

ITEM 5

COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW SPECIAL CONFERENCE - SYDNEY 28 FEBRUARY TO 2 MARCH 2022

The purpose of this report is to authorise the attendance of Councillors at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Special Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Sydney from 28 February to 2 March 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 Council authorise the -
 - a attendance of the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and five other Councillors as Council's seven voting delegates at the Local Government NSW Special Conference at the Hyatt Regency, Sydney between 28 February and 2 March 2022, and
 - b attendance of any other Councillor as a non-voting delegate, and
 - c payment of registration, 2 nights' accommodation, associated conference session, event and function attendance, and limited reasonable expenses for Councillors while attending the conference in accordance with the provisions of Councillor Expenses and Facilities policy, and as detailed in this report.
- 2 Council seek nominations from Councillors interested in attending as voting delegates.
- 3 Where the number of nominations are equal to or less than the number required as detailed in 1(a) of this recommendation, those Councillors be appointed as voting delegates.
- 4 Where the number of nominations are greater than the number required as detailed in 1(a) of this recommendation, Council conduct an election by way of open means on a show of hands.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Michelle Martin, Manager Governance + Customer Service (Acting)

Authorised by: Todd Hopwood, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City (Acting)

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Special Conference Program

BACKGROUND

The Local Government NSW Conference is an annual event held for local Councillors to come together to share ideas and debate issues. It provides a significant opportunity for Councillors to meet and discuss issues facing local government and develop agreed positions which can inform the development of NSW Local Government policies in the coming year.

The conference will help set the advocacy priorities for LGNSW the year ahead, while a tradeshow, workshops and training sessions are available to support delegates in efforts to effectively represent their communities.

The Special Conference follows the online 2021 Annual Conference and will focus on how councils can drive a "Locally Led" employment and economic recovery, as they continue to grapple with the complex challenges posed by the global pandemic.

Voting entitlements

While all Councillors may attend, Wollongong City Council is entitled to nominate seven voting delegates to the 2022 Special Conference.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed that Council approve the attendance of seven Councillors as voting delegates to the conference, including the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor if they wish to attend. Council may approve the attendance of other Councillors as non-voting attendees at the conference.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2028 Goal 4 “We are a connected and engaged community”.

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the 2021-22 Business Plan of the Governance and Customer Service Division.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The estimated cost to Council for each Councillor to attend the conference, *if participating in all available sessions, functions and events*, is \$2,025 incl GST. For seven voting delegates that is a potential total of \$14,175 incl GST.

Registration	Conference dinner Tue 1 Mar 2022	Accommodation (2 nights)	ALGWA Breakfast Wed 2 March 2022	Training sessions Mon 28 Feb 2022
\$979	\$176	\$738	\$77	\$55

Other reasonable expenses within the limits applied by the Councillor Expenses and Facilities policy include the cost of meals for the Councillor, where not otherwise provided in conference, function or event registration costs. These include –

Breakfast:

- Tuesday, 1 March, and
- Wednesday, 2 March if not registered for ALGWA breakfast.

Lunch:

- Monday, 28 February if participating in Councillor workshops.

Dinner:

- Monday, 28 February, and
- Tuesday, 1 March if not registered for the Conference dinner.

There are adequate funds within the Councillors’ conference budget to allow for attendance at this event.

CONCLUSION

Council should nominate and appoint its seven voting delegates to the 2022 Special Conference and consider the request of any other councillor wanting to attend as a non-voting delegate.



Local Government NSW Special Conference

Theme: Locally Led: Working together for a better NSW

Monday 28 February 2022 - Hyatt Regency Sydney, 161 Sussex Street Sydney	
1.30pm – 3.00pm	<p>Four workshops held concurrently</p> <p>Option 1: Council involvement in new national agreement on Closing the Gap</p> <p>Option 2: Rural and Regional Health – Issues and Solutions</p> <p>Option 3: Investing in You – Verbal Judo for Councillors (sold out)</p> <p>Option 4: Domestic Violence – Councils are part of the solution</p>
3.00pm – 5.00pm	<p>Meet the Politicians' Forum with Cr Darriea Turley AM, President LGNSW</p> <p><i>Followed by Presentation of the AR Bluett Awards by the Trustees</i></p> <p><i>Followed by Welcome Reception Sponsor Address by Statewide Mutual</i></p>

Conference Opens – President's Welcome Reception - 5pm to 7.30pm

Tuesday 1 March 2022 – Business Session Day 1 - Hyatt Regency Sydney, 161 Sussex Street Sydney	
9.05am – 9.10am	Conference introduction by Scott Phillips , Chief Executive, LGNSW
9.10am – 9.15am	Welcome to Country on behalf of Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council – Yvonne Weldon
9.15am – 5.00pm	<p>Address by Cr Darriea Turley AM President, LGNSW</p> <p>Opening of the Federal & State Conferences including demonstration of voting procedure, adoption of standing orders, business sessions and consideration of motions and conference business.</p>
7.00pm -10.30pm	<p>Conference Dinner at Grand Ballroom, Fullerton Hotel 1 Martin Place, Sydney</p> <p>Cr Darriea Turley AM, President, LGNSW and Elite Sponsor, StateCover present Outstanding Service Awards to elected members</p>

Wednesday 2 March 2022 – Business Session Day 2 - Hyatt Regency Sydney, 161 Sussex Street Sydney	
7.30am – 8.45am	Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA NSW) Breakfast
9.00am – 9.30am	MC introduction and Keynote address: Economic Outlook 2022 with Michael Pascoe
9.35am – 10.30am	Keynote Panel: Economic Outlook 2022
11.05am – 11.20am	Address Cr Darriea Turley AM, President, LGNSW , on Association Initiatives Country Mayors MOU signing
11.25am – 12.10pm	Climate Change Panel Presentation
12.10pm – 12.55pm	The Housing Crisis in NSW Presentation
2.05pm – 3.05pm	Keynote Speaker - Greig Pickhaver AO in conversation with MC, Ellen Fanning
3.05pm – 3.15pm	Final remarks and conference close, Cr Darriea Turley AM, President, LGNSW