

ITEM 6

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT - COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF MOTIONS

The Lord Mayor, Cr David Brown, Cr Kershaw, Cr Colacino and Cr Figliomeni request approval to attend the 2019 National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra from 16 to 19 June 2019.

RECOMMENDATION

Council approve:

- 1 The attendance of the Lord Mayor, Cr David Brown, Cr Kershaw, Cr Colacino and Cr Figliomeni at the 2019 National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra.
- 2 The Lord Mayor's Office to coordinate, in consultation with Councillors, the submission of Motions for consideration at the 2019 National General Assembly of Local Government.
- 3 The Lord Mayor as the voting delegate at the 2019 National General Assembly of Local Government

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Todd Hopwood, Manager Governance and Customer Service

Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

BACKGROUND

Convened annually by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), the National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) attracts in excess of 800 Councillors and Mayors each year.

The 2019 NGA is an opportunity for attending Councillors to deliver the views and concerns of Council as well as contribute their own experiences and knowledge to debate on a broad set of national issues. The theme of the 2019 NGA is *Future Focused*. The Assembly will consider what councils can do today to get ready for the challenges, opportunities and changes that lie ahead.

The Hon Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister has been invited to speak at the NGA and will deliver the opening address and the Hon Bill Shorten MP, Leader of the Opposition, is confirmed to speak.

ALGA has released a Discussion Paper to provide guidance to councils for the development of Motions for debate at the NGA. The paper provides an overview of policy areas in which the NGA has well-established positions and identifies potential new and emerging policy areas which are being developed by ALGA and require detailed consideration. To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

- 1 Be relevant to the work of local government nationally
- 2 Be consistent with the themes of the NGA
- 3 Complement or build on the policy objectives of your state and territory local government association
- 4 Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association
- 5 Propose a clear action and outcome
- 6 Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.

Motions should generally be in a form that seeks the NGA's support for a particular action or policy change at the Federal level which will assist local governments to meet local community needs.

Motions are to be lodged online with ALGA by Friday 29 March 2019.

The Lord Mayor and four (4) Councillors are requesting approval to attend, although other Councillors who wish to attend may also nominate.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Consultation was undertaken with the Lord Mayor and Councillors, asking Councillors to indicate interest in attending the conference for inclusion in the report.

If approved, the Lord Mayor's Office will liaise with Councillors to develop and submit any motions for the conference.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Wollongong 2028 goal 4 "We are a connected and engaged community".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds are available to enable Councillors to attend conferences and meet costs associated with attendance.

The estimated total cost of attendance at the 2019 NGA for the five (5) delegates, including registration and accommodation, is \$9,820. Travel is to be undertaken in accordance with the Councillors Expenses and Facilities policy.

The estimated individual costs of attendance at the 2019 NGA in Canberra are as follows:

| Delegate | Registration | Accommodation | Total (inc GST) |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Cr Bradbery | \$989 | \$975 (3 nights) | \$1,964 |
| Cr David Brown | \$989 | \$975 (3 nights) | \$1,964 |
| Cr Kershaw | \$989 | \$975 (3 nights) | \$1,964 |
| Cr Colacino | \$989 | \$975 (3 nights) | \$1,964 |
| Cr Figliomeni | \$989 | \$975 (3 nights) | \$1,964 |
| TOTAL | \$4,945 | \$4,875 | \$9,820 |

CONCLUSION

This report provides an overview of the NGA conference and details the benefits of Council representation at the conference. The report details the costs associated with sending delegates and requests approval for the Lord Mayor, Cr Brown, Cr Kershaw, Cr Colacino and Cr Figliomeni to attend.