



COUNCIL

Agenda and Reports

for the special meeting on

Tuesday, 25 March 2025

at 8.00 pm

in the Council Chamber, Adelaide Town Hall

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Bold.
Aspirational.
Innovative.

COUNCIL

Special Meeting Agenda, Tuesday, 25 March 2025, at 8.00 pm

Members –

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor Dr Jane Lomax-Smith (Presiding)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Elliott

Councillors Abrahamzadeh, Couros, Davis, Giles, Hou, Li, Martin, Noon, Dr Siebentritt and Snape

Agenda

Item	Pages
1. Acknowledgement of Country	
The Lord Mayor will state:	
‘Council acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.	
And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.’	
2. Apologies and Leave of Absence	
Leave of absence -	
Councillor Li	
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	
4. Deputations	
5. Reports for Council	
5.1 Purpose of Meeting	3
6. Closure	

Purpose of Meeting

Tuesday, 25 March 2025
Council

Council Members:

Councillor Henry Davis

Councillor Mary Couros

Councillor Arman Abrahamzadeh

Public

Contact Officer:

Michael Sedgman, Chief Executive
Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to section 82 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA) (the Act), the Chief Executive Officer is required to call a special meeting of Council at the request of at least three members of Council.

The Chief Executive Officer has received a request from Councillors Davis, Couros and Abrahamzadeh in accordance with the requirements under section 82 of the Act and has called this special meeting of Council to consider the following Motion:

THAT COUNCIL

1. Implement the measures outlined in its own Caretaker Policy until either of the following occurs:
 - a. the court voids the entire Central Ward election, the conclusion of the new Central Ward election; or
 - b. the court voids only the seat of Cr Jing Li but not the entire Central Ward, the day following the court's orders to this effect.
2. Requests administration prepare and present a report detailing the legal fees incurred in relation to the Central Ward legal proceedings.
3. Seeks legal advice on whether the Council can recover legal costs from any parties responsible for the election illegalities.
4. Rescind the appointment of Cr Jing Li to the Adelaide Botanic High School and the Australia Day Council of SA.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

1. Council adopted its Caretaker Policy (the Policy) ([Link 1](#)) under the authority of Section 91A of the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999* (SA), which sets out the statutory requirements governing its application. The Policy is specifically designed to regulate decision-making during periods when a general election is expected to result in potentially significant changes to Council membership. Applying the Policy outside of those circumstances would constitute departure from its intended purpose.
2. The key provisions of the Caretaker Policy relate to:
 - 2.1. Prohibition on designated decisions,
 - 2.2. Treatment of other significant decisions,

- 2.3. Prohibition on the use of Council Resources,
 - 2.4. Council Publications,
 - 2.5. Attendance at events and functions during an election period,
 - 2.6. Media service,
 - 2.7. City of Adelaide Employee responsibilities during an election period,
 - 2.8. Public Consultation During an Election Period,
 - 2.9. Handling Code of Conduct Complaints During an Election Period.
3. It is recommended that further advice be sought on the legality of Council extending the Policy to a supplementary election, together with advice on the legal implications should Council resolve to limit its decision-making authority during this period.

- END OF REPORT -