



ATTACHMENTS

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 9 November 2022
at 6:30PM



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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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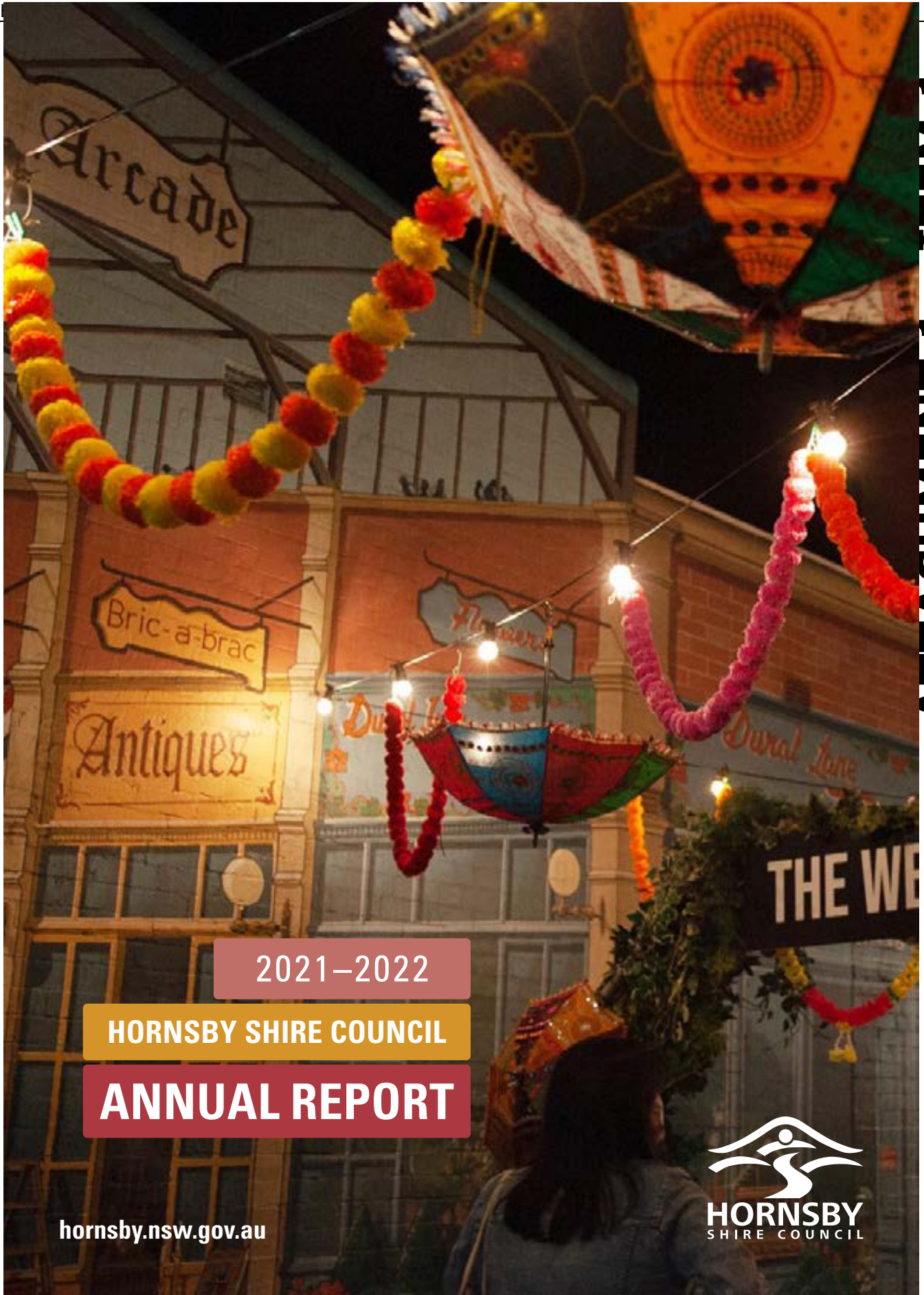
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ATTACHMENT/S

REPORT NO. GM35/22

ITEM 1

1. 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 1

2021–2022

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

hornsby.nsw.gov.au





Council would like to recognise the Traditional Owners of the lands of Hornsby Shire, the Darug and GuriNgai peoples, and pays respect to their Ancestors and Elders past and present and to their Heritage. We acknowledge and uphold their intrinsic connections and continuing relationships to Country.

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Mayor's message

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This year, I was once again in awe of the resilience of our community as they continued to remain strong through another bumpy year of lockdowns, floods and other adversities. While there have been challenges, there has also been hope and immense community spirit. It has been a privilege to serve you through these times.

In December, I was honoured to be re-elected as your Mayor and it was a pleasure to be joined by my fellow nine Councillors, including five elected for the first time. I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution made by the outgoing Councillors and welcome my new colleagues. Collectively, our focus is always on supporting the community and continuing to deliver our services and projects.

Following the election, we were soon faced with the first of two devastating flood events, quickly bringing home to us the very real impact that local government has on the lives of its residents. We moved quickly to support property owners affected by the February – March 2022 floods, waving a range of fees and levies to support their rebuild process. In response to both extreme weather events, Council worked closely with affected communities to support the emergency response and undertook extensive clean-up and repair programs across the Shire.

After a long period of remaining distant from one another, it gave us great pleasure to be able to present community programs for people to come together once more. After a two-year hiatus, our popular laneway festival, Westside Vibe, returned with its most successful event to date. Our Australia

Day celebrations were filled with music, dance and swimming pool fun; and we held our 1000th citizenship ceremony in May.

In February, we completed our multi-million dollar upgrade of Hornsby Central Library. The revived library features a dedicated new children's area, a spacious new quiet-study space and a Discovery Space. It is incredibly pleasing to see our community rediscover the joy of this valuable facility. In April, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Hornsby Shire Library Service. I would like to take the opportunity to pay tribute to the dedicated library staff and volunteers who make it the beating heart of the community.

One of the things I value most about our beautiful Bushland Shire is the opportunity to get out and about in our open spaces. This year we made a raft of upgrades to our parks, playgrounds and facilities. During our time at home, many of us discovered the joys of bushwalking, so we maintained and upgraded our extensive network of paths. We also left the lights on at ovals across the Shire for people to exercise and enjoy recreation in the evenings when we were otherwise confined to our homes during lockdown.

Despite the many challenges of the year, we continued to progress major projects and improvements, including Hornsby Park, the largest single project ever undertaken by Hornsby Shire Council. Currently being developed in the site of the old quarry, the project made much headway with earthworks and site rehabilitation.

Hornsby Shire is a diverse and welcoming community and, as a council, we strive for social inclusion. So, we were delighted that our Social Inclusion

Hornsby (Disability Inclusion Action Plan) 2021-25 was adopted. Thanks to funding from the NSW Government, we launched Hello Hornsby, a very successful program of regular activities, outings and events for residents aged 60+. In line with our Dual Naming and/or Renaming Policy, we renamed the Pennant Hills community nursery to Warada Ngurang Community Nursery, and this was officially recognised at a tree planting ceremony in June.

As custodians of the environment, we are committed to protecting and enhancing our Shire. In line with this, we entered an agreement to have 100 per cent of our electricity supplied by three NSW solar farms. Our residents were once again named Australia's top mobile phone recyclers and The Remagine Art Prize promoted a circular economy, with a popular exhibition showcasing local and national art.

Our dedicated bushland volunteers continue to donate their time and labour and have been caring for our precious bushland for over 30 years now. I was delighted to join them to celebrate this incredible milestone in May and thank them all for their years of service.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Hornsby Shire Councillors for their dedication and many services to the community and acknowledge the professionalism, devotion to duty and hard work of Council's staff and management.

It has been an honour to lead another year as we commenced a new term of Council. I present to you the Annual Report on their behalf.

Philip Ruddock AO
Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council.



General Manager's message

ATTACHMENT 1 - ITEM 1

As we reflect on our achievements of the last 12 months, I am proud that this report outlines that, despite navigating a range of challenging circumstances, we delivered the highest possible levels of service for our community.

This year, we welcomed and onboarded a new Council. The Councillors got straight to work, making important decisions to shape the future of the Shire. Following extensive consultation, Council adopted a new Community Strategic Plan in June, identifying the strategic direction for where the people of Hornsby Shire aspire to be in 2032.

The Community Strategic Plan is the highest-level plan that Council prepares, developed collaboratively with our community, various local organisations and other levels of government. *Your vision | Your future 2032* identifies our community's main priorities to be a Shire that is Liveable, Sustainable, Productive and Collaborative and outlines the various strategies to continue to achieve this.

Informed by this, Council adopted a new 2022-2026 Delivery Program and 2022/23 Operational Plan. It adopted the Long Term Financial Plan, completed and noted a comprehensive Asset Management Strategy and noted a Workforce Management Plan, all components of the Resourcing Strategy. These plans and strategies form a suite that supports a holistic approach to planning for the future and delivering for our community.

Despite several months of lockdowns, we continued to progress important major projects. The Hornsby Town Centre Review seeks to revitalise Hornsby Town Centre to make it a more liveable, green and accessible centre for the community. We progressed this review by developing the draft Hornsby Town

Centre Masterplan which was endorsed by Council for public exhibition commencing July 2022. Council's other major project in the city centre, Hornsby Park, continued to progress with earthworks and site rehabilitation. Together, these significant initiatives will elevate the Hornsby of the future, making it the go-to destination on Sydney's upper north shore.

Our other major sports and recreation project, at Westleigh, continued to progress as we work towards finalising the masterplan. We undertook further extensive consultation with key stakeholders and held co-design workshops to develop a suitable design for the mountain bike trails element. It is expected that the masterplan will be finalised in 2023.

Across the Shire, we spent \$43 million completing 61 capital projects. Notable highlights include:

- upgrading 18 parks and building five new playgrounds
- upgrading six sporting facilities
- constructing 1,580 metres of bushwalking tracks
- building ten new footpaths (2,228 metres) and a new shared path
- rehabilitating 775 metres of local roads
- laying 1,360 metres of new kerb and guttering
- making stormwater improvements at three sites, and importantly,
- making it safer for children to get to and from school by installing six new wombat crossings.

In addition to our planned programs, we responded to two extreme weather events, repairing potholes, landslides and other damage to roads and removed fallen trees and other debris. We supported our communities who were affected by flooding, advocating to State

Government for timely assistance, and helped with the clean-up.

Throughout all stages of our projects and initiatives to serve the community, it is essential that we engage regularly with them, hearing their thoughts and keeping them up to date. So, it is important for us to ensure that our community engagement process is as proficient and sophisticated as possible, allowing for meaningful conversations and providing robust data. This year, we took things to the next level by establishing and launching a new user-friendly, web-based, platform, The HiVE which was launched to coincide with our extensive Hornsby Town Centre engagement.

While we maintain a sense of optimism, we must acknowledge that recent events have resulted in significant financial challenges including revenue loss, inflation, high building material costs and supply chain issues. Through prudent financial management, we achieved a balanced budget and our Long Term Financial Plan outlines key initiatives to protect our financial position in the future, including considering applying to IPART for a Special Rate Variation. At the time of writing this report, we are in the process of undertaking extensive community consultation on this issue.

Though the past 12 months have been challenging for everyone, our focus is on building a resilient and prosperous community. It gives me great pride to know that this Report demonstrates that we are taking tangible steps towards achieving this.

Thank you to my dedicated staff and our leadership team who continue to serve the community with passion and diligence. It is their commitment that has made our many achievements possible.

Steven Head
General Manager

ATTACHMENT/S

REPORT NO. CS87/22

ITEM 2

- 1. HSC INVESTMENTS SUMMARY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022**
- 2. HSC BORROWING SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 2022**

ATTACHMENT/S

REPORT NO. CS92/22

ITEM 4

**1. QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT 30
SEPTEMBER 2022**

ATTACHMENT/S

REPORT NO. PC22/22

ITEM 5

**1. HDCP HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENTS FOR
EXHIBITION NOVEMBER 2022**

ATTACHMENT/S

REPORT NO. PC23/22

ITEM 6

1. CLAUSE 4.6 RETURN - JULY-SEPT 2022

