

**ITEM 3.1. VALE JOHN KAYE MLC**

**FILE NO: S051491**

### **MINUTE BY THE LORD MAYOR**

To Council:

I note with regret the passing of Member of the NSW Legislative Council, Dr John Kaye, on 2 May 2016.

During John's 10 years in Parliament, he worked with communities across NSW for a more just and sustainable future. John's work had significant impact on public debate and political outcomes in a number of areas.

First and foremost, John was a passionate champion for our public education system. He was appalled by the inequity of resources between the public and private systems and campaigned to change the funding structure that supported this unfairness. Importantly, he opposed the sale of public education lands in urban areas and was outspoken about the need to make quality public education accessible for all, especially those of us threatened by the shortfall here in the inner city. John recognised TAFE as a critical institution to the success and wellbeing of our communities. He fought the erosion of TAFE and the privatisation of VET training which has been introduced by successive governments.

As a former UNSW lecturer in sustainable energy, John was an early advocate for a managed transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. He campaigned against the expansion of coal fire power in NSW and led a strong public debate for the social, environmental and economic advantages of renewables.

His work against corruption and corporate donations has exposed undeclared financial arrangements between politicians and corporations.

As an animal rights advocate, John has exposed the false labelling of free range eggs. He has campaigned against changes to consumer regulation which would see chickens face increasingly cruel conditions and advocated for an end to the savagery of the greyhound racing industry.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council observe one minute's silence to honour the life and work of Dr John Kaye MLC; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor write to John's partner Lynne expressing the City's condolences.

### **COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE**

Lord Mayor