



## **ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**

### **MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS**

Tuesday 21 July 2026

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS**  
**21 JULY 2026**

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Item 6.1

Enclosure 1

**Item 9.1 - New Item (9.1) Tabling of letter to The Hon Ron Hoenig MP on by-election costs**

**01 - Jane Stroud to The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP - Kiama local government by-election - Council resolution 26/1710C**



Phone enquiries:  
(02) 4232 0444

Reference:  
JS:CB – 26/61562

2 July 2026

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP  
Minister for Local Government  
By email: [office@hoenig.minister.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@hoenig.minister.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Minister

**Requesting URGENT consideration**

The purpose of this letter is to seek your urgent consideration to allow Kiama Municipal Council special dispensation to operate with just eight (8) councillors instead of nine (9) temporarily until the 2028 elections. At its extraordinary meeting held on 30 June 2026 Council resolved the following:

**26/1710C**

**Resolved** that Council:

1. Formally resolve in line with Section 224A of the Local Government Act 1993 to seek approval from the Minister for Local Government to temporarily reduce Councillor numbers down to eight (8) until the 2028 elections.
2. Note the costs of the by-election to fill the vacant ninth Councillor role are anticipated to be in the order of \$200,000 and due to the financial sustainability imperatives of the State imposed Performance Improvement Order which Council operates under, that the Minister for Local Government give special dispensation and consideration to Council's request to suspend the by-election until section 224A can be completed.
3. Delegates to the CEO to prepare correspondence to the Minister for Local Government in line with recommendation 1 and 2 above and to seek assistance of the Office of Local Government in undertaking the request to the Minister to temporarily reduce Councillor numbers down to eight (8).

(Councillor McDonald)

For: Councillors Draisma, Larkins, Lawton, Matters, McDonald, Tatrai and Warren

Against: Nil



Item 9.1 - New Item (9.1) Tabling of letter to The Hon Ron  
Hoenig MP on by-election costs

01 - Jane Stroud to The Hon. Ron  
Hoenig MP - Kiama local government  
by-election - Council resolution  
26/1710C

26/61562

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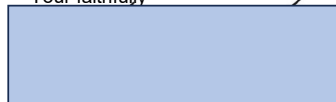
As I am sure you can appreciate the estimated cost of conducting the by-election scheduled to be held on 22 August 2026 is in the order of \$200,000 to \$250,000. Given KMC's precarious financial position and its imperative under the Performance Improvement Order (PIO) to find savings in order to produce a balanced budget this unexpected and significant cost burden caused by a councillor resignation, could readily be avoided. Through your leadership and exercising of Ministerial powers under Section 224A of the *Local Government Act 1993* this temporary reduction and avoidance of the need to proceed to a by-election could yield an operational saving of \$250,000, which is much needed at this critical time. Given the context, the request to temporarily reduce councillor numbers by one and the cancellation of the by-election is a reasonable and common sense request of the Elected body to make of the Minister.

I can reassure you that Council's quorum remains unchanged and the temporary reduction in one councillor position would not adversely affect the operations or representation of the 17,980 registered voters in Kiama, who would still be dutifully represented by the remaining eight (8) councillors.

With the time pressure associated with both the need to meet the State imposed PIO and the impending date of the by-election, your urgent and favourable consideration of this request is sought. I do offer a personal apology that the media collected the story before this letter could be sent for your attention and apologise for any undue pressure placed on the NSW Government.

The Mayor Cameron McDonald and myself would be happy to meet or schedule a phone call with you at your earliest convenience, and would greatly appreciate your response. I have spoken with the Deputy Secretary, Mr Brett Whitworth about this request and have provided him a courtesy copy of this correspondence. The Member for Kiama, Katelin McInerney has also been cc'ed on this correspondence.

Your faithfully



Jane Stroud  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Brett Whitworth, Deputy Secretary – [olq@olq.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olq@olq.nsw.gov.au)  
Katelin McInerney, MP – [kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Item 6.1

Enclosure 1

**Item 9.2 - New Item (9.2) Tabling of letters to Minister Sharpe, Minister Aitchison and Katelin McInerney MP - Protection of the Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion of Seven Mile Beach National**

**01 - Letter NSW Minister for the Environment The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC - Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion of**



Phone enquiries:  
(02) 4232 0444

Reference:  
EP:DB 26/48505

27 May 2026

The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC  
Minister for the Environment  
52 Martin Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: [office@sharpe.minister.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@sharpe.minister.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Minister

**Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion  
of Seven Mile Beach National Park**

At its meeting held on 19 May 2026 Council considered a Notice of Motion by Councillor Lawton in relation Protection of the Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park.

Council resolved to write to you to convey the following resolution:

**26/1210C**

*At the request of Councillor Larkins and by consent the **amended motion was varied and resolved** that Council:*

- 1. Gives in-principle support for the campaign 'Save the Greater Glider' by the Gerroa Environmental Protection Society (GEPS).*
- 2. Notes and recognises the ecological significance of the Seven Mile Beach area, including critical habitat for the endangered Southern Greater Glider, coastal wetlands and other threatened species, both within and adjoining the Kiama Local Government Area (LGA).*
- 3. Expresses support for further investigation and consideration by the NSW Government of opportunities to strengthen protection of these environmental values, including potential expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park, subject to appropriate assessment, consultation and statutory processes; noting that the plan is indicative only.*
- 4. Recognises the importance of meaningful engagement with Traditional Owners and First Nations communities in relation to land management and environmental protection, and supports their involvement in any future consideration of the area.*
- 5. Formally conveys this position to:*
  - (a) Member for Kiama, Katelin McInerney MP.*
  - (b) NSW Minister for the Environment, Penny Sharpe MLC.*
  - (c) Minister for Regional Roads, The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP.*
- 6. Includes within updates to Council's Advocacy Strategy a position supporting improved environmental protection of endangered Southern Greater Glider populations and*

**All correspondence** Chief Executive Officer PO Box 75 Kiama NSW 2533

**Contacts** P (02) 4232 0444

E [council@kiama.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@kiama.nsw.gov.au)

W [www.kiama.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kiama.nsw.gov.au)

11 Manning Street Kiama NSW 2533

ABN 22 379 679 108

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**Item 9.2 - New Item (9.2) Tabling of letters to Minister Sharpe, Minister Aitchison and Katelin McInerney MP - Protection of the Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion of Seven Mile Beach National**

**01 - Letter NSW Minister for the Environment The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC - Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park**

26/48505

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*associated ecosystems across the Kiama LGA, including strengthened habitat protections.*

7. *Where reasonable and within existing resources, supports opportunities for Councillors to:*

- (a) attend a guided walk hosted by the GEPS at Seven Mile Beach National Park.*
- (b) Engage with local environmental groups, including site visits, to better inform Council's future advocacy.*

*(Councillors Lawton and Larkins)*

If you have any further questions or wish to discuss the matter please do not hesitate to contact Director Strategies and Communities, Ed Paterson.

Yours faithfully



Jane Stroud  
Chief Executive Officer

Item 6.1

Enclosure 1

**Item 9.2 - New Item (9.2) Tabling of letters to Minister Sharpe, Minister Aitchison and Katelin McInerney MP - Protection of the Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion of Seven Mile Beach National**

**0 2 - Letter Minister for Regional Transport The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP - Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion of**



Phone enquiries:  
(02) 4232 0444

Reference:  
EP:DB 26/48506

27 May 2026

The Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP  
Minister for Roads and Minister for Regional Transport  
GPO Box 5341  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email: [office@aitchison.minister.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@aitchison.minister.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Minister

**Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park**

At its meeting held on 19 May 2026 Council considered a Notice of Motion by Councillor Lawton in relation to protection of the Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park.

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**26/1210C**

*At the request of Councillor Larkins and by consent the **amended motion was varied and resolved** that Council:*

1. *Gives in-principle support for the campaign 'Save the Greater Glider' by the Gerroa Environmental Protection Society (GEPS).*
2. *Notes and recognises the ecological significance of the Seven Mile Beach area, including critical habitat for the endangered Southern Greater Glider, coastal wetlands and other threatened species, both within and adjoining the Kiama Local Government Area (LGA).*
3. *Expresses support for further investigation and consideration by the NSW Government of opportunities to strengthen protection of these environmental values, including potential expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park, subject to appropriate assessment, consultation and statutory processes; noting that the plan is indicative only.*
4. *Recognises the importance of meaningful engagement with Traditional Owners and First Nations communities in relation to land management and environmental protection, and supports their involvement in any future consideration of the area.*
5. *Formally conveys this position to:*
  - (a) *Member for Kiama, Katelin McInerney MP.*
  - (b) *NSW Minister for the Environment, Penny Sharpe MLC.*
  - (c) *Minister for Regional Roads, The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP.*
6. *Includes within updates to Council's Advocacy Strategy a position supporting improved environmental protection of endangered Southern Greater Glider populations and*

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**Item 9.2 - New Item (9.2) Tabling of letters to Minister Sharpe, Minister Aitchison and Katelin McInerney MP - Protection of the Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion of Seven Mile Beach National**

**02 - Letter Minister for Regional Transport The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP - Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park**

26/48506

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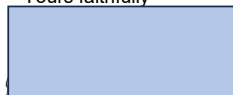
*associated ecosystems across the Kiama LGA, including strengthened habitat protections.*

7. *Where reasonable and within existing resources, supports opportunities for Councillors to:*
- (a) attend a guided walk hosted by the GEPS at Seven Mile Beach National Park.*
  - (b) Engage with local environmental groups, including site visits, to better inform Council's future advocacy.*

*(Councillors Lawton and Larkins)*

If you have any further questions or wish to discuss the matter please do not hesitate to contact Director Strategies and Communities, Ed Paterson.

Yours faithfully



Jane Stroud  
Chief Executive Officer

Item 6.1

Enclosure 1

Item 9.2 - New Item (9.2) Tabling of letters to Minister Sharpe, Minister Aitchison and Katelin McNerney MP - Protection of the Southern Greater Gliders and proposed expansion of Seven Mile Beach National

03 - Letter Katelin McNerney MP - Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park



Phone enquiries:  
(02) 4232 0444

Reference:  
EP:DB 26/48504

27 May 2026

Office of Katelin McNerney MP  
Member for Kiama  
102 Terralong Street  
KIAMA NSW 2533

By email – [Kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Kiama@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Katelin

**Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion  
of Seven Mile Beach National Park**

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**03 - Letter Katelin McInerney MP - Protection of Southern Greater Gliders and Proposed Expansion of Seven Mile Beach National Park**

26/48504

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*(Councillors Lawton and Larkins)*

If you have any further questions or wish to discuss the matter please do not hesitate to contact Director Strategies and Communities, Ed Paterson.

Yours faithfully



Jane Stroud  
Chief Executive Officer

Item 6.1

Enclosure 1

**Item 19.3 - New Item (19.3) Tabling of letter from  
Wingecarribee Shire Council supporting an application for  
regional road recategorisation - Jamberoo Mountain Road**

**01 - Lisa Miscamble | Wingecarribee  
Shire Council letter of support -  
Jamberoo Mountain Road -  
application for regional road**



17 July 2026

Mr Darren Brady  
Director Infrastructure and Operations  
Kiama Municipal Council  
Via email: [council@kiama.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@kiama.nsw.gov.au)

**Letter of support - Jamberoo Mountain Road, Knights Hill to Illawarra Highway  
Application for Regional Road Recategorisation**

Dear Mr Brady

Thank you for your correspondence seeking Wingecarribee Shire Council's support for a joint application to Transport for NSW to recategorise Jamberoo Mountain Road from a Regional Road to a State Road.

Council acknowledges the strategic significance of Jamberoo Mountain Road as a key regional transport link that extends beyond local government boundaries, serving an important function within the State road network, particularly as the designated alternative route when Macquarie Pass is closed, while also recognising the increasing impacts of natural disasters and the substantial maintenance responsibilities borne by both councils in maintaining this critical connection.

Wingecarribee Shire Council has considered your request and provides in-principle support to participate in the preparation and submission of a joint application with Kiama Municipal Council.

This in-principle support does not commit Council to any specific outcome and I note any joint application will be developed collaboratively and assessed in accordance with the Transport for NSW Road Recategorisation Guidelines and supporting criteria.

We look forward to working with you on this important initiative and appreciate your leadership in progressing the application. Please contact either Council's Manager Assets, Shaun Robinson [REDACTED] and Director Service and Project Delivery, Clinton McAlister [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

**Lisa Miscamble**  
General Manager

*We're with you*

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