PRESENT

IN ATTENDANCE
K Gouldthorp (General Manager), G Cousins (Director Corporate Services), F Cordingley (Director Infrastructure), F Giordano (Manager Council and Legal Services), M Blackburn-Smith (Manager Development and Building) and K Sullivan (Council Services/Minutes/Webcasting).

MESSAGE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
The Lord Mayor read the message of acknowledgement to the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

PRAYER
The Lord Mayor read a prayer and a period of silence was observed in memory of those who served and died so that Council might meet in peace.

APOLOGIES

MOTION
Moved by Cr Luke, seconded by Cr Posniak

The apology submitted on behalf of Councillor Crakanthorp be received and leave of absence granted.  

Carried

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS
Nil

BRIEFING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ITEM-13 BR 20/10/15 - 505 MINMI ROAD FLETCHER - AMENDMENT TO NEWCASTLE LEP 2012

Council resolved at its meeting held on 18 December 2012, to endorse a planning proposal for land at 505 Minmi Road, Fletcher to enable low density residential development and appropriate environmental conservation areas.

The resolution also included a request for a briefing at the completion of the public exhibition period and prior to any report to Council to address a series of questions included in the resolution.
The planning proposal was publicly exhibited for 28 days from 7 September 2015 to 6 October 2015 and one submission was received. The planning proposal is listed for consideration by Council on the Ordinary Council Meeting agenda of 24 November 2015.

Councillors received a briefing from Patty McCarthy, Team Co-ordinator Strategic Planning Services. Brett Stein, consultant ADW Johnson and Adam Blundell, Ecobiological, were available to respond on matters raised in relation to the proposed rezoning of land at 505 Minmi Road, Fletcher.

Matters addressed were:
- Gateway determination
- Residential suitability
- Environmental offsets
- Consultation
- Results of investigations into reported illegal tree clearing and filling of gullies, farming of livestock and landfill
- Correlation to Coal and Allied development plan
- Projected increase in number of dwellings
- Shortfall in bio-banking credits

Several questions from Councillors related to bio-banking, selection of E2 site, impact on the green corridor, vegetation management and off-site conservation and long term management of the site.

The meeting concluded at 6.10pm.