

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING AND WORKSHOP SESSION MEETING NO. 2025(11)**15 JULY 2025****REPORT****COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Teresa Harding (via teams); Councillors Jacob Madsen, Pye Augustine, Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic, Paul Tully, Marnie Doyle, Andrew Antonioli, David Martin and Jim Madden

COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES:

Nil

OFFICERS ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), General Manager Planning and Regulatory Services (Brett Davey), General Manager Corporate Services (Matt Smith), General Manager Asset and Infrastructure Services (Seren McKenzie), Acting General Manager Community, Cultural and Economic Development (Carly Gregory), Acting General Manager Environment and Sustainability (Kaye Cavanagh), Chief Financial Officer (Christina Binoya), Revenue Collection and Recoveries Coordinator (Lindsay Ruggieri), Chief of Staff – Office of the Mayor (Melissa Fitzgerald), Manager Development Planning (Justin Bougoure), Development Planning Services Manager (Anthony Bowles), Manager Works and Field Services (Sonia Gollschewski), Precinct Director – Nicholas Street Precinct (James Hepburn), Senior Community Education and Engagement Officer (Paul Tanko), Acting Resource Recovery Manager (Emma Thomson) and Goods and Services Category Manager (Tim Steinhardt)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Nil

OFFICERS' REPORTS**1. POLICY UPDATES**

The purpose of this workshop is to guide the further development of a draft Financial Difficulty and Hardship Policy as well as seeking endorsement for an updated Rates Recovery Policy.

MATTERS ARISING:

Councillors in attendance noted and discussed the information presented on the draft Financial Difficulty and Hardship Policy.

Action: A request was made for further information on the benefits and disadvantages of an aspect of the proposed new policy and for a matrix of scenarios to assist understanding.

2. COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO NAMING AND RENAMING ASSETS

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss the preferred process, roles and responsibilities for naming and renaming Council owned road and park assets. The Naming Procedure currently works well for naming new roads and parks delivered through development activity. However, refinements to the procedure are required with respect to renaming roads and parks.

MATTERS ARISING:

Councillors in attendance noted and discussed the information presented on Council's approach to naming and renaming assets.

Councillors provided feedback on their experience with naming of Council assets.



Action: A copy of current policy and procedure will be additionally emailed to all Councillors with an invitation for further feedback before returning to a future Councillor workshop.

3. OPEN SPACE ACTION PLAN

The Open Space Maintenance Action Plan has been developed in response to the community's strong expectations for well-maintained open spaces and the need to ensure sustainable, high-quality service delivery. Key outcomes of the plan include:

1. Service levels and delivery targets that more accurately reflect investment plans.
2. An operational delivery model that supports on-time and repeatable quality service provision.
3. A resourcing strategy that provides greater agility to respond to seasonal changes in demand.
4. Implementation of digital platforms to improve end-to-end service delivery, from planning to execution.

Attachments

1. Presentation ➡ 
2. Open Space Maintenance Action Plan 2025 ➡ 

MATTERS ARISING:

Councillors in attendance noted and discussed the information presented on the Open Space Action Plan.

4. GARDEN ORGANICS ROLLOUT (GROW FOGO FUND) PROGRAM UPDATE

The introduction of a garden organics (GO) bin service, as part of council's standard waste collection service, commenced on 1 July 2025. This report provides an update on the community engagement program and stages to support the correct use of the GO bin to minimise contamination, increase diversion of waste from landfill, and maximise service cost efficiencies, and enhance community and environmental benefits.

MATTERS ARISING:

The councillors in attendance noted and discussed the information presented on Garden Organics Rollout (Grow FOGO Fund) Program Update.

Councillors provided feedback on the community engagement program.

5. NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT UPDATE

This is a verbal report on the update of the Nicholas Street Precinct.

MATTERS ARISING:

Councillors in attendance noted and discussed the information presented on the Update of the Nicholas Street Precinct. This included a matter on an upcoming Committee agenda.

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS

The meeting commenced at 9.03 am.

Councillor Marnie Doyle arrived at the meeting at 9.04 am.

The meeting adjourned at 10.30 am.

The meeting reconvened at 10.48 am with all councillors in attendance except for Councillor Marnie Doyle.

Mayor Teresa Harding joined the meeting via teams at 10.48 am.

Councillor Marnie Doyle returned to the meeting at 10.54 am.

Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic arrived at the meeting at 11.10 am.

Mayor Teresa Harding left the meeting via teams at 11.16 am.

Councillor Paul Tully left the meeting at 11.24 am.

Councillor Andrew Antoniolli left the meeting at 11.58 am.

Councillor Marnie Doyle left the meeting at 11.59 am.

Councillor Andrew Antoniolli returned to the meeting at 12.02 pm.

Councillor Marnie Doyle returned to the meeting at 12.04 pm.

Councillors David Martin and Jim Madden left the meeting at 12.15 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 12.15 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 12.47 am with all councillors is attendance except for Councillors Jim Madden, David Martin, Paul Tully and Mayor Teresa Harding.

Councillor Pye Augustine left the meeting at 1.26 pm.

Councillor Andrew Antoniolli left the meeting at 1.27 pm.

The meeting closed at 1.35 pm.
