



W A V E R L E Y  
C O U N C I L

## EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of WAVERLEY COUNCIL will be held by video conference at:

**6.00 PM, TUESDAY 29 JUNE 2021**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Scott'.

Emily Scott  
**General Manager**

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### **Live Streaming of Meetings**

This meeting is streamed live via the internet and an audio-visual recording of the meeting will be publicly available on Council's website.

By attending this meeting, you consent to your image and/or voice being live streamed and publicly available.

## AGENDA

### PRAYER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS HERITAGE

The General Manager will read the following Opening Prayer:

*God, we pray for wisdom to govern with justice and equity. That we may see clearly and speak the truth and that we work together in harmony and mutual respect. May our actions demonstrate courage and leadership so that in all our works thy will be done. Amen.*

The Mayor will read the following Acknowledgement of Indigenous Heritage:

*Waverley Council respectfully acknowledges our Indigenous heritage and recognises the ongoing Aboriginal traditional custodianship of the land which forms our Local Government Area.*

1. **Apologies/Leaves of Absence**
2. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**
3. **Addresses by Members of the Public**
4. **Mayoral Minutes**  
CM/4.1/21.06E2 COVID-19 - Business Support Package (June - July 2021) .....4
5. **Meeting Closure**

**MAYORAL MINUTE**  
**CM/4.1/21.06E2****WAVERLEY**  
COUNCIL**Subject:** COVID-19 - Business Support Package (June - July 2021)**TRIM No:** A20/0258**Author:** Mayor of Waverley, Cr Masselos

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**MOTION:**

That Council:

1. Notes that, along with all other councils in Greater Sydney, the Waverley Local Government Area is subject to a revised Public Health Order issued by the NSW Government, with this Order imposing additional pandemic restrictions from 26 June 2021 until 9 July 2021.
2. Adopts the COVID-19 Business Support Package (June - July 2021) detailed in the Mayoral Minute until the Council meeting scheduled for 20 July 2021 or until such earlier time as determined by the Council or the General Manager, with the business support measures being those:
  - (a) Outlined in Table 1 of the Mayoral Minute and adjusted in accordance with Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.
  - (b) Outlined in Table 2 of the Mayoral Minute and subject to Part 3 below.
3. Publicly exhibits the proposed changes to the Schedule of Fees and Charges contained in Table 2 of the Mayoral Minute for a period of 28 days in accordance with Section 610F(3) of the Local Government Act 1993.
4. Officers, following the public exhibition period, prepare a further report to Council should any submissions be received in response to Part 3 above.
5. Notes that if no submissions are received, the changes to the Schedule of Fees and Charges referred to in Part 3 above will be effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, with the fee relating to Early Education Centres to increase, as previously adopted by Council, on 21 July 2021 or such later date as the Business Support Package (June – July 2021) may be extended to.
6. Delegates authority to the General Manager to suspend or modify any measures in the COVID-19 Business Support Package, detailed in this Mayoral Minute in response to changes in the status of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions up to 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
7. Officers prepare a report to Council on the status and financial impacts of the COVID-19 Business Support Package at the Council meeting scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
8. Authorises the Mayor to sign, on behalf of Waverley Council, the letter to the NSW Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, attached to the Mayoral Minute, calling on the NSW Government to provide support for businesses and individuals at financial risk from the latest COVID stay at home orders.

## Background

COVID-19 has resulted in many challenges for Waverley's local economy since emerging in early 2020. All levels of government have worked to support local businesses to enable a continuance of vital services to the community, as well as offered financial support to protect as many small businesses and jobs as possible.

Waverley's previous COVID-19 Business Support Package was introduced by Council as an immediate, short-term response to local businesses suffering from the economic impacts of pandemic restrictions. The COVID -19 Business Support Package was offered for a period of 13 months from 1 March 2020 to 31 March 2021. Over 1,300 customers benefited from the support, either via direct request to Council or indirectly via fee waivers. The support package provided both financial and non-financial measures that were supplementary to Federal and State Government support measures. Waverley's package focused primarily on supporting small businesses through the sharp decline in economic activity throughout 2020. As pandemic restrictions eased, multiple sources of information indicated a healthy recovery was well under way, and thus the package was concluded as measures were no longer considered essential.

We are now facing a new outbreak across Sydney of the Covid-19 (Delta variant) with much greater transmission rates. The growing cluster has resulted in a new Public Health Order for the Greater Sydney region resulting in the reintroduction of pandemic restrictions from 26<sup>th</sup> June to the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The extent of these restrictions coupled with their severity is under daily review.

When concluding the COVID -19 Business Support Package in March, Council resolved to consider changing circumstances in future decision making including the possibility of a new COVID-19 variant emerging or the reintroduction of widespread pandemic restrictions via a Public Health Order. In light of the current circumstances, we now need to reconsider new measures to support small businesses during this affected period. These new measures would supplement both the Federal and NSW Government measures.

Uncertainty remains in relation to the severity of economic impact, the short length of the current pandemic restrictions, and the possible extension of these restrictions. This Mayoral Minute proposes that the period of this support package run from 26 June 2021 to 26 July 2021. Should pandemic restrictions be lifted earlier as currently anticipated on 9 July 2021, then it is recommended that delegation be given to the General Manager to adjust or conclude support measures prior to 1-month time period. Should an extension be required, Council can determine this at a further Council meeting based on the NSW Government's Public Health Order at the time.

The proposed new measures in the Mayoral Minute include both supplementary financial and non-financial measures. These are listed in Tables 1 and 2. The measures outlined in Table 1 of this Mayoral Minute represent measures that were offered in the previous support package that has since concluded. These are fees and charges that can be waived or reduced in accordance with Councils Schedule of Fees and Charges. These measures relate to business support.

Up until this time, Council's support has been limited to local businesses. Due to the evolving impacts of the latest outbreak, I am proposing to extend our support to local families. The measures in Table 2 relate to additional measures for Council's consideration relating to our Early Learning Centre's and Family Day Care. If Council supports the additional recommendations of this Mayoral Minute, a Council resolution is required as there are no current provisions in the Schedule of Fees and Charges to waive or reduce fees in these categories. Council would be required to publicly exhibit the proposed changes for a period of 28 days in accordance with Section 610F(3) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Table 1. COVID-19– Business Support Package\*

Item	Measure
<b>Financial Measures</b>	
Footpath seating	Fees suspended as businesses are unable to trade on the footpath as Takeaway only permitted.
External hirers of community venues	Fees not applicable as venue is unavailable for hire.
Licensed sporting groups	Fees suspended to sporting clubs under a license, due to closure of sporting facilities.
Commercial waste	Commercial waste fees and charges adjusted relative to service levels.
<b>Non-Financial Measures</b>	
Take-away trade	Relaxed enforcement of conditions of consent for restaurants to enable trade as takeaway-only services.
Relaxed hours of operation	Relaxed enforcement of operating hours for all supermarkets and grocers to ensure a continual supply and restock of products (NSW Government directive remains)
Public works	Continuation of Council’s current capital works program to support employment in the construction sector.
Procurement	Council procurement from local suppliers if consistent with statutory procurement regulations and prescribed delegations.

\*All fees and charges can be adjusted in accordance with our Fees and Charges policy.

Table 2. COVID-19– Business Support Package\*\*

Item	Measure
Early Education Centres	Delaying implementation of the fee increase from 1 July to 20 July 2021.
Family Day Care	Maintain the educator levy for 2021-22 at 12%.  <i>Note: there was an error in fees and charges policy noting a fee increase at 13% however the correct amount is 12%.</i>

\*\*All fees and charges noted in the table above will require 28-day public exhibition period of the change. This adjustment is in accordance with Councils Fees and Charges.

Council has also received a request from LGNSW President, Councillor Linda Scott, to co-sign an urgent letter to the NSW Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, to call on the NSW Government to provide support for businesses and individuals at financial risk from the latest COVID stay at home orders. A copy of the proforma letter is attached. I believe this is an important initiative for local government in NSW to jointly support.

#### Attachments

1. LGNSW Letter to Premier - Support for Businesses and Individuals - 28 June 2021 [↓](#)



Our ref: R09/0012

28 June 2021

The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP  
Premier

**By email: [admin@premier.nsw.gov.au](mailto:admin@premier.nsw.gov.au)**

Dear Premier

**Urgent support for businesses and individuals during COVID stay-at-home orders**

Thank you again for your stewardship of NSW during this difficult time.

I write on behalf of councils across NSW to call on the NSW Government to provide support for businesses and individuals at financial risk from the latest COVID stay-at-home orders, which are expected to cost businesses and communities hundreds of millions of dollars in lost revenue.

I am aware that in recent days you have foreshadowed that support for impacted businesses will be made available and I encourage you to ensure this support adequately supports businesses in affected areas right across NSW.

Within metropolitan Sydney and surrounds, mayors are concerned at the impacts of the latest restrictions on local businesses and their employees, particularly with the cessation of the federal government's JobKeeper arrangements earlier this year.

While NSW's state borders at this stage remain open to cross-border communities and regional areas of NSW are not impacted by stay-at-home-orders, mayors from across NSW have contacted me to express concern at the economic impact of the latest COVID cases and restrictions on gathering and movement. The economic impacts of the metropolitan stay-at-home order are particularly being felt across the state during what was expected to be a busy school holidays period.

Over the last 15 months councils across NSW have gone to great lengths to support their local businesses, deep cleaning public spaces, waiving regulatory and inspection fees and offering millions in grant programs to support the health and economic recovery of their communities.

Communities now require further assistance from the NSW and Australian governments to ensure NSW's economic recovery continues. Your support will also allow councils to consider their own financial support arrangements for communities to ensure there is no duplication.

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**Premier, would you please:**

- 1. Provide an urgent financial support package for businesses across NSW impacted by the most recent COVID-restrictions, and**
- 2. Work with the federal government, through National Cabinet arrangements, to deliver an urgent financial support package to individuals who are unable to earn an income during this period.**

I would also welcome an opportunity to meet with you to discuss this matter further. Could you please have your staff contact Ms Kelly Kwan, LGNSW Executive Manager Advocacy on 02 9242 4038 or at [kelly.kwan@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:kelly.kwan@lgnsw.org.au).

Yours sincerely

Cr Linda Scott  
**President**

Cc: The Hon. Shelley Hancock MP, Minister for Local Government