



## Agenda

### Extraordinary Meeting

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held at Council Chambers, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly, on:

**Monday 2 February 2004**

Commencing at 7:30 pm for the purpose of considering items included on the Agenda.

Persons in the gallery are advised that the proceedings of the meeting are being taped. However, under the Local Government Act 1993, no other tape recording is permitted without the authority of the Council or Committee. Tape recording includes a video camera and any electronic device capable of recording speech.

*Copies of business papers are available at the Customer Services Counter at Manly Council, Manly Library and Seaforth Library and are available on Council's website:  
[www.manly.nsw.gov.au](http://www.manly.nsw.gov.au)*

# Seating Arrangements for Meetings

Staff      Staff      General  
                                 Manager      Chairperson      Staff      Minute  
   Taker



Clr Hay AM  
**Mayor**

Clr Dee

Clr Page

Clr Dickman

Clr Lambert

Clr Morrison



Clr Sacker

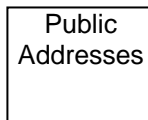
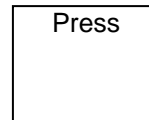
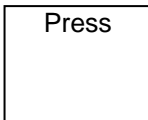
Clr Pedersen

Clr Barr

Clr Aird

Clr Heasman

Clr Heraghty  
**Deputy Mayor**



## Public Gallery

**Chairperson:** Cr Jean Hay, AM, Mayor  
**Vice Chairperson:** Cr Julie Heraghty, Deputy Mayor

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Item	Page No.
<b>APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>	
<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
<b>PUBLIC ADDRESSES</b>	
<b>ITEMS FOR BRIEF MENTION - Nil</b>	
<b>GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS - Nil</b>	
<b>CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION REPORTS</b>	
<b>Corporate Services Division Report No. 1</b>	
Poll of Electors .....	<b>2</b>
<b>CORPORATE PLANNING AND STRATEGY DIVISION REPORTS - Nil</b>	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION REPORTS - Nil</b>	
<b>HUMAN SERVICES AND FACILITIES UNIT REPORTS - Nil</b>	
<b>CIVIC SERVICES UNIT REPORTS - Nil</b>	
<b>CLOSED SESSION - Nil</b>	

**\*\*\*\*\* END OF AGENDA \*\*\*\*\***

**TO:** Extraordinary Meeting - 2 February 2004  
**REPORT:** Corporate Services Division Report No. 1  
**SUBJECT:** Poll of Electors

**FILE NO:** C 17/18-03  
**PREVIOUS ITEMS:** CSD17, Ordinary Meeting (15 December 2003)

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## SUMMARY

1. At the Ordinary Meeting held on 16<sup>TH</sup> June 2003, following consideration of a Mayoral Minute, it was resolved that a Poll of Electors be conducted in conjunction with the Local Government elections on the question of amalgamation or boundary change.
2. At the Ordinary meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2003, Council resolved to “ Reiterate our commitment to having a referendum at the March 2004 Local Government elections regarding amalgamations. That this will involve a clear outline of the possibilities and the “for” and “against” case. That Manly Council has a precedent for this when the referendum on the popularly elected Mayor was put to the people of Manly. The same principles would be applied.”
3. This report is seeking Council’s confirmation of the question /s to be put to the electors at the Local Government elections, to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2004. It will also outline the “for and against” case for each question/s.

## REPORT

In the Mayoral Minute of 16<sup>th</sup> June 2003, addressing the Warringah Council invitation to hold a workshop on the issue of Amalgamation, the Mayor indicated in this Minute that:

*“the only democratic and honest way this matter should be progressed would be for a poll to be conducted in conjunction with the Local Government elections, asking all residents to indicate whether THEY believe any worthwhile purpose would be served through amalgamations and boundary change.”*

The Mayoral Minute was adopted. In adopting the Mayoral Minute, Council also resolved to conduct a poll at the next Council elections on the question of amalgamation or boundary change. This approach was confirmed at the Ordinary meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2003 during discussion of the General Manager’s report on Local Government Reform (General Manager’s Office report No.10)

In accordance with Section 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 “ A Council may take a Poll of Electors for its information and guidance on any matter”. When framing the question for the Poll, Council requires a “Yes” or “No” response. As there are currently two scenarios, namely amalgamations and boundary changes, it is necessary to present two separate questions to the voters.

**Corporate Services Division Report No. 1 (Cont'd)**

The following questions are proposed:

**Question 1**

“Do you support the amalgamation of the Council of Manly with any other Local Government area or areas?”

YES
NO

**Question 2**

“Do you support any boundary adjustments involving the adjoining Councils with the Council of Manly?”

YES
NO

The “for” and “against” case for both questions is attached.

It is proposed that a brochure detailing the “for” and “against” cases for the Poll of Electors be prepared and distributed to all the households in the Manly Council area, prior to the Election.

**Election Update**

The next Local Government Election will occur on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2004. Council will be conducting the election of a popularly elected Mayor and 11 Councillors.

The State Electoral Office conducts the elections. The Electoral Returning Officer for Manly has been appointed. Ms Jackie Hay will commence duties on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2004. She will be based in Council’s Offices. Council has allocated \$204,000 in the 2003/2004 budget for conducting the Election.

The advertisement calling for the enrolment nominations for the non residential roll will appear on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2003 in the Manly Daily. A repeat advertisement will appear early in February 2004.

The Timetable leading up to the Local Government Election is listed below:

18 December 2003 – 16 February 2004	Advertise twice within this period Non Residential Roll
Week beginning 9 February 2004	Invites nominations by advertisement in press for Mayor and Councillors.
Monday 16 February 2004	Roll closes
Wednesday 25 February 2004	5.00pm Nominations close with Returning Officer
Friday 27 February 2004 Nomination Day	<u>11.00am</u> Withdrawal of Nominations  <u>12 noon</u> Close of grouping applications / request group voting square / withdrawal of claim for group voting square  <u>After 12 noon</u> – Nominations declared by Returning Officer – Ballot paper draw by Returning Officer
Friday 27 February 2004 to Monday 8 March 2004	Applications for registration of How-To-Vote material to Electoral Commission

**Corporate Services Division Report No. 1 (Cont'd)**

Monday 15 March – Friday 26 March 2004	Pre-Poll voting Closes 6pm 26 March 2003
Monday 22 March 2004	<u>5.00pm</u> Receipt of postal voting applications close with Returning Officer
Saturday 27 March 2004	<b>Polling Day</b>
Monday 29 March 2004	Close of receipt of postal votes

The following locations will be used as Polling Booths for the Election:

Balgowlah	*All Saints Church, Boyle Street Balgowlah
Balgowlah	*Manly West Public School, Griffiths Street Balgowlah
Balgowlah Heights	*Balgowlah Heights Public School, Lewis Street Balgowlah
Balgowlah	Balgowlah Boys High School, Maretimo Street Balgowlah
Fairlight	Baptist Church Hall, William Street, Fairlight
Manly	*South Wing Dining Room Annex, Darley Road Manly
Manly	*St Mary's Church Hall, Whistler Street Manly
Manly	*Queenscliff Surf Club, North Steyne Manly
Manly	*Manly Village Public School, Darley Road, Seaforth
Seaforth	Public School, Frenchs Forest Road Seaforth
Seaforth	*Uniting Church Hall, Panorama Parade Seaforth

\* wheelchair access

**RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That a Poll of Electors be conducted in conjunction with the Local Government Election to be held on 27 March 2004 and the questions to be asked are as follows –
  - a) Do you support the amalgamation of the Council of Manly with any other Local Government area or areas?
 

YES	NO
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  - b) Do you support any boundary adjustments involving the adjoining Councils with the Council of Manly?
 

YES	NO
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- 2) That the “for” and “against” cases for the Poll of Electors as outlined in the attachment to the report be adopted.
- 3) That a brochure detailing the “for” and “against” cases be prepared and distributed to all the households in Manly Council area prior to the Election.
- 4) The funding for this purpose be financed from the allocation in the budget for conducting the Election.

**ATTACHMENTS**

<b>AT-1</b>	Yes and No Case for Boundary Adjustment	1 page(s)
<b>AT-2</b>	Yes and No Case for Amalgamations	2 page(s)

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\*\*\*\*\* End of Corporate Services Division Report No. 1 \*\*\*\*\*

## Attachments

## Extraordinary Meeting

Held at Council Chambers, 1 Belgrave Street Manly  
on:

**Monday 2 February 2004**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION REPORTS

- 1. Poll of Electors

**ATTACHMENTS:**

<b>AT1</b>	Yes and No Case for Boundary Adjustment (1 page) .....
<b>AT2</b>	Yes and No Case for Amalgamations (2 pages) .....

\*\*\*\*\* END OF ATTACHMENTS LISTING \*\*\*\*\*



**Attachment 1 - Yes and No Case for Boundary Adjustment**

<b>Yes Case</b>	<b>No Case</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There will be a larger rate base with a rationalisation of the area which could lead to rate relief associated with efficiencies and economies of scale</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is no evidence to support the argument that bigger is better or that bigger is more efficient thereby reducing costs and lowering rates.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adjustment of Council boundaries will allow one Council to better manage the whole of the Manly Lagoon Catchment area.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The management of the Manly Lagoon Catchment area has been effective under the present arrangements.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adjustment of boundaries will allow for improved community of interest, more equitable delivery of services, better integration of planning decisions and more consistency in the provision of infrastructure.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any boundary adjustment will result in increase service provision and costs</li></ul>

## Attachment 2 - Yes and No Case for Amalgamations

	Yes Case	No Case
Rates and Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be a greater rate base associated with larger Local Government areas which together with economies of scale place the Council in a more financially viable position to fund discretionary projects and provide possible rate reductions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no evidence to support the argument that bigger is better or that bigger is more efficient thereby reducing costs and lowering rates.</li> </ul>
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duplication will be avoided reducing staff numbers</li> <li>• Savings in management costs through reduction of positions</li> <li>• Larger organisations can attract specialised staff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In larger areas problems of communication, supervision and reporting can result in the employment of additional staff</li> <li>• In the Metropolitan Area specialised consultants can be engaged when needed</li> <li>• Smaller areas have flatter administration structure and can co-ordinate tasks more efficiently.</li> </ul>
Planning & Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An amalgamated area will allow a more integrated management approach to the Manly Lagoon Catchment area</li> <li>• For proper planning of the Sydney Metropolitan Area, larger Council areas are necessary to reduce planning conflicts</li> <li>• Amalgamated areas would allow all Building/Planning Codes to be standardised for the convenience of developers and persons dealing with the Council.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority of development applications do not have regional significance and should be determined at the local level where the facts are known and appreciated</li> <li>• The amalgamation of Council areas and the application of standard planning guidelines could result in each Council area losing its present character and identity.</li> </ul>

	Yes Case	No Case
Plant, Equipment, Building, Depots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger areas will permit more efficient and effective use of plant, equipment, buildings and depots and will enable specialised plant to be purchased and used on a full-time basis</li> <li>• Surplus plant, equipment, buildings and depots may be disposed of, reducing operational costs, with available funds used for more appropriate capital projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger areas may result in increases in cost due to the extra distance travelled by staff moving from depots to job sites</li> <li>• Disposal of community buildings such as libraries and Council offices will reduce services in areas affected and inconvenience local residents in travelling to more remote administration and service centres.</li> </ul>
Council Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provision of Council services such as waste collection, street sweeping, libraries, road construction etc, would be subject to economies of scale and provide cost savings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The level and range of Council's services remains unique to each Local Government area based on local needs and demands.</li> </ul>
Local Representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wider range of candidates will be eligible for election.</li> <li>• Reduction in the number of Councillors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillors of smaller areas have a better knowledge of local conditions and of community expectations so can better address local issues.</li> <li>• Residents would lose the present level of democracy and participation in the government of the area.</li> </ul>