

LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL®

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#### PART 3: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (SEPARATE COVER)

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Liverpool City Council acknowledges the original inhabitants of the Liverpool area, being the Darug and Dharawal Aboriginal people.

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE





I am extremely proud of Liverpool City Council's achievements during the 2019-20 financial year, particularly during such unprecedented circumstances.

Council staff provided support and stability to the community during a challenging and uncertain time and I am pleased to present the achievements of the organisation in the Annual Report for 2019-20.

COVID-19 restrictions limited social gatherings and access to community facilities for part of the year, however staff worked quickly to provide innovative solutions for connection through online activities and events. Our libraries and the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre closed for a relatively short period and adapted quickly with comprehensive digital programs for people of all ages.

Our frontline staff continued to work hard for the community. Household rubbish collection and our Customer Service Call Centre continued operations. The Customer Service Centre closed temporarily but was soon reopened with COVID-safe hygiene barriers and processes in place to protect the health and safety of staff and the community.

Infrastructure works were able to continue during the year. A \$1.9 million upgrade of Apex Park was completed during coronavirus restrictions. Council built a new four-court tennis facility at McGirr Park in Miller and has commenced construction of the \$16 million multi-purpose Lurnea Community Hub. Planning for upcoming infrastructure works was also undertaken with the design of the new recreation space at Cirillo Reserve and detailed designs for the Stante Reserve Water Park, both in Middleton Grange.

Council worked hard support to businesses and the local economy this year offering a rates rebate program for landowners who demonstrated a 30 per cent loss in the rental period and a grants program to help small businesses adapt and build resilience.

MAYOR WENDY WALLER

We amended our hardship provisions to allow residents, businesses and farmland properties to apply to delay rate payments. We offered rent abatements for many Council tenants and suspended outdoor dining permit fees and health inspection fees.

Council adopted a discretionary approach to parking infringements, with a focus on protecting public health and safety, and instigated a free parking permit system to support essential workers and local businesses in the Liverpool City Centre.

The Liverpool City Centre Public Domain Master Plan was endorsed creating a 10-year vision for a more vibrant city centre with an 18-hour economy. Once COVID-19 restrictions were in place, Council established the 'Support Local' campaign to assist business in strengthening their online presence.

Council's COVID-19 recovery program provided homeless and vulnerable groups with necessity packs containing wipes, hand sanitiser and printed timetables for free food services. Our community centres were opened to charities and government agencies to ensure the delivery of critical and essential services, including food sorting and distribution. We have been present for those who need us most during these trying times.

It was heart-warming to see that the efforts of outstanding Liverpudlians were not gone unnoticed during the year. Local volunteers were celebrated at the annual Gift of Time ceremony and with the Order of Liverpool Awards presentation, both done online. More than 60 organisations and individuals were recognised for their achievements and positive contributions to the local community and their commitment to making Liverpool a better place.

Though fires, floods and COVID-19 have presented unique trials this year, Council continues to deliver for the community and I would like to extend a thank you to staff for the extraordinary work that has been done during the last financial year.



#### CEO'S MESSAGE





I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the 2019-20 financial year to Council and the community.

The 2019-20 financial year involved many challenges. I am proud of the efforts and flexibility of staff in ensuring that Council continued to deliver exceptional services to the community and provide support during the uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Council had to lead the city through an unprecedented time while still delivering essential services and progressing important community projects. Infrastructure works have continued with an upgrade to Apex Park in Liverpool, new tennis courts at McGirr Park in Miller and a new recreation area at Cirillo Reserve in Middleton Grange. These upgrades to outdoor spaces improve community health and wellbeing in these uncertain times and provide all-important spaces for exercise and recreation.

Council has also provided other support to the community during COVID-19 times, from providing free parking for essential workers in the city centre to opening Council facilities to ensure products and services could be provided to those most vulnerable. Fifty small businesses received Business Resilience grants while the community was encouraged to shop local and support Liverpool's economy.

Although the fires, floods and COVID-19 restrictions presented challenges to the way we deliver our services, Council continued to support the community in planning for the future. This includes developing and adopting the Local Strategic Planning Statement Connected Liverpool 2040 which guides development for Liverpool over the next 20 years.

This is the third instalment of the Annual Report on the Community Strategic Plan Our Home, Liverpool 2027. Part One of this report gives an overview of Council's achievements in relation to delivering on the Community Strategic Plan while Part Two provides a report on statutory obligations in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Comprehensive information on the principal activities set out in the Delivery Program 2017-21 and Operational Plan 2019-20 can be found in the latest instalment of Council's Biannual Report on the Corporate Information page of Council's website.

I look forward to continuing to work closely with the community, Councillors and staff to deliver exceptional services and outcomes for the city. I thank our Mayor, Councillors and wonderful staff for their hard work and efforts during the last twelve months.

E Vallen
CEO, DR EDDIE JACKSON



## PART 1 ACHIEVENTS

#### DIRECTORATE

#### CITY COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

The City Community and Culture directorate is responsible for delivering services that add to the liveability, amenity and connectedness of the community's diverse and growing population. This directorate includes community planning and development, the management of libraries, community facilities, children's services, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, major events, recreation and open space and civic events.

The strategic priorities of this group are to create an informed city that fosters community cohesion and equitable access to facilities and resources to enhance liveability. City Community and Culture contributed to the community's goals identified in the Community Strategic Plan by celebrating diversity and promoting inclusion, delivering a range of events and activities, providing community facilities, which are accessible to all, and increasing community engagement.

## City Community and Culture highlights:

- Council celebrated the efforts of local volunteers and workers at the annual Gift of Time ceremony in August at Liverpool Catholic Club. More than 60 organisations and individuals were recognised for their achievements, contributions and positive impacts to the local community;
- The sixth annual Liverpool City Council Charity Ball was held in September. The 'Tokyo Nights'-themed event included fine dining, live entertainment and dancing. More than \$50,000 was raised for the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research to support its student-focused programs for young people in Liverpool who are interested in health and science;
- Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre celebrated its 25th anniversary in October. The local community was invited to share this milestone and enjoyed unique exhibitions, performances and programs;
- Liverpool Youth Council members past and present - gathered in November to celebrate 20 years of giving young people a voice in the Liverpool area.
- Council opened the inaugural Liverpool Sculpture Walk with Sculpture by the Sea founding director David Handley in December. The 10 sculptures have been

- installed along the Georges River at Casula Parklands;
- Council, in collaboration with Channel 10, hosted Australia Day 2020 at Woodward Park. More than 7000 people attended the event, which featured live entertainment, international cuisine, rides and games;
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, Council has delivered library programs online to keep the community entertained and connected. Children's online entertainment included Storytime sessions, which were delivered in various languages; Mini Makes craft projects; and a Lego challenge via the Library Facebook page. Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre also hosted a variety of virtual entertainment, workshops and exhibitions. This included backstage curatorial tours, interviews with artists, podcast recordings, an online market, cooking classes and gardening tips;
- Council's COVID-19 recovery program supported homeless and vulnerable groups. Necessity packs were distributed. They contained wipes, hand sanitiser and swags, a printed timetable of free food services and essential phone numbers. Council's community centres were opened to charities and government agencies to deliver critical and essential services, including food sorting, distribution and shelter. Council was also able to facilitate distribution of hand sanitisers and Personal Protective Equipment to local charities and community organisations to support safe and hygienic delivery of services:

- In the year there were 10,170 residents across Liverpool registered with local sports clubs, representing more than 500,000 individual participations. The Council area's participation rate of 1.22 per cent of residents registered with an organised sports club is higher than the averages of both metropolitan Councils (1.18 per cent) and the State (1.19 per cent). It demonstrates good levels of participation in organised sport by Council's residents;
- Council provided financial support via nine sport grants programs totalling \$30,000 to local sports clubs with a further \$3000 donated between 15 local sports persons through its Sporting Donations program;
- Council's program to modernise and improve community venues and recreation facilities continued, with six renovations that included an upgrade of the outdoor 50 metre pool at Whitlam Leisure Centre;
- Council partnered with Civic Disability
   Services and Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
   to host the 2019 International Day of People
   with Disability in December. The event
   increases public awareness, understanding
   and acceptance of people with disability
   and celebrates the achievements and

- contributions of people with disability. The event was a success with more than 5500 attendees;
- Liverpool's leisure centres delivered programs for people with a disability with 80 enrolments in the Take Charge! Program. This gives support to adults experiencing a specific range of mental health conditions so they may participate in fitness programs. The Swim Champs Program, which provides learnto-swim training for children with a disability, delivered 65 lessons each week. Importantly, a further 23 children were able to transition into mainstream swim classes after achieving the objective of aquatic independence;
- Moorebank Library was given a major refresh to bring it up to modern standards. This included new carpet, shelving, furniture and painting. The library layout was also revised to make use of natural light. It incorporates a new children's space; and
- Introduction of the Liverpool Library App means that anyone can now have access to the library's' collections on their phones. The app can search the catalogue, reserve an item or apply to the library to purchase an item.









## CITY PRESENTATION

The City Presentation directorate is responsible for delivering services across the city and Council's facilities to improve amenity and liveability. This includes delivering infrastructure and open and public space maintenance for the community across parks, recreation, trees, green space maintenance, roads and footpath maintenance, Central Business District cleaning, waste services, fleet and vehicle management and trades.

The strategic priorities of this group are to ensure a clean and maintained city and provide accessible open space and waste services.

City Presentation contributed to the community's goals in the Community Strategic Plan by managing the community's disposal of rubbish, protecting bushland, rivers and the visual landscape and assisting in developing transport networks to create an accessible city.

#### **City Presentation Highlights:**

- Council donated \$20,000 to the local fire service during the extreme bushfire season in early 2020;
- More than 17,000 square metres of road pavement was repaired and resurfaced at various locations. Some 20 kilometres of road shoulder areas were re-graded and maintained;
- Council worked with NSW Health expert Dr Cameron Webb to develop a Mosquito Management Plan. The plan is to ensure public health risks associated with mosquitos are minimised;
- The Community Recycling Centre experienced 26,296 visits, up 25 per cent over last year's 21,388 visits;

- Council educational programs and initiatives drew more than 5500 participants. The programs encouraged sustainability, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in the local community;
- Council received and actioned almost 72,000 customer requests throughout the year, ranging in issues from clean up bookings to park and tree pruning and pothole maintenance;
- Each part of Liverpool now has a dedicated parks team that takes ownership for the parks in that area resulting in more mowing and tidier parks; and
- Council provided 12 staff, a lead coordinator and various plant and equipment to Wingecarribee Shire Council to assist with bushfire recovery in February.







#### DIRECTORATE

#### **CITY ECONOMY AND GROWTH**

The City Economy and Growth directorate is responsible for delivering services which embrace the opportunities that growth and development bring to Liverpool. It directs these opportunities towards economic prosperity and community amenity. This includes delivering services such as design excellence advisory services, place-focused land use and transport planning, development assessment and engineering, community standards, strategic planning and economic development.

The strategic priorities of this group are harnessing and encouraging economic growth, ensuring high

quality and sustainable urban growth and efficient development processes in recognition of Liverpool as Sydney's third Central Business District.

City Economy and Growth contributes to the community's goals in the Community Strategic Plan by working to meet the challenges of Liverpool's growing population, attracting businesses for economic growth and employment opportunities and creating an attractive, liveable and prosperous environment for investment. It also exercises planning controls to create high-quality, inclusive urban environments.







### City Economy and Growth Highlights:

- The Liverpool City Centre Public Domain Master Plan was endorsed in June. This is Council's 10-year vision to guide the development of public space and pave the way to a greener, more vibrant and active city centre while fostering an 18-hour-aday economy;
- Liverpool's Local Strategic Planning
   Statement was approved by the Greater
   Sydney Commission. Connected Liverpool
   2040 will guide development for the next
   20 years, balancing the need for housing,
   jobs and services as well as parks and
   community facilities to ensure the city
   remains liveable for generations to come;
- The Business Resilience Grant program provided \$172,000 to 50 small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- A 'Support Local' campaign was established to assist businesses with strengthening their online presence in response to COVID-19 restrictions. The campaign was coupled with a directory on Council's website that provided a list of businesses that were open during the pandemic;
- Council sought alternative methods of engaging the community during COVID-19, introducing a digital music event #LoveLivo Live, streaming on Council's Facebook page on the last Thursday of each month;

- Council's representations to Transport for NSW to improve regional traffic and transport infrastructure resulted in a commitment to construct 2,000 additional commuter carparking spaces at Edmondson Park train station. The first stage of construction is due to commence in October 2020;
- During the COVID-19 pandemic Council made a conscious effort to prioritise regionally significant development applications. This was to stimulate the economy and reduce the backlog of long outstanding development applications. This resulted in some \$200 million worth of regionally significant development approvals between March and June. This is in addition to another 1167 development applications valued at \$1.34 billion determined by Council in the financial year;
- The Pride of Place exhibition at Carnes Hill Library won the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage award in the Keep Australia Beautiful NSW 2019 awards. The exhibition will permanently showcase Aboriginal artefacts that are 4000-8000 years old; and
- Council won the Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government – Young Achievers Award. This award recognises young women in Council who make outstanding contributions to improve the community. The award was won by Elizabeth Pirolo, Council's Administration Officer for the City Economy team who has proved to be a valued member of the team with her organisational skills, focus on continuous learning and ensuring tasks are carried out efficiently and effectively.



## CITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

The City Infrastructure and Environment directorate is responsible for managing Council's vast portfolio of assets. This includes more than \$2 billion of built infrastructure assets and extensive natural assets comprising bushlands and river systems. Its responsibilities include design, delivery and renewal as well as overall asset management of infrastructure and building assets. This is to ensure they contribute to providing cost-effective, efficient and sustainable services to the community. Innovative asset solutions designed to meet the current and future needs of our community are adopted to shape the future of the city.

The strategic priorities of this group include infrastructure delivery, accessible transport and environmental protection and sustainability.

City Infrastructure and Environment contributes to the community's goals set in Council's Community Strategic Plan by providing community facilities which are accessible to all, encouraging sustainability, energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy, assisting in developing transport networks to create an accessible city and seeking efficient and innovative methods to manage our resources.

## City Infrastructure and Environment Highlights:

- The design of a new recreation space at Cirillo Reserve. This space will include two full-sized soccer fields for winter, a cricket oval for summer, a children's playground, an outdoor fitness gym, picnic facilities, an off-leash dog area and an amenity building;
- More than \$26.5 million was spent on preserving, restoring and enhancing roads and associated transport infrastructure.
   These works covered 52 streets with a total length of 34km;
- Construction of the Lurnea Community Hub commenced in June. This multipurpose space includes a dual soccer/ cricket sports oval and car parking;
- Council spent \$5.5 million on upgrading and renewing facilities, including a new amenity building, at Bigge Park, Liverpool. It features accessible toilets and change rooms;
- Liverpool's Environment Volunteers were excited to resume activities after a COVID-19 hiatus. This included a

- new group at Tucker Road, Casula. The Environment Volunteer program now has 10 groups that assist in planting native trees, weeding and litter removal;
- Council spent \$7.5 million renewing and improving passive open spaces and sporting ovals. These support healthy living in the community. Projects included a full landscape upgrade of Apex Park in the Liverpool CBD; four new tennis courts, parking and landscaping at McGirr Park, Miller; three new outdoor gyms, solar lighting at seven suburban parks; sunshade structures at four Council playgrounds and upgrades to 10 playgrounds.
- A new car park with 125 spaces was opened in the city centre. Located next to Memorial Avenue, it provides 10 hours' free parking, allowing workers in the CBD to park for free each day.
- Detailed designs have been completed for Stante Reserve Water Park in Middleton Grange and the Livvi's Place Inclusive Playground at Lieutenant Cantello Reserve in Hammondville.











## CITY CORPORATE

The City Corporate directorate is responsible for delivering services including finance, people and organisational development, governance, legal services, information technology, property, risk management, work health and safety and the customer service centre. This directorate ensures Council has an effective governance and business framework that complies with legislative requirements and promotes business excellence.

The strategic priorities of this group are financial and business sustainability, ethical governance, statutory compliance, customer experience and leadership support.

City Corporate has contributed to the community's goals set in the Community Strategic Plan by seeking efficient and innovative methods to manage Council resources and striving for best practice in all Council processes.

## City Corporate 2019-20 Annual Highlights

- The Customer Service Centre averaged 600 calls per day. Despite daily operations affected by COVID-19 restrictions, its staff guided the community through changing COVID-19 restrictions with the most-upto-date information;
- The Customer Service Centre took more than 156,000 calls, up 13,000 from the previous year. Despite the increase and changed working conditions due to COVID-19, there was an average handling time of three minutes and 27 seconds per call. The number of customer requests lodged increased by 5000 in 2019-20 to more than 111,000;
- Council introduced 'Pay by Plate', a technological upgrade to on-street parking machines. It eliminates the need for paper tickets, while providing more convenience to visitors in the city centre. All on-street parking now also receives 30 minutes of free parking;
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Council issued 388 free parking permits and pass cards to essential businesses and employees in the city centre;

- Next Generation Firewall software was implemented to further improve Council's security and data integrity;
- Microsoft Teams conferencing was successfully implemented by the organisation to ensure that Council operations and projects continued to be delivered despite COVID-19 restrictions;
- Council adopted a new Flexible Working Policy, improving the ability to attract, develop and retain a diverse workforce;
- A resolution by Council enabled staff to extend hardship provisions to all rating categories. These enabled customers experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic to work with Council staff to develop a payment plans and interest-free repayments.; and
- Council launched a new Employee
  Recognition Program which aims recognise
  individuals and teams who display
  commitment to the organisation's values
  and associated behaviours.





## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Office of the CEO manages integrated planning and reporting, communications, and services for Councillors, the Mayor and Executive Team. It is responsible for providing strategic leadership and support to the organisation to drive innovation and best practice in service delivery to the community.

The strategic priorities of this directorate are legislated planning and reporting requirements, media and communications services, engaging with

the community to ascertain priorities and organising Council meetings, briefings and correspondence.

The Office of the CEO contributes to the community's goals set in Council's Community Strategic Plan by striving for best practice in all Council processes, seeking efficient and innovative methods to manage Council resources and increasing community engagement.

#### Office of the CEO Highlights:

- Council collaborated with the NSW
  Department of Education, Western Sydney
  Airport, Western Sydney University,
  Technology 4 Learning and Stem Share
  to deliver the second annual Western
  Sydney International Airport Minecraft
  Competition. Students across 40 schools
  participated for the chance to win a share
  of \$40,000 for their school;
- Liverpool hosted the Local Government NSW Annual Conference. Almost 900 delegates from councils across NSW discussed the challenges in their communities at the William Inglis Hotel in Warwick Farm;
- Liverpool Awards, recognising the achievements of residents who have made outstanding contributions towards improving the City of Liverpool. The winners included Roy Wright, a member of the Liverpool Lions Club who is a long-time volunteer of community organisations such as Meals on Wheels, and Elizabeth Askell, who has been an advocate for rights and services for people with disabilities since 1979;
- Council advocated for the State
   Government to work more collaboratively
   to deliver high-quality public transport
   between Liverpool and the new Western
   Sydney International Airport. This resulted

- in Transport for NSW committing to begin construction on a train line to the airport by the end of 2020. This assists Council in planning for future sustainable communities along the rail link. In line with this, Council continues to advocate for funding to fast-track the Fifteenth Avenue Smart Transit Corridor project which will provide a vital link between Liverpool, the airport and the Western Sydney Aerotropolis;
- The Concept Masterplan and Early Works
  development applications for Liverpool
  Civic Place were submitted and approved.
  Early works, including demolition and
  excavation are programmed to commence
  on site in late 2020, with the Council Works
  component of Liverpool Civic Place to be
  completed towards the end of 2022 to early
  2023. The development will anchor and
  activate the southern end of Liverpool CBD,
  providing new public spaces, community
  facilities and job opportunities for our
  growing city;
- With social interactions limited, Council made sure to keep in touch with the community with weekly Facebook video messages from the Mayor, online District Forums and Council meetings; and
- Business planning training was delivered across the organisation's departments to equip 32 managers and coordinators with the skills to plan for their respective business units.







Council prides itself on celebrating the achievements of its staff. Several initiatives were selected as winners or finalists for awards during 2019-20.

Award	Category	Winner
Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Sustainable Cities Awards 2019	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Award	Pride of Place Exhibition at Carnes Hill Library
Local Government Procurement Awards 2019	Procurement Professional of the Year	Charlotte Cottam
Australian Hearts Awards 2019	Corporate Heart Hero	Jennifer Pudsey
Office of Local Government Minsters' Awards for Women in Local Government 2020	Young Achievers Award	Elizabeth Pirolo
Place Leaders Asia Pacific Conference 2019	Small Scale Place Project Award	Eat Your Heart Out
CivicRisk Mutual Awards	Excellence in Risk Management Award	Cladding Audit and Upgrade Program
Local Government Professionals NSW Col Mills Memorial Scholarship 2019	Scholarship Winner	Charlotte Cottam
Committee for Sydney Smart City Awards 2019	Best Cross Sectoral Collaboration Project	Global Jobs for the Future

Award	Category	Highly Commended/ Finalist
Local Government NSW Excellence in the Environment Awards 2019	Asbestos Management	Asbestos Exposure Risk Assessment Project
Local Government Professionals NSW Local Government Excellence Awards 2020	Community Partnerships and Collaboration	Liverpool City Council Public Domain Master Plan (Draft)
Local Government Professionals NSW Local Government Excellence Awards 2020	Community Partnerships and Collaboration	CALD Social Board Games and Conversation Café
Nintex Solution Innovation Awards 2020	Public Sector Standout	Liverpool City Council Nintex Promapp Improvement Team



## PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS REPORT

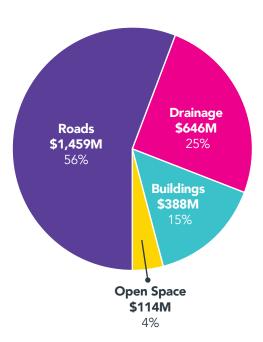
## PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS REPORT

#### Introduction

Liverpool City Council is responsible for the management, care and control of a wide range of infrastructure assets, representing a significant public investment and utility. These include public roads and other transport-related facilities, floodplain and drainage networks, buildings and properties, parks, open space, reserves, and recreational facilities. They have a combined replacement value of more than \$2.6 billion.

The asset categories and the corresponding values of these assets are shown below. Additional details regarding each category of these assets are provided in the Condition of Infrastructure Assets table that follows.

#### **Current Replacement Cost Infrastructure Assets 2020**



Council's assets are used to provide a range of services which aim to deliver social, environmental and economic outcomes for the community of Liverpool. The level of services delivered by these assets is largely determined by how they are maintained and managed.

#### **Strategic Asset Management**

Council is continuing to progress its Asset Management (AM) planning to facilitate consistent application of current best practice across the Liverpool local government area and across all categories of infrastructure assets. Its Strategic Asset Management policy, strategy and plans continue to provide an effective asset management decision-making framework. Applying such a decision-making framework has ensured that Council assets provide required levels of service over time and in a cost-effective manner.

Council's Asset Management System also facilitates a systematic approach to planning, programming and implementing the wide range of activities associated with effectively managing Council's infrastructure assets. The system includes processes for data collection, storage and lifecycle analysis to support decision-making about optimal use of resources for operating, maintaining, rehabilitating, upgrading and reconstructing infrastructure assets. Council's Asset Management Systems and processes are developed in accordance with the guidelines of the International Infrastructure Management Manual and the International Standards Organisation's 55,000 for achieving sound Strategic Asset Management outcomes.

Council's Asset Management System, now operating in the Cloud environment, continues to enhance the standard of various asset management practices including asset accounting, data accessibility, data security and integration with the geographic information system and customer request management system. This has enabled Council to fulfil the past recommendations of the NSW Audit Office.

#### **Asset condition**

Council uses its comprehensive database of asset information to assist necessary planning and valuation of assets to a high level of accuracy. Council's ongoing asset surveys continue to provide valuable data to determine the condition of the asset and its performance objective. It has enabled Council to develop maintenance and renewal strategies and programs which are responsive and cost-effective.

#### Asset renewal and replacement

Council continued its capital works program to renew and replace infrastructure assets to maintain satisfactory condition of the assets and assure services that rely on their proper functioning.

Works were funded from several income sources. This enabled the planned program of renewal works, and several new projects to be completed. Funding sources included:

- General rates revenue;
- Special rates variations;
- Stormwater management service charge;
- Environmental levy;
- Grants from Federal and State governments for a range of infrastructure projects; and
- Section 7.11 developer contributions.

Several major new projects were also begun to assist growth of new urban release areas and to manage their demand for expanded services.

#### Road and transport infrastructure

Council is responsible for caring, controlling and managing more than 940 kilometres of formed roads. Of these, some seven kilometres are unsealed and 36 kilometres are regional roads. An additional 10 kilometres of new roads were added to the road network as a result of new subdivisions in Austral, Edmondson Park and Leppington urban residential release areas. The combined value of Council's road and transport assets is more than \$1.4 billion.

Council continued to implement its road pavement management strategies to progressively upgrade assets that are in poor condition. It is also a significant focus on preventing assets that are in average or good condition from falling into the poor category. These preventative maintenance strategies aim to preserve or restore the road assets at an earlier time in its life before it falls into the condition of disrepair.

Earlier intervention through Council's preservation programs provides the most cost-effective treatment in arresting the overall rate of decline in the condition and performance of the road network. It preserves existing roads in a serviceable condition over the long term. They deliver a substantial positive benefit to Council's financial bottom line.

Some key issues that will continue to impact Council's management of its extensive portfolio of road assets are:

- a. Many roads and associated infrastructures were built in the 1970s and 1980s. They met standards required at the time but are now approaching the end of serviceable life. These assets require significant improvements and renewal to bring to meet the current satisfactory standards for the community.
- b. The road network is expected to grow by some 150 kilometres, or 15 percent, over the next 10 years. This will add financial and resource pressures due to the need for increased asset maintenance.
- c. Development in rural areas, including the Western Sydney International Airport and Aerotropolis is leading to increased traffic loadings unsuitable for the existing rural road pavements. This places additional pressure on already constrained maintenance budgets.
- d. Part of the rural road network, due to its advanced state of deterioration, will continue to decline, although additional funding has been provided in recent years. These rural roads are predominantly located within the South West Priority Growth Area, and the ensuing residential and commercial development will see the full reconstruction, widening and upgrades to most of these roads. Council will continue implementing its low-cost strategies which aim to hold these rural roads in a reasonable condition until full reconstruction can occur.

#### Achievements for the year

Council spent substantial capital budget in preserving, restoring and enhancing road and transport-related infrastructure. The capital investment was more than \$26.5 million.

- Key achievements included:
  - Qantas Boulevard and Sixteenth Avenue, Middleton Grange – Closure of Qantas Boulevard and upgrade of intersection at Sixteenth Avenue and Hall Circuit for improving traffic flow from and to Cowpasture Road;
  - A new car park at Woodward Park,
     Liverpool 120 additional car spaces for long day commuter parking;
  - o A new car park at 68 Speed Street, Liverpool - Additional 74 car spaces have been provided within the Liverpool CBD;
  - o An additional 49 car spaces at Casula Parklands, Casula;
  - Bird Walton Avenue, Middleton Grange –
     Road upgraded with road pavement, kerb and gutter and a shared path;
  - o Flynn Avenue, Middleton Grange Road reconstruction and resurfacing;
  - o Newbridge Road, Moorebank Shared path construction; and
  - o Eleventh Avenue, Austral Road reconstruction, resurfacing, kerb and gutter and drainage improvement works.
- Council completed road pavement renewal and rehabilitation works covering 52 streets with a combined length of 34 kilometres (including 15 kilometres of rural roads). This cost of \$16 million. The work will extend service life of the pavement and improve riding conditions.
- Road renewal and rehabilitation works included:
  - o St Johns Road, Busby;
  - o Nuwarra Road, Moorebank;
  - o Ingham Drive, Casula;
  - o Western Road, Kemps Creek;
  - o Hill Road, Lurnea;
  - o Bigge Street, Liverpool;
  - o Alfred Road, Chipping Norton;
  - o Acacia Avenue, Prestons;

- o Jindabyne Street, Heckenberg;
- o Lancaster Avenue, Cecil Hills; and
- o Whitford Road, Hinchinbrook.
- A total of 84,500 square metres of these rural roads were resurfaced to improve their level of service:
  - o Lee and Clarke Road, Kemps Creek;
  - o Thirteenth Avenue, Austral;
  - o Willowdene Avenue, Luddenham;
  - o Rossmore Avenue, Austral;
  - o Fifteenth Avenue, Rossmore;
  - o Mersey Road, Bringelly;
  - Fox Valley Road, Denham Court;Zouch Road, Denham Court; and
  - o Fifth Avenue, Austral.
- Council also continued its program of shared path and footpath construction to improve accessibility and mobility across its area.
   More than \$3.2 million was spent to construct some 12 kilometres of new paved pathways and shared paths across 31 locations in the established release areas of Liverpool.
- New and upgraded traffic facilities (raised thresholds and roundabouts), at a cost of \$2 million, were provided during the financial year. The following facilities will improve pedestrian and traffic safety:
  - o Roundabout at the intersection of George and Lachlan Streets, Liverpool;
  - Raised threshold at Flynn Avenue, Middleton Grange;
  - Raised threshold at Cartwright Ave, Miller Central Shopping Centre;
  - Raised threshold and intersection treatment at Whitford Road, Partridge Avenue and Dotterel Street, Hinchinbrook;
  - Raised threshold and intersection treatment at North Liverpool Road and Montgomery Road, Green Valley;
  - Raised threshold and intersection treatment at Maxwells Avenue and Cartwright Avenue, Sadleir.









Council has continued investigation and design of several major roads to assist growth and demand within new urban release areas.

- Council engaged a consultant for the concept and detailed design of a major upgrade to Edmondson Avenue, between Bringelly Road and Fifteenth Avenue. This is almost 80% complete;
- A report exploring options for the Fifteenth Avenue upgrade is complete. It will be followed by a strategic concept design to transform Fifteenth Avenue into a high-capacity public transport corridor;
- Both the above projects are funded by the State Government's Special Infrastructure Contribution scheme;

- The detailed design of Georges River pedestrian and cycleway bridge was also advanced significantly;
- A consultant has commenced detailed design of an underpass and a grade-separated shared path and its ramp to connect the existing shared path along the M7 motorway at Middleton Grange;
- A contract was awarded for the concept and detailed design of a pedestrian overpass bridge at Liverpool Station. It will allow pedestrian access to Lighthorse Park, the Georges River and a connection to the Georges River pedestrian and cycleway bridge.

## Floodplain and Water Management

Council's floodplain and water management assets included more than 739 kilometres of piped drainage systems and associated pits, gross pollutant traps, flood detention basins, formed channels and waterways. They have a value of \$646 million. The drainage network is envisaged to grow at a rate commensurate with the growth in the road network.

Council continued its program to comprehensively inspect its piped drainage network to assess its structural condition and hydraulic performance. These inspections, which use a closed-circuit television system, are ongoing. Their purpose is to provide Council with accurate condition data and digital imagery of its pipe network.

The inspections have enabled Council to develop maintenance and renewal strategies and programs that are responsive and cost-effective. Analysis of the inspection data has enabled Council to identify the need for the following broad categories of drainage renewal and replacement activities. This has improved hydraulic performance and has significantly extended the service lives of these assets. The year's activities included:

- Restoring the piped drainage system by relining long lengths of existing deteriorated pipes. A trenchless method of pipe restoration uses robotic techniques to apply a PVC liner within existing pipes to restore structural integrity and flow efficiency; and,
- Restoring the piped drainage system by applying structural patches to isolated failures within pipes using the trenchless method.

To enable works to be delivered efficiently, Council has established a long-term contract with a panel of contractors who specialise in drainage rehabilitation works, including ongoing maintenance and renewal of stormwater drainage pipes. The works are undertaken on a priority basis and funded by the Stormwater Management Service Charge. The priority selection system for the restoration, renewal and replacement of the drainage system is based on asset condition assessments and knowledge of other performance parameters including strategic location of the pipes, flooding and public safety.

Council's Stormwater Management Service Charge, which generates approximately \$1.4 million each year, has provided it with a sustainable funding source for its stormwater management programs. It has enabled more enhanced maintenance and renewal programs.

Some key issues the Council has been facing in managing its stormwater assets include:

- The existing drainage system comprises predominantly underground pipes and pits, which can only be appropriately assessed using closed circuit television inspection. This method of collecting data is costly and time-consuming. With only 10 to 12 kilometres of the piped network being able to be assessed each year, condition of the remaining drainage network will continue to be estimated from collected data for asset management and valuation purposes;
- The drainage network and associated infrastructure is expected to grow by another 200 kilometres over the next 10 years;
- Current initiatives regarding water sensitive urban designs has introduced new types of assets and devices for stormwater quality improvement. This will require more structured and sometimes more intensive maintenance practices to be adopted.

#### Achievements for the year

Council spent more than \$5 million in preserving, restoring and enhancing drainage infrastructure by:

- Road improvement works, including safety fence and guardrail construction, at Cubit Drive, Denham Court to improve road safety;
- Installing Gross Pollution Traps at Ernie Smith Reserve and Pearce Park;
- Completing the detailed design of a 48 megalitres flood detention basin and stormwater pollutant retention system in Edmondson Park. This is for managing the impacts of increased stormwater from a new upstream residential development that has resulted in State Government Housing Acceleration Fund (HAF) commitment of \$10.8 million;
- Renewal and rehabilitation of more than three kilometres of Council's piped drainage system, covering a drainage network of more than 10 kilometres. This program is funded from Council's Stormwater Management Service Charge.





#### **Building Infrastructure**

Council owns, cares for and controls 213 building assets covering its commercial, operational, community, recreational, cultural and heritage services. They have a combined current replacement cost of more than \$388 million. The age of the buildings and their types varies, with many built in the late 1950s and 1960s. These include several specialised structures, such as parking stations, large aquatic centres and heritage buildings.

Council continued its programmed inspection of building assets to enable the development of optimised maintenance and renewal programs and asset management plans. Condition surveys of these buildings has provided necessary data to support future maintenance, rehabilitation and upgrade programs.

Some buildings have been found to be at average condition overall. Many of these buildings are secondary buildings or parts of buildings such as storage facilities and public toilets associated with sporting facilities and the works depot. Therefore, these facilities are considered to be fit for the intended purpose with a lower maintenance requirement.

Some of the key issues that will continue to impact Council's management of its large portfolio of building assets are:

- Malicious damage to sports amenity buildings due to their location within reserves and inadequate surveillance requiring higher than normal maintenance; and
- Most Council's buildings do not generate any income that could be used to offset the cost of maintenance and renewal.

#### Achievements for the year

Council spent \$5.5 million renewing, refurbishing and improving many of its existing properties including leisure, childcare and community centres, amenity buildings, lifts and administration buildings. Achievements included:

- A new amenity building at Bigge Park to improve public facilities;
- Acquisition of a building at 3 Hoxton Park Road and associated lands for Council administration purposes;
- Internal refurbishment and heritage conservation of the Chipping Norton Homestead at Chipping Norton;
- Replacement of floors at Casula and Hinchinbrook Childcare Centres;
- Ground stabilisation works at Helles Park to improve the safety and level of recreation service provided by the facility;
- Acoustic panel installation at the Australis Park Community Centre;
- Refurbishment of the accessible toilet at Heckenberg Community Centre;
- Three new lifts were delivered. They were installed at Liverpool City Library, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre and Warren Serviceway carpark. A second lift is under construction at the car park;
- A new accessible ramp and replacement of a timber floor at Brass and Pipe Band Hall; and
- The air conditioning system was replaced at the indoor pool at the Michael Wenden Leisure Centre.





#### Parks and recreation facilities

Council manages a portfolio of more than 500 parks and open spaces. They include regional, district and local open spaces made up of active and passive reserves, and natural bushlands. The portfolio includes 216 recreational and sporting facilities including soccer, rugby, cricket fields, netball courts, tennis courts, cricket nets, skate and boat ramps. These assets cover more than 1400 hectares of land and have a combined replacement cost of more than \$114 million.

Except for sports fields, which charge a small lease fee, most Council's parks do not generate income and are unable to offset the long-term maintenance and renewal costs. The continuous growth and development of new open space facilities when added to existing recreational infrastructure will place a significant burden on Council's future financial resources.

#### Achievements for the year

Council spent more than \$7.4 million in constructing the new passive open space and sporting ovals infrastructure, as well as renewal and upgrading. Some key achievements were:

- Completion of detailed designs for Stante Reserve Water Park and Lieutenant Cantello Reserve Livvi's Place Inclusive Playground;
- Continuing the program of rejuvenating and upgrading Council's key suburban parks. This included delivering a new four-court tennis facility, including parking and landscaping, at McGirr Park, Miller; developing Stage One works at Schoeffel Park, Horningsea Park; and continue to deliver a full landscape upgrade of Apex Park within the CBD at a total cost of more than \$3 million;
- In line with its city-wide play equipment asset management plan, Council has continued to implement its capital works priority program to renew, replace and shade its stock of playgrounds. Shade was provided over four playgrounds, while 11playgrounds received upgrades at these locations at a cost of \$570,000:
  - o Gard Park, Ashcroft new playground and rubber softfall;
  - Briggs Park, Cecil Hills new playground and rubber softfall;
  - o Judy Pack Park, Cecil Hills new equipment;
  - o Fassifern Park, Cartwright new rubber softfall;

- o Tall Gums Park, Casula new rubber softball;
- Voyager Park, Voyager Point new rubber softball;
- Syme Park, Moorebank new rubber softfall;
- o Whitlam Oval No. 2, Heckenberg new rubber softfall;
- Beswick Park, Liverpool new rubber softfall;
- o Fortunato Foti Park, Preston new rubber softfall,
- o Fintray Park, Prestons new rubber softfall:
- o Clinches Pond Reserve, Moorebank new hyper-shade sail;
- o Ida Kennedy Reserve, Hinchinbrook new hyper-shade sail, and
- o Mihajlovic Park, Green Valley new hypershade sail.
- Council continued its program of delivering outdoor gyms to key locations across the city with 29 gyms installed to date, and shade provided to four sites. Three new gyms were constructed at the following parks at a total cost of more than \$385,000 this year:
  - Brownes Farm Reserve, Hoxton Park new outdoor gym and shade;
  - o Ernie Smith Reserve, Moorebank new outdoor gym; and
  - o Mihajlovic Park, Green Valley new outdoor gym and shade.
- Council's program of improving local parks continued with the design of Croatia Avenue Park, Edmondson Park and refurbishment and enhancement works completed at Judy Pack,

Cecil Hills and Langhof Park, Chipping Norton, at a cost of more than \$315,000.

- Council's renewal and upgrade program for sports fields continued with these improvements completed at a cost of \$170,000:
  - Harvard Park, Prestons resurfacing of basketball court; and
  - o Australis Oval, Wattle Grove upgrade of floodlighting to basketball court.
- Council's program of improving lighting at its suburb parks continued with solar-powered light installations, costing \$56,000 at:
  - Clinches Pond Reserve playground, Moorebank;
  - o Ida Kennedy Reserve playground, Hinchinbrook;
  - o Mihajlovic Park playground and gym, Green Valley;
  - o Rosedale Park playground, Warwick Farm;
  - o Edwin Wheeler Reserve playground, Sadleir;
  - o Grand Flaneur Beach gym, Chipping Norton, and
  - o Haigh Park playground, Moorebank.

- In addition, Council began construction of two major sporting and community centres:
  - Cirillo Reserve Sporting Complex at Middleton Grange. At the end of the reporting period, it was 50 percent complete; and
  - o Phillips Park upgrade at Lurnea. It commenced in June.













#### **Condition of Assets**

This table details the average condition of Council's assets and the costs to upgrade and maintain them to ensure they continue to provide satisfactory standards of service over the long term.

Asset Description	Quantity	Current replacement cost (Note 1)	Average condition as at June 2020 (Note 2)	Estimated cost to bring to satisfactory standard (Note 3)	Estimated annual cost of maintaining asset at that standard (Note 4)	Annual maintenance expenditure 2019- 20 (Note 5)
ROAD AND TRANSPORT		\$1,461,265,000		\$42,345,000	\$13,012,000	\$10,787,000
Roads (km)	943	\$865,282,000	Good	\$38,488,000	\$9,518,000	\$9,252,000
Kerb and gutter (km)	1484	\$221,377,000	Good	\$555,000	\$1,218,000	\$267,000
Footpath and cycleways (km)	878	\$152,910,000	Good	\$208,000	\$917,000	\$801,000
Bridges and Major Culverts (No.)	121	\$75,666,000	Good	\$2,155,000	\$757,000	\$72,000
Road furniture and structures (No.)	18772	\$127,790,000	Good	\$829,000	\$511,000	\$384,000
Off street car parks (No.)	122	\$18,240,000	Good	\$110,000	\$91,000	\$11,000
FLOODPLAIN AND DRAINAGE		\$646,129,000		\$4,426,000	\$1,446,000	\$1,479,000
Piped Drainage (km)	739	\$518,455,000	Good	\$3,418,000	\$933,000	\$690,000
Pits (No.)	27265	\$65,980,000	Good	\$141,000	\$119,000	\$276,000
Headwalls and minor Culverts (No.)	2073	\$15,859,000	Good	\$704,000	\$29,000	\$69,000
Retarding Basins and Wetlands (No.)	93	\$34,718,000	Good	\$163,000	\$87,000	\$168,000
Gross Pollutant Traps (No.)	201	\$11,117,000	Good	\$0	\$278,000	\$276,000
BUILDING ASSETS	213	\$388,467,000		\$4,353,000	\$4,172,000	\$4,562,000
Admin Building	2	\$59,156,000	Average	\$0	\$621,000	\$792,000
Aquatic Centres	6	\$47,763,000	Good	\$224,000	\$573,000	\$1,031,000
Bush Fire/SES	10	\$4,281,000	Good	\$463,000	\$45,000	\$89,000
Childcare Centres	10	\$14,096,000	Good	\$66,000	\$169,000	\$349,000
Commercial Properties	2	\$12,556,000	Average	\$0	\$126,000	\$10,000
Community Centres	39	\$80,695,000	Good	\$445,000	\$847,000	\$1,108,000
Heritage Buildings	13	\$53,780,000	Good	\$190,000	\$565,000	\$201,000
Libraries, Museums	4	\$32,188,000	Good	\$0	\$386,000	\$188,000
Multi-Level Car Parks	2	\$28,452,000	Good	\$0	\$285,000	\$172,000
Parks Buildings / Structures	112	\$45,865,000	Good	\$655,000	\$459,000	\$137,000
Works Depot	13	\$9,635,000	Average	\$2,310,000	\$96,000	\$485,000
PARKS AND RECREATION		\$114,058,000		\$1,248,000	\$6,946,000	\$6,854,000
Sporting Fields, Ovals and Courts (No.)	216	\$31,869,000	Good	\$539,000	\$2,709,000	\$2,742,000
Parks Infrastructure (No. of Parks)	511	\$47,165,000	Good	\$247,000	\$3,537,000	\$3,427,000
Playground Equipment (No.)	185	\$35,024,000	Average	\$462,000	\$700,000	\$685,000
GRAND TOTAL		\$2,609,919,000		\$52,372,000	\$25,576,000	\$23,682,000

The total estimated cost of bringing the assets to a satisfactory standard has increased to \$52.4 million, up from \$46.4 million last year. This is mainly due to the further deterioration of road pavement in new release areas. This is a result of increased traffic loading during development activities. Council will continue to monitor and implement appropriate asset management strategies to maintain the condition of these roads until full reconstruction is undertaken.

#### Notes to table

- 1. Current replacement cost estimated cost to replace existing asset with modern equivalent which will deliver same service potential.
- 2. Average condition an overall assessment of the average condition of assets within an asset category, selected from one to five condition levels comprising excellent, good, average, poor and very poor or unserviceable.
- 3. Estimated cost to bring to Satisfactory
  Standard estimated cost required to bring
  assets within an asset group to a condition level
  equal to or better than "good" (satisfactory) as
  required by the Division of Local Government's
  Planning and Reporting Manual for Local
  Governments in NSW 2010 and independent
  assessment of Council's Asset Management Plan
  by Morrison Low.

#### 4. Notes

a) Average condition of buildings is based on a comprehensive survey undertaken during 2014-15 and in each year, when a specific category of building is surveyed. Aquatic and Child Care Centres were surveyed in 2019-20 and Community buildings were surveyed in 2018. Most of the amenities/toilet blocks located in parks and reserve are considered to be fit for the intended purpose with a lower maintenance requirement. Further, most of the small sheds and structures at the depot will be demolished in coming years and these structures have been excluded from any upgrade requirements.

- b) Approximately, 120 kilometres of the rural road network lie predominantly within the South West Priority Growth Area Aerotropolis and the ensuing residential and commercial development will ultimately see the full reconstruction, widening and upgrades to majority of the roads. In view of this, Council continue to implement its low cost strengthening and stabilisation strategies in these areas, which aim to hold these rural roads in a reasonable condition until full reconstruction can occur. The upgrade costs reflect this enhanced maintenance strategy.
- **5. Estimated annual cost of maintaining asset at Satisfactory Standard** estimated annual expenditure required to maintain all assets within an asset group at a Satisfactory Standard.
- **6. Annual maintenance expenditure** Council's actual expenditure during the financial year for the purpose of maintaining and preserving assets.

# PART 2 STATUTORY REPORT

#### **Part 2: Statutory Report**

#### 1. Report on activities funded via a special rate variation (SRV) of general income

A condition of the approval of the SRV was that council reports in its Annual Report for each rating year up to 2023-2024 on the outcomes achieved as a result of the special variation. The additional works delivered by funding from the special variation are:

Program/Project description	SRV	Actual
	budget	expenditure
	\$	. \$
Buildings	3,559,000	2,844,949
Leisure Centre Upgrade Program - Whitlam Leisure	650,000	322,953
Centre	,	,
Building Renewal Program	355,000	393,903
Warren Serviceway Car Park Lift Replacement	800,000	447,390
Bigge Park - New Amenities Building	932,000	995,309
Community Centre Rehabilitation Program – Greenway	237,000	236,387
Park Community Centre	·	•
Community Centre Rehabilitation Program – Heckenberg	177,000	176,000
Community Centre	·	
Community Centre Rehabilitation Program – Wattle Grove	58,000	57,000
Community Centre		
City Library Lift Replacement	350,000	216,007
Parks and Recreation	2,211,000	1,496,523
Playground Replacement program	420,000	379,175
Sports Courts / Facilities	75,000	76,350
Outdoor Fitness Gym Program	255,000	230,735
Shade Structure Program	136,000	130,883
Lt Cantello Reserve - Regional Playground	100,000	
Judy Pack Park - Local Park Upgrade	200,000	135,952
Australis Oval - Basketball Court Floodlight Upgrade	125,000	51,440
Schoeffel Park - Key Suburb Park Program	900,000	491,988
Roads, Bridges and Footpaths	5,929,910	4,989,387
Cartwright Laneway Renewal - Various Locations	100,000	35,372
South Liverpool Rd, Hinchinbrook & Finlay Ave, Mount	42,200	37,633
Pritchard		
Williamson Cres, Warwick Farm - 31 Williamson Cres to	29,700	41,506
Lawrence Hargrave Rd		
Exhibition Pde, Mount Pritchard - 1 Exhibition Pde to 43	47,400	38,165
Reserve Rd		
South Pacific Ave, Mount Pritchard - 2 South Pacific Ave	66,800	63,866
to 64 South Pacific Ave		
Busby Rd, Busby - Cartwright to Oakwood	68,200	103,622
Dampier Pl and Weld St Prestons	33,400	61,103
Whyalla PI, Prestons - 9 Whyalla PI to Cul-de-sac	46,300	35,729
Lucas Ave, Moorebank - Dredge Ave to Lusty Pl	69,900	117,842
Kennedy Street and Stanton Street, Liverpool	85,300	92,452
Bus Shelter Installations	100,000	107,882
Fifteenth Avenue, West Hoxton - Second Ave to Herley	330,000	220,516
Ave		
Road Resurfacing Program Programmed Patching	1,650,000	1,487,163

Carpark Construction at Woodward Park, Liverpool	200,000	
Bigge Street, Liverpool – Scott St to Moore St	267,500	302,736
Beatrice St, Cecil Hills – Edinburgh Cct to Anne Pl	117,760	62,830
Horningsea Park Dr, Horningsea Park – Leichhardt St to	101,850	90,367
Joshua Moore Dr		
Hill Rd, Lurnea – Hillview Pde To Wheeler Ave	158,600	188,753
Central Ave, Chipping Norton – Haddenham St To Central	276,300	219,159
Ave		
Acacia Ave, Prestons - East End to Cedar Rd	273,650	481,350
Greendale Rd, Greendale - Ch 5280 To Ch 6140	827,400	79,196
St Johns Rd, Busby - Matthew Ave To North Liverpool Rd	787,650	783,923
Bird Walton Avenue	250,000	338,222
Total Infrastructure Capital Expenditure	11,699,910	9,330,860
Operating Expenditure (Maintenance Crew)	804,788	804,788
Total use of special variation income	12,504,698	10,135,648

Actual capital expenditure on the projects proposed to be funded from the SRV income was \$9,330,860 compared with the projection of \$11,699,910. Many projects were placed on hold due to health and safety concerns in line with COVID-19 regulations. Details are:

Income		
	2019-20 Actual	2019-20 Projection
Special rate variation income	\$12,504,698	\$12,504,698
Funding for increased operating expenditure	\$804,788	\$804,788
Funding for capital expenditure	\$9,330,860	\$11,699,910

Provided in accord with section 7.1 of the Special Rate Variation Guidelines.

#### 2. Amounts of rates and charges written off during the year

Pensioner concessions	
Mandatory pensioner rate reductions	\$2,119,465.77
Postponed rates written off	\$3408.17
Other rates and charges written off	
Nil	

Provided in accord with clause 132 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

#### 3. Details of overseas visits by Councillors and Council staff

Purpose	Destination	Participants	Date
Health and Innovation Trade and Civic Delegation	Auckland, New Zealand	International Engagement and Trade Advisor and Manager Liverpool	12-17 March 2020
		Innovation Precinct	
Visit to Sister City Calabria to attend various cultural events and to maintain cultural connections and relationship between the two cities	Calabria, Italy	Mayor Waller, Councillor Balloot, Councillor Hadchiti and Director City Presentation	5-10 October 2019

The total cost to Council of the above trips was \$447.00. Remaining costs were paid by Council's credit card accrued points. Total points used amounted to 7,911,302 to a value of \$39,556.51.

Provided in accordance with clause 217(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

#### 4. Mayoral and councillor fees, expenses and facilities

Mayoral Fees	\$88,600
Councillor Fees	\$334,510

Mayor and Councillor Expenses	Amount
Mobile phone and IT expenses	\$5195
Conference and seminars	\$12,225
Training and provision of skill development	\$6522
Interstate visits (Canberra)	\$0
Overseas visits (Mayor and Councillors)	\$447*
Partner/spouse expenses	\$0
Provision of childcare	\$8780
Total Councillor Expenses	\$33,169

<sup>\*</sup>cost of overseas visits covered by Council's credit card accrued points

Provided in accordance with clause 217(1)(a1) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

## 5. Councillor induction and professional development

 The name of the Mayor and each individual Councillor that completed Council's induction program (where an induction program has been delivered during the relevant year);

Not relevant for the 2019-20 period. Elections have been deferred by one year due to COVD-19. An induction program will be prepared and delivered after the September 2021 elections.

ii) The name of the Mayor and each Councillor who participated in any ongoing professional development program during the year;

The Mayor and all Councillors participated in an ongoing professional development program during the year.

iii) The number of training and other activities provided to the Mayor and Councillors during the year as part of a professional development program; and

A total of six training and other activities were provided to the Mayor and Councillors during the year as part of a professional development program.

iv) The total cost of induction and professional development activities and any other training provided to the Mayor and Councillors during the relevant year. \$6522

Provided in accordance with clause 217(1)(a1)(iiia) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

## 6. Contracts awarded by council

Contracts awarded by Council for \$150,000 or more were:

Contract Description	Contractor(s)	Payments Over Contract Term (GST Inclusive)
Recyclables material acceptance and processing service	Visy Paper Pty Ltd	Schedule of rates (estimated value >\$150,000)
Restoration works at Collingwood House	RELD Group Pty Ltd	\$681,114
Receivable and processing of bulky waste	Bingo Waste Services Pty Ltd	\$5,034,960
Design and Construction of a new lift, lift shaft and associated works	SD Civil Engineering Pty Ltd	\$754,282

		Payments Over	
<b>Contract Description</b>	Contractor(s)	Contract Term	
•		(GST Inclusive)	
Schoeffel Park key suburb park development Stage One	Growth Civil Landscapes Pty Ltd	\$726,862	
McGirr Park Tennis Court Amenities Building	Matrix Group Co Pty Ltd	\$624,301	
Apex Park redevelopment	Growth Civil Landscapes Pty Ltd	\$1,723,844	
Provision of asbestos removal, site remediation and demolition services	<ul> <li>Beasy Pty Ltd</li> <li>CPA Contracting Pty Ltd</li> <li>Ford Civil Contracting Pty Ltd</li> <li>Insite Remediation Services Unit Trust T/A Insite Remediation Services Pty Ltd</li> <li>Liberty Industrial Pty Ltd</li> <li>RMA Contracting Pty Ltd.</li> </ul>	Schedule of rates (estimated value >\$150,000)	
Design and construct trash rack gross pollutant trap (GPT) at Pearce Park	Urban Asset Solutions Pty Ltd	\$192,522	
Design, supply and installation of GPT at Ernie Smith Reserve	Urban Asset Solutions Pty Ltd	\$175,140	
Waste Services for City Works	<ul> <li>Portion A - J.J. Richards &amp; Sons Pty Ltd</li> <li>Portion B - Bingo Waste Services Pty Ltd</li> <li>Portion C - SUEZ Recycling &amp; Recovery Pty Ltd</li> <li>Portion D - Total Drain Cleaning Services Pty Ltd</li> </ul>	Schedule of rates (estimated value >\$150,000)	
Warwick Farm Structure Plan	Conybeare Morrison International Pty Ltd	\$199,766	
Construction of Cirillo Reserve Sports Complex	Glascott Landscape & Civil Pty Ltd	\$7,258,830	
Design Services Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre	Mandarin Creative Solutions Pty Ltd	\$449,900	
Engineering Design Manual for Western Sydney	ACOR Consultants	\$297,000	
Leisure Centre Upgrade Program - Michael Wenden Leisure	Integral Electrical Engineering Co Pty Ltd	\$150,000	

Contract Description	Contractor(s)	Payments Over Contract Term
Contract Description		(GST Inclusive)
Reconstruction of Phillips Park and construction of Community Hub	HPAC Pty Ltd	\$16,200,000
Online Booking Management System	Zipporah (AU) Pty Ltd	\$459,980
Strategic Concept Design for Fifteenth Avenue	Phase 1 & 2 awarded to Beca Pty Ltd, Phase 3 withdrawn	\$500,000
Provision of External Legal Services	<ul> <li>Bartier Perry Pty Ltd</li> <li>Clayton UTZ</li> <li>DWF Law Australia Pty Ltd</li> <li>Holding Redlich</li> <li>Hones Lawyers Pty Ltd</li> <li>HWL Ebsworth Lawyers</li> <li>Lindsay Taylor Lawyers</li> <li>Maddocks</li> <li>Marsden Law Group</li> <li>Matthews Folbigg Pty Ltd</li> <li>McCabe Curwood Pty Ltd</li> <li>McCullough Robertson</li> <li>Moray &amp; Agnew</li> <li>Pikes &amp; Vereker</li> <li>Spark Helmore Lawyers</li> </ul>	Schedule of rates (estimated value >\$150,000)
Design and construction of outdoor fitness gyms at Mihajlovic Reserve, Brownes Farm Reserve and Ernie Smith Reserve	A Space Australia	\$345,000
Review of Dam Safety Emergency Plans, Operations and Maintenance Manuals and Type 2 Surveillance Report of Prescribed Basins	Molino Stewart Pty Ltd	\$150,000

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(a2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

# 7. Amounts incurred in relation to legal proceedings

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
Denoci Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Section 56A Appeal)	This is an appeal against the Court's decision to refuse Development Application 734/2018 seeking consent for site earthworks and vegetation clearing at Lot 11 Progress Circuit, Prestons.	Closed	Appeal dismissed in favour of Council. Applicant to pay Council's fees on a party/party basis.	\$75,068
Abdul Satter El- Cheikh and Xuee Gao v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against actual refusal)	This is an appeal against Council's refusal of Development Application 1242/2015 for the construction of a fivestorey mixed use development at 260 Edmondson Avenue, Austral.	Closed	Settled	\$45,292
MH Affordable Homes Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal of actual refusal)	This is an appeal of an actual refusal of Development Application 940/2016 for demolition of existing structures, civil works including stormwater works, construction of two local roads and subdivision of one existing allotment into 42 Torrens Title residential lots and 1 residue allotment at 404 Fourth Avenue, Austral.	Closed	Settled	\$5720
Ammar Mendo v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is a deemed refusal of Development Application 52/2019 for a construction of a multi dwelling housing development consisting of three dwellings and associated strata subdivision at 1 Billet Road, Edmondson Park.	Closed	Settled	\$19,750
Morfosis Architects Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is a deemed refusal of Development Application 488/2019 for demolition of existing structure, removal of few trees and construction of four-storey residential flat building at 113-115	Closed	Settled	\$6270

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
	Nuwarra Road,			
	Moorebank.			
Edmondson Grange Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is a deemed refusal of Development Application 723/2019 for staged development of the subdivision to create 18 residential allotments, the construction of a new road and three fourstorey residential buildings at Lot 117 Ardennes Avenue, Edmondson Park.	Closed	Settled	\$17,820
90 Coratia Properties P/L v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is a deemed refusal of Development Application 828/2019 for demolition of existing buildings, tree removal and construction of multi dwelling housing development in three stages at 90 Croatia Avenue, Edmondson Park.	Hearing on 1 and 2 March 2021	Ongoing	\$6050
Pallas Development Management Pty Limited trading as Fortis Development v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is a deemed refusal of Development Application 632/2019 for the demolition of existing structures, construction of a single storey childcare centre at 2 Moorebank Avenue & 7-15 Heathcote Road, Moorebank.	Conciliation Conference on 9 October 2020	Ongoing	Not yet determined
Isaac Property Developments Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is a deemed refusal of Development Application 954/2019 for demolition of existing buildings and structures. Proposed construction and use of a service station, three food and drink premises, childcare facility, gymnasium and office premises including associated parking, landscaping, signage at 352 Bringelly Road, Austral.	Conciliation Conference on 5 November 2020	Ongoing	\$18,900
Oliver Guenter Primes v Liverpool City	The application is the removal of the stop use order, demolish works	Closed	Judgement in favour of Council.	\$5280

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
Council (Appeal of Stop Use Order)	order and compliance cost notice in stop use order (i.e. unauthorised granny flat constructed at the rear of the primary dwelling) at 3A St Johns Road, Busby.		Applicant to remove works or lodge Building Information Certificate.	
Aryzta Australia Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Appeal of Fire Safety Order)	This is an appeal against a fire safety order at 14 Homepride Avenue, Warwick Farm.	Directions on 14 October 2020	Ongoing	In House
Ghazi Al Ali Architect Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This matter is concerned with the deemed refusal of Development Application 279/2020 for a staged construction of 34 two-storey townhouses and an access road at 50 Croatia Avenue, Edmondson Park.	Hearing on 10 February 2021	Ongoing	\$11,220
Kingdom Towers v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is an appeal against Council's deemed refusal of Development Application 625/2018 seeking consolidation of four lots, construction of a 17-storey mixed use development at 180-188 Terminus Street, Liverpool.	Hearing on 16 and 17 November 2020	Ongoing	\$52,525
George Goorkiz v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is an appeal against Council's deemed refusal of Development Application 690/2019 for a two Lot Torrens Title subdivision of the site and the construction of a 162-place childcare centre at 45 Fifth Avenue, Austral.	Hearing on 21 and 22 December 2020	Ongoing	\$8470
James Slashing Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is an appeal against the deemed refusal of Development Application 630/2019 for a new rural industry building and associated works at 145 Exeter Road, Kemps Creek.	Closed	Settled	\$10,725
James Slashing Pty Ltd v Liverpool City	This is an appeal against the deemed refusal of	Closed	Settled	In House

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	Development Application 643/2019 for the construction of a secondary dwelling at 145 Exeter Road, Kemps Creek.			
Liverpool City Council v Eyup Tirnova (Class 4)	This matter is in relation to proceedings for contempt of court orders made in previous Class 4 proceedings ( <i>Liverpool City Council v Tirnova [2017] NSWLEC 138</i> ) requiring the removal of unauthorised development on floodprone land, orders requiring removal of masonry front fence and removal of substantial additions to dwelling house at 40 Newbridge Road, Chipping Norton.	Closed	Judgment in favour of Council. Respondent in contempt of Orders.	\$8814
Liverpool City Council v Rashad Hayek (Class 4)	This matter is in relation to proceedings for contempt of court orders made in previous Class 4 Proceedings requiring the owner to cease use of the premises for a prohibited purpose at 21/264 Hoxton Park Road, Prestons.	Directions on 9 December 2020	Ongoing	\$6380
Liverpool City Council v Vince Scarano (Class 4)	This matter concerns the continued carrying out of development without development consent and in circumstances where prior consent was required at 17-19 Memorial Avenue, Liverpool.	Closed	Discontinued	\$7007
Brookwood Holdings Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council	This is a dispute that concerns the market value of Lot 38 Dalmatia Avenue, Edmondson Park. The land was dedicated to Council upon subdivision without agreement on market value.	Mediation on 13 October 2020	Ongoing	\$3768
Andrew Hastie and Patricia Hastie v	This is an appeal against Council's refusal of	Closed	Judgment in favour of	\$19,349

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against actual refusal)	Development Application 541/2016 for the demolition of existing dwelling, in-ground concrete swimming pool and detached secondary dwelling and the construction of a childcare centre at 53 Clyde Avenue, Moorebank.		Applicant. Development approved.	
Jihad Haidar & Samer Ghanem v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal of actual refusal)	This is an appeal of an actual refusal of Development Application 1031/2016 for the construction of five two-storey multi dwelling housing developments at 13 Holland Crescent, Casula.	Closed	Settled	In House
Digital 4 Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal of actual refusal)	This is the actual refusal of Development Application 488/2019 for the procedural subdivision of one existing allotment into three industrial lots at Lot 102 Wonga Road, Prestons.	Closed	Settled	\$9944
VCross Development Management Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against deemed refusal)	This is an appeal against Council's deemed refusal of Development Application 1092/2017 seeking consent for the demolition of existing structures and the construction of townhouses, studios, three four-storey residential flat buildings, a childcare centre, 1 internal and associated works at 250 and 260 Sixth Avenue, Liverpool.	Closed	Settled	\$24,833 (\$2500 recovered from applicant for Council's costs thrown away following submission of amended plans)
Crownland Camden Valley Way Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against actual refusal)	This is an appeal against Council's refusal of Development Application 533/2017 seeking consent for subdivision to create 24 Torrens Title lots and five residue lots in conjunction with new roads, drainage and	Closed	Settled	In House

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
	associated works at 1342 Camden Valley Way, Leppington.			
Grant Robinson v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against deemed refusal)	This is an appeal of a deemed refusal of Development Application 650/2018 for the demolition of existing structures and the erection of a two-storey boarding house.	Closed	Discontinued	In House
MH Affordable Homes Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against deemed refusal)	This is an appeal of a deemed refusal of Development Application 731/2018 for the Torrens Title subdivision of two lots at 105-110 Gurner Avenue, Austral.	Closed	Settled	In House
Don Hodge Group Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 deemed refusal)	This is a deemed refusal of Development Application 400/2019 for the demolition of existing demountable building and construction and use of new public house at 37 Governor Macquarie Drive, Chipping Norton.	Closed	Settled	In House
Guiseppe Calarco and Antonetta Calarco v Liverpool City Council (Class 3 claim for compensation in relation to valuation applied for compulsory acquisition)	This is an appeal against the value attributed to the property at 185 Gurner Avenue, Austral to be compulsorily acquired by Council.	Closed	Settled	\$269,704
Kingdom Towers 1 Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against deemed refusal)	This is an appeal against Council's deemed refusal of 625/2018 seeking consolidation of four lots, construction of a 17-storey mixed use development at 180-188 Terminus Street, Liverpool.	Closed	Settled	\$6490
Austral Nominees No 1 Pty Ltd v Liverpool City Council (Class 1 appeal against deemed refusal)	This is an appeal of a deemed refusal of Development Application 898/2018 for subdivision into 30 residential lots together with demolition, tree removal and	Closed	Discontinued	In House

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
	construction of two new roads, one half road and associated services at 84-86 Seventh Avenue, Austral.			
Carmella Corigliano v Liverpool City Council (Class 3 claim for compensation in relation to valuation applied for compulsory acquisition)	This is an appeal against the value attributed to the property at 10 Croatia Avenue, Edmondson Park.	Closed	Settled	\$56,402
Liverpool City Council and Canterbury Bankstown Council v Commonwealth (East Hills/Voyager Point Footbridge) (2015/2902)	Liverpool City Council (LCC) and Canterbury Bankstown Council (CBC) entered into an agreement with the Commonwealth to fund the construction of a footbridge at Voyager Point in 2004. There is dispute as to whether the Commonwealth is liable to pay for defects, and the date of handover. The Commonwealth has refused liability in August 2016. LCC and CBC commenced proceedings against the Commonwealth seeking damages in the Supreme Court.	Closed	Settled. Settlement amount is confidential.	\$118,907
Liverpool City Council ATS Almbarke (Public Liability Claim)	This was with regard to a personal injury fall during a mall construction.	Closed	Settled	\$27,190
Sue Zaia v Liverpool City Council (Public Liability Claim)	Date of Incident: 25 February 2018 - fall in community hall sustaining injury.	Managed through CivicRisk West and have been allocated to their panel Lawyers – McCullough & Buggy.	Ongoing	Not yet determined
Jacki Griffiths v Liverpool City Council (Public Liability Claim)	Date of Incident: 8 March 2017 – fall in Macquarie Mall near Liverpool Plaza during construction work.	Managed through CivicRisk West and have been allocated to	Ongoing	Not yet determined

Case	Matter	Status	Outcome	Cost
		their panel Lawyers – McCullough & Buggy.		
NM v Liverpool City Council (Public Liability Claim)	Hearing Loss – Claim disputed ongoing since February 2020	Closed	Finalised	\$6,861
SH v Liverpool City Council	Anxiety & Depression – Work Injury Damages Claim	Workers Compensati on Claim managed through Bartier Perry.	Ongoing	Not yet determined
MN v Liverpool City Council	Anxiety & Depression – Ex-Employee	Workers Compensati on Claim managed through Bartier Perry.	Ongoing	Not yet determined

The total cost of legal proceedings was \$848,739 with \$2500 recovered.

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(a3) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

## 8. Private works

There were no private works undertaken by Council pursuant to section 67 of the *Local Government Act 1993.* 

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(a4) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

# 9. Community donations and sponsorship

Grant Type	Number Awarded	Total Value
Community Grants	2	\$10,000
iverpool Young Achievers Grants	22	\$8600
Community Matching Grants	7	\$89,000
Donation to Rural Fire Service	1	\$20,000
Grants to Sporting Organisations	9	\$30,000
Sponsorship of 2019/20 Sports Programs	1	\$27,564
Sports donations to individuals	15	\$3200
Corporate Sponsorships	12	\$107,500
Sustainable Environment Grants	7	\$35,000
Youth Week Grants (from Community Grants	4	\$4000
Budget)		
iverpool Small Grants	1	\$840
Youth Week Contribution	1	\$9510
Total Grants and Sponsorships	82	\$345,214
Donations, Subsidies and Other Contributio	ns	
Shopfront Façade Upgrade Program		\$21,818
Business Assistance Package		\$173,000
ngham Institute of Applied Medical Research		\$50,220
iverpool Innovation Precinct		\$34,863
Mayoral and Councillor Charity Dinner		\$1926
Wattle Grove Intermodal	\$50,000	
Helles Park Radio Control Car Racing Track Re	efurbishment (Capital	\$115,636
Contribution)		
Total Donations, Subsidies and Other Contr	ibutions	\$447,463

In-Kind Sponsorship	
Library Fee Reduction Program – 3 reductions approved	\$1036
Community Facilities Fee Reduction Program – 33 reductions	\$42,837
approved	
Recreation and Open Space Fee Reduction Program – 3 reductions	\$2400
approved	
Remembrance Day	\$305
Total In-Kind Sponsorship awarded	\$46,578

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(a5) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

#### 10. Senior staff remuneration

Position	Remuneration less FBT (Gross+Super+Car)	FBT
Chief Executive Officer	\$403,433	\$15,811
Senior Staff	\$2,402,177	\$52,564

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(b) and (c) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

## 11. Partnerships and corporations

External Body Delegations

There no external bodies exercising Council functions.

Controlling Interests in External Bodies

Council held no controlling interests in corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies.

Participation in External Bodies

Council staff and Councillors were involved in several external committees that deal with issues that impact Liverpool.

External Committee/Affiliated Boards	Council Representatives
CivicRisk West	Mayor Waller
Georges River Combined Councils Committee	Clr Harle
	Clr Shelton
Liverpool Pedestrian, Active Transport and	Clr Hagarty
Traffic Committee	
Macarthur Bushfire Management Committee	Clr Harle
NSW Metropolitan Public Libraries Association	Clr Kaliyanda
South West Regional Planning Panel	Mayor Waller and Clr Harle
	(Clr Hagarty, Clr Karnib and Clr
	Rhodes as alternate)
South West Academy of Sport	Clr Kaliyanda
Western Sydney Regional Organisation of	Clr Balloot
Councils (WSROC)	Clr Rhodes
Western Sydney Migrant Resource Centre	Deputy Mayor Karnib

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(a6), (a7) and (a8) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

# 12. Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan Program

EEO Plan Initiative	Activities undertaken
Employees are accountable for workplace equity and diversity	<ul> <li>New corporate values established for Council.</li> <li>The values-based onboarding framework was launched with an induction-focused on understanding and living Council's six values. The values are Authentic, Ambitious, Courageous, Collaborative, Decisive and Generous.</li> <li>Dignity and Respect workshops for employees and People Leaders were conducted to create awareness of acceptable and unacceptable workplace behaviour. These workshops form part of <i>The Essentials</i> training that all new employees must complete.</li> <li>Dignity and Respect eLearning is under development.</li> </ul>
Workplace Relations are based on respect for others and the workplace is free from discrimination, bullying, harassment and victimisation	<ul> <li>The Dignity and Respect policy was established. The policy seeks to ensure a safe, healthy, respectful and productive working environment.</li> <li>Dignity and Respect workshops for employees and People Leaders continued to be rolled out throughout the year.</li> <li>Workplace grievances and allegations concerning discrimination, bullying, victimisation and harassment were acted on and remediation strategies actively implemented, as required.</li> </ul>
All recruitment and selection processes are conducted based on merit	<ul> <li>Council's Recruitment policy and practice supports merit-based selection.</li> <li>The recruitment selection criteria enabled merit-based selection.</li> <li>The Hiring Great People eLearning course was developed and rolled out to reinforce merit-based selection.</li> </ul>
Develop appropriate recruitment strategies to encourage a diverse range of applicants and target groups to apply for positions  Workplace provides appropriate employment and development opportunities for target group	<ul> <li>Council reviews various platforms when sourcing talent including:         <ul> <li>Recruitment platforms (job boards, career pages)</li> <li>Social media (Facebook, LinkedIn)</li> <li>Relevant industry forums (e.g. Arts Hub, Planning Institute of Australia, etc)</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Workforce Management Plan focuses on seven key result areas, one of which is 'Engaging Talented People'. This key result area focuses on streamlined talent acquisition and engagement practices through different pathways, including traineeship, apprenticeship, graduates and work experience.</li> <li>Council recruits through different pathways including traineeships, apprenticeships, graduates and work</li> </ul>
Equitable skill development and career progression is enabled and employees from target groups are retained	Equitable access to development opportunities is provided to all employees across Council through its People Achieving and Developing Talented People programs.

Equity and diversity principles are integrated into Councils corporate plans	<ul> <li>People Achieving is Council's practice of achievement and development planning between a People Leader and an employee. It provides employees the opportunity to clarify work expectations, identify learning and capability development needs together with career aspirations. The practice begins with a Capability Assessment and then moves into an individual People Achieving Plan, with regular conversations and meaningful feedback over a 12-month period.</li> <li>Developing Talented People is Council's learning and development framework, which aligns to the 70:20:10 model of development. There are four learning pillars to assist with development at Council, and they include:         <ul> <li>Welcome to Our Great Workplace</li> <li>The Essentials</li> <li>Grow Your Capability</li> <li>Talent Pathways</li> </ul> </li> <li>The objectives of Developing Talented People are to enhance individual and Council's business achievement through employee learning and development as identified through People Achieving and Council's strategic planning documents.</li> <li>Targeted development opportunities have been implemented to increase female participation. This includes CEO job shadowing and females acting in middle and senior leadership roles.</li> <li>The Workforce Management Plan focuses on seven key result areas, one of which is 'Promoting Diversity and Inclusion within Our Workplace' with supporting strategies to address workplace equity and diversity issues.</li> </ul>
Diversity of Council's workforce reflects the diversity of the NSW community	Elements of the Workforce Management Plan incorporate strategies aligned to the target groups.

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(a9) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

## 13. Stormwater management service charge

Council continued its program of stormwater rehabilitation and renewal works funded from the Stormwater Management Services Charge, which was implemented in July 2008. The charge, which generates approximately \$1.4 million each year, has provided Council with a sustainable funding source to improve water quality, mitigate flooding, improve drainage, increase maintenance and replace ageing stormwater networks. The charge is for additional stormwater management services beyond those already provided and will provide funds to ensure the city's stormwater and drainage assets are maintained and improved.

The following table provides a summary of projects funded through the Stormwater Management Service Charge this year:

Projects partly or fully funded through stormwater management service charge	Total Expenditure	Status as at 30 June 2020
Flood Mitigation	\$115,899	
Design of constructed channels in new release areas to alleviate overland flooding.	\$10,500	Draft guidelines developed and planned to be completed by December 2020.
Erosion protection around the existing channel by installing Earthlock-type concrete mats and restoration works at Daruk Park prescribed detention basin, Casula.	\$ 55,839	Completed
Telemetry system maintenance of detention basins, stormwater pump stations and river gauges under telemetry systems maintenance contract.	\$49,560	Completed
Stormwater Quality	\$158,419	
Investigation and design of 11 high priority gross pollutant traps at various locations across Council's area for expediting their construction over the next few years.	\$38,922	Draft design developed and planned to be completed by December 2020.
Condition assessment and remedial works of cleaning blocked drainage system and removal of overgrown vegetation at Riverside Park, Chipping Norton wetland, and stormwater drainage system rectification works, including structural repairs on pits and pipes within the wetland at Voyager Point.	\$119,497	Completed
Drainage Enhanced Maintenance	\$271,244	
High pressure cleaning and closed-circuit television inspection and condition assessment of stormwater pipe systems in Green Valley and Hinchinbrook.	\$143,922	Completed
Enhance maintenance of stormwater drainage network involving high pressure cleaning, rigid sediment removal, robotic root cutting in Green Valley and Hinchinbrook areas.	\$127,322	Completed
Erosion Protection Works	\$175,234	

Installation of sandstone erosion protection works along the channel embankment at Brickmakers Creek near Calabro Avenue, Lurnea, and Georges River embankment, Riverview Road, Pleasure Point.	\$175,234	Completed
Stormwater Pipe Restoration and Renewal	\$756,322	
Stormwater pipe relining works to improve hydraulic capacity and provide extended service life of deteriorated stormwater pipes at various locations at Miller.	\$440,345	Completed
Provision of structural patches of stormwater pipes to improve hydraulic capacity and provide an extended service life of the pipe systems at various locations at Miller.	\$315,977	Completed
Grand Total	\$1,477,118	

<sup>\*</sup>Note: Difference in the project cost on above projects when it exceeds stormwater service charge contribution is funded through other sources including general funds and grants.

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(e) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation* 2005.

## 14. Companion animal management

#### Administration

Council has 11 positions dedicated to companion animal management within the Community Standards business unit. Total funds spent on the service was \$1,240,564.

Enforcement and compliance activities

Council responds to companion animal customer requests with investigations and needed compliance action. There were 1989 requests actioned in the year;

Community education and promotion of desexing programs

Council works with the RSPCA and the Cat Protection Society to promote desexing, microchipping and immunising companion animals.

Council offers subsidies for desexing of companion animals to pensioners.

Alternatives to euthanasia of unclaimed animals

Council operates a no-kill animal shelter with a full-time rehoming officer. In total 27 cats and 220 dogs were rehomed during the year.

## Reporting Details

Council reported 145 dog attacks during the year.

Council impounded 27 cats and 586 dogs during 2019-20.

Council issued 19 notifications for dangerous or restricted dogs during the year.

Dog off-leash areas

Council's off-leash areas include:

- Miller Park, Miller
- Macleod Park, Prestons
- Hoxton Park Recreation Reserve, Hinchinbrook
- Casula Parklands, Casula
- Lieutenant Cantello Reserve, Hammondville

Provided in accord with clause 217(1)(f) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

## 15. Disability Inclusion Action Plan implementation

Liverpool City Council adopted the Disability Inclusion Action Plan in June 2017 as a whole-of-Council response to access and inclusion provisions across the city. This incorporates diverse and broad actions that Council has committed to deliver. Highlights from the implementation of the Plan are:

## **Building positive attitudes**

- Council secured two grants under the Stronger Communities Programme to install six Communication Boards in the Casula Parklands and Carnes Hill Precinct. The boards are designed to assist communication among and with people, children and carers of people with disability or language barriers. They were designed by Council's Community Development and Communications teams, and the images and wording developed with the Autism Advisory Support Service;
- Council partnered with Civic Disability Services and Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
  to host the 2019 International Day of People with Disability in December. It has been
  running since 1996. The event increases public awareness, understanding and
  acceptance of people with disability and celebrates the achievements and
  contributions of people with disability. The event was a success with more than 5500
  attendees;
- The Michael Clarke Recreation Centre hosted International Day of People with Disability. More than 100 participants with a disability and their carers took part in a morning group fitness session and accessed the stadium for sports activities;
- All programs across Council's three leisure centres are registered under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). There was a total of 75 NDIS referrals in the year;
- The 2020 International Day of People with Disability planning is underway to showcase Council's achievements across various departments. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the event will be held on Facebook;
- Council is discussing constructing and managing a Mobile Lift and Change Facility
  with internal and external stakeholders. This is a mobile accessible restroom for
  people with disability and includes an adult change table and hoist. The purpose is to
  provide accessible resources at major events hosted by Council;
- Council promoted accessible pathways in new parks during community consultation about draft plans. Examples include Kotlash Park, Lurnea and the upgrade to Croatia

Avenue Park in Edmondson Park. These were promoted via Facebook, the Liverpool Champion and Liverpool Listens. Accessible paths in Speed Street, Liverpool, were also promoted via the Liverpool Champion and Liverpool Life e-newsletter; and

The Shopfront Upgrade Program offers shop owners financial assistance to make the
city more attractive to visitors and customers. It has specific criteria and offers design
guidelines which refer to accessibility. These include providing level access and
installing wider doors and doorways to allow a person with a walking frame or
wheelchair to pass through.

## **Creating liveable communities**

- Council endorsed a new membership term for the Liverpool Access Committee.
   Council conducted a recruitment drive to encourage new members to the Committee and successfully recruited 12 new members. The new Access Committee members will hold their first virtual meeting in October 2020;
- The Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) Working Group was established to develop guidelines for accessible consultation and to explore options for walkability, parking, traffic and transport in the city;
- The DIAP Working Group expanded its role to include the development and implementation of a new Positive Ageing Plan for Liverpool. To reflect this change, it is now called the DIAP/Ageing Working Group;
- Council regularly consulted internally and externally on issues regarding inclusive
  access with Council facilities such as parking stations, halls, libraries, community
  centres and recreational spaces. The Liverpool Access Committee and DIAP/Ageing
  Working Group aim to progress to wider community consultation;
- Council regularly invites guest speakers to the DIAP/Ageing Working Group and Liverpool Access Committee meetings to speak on relevant matters and provide updates;
- An access audit is due to take place in October/November 2020 for nominated Council facilities, including libraries, the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre and community centres;
- An access audit of Council's recreation and aquatic centres in 2019 identified accessibility improvements for Council. Items that could be immediately rectified have been addressed, with larger infrastructure items scheduled for progressive improvement;
- Council has ongoing consultation with people with disability and carers to engage them in planning and implementation of relevant Council projects;
- Council partnered with Variety Australia to build an inclusive playground at Lieutenant Cantello Reserve in Hammondville. The new playground will be a unique place where people of all abilities can play side-by-side in a fun and challenging environment:

- Council continued to deliver programs at its leisure centres specifically for people
  with a disability. The centres attracted 80 enrolments to the Take Charge! Program,
  which gives support for adults experiencing a specific range of mental health
  conditions to participate in fitness programs. The centres also delivered 65 lessons
  each week in the Swim Champs Program, which provides learn to swim training for
  children with a disability. Importantly a further 23 children were able to transition into
  mainstream swim classes after achieving the objective of aquatic independence;
- Access programs at the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre (CPAC) saw a decrease in
  visitation due to restrictions imposed by COVID-19. However, 161 public and private
  workshops were conducted from July to March with a weekly visitation of 196
  individuals living with disabilities (excluding carers). The annual visitation rate of
  individuals living with disabilities to programming at CPAC, including regular weekly
  programs, private bookings and International Day of Peoples Living with Disabilities
  was 4820;
- Council partnered with St Vincent de Paul's Access and Inclusion Program to provide libraries and the Whitlam Centre with the following kits for children with sensory disability:
  - Xtra Eyes Kit
    - The primary aim of Xtra Eyes is to provide an inclusive and comfortable space for people who may have low vision. It is designed to be a kit that businesses and/or organisations can use if a person requires assistance reading documents, forms or other resources. It contains items that include a magnifying glass, magnifier strip, magnifier sheet and wipes
  - Escape the Noise Kit
    - This is being provided to community organisations and businesses as a resource to support people who may experience sensory overload. It can help create inclusive and comfortable environments. Having it available may allow people to engage and stay longer at events and activities. Noise-reducing headphones and earplugs lessen background noise, reducing the impact of sudden and loud sounds, while still allowing the user to have a conversation, follow directions and hear emergency warnings.
  - Sensory Oasis Tent
    - The Sensory Oasis provides a sanctuary for children who become overwhelmed by noise, smells, lights, crowds, and other sensory inputs. Reducing it allows a person to regulate their mood and avoid meltdowns which can be associated with sensory overload. The Sensory Tent includes a teepee, which contains sensory tools for children with neurological behavioural disorders such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, or a sensory processing disorder.
- Council completed upgrade and renewal works at:
  - Green Valley District Centre Accessible parking, additional car space;
  - Voyager Point Community Centre New accessible bathroom, Braille signage throughout centre, new accessible external ramp;

- Dr James Pirie Community Centre Upgrade and improvement works to accessible toilet electronic door, shared access;
- Wattle Grove Community Centre Improved accessibility entry to the centre; and
- Heckenberg Share Care Upgrade to existing bathrooms catering only to young children, new bathrooms that cater to the community organisation that offer programs to clients with disabilities (complies to Australian Standards).
- All of Council's community facilities currently meet legislative accessibility requirements, except Chipping Norton Lakes Boatshed. A review is currently underway to assess all sites and identify further opportunities to improve community outcomes and address community needs; and
- In May, the construction of an Assistive Technology Space at Liverpool City Library was completed. It features:
  - An accessible wheelchair lift to take patrons from Ground level to the accessible space on Level 1;
  - Height adjustable tables for wheelchairs;
  - Two large touchscreen computers with software for people with dyslexia and vision impairments;
  - o Large high contrast keyboards with trackball mice; and
  - A large text magnifying camera to help people with vision issues to read magazines, newspapers and other text-based items.

## Supporting access to meaningful employment

- A new Diversity and Inclusion Working Group was developed in consultation with various Council departments to explore ways to improve employment within target groups. An access audit of Council buildings at Moore Street and Scott Street will be conducted in November to ensure Liverpool City Council is an accessible workplace;
- Disability Awareness Training is available for Council staff on the Intranet with online specialist training provider SAP Litmos Solutions; and
- Council is reviewing recruitment processes and Equal Employment Opportunity policies to incorporate inclusivity and diversity measures.

#### Accessible systems, information or processes

- Council's website was previously audited against Web Content Accessibility
  Guidelines. Following this, a review is being made of it, including relevance of
  content and accessibility components. Council also launched a new Intranet with a
  page for its Disability Inclusion Action Plan and to make available its 'Teach Me'
  resources;
- The Liverpool Mobility Map was updated and is available in Council's Customer Service Centre, other Council facilities and on Council's website. Information included covers locations of accessible parking and accessible toilets;
- Three Master Locksmith Access Keys have been distributed. These provide access for people with disability to accessible facilities after hours, including elevators at

- railway stations and public toilets. Numbers have reduced from previous years due to health restrictions around COVID-19;
- Information was provided to residents in a range of formats such as Braille communication boards for children, social media posts, newsletters, newspapers, online, general mail outs, telephone and emails;
- Council co-convened the South West Sydney Ageing Disability Forum and provided support through processes and upgrades to the support services website;
- Council is a member of the Multicultural Network for Ageing Issues and the Macarthur Disability Network for Disability Forum. They lobby for regional change and improvements for both Liverpool's ageing community and people, and for children with disability and their carers;
- An Auslan interpreter is available on request for Liverpool City Council meetings; and
- Council continues to advocate for access and inclusion to be a guiding principle in the development of plans of management prepared under the *Local Government Act* 1993.

Provided in accord with the section 13 of the Disability Inclusion Act 2014.

## **16. Voluntary Planning Agreements**

Planning Agreement	Description of Commitment	Status	
5 5 11 1			
Cecil Park: Lot 29, Cowpasture Road	<ul> <li>Monetary contribution and works include:</li> <li>Remediation and management of land</li> <li>Land maintenance works</li> <li>Construction of drainage facility</li> </ul>	In progress	
Liverpool: 220-230 Northumberland Street	Monetary contribution	In progress	
Liverpool: 20, 26, 28, 31, 32-34 & 33 Shepherd Street	<ul> <li>Monetary contribution and works include:</li> <li>Pedestrian and cycle pathway underpass and upgrade</li> <li>Bank stabilisation and riverwalk works</li> <li>Establish and operate a shuttle bus service</li> <li>Delivery of bike share pods and car share spaces</li> <li>Rehabilitation of riparian zone</li> </ul>	In progress	
Middleton Grange: 75 Flynn Avenue	Monetary contribution	In progress	
Middleton Grange: 85 Flynn Avenue	Monetary contribution	In progress	
Middleton Grange: 90 Flynn Avenue	Monetary contribution	In progress	

Planning Agreement	Description of Commitment	Status
Moorebank (New Brighton Golf Club): Brickmakers Drive	<ul> <li>Works include:</li> <li>Preparation of a vegetation management plan</li> <li>Construction of shared pedestrian/bike network</li> <li>Stormwater works</li> <li>Landscaping and recreational facilities</li> <li>Riparian planting</li> <li>Construction of a perimeter fence</li> <li>Reconstruction of Lieutenant Cantello Reserve Dog Park</li> <li>Public access to link Georges River foreshore and Lieutenant Cantello Reserve</li> </ul>	In progress
Moorebank: 124 Newbridge Road	<ul> <li>Works include:</li> <li>Land dedication</li> <li>Embellishment of river foreshore land</li> <li>Development of a Vegetation Management Plan and offset strategy</li> <li>Completion of works described in the Vegetation Management Plan</li> <li>Construction of bike/pedestrian path</li> </ul>	In progress
Moorebank: 146 Newbridge Road	<ul> <li>Works include:</li> <li>Land dedication</li> <li>Preparation of a Vegetation Management Plan</li> <li>Construction and dedication of road and road bridge</li> <li>Embellishment of river foreshore land</li> <li>Removal of noxious weeds</li> <li>Restored and enhanced vegetation</li> <li>Construction of bike/pedestrian pathway</li> <li>Construction of passive recreation facilities</li> <li>Conduct maintenance works described in the Vegetation Management Plan</li> </ul>	In progress
Moorebank: Nuwarra Road and Maddecks Avenue Intersection	<ul> <li>Works include:</li> <li>Intersection reconstruction</li> <li>Construction of a link road</li> <li>Provide drainage basins, bus shelters, internal road works</li> <li>Dedication and rehabilitation of land</li> </ul>	In progress
Prestons: 24 Bernera Road	Monetary contribution	Completed
Prestons: 55 Yarrunga Street	Monetary contribution	Completed
Voyager Point: Sirius Road	<ul> <li>Works include:</li> <li>Carry out works set out in the Vegetation Management Plan</li> <li>Road works</li> <li>Drainage works</li> <li>Remediation works</li> </ul>	In progress

Planning Agreement	Description of Commitment	Status
Warwick Farm (Australian Turf Club): Cooper Paddock	<ul> <li>Works include:</li> <li>Expanded and reconfigured road network</li> <li>Shared pedestrian and cycle pathways</li> <li>Regeneration of valuable vegetation</li> <li>Land dedication</li> </ul>	In progress
Warwick Farm (Australian Turf Club): Munday Street	Intersection upgrade	In progress

Provided in accord with section 7.5(5) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979.

## 17. Details of inspections of private swimming pools

Description	Number
Number of inspections of tourist and visitor accommodation	1
Number of inspections of premises with more than two dwellings	1
Number of inspections that resulted in issuance of a certificate of compliance under section 22D of the Swimming Pools Act	63
Number of inspections that resulted in issuance of a certificate of non-compliance under clause 21 of the Swimming Pools Regulation	7

Provided in accord with section 22F(2) of the *Swimming Pools Act (1992)* and clause 23 of the Swimming Pools Regulation (2018).

# 18. Report on government information public access activity

Statistical information about access applications

Number of app	lications	s by typ	e of app	licant and	outcom <u>e</u>			
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/ deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	6	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Not-for-profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	4	3	3	0	0	1	0	0
Members of the public (other)	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0

Number of applications by type of application and outcome								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/ deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications	3	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	12	1	5	0	0	1	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0

Invalid applications	
Reason	Number
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	2
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0
Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure	
Reason	Frequency of use
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	4
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0
Other public interest considerations against disclosure	
Reason	Number
Responsible and effective government	2
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	8
Business interests of agencies and other persons	4
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0
Timelines	
Reason	Number
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	31
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	1
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	32

Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act					
	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total		
Internal review	1	0	1		
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	1	0		
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0		
Review by New South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT)	0	0	0		
Total	0	1	1		

<sup>\*</sup>The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicate that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)			
	Number		
Applications by access applicants	0		
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0		
Applications transferred to other agencies under Division 2 of Part 4			
	Number		
Agency-initiated transfers	1		
Applicant-initiated transfers	0		

Provided in accord with section 7 and section 125 of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* and clause 8 of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018.

#### 19. Public interest disclosures

Council's Ethical Governance: Internal Reporting Policy sets out the internal process for the reporting by members of Council staff and Councillors of any disclosure of corrupt conduct, maladministration or serious and substantial waste of public money, government information contravention and local government pecuniary interest contravention by any member of Council staff or by a Councillor.

## **Disclosures Summary**

Disclosures received	In day to day functions	Under a statutory or other legal obligation	All others
Number of public officials who made public interest disclosures	6	0	0
Number of public interest disclosures received	6	0	0

#### Detail of disclosures received and finalised

Subject	Number
Corrupt conduct	3
Maladministration	0
Serious and substantial waste	0
Government information contravention	0
Local government pecuniary interest contravention	4
Total	7
Number of public interest disclosures that have been finalised in this reporting period	13

# Action taken to ensure staff awareness of their responsibilities under section 6E (1) (b) of the Act

During the last 12 months, the Internal Ombudsman provided advice on internal reporting processes to Council business units and revised information about internal reporting published on Council's website and Intranet.

Provided in accord with section 31 of *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994* and clause 4 of Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011.

#### 20. Capital Expenditure Review

Council applied for a Capital Expenditure review in January 2020 for the redevelopment of Phillips Park and Community Hub, Lurnea.

The Office of Local Government has confirmed that the submission satisfies the Capital Expenditure Guidelines.

Provided in accord with Section 12 of Capital Expenditure Guidelines 2010 Office of Local Government and Department of Premier and Cabinet

## 21. Support for carers

Liverpool City Council recognises the valuable social and economic contribution that carers make to the community and the people they care for as per the *Carers Recognition Act 2010*. Some activities were impacted by COVID-19; however, Council was still able to provide support for carers, including:

• The Disability Inclusion Action Plan reflects Council's commitment to ensuring people with disability, their families and carers can access Liverpool services and facilities safely and with dignity;

- In 2020, recruitment for new members of the Liverpool Access Committee was undertaken, focusing on bringing in new members to complement the existing group. The new members included several carers, who live, work and/or access Liverpool;
- Council conducted an access audit of community facilities and services to identify access issues which impact people with disability and their carers when utilising Council facilities; and
- Council's leisure centres and Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre accept Companion Card, which allows carers free access to facilities when they attend in support of a person with disability.

Council provides a range of flexible work arrangements to enable staff with carer's responsibilities to better manage work and carers responsibilities.

#### These include:

- Council's Flexible Working Policy provides a range of options and opportunities for working flexibly. This policy was developed by a dedicated working party, whose members also included employees with carer responsibilities;
- The Local Government (State) Award 2020 and Council's Leave Management Policy continues to provide a range of employment provisions that support employees who have carers responsibilities. This includes Carers and Health and Wellbeing Leave.
- Council's Employee Assistance Program (provided by Converge International)
  provides a range of support services to all employees, and have a team of specialist
  counsellors who provide access to specialised support and advice to employees
  around caring for family members.

Provided in accord with Section 8(2) of the Carers Recognition Act 2010

## 22. Corporate governance and accountability

To ensure accountability to its stakeholders, including residents, ratepayers, businesses and government, Council must comply with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and other relevant legislation. Council is also required to provide the Minister for Local Government with detailed reports, including an Annual Report, Budget, Council Plan and Strategic Resource Plan.

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee provides independent advice to the elected members of Liverpool City Council's governance, risk, control and performance arrangements, including Council's Annual Financial Statements. The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee comprises five members: an independent chair, two independent members and two Councillors.

The Committee met four times in 2019-20 and received regular briefings from Council's management team on strategic projects, operations and risks, as well as the outcomes of risk and audit activities.

## Risk Management

Liverpool City Council has established frameworks, tools and plans to support risk management, including the development and delivery of annual risk management plans, targeting areas for improvement.

The Chief Executive Officer, as part of the leadership team, supports a strong risk culture where staff are encouraged to engage with risk and opportunity in developing and delivering Council's purpose.

During 2019-20, Liverpool City Council continued to mature its risk management capability, including through the introduction of mandatory risk management training and incorporating risk considerations into Council reports.

#### Fraud Prevention and Control

Liverpool City Council has a fraud and corruption policy. Council reviewed their current policy and incorporated recommendations from the NSW Audit Office Fraud Control Improvement Kit. The policy was reported to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee.

Council will develop a Fraud and Corruption prevention framework once Council endorses the updated policy. There have been processes and systems put in place for the prevention and detection of fraud and responding to and reporting incidents.

During 2019-20, Liverpool City Council introduced mandatory corruption prevention training for managers to support the identification and management of fraud risk and the continuous improvement of its fraud control arrangements.

## Internal Audit arrangements

Internal Audit provides independent advice and assurance to management and Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee on the effectiveness of the governance, risk, compliance and performance arrangements, and financial and operational controls.

It prepares and delivers a risk-based annual internal audit plan. It is developed in consultation with the Executive Management Team and other key stakeholders to reflect risk profile and assurance concerns. Delivery of the plan is viewed as an important mechanism to assist Council in the delivery of our purpose and priorities and to support continuous improvement.

In 2019-20, the Internal Audit function delivered a range of risk-based strategic, compliance and operational audits and reviews initiated by management.

#### Critical Incident Response Team

Council has a Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) as part of its Business Continuity Plan. The team is made up of Council's Executive Management Team, which meets with select staff to manage occurrences that may affect Council's operations, delivery of services and specific events that may affect the local community generally.

The CIRT reports its actions to the Mayor and Council's Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC), which includes external representation.

During the last 12 months, CIRT has managed bushfires, east coast low weather and other storm events, and COVID-19.

The CIRT monitors these events to and ensures management as far as practicable to continue delivery of essential services to the community. The team has been operational and has met regularly to address aspects of COVID-19 as they unfold.

Council has monitored NSW Health advice and legislative orders in all operations, community facilities and public spaces to ensure health and safety of staff and the community.



# For further information



Customer Service Centre Ground Floor, 33 Moore Street, Liverpool, NSW 2170 Open Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 5pm



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