



**COUNCIL MEETING OF
THE HUME CITY COUNCIL**

MONDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2025

7.00PM

**COUNCIL CHAMBER - HUME GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE
BROADMEADOWS**

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

It should be noted that these minutes are not in their final form until Council has formally resolved to confirm them.

These minutes will be presented to Council for confirmation on Monday, 13 October 2025.

HUME CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the

COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL

held on Monday, 22 September 2025

at 7.14PM

at the Council Chamber - Hume Global Learning Centre Broadmeadows

Attendees:	a: Council	Cr Jarrod Bell Cr Naim Kurt Cr Steve Gagen - online Cr John Haddad - online Cr Kate Hamley Cr Sam Misho Cr Jim Overend Cr Karen Sherry Cr Ally Watson	Mayor Deputy Mayor
	b: Officers	Ms Sheena Frost Mr James McNulty Ms Kristen Cherry Mr Fadi Srouf Ms Ann-Michel Greenwood Ms Danielle Prentice Ms Holly De Kretser Ms Joanne Grindrod	Chief Executive Officer Acting Director City Planning and Places Director City Services & Living Chief Financial Officer Acting Director Customer & Strategy Chief People Officer Acting Director Infrastructure and Assets Manager Governance Senior Governance Officer

Proceedings to be Recorded

The Mayor reminded Councillors and members of the Gallery that an audio and video recording of the Council meeting will be made and published to Council's website within 2 working days of the meeting.

Gallery Behaviour

The Mayor advised that they will invite members of the gallery to speak, for up to three minutes either in support of or against an officer's recommendation.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Mayor read the following:

Hume City Council would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on Country for which the members and Elders of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and their forebears have been custodians for many thousands of years. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, which includes the Gunung-Willam-Balluk clan, are the Traditional Custodians of this land. Hume City Council would also like to pay its respects to their Elders, past and present, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who may be here today.

2. PRAYER

Hume City's religious diversity strengthens and enriches community life and supports the well-being of the citizens of Hume City. Hume City Council acknowledges the importance of spiritual life and the leadership offered by the Hume Interfaith Network (HIN). In recognition of the religious diversity of residents in Hume City Council has invited the HIN to take responsibility for the opening prayer at Council meetings. This evening's prayer will be led by Imam Ibrahim, from the Islamic Sciences and Research Academy (ISRA), on behalf of the HIN.

Imam Ibrahim read the meeting prayer.

3. APOLOGIES

Cr Carly Moore and Cr Daniel English were apologies for the meeting.

Cr Steve Gagen and Cr John Haddad attended the meeting online in accordance with Council's Governance rules

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

The Mayor read the following:

Councillors' attention is drawn to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules in relation to the disclosure of conflicts of interests. Councillors are required to disclose any conflict of interest immediately before consideration or discussion of the relevant item. Councillors are then required to leave the Chamber during discussion and not vote on the relevant item.

5. CONGRATULATIONS AND CONDOLENCES

CGM107 **CONGRATULATIONS MOTION: CALLANAN FAMILY –
WESTMEADOWS FOOTBALL NETBALL AND CRICKET
CLUBS- STEVIES WALK**

Moved Cr Naim Kurt, **Seconded** Cr Karen Sherry

**That Council send congratulations to the Callanan family and the
Westmeadows Football Netball and Westmeadows Cricket Clubs on
Stevie's Walk.**

CARRIED

6. CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the Council Meeting of 8 September 2025 and the Confidential Council Meeting of 8 September 2025, including Confidential Minutes.

Moved Cr Naim Kurt, **Seconded** Cr Jim Overend

- 6.1 That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 September 2025, including Confidential Minutes, be confirmed.**
- 6.2 That the minutes for report number 8.5 *Response to NOM25/03 - Maintenance of Median Strips on Arterial Roads in Hume* from the Council meeting held on 11 August, 2025 be amended to:**

The CEO read out public comments received for item 8.5 from the following submitters:

- Adam Ritchie
- Jennifer Lepper
- Christopher West
- Paul Gratton
-

Moved Cr Daniel English, **Seconded** Cr Carly Moore

That Council

- 1. Resolve that Arterial Roads remain the responsibility of the Department of Transport and Planning.**
- 2. Continue to advocate for increased maintenance funding from the State Government to ensure Arterial Road standards align with the expectations of the Hume community.**
- 3. Note that Officers will engage with various State Government agencies identified in Attachment 3 to seek a maintenance funding agreement and/or a funding contribution for these parcels of land.**

A division was requested: The result of the division was as follows:

For	Against
Cr Daniel English	Cr Jarrod Bell
Cr Sam Misho	Cr Steve Gagen
Cr Carly Moore	Cr Kate Hamley
Cr Jim Overend	Cr Naim Kurt
Cr Ally Watson	Cr Karen Sherry

The chair adjourned the meeting to consider his casting vote, the time being 8:06pm.

The chair resumed the meeting at 8:10pm.

The chair cast his casting vote against the motion for item 8.5. The motion is defeated.

LOST

The chair sought an alternative motion from Councillors.

Moved Cr Kate Hamley, **Seconded** Cr Naim Kurt

That Council:

- 1. Resolve to refer entering into a Minor Maintenance Agreement with the Department of Transport and Planning to take on maintenance of the urban arterial roads to the 26/27 budget**
- 2. Commence discussions with relevant State Government Departments to seek funding and/or maintenance agreements for the sites identified in attachments three and four**

3. Seek a detailed report as part of the development of the 26/27 budget on the costs, updated agreement with the Department of Transport and Planning and progress on non-Council managed land

A division was requested: The result of the division was as follows:

For	Against
Cr Jarrod Bell	Cr Daniel English
Cr Steve Gagen	Cr Sam Misho
Cr Kate Hamley	Cr Carly Moore
Cr Naim Kurt	Cr Jim Overend
Cr Karen Sherry	Cr Ally Watson

On the basis of the casting vote the Mayor declared the item carried.

CARRIED

CARRIED

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

PQ1326 PUBLIC QUESTION – STEVE HART

HiQ is proposing a waste-to-energy incinerator in Bulla. If the project is approved, Hume City Council may be tempted to send its 55,000 tonnes of household rubbish there each year and pay HiQ to burn it.

Given growing community opposition to this project, will Council pledge not to enter into any waste supply agreement with HiQ, and not to direct Hume's waste to the Bulla incinerator if it receives planning permission?

Response: Acting Director Infrastructure & Assets

Council has existing contracts in place for landfill disposal, including Heidelberg Materials which is valid until March 2027 with an option to extend to March 2029 and Hi-Quality, which is valid until April 2027 with an option to extend to April 2029.

Based on the value of these contracts, a public tender process would need to be undertaken ahead of their expiry to ensure we can meet Hume's waste disposal needs. This tender process would be managed in accordance with our Procurement Policy, and we would aim to secure arrangements that provide the best value for money. The future method of waste disposal will be subject to the decision of a future council when determining the contracts awarded.

PQ1327 PUBLIC QUESTION – STEVE HART

Council processes a significant number of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests each year, yet neither the requests nor the responses are made publicly available.

This creates unnecessary duplication, limits community access to information, and reduces transparency.

At the state and federal level, some agencies now proactively publish FOI requests and responses as part of their open government commitments.

Will Hume City Council consider adopting a similar policy to routinely publish all FOI requests and their responses on its website, subject to privacy and confidentiality requirements, to strengthen transparency and improve community access to information?

Response: Chief Financial Officer and Acting Director Customer & Strategy

Data on the number, processing time and decisions made surrounding Council's Freedom of Information Requests is supplied and included in Hume's annual report and also reporting produced by the Office of Victorian Information Commissioner (OVIC).

For example, in 2024/25 Council received 66 FOI requests of which access was granted in full for 17, in part for 15, and denied in 1 request. 6 requests were withdrawn, 1 did not proceed and 3 requests produced no documents. 10 requests were responded to outside of the FOI act in line with our Public Transparency Policy. 13 requests were not finalised within the reporting period.

Council has not previously considered proactively making its Freedom of Information requests or decisions public. Hume is an active participant in the Local Government Victoria's working group which is developing a model Public Transparency Policy for the sector. The suggestion to proactively publish more FOI data to reduce duplication and increase transparency will be considered as Hume reviews its own Public Transparency policy.

PQ1328 PUBLIC QUESTION – TREVOR DANCE

Why is council taking so long to action Snap Send and Solve. The example provided shows it took council nearly nine months to complete when the response originally provided stated it would take at maximum two business days? There many more going back 8 months not completed.

Response: Acting Director Infrastructure & Assets

Council received 35 000 Snap, Send Solve requests in the past twelve months, most of which are responded to promptly and within service standards.

Council acknowledges that the service request referenced in the question took longer than expected to finalise. In this instance, the graffiti was on private property and was determined to not be offensive. As such, it does not meet the requirements of Council's Graffiti Management Policy for removal by Council.

The automated response in November 2024 did not reflect our operating model or align with our Graffiti Management Policy. Council identified this issue, and we have since strengthened our processes, taking steps to improve consistency of response times.

Council remains committed to responding to graffiti reports promptly and in line with our adopted policy.

PQ1329 PUBLIC QUESTION – TREVOR DANCE

How can the community get information showing legal costs spent by this council for the past two years and itemised?

Response: Chief Financial Officer

Thank you for your question. The appropriate way to seek information on Council's legal costs is via a Freedom of Information request. Information on how to make this type of request can be found on Council's website.

For context, Council's as a tier of government are required to engage in many legal processes, as such legal costs are incurred.

In the past two financial years being 2023-24 and 2024-25, Council has spent approximately 1% of Council's overall budget on legal costs. This is used to support the responsible use of resources, risk mitigation and enforcement action in line with Council Plan Objectives. Most legal costs are incurred in areas of Council operations where Council is a responsible authority or exercising enforcement action, for example in planning and development.

PQ1330 PUBLIC QUESTION - CHRIS O'NEILL

As of 30 June 2025, outstanding Council rates in Hume reached \$45.75 million, owed by 18,623 ratepayers — a sharp increase from \$39.58 million the previous year. Of this, more than 6,300 households are on payment plans covering \$19.19 million, while a further 5,350 accounts worth \$27.16 million have been referred to debt collection. These figures highlight that many residents are already under significant financial strain, struggling with rising cost-of-living pressures. At some point, Council itself must demonstrate austerity in its spending to reflect the realities faced by the community.

In 2025 which departments within Hume City Council have delivered budget savings between the 2024/25 and 2025/26 budgets? Please provide a clear breakdown by department, including the amount reduced.

Response: Chief Financial Officer

Thank you for your question. This question will be taken on notice and responded to at a future Council meeting.

PQ1331 PUBLIC QUESTION - CHRIS O'NEILL

Council would be aware that the increased number of heavy vehicle movements—particularly effluent trucks servicing greenfield housing estates and transporting waste to the Sunbury Waste Water Treatment Plant—has resulted in significant deterioration of local infrastructure.

Jackson's Street, Harker Street, several Council roundabouts, gutters, and drains are now showing visible damage. Residents pay sewerage rates that cover maintenance of pipes; in cases where these pipes are not yet connected to the treatment plant.

Are these costs being used to cover maintenance of other infrastructure damaged by heavy vehicles and can Council confirm whether it is actively seeking, or intends to seek, repair budgets or compensation from Melbourne Water or the relevant water authority to address the road and infrastructure damage caused by these truck movements?

Response: Acting Director Infrastructure & Assets

Council is aware of the increased heavy vehicle movements associated with transport to the Sunbury Waste Water Treatment Plant however the infrastructure and service arrangements are led by Great Western Water.

Council shares the communities frustration with the current arrangement in place for the management of waste water in many greenfields areas, however sewer infrastructure is not controlled or constructed by Council.

Council can confirm that the developer is responsible until the ultimate infrastructure is in place. Council has no input into this process, but we certainly share the frustration with the additional truck traffic.

Council regularly advocates to developers and the Victorian Government about the need for the timely delivery of infrastructure in our growing communities.

Council's Road Management Plan, outlines how often roads and footpaths are inspected, the intervention levels for defects and response times for when defects are identified. Under the Plan, road inspections of Jacksons Street and Harper Street were last done in April 2025, and footpaths were inspected in May and June 2025.

Under the Plan, additional inspections can also be done at any time in response to reports of damage. In response to your comments, Jacksons Street and Harper Street will be inspected this week and arrangements made to repair any defects that exceed intervention levels.

The increased movements referenced here are legally using the road, therefore Council is unable to recoup costs to address road or infrastructure damage which may be caused.

PQ1332 PUBLIC QUESTION - JACK SHERIFF

Now that the 2020–2024 Councillor term has concluded, can Council please provide a full and complete list of every complaint which had been lodged to the Principal Conduct Registrar for alleged Councillor misconduct only, which did not proceed to a Councillor Conduct Panel, including who the complainants were, what the outcome of each matter was as whether there was a finding of breach, no breach, the application was withdrawn or any other result, and also include the costs incurred for each application if reported or since calculated, such as the appointment of arbiters, room hire, catering, security, transcription services and staff costs for responding to emails, telephone calls and other matters, calculated at the relevant hourly rate of the Council officers involved?

Response: Chief Financial Officer

This question will be taken on notice and responded to at a future Council meeting.

PQ1333 PUBLIC QUESTION - JACK SHERIFF

Are there any other matters from this period involving former Councillors that remained as continuing or ongoing legal complaints or proceedings, and if so, can Council please list these matters and provide their outcomes to date?

Response: Chief Financial Officer

This question will be taken on notice and responded to at a future Council meeting.

8. OFFICERS' REPORTS

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.1	2024/25 Performance Statement	5
	Moved Cr Karen Sherry, Seconded Cr Ally Watson	
	That Council:	
	1. Provides in principle approval of the 2024/25 Performance Statement and notes the 2024/25 Governance and Management Checklist.	
	2. Authorises the Mayor, Councillor Jarrod Bell and Councillor Ally Watson to certify the 2024/25 Performance Statement in its final form after any recommended changes have been made and agreed to by the Victorian Auditor General.	
	CARRIED	
Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.2	2024/25 End of Year Financial Statements	35
	Moved Cr Sam Misho, Seconded Cr Karen Sherry	
	1. That Council resolves to approve in principle the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.	
	2. That the Mayor, Councillor Jarrod Bell and Councillor Ally Watson be authorised to certify the Financial Statements in their final form after any recommended changes have been made and agreed to by the Auditor-General.	

3. That the CFO be authorised to make any non-material amendments as required.

CARRIED

Councillor Jim Overend left the meeting during discussion on item 8.3 *Rate Arrears – Year Ended 30 June 2025*, the time being 7:50pm.

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.3	Rate Arrears – Year Ended 30 June 2025	95

Moved Cr Sam Misho, **Seconded** Cr Ally Watson

Councillor Jim Overend returned to the meeting during discussion on item 8.3 *Rate Arrears – Year Ended 30 June 2025*, the time being 7:52 pm.

1. That the Rate Arrears Report as at 30 June 2025 be received and noted.
2. That Council reaffirms its commitment to supporting the community by continuing to implement realistic and manageable payment plans during these challenging and uncertain times.

Moved Cr Kate Hamley, **Seconded** Cr Naim Kurt

That the following points be included as an amendment:

3. That Council writes to the Minister for Local Government seeking clarification on the timeframe for finalising the State Government's Rates Hardship Guidelines and that Council reviews its Rates Financial Hardship Policy once the guidelines have been released.
4. That in addition to the current options/platforms available for the payment of rates, Council explores alternative platforms.
5. That Council explores measures to incentivise early rates payments or entry into payment plans.

LOST

The substantive motion was then put.

1. That the Rate Arrears Report as at 30 June 2025 be received and noted.
2. That Council reaffirms its commitment to supporting the community by continuing to implement realistic and manageable payment plans during these challenging and uncertain times.

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.4	Response to NOM25/25 - Cr Naim Kurt - Jacana Valley	115

Moved Cr Naim Kurt, **Seconded** Cr Karen Sherry

Councillor John Haddad left the meeting during discussion on item 8.4 *Response to NOM25/25 - Cr Naim Kurt - Jacana Valley*, the time being 8:22pm.

Councillor Steve Gagen left the meeting during discussion on item 8.4 *Response to NOM25/25 - Cr Naim Kurt - Jacana Valley*, the time being 8:23pm.

Councillor Steve Gagen returned to the meeting during discussion on item 8.4 *Response to NOM25/25 - Cr Naim Kurt - Jacana Valley*, the time being 8:24pm

Councillor John Haddad returned to the meeting during discussion on item 8.4 *Response to NOM25/25 - Cr Naim Kurt - Jacana Valley*, the time being 8:24pm.

1. That Council note the update on the implementation of the Masterplan and revised actions to meet its intent where they couldn't be implemented.
2. That noting the original plan for the 1000 steps is not feasible that discussions for a future project in the plan area be referred to the Budget Planning weekend for consideration.
3. That complementary activities such as revegetation and trail links to key points of interest be pursued along with further work on the Chain of Ponds Collaboration for Moonee Ponds Creek and considered in the 26/27 Budget.

LOST

A division was requested: The result of the division was as follows:

For	Against
Cr Steve Gagen	Cr Jarrod Bell
Cr Kate Hamley	Cr Sam Misho
Cr Naim Kurt	Cr Jim Overend
Cr Karen Sherry	Cr Ally Watson
Abstained	
Cr John Haddad	

Moved Cr Ally Watson, **Seconded** Cr Sam Misho

1. That Council note the update on the implementation of the Masterplan and revised actions to meet its intent where they couldn't be implemented.
2. That given the results of investigations the '1000 steps' and 'Pitch and Putt course' are not viable and not recommended to proceed.

3. That complementary activities such as revegetation and trail links to key points of interest be pursued along with further work on the Chain of Ponds Collaboration for Moonee Ponds Creek and considered in the 26/27 Budget.

DEFERRAL OF ITEM

Moved Cr Naim Kurt, **Seconded** Cr Kate Hamley

That the item be deferred.

LOST

The substantive motion moved by Cr Watson and seconded by Cr Misho was put.

1. That Council note the update on the implementation of the Masterplan and revised actions to meet its intent where they couldn't be implemented.
2. That given the results of investigations the '1000 steps' and 'Pitch and Putt course' are not viable and not recommended to proceed.
3. That complementary activities such as revegetation and trail links to key points of interest be pursued along with further work on the Chain of Ponds Collaboration for Moonee Ponds Creek and considered in the 26/27 Budget.

CARRIED

A division was requested: The result of the division was as follows:

For	Against
Cr Jarrod Bell	Cr Steve Gagen
Cr Sam Misho	Cr John Haddad
Cr Jim Overend	Cr Kate Hamley
Cr Karen Sherry	Cr Naim Kurt
Cr Ally Watson	

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.5	Sports Aid Grants Program 2024/25 Overview	124

Moved Cr Karen Sherry, **Seconded** Cr Sam Misho

That Council:

1. Acknowledge the 2024/25 SAGP attracted 197 applications, of which 150 applicants were successful in their SAGP applications, receiving a total of \$38,613.91. (Attachment 1: 2024/25 SAGP Summary Report)
2. Acknowledge the SAGP Annual Review as outlined in Table 1: SAGP Annual Review Summary, and notes that future funding rounds will incorporate the changes as outlined.
3. Endorse the 2025/26 SAGP and SAGP Guidelines (Attachment 2: SAGP Guidelines)

CARRIED

MINUTES

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.6	Gladstone Park Bowls Club - Business Case Report	137

Mr Ron Chappel addressed the gallery on item 8.6 *Gladstone Park Bowls Club - Business Case Report*.

Moved Cr Naim Kurt, **Seconded** Cr Steve Gagen

That the item be deferred.

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.7	Contract No. 30 25 3641 - Provision of Dumped Bulk Waste Collection Services	188

Moved Cr Ally Watson, **Seconded** Cr Karen Sherry

That Council

1. **Awards Contract No. 30 25 3641 – Dumped Waste Collection Services to:**
 - 1.1 **WM Waste Management Services**
 - 1.2 **Topgun Workforce Pty Ltd**
 - 1.3 **Recycle Maintenance Solutions t/a J.P Agius**
2. **Awards the contract as per the attached tendered schedule of rates (incl. GST).**
3. **Notes that the contract term will commence on 1 November 2025 for an initial period of five (5) years, with the option of a further two (2), one-year extensions.**
4. **Authorises CPI adjustments to occur in accordance with the conditions of contract.**
5. **Authorises for Variations to be managed in accordance with the confidential attachment.**
6. **Delegates to the Director Infrastructure and Assets to finalise and execute the contract documentation.**
7. **Delegates to the Director Infrastructure and Assets the authority to review, and approve the contract extensions, in accordance with the contract provisions. The use of this authority is to be reported to Council within 3 months.**

Councillor Sam Misho left the meeting during discussion on item 8.7 *Contract No. 30 25 3641 - Provision of Dumped Bulk Waste Collection Services* and did not vote on the item, the time being 9:00pm.

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.8	Monthly Capital Works Update	195

Moved Cr Karen Sherry, **Seconded** Cr Ally Watson

1. **That Council receives and notes the report.**

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.9	Correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament - August 2025	197

Moved Cr John Haddad, **Seconded** Cr Steve Gagen

Councillor Ally Watson left the meeting during discussion on item 8.9 *Correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament - August 2025*, the time being 9:03 pm.

Councillor Sam Misho returned to the meeting item 8.9 *Correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament - August 2025*, the time being 9:03pm.

Councillor Ally Watson returned to the meeting item 8.9 *Correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament - August 2025*, the time being 9:06pm.

That Council:

- 1. Notes this report on correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament in August 2025.**

Councillor Karen Sherry left the meeting during discussion on item 8.9 *Correspondence received from or sent to Government Ministers or Members of Parliament - August 2025*, and did not vote on the item the time being 9:06pm.

CARRIED

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
9.1	NOM 25/50 - Cr Jarrod Bell - Canterbury Hills Estate Truck Movement	246

The Mayor vacated the Chair at 9:07pm

The Deputy Mayor took over the Chair at 9:07pm

Moved Cr Jarrod Bell, **Seconded** Cr Kate Hamley

Councillor Karen Sherry returned to the meeting during discussion on item 9.1 *NOM 25/50 - Cr Jarrod Bell - Canterbury Hills Estate Truck Movement*, the time being 9:06pm.

That Council:

- 1. Stands in solidarity with the residents of the Canterbury Hills Estate, particularly those along Canterbury Avenue, whose lifestyle has been considerably impacted by the movement of in excess of 300 trucks per day. Council acknowledges the significant distress this has caused through sleep deprivation, anxiety, safety risks, and damage to roads, vehicles, and private property.**
- 2. Expresses its deep frustration at the blatant disregard and disrespect shown to local residents by the drivers of these vehicles and those who have engaged them.**

3. Notes and accepts the independence of Council's Authorised Officers as a vital and valued part of Council's investigative processes and the broader legal system, ensuring appropriate safeguards against interference and upholding the principles of natural justice.
4. Acknowledges that while Council officers are conducting thorough investigations, the time taken and the absence of visible enforcement action from Council and other regulatory authorities have compounded the lived impacts on residents and left the community feeling unsupported.

Accordingly, Council directs officers to:

- a. Complete investigations at the earliest possible opportunity to enable any action to halt disruptive and unacceptable activity.
 - b. Prioritise and allocate all necessary and available Council resources to expedite a resolution.
 - c. Provide Councillors with written updates twice weekly until the matter is resolved.
 - d. Actively pursue any further legal, regulatory, or innovative measures that may assist in restoring the safety, amenity, and quality of life of Canterbury Hills residents.
 - e. Undertake a review of Council's investigation process with a view to:
 - i. ensuring adequate resources are available to officers to undertake their responsibilities,
 - ii. determining whether investigations were initiated at the earliest possible opportunity,
 - iii. identifying opportunities to achieve faster and more effective outcomes,
- and
- iv. considering whether legislative changes at a State level are needed to provide Councils with stronger powers to prevent repeated unlawful activity of this kind.
 - f. Report the findings of this review to Council no later than the end of July 2026, including any recommendations for advocacy to relevant Ministers and Members of Parliament for legislative or regulatory reform to prevent similar issues arising in the future.

CARRIED

The Deputy Mayor vacated the Chair at 9:17pm

The Mayor resumed as the Chair at 9:17pm

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
9.2	NOM25/51 - Cr Naim Kurt - Council Advocacy Strategy	248

Moved Cr Naim Kurt, **Seconded** Cr Kate Hamley

Councillor John Haddad left the meeting during discussion on item 9.2 *NOM25/51 - Cr Naim Kurt - Council Advocacy Strategy*, the time being 9:20pm.

Councillor John Haddad returned to the meeting during discussion on item 9.2 *NOM25/51 - Cr Naim Kurt - Council Advocacy Strategy*, the time being 9:20pm.

That as part of Council's Advocacy Strategy, officers investigate and report back to a future Councillor Briefing on options regarding:

1. Establishing an annual advocacy cycle, including a yearly review of priorities and outcomes achieved, reported through Council.
2. Formalising a consistent approach for submissions to Federal and State budgetary processes, to both Government and Opposition.
3. Investigations of strengthening strategic support, either through use of Government Relations firms and/or media advisors.
4. Reviewing Council's grants management and assessment framework, including KPIs, the External Grants Management Policy and different approaches to the full funding of capital projects from general rates revenue.
5. Developing a branded advocacy website on advocacy priorities, to publish plans, correspondence, inquiry submissions, media coverage, and opportunities for community involvement.
6. Establishing branded campaigns on strategic advocacy issues, including advertising, designs, and slogans.
7. Mechanisms to support and empower community advocacy, including consideration of a "Friends of Hume" network.
8. Embedding the use of research studies and evidence-based analysis to inform advocacy positions and campaigns.
9. Leveraging civic and community events to promote advocacy priorities.

LOST

A division was requested: The result of the division was as follows:

For

Cr Jarrod Bell
Cr Kate Hamley
Cr Naim Kurt

Against

Cr Steve Gagen
Cr John Haddad
Cr Sam Misho
Cr Jim Overend
Cr Karen Sherry
Cr Ally Watson

10. ITEMS TO BE TABLED

Nil

11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

12. DELEGATES REPORTS

Cr Karen Sherry reported on her attendance at the Single Living Entity Concept in Planning for Waterways Report Launch and Panel Discussion.

13. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 9:37pm