

13.6 NOTICE OF MOTION - RURAL BANKING OPTIONS (WEE WAA)**Attachments: Nil**

I, Councillor Maxine Booby, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on 27 July 2021, I intend to move the following motion:

MOTION**1. That Council notes that:**

- a. Bank branch and ATM closures are leaving many communities without access to financial services, especially in regional Australia.**
- b. Since 1975 the number of bank branches in regional Australia has fallen by more than 60 per cent, and there are more than 1,500 communities across Australia with no bank branches at all.**
- c. A large proportion of the population, including the elderly, disabled, small businesses and local schools and charities, will always have a need for face-to-face financial services despite advances in technology.**
- d. For hundreds of communities, their only access to cash and financial services is through Bank@Post at their community Post Office.**
- e. Bank@Post is an essential service to all communities, but is vulnerable to commercial decision-making by the banks, which can choose to withdraw their participation.**

- 2. That Council calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to pass the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill to establish a post office people's bank, fully guaranteed by the Commonwealth, as a dedicated postal savings bank, operating exclusively through Australia Post's corporate and licensed post offices, which will ensure basic banking services—including deposit-taking, business and personal lending, and access to cash—are available to all Australians, and will contribute to Australia's national economic development.**

RATIONALE

As Councillors would be aware Wee Waa has recently lost both banks and their services.

This has disadvantaged many people and businesses and charity groups in town. Businesses have had to allow an employee to travel to Narrabri to do business banking. This involves 1-2 hours of lost time. Businesses need to bank daily takings and or access cash to service customers in their shopping. Not everyone uses eftpos cards.

Charities do not have local access for cash for functions and these functions run on cash, ie: raffles, street stalls, Christmas carnival etc. A Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank would ensure these services that are so important to the smooth functioning of a community.

The present arrangement between the National Australia Bank and Commonwealth Banks can change at the banks' whim. Already charges for transactions have increased to \$4.50.

The situation in Wee Waa is exacerbated by the removal of the town's ATM. Eftpos is available for limited cash at IGA and the Bowling Club if you are a member. When the internet went down last week for 3 days people could not access their money and businesses could not service cards or cash outs.

A Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank (CPSB) would permanently secure the financial viability of Australia Post and the LPOs, based on a legislated agreement with Australia Post that guarantees the LPOs share the revenue - their income will not be at the mercy of the private banks deciding whether or not to renew their Bank@Post deals.

It would guarantee financial services for all Australians. The private banks have abandoned small towns in regional Australia and low-income suburbs, but they all have post offices, through which they will be able to bank with CPSB.

It would guarantee bank deposits. The CPSB will be a public bank, owned by the government, which will guarantee all deposits, so Australians who bank at the postal bank will know they won't lose their savings in a financial crisis or deposit "bail in".

There would be no "de-banking". As a public bank the CPSB will not be allowed to discriminate by de-banking lawful businesses.

It would support cash payments. The private banks are trying to do away with cash, which would be a disaster. The CPSB would allow people to always access cash.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMENT

It should be noted that the above motion is a template motion drafted by the Australian Citizens Party.

<https://citizensparty.org.au/media-releases/unite-australia-support-commonwealth-postal-savings-bank>

13.6 NOTICE OF MOTION - RURAL BANKING OPTIONS (WEE WAA)**MINUTE 131/2021**

Moved: Cr Maxine Booby Seconded: Cr Ron Campey

1. That Council notes that:

- a. Bank branch and ATM closures are leaving many communities without access to financial services, especially in regional Australia.
- b. Since 1975 the number of bank branches in regional Australia has fallen by more than 60 per cent, and there are more than 1,500 communities across Australia with no bank branches at all.
- c. A large proportion of the population, including the elderly, disabled, small businesses and local schools and charities, will always have a need for face-to-face financial services despite advances in technology.
- d. For hundreds of communities, their only access to cash and financial services is through Bank@Post at their community Post Office.
- e. Bank@Post is an essential service to all communities, but is vulnerable to commercial decision-making by the banks, which can choose to withdraw their participation.

2. That Council calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to pass the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill to establish a post office people's bank, fully guaranteed by the Commonwealth, as a dedicated postal savings bank, operating exclusively through Australia Post's corporate and licensed post offices, which will ensure basic banking services—including deposit-taking, business and personal lending, and access to cash—are available to all Australians, and will contribute to Australia's national economic development.**3. That Council write to the Local State and Federal Members of Parliament, to inform them of Councils desire to support the passage of the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill through Parliament.**

In Favour: Crs Ron Campbell, Maxine Booby, Ron Campey, Lloyd Finlay and Robert Kneale

Against: Nil

CARRIED 5/0

At 2:24 pm, Cr Catherine Redding returned to the meeting.

12.1.7 POSTAL SAVINGS BANK

Date: 22 July 2021
Author: Thomas Upton – Chief Executive Officer
File ID:
Letter ID:
Attachment: Doc. 1639582
Minute No: OM005068

Resolution:

Council resolves that:

- 1. The reduction in bank branches has reduced access to banking and financial services in rural communities.***
- 2. Access to banking services through existing commercial arrangements between banks and Australia Post do not offer long term security of access to services in rural communities.***
- 3. Banana Shire Council supports the establishment by the Commonwealth, of a Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank as the more reliable and secure way to ensure continued access to banking services for rural communities.***

Moved: Cr Pender

Seconded: Cr Leo

Carried

Report

Attached to this report is correspondence from the Australian Citizens Party including draft legislation to establish a Postal Savings Bank in Australia. The Australian Citizens Party is seeking Council support for the establishment of the Postal Savings Bank.

Councillors would be well aware of the withdrawal of banking services across Australia over the last 30 years and how the adverse effect of this has been disproportionately felt by small rural communities.

Three commercial banks currently banking have banking service arrangements with Australia Post (National Australia Bank, Commonwealth Bank and Westpac Bank). The National Australia Bank and Commonwealth Bank have agreements extending through to 2030 with Westpac Bank currently negotiating longer term arrangements with Australia Post.

The existing commercial arrangements between the major banks and Australia Post does not offer the same level of security of access to banking services as government mandated services such as that proposed by the proponents of the Postal Savings Bank.

Council endorsement of the proposal is recommended.

Executive Service General Business

Mayor Ferrier provided an update on Central Queensland Beef Corridors and a discussion followed.

Cr Pender raised the matter of Shovel Ready Projects with the CEO and a discussion followed.

9.1 Officers Report – Chief Executive Officer

9.1.3 National Postal Saving Bank

File Reference	1.3.5.12
Disclosure of Interest	None
Voting Requirements	Simple Majority
Attachments	Email Correspondence from Melissa Harrison

Purpose of Report

To present to Council a request from the Australian Citizens Party regarding the establishment of a national Postal Savings Bank.

Background

As discussed at the October Councillor Discussion Session, Councillors received an email from a Melissa Harrison, who introduces herself as a researcher and reporter for the Australian Alert Service, the weekly magazine of the Australian Citizens Party.

The correspondence (attached) speaks about the “steady erosion of banking services in regional and rural Australia”, and details the following:

Access to local banking services is critical in our regional communities. With the banks pulling out of regional Australia at a record pace, the public is increasingly relying on Australia Post to provide banking services. However, Australia Post is too vulnerable to the whims of the government of the day and commercial decisions from the Big Four banks.....

...Alarmingly, there are no written guarantees that the banking deal with the Licensed Post Offices will continue. The LPOs are vulnerable to the banks pulling out unexpectedly, leaving them where they were before the Bank@Post deal—on the edge of bankruptcy and being exploited by the government and the banks. The big banks are already throwing their weight around by charging exorbitant fees for their customers who want to bank through Australia Post. Without the banking services provided by Australia Post, many parts of regional Australia would not have access to banking at all.

We are calling on local councils and organisations to ask them to join us in fighting for federal legislation to create a Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank. A public postal savings bank will guarantee banking services at Australia Post, and support the Licensed Post Offices to provide financial services for regional and rural Australians.

We have drafted legislation for a public postal bank, the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill 2021.

Councillors sought to have the matter referred to the November Council meeting for a determination.

Comment

The correspondence seeks Councils to support the bill, and provided a suggested resolution as follows;

1. *The Council notes that:*

- *Bank branch and ATM closures are leaving many communities without access to financial services, especially in regional Australia;*
- *Since 1975 the number of bank branches in regional Australia has fallen by more than 60 per cent, and there are more than 1,500 communities across Australia with no bank branches at all;*
- *A large proportion of the population, including the elderly, disabled, small businesses, and local schools and charities, will always have a need for face-to-face financial services, despite advances in technology;*
- *For hundreds of communities, their only access to cash and financial services is through Bank@Post at their local post office;*
- *Bank@Post is an essential service to all communities, but is vulnerable to commercial decision-making by the banks, which can choose to withdraw their participation, and charge excessive fees on transactions;*
- *With four major banks controlling 80 per cent of the financial system, Australian consumers suffer from a lack of real banking competition;*

2. *The Council calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to pass the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill to establish a post office people's bank, fully guaranteed by the Commonwealth, as a dedicated postal savings bank, operating exclusively through Australia Post's corporate and licensed post offices, which will ensure basic banking services—including deposit-taking, business and personal lending, and access to cash—are available to all Australians, and will contribute to Australia's national economic development.*

3. *The Council will write to the Local State and Federal Members of Parliament, to inform them of Councils desire to support the passage of the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill through Parliament. .*

The Yilgarn district has lost two banks in the last few years and the community, including the Shire, are reliant on the local Australia Post outlet, or must travel over 200km round trip for depositing and in person banking needs.

As requested by Council, the resolution has been provided for their consideration.

Statutory Environment

Nil.

Strategic Implications

Nil.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (Consequence x Likelihood)	Mitigation Action
Health/People	Nil	Nil	Nil
Financial Impact	Nil	Nil	
Service Interruption	Nil	Nil	Nil
Compliance	Nil	Nil	Nil
Reputational	Nil	Nil	Nil
Property	Nil	Nil	Nil
Environment	Nil	Nil	Nil

Risk Matrix						
Consequence		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Moderate (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Extreme (20)	Extreme (25)
Likely	4	Low (4)	Moderate (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Extreme (20)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (9)	High (12)	High (15)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Low (4)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (8)	High (10)

Risk Matrix						
Consequence		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood		1	2	3	4	5
Rare	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Low (4)	Moderate (5)

Officer Recommendation and Council Decision

209/2021

Moved Cr Close Seconded Cr Nolan

1. *The Council notes that:*

- *Bank branch and ATM closures are leaving many communities without access to financial services, especially in regional Australia;*
- *Since 1975 the number of bank branches in regional Australia has fallen by more than 60 per cent, and there are more than 1,500 communities across Australia with no bank branches at all;*
- *A large proportion of the population, including the elderly, disabled, small businesses, and local schools and charities, will always have a need for face-to-face financial services, despite advances in technology;*
- *For hundreds of communities, their only access to cash and financial services is through Bank@Post at their local post office;*
- *Bank@Post is an essential service to all communities, but is vulnerable to commercial decision-making by the banks, which can choose to withdraw their participation, and charge excessive fees on transactions;*
- *With four major banks controlling 80 per cent of the financial system, Australian consumers suffer from a lack of real banking competition;*

2. *The Council calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to pass the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill to establish a post office people's bank, fully guaranteed by the Commonwealth, as a dedicated postal savings bank, operating exclusively through Australia Post's corporate and licensed post offices, which will ensure basic banking services—including deposit-taking, business and personal lending, and access to cash—are available to all Australians, and will contribute to Australia's national economic development.*

3. *The Council will write to the Local State and Federal Members of Parliament, to inform them of Councils desire to support the passage of the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill through Parliament. .*

CARRIED (5/0)

From: Melissa Harrison <melissah@citizensparty.org.au>
Date: 15 September 2021 at 4:05:36 pm AWST
To: Cr Wayne Della Bosca <cr_wdellabosca@yilgarn.wa.gov.au>
Cc: Cr Suzy Shaw <Cr_Shaw@yilgarn.wa.gov.au>, Cr Gary Guerini <cr_guerini@yilgarn.wa.gov.au>, Cr Phil Nolan <cr_nolan@yilgarn.wa.gov.au>, Cr Jodie Cobden <cr_cobden@yilgarn.wa.gov.au>, Cr Linda Rose <cr_rose@yilgarn.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Att Councillors: In regards to a Postal Savings Bank

Dear Councillors,

My name is Melissa Harrison. I am a researcher and reporter for the Australian Alert Service, the weekly magazine of the Australian Citizens Party. I'm writing to you because we are part of a grassroots campaign which is fighting for the establishment of a national Postal Savings Bank.

I am writing to local councils in Western Australia which have been impacted by the steady erosion of banking services in regional and rural Australia. Research by independent journalist Dale Webster has documented that since 1975, Australia's regional banking footprint has dwindled alarmingly, to a total loss of 60 per cent of the network. [1] The banking regulator, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA), is shielding the big banks from the ire of the public by publishing false and distorted data about the scale of bank closures in regional Australia. [2]

Access to local banking services is critical in our regional communities. With the banks pulling out of regional Australia at a record pace, the public is increasingly relying on Australia Post to provide banking services. However, Australia Post is too vulnerable to the whims of the government of the day and commercial decisions from the Big Four banks. Although it was recently announced that the historic Bank@Post deal had been renewed, Australia Post is refusing to reveal the financial details of the deal that was struck with the Big Four banks. The Citizens Party has made freedom of information requests for clarity on these matters, but these have been rejected. The Citizens Party understands from reputable sources that the Community Access Fee to be paid by the big banks is now only \$10 million per year, half the amount that former Australia Post CEO Christine Holgate negotiated for the original deal. Alarmingly, *there are no written guarantees* that the banking deal with the Licensed Post Offices will continue. The LPOs are vulnerable to the banks pulling out unexpectedly, leaving them where they were before the Bank@Post deal—on the edge of bankruptcy and being exploited by the government and the banks. The big banks are already throwing their weight around by charging exorbitant fees for their customers who want to bank through Australia

Post. Without the banking services provided by Australia Post, many parts of regional Australia would not have access to banking at all.

We are calling on local councils and organisations to ask them to join us in fighting for federal legislation to create a Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank. A public postal savings bank will guarantee banking services at Australia Post, and support the Licensed Post Offices to provide financial services for regional and rural Australians.

We have drafted legislation for a public postal bank, the [*Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill 2021*](#).

On 27 July, councillors at the Narrabri Shire Council (NSW) unanimously passed a resolution supporting the *Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill*, and called on Parliament to pass the legislation. On the 28 July, the Banana Shire Council (QLD) passed a similar resolution. [3] We have been informed that the action of these local councils has made a strong impression on members of federal parliament.

We have drafted the following motion/resolution as a guide, which I am asking you to consider discussing and moving at your next meeting, to endorse the *Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill*.

Draft motion/resolution for a Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank

1. The Council notes that:

- Bank branch and ATM closures are leaving many communities without access to financial services, especially in regional Australia;
- Since 1975 the number of bank branches in regional Australia has fallen by more than 60 per cent, and there are more than 1,500 communities across Australia with no bank branches at all;
- A large proportion of the population, including the elderly, disabled, small businesses, and local schools and charities, will always have a need for face-to-face financial services, despite advances in technology;
- For hundreds of communities, their only access to cash and financial services is through Bank@Post at their local post office;
- Bank@Post is an essential service to all communities, but is vulnerable to commercial decision-making by the banks, which can choose to withdraw their participation, and charge excessive fees on transactions;
- With four major banks controlling 80 per cent of the financial system, Australian consumers suffer from a lack of real banking competition;

2. The Council calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to pass the *Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill* to establish a post office people's bank, fully guaranteed by the Commonwealth, as a dedicated postal savings bank, operating exclusively through Australia Post's corporate and licensed post offices, which will ensure basic banking services—including deposit-taking, business and personal lending, and access to cash—are available to all Australians, and will contribute to Australia's national economic development.

3. The Council will write to the Local State and Federal Members of Parliament, to inform them of Councils desire to support the passage of the *Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill* through Parliament.

I live in a regional town myself, in Winnejuup Western Australia. The nearby towns of Boyup Brook, Balingup and Donnybrook have lost their last 'Big Four' bank. Access to banking services is essential for the functioning of our local businesses and tourism—markets, artists, craftspeople and local producers. A public postal bank would ensure these community businesses are supported in perpetuity.

If you would like more information, please feel welcome to contact me. We have been reporting on this matter for some time—numerous articles, background information and video content can be found here: [An Australia Post ‘people’s bank’—a win-win solution for the nation](#)

Kind regards,
Melissa Harrison

[1] Dale Webster: [Why I spent a year counting every bank in regional Australia; ‘Big four’ banks casting a dangerous shadow in regional Australia; The Regional](#)

[2] Citizens Party: [‘Bank regulator shielding Big Four from scrutiny over regional branch closures’](#)

[3] Citizens Party: [An Australia Post ‘people’s bank’—a win-win for the nation, Narrabri Shire Council Motion and Rationale, Banana Shire Council Motion](#)

MAYORAL MINUTE

FILE C13-1-5 AOP REFERENCE: 3.1 ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: *Mayor, Peter Abbott*

123.08.2022 RESOLVED: 1. That Council calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to pass the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill to establish a post office people's bank, fully guaranteed by the Commonwealth, as a dedicated postal savings bank, operating exclusively through Australia Post's corporate and licenced post offices, which will ensure a basic banking services – including deposit-taking, business and personal lending, and access to cash- are available to all Australians, and will contribute to Australia's national economic development.

2. That Council writes to the Local State and Federal Members of Parliament, to inform them of Councils desire to support the passage of the Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank Bill through Parliament.

3. That the motion be forwarded to the next Local Government NSW conference for consideration and support.

Clr Abbott /Clr Payne

124.08.2022 A Division was called
Clr Payne/ Clr Marsden

CARRIED

For: Clr Toomey, Clr Maxwell, Clr Simpson, Clr Neale, Clr Marsden, Clr Abbott.

Against: Clr Winders, Clr Payne, Clr Prince, Clr Lea-Barrett.

CARRIED

CLAUSE 1 – STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND
ROUND 5

FILE: G4-17 AOPREFERENCE:4.4.2.1 ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: *Project Coordinator, Carly Hunter*

125.08.2022 RESOLVED: That the following project proposals be endorsed by Council for the Stronger Country Communities Funding Round Five

1. WARD OVAL LED LIGHTING UPGRADE - \$972,000.00

Scope of Works – Upgrade the luminaries and supply six new poles.

2. PROJECTS FROM WITHIN THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN – \$200,000.00

Scope of Works – Projects will be identified from the strategic plan up to the value of \$200,000.00.

Clr Lea- Barrett /Clr Payne

CARRIED

14.6 NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CAI
SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE DRAFT BILL TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH POSTAL SAVINGS
BANK (CPSB)

I MOVE:

That Council write to the relevant Federal Ministers and all Federal Members of Parliament urging that they support the *Commonwealth Postal Saving Bank Bill 2021* for:

- (i) the betterment of every Strathfield and Australian citizen; and
- (ii) the betterment of Strathfield Council's and all Australian Councils' finances.

Rationale

Why is postal banking a local government issue?

- The financial bottom line of councils, can benefit from increased banking competition and low-cost loans, is a local government issue.
- Improving the quality of life for constituents is a responsibility that connects all levels of government.

Why the need for a post office bank?

- The Big 4 banks particularly have been closing branches at an alarming rate throughout Australia over the last few decades. Post Offices have a public mandate to remain open to communities everywhere.
- The Big 4 banks particularly have been moving away from face-to-face services and towards electronic services leaving traditional customers, including elderly and disabled, behind.

How does it work?

- Local banking and local lending keeps money circulating within the local economy.
- Raises more investment for local, state and federal infrastructure.
- By funding more infrastructure through low-cost loans, there will be more surplus federal and state government revenue that can be utilized for expenditure on health, welfare, education, and public services.

What are the benefits for Strathfield Council?

- Lower-cost finance for infrastructure investment is better for Council's bottom line and reduces financial risk.
- A greater slice of rates left for services as a consequence of long-term works being funded with lower cost finance.
- More community aspirations can be included in the Community Strategic Plan and other high-level documents. The CSP can contain more community visions since there will be more effective and more reasonable funding opportunities.

What are other benefits to residents?

- More physical locations to access banking services will boost trade and maintain face-to-face banking.
- Better regulation of banks through real competition.
- Far more local infrastructure and consequential increases in the community standard of living.
- Bank retribution fear (debanking) can be eliminated as a government provider is obligated to serve all constituents.
- Lower banking fees and lending cost through absence of the need for the postal bank to pay dividends to shareholders.

Precedents?

- Japan, with far less natural resources, has virtually built its high standard of living (e.g. totally rebuilt its industrial economy) using public investment funded by its postal bank, Japan Post Bank.
- New Zealand in 2002 started a postal bank, Kiwibank, which quickly overtook its Australian-owned private banks to become the most trusted banking brand in NZ, because its priority is providing a service to the community over the usual demands to pay shareholders a dividend.
- Australia had a government bank, the original Commonwealth Bank, which also started as a postal bank in 1912, and was successful straight away at lending money to councils for local infrastructure projects; later it was very important for financing industry during and after WWII, including the car industry, and it also financed the biggest expansion of social housing in Australian history in the decade after WWII.

Why do public banks disappear?

- Public banks are created to fill a public need, but since the 1970's the private commercial banking lobby grew stronger, eventually overpowering the government's commitment to public banking.
- The public bank is taken for granted while it operates (business as usual) and the general citizenry are rarely aware of its importance. However, public banks are the bane of existence of the private banks because they force real competition across the banking sector to service the wider community.

Other benefits of a public post office bank?

- Full guarantee of all deposits since the public national bank is government-owned (no \$250,000 limit) as compared with private commercial banks.
- Maintain cash availability and ensure cash payments for customers as the Big 4 banks drift further toward online services.
- Lend to local small business, boosting the ailing "backbone of our economy".

Other benefits of a public post office bank?

- A lift in banking conduct standards is inevitable with a Post Bank which will exist to provide a true banking service.
- The viability of Australia Post will be ensured due to the guaranteed extra revenue post offices will receive from also operating as bank branches (the current service, Bank@Post, is not guaranteed, as it depends on fees from the private banks, which they are increasingly reluctant to pay).
- As mentioned earlier surplus deposits in the Post Bank could be invested in national economic development projects, where even the Federal and State governments could borrow funds from the public national bank (as in Japan).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council write to the relevant Federal Ministers and all Federal Members of Parliament urging that they support the *Commonwealth Postal Saving Bank Bill 2021* for:

- (i) the betterment of every Strathfield and Australian citizen; and
- (ii) the betterment of Strathfield Council's and all Australian Councils' finances.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

8.10 United Indian Association – 75th Anniversary Independence Day Celebration – Councillor Raj Datta

I wish to congratulate the United Indian Association, a peak body of community organisations of the Australians from Indian Heritage, and its President Dr Vyas, for organising the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence Day, azadi ki Mahotsav. It was an important event and would contribute to the relationship building between Australia and India. Moving forward the bilateral relationship between India and Australia will become increasingly more important for peace and prosperity of all Australians. Events like this will contribute to building an increasingly stronger relationship between Australia and India.

8.11 NSW Train and Bus Drivers – Industrial Action – Councillor Sharangan Maheswaran

That NSW train and bus drivers, more specifically the Rail, Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) and Transport Workers' Union (TWU) be acknowledged.

Strathfield residents would've been affected by industrial action taken over the last month this action has been taken because the NSW Government has demanded that the train and bus drivers that saw us this State through the Covid-19 crisis take a pay cut. More than that, the train and bus drivers are striking, despite an offer of an \$18,000 pay increase, due to tremendous safety concerns regarding foreign made trains and buses being operated across NSW.

Whilst Strathfield residents may have been inconvenienced in the last month, our residents should be assured that this action has been taken for their best interests.

9. DEFERRED/OUTSTANDING MATTERS AWAITING REPORT

Nil.

Items by Exception - Section 13 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice

187/22

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Hall)

That in accordance with Section 13 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice:

1. Council alters the Order of Business in accordance with Clause 8.1, and
2. The items listed below be dealt with by exception and that they be adopted as recommended by a single Motion:

10.1 Mayoral Minute 20/22 - Trees for Marie Bashir Public School

13.1 Report from Traffic Committee meeting on 16 August 2022

13.2 Report from Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee meeting held on 17 August 2022

14.1 Pedestrian Crossing at Hampstead Road - Councillor Raj Datta

14.6 Support for the draft Bill to establish a Commonwealth Postal Savings Bank (CPSB) - Councillor Cai

- 14.9 Sponsorship of Chalmers Road Public School Trivia Night - Councillor Karen Pensabene
- GM1 Delivery Program Report - January to June 2022
- GM2 Community Gardens Policy Public Exhibition
- GM3 Draft Small Grants Policy Public Exhibition
- GM4 Event Calendar FY22/23
- GM5 Council Tenders Advertised and Awarded
- CC1 Investment Report - July 2022
- CC2 Councillor Workshop 16 August 2022
- CC6 The Development of Guidelines and a Model Policy on The Lobbying of Councillors
- PE3 Local School Traffic Safety Program
- PE5 Arthur Street Bus Stop Shelter/Shade
- PE6 Car Space Width Increase at Homebush West Car Park
- EO1 Town Hall Renovations

10.1 Mayoral Minute 20/22 - Trees for Marie Bashir Public School

188/22

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Hall)

That Council, as part of its environmental education program (Enviro Squad), partner with Marie Bashir Public School to increase shade and reduce the thermal mass footprint by way of installing three mature trees within the school's grounds.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

13.1 Report from Traffic Committee meeting on 16 August 2022

189/22

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Hall)

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on 16 August 2022 be noted and the recommendations be adopted.

RESOLVED BY EXCEPTION

13.2 Report from Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee meeting held on 17 August 2022

190/22

RESOLVED: (Blackmore / Hall)

That the minutes of the Multicultural and Diversity Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday 17