



# **INNER WEST COUNCIL**

## **HOUSING AND AFFORDABILITY STRATEGIC REFERENCE GROUP AGENDA**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**6:30 pm**

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**Location: Petersham Service Centre - Level 3 Ngara Room**

**2-14 Fisher St, Petersham**

RSVP: to Jon Atkins on 0418 864 907 or [jon.atkins@innerwest.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jon.atkins@innerwest.nsw.gov.au)

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### ITEM:

**Chairperson: TBD**

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**Meeting Close**

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Please note that only community members appointed by the Administrator can vote on recommendations made by the Strategic Reference Group.

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**Item No:** Item 6  
**Subject:** Status of Recommendations from 20 November 2017 meeting  
**Prepared by:** Erla Ronan, Group Manager, Community Services and Culture

**Item 6**

### **SUMMARY**

This report advises the Strategic Reference Group of the status of the recommendations from the previous meeting held on 20 November 2017.

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Strategic Reference Group receives and notes the update on recommendations provided in Attachment 1.

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### **Background**

This report is provided to update Reference Group members on the status of recommendations made at the meeting held on 20 November 2017.

### **Financial Implications**

Nil

### **Attachment 1**

Status of Recommendations from October Strategic Reference Group Meeting

**Status of Recommendations from 20 Nov 2017 Strategic Reference Group Meeting**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status</b>
20 Nov 17	<b>Item 6 – Quarantining surplus affordable housing fund</b>	THAT JA inform Clr Kiat prior to Council's meeting on 21 November 2017 that the SRG supports Part 7 of his NoM 'Affordable Housing for the Inner West' regarding the quarantining of surplus affordable housing funds.	Adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SRG's support for Part 7 of Clr Kiat's NoM regarding the quarantining of surplus affordable housing funds was conveyed to Clr Kiat on 21 November 2017 prior to Council's meeting that day.</li> </ul>
20 Nov 17	<b>Item 8 – Rental Housing Issues: Affordable Rental Housing Specifications</b>	THAT a developed version of the Affordable Housing Unit Specifications be prepared and submitted to Council for endorsement in the future.	Adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work-in-progress</li> </ul>
20 Nov 17	<b>Item 8 – Future of Strategic Reference Groups</b>	THAT the SRG recommends the formation of a Social Outcomes Committee to advise negotiations related to Voluntary Planning Agreements and adequate contributions to fund community infrastructure and affordable housing.	Adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A VPA Assessment Panel has been formed to facilitate input and recommendations on development proposals. The panel consist of 15 senior staff, mainly Group Managers and General Counsel. Bojan Sodic, Strategic Investments Manager, and Erla Ronan are members. The new panel first met on 27 Feb 2018.</li> </ul>
20 Nov 17	<b>Item 8 – Future of Strategic Reference Groups</b>	THAT JA inform Clr Kiat prior to the Council meeting on Tuesday 21 November that the SRG generally supports his NoM except for the proposed Empty Dwellings levy.	Adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SRG's general support for Clr Kiat's NoM except for the Empty Dwelling levy was conveyed to Clr Kiat on 21 November 2017 prior to Council's meeting that day.</li> </ul>

<b>20 Nov 17</b>	<b>Item 8 – Future of Strategic Reference Groups</b>	THAT Council be asked to establish a full-time, permanent Affordable Housing Officer’s position in order to meet the challenges of affordable housing in the Inner West.	Adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A proposal to make the Affordable Housing Officer’s position permanent full-time is to be considered during the budgetary planning process for 2018/19.</li><li>• This proposal has the support of Community Services and Culture and Strategic Planning.</li></ul>
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**Item No:** Item 7

**Subject:** Update on Future of Strategic Reference Groups

**Prepared by:** Erla Ronan, Group Manager, Community Services and Culture

### **SUMMARY**

An evaluation of all Interim Strategic Reference Groups (SRGs) took place during November 2017 following the election of Council in September. The results of this evaluation were reported to Council at its meeting on 12 December 2017.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Strategic Reference Group receives and notes the update on the future of Interim SRGs.

### **Background**

Following an evaluation of all Interim Strategic Reference Groups (SRGs) during November 2017, a report [Local Participatory Democracy at Inner West \(item 8\)](#) prepared by the Communication and Engagement team was considered by Council at its meeting on 12 December 2017.

At that meeting Council resolved:

1. **This item be deferred to a Councillor Briefing in February 2018;**
2. **The briefing include further information on how Council will engage with:**
  - a. **Multicultural communities;**
  - b. **Access committees and business committees and other committees that may be determined by Council;**
  - c. **Faith based communities;**
  - d. **strategic reference groups on research including a process for policy matters to be referred to the SRGs by resolution of Council and recommendations to be reported back;**
  - e. **Seniors; and**
  - f. **Members of former facilities committees.**
3. **The Strategic Reference Groups continue in the interim;**
4. **The briefing be widened to include an overview and assessment of all Committees that were up and functioning as part of the democratic structure of the 3 councils - Leichhardt, Ashfield and Marrickville up until they were forcibly amalgamated in May 2016. These Committees include but are not limited to the Access Committees, Youth and Senior Councils, Environment and Recreation, Heritage and Bicycle Committees.**

On 15 February 2018, the Community Engagement team briefed councillors on local participatory democracy in the Inner West which included a discussion of the future of SRGs, potential committees etc.

Following this briefing with councillors, the Community Engagement team is to prepare a second report on local democracy which will address the future of Committees including all Interim SRGs. The date of the Council meeting to consider this report is to be determined.

**Item No:**                **Item 8**

**Subject:**                **Staff Verbal Update**

Prepared by:            Jon Atkins, Affordable Housing Planning Leader, Community Services  
and Culture

## **SUMMARY**

The staff verbal update will refer to the following items:

- Notice of Motion: Affordable Housing for the Inner West (12 Dec 2017);
- Make Renting Fair Campaign and Sydney Alliance's Affordable Rental Housing Campaign (12 Dec 2017);
- Homeless Street Count (19 Feb 2018);
- Boarding Houses including Boarding House Roundtable (20 Feb 2018);
- SEPP 70 announcement, Council submission & preparation of affordable housing contribution scheme. (31 Feb 2018);
- Social and Affordable Housing Fund (SAHF).
- Everybody's Home campaign ([www.everybodyshome.com.au](http://www.everybodyshome.com.au))



**Item No:** Item 9  
**Subject:** Discussion on Possible Priorities for Council's Affordable Housing Work

Prepared by: Jon Atkins, Affordable Housing Planning Leader, Community Services and Culture

### **SUMMARY**

Previous SRG meetings have discussed a range of affordable housing issues and campaigns as well as strategies to increase the supply of affordable rental housing.

As well, the importance of advocacy work has been well recognised.

The aim of this session is to identify possible priorities for Council's affordable housing work in the coming year.

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Strategic Reference Group identifies possible priorities for Council's affordable housing work during 2018.

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### **Background**

Previous SRG meetings have discussed a number of affordable housing issues, projects and campaigns. These have included rapid real increases in housing prices (rental and purchase), rising levels of housing stress and dislocation of historic populations, inappropriate urban housing densities, SEPP 70, boarding houses, homelessness, and campaigns such as the Make Renting Fair campaign and Sydney Alliance's Affordable Rental Housing campaign.

With respect to increasing affordable housing supply, reference has also been made to Key Performance Indicators in the Affordable Housing Policy and undertaking an audit of Council owned land that could be developed in partnership with the community housing sector or private developers.

As well, advocacy work aimed at improving State and Federal government policies and strategies to effectively address the shortage of affordable rental housing has been an important part of Council's affordable housing activities.

The aim of this session is to seek members' views on possible priorities for Council's affordable housing work in the coming year.

**Item No:**                **Item 10**  
**Subject:**                **Other Business**

**SUMMARY**

An opportunity to bring members' attention to other developments and events of relevance to the SRG's Terms of Reference.