GEORGES RIVER
COUNCIL

IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Meeting No.2)

12 October 2016

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

John Rayner
Administrator

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Agenda

1. Implementation and Projects Update – Gail Connolly
2. Implementation Plan – Marissa Racomelara
3. Code of Meeting Practice – John Rayner
4. Councillor Expenses – Rebekah Schulz
5. General Business – John Rayner

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IMPLEMENTATION AND PROJECTS UPDATE

Gail Connolly
General Manager

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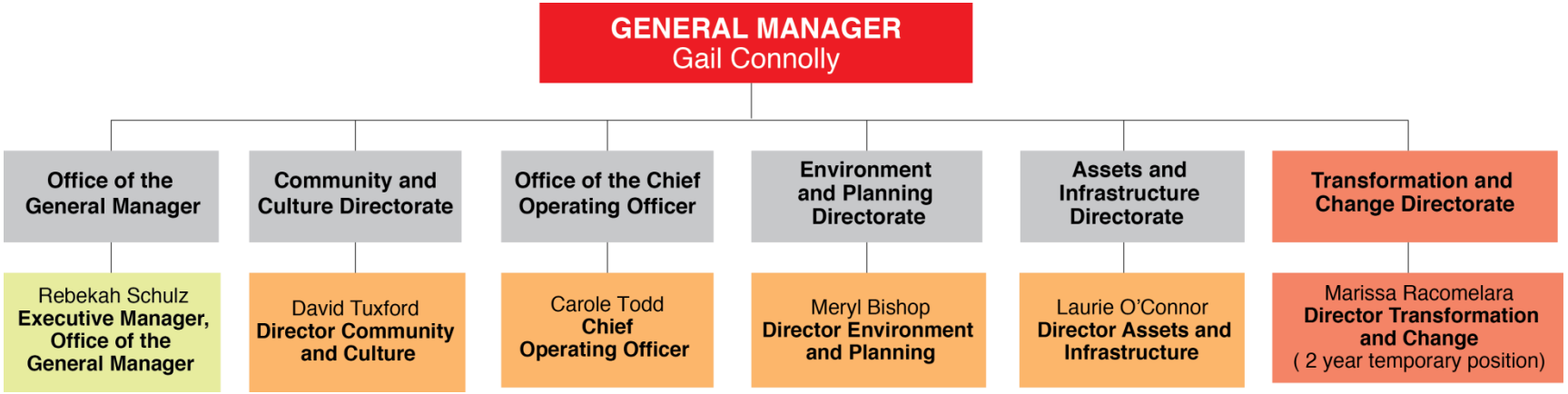
Senior Management Structure



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Planning Achievements

- Established the Georges River IHAP (more than five L&E Court appeals avoided to date)
- Amended DCP, new VPA Policy, standardised conditions of consent
- Harmonised DA lodgements at both service centres
- Profile ID developed across the new LGA and Economy ID and Forecast ID included

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Community Achievements

- Engagement and communication – website, social media, GR Life community newsletter, signage
- New focus on transparency and openness, release of information to the community
- Council meetings across five Wards
- Regional Chamber of Commerce established
- Economic Development Advisory Committee established
- Created a new major events calendar for the LGA

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Governance Achievements

- Delivered the first integrated Operational Plan (budget) 2016/17 for a merged council
- Established Audit and Risk Management Committee
- Policy development, delegations, registers, seals, codes, insurances
- New corporate systems decided – financial, records, HR, etc
- Corporate and other memberships reviewed and rationalised

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People and Culture Achievements

- Established the Georges River Consultative Committee with 5 meetings held to date
- Relocation of all Kogarah based staff agreed and on track for end January
- Participation and communication – GM's weekly message, staff newsletters, weekly FAQs, suggestion boxes, staff forums, staff BBQs, all-staff briefings by GM, consultative committee agendas, staff intranet, Yammer, new corporate vision and values survey

Service Delivery Achievements

- Customer Service Centres – extended hours of operation, extended payment options, harmonised DA lodgements
- Benchmarked all service levels of both former councils
- Extended $75 pensioner rebate to all GRC ratepayers
- Expanded the graffiti removal service into the former Kogarah LGA and began the removal of graffiti from Kogarah Town Centre, including private property, at no cost to the owner
- Renegotiated Asphalt contract to produce a saving of $250,000 through increased buying power
- Focus on Business - Georges River Chamber of Commerce, integrated food shop education and inspections, Economy ID, increase in online forms

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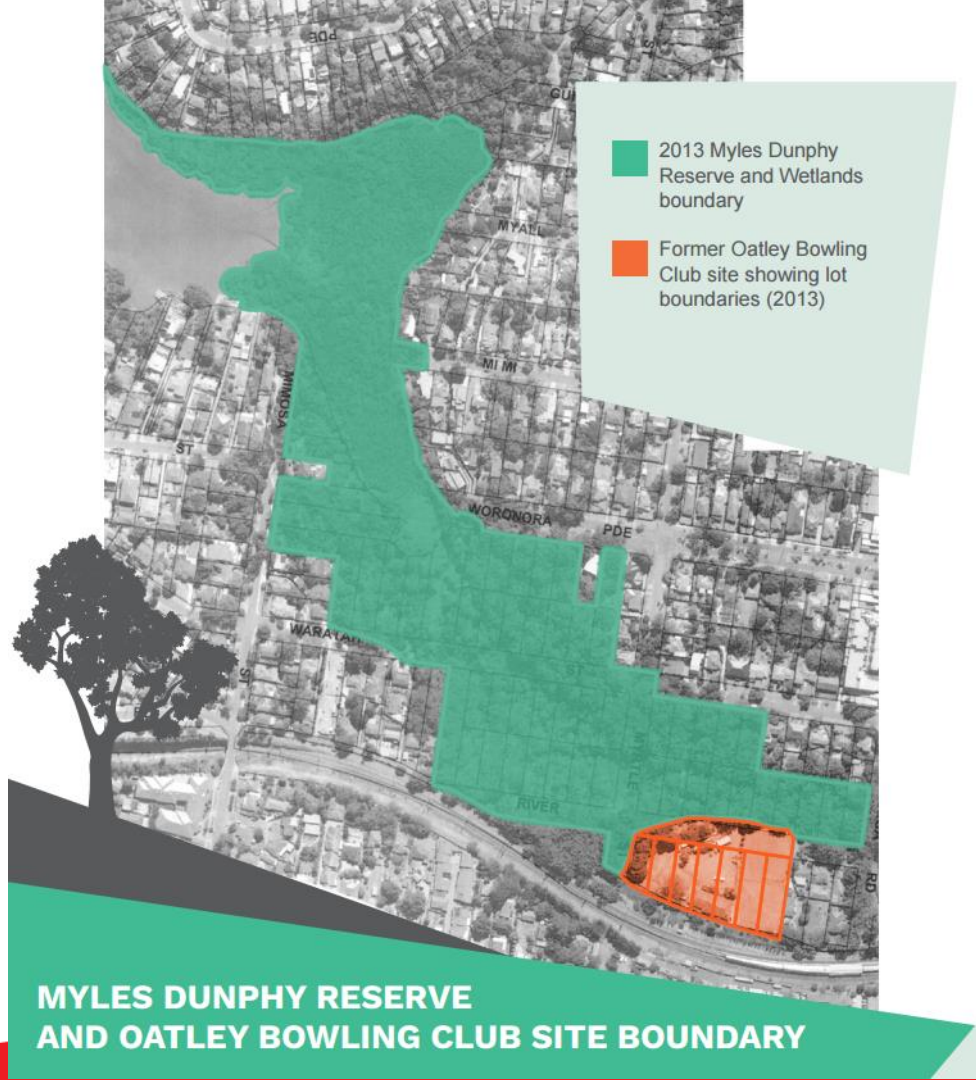
Update on the former Oatley Bowling Club



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Project Fusion – staff relocation

- Relocation of staff by January 2017
- Project Fusion project team of 12 staff from all departments
- Staff are looking forward to coming together
- Utilisation of a section of Hurstville Entertainment Centre
- Open office plan to foster greater collaboration
- Directors to locate with their team

- By the end of the month:
  - Entire Engineering team will relocate to Hurstville
  - Building works tender
  - Furniture and fittings tender

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IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Marissa Racomelara
Director Transformation and Change

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Plan Inclusions

- Two areas of focus
  - Department of Premier and Cabinet requirements
  - Organisational Change Requirements
- Key Contents
  - Program Governance
  - Strategic Alignment
  - Timelines and Milestones
  - Cost Management
  - Risk Management
  - Communications and Engagement
  - Monitoring and Reporting

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Statement of Local Benefits

Priority	• Local Benefits
Council decision making demonstrates a clear evidence base and is supported by outcomes of effective engagement across the entire community	• More effective community participation, engagement and response times • Open and transparent governance with support for corruption resistant decision making.
Delivering day to day services in accordance with the communities strategic goals	• Optimised service portfolio and delivery, supported by well-managed infrastructure • Stronger Communities Funds are invested in key community infrastructure and other priority projects
Advocating effectively for the community where State and Federal issues impact on local residents	• Increased partnerships to achieve demonstrated outcomes • Economic development and growth in the region
Strengthening Council's internal leadership to foster a culture that embraces service, performance, and continuous improvement	• Savings achieved from the merger are quarantined and identified for reinvestment in improved services • Staff work within a positive culture defined by commitment to organisation and community values

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Program Streams

Communications
- Media and PR
- Events Management
- Internal Comunications
- Community Engagement
- Branding and Image

Customer Service
- Service Centres
- Contact Points
- After Hours Services
- Charter and Strategy

Finance
- Strategy
- Budgeting and Reporting
- Rating
- Contracts
- Procurement

Governance
- Policy and Procedures
- Delegations
- Meetings and Elections
- IP&R
- Strategic Planning

Information Management
- ICT Governance
- Applications
- Hardware
- Services
- Records Management

Operations
- Fleet, equipment and stores
- Parks and trees
- Building maintenance
- Trades
- Cleansing

People and Culture
- Employment and Recruitment
- Learning and Development
- Salary system and conditions
- Culture and Values

Risk and Legal
- Enterprise Risk Management
- Asset Management
- Internal Audit
- Property Management
- WHS and insurance

Services - Place
- Building Certification
- Place Management
- Economic Development
- Development Assessment
- Property Approvals

Services - Community
- Children's Services
- Libraries
- Community Development
- Community Grants
- Sister Cities

Services - Regulatory
- Enforcement
- Environmental Services
- Waste Management
- Inspections
- Tree Management

Secretariat
- Reporting
- Monitoring
- Budget
- Records
- Administration

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CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

John Rayner
Administrator

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Submissions sought

The Georges River Council *Code of Meeting Practice* has been reviewed.
At the Meeting of Council on 6 June 2016, Council resolved:

- That the draft Code of Meeting Practice be placed on public exhibition as required under the provisions of Section 361 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- That the public exhibition be brought to the attention of former Councillors of the Hurstville City Council and Kogarah City Council and their submissions be invited.

http://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/getattachment/Council/Council-Meetings/Code-of-Meeting-Practice-20160531-1358-pdf.pdf.aspx?lang=en-AU

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Code of Meeting Practice

- Council has exhibited a draft Code of Meeting Practice (COMP) and will now consider the submissions received.

- Councillors of both former councils, were invited to make submissions on the COMP.

- Several submissions have been received following exhibition and this advice will be considered for inclusion in the new COMP.

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Code of Meeting Practice

- The new COMP incorporates the latest provisions of S451 of the local Government Act and Cl 195a of the General Regulation, related to disclosures of pecuniary interests.

- The Office of Local Government has advised its intent to soon issue a Model COMP, which will then be incorporated into Council's Code.

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COUNCILLOR EXPENSES

Rebekah Schulz
Executive Manger, Office of the General Manager

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Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors - policy

- On amalgamation, Council adopted the Policy on Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors, which had been in use by the former Kogarah City Council (19/5/16 Item 18).

- Council has now prepared a new draft policy under S252 of the Act, incorporating the recent OLG Circular 16/30 and which will be considered by Council for adoption in 2017.

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Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors - policy

- The new policy will standardise and simplify the provision of electronic equipment to enable Councillors to perform their roles. A **standard operating system** issue of computer and telecommunications equipment and services will provide modern solutions, while **simplifying administration** and technical support.
- Reinforcing **3 month deadline** for reimbursement of claims.
- Currently finalising the document and the associated forms to ensure:
  - Accountability
  - Clarity
  - Reduction red tape

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Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors - policy

Priorities

- Review of past practice at Kogarah and Hurstville Councils
- Reviewed the requirements in the Act
- Taken on board the sentiments expressed by the DPC:
  - Accountability
  - Good governance
  - Transparency
  - Best practice

- **Feedback sought over the next few weeks**
  - Highlight areas of the Policy that require further clarity

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GENERAL BUSINESS

John Rayner
Administrator

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QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK

John Rayner
Administrator

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