

ITEM 6

COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW (LGNSW) ANNUAL CONFERENCE - ROSEHILL 12-14 NOVEMBER 2023

The Local Government NSW Conference is an annual event which provides opportunities for Councillors to network and participate in debate on local government policy issues at a state level. The purpose of this report is to nominate seven Councillors as voting delegates to the Local Government NSW Annual Conference, scheduled for 12-14 November 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 Council nominate the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor, and an additional five Councillors as its seven voting delegates to the Local Government NSW Annual Conference, to be held at Rosehill from 12-14 November 2023.
- 2 Council delegate to the General Manager authority to approve attendance of any additional Councillors requesting to attend the Conference, over and above the nominated voting delegates.

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

The Local Government NSW Annual Conference provides an opportunity for Councillors to meet, discuss and debate issues facing local government, and develop agreed positions which can inform the development of future NSW Local Government policies.

Voting entitlements

While all Councillors can attend, Wollongong City Council is entitled to nominate seven voting delegates to the 2023 Conference.

Motions

All LGNSW members are invited to submit motions for inclusion in the Conference business paper. The deadline for submitting motions is 15 September 2023. Proposed motions should be strategic, affect members state-wide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. As in previous years, the Executive Officer to the Lord Mayor will liaise with Councillors on possible motions for submission.

Program

The 2023 conference will be held from 12 to 14 November 2023 at the Rosehill Garden Racecourse.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal "We are a connected and engaged community".

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Governance and Customer Service Divisional Service Plan 2023-24.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has a budget to enable Councillors to attend conferences and meet associated costs.

Registration: Early bird registration at the conference is approximately \$1,385 per Councillor. The fees include online business papers, the President's Welcome Reception, two-day business sessions including morning and afternoon tea, lunch, and name badge and conference dinner on one night.

Accommodation: will cost approximately \$390 per Councillor, which is for two nights.

Other expenses: Councillors may claim for reimbursement of any travel or incidental expenses in accordance with the Councillor Expenses and Facilities policy.

CONCLUSION

The Local Government NSW Conference provides an opportunity for Councillors to network and participate in local government debate at a state level. Wollongong City Council is entitled to register seven voting delegates to the 2023 Conference. This report seeks agreement for the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor and five other Councillors to attend the Conference as voting delegates, and any additional Councillors able to attend as non-voting delegates.