

CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting

Wednesday, 26 March 2025at6:00 PM

Cumberland City Council Chambers

Merrylands Service Centre, 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands

Councillor Contact Details

Granville	· Ward
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Clr Ola Hamed (Mayor)	0405 070 007	Ola.Hamed@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Steve Christou	0419 651 187	Steve.Christou@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Joseph Rahme	0418 995 471	Joseph.Rahme@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Greystanes Ward		
Clr Dr Diane Colman	0400 279 200	Diane.Colman@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Eddy Sarkis	0425 348 000	Eddy.Sarkis@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Nadima Kafrouni- Saba	0447 605 158	Nadima.KafrouniSaba@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Regents Park Ward		
Clr Enver Yasar	0497 428 929	Enver.Yasar@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Helen Hughes	0400 264 534	Helen.Hughes@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Steve Yang	0448 836 197	Steve.Yang@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
South Granville Ward		
Clr Paul Garrard	0414 504 504	Paul.Garrard@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Ahmed Ouf	0436 936 553	Ahmed.Ouf@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Glenn Elmore	0418 459 527	Glenn.Elmore@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Wentworthville Ward		
Clr Michael Zaiter (Deputy Mayor)	0418 432 797	Michael.Zaiter@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Suman Saha	0419 546 950	Suman.Saha@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Sujan Selventhiran	0427 104 940	Sujan.Selventhiran@cumberland.nsw.gov.au

Statement of Ethical Obligations

Oath or Affirmation of Office

In taking the Oath or Affirmation of Office, each Councillor has made a commitment to undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Cumberland and Cumberland City Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

Conflicts of Interest

A councillor who has a conflict of interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council when the matter is being considered, must disclose the interest and the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable. Both the disclosure and the nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting where the conflict of interest arises. Councillors should ensure that they are familiar with Parts 4 and 5 of the Code of Conduct in relation to their obligations to declare and manage conflicts of interests.

For information on Council services and facilities please visit www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au



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Item No: MM03/25-10

MAYORAL MINUTE - RECOGNITION OF ESRA CALIM - WINNER OF THE 2025 DR HELEN PROUDFOOT WOMEN IN PLANNING AWARD

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

SUMMARY

It is with great pride that I bring to Council's attention the outstanding achievement of Council's Coordinator Planning Operations, Esra Calim who has been named the recipient of the 2025 Dr Helen Proudfoot Women in Planning Award by the NSW Division of the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA). This award recognises women's contributions to planning outcomes, policy and practice, and is presented to a female planner who has made an outstanding contribution to planning in NSW.

Esra has dedicated over 20 years of outstanding service to the residents of Cumberland. Throughout her career, Esra has made an exceptional contribution to planning outcomes through customer service, development advisory services, business improvement and planning panels management. As a role model, she has led impactful workshops aimed at increasing women's participation in the planning process and has mentored numerous professionals in the field. As an innovator, she has exemplified excellence in planning through her advocacy for gender-inclusive design, efforts to create safer public spaces and using technology to improve planning processes for applicants and Council.

This award is a well-deserved recognition of Esra's contributions and a testament to her invaluable work in creating a more inclusive and accessible built environment. On behalf of Cumberland City Council, I extend our sincere congratulations to Esra on this remarkable achievement. We are incredibly proud to have her as a part of our Council, and we look forward to her continued leadership in shaping a brighter future for our city.

Therefore tonight Councillors I move:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note the Mayoral Minute; and
- 2. Congratulate Council's Coordinator Planning Operations, Esra Calim on being recognised as the winner of the 2025 Dr Helen Proudfoot Women in Planning Award by the NSW Division of the Planning Institute of Australia.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



Item No: MM03/25-11

MAYORAL MINUTE - WISHING OUR COMMUNITY A HAPPY EID

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

SUMMARY

As the holy month of Ramadan draws to a close, we come together to acknowledge and celebrate this significant period for our Muslim community. Ramadan is a time of deep reflection, devotion, and generosity, where individuals and families engage in fasting, prayer, and acts of kindness.

On the 14th of March 2025, Council hosted its annual Ramadan Iftar dinner that exemplified our community's unity and diversity. The event was organised with the aim of fostering meaningful interfaith dialogue, encouraging mutual understanding, and promoting values of tolerance, inclusivity and unity. By bringing together leaders from different religious and cultural community organisations, the event strengthened interfaith relations and understanding within our local government area.

We were honoured by the presence of our guests and Deputy Mayor, Councillor Zaiter and Councillors Colman, Yasar, Sarkis and Ouf, as well as other distinguished guests and community leaders, including Members of Parliament:

- The Hon. Jason Clare MP, Federal Member for Blaxland and Minister for Education.
- Ms. Julia Finn MP, State Member for Granville, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, and Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts.
- Ms. Lynda Voltz MP, State Member for Auburn.

Their attendance outlined the importance of this occasion and highlighted the strong support for our community within all levels of government. I also thank Council's Events Team for planning and delivering the function.

Council also hosted a Nowruz celebration on Saturday, 22 March 2025, from 7pm to 10pm in Merrylands. The event was highly successful and featured live music, performances, and various cultural activities.

This year, Eid al-Fitr is expected to be celebrated on Sunday, 31st of March, 2025, marking the end of Ramadan. Eid al-Fitr, also known as the "Festival of Breaking the Fast," is a joyous occasion characterised by communal prayers, festive meals, and the sharing of gifts. It is a time when families and friends come together to express gratitude and celebrate the values of compassion and unity.

I congratulate the Australian Muslim community for observing the blessed month of Ramadan with devotion and compassion. This sacred time of fasting and prayer brings people together, fostering understanding, unity, and peace.



On behalf of Cumberland City Council, I extend our warmest wishes to all residents observing Eid. May this special occasion bring prosperity, happiness, and good health to you all. Enjoy this beautiful day with your loved ones and may the spirit of Eid fill your hearts with joy and kindness. Let us continue to embrace the diversity that enriches our community and work together towards a harmonious and inclusive future.

I am proud to be the Mayor of Cumberland and serve a community where people of all faiths and cultures are respected and recognised.

Eid Mubarak and Nowruz Mubarak!

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note the Mayoral Minute; and
- 2. Wish our Muslim community, Eid Mubarak
- 3. Wish all those celebrating, Nowruz Mubarak.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil