



**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING  
HELD ON 16 APRIL 2020**

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**PRESENT VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING:**

Mayor Wendy Waller  
Councillor Ayyad  
Councillor Balloot  
Councillor Hadchiti  
Councillor Hadid  
Councillor Hagarty  
Councillor Harle  
Councillor Kaliyanda  
Councillor Karnib  
Councillor Rhodes  
Councillor Shelton  
Ms Kiersten Fishburn, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Tim Moore, Director City Economy and Growth / Deputy CEO  
Mr George Hampouris, Acting Director City Corporate  
Mr David Maguire, Internal Ombudsman  
Ms Elizabeth Espinosa, General Counsel, Manager Governance, Legal and Procurement  
Ms Julie Scott, Manager City Economy  
Mr Vishwa Nadan, Chief Financial Officer  
Dr Eddie Jackson, Director City Community and Culture  
Mr Peter Patterson, Director City Presentation  
Mr Raj Autar, Director City Infrastructure and Environment  
Mr Andrew Stevenson, Chief Strategy and Engagement Officer  
Ms Tina Sangiuliano, Strategic Organisational Changer Manager  
Mr George Georgakis, Manager Council and Executive Services  
Ms Susan Ranieri, Coordinator Council and Executive Services (minutes)

**OPENING**

6.02pm.

**STATEMENT REGARDING  
WEBCASTING OF MEETING**

The Mayor reminded everyone that in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, the meeting is being livestreamed.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY,  
PRAYER OF COUNCIL AND  
AFFIRMATION**

Read by the Chief Executive Officer, Ms  
Kiersten Fishburn.

**APOLOGIES**

Nil.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Clr Shelton declared a non-pecuniary less than significant interest in relation to **Initiative 13** dealing with fees for casual hirers of Council facilities.

**Reason:** Clr Shelton is a member of an organisation that does hire casually Council facilities from time to time. Clr Shelton does not get any benefit.

Clr Shelton will stay online for the meeting during discussion on this item.

Clr Shelton declared a non-pecuniary less than significant interest in relation to **Initiative 5** dealing parking permit system to businesses and their staff operations from the CBD.

**Reason:** Clr Shelton owns a business that operates from the CBD.

Clr Shelton will stay online for the meeting during discussion on this item.

Mayor Waller declared a non-pecuniary less than significant interest in relation to **Initiatives 13, 14 and 15** dealing with fees for casual hirers of Council facilities, licence fees for Licensed tenants of Council's community facilities, and fees and charges.

**Reason:** Mayor Waller is a member of organisations that casually hire Council's community facilities and also have licence agreements. The Mayor does not have any gain in it, only the organisations which she is a member of do.

Mayor Waller will stay online for the meeting during discussion on this item.

Clr Hadchiti declared a non-pecuniary less than significant interest in relation to **Initiative 13** dealing with fees for casual hirers of Council halls.

**Reason:** Clr Hadchiti's children do karate and a sister organisation rents a Council hall. Clr Hadchiti does not get any benefit.

Clr Hadchiti will stay online for the meeting during discussion on this item.

Clr Kaliyanda declared a non-pecuniary less than significant interest in relation to **Initiative 13** dealing with fees for casual hirers of Council facilities.

**Reason:** Clr Kaliyanda is a member of an organisation that does hire casually Council facilities from time to time. Clr Kaliyanda does not get any benefit.

Clr Kaliyanda will stay online for the meeting during discussion on this item.

Clr Hagarty declared a non-pecuniary less than significant interest in relation to **Initiative 13** dealing with fees for casual hirers of Council facilities.

**Reason:** Clr Hagarty is a member of an organisation that does hire casually Council facilities from time to time. Clr Hagarty does not get any benefit.

Clr Hagarty will stay online for the meeting during discussion on this item.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

**ITEM NO:** CEO 01  
**FILE NO:** 092286.2020  
**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 - Liverpool City Council Response

**DECISION**

In relation to the Initiatives outlined in the report, that Council carry out the following (as listed and voted on separately at the meeting):

**Motion**                                **Moved Clr Shelton**                                **Seconded: Clr Hadchiti**

**Workforce**

**1. Initiative**

That Council direct the CEO for the first six months of 2020/2021, retain the staff budget, as in the 2019/2020 staff budget, with the exception of any mandated award increases.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**

**Moved: Clr Hadchiti**

**Seconded: Clr Clr Hadid**

**Community**

**2. Initiative**

That Council:

1. Support the homeless by co-ordinating the services offered by the NSW Government through the 'People sleeping rough and COVID-19 – DCJ and homelessness sector response' last published 23 March 2020.

Where that is not possible, Council direct the CEO to:

2. Establish a 'COVID-19 Emergency Response Program' to action timely requests for Council support toward critical and essential services for vulnerable community groups in Liverpool, including allocation of funds for provision of food, accommodation and PPE.

The scope of this Program is to include the following financial and in-kind initiatives:

- Keep open public amenities at Bigge Park, Collimore Park, Lighthorse Park and Seton Hall (Moorebank) 24/7 so that rough sleepers and the general public have access to soap and water at all times, to wash their hands;
- Provide access to shower facilities at Francis Greenway Centre two to three days a week for rough sleepers;
- Provide access for government agencies and charities to utilise Council facilities to deliver critical services such as food sorting and distribution;
- Run a campaign to encourage food donations to designated charities;
- Allocate funds to purchase food and hygiene supplies for rough sleepers and charities from existing budgets;
- Allocate funds toward essential relief services in Liverpool; and
- Coordinate provision of food and essential services to vulnerable groups in Liverpool.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                      **Moved:**   **Clr Hagarty**                      **Seconded:** **Clr Shelton**

**CITY ECONOMY**

**3. Initiative:**

That Council:

1. Support businesses specialising in hospitality, retail, tourism and leisure by allocating funds from the CDF for a *Rebuilding Liverpool's Economy* package to support businesses in the Liverpool CBD affected by the crisis; and
2. Also offer this support package to impacted businesses beyond the CBD, with a separate funding allocation.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                      **Moved:**   **Clr Hagarty**                      **Seconded:** **Clr Shelton**

**4. Initiative:**

That Council:

Implement a Business to Consumer program for non-retail businesses (eg manufacturers, wholesalers, transport and logistics companies) to facilitate an effective pivot of their existing business models; to deliver a Business Resilience webinar series to local businesses; support local businesses to pivot towards resilient operations; develop a digital ready grants program for businesses outside the CBD; and support skills development of people who become unemployed or are redeployed, by working with them and with tertiary institutions. All businesses in the LGA (in particular those outside the CBD) would be supported by this initiative.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                  **Moved: Clr Hadchiti**                  **Seconded: Clr Hadid**

**COMPLIANCE**

**5. Initiative:**

That Council extend the parking permit system to businesses and their staff operating from the CBD (excluding Westfields) including health care providers.  
All permits to have an initial lifespan till end of July 2020.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**6. Initiative**

Note, Initiative 6 (as shown in the Council report) was not voted on as this was raised at the meeting and Council was advised that rehoming will be undertaken and will commence next week.

**Motion:**                                  **Moved: Clr Kaliyanda**                  **Seconded: Clr Hadchiti**

**7. Initiative**

That Council direct the CEO to apply discretion when issuing infringements, while protecting public health and safety. In that regard, fines will only be issued in the following circumstances:

- Parking in a “No Stopping” and “No Parking” zones and in close proximity to an intersection;
- Trucks parking in residential areas in excess of one hour;
- Parking on nature strips where it causes an obstruction to pedestrians and/or a blind spot for drivers exiting their driveways;
- Environmental pollution incidents; and
- Dog attacks.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion: Moved: Clr Hadchiti                      Seconded: Clr Hadid**

**8. Initiative**

That Council direct the CEO to suspend all health inspection fees from the date of restrictions coming into place however continue to undertake health inspections. Allow an extra 6 months for health inspections billed but not yet paid.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:    Moved: Clr Hadchiti                      Seconded: Clr Rhodes**

**9. Initiative**

That Council:

1. Defer on application, 50% of Sect 7.11 contributions payable from Construction Certificate stage to Occupation Certificate/Subdivision stage for all applications received or approved till December 2020;
2. Fast track Sect 4.55 and/or 4.56 applications requesting 50% Sect 7.11 deferrals to Occupation/Subdivision stage for applications already approved but yet to be issued a Construction Certificate;
3. Commit to drive down the outstanding DA currently being determined and allow the use of external providers should this be required; and
4. Amend the Contributions Plan to remove the requirement of a bank guarantee (for the full amount of the contribution payable), adopt immediately if permissible, otherwise exhibit for statutory 28 days period.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

Clr Balloot asked that he be recorded as having voted against the motion.

**Motion:**                                      **Moved: Cllr Hadchiti**                      **Seconded: Cllr Rhodes**

**RATES AND REVENUE**

**10. Initiative:**

That Council:

- 1. Amend Rating Revenue policy to extend hardship provisions to all rating categories as defined under section 514 of the Local Government Act;
- 2. Allow applications for hardship to be made online to simplify process and remove requirements to provide detailed and complex information;
- 3. Report to a full Council meeting any hardship applications made that are being recommended for refusal for Council to determine;
- 4. Waive any interest due on approved hardship cases for a period of 6 months subject to review after the 6 month period; and
- 5. Include the Mayor as part of the Hardship Committee membership.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                      **Moved: Cllr Hadchiti**                      **Seconded: Cllr Balloot**

**11. 12. 13. and 14. Initiatives:**

**Note: The following motion was moved and carried with respect to Initiatives 11, 12, 13 and 14.**

That Council:

- 1. Provide a 100% rent abatement for all existing retail and small tenants/licence holders that have been affected by Federal restrictions put into place (excluding telecommunications lease) until 2 months after those restrictions are lifted;
- 2. For commercial tenants manage these in line with the Code of Conduct for Commercial Tenancies as introduced by the Federal Government, and report back to Council on these negotiations (excluding telecommunications lease); and
- 3. Provide a full refund for hirers/licence holders of any community facility whether casual or permanent where a fee has been paid and the use of that facility is not possible due to restrictions being put into place from the date restrictions were put into place.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.



**Motion:**                                **Moved: Clr Hagarty**                                **Seconded: Clr Hadchiti**

**15. Initiative:**

That Council defer this initiative until further information is received about the budget.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                **Moved: Clr Kaliyanda**                                **Seconded: Clr Shelton**

**ADVOCACY**

**16. Initiative:**

That Council seek funding from the NSW Government for an accelerated package of capital works projects (attached to the report) that can be delivered in the Liverpool LGA within a short timeframe.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                **Moved: Clr Kaliyanda**                                **Seconded: Clr Rhodes**

**17. Initiative**

That Council direct the CEO to support the actions endorsed in previous resolutions through Ministerial letters and targeted communications campaigns; and

Additionally:

Write to Federal and NSW Treasurers outlining collapse in revenues and seeking a rates guarantee to ensure financial liquidity, financial assistance to maintain existing employment levels and explicit inclusion of local government in any future stimulus packages;

Support LGNSW's campaign to suspend Fit for the Future guidelines given current circumstances, including writing to Minister for Local Government as appropriate;

Council believes FFF targets and benchmarks are now outdated and should be abandoned as councils will be increasingly unable to meet targets and benchmarks during the pandemic. Further information on the LGNSW campaign will be sought.

Write to Minister for Local Government seeking regulations requiring notices to be placed in newspapers be waived for six months in light of local papers suspending printing and for

Council be allowed to advise residents through websites and social media;

With local newspapers suspending printed publication Council faces a potentially expensive increase in advertising costs if it is forced to publish notices in metropolitan newspapers. Accordingly, a suspension or abolition of current arrangements is sought.

Write to the Federal and NSW Governments to highlight the financial impact on Council of new childcare arrangements announced last week;

Write to local MPs with a summary of relevant resolutions; and

Implement an ongoing communications campaign to ensure residents and businesses have all available information about COVID-19 and Council's responses to support the community.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                    **Moved: Clr Hadchiti**                    **Seconded: Clr Hadid**

### **18. Initiative**

That Council require any new expenditure that commits Council to an amount over \$500k be approved by Council.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**                                    **Moved: Clr Hadchiti**                    **Seconded: Clr Hadid**

### **19. Initiative**

That Council waive all out-door dining fees from the date of restrictions coming into place until 2 months after these restrictions are lifted. Any fees paid to be refunded on a pro rata basis for that period.

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**Motion:**

**Moved: Clr Hadchiti**

**Seconded: Clr Hadid**

**20. Initiative**

That Council ensure all payments that can be made to suppliers where the goods/services have been delivered in full (noting some may be staged payments) be made immediately and not wait until the due date should that be a period of less than 2 months

On being put to the meeting the motion was declared CARRIED.

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.34pm.**

<Signature>

Name: Wendy Waller

Title: Mayor

Date: 29 April 2020

I have authorised a stamp bearing my signature to be affixed to the pages of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16 April 2020. I confirm that Council has adopted these Minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

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Chairperson