

ITEM B

LORD MAYORAL MINUTE - POPULATION INCREASE AND THE IMPACTS ON WOLLONGONG AND THE REGION

RECOMMENDATION

I move that Wollongong City Council -

- 1 Write to the Prime Minister, Leader of the Federal Opposition, Premier and State Opposition Leader to express our concerns regarding the impact of rapid population increase in Australia and the challenges this has created for the Wollongong Local Government Area and the Region, especially in regard to affordable housing supply and transport infrastructure.
- 2 Express its concern at the failure of successive Federal and State Governments to match infrastructure requirements with population pressures and a clear population policy and appropriate strategies.
- 3 Puts on public record its concerns about the environmental impact of rapid population increases and -
  - a expresses concerns shared with neighbouring local government areas at the loss of productive rural land;
  - b acknowledges the impact on water and other resources from population pressures in the context of the fragile Australian environment and ecology; and
  - c recognises the potential for future loss of habitat for our unique flora and fauna and the loss of species diversity created by poor planning, population pressures and environmental degradation.