

## ITEM 3 COUNCILLOR APPOINTMENT TO HERITAGE REFERENCE GROUP

This report proposes that Council appoint Councillor Ann Martin to fill a vacancy on the Heritage Reference Group.

### RECOMMENDATION

Council appoint Councillor Ann Martin as a councillor delegate to the Heritage Reference Group until September 2019.

### 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

At its meeting on 7 May 2018, Council reformed the Wollongong Heritage Advisory Committee as the Heritage Reference Group, with Councillor Mithra Cox appointed as delegate and chairperson. At its meeting on 24 September 2018, Council extended Cr Cox's appointment to the reference group until September 2019, with the second councillor position remaining vacant.

Councillor Ann Martin was elected to Council in the Ward 3 by-election held on 24 November 2018. Councillor Martin has expressed an interest in appointment as a delegate to the Heritage Reference Group, in order to fill the current vacancy.

### Heritage Reference Group

The Wollongong Heritage Reference Group has been established to provide advice to Council on policies and strategies which relate to the management, conservation and promotion of Wollongong's heritage. The focus of the Group is to assist Council work towards the preparation and delivery of the Wollongong Heritage Strategy and Action Plan. The Group comprises people who can positively contribute to furthering these aims.

The purpose of the Heritage Reference Group is to assist and advise Council on:

- Development and delivery of a Heritage Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Provide advice on a wide range of heritage issues and projects
- Assessment of applications for Heritage Grant Funding
- Test assumptions and add rigour to project processes
- Support and facilitate communication between Council and the community on disability access issues with respect to heritage
- Advocate for the community on heritage issues raised
- Town centre and neighbourhood planning with respect to heritage
- Priorities for the implementation of policies or strategic plans in relation to heritage

The group meet bi-monthly, except where no business is identified, and have the following membership:

- Two Councillors (currently Councillor Cox, who is also chairperson and one vacancy)
- Eight independent members with wide knowledge and expertise in natural and cultural heritage

## PROPOSAL

This report proposes that the current councillor vacancy on the Heritage Reference Group be filled by appointment of Councillor Ann Martin.

## CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Council's Land Use Planning Manager was consulted on the need to fill this vacancy on the Heritage Reference Group.

## PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

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

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Governance and Administration Service Plan 2018-19.

## CONCLUSION

Council's Appointment of Councillor Delegates to Committees policy, which also includes reference groups, requires a resolution of Council to appoint a Councillor delegate to a Committee. With the current vacancy, and interest shown by Councillor Martin in filling it, it is appropriate that Council either appoint Councillor Martin to the Reference Group or call for nominations to fill the current vacancy.