



**COUNCIL MEETING OF  
THE HUME CITY COUNCIL**

**MONDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**7:00PM**

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

**CONFIRMED - 14 OCTOBER 2024**



# HUME CITY COUNCIL

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**Minutes** of the

## **COUNCIL MEETING OF THE HUME CITY COUNCIL**

held on Monday, 23 September 2024

**at 7:00pm**

at the Council Chamber - Hume Global Learning Centre Broadmeadows

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Attendees:	a: Council	Cr Naim Kurt	Mayor
		Cr Karen Sherry	Deputy Mayor
		Cr Jarrod Bell	
		Cr Trevor Dance	
		Cr Joseph Haweil	
		Cr Chris Hollow	
		Cr Jodi Jackson	
		Cr Jack Medcraft	
		Cr Sam Misho	
		Cr Carly Moore	
		Cr Jim Overend	
	b: Officers	Ms Sheena Frost	Chief Executive Officer
		Ms Rachel Dapiran	Director City Planning and Places
		Ms Kristen Cherry	Act. Director City Services & Living
		Mr Adam McSwain	Director Infrastructure and Assets
		Mr Hector Gaston	Director Customer & Strategy
		Ms Fiona Shanks	Chief People Officer
		Mr Fadi Srour	Chief Financial 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**

The Mayor read the following:

“Almighty God, we humbly beseech Thee to vouchsafe Thy blessing upon this Council. Direct and prosper its deliberations to the advancement of Thy glory and the true welfare of the people of the Hume City.”

Amen

**3. APOLOGIES**

Nil

The CEO advised Cr Dance and Cr Haweil have requested to attend electronically in accordance with section 77 of the Governance Rules.

Cr Dance has requested to attend electronically in accordance with sub rule 77.5.3 and Cr Haweil in accordance with sub rule 77.5.1.

**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.

Cr Trevor Dance declared a conflict of Interest in relation to Confidential Item 13.1 - Council Notification of Complaint

**5. CONGRATULATIONS AND CONDOLENCES****5.1 – Presentation of Awards – Departing Chief People Officer, Fiona Shanks**

In recognition of her outstanding leadership dedication and service, we commend her for the exceptional efforts and unwavering commitment she has shown to her colleagues and staff, leaving a lasting and meaningful impact on Hume City Council.

**6. CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

Minutes of the Council Meeting held 9 September 2024, including Confidential Minutes.

**Moved** Cr Carly Moore, **Seconded** Cr Jack Medcraft

**THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held 9 September 2024, including Confidential Minutes, be confirmed.**

**CARRIED**

## 7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

**PQ1212 PUBLIC QUESTION – MALCOLM JOHN THOMPSON**

I have received my rates and valuation notice for 2024/25 and have the following questions. What is the percentage rise from last year for, The general rates Kerbside waste charge and public waste charge?

**RESPONSE: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

The percentage rise when comparing the **2023/24 Budget** to the **2024/25 Budget** is as follows -

	<b>2023/24 Budget</b>	<b>2024/25 Budget</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	
<b>General Rates</b>	\$167,275m	\$175,997	\$8,722m	<b>5.21%</b>
<b>Kerbside Waste Charge</b>	\$25,642m	\$35,949m	\$10,307m	<b>40.19%</b>
<b>Public Waste Charge</b>	\$21,854m	\$25,455m	\$3,601m	<b>16.48%</b>

The 2024/25 Budget is for a 2.75% rate increase across all classes of properties for the 2024/25 year. However, the amount of rates paid by each ratepayer varies as the total rates revenue is apportioned to each rateable property according to the property's value.

Additionally, the total number of rateable properties grew by over 3,300 from 23/24 to 24/25. As such, council's general rates revenue has increased by 5.21% from \$167.28 million to \$175.99 million, an increase of \$8.72 million. The increase above the rate cap is attributed to the growth in property numbers throughout the Financial Year.

All waste charges are cost recovery only, and primarily relate to additional costs associated with the mandated new Recycling Victoria's Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) service.

It is also important to note that Council's waste charge is administered on a cost recovery basis only.

**PQ1213 PUBLIC QUESTION – MALCOLM JOHN THOMPSON**

Could Council please provide the breakdown of the Conferences and Training expenses for each Councillor between the 1st of October 2020 to 30th June 2024?

**REPOSE: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Councillors are allocated annual training allowances to support them to attend relevant conferences or to undertake training which supports them in their role with Hume City Council. Expenses incurred for training and conferences are assessed and paid in accordance with the Council Expenses Policy.

Quarterly reports on Councillor expenses are published on Council's website, in addition to regular reporting to Council's Audit & Risk Committee.

A breakdown for each Councillor's conference and training expenses between 1 October 2020 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 will be provided at the next Council Meeting.

**PQ1214 PUBLIC QUESTION – MELINDA O’NEILL**

In a recent council meeting (July 22) a question was raised about the costs associated with holding a council meeting virtually with the cost identified as \$12.14 per meeting, which was very cost effective. Meetings held in person have significant costs Including all associated travel claims, catering, security, audio visual and room hire costs. My question is, what was the total average cost per council and briefing meeting held in person for the 23/24 budget year?

**RESPONSE: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Thank you for this question, which was taken on notice at the Council meeting held on 26 August 2024. The total average cost per Council Meeting held in person for 23/24 financial year was \$3742.20. This includes average expenses incurred for travel claims, catering, security, and staffing costs.

The total average cost per Council briefing held in person for 23/24 financial year was \$3530.20. This includes average expenses incurred for travel claims, catering, security, and staffing costs which are lower than incurred for council meetings. To further public transparency and access to council decision making processes, all Council Meetings are live streamed. This incurred audio visual support costs of \$6843.14 on average per meeting

**PQ1215 PUBLIC QUESTION – CHRIS O’NEILL**

In the Hume City Council 2024/25 budget, what is the capital works spend breakdown by ward?

**RESPONSE: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Please find 2024/25 budget by ward in the following table.

Ward	\$' M
AITKEN	26.67
JACKSONS	39.01
MEADOW VALLEY	27.09
CITYWIDE	62.04
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>154.82</b>

**PQ1216 PUBLIC QUESTION - DANIEL ENGLISH**

For this term of Council, how many Notices of Motion has each Councillor submitted

**RESPONSE: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Thank you for this question. This question will be taken on notice and a response will be provided at the next Council meeting on 14 October 2024.

**8. OFFICERS’ REPORTS**

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.1	Performance Statement 2023/24	5

**Moved** Cr Karen Sherry, **Seconded** Cr Carly Moore

- 2.1 That Council resolves to approve in principle the Performance Statement (Attachment One) for the financial year ending 30 June 2024 and note the associated Governance and Management Checklist (Attachment Two).**
- 2.2 That the Mayor, Councillor Naim Kurt and Councillor Carly Moore be authorised to certify the statements in their 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	<b>2023/24 End of Year Financial Statements</b>	41
	<b>Moved Cr Carly Moore, Seconded Cr Sam Misho</b>	
	<p><b>2.1 That Council resolves to approve in principle the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.</b></p> <p><b>2.2 That the Mayor, Councillor Naim Kurt and Councillor Carly Moore 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.</b></p>	

Councillor Jim Overend left the meeting during item 8.2 - 2023/24 End of Year Financial Statements, the time being 7:41pm and did not vote.

**CARRIED**

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.3	<b>End of Year Capital Works Report - June 2024</b>	103
	<b>Moved Cr Jarrod Bell, Seconded Cr Karen Sherry</b>	
	<b>2.1 That the report be received and noted.</b>	

Councillor Jim Overend returned to the meeting during item 8.3 End of Year Capital Works Report, the time being 7:44pm.

**CARRIED**

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.4	<b>Monthly Capital Works Update</b>	137
	<b>Moved Cr Chris Hollow, Seconded Cr Karen Sherry</b>	
	<b>2.1 That Council receive and note the report</b>	

**CARRIED**

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.5	<b>Report to Council on Audit and Risk Committee Business Undertaken - 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024</b>	139
	<b>Moved Cr Jarrod Bell, Seconded Cr Karen Sherry</b>	
	<b>That Council:</b>	
	<b>2.1 Notes the report from the Audit and Risk Committee on the activities undertaken by the Committee for the period 1 January 2024 – 30 June 2024.</b>	

CARRIED

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
8.6	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes - 7 June 2024	147

Moved Cr Jarrod Bell, **Seconded** Cr Jodi Jackson

**THAT Council notes the Open Minutes of Hume City Council's Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 7 June 2024.**

CARRIED

## 9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Report No.	Report	Page in Agenda
9.1	NOM24/57 - Cr Jim Overend	163

Moved Cr Jim Overend, **Seconded** Cr Chris Hollow

**THAT Council writes to the Hon Melissa Horne, Minister for Roads and Roads Safety and ask when the second stage for the Duplication of Mickleham Road will commence.**

CARRIED

## 10. ITEMS TO BE TABLED

Nil

## 11. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

## 12. DELEGATES REPORTS

Cr Karen Sherry reported on the MAV conference held on the 12 September 2024.

## 13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The Meeting may be closed to members of the public to consider confidential items.

**Moved** Cr Jarrod Bell, **Seconded** Cr Jack Medcraft

**THAT Council close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* to consider the following items:**

- 8.4**            **Monthly Capital Works Update *Confidential Attachment – Monthly Capital Report – August 2024***
- 13.1**           **Council Notification of Complaint Item 13.1 is confidential in accordance with Section 3(1)(f) of the Local Government Act 2020 because it is personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting was closed to the public at 8:10pm.

The meeting was not reopened to the public.

#### **14. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 9:11pm.