

## **Annexure I**

### **Council Reports and Resolutions**

**Item G1: New South Wales State Government's Local Government Reform Program**

**Author:** Michael Platt - Mayor

**Reason for report:** To provide an update subsequent to the recent LG NSW Conference.

**Recommendation:**

That the update on the New South Wales (NSW) Government's Local Government Reform Program be received and noted.

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**Background**

1. As Councillors would be aware, Councillors Petroni, Katris, Stratikopoulos and I attended last week's LG NSW conference at Coffs Harbour.
2. Of particular interest at the conference were the addresses made by the Premier, The Honourable Mike Baird MP and the Minister for Local Government, Paul Toole MP. Both addresses focused on what is one of the most important issues that Council will face over the next twelve (12) months, being the NSW Local Government Reform Agenda titled 'Fit for the Future' and more specifically proposed council amalgamations.
3. Whilst both speakers referred to a range of recommendations that comprise the 'Fit for the Future' package, it is very clear to me that the State Government's proposed approach to sustaining the future of Local Government in New South Wales is primarily and predominantly through the amalgamation of councils. In the case of Kogarah, the amalgamation proposed is with Canterbury, Rockdale and Hurstville Councils. It is my very strong belief that there are many other ways to achieve the aim of a sustainable council without the need for amalgamations, ways this Council has demonstrated over many years.
4. Indeed, it is inconceivable that action is being contemplated that would threaten Kogarah City Council's proven record of providing quality and cost effective facilities and services to our community. NSW Treasury's positive assessment of Kogarah City Council's financial sustainability, coupled with state, national and international recognition of Council's sustainable business and environmental practices, provide clear evidence of Kogarah City Council's capacity to continue to serve our community to a high standard.
5. In his speech at the conference, the Premier suggested that Council's put their pride in the back seat in regards to amalgamations. In this matter however I will continue to wear my heart on my sleeve and stay firmly in the front seat in declaring my strong desire for Kogarah to remain as it is so as to not expose our community to any possible reductions in the standards of facilities, services and representation that they rightly expect and currently enjoy.

**Item G1 (cont.)**

6. This sentiment was also clearly expressed by me at a meeting of the Kogarah Community Reference Group conducted last Wednesday evening which was the first stage in our community consultation process. At this meeting I highlighted the State Government's amalgamation proposals and was extremely pleased but unsurprised that the members of the Group were unanimous in their total opposition to any amalgamation of our local government area.
7. As a component of the State Government's 'Fit for the Future' program, councils are expected to open dialogue with their neighbouring councils to explore the options proposed. Accordingly, so as to satisfy this expectation the General Manager and I will soon be attending meetings with the Mayors and General Managers of Canterbury, Rockdale and Hurstville Councils. In the interim, comparison information on various indicators will continue to be gathered to provide context to these discussions – information that I am confident will conclude that amalgamation of Kogarah would be to the significant detriment of our residents and must continue to be opposed.
8. I will continue to keep the community and Council apprised of any significant developments in this vital matter.

**Operation Plan Budget**

9. No budget impact for this report.

**Attachments/Annexures**

Nil.

**End of Report**

There was no Meeting Adjournment.

*That the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on 22 September 2014 be confirmed.*

- Subject:** New South Wales State Government's Local Government Reform Program

**Author:** Michael Platt - Mayor

**Reason for Report:** To provide an update subsequent to the recent LG NSW Conference.

*121/2014 Resolved: (Platt/Agius)*

*That the update on the New South Wales (NSW) Government's Local Government Reform Program be received and noted.*

**Speaker for the Motion:** Councillor Michael Platt (Mayor).

**H1. Subject: Adoption of the Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting of 7 October 2014**

*122/2014 Resolved: (Agius/Landsberry)*

*That the Minutes of the Traffic Committee held on 7 October 2014 be adopted.*

|       |                           |  |
|-------|---------------------------|--|
| H1.1. | <b>Subject:</b>           | 1425 - Progress of Matters Report                              |
|       | <b>Author:</b>            | Glen Moody - A/ Director Assets and Services (PC)              |
|       | <b>Reason for Report:</b> | Monthly update report on Traffic Committee items and projects. |

(Adopted Minute No. 122/2014)

*That the October 2014 Progress of Matters Report be received and noted.*

**Item F1:**                      **New South Wales Government's Local Government Reform Program - 'Fit For The Future'**

**Author:**                      Councillor Michael Platt - Mayor

**Reason for report:**      To provide an update on the New South Wales Government's Local Reform Program, 'Fit for the Future'.

**Recommendation:**

That the update on the New South Wales (NSW) Government's Local Government Reform Program be received and noted.

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**Background**

1. At the Regular Council meeting of 27 October 2014 I provided an update report on the New South Wales (NSW) Government's Local Government Reform Program known as 'Fit for the Future'. This report was prepared following the 2014 Local Government NSW Annual Conference and conveyed my view of the sentiments of addresses made by the Premier, The Honourable Mike Baird M.P. and the Minister for Local Government, The Honourable Paul Toole M.P.
2. The 'Fit for the Future' program has been developed following work undertaken by the Independent Local Government Review Panel and intends to provide the mechanism for the long term financial viability and strategic influence of the local government sector. It is clear to me that the primary vehicle that has been identified by the State Government to achieve these aims is the amalgamation of councils and the Minister has called for councils to open dialogue with their neighbouring councils to explore the options proposed. In Kogarah City Council's case, those neighbouring councils are, Rockdale, Canterbury and Hurstville. In accordance with the requirements of 'Fit for the Future', the then Acting General Manager, Rod Logan and myself met with the respective Mayors and General Managers of our neighbouring councils on 11 November 2014. Informal dialogue has also occurred subsequent to that meeting.
3. In the previous report I also advised that comparison information on various indicators would be gathered and compiled. This is being undertaken and the information will be utilised to provide context to the dialogue and for incorporation into Council's submission to the Minister for Local Government on Fit for the Future due on 30 June 2015.
4. To keep our community informed about the 'Fit for the Future' program and the activities in which Council is involved, two principal communication channels are to be employed.
5. Firstly, information has been compiled and posted on Council's website at [www.kogarah.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kogarah.nsw.gov.au).

**Item F1 (cont.)**

6. Secondly the forthcoming edition of Council's newsletter, Kogarahlife will include key information supported by commentary by me in the Mayoral Column. This edition of Kogarahlife will be distributed to residents commencing Wednesday, 11 March 2015.
7. In both communications, Council has requested our community to provide feedback via an online form or by contacting Council in writing, or over the phone.
8. I see these two initiatives as the first stages of Council's communication with our residents. Following this communication and in accordance with the obligations of the State Government's 'Fit for the Future' Program, further consultation with our community will be undertaken. This will include inviting feedback on the outcomes of the assessment of the comparative information gathered and dialogue undertaken with neighbouring councils.
9. I intend to provide regular updates to the community and Council on this most important issue, including status reports to each Council Meeting over the forthcoming months.

**Operation Plan Budget**

9. No budget impact for this report.

**Attachments/Annexures**

Nil.

**End of Report**

|                 |              |                     |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| For the Motion: | Councillors: | Platt (Mayor)       |
|                 |              | Katris              |
|                 |              | McLean              |
|                 |              | Agius               |
|                 |              | Tang (Deputy Mayor) |
|                 |              | Stratikopoulos      |
|                 |              | Landsberry          |
|                 |              | Smith               |
|                 |              | Katsabaris          |
|                 |              | Petroni             |

**As a result of the division the motion was declared carried.**

*6/2015 Resolved: (Agius/Landsberry)*

*That the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on 8 December 2014 be confirmed.*

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Subject:</b>           | <b>New South Wales Government's Local Government Reform Program - 'Fit For The Future'</b>           |
| <b>Author:</b>            | Councillor Michael Platt - Mayor   |
| <b>Reason for Report:</b> | To provide an update on the New South Wales Government's Local Reform Program, 'Fit for the Future'. |

*7/2015 Resolved:* *(Platt/Tang)*

*That the update on the New South Wales (NSW) Government's Local Government Reform Program be received and noted.*

**Speaker for the Motion:** Councillor Michael Platt (Mayor).

**Item I5: NSW Local Government Reform Program - 'Fit for the Future'****Author:** Paul Woods - General Manager**Reason for report:** To determine the template to be utilised in Kogarah City Council's 'Fit for the Future' submission.**Recommendation:**

- a) That the NSW Government's Template 2: Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) be completed in accordance with the details contained within the report.
- b) That the submission referred to in (a) above be presented to Council in June 2015 for consideration and endorsement prior to formal lodgement with IPART.

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**Background**

1. In March 2012 the Minister for Local Government announced the establishment of an Independent Local Government Review Panel (ILGRP) which was tasked with exploring options for governance models, structural arrangements and boundary changes for all councils in NSW.
2. Over a two year period, the ILGRP produced three separate reports and held three rounds of consultation across NSW. Kogarah City Council participated fully in the consultation process and provided detailed responses to each of the three reports. The final report of the ILGRP, dated October 2013, was released on 8 January 2014. Subsequently, the NSW State Government released its 'Fit for the Future' reform program in September 2014. This program intends to provide the mechanism for the long term financial viability and strategic influence of the local government sector.
3. As a component of this program, councils in NSW have been tasked by the NSW Government to undertake a self-assessment against the following criteria / benchmarks:
  - Scale and Capacity -
    1. Threshold criteria as recommended by the ILGRP.
  - Sustainability -
    1. Operating Performance Ratio
    2. Own Source Revenue Ratio
    3. Building and Infrastructure Asset Renewal Ratio
  - Infrastructure and Service Management -
    1. Infrastructure Building Ratio
    2. Asset Maintenance Ratio
    3. Debt Service Ratio
  - Efficiency -
    1. Real Operating Expenditure per capita



**Item 15 (cont.)**

4. Following their reviews, each council is required to submit a proposal on how they intend to become 'Fit for the Future'. Such proposals are to be in one of the following three templates:
  - Template 1 – Council Merger Proposal
  - Template 2 – Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure)
  - Template 3 – Rural Council Proposal
5. Annexed to this report is a copy of the Guidance Material for completing Templates 1 and 2. Submissions must be lodged by 30 June 2015.
6. In April 2015 the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. Mike Baird MP announced that the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) would be assessing the council submissions. IPART has subsequently released a draft 'Methodology for Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals' with the final methodology document to be released on 1 June 2015. A copy of this draft document is annexed. A submission has been made to IPART regarding this methodology and has been circulated under separate cover. It is important to note that the document suggests that a reduction in the timeframe allowed for meeting the criteria from 2022/23 to 2019/20 will apply.

**Scale and Capacity**

7. In its final report, 'Revitalising Local Government', the ILGRP recommended an amalgamation of Kogarah, Hurstville, Rockdale and Canterbury councils. This recommendation proposes an amalgamated council having a projected population of 491,600 residents in 2031. Currently the Kogarah LGA has a population of approximately 60,000 residents with an estimated projection to 76,350 by 2031. To date neither the NSW Government nor IPART have specified a required minimum population size or a target number of councils in the metropolitan area. However, based on the recommended configuration of councils, Kogarah would not meet a projected population target if one was to be set by the NSW Government or IPART on that basis.
8. The ILGRP report states that Scale and Capacity criteria are based on the following key elements of strategic capacity which have been incorporated into IPART's 'Methodology for Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals':
  - More robust revenue base and increased discretionary spending
  - Scope to undertake new functions and major projects
  - Ability to employ a wider range of skilled staff
  - Knowledge, creativity and innovation
  - Advanced skills in strategic planning and policy development
  - Effective regional collaboration
  - Credibility for more effective advocacy
  - Capable partner for State and Federal agencies
  - Resources to cope with complex and unexpected change
  - High quality political and managerial leadership

**Item 15 (cont.)**

9. In view of these elements it is apparent that Kogarah City Council would satisfy any reasonable assessment against the Scale and Capacity criteria based on a range of demonstrable evidence including:
- Extent of industry recognition in relation to best practice;
  - Awards granted for innovative projects;
  - Proven record of collaboration with State and Federal Government agencies including the securing of major grant funding; and
  - Regional collaboration with Hurstville, Rockdale and other SSROC councils.
10. This and other evidence will be detailed in the final submission in June.
11. In summary, Kogarah City Council could clearly demonstrate that it satisfies the Scale and Capacity criteria as outlined above. However, should this methodology change in IPART's final methodology document expected to be released on 1 June 2015, Council may need to reassess its position against the Scale and Capacity criteria.

**Fit for the Future Funding and Support**

12. The NSW Government has offered financial incentives of up to \$10.5 million for each newly merged council and an extra \$3 million for each additional 50,000 of population above the 250,000 in the newly formed council area. In addition, the NSW Government is also offering opportunities for access to a state borrowing facility, access to a streamlined IPART process for setting rates, priority access to state funding and other grants, more flexibility with procurement, simplified reporting and eligibility for additional planning powers.

**Assessment Against Other Benchmarks**

13. The ILGRP Panel did not provide any empirical evidence to support the merger proposal nor was there detailed demonstration of any anticipated benefits and disadvantages. In order to gain this understanding, Council engaged an independent consultant, endorsed by the NSW Government, to undertake merger business case modelling. This modelling considered the following options and how each performs against the criteria, along with the impact of any potential merger on Kogarah residents:-
- Kogarah City Council remains independent (stand-alone / existing structure)
  - Kogarah and Hurstville councils amalgamation
  - Kogarah, Hurstville and Rockdale councils amalgamation
  - Kogarah, Hurstville, Rockdale and Canterbury councils amalgamation.
14. Analysis of the criteria was based on the publicly available information relating to Hurstville, Rockdale and Canterbury councils. Information utilised in relation to Kogarah City Council included current financial information. A copy of the independent consultant's report has been circulated under separate cover.

**Item 15 (cont.)**

15. In terms of Sustainability, Infrastructure and Service Management, and Efficiency, the consultant analysed these benchmarks against each of the merger options and concluded as follows:
- i) Kogarah City Council (stand-alone / existing structure)  
Currently meets 6 of the 7 benchmarks and by 2023 will still meet 6 of the 7 benchmarks. However, Kogarah City Council's Delivery Program 2013-2017 incorporating the 2015/16 Operational Plan (Year 3) contains the draft budget and demonstrates how Council's revised forecasts will enable it to achieve all 7 benchmarks by 2017/18.
  - ii) Kogarah and Hurstville councils amalgamation  
Currently meets 6 of the 7 benchmarks and by 2023 will continue to meet 6 of the 7 benchmarks.
  - iii) Kogarah, Hurstville and Rockdale councils amalgamation  
Currently meets 4 of the 7 benchmarks and by 2023 will meet 3 of the 7 benchmarks.
  - iv) Kogarah, Hurstville, Rockdale and Canterbury councils amalgamation  
Currently meets 3 of the 7 benchmarks and by 2023 will meet 4 of the 7 benchmarks.
16. Following the release of the draft 'Methodology for Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals', as outlined in paragraph 6, Council has conducted a review of the benchmarks against the Kogarah City Council option (stand-alone / existing structure). This review has concluded that Kogarah City Council will in fact meet all 7 of the 7 benchmarks by the new timeframe of 2019/20.
17. The analysis undertaken by the independent consultant clearly demonstrates that, based on the criteria relating to sustainability, infrastructure and service management, and efficiency, each of the amalgamation options would have a negative impact on the residents, ratepayers and the community of the City of Kogarah generally. This impact is exacerbated when it is considered that each of the amalgamations would result in an increase in average residential rates for property owners in the Kogarah LGA and exposure to the debts of the other councils.

**Community Engagement**

18. In order to ensure the community had an opportunity to provide feedback on the future of the City of Kogarah an extensive consultation process was undertaken, including:
- Detailed information placed on Council's website from November 2014.
  - Background information provided in the March 2015 Kogarahlife.
  - A 12 page information brochure titled 'The Future of the City of Kogarah' distributed to all households in the Kogarah LGA in April 2015. This information outlined a range of options for the community to consider and ways in which they could provide feedback to Council.

**Item 15 (cont.)**

- A telephone survey of 600 residents randomly selected and conducted by an independent consultant in May 2015.
  - An online survey available on Council's website and a hard copy of this survey distributed to all households in the information brochure 'The Future of the City of Kogarah'.
  - A dedicated email address established to receive responses.
  - Two consultation sessions conducted with Council's Community Reference Group (October 2014 and May 2015).
19. Copies of the abovementioned consultation material and the survey results have been circulated under separate cover.
20. Overwhelmingly the community stated that the option presented for Kogarah to stand alone was the preferred option. A total of 85% of those surveyed through Council's telephone survey and 90% of those who responded to the survey online or through the information brochure responded in that manner. The Community Reference Group unanimously supported the Kogarah City Council option (stand-alone / existing structure).

**Engagement with other Councils**

21. In communications with councils on the issue of 'Scale and Capacity' the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Paul Toole MP, has called for councils to open dialogue with neighbouring councils to explore the amalgamation options proposed by the ILGRP. This advice was reiterated in a letter from the Minister dated 27 April 2015 to the Mayor, Cr Michael Platt.
22. As Council is aware, the Mayor and the then Acting General Manager, Rod Logan met with the respective Mayors and General Managers of Hurstville, Rockdale and Canterbury Councils on 11 November 2014. In addition to subsequent informal discussions, Rockdale City Council has sought to arrange an appropriate forum to facilitate dialogue between the Mayors and General Managers of the four councils. The Mayor has responded by advising of Kogarah City Council's desire to participate in such a forum, following receipt of all information from Council's consultant and the results of the public consultation, so as to provide context to the dialogue, and subject to the participation of each of the four councils. This forum did not however proceed.

**'Fit for the Future' Submission**

23. The data collated by Council's consultant and outlined in this report clearly demonstrates that Kogarah City Council has the proven capacity to stand alone and that any amalgamation would have a detrimental impact on our community. This sentiment was strongly reflected by our community throughout the consultation process. Kogarah City Council is in the enviable position of being debt free with asset management processes and infrastructure condition independently assessed as being at the highest level. Further, Council has a proven record of innovation, best practice and sound financial management, with significant achievements across the spectrum of our services, many of which have been recognised at a local, national and international level.

**Item 15 (cont.)**

24. It is therefore recommended that the NSW Government Template 2: Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) be completed and submitted to Council's June 2015 meeting for final endorsement.
25. However, in the event that IPART, in finalising the 'Methodology for Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals', modifies the methodology for assessment of Scale and Capacity, Council may need to reconsider its position. Based on consideration of community of interest factors and demonstrated capacity for regional collaboration, an amalgamation comprising of Kogarah, Hurstville and Rockdale Councils would be preferable to the amalgamation proposed by ILGRP which also incorporates Canterbury Council. A draft copy of Council's submission will be presented for endorsement at the June 2015 Council meeting.

**Operational Plan Budget**

26. No budget impact for this report.

**Attachments/Annexures**

|                          |  |          |          |
|--------------------------|--|----------|----------|
| <a href="#"><u>1</u></a> | Methodology for Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals | 58 Pages | Annexure |
| <a href="#"><u>2</u></a> | Template 1 - Council Merger Proposal                               | 14 Pages | Annexure |
| <a href="#"><u>3</u></a> | Template 2 - Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure)     | 18 Pages | Annexure |

**End of Report**

5.      **Subject:**                      **NSW Local Government Reform Program - 'Fit for the Future'**  
         **Author:**                        Paul Woods - General Manager  
         **Reason for Report:**        To determine the template to be utilised in Kogarah City Council's 'Fit for the Future' submission.

|         |                                 |   |
|---------|---------------------------------|---|
| 60/2015 | <i>Resolved:</i>                | <i>(Katris/Petroni)</i>   |
|         | a)                              | <i>That the NSW Government's Template 2: Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) be completed in accordance with the details contained within the report.</i> |
|         | b)                              | <i>That the submission referred to in (a) above be presented to Council in June 2015 for consideration and endorsement prior to formal lodgement with IPART.</i>        |
|         | <b>Speakers for the Motion:</b> | Councillor Michael Platt (Mayor)<br>Councillor Nick Katris<br>Councillor Jacinta Petroni  |

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#### **J.        Motions of Which Notice Has Been Given**

1.      **Subject:**                      **Ma'anshan Park - Weather Shelter**  
         **Author:**                        Councillor Annie Tang

|         |                  |   |
|---------|------------------|---|
| 61/2015 | <i>Resolved:</i> | <i>(Katris/Katsabaris)</i>  |
|         |                  | <i>That the matter be deferred for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.</i> |

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#### **K.        Reports from Council Delegates**

Cr Michael Platt – advised that Cr Katsabaris, Cr Varvaris and himself recently attended a book launch hosted by Kogarah Library titled “The Battle of Crete: The Untold Stories”. Cr Platt stated that he was very humbled to meet Mr Alf Carpenter, a 98 year old World War II veteran who had fought for the Greek Campaign in 1941. Cr Platt acknowledged and spoke of his admiration for the bravery of Mr Carpenter and many other war veterans who have fought for our country to provide us with democracy, freedom and a better lifestyle. Cr Platt added that it was a wonderful night and he was extremely honoured to attend.

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#### **L.        General Business**

There was no General Business.

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**Item I1:** NSW Local Government Reform Program - 'Fit for the Future'  
**Author:** Paul Woods - General Manager  
**Reason for report:** To consider Kogarah City Council's Fit for the Future submission for endorsement prior to formal lodgement with IPART.

**Recommendation:**

That in response to the NSW Government's Fit for the Future Program, the Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) template for Kogarah City Council to stand alone, annexed to the report, be endorsed for submission to IPART.

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**Background**

1. At its meeting on 25 May 2015, Council considered a report on the NSW Government's Local Government Reform Program – 'Fit for the Future' (copy annexed) and resolved as follows (Min. No. 60/2015):
  - "a) *That the NSW Government's Template 2: Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) be completed in accordance with the details contained within the report.*
  - b) *That the submission referred to in (a) above be presented to Council in June 2015 for consideration and endorsement prior to formal lodgement with IPART."*
2. Following community consultation by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), the *Methodology for Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals* was released on 5 June 2015. In accordance with Council's resolution of 25 May 2015, the NSW Government's Template 2: Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) has been prepared and is annexed to the report for Council's review and endorsement for submission to IPART.

**Submission**

3. As a consequence of the recent amendments made to the assessment criteria by IPART, Council currently meets five (5) of the seven (7) benchmarks set by the NSW Government and will meet all seven (7) benchmarks from 2017/18. These remaining two (2) benchmarks will be achieved by pursuing specific improvement strategies that will result in satisfaction of the Operating Performance Ratio and Building and Asset Renewal Ratio. In particular, this will be achieved by focusing on operating cost control and efficiencies, and leveraging off Council's asset management knowledge and practices to provide greater accuracy for annual depreciation charges on Council's main infrastructure.

**Item II (cont.)**

4. Council has undertaken an extensive qualitative review of the key elements of strategic capacity which clearly demonstrates that, based on any reasonable qualitative assessment, Council satisfies the scale and capacity criteria specified within IPART's assessment methodology. This review highlights our history of innovation, best practice and financial management, and significant achievements across the spectrum of our services, many of which have been recognised at a local, national and international level. This review is annexed to the report and subject to Council's endorsement, will be a component of Council's submission.

**Conclusion**

5. The Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) template annexed to this report clearly demonstrates that Kogarah City Council has the proven capacity to stand alone and that any amalgamation would have a detrimental impact on our community. This sentiment was strongly reflected by our community throughout the recent consultation process, of which copies of the related report are annexed. Kogarah City Council is in the enviable position of having extremely low levels of external debt with asset management processes and the condition of its infrastructure independently assessed by Council's consultant, Morrison Low and the Office of Local Government, as being at the highest level. A copy of the related report by Morrison Low is annexed.
6. Accordingly, it is recommended that the Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) template for Kogarah City Council to stand alone, annexed to the report, be endorsed for submission to IPART.

**Operational Plan Budget**

7. No budget impact for this report.

**Attachments/Annexures**

|                          |   |           |          |
|--------------------------|---|-----------|----------|
| <a href="#"><u>1</u></a> | Report to Council Meeting of 25 May 2015 - NSW Local Government Reform Program - 'Fit for the Future' | 6 Pages   | Annexure |
| <a href="#"><u>2</u></a> | Kogarah City Council - Template 2: Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure)                  | 35 Pages  | Annexure |
| <a href="#"><u>3</u></a> | Strategic Capacity  | 31 Pages  | Annexure |
| <a href="#"><u>4</u></a> | Community Consultation material and results   | 93 Pages  | Annexure |
| <a href="#"><u>5</u></a> | Morrison Low Report   | 110 Pages | Annexure |

**End of Report**



## Extraordinary Council Meeting Minutes

**Commenced 6:07pm**

**MONDAY, 29 JUNE 2015**

**Present:** Cr Michael Platt (Mayor), Cr Nick Katris, Cr Lachlan McLean, Cr Stephen Agius, Cr Annie Tang (Deputy Mayor), Cr Sam Stratikopoulos, Cr Kathryn Landsberry, Cr Nathaniel Smith, Cr Nickolas Varvaris, Cr George Katsabaris, Cr Nick Aroney and Cr Jacinta Petroni.

**In Attendance:** Paul Woods (General Manager), Evan Hutchings (Director Governance and Corporate Services), Rod Logan (Director Planning and Environmental Services), Andrew Sharp (Director Assets and Services), and Cassie Timms (Minute Secretary).

### **A. Apologies**

There were no apologies received.

### **B. Disclosures of Interest**

There were no Disclosures of Interest.

### **C. Reports from Officers**

1. **Subject:** NSW Local Government Reform Program - 'Fit for the Future'  
**Author:** Paul Woods - General Manager  
**Reason for Report:** To consider Kogarah City Council's Fit for the Future submission for endorsement prior to formal lodgement with IPART.

82/2015 **Resolved:** (Varvaris/Katsabaris)

- a) *That in response to the NSW Government's Fit for the Future Program, the Council Improvement Proposal (Existing structure) template for Kogarah City Council to stand alone, annexed to the report, be endorsed for submission to IPART.*
- b) *That in the event that the State Government mandates amalgamations, based on consideration of community of interest factors and demonstrated capacity for regional collaboration, an amalgamation comprising of Kogarah, Hurstville and Rockdale Councils would be preferable to the amalgamation proposed by the ILGRP which also incorporates Canterbury Council.*

- c) *That the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Paul Toole, MP, be advised that Kogarah City Council is well positioned and equipped to actively facilitate and contribute to any industry reform processes in the future, including any mandated amalgamations as referred to in (b) above.*

**Speakers for the Motion:** Cr Nickolas Varvaris  
Cr Michael Platt (Mayor)

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