

3.1. Sydney North Planning Panel - Membership Nomination 2021

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ENDORSED BY: Joseph Hill, Director City Strategy

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

To recommend that Council extend the current community representative appointments to the Sydney North Planning Panel until the first ordinary Council meeting in March 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On 25 November 2019, Council considered a report on the nomination of members to the Sydney North Planning Panel (SNPP) for the 2019-20 reporting period. Council resolved:

1. *THAT Council nominate Kenneth Robinson and Virginia Waller as the community representatives to represent North Sydney Council on the Sydney North Planning Panel, with Councillor Barbour and Kevin Alker as alternates up to 31 March 2021.*
2. *THAT the Panel membership be reviewed following the Local Government elections in September 2020.*
3. *THAT community representatives continue to be paid \$750 per Panel meeting.*
4. *THAT Council write to Veronique Marchandreau and Michel Reymond expressing gratitude for their service to the Sydney North Planning Panel on behalf of our community.*

Kenneth Robinson and Virginia Waller respectively accepted Council's nomination and continue to serve as community representatives on the Sydney North Planning Panel, with Councillor Barbour and Kevin Alker as the alternate community representatives.

These appointments expire in March 2021 aligned with the original Local Government election date in September 2020. Given that the Local Government elections have been deferred from September 2020 to September 2021, this report seeks Council endorsement for extending the current community representative appointments to the Panel until the ordinary council meeting in March 2022 thus allowing the newly formed Council to select their representatives.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There will be no additional financial cost to Council to extend the current appointments to the Sydney North Planning Panel. The current \$750 fee for the community representatives is a fully funded.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council extend the current community and alternate representative appointments to the Sydney North Planning Panel until the March 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting, with recruitment to be commenced in November 2021.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

5. Our Civic Leadership

5.1 Council leads the strategic direction of North Sydney

5.2 Council is well governed and customer focused

BACKGROUND

On 18 May 2009 Council nominated its first representatives on the newly formed Sydney East Planning Panel. On 21 November 2016, the Joint Regional Planning Panels (JRPP) were replaced by Sydney Planning Panels. North Sydney Council forms part of the Sydney North Planning Panel (SNPP).

Since that time, Councillors and community members have represented the community of North Sydney by being members of the SNPP.

At its meeting on 25 November 2019, Council resolved to elect two new community representatives to the panel, Kenneth Robinson and Virginia Waller. Two alternate community representatives were also nominated by council at this meeting, Councillor Stephen Barbour and Kevin Alker.

The current panel membership was scheduled to be reviewed following the Local Government elections in September 2020. As this election was deferred until September 2021, it is necessary to consider extending Council's current community representative appointments until the ordinary Council meeting in March 2022. This will allow sufficient time to advertise for and short list suitable community representatives for the consideration of the newly formed Council. Alternatively, a new expressions of interest process can be undertaken.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement is not required.

DETAIL

Sydney Planning Panels were established to replace the JRPP's under the Greater Sydney Commission (GSC) on 21 November 2016. There are six (6) Sydney Planning Panels and boundaries for the Panels reflect the District Boundaries declared under the EP&A Act.

The North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) is included within the North District and forms part of the Sydney North Planning Panel, alongside Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Northern Beaches, Mosman, Ryde and Willoughby LGA's. Each of the Sydney Planning Panels consists of five (5) members: The chair (Peter Debnam, appointed by the State

in January 2018); two (2) additional State members (Brian Kirk and Julie Savet Ward); and two (2) council nominees of the relevant council who are Councillors, members of council staff or other persons nominated by the council. The panels are responsible for:

- determining “regionally significant” development applications and modification applications with a capital investment value more than \$30 million;
- acting as the Planning Proposal Authority when directed;
- considering Rezoning Reviews, through which proponents can request a review if not supported by council, or if a council determination is not made within 90 days; and
- providing advice on other planning and development matters requested.

The Sydney and Regional Planning Panels Operational Procedures (4.4 Council members) explains that a minimum of one council nominated member must have expertise in one or more of the following areas: planning, architecture, heritage, the environment, urban design, land economics, traffic and transport, law, engineering or tourism. Each council determines how their members are selected and advise the Planning Panel Secretariat. Council’s membership of the Sydney North Planning Panel has been determined on an annual basis.

The appointed community representatives Virginia Waller, Kenneth Robinson and Kevin Alker all have expertise in either Planning, Architecture or the Environment.

Given that the Local Government elections have been deferred from September 2020 to September 2021, this report seeks Council endorsement for extending the current community representative appointments to the Panel until the ordinary council meeting in March 2022. This will allow sufficient time to advertise for and short list suitable community representatives for the consideration of the newly formed Council. Alternatively, a new expressions of interest process can be undertaken.