



CUMBERLAND  
CITY COUNCIL

## Council Meeting

*Wednesday, 18 June 2025 at 6:00 PM*

Cumberland City Council Chambers

Merrylands Service Centre, 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands

## Councillor Contact Details

### Granville Ward

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Clr Steve Christou	0419 651 187	Steve.Christou@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
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### Greystanes Ward

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### Regents Park Ward

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### South Granville Ward

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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
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## **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](http://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au)

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## LATE REPORTS

### Council Meeting – 18 June 2025

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Item No: MM06/25-23

## **MAYORAL MINUTE - 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

### **SUMMARY**

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It is with great pride that I acknowledge Council's recent achievements at the 2025 LG Professionals - NSW Local Government Excellence Awards.

In the "Community Development over 150,000 residents category", our Council was honoured with a highly commended award for the "Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvement Program – Public Art Program". This recognition reflects the innovation and dedication of our team, in delivering an initiative that has made a real and lasting difference in our community. I commend the outstanding efforts of our Arts and Culture Team, led by Senior Coordinator Michael Brown, in collaboration with other council departments for delivering this transformative initiative.

This initiative has also been nominated as a finalist for the 'Leo Kelly OAM – Arts and Culture Award' as part of the Local Government Week 2025 awards, to be announced in August 2025.

In addition to this, I also wish to acknowledge the outstanding personal achievement of Melissa Attia, Deputy General Manager who received the LG Professionals Member of the Year Award. This award celebrates individual excellence and dedication to the sector, and is a testament to Melissa's professionalism, innovation, and leadership within local government.

To be recognised at this level is an exceptional outcome that reflects the high calibre of staff within our organisation. Our success at this year's event reflects our continued commitment to delivering quality services and building a strong, resilient, and connected community.

On behalf of Council, I extend our congratulations to our Council staff. We are proud of your accomplishments and grateful for your positive contributions to our Council and our community.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move:

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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**That Council:**

- 1. Note the Mayoral Minute;**
- 2. Congratulate Council's Arts and Culture Team and Deputy General Manager – Melissa Attia – on their awards received at the 2025 LG Professionals - NSW Local Government Excellence Awards; and**
- 3. Recognise all staff involved in initiatives that were nominated for awards at the event.**

**ATTACHMENTS**

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Nil

Item No: MM06/25-24

## **MAYORAL MINUTE - AIR INDIA FLIGHT AI171 TRAGEDY**

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

### **SUMMARY**

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On June 12, 2025, tragedy struck when Air India Flight AI171, bound for London, crashed shortly after takeoff. Of the 242 people on board, 241 precious lives were lost, along with several others on the ground. It was a heartbreaking moment that has touched hearts across nations and communities.

In the midst of the devastation, one life was miraculously spared—Vishwash Kumar Ramesh, a young British national of Indian heritage. His survival offers a small glimmer of hope and humanity in a sea of sorrow, and his story has resonated deeply around the world.

We mourn alongside the families and communities whose lives have been forever changed by this terrible loss. To those grieving families, parents, children, siblings, and friends - we offer our deepest, heartfelt condolences. May you find strength in one another, and may the memories of your loved ones remain in your hearts forever.

Therefore Councillors tonight I move:

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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**That Council:**

- 1. Extends its deepest condolences to all those affected by the Air India Flight AI171 tragedy; and**
- 2. Observes a minute of silence in memory of the victims.**

### **ATTACHMENTS**

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Nil

Item No: MM06/25-25

## **MAYORAL MINUTE - AUBURN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL - 2025 UNIVERSAL ROBOTICS CHALLENGE WORLD FINAL**

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

### **SUMMARY**

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This evening I'd like to celebrate the exceptional achievement of the Auburn Girls High School all female Robotics Team, who have earned the remarkable opportunity to represent our community at the prestigious Universal Robotics Challenge World Final, to be held on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 in Osaka, Japan.

This accomplishment is a testament to the dedication, skills, and innovation of these young women, who have worked tirelessly to reach the pinnacle of this international competition. Their success brings pride not only to their school but to our entire community.

Recognising the significant costs associated with travel and participation in the overseas finals, tonight I'm proposing that this Council makes a financial contribution to support the team's journey to Osaka. By investing in their success, we are empowering the next generation of female leaders in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and showcasing our Councils commitment to fostering educational excellence and innovation.

Supporting this team aligns with our values of inclusivity, opportunity, and community pride. It also sends a powerful message about the importance of encouraging young women to pursue STEM careers and be leaders on the global stage.

Lets wish the girls all the best as they represent Cumberland at the prestigious Universal Robotics Challenge World Final in Osaka. The girls are already winners in our eyes, irrespective of the outcome.

Therefore Councillors tonight I move:

### **RECOMMENDATION**

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**That Council:**

- 1. Formally commend Auburn Girls High School for its excellence in STEM education, in reaching the Universal Robotics Challenge World Final – being held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025, in Osaka, Japan;**
- 2. Donate \$15,000 from the Community Reserve to Auburn Girls High School, to help fund costs associated with its representation at the event; and**
- 3. Thank the dedicated staff and students at Auburn Girls High School for their outstanding efforts.**

**ATTACHMENTS**

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Nil