisure opportunities in new aquatic facilities;
- the benefit of engaging future managers early to enable them to provide input to detailed facility design having regard to operational issues;
- the importance of providing performance measures in future management contracts to increase participation rates and diversity opportunities for all sections of the community;
- the need to provide future managers with an incentive and the capacity to expand the existing program range and services;

***GM 16 - DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT
MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK
AQUATIC FACILITIES***

For Decision

- the importance of expanding the operating season and times of Petersham Pool to better reflect community needs and to provide more opportunities for community use; and
- the desirability of developing and implementing more detailed annual business and marketing plans that clearly state how existing and new services and programs are to be improved.

This report considers options for the future management of Council's Aquatic Facilities and includes a Recommendation regarding the existing contract with Pamstream, which ceases on 1 April 2006.

Discussion

C Leisure Pty Ltd undertook a series of meetings and workshops with senior officers and key stakeholders within Council. The objectives of the workshops were to determine and confirm in principle:

- The aim and objectives of the Centres - both now and in the future
- Future use and opportunities for the centres in both the short and long term
- Protocols required between Council and Management
- Existing/potential asset development, maintenance and care responsibilities
- The financial inputs and outputs desired
- The management model options and the best "fit" with points 1- 5 above, and
- **The contents of the tender documentation**

Overall Aim

The following was recommended as the overall aim of providing aquatic facilities for the Marrickville community:

"To provide and manage high quality, flexible and operationally viable aquatic, health and fitness, leisure and associated social facilities which:

- support a mix of programs and activities which reflect the diverse characteristics and needs of the Marrickville community, and
- deliver personal, community, social and economic benefits to the community".

Consistent with Council's Recreation Facilities' goals and principles, Council would also ensure that the provision of community recreation facilities, such as public swimming pools and sports grounds, improve community well being, enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors and its diverse cultural, social and recreational needs.

The principles that guide the management of these facilities and programs are based on ensuring community benefit, responsible asset management and community support outcomes.

***GM 16 - DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT
MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK
AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

Future Use and Opportunities for the Centres

The feasibility study concluded that the current programs and opportunities offered at both centres were not fully meeting community needs. The following table outlines some of the services and program opportunities that could be implemented both now and when redevelopment occurs:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Aerobics▪ After school activities/care▪ Aged programs at appropriate times▪ Aquarobics▪ Children's parties▪ Community events▪ Cross-selling of programs with other providers▪ Culturally-relevant and acceptable programs▪ Dance▪ Disabled programs at appropriate times▪ Educational programs▪ Family outings▪ Flexible, variable programs for all ages▪ Gentle exercise classes▪ Health and fitness programs which complement private providers▪ Healthy living, rehabilitation programs▪ Information services about the facilities and programs▪ Lap swimming▪ Learn to swim lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Less restrictive approach to management re activities, uses▪ Massage/ physiotherapy / chiropractic▪ Playgroups▪ Programming of pools' use to reduce crowding▪ Scheduling which allows equitable use▪ Schools holiday programs▪ Schools programs: laps, learn to swim, social swimming, social activities, training, coaching, carnivals, water familiarisation, awareness and enjoyment▪ Self defence/martial arts▪ Senior's activities▪ Social visits▪ Swimming club activities and carnivals▪ Training programs eg: First aid, language classes▪ University of the Third Age activities▪ Women-only activities▪ Yoga / relaxation classes, and▪ Youth social activities and programs.
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It was recognised that future aquatic facilities' managers should be developing services and opportunities that target the needs of the community and that there should be incentives built into any agreement that rewards the manager for expanding programs and services. It is proposed that future managers will be able to demonstrate program development and provision expertise. It is also expected that a detailed plan will be developed by the manager to address program and service development issues.

Protocols Required Between Council and Management

C Leisure Pty Ltd identified the need for management reporting tools and protocols to enable Council to be provided with the necessary information to understand how the centre/s are being managed and what is planned to improve services. The following is an outline of recommended documentation to be provided by an aquatic facilities manager on an annual and monthly basis:

***GM 16 - DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT
MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK
AQUATIC FACILITIES
For Decision***

Document	Contents
Annual Business Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Existing program and service improvements• New program and service initiatives• Research initiatives and actions• Objectives to address/reach Aim• Operating budget (Income and expenses)• Marketing and promotional strategy• Asset and maintenance schedules including recommended capital works/ equipment• Recommended operating hours, admission fees and charges.• CERM © or other performance indicators.• Strategic plan• Management fees and charges
Insurance Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual verification of Public Liability• Annual verification of Professional indemnity• Annual verification of Cash in transit• Annual verification of Work cover
Monthly management reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance data including exception reporting• Financial reporting including exception reporting• Performance goals and targets including exception reporting• Risk management - Statutory reporting requirements and tied to Council “SAFE” program• Asset plan requirements and responsibilities

C Leisure Pty Ltd also noted that prospective managers will need to have business and technical expertise to operate the facilities. The technical expertise will be verified through a tender process.

Existing/Potential Asset Development, Maintenance and Care Responsibilities

The current contract broadly outlines the responsibilities of both parties in relation to existing asset development, maintenance and care. C Leisure Pty Ltd recommended that an asset management plan be developed in consultation with the manager (once appointed) that clearly defines asset management responsibility and which party bears relevant costs.

The Financial Inputs and Outputs Desired

C Leisure Pty Ltd observed that the financial arrangements within the existing tender documentation are complex, do not encourage service development and are open to potential abuse and manipulation by the manager.

It is therefore recommended that any future management contract:

***GM 16 - DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT
MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK
AQUATIC FACILITIES***

For Decision

- requires a guaranteed financial “bottom line” in year 1 (or year 2/ 3 based on development timelines);
- negotiates (from year 2 after development is completed) an annual “bottom line” and proposed outcomes with the manager based on the business plan. Council would then be able to negotiate and determine the service outcomes and priorities on an annual basis rather than be tied to an inflexible contract with a fixed long term financial commitment;
- provides rewards for better financial performance – eg: percentage of profit share; and
- requires 100% of any shortfall to be underwritten by the Manager.

The principles outlined above will allow Council annual flexibility to negotiate and determine maintenance and /or shutdowns, redevelopment timelines, service outcomes, admission fees, hours of operation and financial operating positions.

The Management Model Options and the Best “Fit”

C Leisure Pty Ltd outlined three distinct management options as follows:

- Direct Management ‘In-House’ – full Council control;
- Indirect Management “Arms Length” – some Council control;
- Independent Manager “Outside” – no Council control.

The table below gives a summary of the capacity and likelihood of each management model to deliver key management functions:

Key Function	Direct Management Model	Indirect Management Model	Independent Management Model
Meet Council’s aims and objectives	✓	✓	✗
Provide flexible service provision	✓	✓	✗
Provide planning flexibility	✓	✓	✗
Ensure sound asset management	✓	✓	✗
Provide a financial guarantee	✗	✓	✓
Enjoy economies of scale	✗	✓	✓
Provide flexible industrial relations	✗	✓	✓
Provide support resources	✗	✓	✓

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An indirect management model similar to the one currently in place is considered optimal. Council's previous experience with in-house managed aquatic facilities has been poor. In-house management places the entire financial risk associated with management of the facilities on Council, which is avoided in both the indirect and independent management models. While Council intends to expand its range of services, it is still not a large operation. Outsourced models would enjoy economies of scale which should be reflected in both the price and quality of services available to Council.

The independent management model would limit Council's capacity to align aquatic service delivery to Council's objectives, from optimising the flexibility of service planning and provision and from monitoring asset management practices.

The indirect management model offers the advantages of the direct and independent models, while avoiding their disadvantages. Based on experience with Council's current contractor, Pamstream Pty Ltd, the model has been highly successful and is recommended for future management of aquatic facilities.

Nature and Term of the Contract

C Leisure Pty Ltd recommended that Council enter a 5 + 10 year agreement (the 10 year extension by mutual agreement and subject to performance and annual acceptance of business plans) to allow long term planning strategies to be realised. A shorter contract period will not encourage long term planning by the managers. The initial 5 years will allow Council to measure the manager's performance and undertake the redevelopment of services with the input from the managers as well. The longer-term extension period within the contract will also allow the managers to possibly invest or contribute to the development of the new centre.

It is also proposed that future management contracts include performance measures and rewards related to:

- increased program and service opportunities;
- increased attendances; and
- better than expected financial position.

It is proposed that until appropriate tender documentation is developed, that Pamstream Pty Ltd continue to operate and manage the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre and the Fanny Durack Pool on a monthly hold over basis, at the end of the current agreement on 1 April 2006. This will allow Pamstream Pty Ltd to operate the pools through to the end of the 2005/2006 financial year. Discussions have been held with Pamstream Pty Ltd in this regard, and they have indicated that they would be satisfied with this approach.

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MODEL FOR THE ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND FANNY DURACK
AQUATIC FACILITIES***

For Decision

Conclusion

An independent management model via a contract or agreement with Council is the basis on which Council's aquatic facilities should be managed, both now and in the future. It was concluded that Council could best achieve the service objectives by ensuring any contract documentation clearly articulated the outcomes that were required. A number of changes to the existing contract documentation would be required to achieve this.

Council will have the flexibility to review the operations on an annual basis and change the service delivery should the need arise. Council will also have full control over admission charges and operating times. This is based on Council adopting the recommendations in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT:

1. the report is received and noted;
2. Council proceeds to tender for the management and operation of its aquatic facilities;
3. Council approves the development of contract documentation; and
4. Council agrees to allow Pamstream to continue to manage Council's swimming pools on a monthly hold-over basis at the completion of the current agreement on 1 April 2006 through to 30 June 2006.

***NM 1 - PORT BOTANY-ENFIELD PROJECT
For Decision***

File Ref: 4056-03

From Councillor Olive

Discussion

At its January DES meeting Council passed PS 4.

The report stated that Council “requests that the current Intermodal Logistics Centre proposal not be approved – until such time as Sydney Ports Corporation has conducted a full and accurate assessment of the noise and vibration impact (s)...”

Given the anticipated four fold increase in rail freight through Marrickville, Council can reasonably expect that noise and vibration levels will exceed the permissible limits in some instances and that the proposed 24 hour operation of the freight rail line will seriously diminish the quality of life for affected residents.

Given this expectation, Council should make it clear to SPC that if it proceeds with the “Port Enfield” project, specifically, and the expansion of Port Botany, generally, that a number of ameliorating measures must be implemented and fair compensation must be offered to affected residents.

MOTION:

THAT Council write a supplementary submission to the recipients as outlined in the recommendation in PS4 of the DES 01/06 making it clear that if the SPC proceed with the “Port Enfield” project, specifically, and the expansion of Port Botany, generally, Council expects a number of ameliorating measures must be implemented and that fair compensation must be offered to affected residents.

The circumstances and measures are as follows:

1. Where households are affected by noise and vibration levels that seriously diminish the quality of life or are above the “permissible limit”, that the owners of those properties are offered the purchase of their properties by SPC at a fair price; and
2. A curfew restricting the use of the freight line between the hours 6am and 11pm.

***NM 2 - DECENCY DAY
For Decision***

File Ref: 4056-03

From Councillor Fiona Byrne

Background:

The Physical Disability Council of NSW is planning Decency Day at Parliament House on 28 February 2006 to draw attention to the lack of "decent" provisions for people with a physical disability in NSW. Issues to be highlighted include the lack of funding and effectiveness in:

- personal care issues and Attendant Care Packages;
- PADP (Program of Aids for Disabled People) eligibility and long waiting lists for basic equipment;
- wheelchair Accessible Taxis (WAT) and lack of action on the WAT Taskforce Report; and
- accessible public transport.

MOTION:

THAT Council supports Decency Day on 28 February and:

- affirms its commitment, in particular, to accessible transport in our area;
- advertises Decency Day through the Council website and column and with posters on our community noticeboards, in our libraries, and in our community facilities; and
- issues a media release detailing the above.

***NM 3 - DEVELOPMENT ADJACENT TO MAJOR ARTERIAL ROADS
For Decision***

File Ref: 4056-03

From Councillor Hesse

MOTION:

THAT Council officers instruct the consultants for the Marrickville Urban Strategy 2006 to include an investigation into the suitability of allowing medium density residential or mixed shop-top development immediately adjacent to major arterial roads such as Parramatta Road and the Princes Highway, with particular emphasis on the environmental health implications of air and noise pollution emissions for residents of new developments from vehicles using these roads.

***NM 4 - BALL GAMES IN LOUISA LAWSON RESERVE
For Decision***

File Ref: 4056-03

From Councillor Thanos

Background

A number of representations have been made to me by the residents immediately adjacent to the park who are constantly being bothered by cricket and soccer balls hitting the fence or going over the fence and hitting their tiled roof.

On 16 December, 2005 one of Council's rangers witnessed an incident, and can provide a description of the problem to Council if necessary.

This has caused quite a disturbance for these residents' daily lives.

Due to the fact that Louisa Lawson Reserve is a small park, and that Council has other parks that are more appropriate for this kind of usage I propose:

MOTION:

THAT Council withdraw its previous decision to allow ball games in Louisa Lawson Reserve. Furthermore, that ball game restrictions be introduced for the reserve, along with appropriate signage indicating that ball games are not permissible in the park.

***NM 5 - REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO RE-CONSIDER CHANGE TO
MEETING DAY
For Decision***

File Ref: 4056-03

From Councillor Macri

MOTION:

THAT Council:

1. re-consider the decision made at its meeting on 15 November 2005, (Meeting 10/05, Item MM13) to change its meeting day to Monday; and
2. agree to re-instate Tuesday as its meeting day.

Council Meeting - 01/06 - 20 February, 2006

***NM 5 - REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO RE-CONSIDER CHANGE TO
MEETING DAY
For Decision***