

June 28, 2023

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
MEETING

TO BE HELD

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2023**

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA NO. 1**

**JAY NANKIVELL  
GENERAL MANAGER**

# FURTHER BUSINESS

1. MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 11/23 - DATED JUNE 28, 2023 - PROPOSED EXEMPTION TO THE CIVIC AND CEREMONIAL FUNCTIONS AND REPRESENTATION POLICY (D23/33418) ..... 3
  
2. MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 12/23 - DATED JUNE 28, 2023 - TAIXING CHINA SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP (D23/33607) ..... 7

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

June 28, 2023

**ITEM 1**

MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 11/23

SUBJECT:                    PROPOSED EXEMPTION TO THE CIVIC AND CEREMONIAL  
FUNCTIONS AND REPRESENTATION POLICY                    D23/33418

**Summary**

That Council considers the attached report regarding consideration of a one-off exemption to the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to pay for a Welcome to Country at the upcoming NAIDOC event.

**Recommendation**

1. That Mayoral Minute No. 11/23 dated June 28, 2023, be received.
2. That Council considers the attached report.
3. That Council considers whether to grant a one-off exemption to the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to pay for a Welcome to Country at the upcoming NAIDOC event.

**Attachments**

1. [↓](#) General Manager's Report No. 119/23

T. KENNEDY  
MAYOR

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ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

June 28, 2023

**ITEM 1**

BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 119/23

SUBJECT:                    PROPOSED EXEMPTION TO THE CIVIC AND CEREMONIAL  
FUNCTIONS AND REPRESENTATION POLICY                    D23/33437

**Recommendation**

1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 119/23 dated June 28, 2023, be received.
2. That Council considers whether to grant a one-off exemption to the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to pay for a Welcome to Country at the upcoming NAIDOC event.

**Executive Summary:**

At the May 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council amended the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to halt payment for Welcome to Country ceremonies.

Following this decision, Council met with representatives from the Wilyakali Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal Community Working Party on 22 June 2023 in an effort by all parties to find an alternative arrangement that would ensure payment for Welcome to Country could continue.

All parties said further discussions would be required to agree upon and implement an alternative payment arrangement, however it was noted that it would be ideal to see the matter resolved so that a paid Welcome to Country could be held at the upcoming NAIDOC Event scheduled for 3 July, 2023.

Although there was insufficient time between the 22 June meeting and the June Ordinary Council Meeting to implement a long-term solution, Council has the option to pass a one-off exemption to the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to pay for a Welcome to Country at the upcoming NAIDOC event.

Council has the option to pass a one-off exemption to the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to pay for a Welcome to Country at the upcoming NAIDOC event.

The exemption could be justified given that Council, the Wilyakali Corporation, and Aboriginal Community Working Party are all in ongoing discussions regarding possible future adjustments to Welcome to Country requirements and remuneration.

**Report:**

At the May 2023 Ordinary Meeting Council amended the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to halt payment for Welcome to Country ceremonies.

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Following this decision, Council met with representatives from the Wilyakali Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal Community Working Party on June 22, 2023 in an effort by all parties to find an alternative arrangement that would ensure payment for Welcome to Country could continue.

All parties said further discussions would be required to agree upon and implement an alternative payment arrangement, however it was noted that it would be ideal to see the matter resolved so that a paid Welcome to Country could be held at the upcoming NAIDOC Event.

Although there was insufficient time between the 22 June meeting and the June Ordinary Council Meeting to implement a long-term solution, Council has the option to pass a one-off exemption to the Civic and Ceremonial Functions and Representation Policy to pay for a Welcome to Country at the upcoming NAIDOC event.

The exemption could be justified given that Council, the Wilyakali Aboriginal Corporation, and Aboriginal Community Working Party are all in ongoing discussions regarding possible adjustments to Welcome to Country requirements and remuneration.

An exemption to an existing Policy is allowable in accordance with the broad powers and functions within the *Local Government Act 1993* that allows councils to exercise discretion and flexibility when necessary.

At the 2022 NAIDOC event, a Welcome to Country (\$150,00), smoking ceremony (\$500.00) and didgeridoo performance \$150.00 (*please note that this is identified as a separate performance fee*) formed part of the ceremony at a cost of \$800.00 to Council.

Welcome to Country fees have increased since the last NAIDOC celebrations were held, and Council will incur some or all of the costs outlined in the Financial Implications below should an exemption be granted.

In prior years, a Welcome to Country, Smoking ceremony, flag raising and didgeridoo performance have formed part of the ceremony for NAIDOC Week.

**Community Engagement:**

Meeting between representatives from Council, the Wilyakali Aboriginal Corporation, and Aboriginal Community Working Party on June 22, 2023

**Strategic Direction:**

Key Direction:	1	Our Community
Objective:	1.2	Our community spirit is our strength
Strategy:	1.1.4	Facilitate the celebration of community and cultural events

Key Direction:	4	Our Leadership
Objective:	4.1	Openness and transparency in decision making
Strategy:	4.1.5	Support the organisation to operate its legal framework

**Relevant Legislation:**

*Local Government Act 1993 Section 335*

**Financial Implications:**

Should Council agree to a one-off Policy exemption, the following costs could be incurred depending on which aspects of a Welcome to Country are carried out at the NAIDOC event:

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2023 Fees:

Welcome to Country: \$250.00

Additional Welcome to Country (in language): \$150.00

Flag raising: \$250.00

Smoking Ceremony: \$300.00

Didgeridoo performance: \$150 - \$200.00 - *(please note that this is identified as a separate performance fee)*

**Attachments**

There are no attachments for this report.

JAY NANKIVELL  
GENERAL MANAGER

## ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

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**ITEM 2**MAYORAL MINUTE NO. 12/23SUBJECT:                    TAIXING CHINA SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP                    D23/33607**Summary**

Broken Hill City Council formed a sister city relationship with the City of Taixing, China in 1998. The charter between Broken Hill and Taixing is to cultivate and generate the free exchange of people, ideas and cultures to enhance the friendship and mutual understanding and goodwill of the residents of the two cities; and to explore economic development, trade opportunities, friendship and cultural exchange to the mutual benefit of both communities.

In 2010 Councillor Algate presented a Notice of Motion to the 27 January 2010 Ordinary Council Meeting to rekindle the sister city relationship which was supported by Council resolution to that effect (Minute No. 42279).

Following Council's resolution, Mayor Cuy wrote to the Mayor of Taixing seeking the revitalization of the sister city relationship and on 16 June 2010, and subsequently Council delegation of Mayor Cuy, Councillor Algate and the then General Manager met with a Taixing delegation which included the Mayor and Vice Mayor of Taixing Municipal People's Government and representatives from the Taixing Municipal Government Administration and Jiangsu Taixing Economic Development Zone. This meeting coincided with the Taixing delegation's visit to New Zealand and Australia at that time.

Council hosted the lunch meeting and received positive initial feedback from the delegation with a view to progressing the relationship.

In 2011 Mayor Cuy wrote to the Mayor of Taixing inviting a delegation to visit Broken Hill. Council's records indicate that a visit did not take place.

In 2013 an invitation was sent to the Mayor of Taixing to attend the 2013 Sister Cities Conference which was hosted by the Broken Hill City Council. Council's records indicate that a visit did not take place.

In August 2015 a short email was received from the Office of Taixing Municipal People's Government advising that they had lost contact details for Council and seeking to continue the friendship. Council's records indicate that the email was forwarded to Mayor Cuy.

On 9 June 2023, Council received an email from Jing Lin, Vice Consul to the Consulate General of the Republic of China in Sydney regarding the sister city relationship between Broken Hill and the City of Taixing, China inquiring about the current status of the relationship and Council's views on its future development.

This Mayoral Minute recommends that Council investigates the rekindling of the sister city relationship and Taixing, China as to how the relationship could benefit both communities through possible economic development opportunities, trade opportunities, friendship and cultural exchanges.

**Recommendation**

1. That Mayoral Minute No. 12/23 dated June 28, 2023, be received.
2. That Council investigates the rekindling of the sister city relationship and the City of Taixing, China and how the relationship could benefit both communities through possible economic development opportunities, trade opportunities, friendship and cultural exchanges.
3. That Council sends reply correspondence to the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Sydney, advising that Council has resolved to investigate rekindling the sister city relationship with the City of Taixing, China.

**Attachments**

1. [↓](#) Email from the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Sydney

T. KENNEDY  
MAYOR



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**Leisa Bartlett**

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**From:** Chinese Consulate General RSVP <rsvpchinaconsulatesyd1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 June 2023 4:22 PM  
**To:** Broken Hill City Council  
**Cc:** Executive Support  
**Subject:** Inquiring about the current status of Broken Hill's sister city relationship with Taixing City in China

Dear Colleague,

I hope this letter finds you well.

It gives me great pleasure writing this letter to you and wish to draw your attention to the matter regarding the sister city relationship between Broken Hill and Taixing City (Jiangsu Province) in China.

According to our record, **Broken Hill established a sister city relationship with Taixing City (Jiangsu Province), China in August 1998**, building a platform for friendly exchanges and cooperation between the two sides.

Cooperation at local levels is an integrated part between local governments of China-Australia relations, while sister relationships serve as a critical platform for cooperation. There are nearly 50 pairs of sister relationships between China and NSW, accounting for nearly half of the total between China and Australia. In 1979, Guangdong Province, China and New South Wales built the first sister Province/State relationship between China and Australia, which is also the first of its kind that they have established respectively with local governments of other countries, and have become a role model over the years. Many sister city relationships between NSW and China have yielded practical results through exchanges and cooperation within such framework and have won popular support.

At present, China-Australia relations are sustaining a momentum of steady progress, delivering opportunities and potentials for local exchanges and cooperation. In recent years, some LGAs in NSW have been amalgamated or reallocated, which in most cases inflicted negative impact on the sister city relationship involved. **The main purpose of this letter is to inquire about the current status of Broken Hill's sister city relationship with Taixing City and to learn about your views on its future development.**

Your reply by 21 June would be greatly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,

Jing Lin

Vice Consul

Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Sydney  
39 Dunblane Street, Camperdown NSW 2050,  
Australia Tel: +61 2 85958030 Fax: +61 2 85958001  
Email: [rsvpchinaconsulatesyd1@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpchinaconsulatesyd1@gmail.com)



CITY COUNCIL

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