

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM OF PENRITH CITY COUNCIL
VIDEO STREAMED ON THE COUNCIL WEBSITE AND IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON MONDAY 20 APRIL 2026 AT 7:00 PM**

PUBLIC FORUM GUIDELINES

The Public Forum is held at 7:00pm, prior to the Ordinary Meeting in compliance with the Public Forum guidelines. It allows members of the community to speak publicly on any item listed on the Ordinary Meeting agenda. The Public Forum is livestreamed and video recorded for public viewing on Council's website.

WEBCASTING STATEMENT

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Todd Carney read a statement advising that Public Forums are recorded and webcast.

PRESENT – IN PERSON

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Todd Carney and Councillors Libby Austin, Kirstie Boerst, Robin Cook, Sue Day, Ross Fowler OAM, Glenn Gardiner, Sabbie Kaur, Hollie McLean, Edwin Mifsud, Reece Nuttall, Vanessa Pollak, Faithe Skinner and John Thain.

APOLOGIES

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Garion Thain.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor John Thain declared a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest – Significant in *Item 6 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review and Confidential Business Item 3 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Operations*, as he is a former Director as Council's Representative on the Board of the Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre. Councillor John Thain stated that he would leave the meeting during consideration of these items and would not take part in discussion on the issues.

Councillor Ross Fowler OAM declared a Pecuniary Conflict of Interest – Significant in *Item 6 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review and Confidential Business Item 3 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Operations*, as he is an Auditor of the organisation subject to the report. Councillor Ross Fowler OAM stated that he would leave the meeting during consideration of these items and would not take part in discussion on the issues.

Councillor Ross Fowler OAM declared a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest – Significant in *Confidential Business Item 2 - Development proposal 114-116 Henry St, Penrith*, as he is a

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Director of the organisation subject to the report. Councillor Ross Fowler OAM stated that he would leave the meeting during consideration of this item and would not take part in discussion on the issue.

Councillor Vanessa Pollak declared a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest – Significant in *Item 6 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review* and *Confidential Business Item 3 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Operations*, Councillor Vanessa Pollak stated that she would leave the meeting during consideration of these items and would not take part in discussion on the issues.

Councillor Vanessa Pollak declared a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest – Significant in *Confidential Business Item 2 - Development proposal 114-116 Henry St, Penrith*, as she is a current member on the Board of the Penrith City Council Children's Services Cooperative. Councillor Vanessa Pollak stated that she would leave the meeting during consideration of this item and would not take part in discussion on the issue.

Councillor Reece Nuttall declared a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest – Significant in *Item 6 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review* and *Confidential Business Item 3 - Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Operations*, as he is employed by the legal firm that is acting for the Penrith & Districts Basketball Association. Councillor Reece Nuttall stated that he would leave the meeting during consideration of these items and would not take part in discussion on the issues.

Having previously declared an interest, Councillors John Thain, Ross Fowler OAM and Vanessa Pollak left the meeting, the time being 7:04pm.

Michelle Parkes

Item 6 – Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review

Michelle Parkes, affected person spoke against the recommendation on *Item 6 – Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review*. Michelle expressed concerns regarding the financial issues associated with the Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre and the loss of basketball players within Penrith. She also emphasised the importance of protecting ratepayer funds within the Penrith LGA.

Cr Glenn Gardiner requested further clarification regarding the refusal to take bookings from the PDBA.

Mayor Councillor Todd Carney requested clarification regarding the ownership of the asset. Director Corporate Services, Matthew Bullivant confirmed that PVRSC operates from within a Council asset.

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Timothy Blair

Item 6 – Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review

Timothy Blair, affected person spoke against the recommendation on *Item 6 – Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre Business Plan Review*. Timothy raised concerns regarding the underutilisation of the stadium, poor decision-making and financial difficulties in relation to the Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre. Timothy also discussed the negative impact upon the community and suggested alternative solutions to increase utilisation, stabilise revenue and benefit the community.

Mayor Councillor Todd Carney declared the Public Forum closed, the time being 7:15pm.