



CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting

*Wednesday, 25 March 2026 at
6:30 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 |
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Greystanes Ward

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| Clr Nadima Kafrouni-Saba (Deputy Mayor) | 0447 605 158 | Nadima.KafrouniSaba@cumberland.nsw.gov.au |
| Clr Eddy Sarkis | 0425 348 000 | Eddy.Sarkis@cumberland.nsw.gov.au |
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Regents Park Ward

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| Clr Enver Yasar | 0497 428 929 | Enver.Yasar@cumberland.nsw.gov.au |
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South Granville Ward

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| Clr Paul Garrard | 0414 504 504 | Paul.Garrard@cumberland.nsw.gov.au |
| Clr Ahmed Ouf | 0449 877 141 | Ahmed.Ouf@cumberland.nsw.gov.au |
| Clr Glenn Elmore | 0418 459 527 | Glenn.Elmore@cumberland.nsw.gov.au |

Wentworthville Ward

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| Clr Michael Zaiter | 0418 432 797 | Michael.Zaiter@cumberland.nsw.gov.au |
| Clr Suman Saha | 0419 546 950 | Suman.Saha@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 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 – 25 March 2026

Mayoral Minutes

| | | |
|------------|---|---|
| MM03/26-45 | Mayoral Minute - International Womens Day 2026..... | 4 |
| MM03/26-46 | Mayoral Minute - Wishing Our Community a Happy Eid Mubarak, Nowruz Mubarak and Happy Easter..... | 6 |

Item No: MM03/26-45

MAYORAL MINUTE - INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY 2026

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

SUMMARY

International Women’s Day (IWD), celebrated globally on 8 March, is a moment to honour the social, economic, cultural, and civic achievements of women. It also serves as a powerful reminder of the ongoing work required to advance gender equality, strengthen safety, and ensure fair and equitable access to opportunities for all women and girls. The 2026 theme, set by UN Women Australia, is “Balance the Scales” a call to action that resonates strongly across our community.

Women continue to shape our community through their leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship, cultural contributions, and civic engagement. Council acknowledges these achievements and recognises the structural barriers that still limit equal participation and opportunity.

Council has already demonstrated its commitment to gender equity through the development of the Gender Equity Strategy. This strategy outlines actions to support women’s leadership and participation, and promotes initiatives that enhance safety and inclusion, education and employment pathways, health and wellbeing, social cohesion, and workplace practices that champion equity, flexibility, safety, and respect.

Council’s International Women’s Day program reflects our dedication to empowering all women in our community.

Councils Community Sector Brunch brings together those working in and for the Cumberland community, offering a space to connect, learn from industry leaders, and strengthen collaboration.

This mornings International Women’s Day Expo was a vibrant celebration of the strength, achievements, and voices of women across our LGA. Featuring four dynamic workshops, the expo will support women to build skills, confidence, and independence, while fostering personal growth and community connection.

International Women’s Day provides an important opportunity for Council to affirm our commitments, highlight progress, and continue driving meaningful change.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Wish all women and girls a Happy belated International Women’s Day.**

- 2. Formally recognises International Women's Day on 8 March and acknowledges the valuable contributions of women and girls across our community.**

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item No: MM03/26-46

MAYORAL MINUTE - WISHING OUR COMMUNITY A HAPPY EID MUBARAK, NOWRUZ MUBARAK AND HAPPY EASTER

Author: Mayor Ola Hamed

SUMMARY

As the holy month of Ramadan has drawn to a close, and with the 40-day period of Lent also nearing its end, this is a moment in our calendar where several traditions coincide. Each carries its own history, rituals, and meaning, yet all speak to the same rhythm of compassion, generosity, and community.

On 27 February 2026, Council hosted its annual Ramadan Iftar Dinner, an event that once again demonstrated the strength of our diversity. It brought together leaders from across our religious and cultural communities to share a meal, exchange perspectives, and deepen understanding. This is what Cumberland Council does best, we bring people together.

Our Ramadan Street Festival on 7–8 March and our Nowruz celebration on 21 March were also wonderful examples of how food, culture and music can bring people together in joy and mutual respect.

This weekend, we continue that spirit with our Easter Extravaganza at the Granville Centre and our Easter in the Gardens event at Central Gardens Nature Reserve. These celebrations are cherished by many families in our community, and we look forward to welcoming everyone who wishes to take part.

This year, Eid al-Fitr was celebrated on 20 March, and Easter will be celebrated on 5 April. I congratulate our Muslim community for observing Ramadan with reflection and compassion, and our Christian community for observing Lent with devotion and generosity. These sacred periods of fasting and prayer, though different in practice, share a common purpose, to bring people closer to their families, and to one another.

Cumberland is home to people of many traditions. We do not diminish one celebration by acknowledging another. We strengthen our community by recognising all of them. Inclusivity is not a threat to anyone's identity, it is the foundation of a cohesive, respectful, and peaceful society. Inclusivity is what makes Australia the best country in the world to live.

As Mayor, I am proud to lead a community where people of all faiths, and cultures including those with no faith are valued, respected, and recognised. Our diversity is not something to be feared or divided over, it is something to be celebrated and protected.

Eid Mubarak, Nowruz Mubarak, and Happy Easter to all who are celebrating.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I move:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note the Mayoral Minute;**
- 2. Wish our community celebrating, Eid Mubarak, Nowruz Mubarak and Happy Easter; and**
- 3. Congratulate Council's Events Team for planning fantastic events to mark these occasions.**

ATTACHMENTS

Nil