HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS PAPER

(Mayoral Minute MM6/26)

General Meeting

Wednesday 8 July 2026

at 6:30 PM

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SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

7 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FINANCIAL, ASSET AND IMPROVEMENT WORKING GROUP

Council has a responsibility to ensure that its financial decisions, asset planning and improvement initiatives are aligned with the long-term interests of the Hornsby Shire community. As Council continues to respond to increasing service expectations, infrastructure needs and financial pressures, it is important that elected representatives and senior staff have a structured forum to consider opportunities that strengthen Council's financial sustainability and deliver better outcomes for the community.

I am proposing a Financial, Asset and Improvement Working Group that will provide an advisory role to assist Council in identifying, analysing and progressing initiatives relating to financial management, asset utilisation, lease and licence renewal priorities and organisational improvement. I understand that NSW councils commonly seek Special Rate Variations approximately every 10 years; however, I believe Council should first focus its efforts on identifying and pursuing internal opportunities to improve financial sustainability and support itself more effectively.

Importantly, the Working Group will be advisory in nature. It will not exercise administrative functions, delegated financial responsibilities or management functions of Council. Its role will be to consider relevant information, test options, identify risks and benefits, and provide advice to Council to support informed decision-making in the appropriate manner.

Establishing this Working Group will provide Council with a practical and transparent way to examine key financial and asset-related opportunities before they are progressed through formal reporting pathways. It will also support early engagement between Councillors and staff on matters that may have material implications for the Long-Term Financial Plan, service delivery, asset renewal and community outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council Establish the Financial, Asset & Improvement Working Group as an advisory working group of Council.
2. Council determine which Councillors will be members of the Financial, Asset & Improvement Working Group.
3. The Acting General Manager make the necessary administrative arrangements for the Working Group to commence meeting, including preparation of agendas, working papers and minutes.

Cr WARREN WADDELL

Mayor

Attachments:

There are no attachments for this report.

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