

# CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL

# **Council Meeting**

Wednesday, 19 November 2025 at 6:00 PM

**Cumberland City Council Chambers** 

Merrylands Service Centre, 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands

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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



### LATE REPORTS

## Council Meeting – 19 November 2025

Mayoral Minutes	
MM11/25-36	Mayoral Minute - Condolences - The Late June Bullivant OAM4
MM11/25-37	Mayoral Minute - Condolences - The Late Vanessa McNeill6
MM11/25-38	Mayoral Minute - National Future Focused Award for Smart Cities Leadership8
MM11/25-39	Mayoral Minute - 2025 Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Award9



#### MAYORAL MINUTE - CONDOLENCES - THE LATE JUNE BULLIVANT OAM

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

#### **SUMMARY**

It is with deep sorrow that I acknowledge the passing of Mrs June Mary Bullivant OAM, a remarkable and devoted member of the Granville community, who passed away on Wednesday, 5 November 2024.

June Bullivant (née Pearce) married Barry Bullivant in 1972, and together they made their home at Down Street, Granville. For more than 50 years, June and Barry operated their well known dry cleaning business *Pressmatic*, serving the local community with dedication and integrity until their retirement in 2003.

June's lifetime of service to Granville and Western Sydney is extraordinary in scope and impact. Her contributions touched heritage, education, local business, community wellbeing, and historical preservation. She was a woman of great humility, strength and purpose, whose work leaves a legacy that will endure for generations.

In 1988, June co-founded the Granville Historical Society with other residents and her husband Barry, establishing a cornerstone institution for local historical research and community education. She further strengthened Granville's civic life as President of the Granville Chamber of Commerce in 1992, advocating for local businesses, the revitalisation of the Granville CBD, and improvements to Granville Railway Station.

June's historical work was extensive. She co-authored 'A Brief History of the Granville Police Station' (1995) and 'The Rotary Club of Granville Inc: 50 Years of Service 1956–2006' (2006). Her dedication to heritage was nationally recognised through the Order of Australia Medal in 1998, particularly for her work on the Granville Train Disaster Memorial, and the Centenary Medal in 2001 for service to the community. She continued to influence heritage protection as a member of the Parramatta City Council Heritage Advisory Committee from 2009, and her leadership was further acknowledged through nominations for the Women of the West Award (2012) and Champion of the West Award (2014). In 2018, she received the Gargi Woman Award for her contributions as an academic researcher.

June and Barry's lifelong commitment to memorialisation stemmed from their experience as among the first witnesses to the 1977 Granville Train Disaster. Their work helped establish the Train Disaster Memorial Committee and ensured the preservation of community memory.

In 2024, this Council unanimously resolved to name the rooms of the Old Granville Library in honour of June and Barry Bullivant, recognising their extraordinary service.

On Monday of this week, some of my fellow Councillors and I had the honour of attending June's funeral, a beautiful and heartfelt service that reflected the depth of love and respect she inspired throughout the community. It was deeply moving to see community members and friends come together to celebrate her remarkable life. The





strong presence of the community was a testament to the enduring impact June had on countless people, and to the profound connections she forged over decades of service.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move:

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### **That Council:**

- 1. Observe a minute's silence in honour of the late Mrs June Mary Bullivant OAM, recognising her extraordinary life and service to the community.
- 2. Send a copy of this Mayoral Minute to the Bullivant family, together with Council's heartfelt condolences.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



#### MAYORAL MINUTE - CONDOLENCES - THE LATE VANESSA MCNEILL

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

#### **SUMMARY**

It is with great sadness that I acknowledge the passing of Mrs Vanessa McNeill, a long-serving and highly dedicated Councillor of the former Holroyd City Council, and a committed community advocate whose contributions have left an enduring legacy across our region.

Mrs McNeill was first elected as an Alderman for the South Ward of Holroyd City Council on 14 September 1991, representing the Australian Labor Party. With the introduction of the Local Government Act changes in 1993, she became a Councillor and continued to serve the community with distinction for more than twelve years. She was successfully re-elected in 1995 and 1999, demonstrating the deep trust and respect held for her by the residents she represented.

On 18 September 2001, Councillor McNeill made history when she was elected Deputy Mayor of Holroyd City Council, becoming the first woman ever to hold the position. She served in this role until 17 September 2002 and continued her dedicated service until her retirement from Council on 27 March 2004.

Beyond her elected duties, Mrs McNeill was a tireless community contributor. She worked as a library assistant at Granville, Guildford and Parramatta Libraries, volunteered at Wentworthville Library, and was an active member of St Mark's Anglican Church, supporting many Holroyd City events. She was also involved with the Friends of Linnwood, demonstrating her long-standing commitment to local heritage and community engagement.

Throughout her time on Council, Mrs McNeill served on an extensive range of committees, reflecting both her work ethic and her passion for community wellbeing. These included the Finance/Works Committee, Development and Community Services Committee, Library Committee, Corporate Development Committee, and Special Functions Committee. She also served as a Council-appointed delegate on numerous advisory and community committees, including the Access Committee, City Health Plan Steering Committee, Heritage Committee, Disability Services Advisory Committee, Meals on Wheels Advisory Committee, and multiple children's services and parent advisory committees. Her work across these areas demonstrated her commitment to supporting children, families, seniors, people with disabilities, and culturally diverse communities.

Notably, Mrs McNeill's dedication to the Library Service continued long after her time on Council. As a resident of Guildford, she was appointed as a public participant advisory member of the Library Committee from 2005, and was re-appointed in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013, continuing to advocate for strong and accessible library services for the community.



Mrs McNeill was a woman of great integrity. With her, you always knew where you stood — she was never backwards in coming forwards, and she spoke with honesty and conviction. Yet it was this very quality that made her counsel so valued: her words were clear, her intentions sincere, and her support unwavering. On a personal note, I was fortunate to receive her encouragement and wise guidance over the years. Her counsel was never about one person alone, but about helping others to serve with integrity and compassion.

Earlier this week, I had the honour of attending Mrs McNeill's funeral. It was a beautiful and heartfelt service, filled with warmth and respect, and a true reflection of the love she inspired throughout the community. Seeing so people who loved her gather together was deeply moving, and a testament to the profound impact she had on countless lives.

Across her many years of public service, Mrs McNeill exemplified integrity, compassion, and dedication. Her contributions have had lasting and meaningful impacts across Holroyd, Cumberland, and our wider community. Vanessa McNeill's legacy of service, community advocacy, and leadership will long be remembered, and it would only be befitting that this Council named the library she spent many hours at, in Guildford, after her. May she rest in peace.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move:

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

- Observe a minute's silence in honour of Mrs Vanessa McNeill, recognising her distinguished service to the former Holroyd City Council and her lifelong commitment to the community; and
- 2. Rename the Guildford Branch Library, the Vanessa McNeill Library in her honour.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



## MAYORAL MINUTE - NATIONAL FUTURE FOCUSED AWARD FOR SMART CITIES LEADERSHIP

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

#### **SUMMARY**

I am proud to advise that Cumberland City Council has been nationally recognised for excellence in digital transformation and innovation. At the Local Government Information Technology South Australia (LGITSA) Awards, Cumberland won the prestigious Future Focused Award—the first-time interstate councils were eligible—emerging as the national winner in this highly competitive category.

The Future Focused Award celebrates councils demonstrating forward-thinking approaches through digital transformation, community co-design, and strategic innovation. Cumberland's winning entry, the SMART Cumberland Program, forms part of Council's Smart Cities and Places initiative and has already delivered over 22 of its 36 action items since the program's inception under the Smart Places Strategy and Action Plan (2023).

Through initiatives such as interactive digital platforms that enhance community engagement and transparency, smart micro-infrastructure including wireless phone chargers and digital signage, and educational collaborations promoting STEM learning, the program is embedding innovation across Council operations while building a digitally capable and connected community.

This national recognition reflects the leadership, creativity, and dedication of Council's Place and Economy team led by Daniel Cavallo, Director Environment and Planning and recognises Council Officers Eshita Dutia, John Khoury, and Christopher Manoski.

The SMART Cumberland program positions Cumberland as a national leader in smart city innovation, demonstrating a vision of a future-ready city.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move the following:

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council congratulate the Place and Economy Team on winning the LGITSA Future Focused Award for the SMART Cumberland Program.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**



## MAYORAL MINUTE - 2025 KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL SUSTAINABLE CITIES AWARD

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

#### **SUMMARY**

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate our staff for their outstanding achievement at the Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) Sustainable Cities Awards.

The KAB Sustainable Cities Awards are held annually to recognise excellence in community initiatives, environmental innovation, and local government leadership. This year, Cumberland City Council was honoured as the winner in the category of Climate Change and Mitigation Adaptation for the Cool Carpark Project at Holroyd Gardens.

This award is a significant recognition of Council's commitment to addressing the impacts of climate change and improving liveability for our community. The Cool Carpark Project, led by Council's Environment and Resource Recovery Team, showcases how innovative design and green infrastructure can transform previously heat-intensive areas into environmentally sustainable, cooler, and more inviting public spaces.

The project converted a conventional asphalt carpark—an area known to contribute to extreme heat—into a cool, green, shaded environment through the installation of a specially designed vine and trellis system. This initiative was supported by scientific analysis and a heat study conducted by Western Sydney University, which confirmed that the addition of greenery significantly reduced surface temperatures and improved the local microclimate.

This achievement highlights the dedication, creativity, and technical expertise of the Environmental Management Team led by Daniel Cavallo, Director Environment and Planning, and recognises Council Officers Daniel Anderson, Joshua Hayden and Natalie Gray. Their collaborative efforts have not only earned Council this prestigious honour but have also contributed meaningfully to the resilience and sustainability of our city.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move:

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council congratulate all staff involved in the Cool Carpark Project at Holroyd Gardens for their exceptional achievement in winning the 2025 Keep Australia Beautiful Sustainable Cities Award for Climate Change and Mitigation Adaptation.





### **ATTACHMENTS**