

10.6. Appointment of Council representatives on Council committees and external bodies

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ATTACHMENTS	Nil
CSP LINK	5. Our Civic Leadership 5.2 Strong civic leadership and customer focussed services

PURPOSE:

To appoint Councillors as representatives on groups or committees external to the Council, as well as two committees required through legislated guidelines.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

North Sydney Council holds positions on or participates in groups or committees external to the Council, as well as two committees required through legislated guidelines.

The following committees and other bodies require Council to nominate representatives:

- Northern Suburbs Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) - The Mayor, one representative, and one alternate;
- Shorelink Committee (Library Network) - one representative and one alternate; and
- Sydney Coastal Councils Group - two representatives
- Audit Risk and Improvement Committee - one representative
- Access and Inclusion Committee - one representative (Chair)

RECOMMENDATION:

1.THAT Council appoint to the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) as representatives the Mayor, and Councillor _____ and Councillor _____ (alternate) and _____ (alternate) as its representative for the term until September 2026.

2.THAT Council appoint to the Shorelink Committee (Library Network) Councillor _____ and Councillor _____ (alternate) for this term of Council.

3.THAT Council appoint to the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Councillor _____ as delegate and Councillor _____ as Executive representative for this term of Council.

4.THAT Council appoint to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Councillor _____ for this term of Council.

5.THAT Council appoint to the Access and Inclusion Committee Councillor _____ for this term of Council.

6. THAT Council write to the external bodies to inform them of Council's representatives.

Background

Council holds positions on or participates in other groups or committees external to the Council. The following Committees and Trusts require North Sydney Council to nominate representatives:

- Northern Suburbs Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) - The Mayor, one representative, and one alternate;
- Shorelink Committee (Library Network) - one representative and one alternate; and
- Sydney Coastal Councils Group - two representatives
- Audit Risk and Improvement Committee - one representative
- Access and Inclusion Committee - one representative (Chair)

Report

Agendas for these meetings will be sent directly to the Councillor representatives.

Councillors must adhere to the respective Charter/Terms of Reference of the external body they are a representative on, in addition to Council's Code of Conduct and relevant policies.

Northern Suburbs Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC)

The Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) is comprised of eight councils from the northern Sydney area. NSROC member councils are Hornsby, Hunter's Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney, Ryde and Willoughby.

By facilitating collaboration between member councils on projects and shared priorities, NSROC develops regional solutions that generate benefits – social, environmental and economic – not only for individual communities, but for the region as a whole.

NSROC undertakes a number of regional projects and collaborates under the direction of the General Managers' Advisory Group (GMAC). NSROC provides regional representation at the elected level, including representing regional issues in planning and other matters such as the Infrastructure Contributions Review.

Each member council is represented on the NSROC Board by the Mayor and either the Deputy Mayor or a Councillor. The Executive Director of NSROC has requested that Council appoint two alternate delegates to ensure full representation at meetings. In addition to the Annual General Meeting, the Board meets four times a year, usually on Thursdays at 6.00pm.

Delegates are reappointed by Council in September each year.

Shorelink

The Shorelink Library Network was established in 1983 to deliver both economic benefits and quality Library services to the communities of the current member councils, Lane Cove, Mosman and North Sydney.

Representatives on the Shorelink Committee (Library Network) serve a full Council term with Council's Manager Library Services and meets twice a year, usually on a Wednesday commencing at 6.00pm.

The Shorelink delegate also serves as Council's representative on the NSW Public Libraries Association. NSWPLA meets four times a year and is the peak body for public libraries across NSW providing advocacy, networking opportunities, professional development, collaboration.

Sydney Coastal Councils Group

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc. (SCCG) was established in 1989 to promote collaboration between Member Councils on environmental issues relating to the sustainable management of the urban coastal and estuarine environment. The Group consists of 9 Councils (Bayside, Inner West, Northern Beaches, North Sydney, Randwick, Sutherland, Waverley, Willoughby and Woollahra) adjacent to Sydney marine and estuarine environments and associated waterways, and represents nearly 1.3 million Sydneysiders.

The Constitution of the SCCG states that:

A Member Council may appoint an individual as its Delegate to represent the Member Council and exercise its rights at general meetings. The individual appointed as a Delegate must not be an Executive Committee member

While the delegate/s do not have to be from the elected body, it is understood that most councils do send Councillors as their delegates.

The delegate is responsible for attending regular meetings of the group, while the Executive position is required for attendance at the Annual General Meeting.

The SCCG meets four times a year, usually on a Wednesday commencing at 5.30pm.

Audit Risk and Improvement Committee

All Councils are required under the Local Government Act 1993 to have an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC).

The objective of North Sydney Council's ARIC is to provide independent assurance to North Sydney Council by monitoring, reviewing and providing advice about the Council's governance processes, compliance, risk management and control frameworks, external accountability obligations and overall performance.

Following adoption of the Office of Local Government (OLG) Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW, Council appointed an ARIC comprising three independent voting members and a non-voting Councillor member of the committee. This is to ensure that decision making by the committee is independent of the council

Access and Inclusion Committee

The Access and Inclusion Committee is an advisory body that helps Council to improve access and inclusion services and infrastructure in North Sydney. The Committee aims to support Council's progress in delivering its Disability Inclusion Action Plan in accordance with the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*. The committee is comprised of community members who have lived experience with a disability and who also have expertise and passion for producing strong access and inclusion outcomes. The Committee is Chaired by a Councillor.

Upcoming Meetings

The upcoming meetings of these bodies are scheduled as follows:

- Shorelink – 6 November 2024
- NSROC – 14 November 2024 (at North Sydney Council)
- Sydney Coastal Councils Group – to be advised
- ARIC – 11 October 2024
- Access and Inclusion Committee – 29 October 2024

Consultation requirements

Community engagement is not required.

Financial/Resource Implications

There are no financial or resource implications arising out of the recommendations of this report.

Legislation

NSROC and the SCCG are governed by constitutions and Shorelink by a Deed of Agreement. ARIC and the Access and Inclusion Committee have adopted Terms of Reference.