

## CITY OF NEWCASTLE

**Minutes of the Briefing Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Level 1, City Administration Centre, 12 Stewart Avenue, Newcastle West on Tuesday 15 June 2021 at 7.59pm.**

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### **PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor (Councillor N Nelmes), Councillors M Byrne, J Church, D Clausen, C Duncan, J Mackenzie, A Robinson, A Rufo, E White and P Winney-Baartz.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

J Bath (Chief Executive Officer), D Clarke (Director Governance), K Hyland (Acting Director Strategy and Engagement), F Leatham (Director People and Culture), J Rigby (Acting Director Infrastructure and Property), A Jones (Director City Wide Services), E Kolatchew (Manager Legal), M Bisson (Manager Regulatory, Planning and Assessment), S Moore (Manager Finance), L Mitchell (Acting Manager Assets and Projects), M Murray (Chief of Staff), A Knowles (Councillor Services/Minutes), K Sullivan (Councillor Services/Meeting Support) and G Axelsson (Information Technology Support).

### **COUNCILLOR REQUEST TO ATTEND BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK**

Nil.

### **APOLOGIES**

#### **MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

The apologies submitted on behalf of Councillors Dunn, Elliott and Luke be received and leave of absence granted.

**Carried**

### **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil.

### **BRIEFING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **BR 15/06/21 - MAINTENANCE OF STREET TREES UNDER AERIAL POWERLINES**

Council resolved at its Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 March 2021 to request a briefing from Ausgrid on the current practice for street tree maintenance and management under aerial powerlines, including the use of alternative transmission line technologies that reduce the extent of and need for tree pruning, such as insulated bundled wires and underground transmission lines. Council requested the briefing explain the advantages, the limitations, and the cost of these alternate technologies, and the criteria on which Ausgrid decides where and when these technologies will be rolled out.

Ms Liz Mitchell, Acting Manager Assets and Projects provided a history and current impacts regarding street trees within the Newcastle Local Government Area.

Council received a briefing from Mr Frank Roberson, Council Management, Network Planning and Operations, Ausgrid and Mr Steven Campbell, Vegetation Management Operations Manager, Ausgrid.

**The meeting concluded at 8.54pm.**

I certify that pages 1-2 of the Briefing Committee Meeting Minutes dated 15 June 2021 were confirmed, and/or as amended, by the Ordinary Council Meeting held Tuesday 27 July 2021.

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**Cr N Nelmes**  
**LORD MAYOR**