

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2026, COMMENCING
AT 6.30PM**

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor D Watton (in the Chair) and Councillors Dixon, Dunne, Harrington, Hill, Jurd, King, Lea, Mason, Palmowski, Pascoe and Hawkins.

IN ATTENDANCE: Interim General Manager (Director Planning and Environment)
Acting Director Planning and Environment (Development Services Manager)
Director Corporate and Community Services
Director Works and Infrastructure
Acting Chief Finance Officer (Finance Coordinator)
Senior Media & Communications Officer
Principal Community Engagement Officer
Community Engagement Officer
Help Desk Support Officer
Council Services Team Leader

The Prayer was presented by Pastor Watton

APOLOGY: Nil

MINUTES: **MOTION** **Moved:** Councillor Pascoe
Seconded: Councillor Jurd
352
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 14 January 2026, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST NO. DI2/2026

SUBJECT: DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil

PETITIONS

Nil

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ALL REPORTS BY ENGLOBO OR INDIVIDUALLY WITH NOMINATED EXCEPTIONS

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lea
 Seconded: Councillor Pascoe

353

RESOLVED

that having read and considered the reports in the agenda related to items

OFFICERS REPORTS

‡ CC10/2026 Investment Report - December 2025.....45
‡ CC11/2026 Investment Report - January 202651

Council adopt the recommendations as printed in the business papers for those items.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DEAL WITH MATTERS IN CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

NOTICE OF INTENTION NO. NI1/2026

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DEAL WITH MATTERS IN
CONFIDENTIAL SESSION -**

**REPORT WI2/2026 - HUNTER RESOURCE RECOVERY RECEIVING
AND PROCESSING OF DOMESTIC KERBSIDE RECYCLING
PRODUCT (HRR 0001B)**

**REPORT WI3/2026 - PROCUREMENT CONCESSION UNDER
SECTION 55(3)(I) WOLLOMBI ROAD UPGRADE PROJECT**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hawkins **Seconded:** Councillor Palmowski
354
RESOLVED

**That Council considers in Confidential Session the following matters in accordance
with Sections 10A (2) (c) (di) of the *Local Government Act 1993*:**

**Report WI2/2026 – Hunter Resource Recovery Receiving and Processing of
Domestic Kerbside Recycling Product (HRR 0001B) as it deals with information
that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom
the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial
information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the
commercial position of the person who supplied it.**

**Report WI3/2026 – Procurement Concession under Section 55(3)(I) Wollombi
Road Upgrade Project as it deals with information that would, if disclosed,
confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is
conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of
a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial
position of the person who supplied it.**

FOR	AGAINST
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Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MAYORAL MINUTES

MAYORAL MINUTES NO. MM1/2026

**SUBJECT: VACANCY IN CIVIC OFFICE - RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR
CHRIS MADDEN**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Watton
355
RESOLVED

That Council notes the vacancy in civic office and that the NSW Electoral Commission is currently conducting a countback process to fill the casual vacancy in Ward B.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTIONS OF URGENCY

MOTIONS OF URGENCY NO. MOU2/2026

SUBJECT: MOTIONS OF URGENCY

Nil

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC4/2026

SUBJECT: AUTHORISATION FOR SALE OF SURPLUS COUNCIL LAND - PART LOT 378 DP 1002112

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor King
356
RESOLVED

1. That Council authorise the General Manager to renegotiate the terms of the sale agreement with the proponent to maximise the return to Council and that if agreement cannot be reached then:
2. That Council authorise sale of part Lot 378 DP 1002112 subject to the purchaser bearing all costs associated with the transfer of the land including but not limited to the survey, registration, valuation, legal costs and registration of covenant.
3. That Council grant authority to the General Manager or delegated officer to negotiate the sale with reference to a current market valuation and execute all relevant documentation to affect the transaction.
4. That Council note the net proceeds of the sale are to be credited to the maintenance budget.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Lea
Councillor Dunne	Councillor Mason
Councillor Harrington	Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Hill	Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Jurd	Councillor Pascoe
Councillor King	
Councillor Watton	
Total (7)	Total (5)

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC5/2026

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 5 DECEMBER 2025**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hill **Seconded:** Councillor Lea
357
RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee meeting held 5 December 2025 be adopted as a resolution of the Ordinary Council.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor King
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (11)	Total (1)

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC6/2026

**SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION 2026
NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY - ATTENDANCE AND MOTIONS**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hill **Seconded:** Councillor Palmowski
358
RESOLVED

1. That Council determine the voting delegate and attendees for the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly to be Mayor Watton as voting delegate and Councillor Dunne as attendee.
2. That Council notes that no motions have been proposed by Councillors for submission for consideration at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly.
3. That Council endorse the regional motions identified by the Hunter Joint Organisation Board and that the following motions be submitted for consideration at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly:
 - a. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:
 - Directly support Local Government actions and strategic planning that address imminent and substantial job losses arising from large scale industry closures in regional economies rapidly transforming to net zero by directly investing in Council led, place-based initiatives that:
 - Identify future land-use options post mining and economic diversification opportunities to provide jobs of the future.
 - De-risk industry investment and strategically inform and accelerate industry attraction, skills development and job creation in mining regions.
 - b. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:
 - Lead systems reform for grant funding within Federal Government to:
 - Reform grant funding to non-competitive, multi-year block funding aligned to Local Government election cycles and Community Strategic Plans.
 - Build consistency in the governance frameworks, systems and documentation required across various funding programs to reduce the administrative burden on Local Government.
 - Improve the delivery of grant funding to councils across Australia to ensure equity.
 - c. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:
 - Update Federal road funding programs so they properly account for regional realities such as longer road networks, heavier freight use, and higher weather vulnerability.

- d. **This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:**
- **Amend disaster recovery funding rules to allow repairs to council owned water and sewer infrastructure.**

Councillor King left the meeting, the time being 7.16pm

Councillor King returned to the meeting, the time being 7.18pm

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Harrington
Councillor Dunne	Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (10)	Total (2)

CARRIED

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 2025 REVIEW OF THE 2025-29 DELIVERY PROGRAM

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC8/2026

**SUBJECT: QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT - QUARTER 2, 31
DECEMBER 2025**

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor Pascoe
360
RESOLVED

1. That Council receives the December 2025 Quarterly Budget Review Statement in accordance with Clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.
2. That Council approves proposed changes to the 2025-26 operating and capital budgets as presented in the Quarterly Business Report December 2025.
3. Council raises its concerns to the Office of Local Government in relation to the shortfalls in the template for QBRS and requests urgent action to remedy the template with respect to Council's financial position.
4. That Council notes the report as it stands is not a true and accurate reflection of Council's financial statement.

FOR

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Hill
Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Lea
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton
Total (10)

AGAINST

Councillor Dunne
Councillor Harrington

Total (2)

CARRIED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC9/2026

SUBJECT: DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS IN WRITTEN RETURNS

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Harrington **Seconded:** Councillor Dixon
361

RESOLVED

That Council notes the tabling of the disclosures of interests in written returns for the period 1 November 2025 to 31 January 2026 in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC10/2026

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT REPORT - DECEMBER 2025

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lea **Seconded:** Councillor Pascoe
362
RESOLVED

That Council receives the Investment Report for December 2025 and notes that:

- **Investments are held in accordance with Council's Investment Policy, which is in accordance with the Ministerial Investment Order.**
- **Council's month end cash and investments balance was \$77,104,014.**

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC11/2026

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT REPORT - JANUARY 2026

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Lea **Seconded:** Councillor Pascoe
363
RESOLVED

That Council receives the Investment Report for January 2026 and notes that:

- **Investments are held in accordance with Council's Investment Policy, which is in accordance with the Ministerial Investment Order.**
- **Council's month end cash and investments balance was \$73,567,689.**

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY NO. CC12/2026

SUBJECT: RESOLUTIONS TRACKING REPORT

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor King **Seconded:** Councillor Jurd
364

RESOLVED

That Council receives the report and notes the information in the Resolutions Tracking Report.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Jurd
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (11)	Total (1)

CARRIED

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI1/2026

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATE OPTIONS TO REMOVE THE SHARED ZONE WITHIN COOPER STREET & CHARLTON STREET INTERSECTION

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor King

1. That Council endorses the recommendation to install interim pedestrian crossings, remove the front-to-kerb parking for the Council owned car park adjacent Charlton Street and provide an alternate parking treatment to improve pedestrian safety, with funding from existing FY26 operational budgets;
2. That Council endorse the removal of the shared zone in Charlton Street and submit an application to TfNSW for removal of the shared zone and associated speed zone change;
3. That Council endorses the preferred option (Option 3) for the removal of the shared zone in Charlton Street with a report coming back to Council so that a staged implementation to improve pedestrian safety, manage traffic, reduce ongoing maintenance and provide adequate parking can progress as funding becomes available ; and
4. That Council supports the application for suitable grant funding to prioritise the remaining safety improvements once the shared relevant approval has been sought by TfNSW.

Councillor King left the meeting, the time being 8.39pm

Councillor King returned to the meeting, the time being 8.41pm

Councillor Hill left the meeting, the time being 8.41pm

Councillor Hill returned to the meeting, the time being 8.43pm

Councillor Hawkins left the meeting, the time being 8.49pm

Councillor Hawkins returned to the meeting, the time being 8.50pm

PROCEDURA MOTION

Moved:
Seconded:

Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hawkins

365

RESOLVED

That the report be deferred until a public workshop can be held for Councillors and staff.

FOR

AGAINST

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Dunne
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hill
Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Lea
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton
Total (12)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN1/2026

SUBJECT: REINSTATEMENT OF THE CESSNOCK WASTE FACILITY REUSE (DUMP) SHOP

Councillor Pascoe left the meeting, the time being 8.53pm

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor King
366
RESOLVED

1. **That Council notes the Directors commentary.**
2. **That the General Manager commence action to facilitate reuse through partnerships with local charities and op-shops rather than operating a retail outlet and that this action be incorporated in the Waste & Resource Recovery Strategy 2026-2031.**

Councillor Harrington left the meeting, the time being 8.54pm

Councillor Pascoe returned to the meeting, the time being 8.55pm

Councillor Harrington returned to the meeting, the time being 8.56pm

FOR	AGAINST
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Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	

Total (12)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN2/2026

SUBJECT: DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS TRANSPARENCY REPORT

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor King
367

RESOLVED

1. That Council notes the Director's commentary regarding the current reporting practices and acknowledges the intention to enhance clarity and accessibility, ensuring that both residents and councillors can easily see the amount of contributions in each section and better understand how developer contributions are collected and spent.
2. That Council further notes that community understanding of how developer contributions are collected and spent could be improved through clearer, more accessible reporting. This includes information on:
 - Total contributions received by financial year
 - Identification of projects funded (by suburb or catchment)
 - Timing and status of infrastructure delivery
 - Comparisons of forecast infrastructure costs vs actual costs
 - Any funding shortfalls and how they are to be addressed

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Dunne	Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Watton	
Total (10)	Total (2)

CARRIED

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN3/2026

SUBJECT: FOOTPATH GAP AUDIT AND PRIORITY WORKS PROGRAM

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor King
368

RESOLVED

1. That Council notes that safe, continuous footpaths are essential infrastructure for pedestrians, including children, older residents, people with disability, and those accessing schools, shops, public transport and community facilities.
2. That Council acknowledges that parts of the Cessnock Local Government Area contain incomplete or missing footpath links ("footpath gaps") that limit accessibility and create safety risks.
3. That Council notes the Directors commentary and that Council receives a report on the updated Active Transport Plan when completed which will be used to inform future capital works planning, grant applications and Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan.
4. That Council provide a Councillor workshop on all updated mobility plans currently adopted by Council.

FOR

AGAINST

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Dunne
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Hill
Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Lea
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton

Total (12)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN4/2026

**SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION OF TEMPORARY MODULAR HOUSING OPTIONS
ON COUNCIL OWNED LAND**

Councillor Palmowski left the meeting, the time being 9.27pm

Councillor Dunne left the meeting, the time being 9.27pm

Councillor Palmowski returned to the meeting, the time being 9.28pm

Councillor Dunne returned to the meeting, the time being 9.29

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Jurd **Seconded:** Councillor Harrington
369

RESOLVED

1. That Council acknowledges the increasing demand for short-term and crisis accommodation within the Cessnock Local Government Area, driven by housing affordability issues, domestic violence, and homelessness.
2. That Council recognises the critical role of State Government, particularly State Members covering Cessnock LGA in facilitating solutions to these pressing issues through partnerships with community housing providers and support services.
3. That Council requests that the General Manager write to State Members covering Cessnock LGA, urging their active engagement and support in addressing the housing challenges within our community.
4. That the correspondence include:
 - A request for a meeting to discuss the urgent need for temporary and modular housing solutions.
 - An invitation for State Members covering Cessnock LGA to collaborate with Council in exploring viable options for funding and resources to address the increasing demand for short-term accommodation.
 - An appeal for their assistance in advocating for state-level support and initiatives to enhance housing availability in the Cessnock LGA.
5. That Council further requests that a report be prepared outlining potential partnership opportunities and state-level resources that can be leveraged to support housing initiatives in our area.

Councillor King left the meeting, the time being 9.37pm

Councillor King returned to the meeting, the time being 9.38pm

FOR

Councillor Dixon
Councillor Dunne
Councillor Harrington
Councillor Jurd
Councillor King
Councillor Lea
Councillor Mason
Councillor Palmowski
Councillor Pascoe
Councillor Hawkins
Councillor Watton

Total (11)**AGAINST**

Councillor Hill

Total (1)***CARRIED***

Councillor Jurd withdrew the following Notice of Motions:-

BN 5/2026 – Audit and Improvement of School Drop-off and Pick-up Safety Zones

BN6/2026 - Shade And Tree Canopy Prioritisation In Public Spaces

BN7/2026 - Audit And Improvement Of Public Toilet Facilities

BN8/2026 - Identification Of State And Federal Cost Shifting Impacts

BN 9/2026 - Councillor-Community Communication Following Investigations

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN5/2026

***SUBJECT: AUDIT AND IMPROVEMENT OF SCHOOL DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP
SAFETY ZONES***

Motion was withdrawn.

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN6/2026

SUBJECT: SHADE AND TREE CANOPY PRIORITISATION IN PUBLIC SPACES

Motion was withdrawn.

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN7/2026

SUBJECT: AUDIT AND IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC TOILET FACILITIES

Motion was withdrawn.

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN8/2026

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL COST SHIFTING IMPACTS

Motion was withdrawn.

BUSINESS WITH NOTICE NO. BN9/2026

SUBJECT: COUNCILLOR-COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION FOLLOWING INVESTIGATIONS

Motion was withdrawn.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Nil

9.43PM

Confidential reports (closed session)

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Pascoe **Seconded:** Councillor Hawkins
370

RESOLVED

That the meeting move into closed session in order to consider confidential items.

FOR	AGAINST
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Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	

Total (12)

Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.41PM

Open Session

The meeting moved back into open session and the Mayor reported on the outcome.

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI2/2026

SUBJECT: HUNTER RESOURCE RECOVERY RECEIVING AND PROCESSING OF DOMESTIC KERBSIDE RECYCLING PRODUCT (HRR 0001B)

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (c) (di) of the Local Government Act, as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hill **Seconded:** Councillor Lea
371
RESOLVED

1. That Council approves the preferred Option 1 in this report (pending adoption by Lake Macquarie, Maitland and Singleton Councils) and;
2. That Council notes confidentiality of this report will be lifted no later than 30 June 2026 (pending execution of the contract).

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dixon	
Councillor Dunne	
Councillor Harrington	
Councillor Hill	
Councillor Jurd	
Councillor King	
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (12)	Total (0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NO. WI3/2026

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT CONCESSION UNDER SECTION 55(3)(I) WOLLOMBI ROAD UPGRADE PROJECT

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (c) (di) of the Local Government Act, as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

MOTION **Moved:** Councillor Hawkins **Seconded:** Councillor Pascoe
372

RESOLVED

1. That Council decline to accept any of the tenders received for the Wollombi Road Upgrade Project - Stage 2 (T2025-13) under CI 178(1)(b) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.
2. That pursuant to clause 178(3)(e) and due to extenuating circumstances as provided under section 55(3)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council delegates authority to the General Manager to enter into negotiations with any person (whether or not the person was a tenderer) with a view to entering a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender in accordance with the approved budget for the project because a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders due to the extensive procurement process that was undertaken to identify competitive tenderers and entering into negotiations addresses the extenuating circumstances of the Wollombi Road Upgrade Project - Stage 2.
3. That a committee be formed for the duration of the Wollombi Road Upgrade project Stages 1 & 2 with Councillor representation to meet monthly and to provide written updates to all Councillors.

FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Dunne	Councillor Dixon
Councillor Harrington	Councillor Jurd
Councillor Hill	Councillor King
Councillor Lea	
Councillor Mason	
Councillor Palmowski	
Councillor Pascoe	
Councillor Hawkins	
Councillor Watton	
Total (9)	Total (3)

CARRIED

The Meeting Was Declared Closed at 10.44pm

CONFIRMED AND SIGNED at the meeting held on 18 March 2026

.....**CHAIRPERSON**

.....**GENERAL MANAGER**