

LATE ITEM M21/5847 - REQUEST TO ATTEND WALGA 2021 CONVENTION (REC)

Ward	:	All
Category	:	Policy
Subject Index	:	Elected Members Workshop
Customer Index	:	Western Australian Local Government Association
Disclosure of any Interest	:	No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has a declarable interest in this matter.
Previous Items	:	Not Applicable
Works Programme	:	Not Applicable
Funding	:	Not Applicable
Responsible Officer	:	Bruce Taylor Manager Governance and Property

AUTHORITY / DISCRETION

DEFINITION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Advocacy	<i>When the Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Executive	<i>The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council. e.g. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legislative	<i>Includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes & policies.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review	<i>When the Council operates as a review authority on decisions made by Officers for appeal purposes.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quasi-Judicial	<i>When the Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of Quasi-Judicial authority include town planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	<i>For the Council/Committee to note.</i>

KEY ISSUES / SUMMARY

- A request has been received from an Elected Member to attend the Western Australian Local Government Association Convention to be held 19 to 21 September 2021.
- In accordance with Council Policy CP-092 Elected Member Professional Development, Elected Members wishing to attend a conference after 30 June in the year the Elected Member's term of office ends, approval from the Council must be sought to attend.

M21/5847 - REQUEST TO ATTEND WALGA 2021 CONVENTION (REC)**BACKGROUND**

The City of Melville is a member of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). Elected Members and staff of the City of Melville are invited to attend the annual WALGA Convention.

DETAIL

The WALGA Convention will be held at Crown Perth on Monday, 20 to Tuesday, 21 September 2021 with the Opening Welcome Reception being held on the evening of Sunday, 19 September 2021.

Councillor Karen Wheatland has requested to attend the WALGA Convention, however Cr Wheatland's term will conclude in October 2021.

In accordance with Council Policy CP-092:

"5.1 Prior approval must be obtained from the Council

- *For attendance and Conferences/Training/Seminars after 30 June in the year an Elected Member's term of office ends."*

In support of her request to attend the conference, Cr Wheatland has advised she is the Chairperson of the Australian Local Government Women's Association Committee (WA Branch) which will hold their Annual General Meeting, a breakfast and will host a stall at the Convention.

Cr Wheatland has also advised that she is prepared to pay for the conference attendance and for the expenditure to be reimbursed to her should she be re-elected as a Councillor at the October 2021 local government elections.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**I. COMMUNITY**

No engagement with the City's community is required for this report.

II. OTHER AGENCIES / CONSULTANTS

No engagement with other agencies or consultants is required for this report.

STATUTORY AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory or legal implications.

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There is funding provided in the 2020/2021 budget in the Elected Members Corporate Training Budget.

According to Council Policy CP-092 Elected Members Professional Development:

“2. *ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT FROM CORPORATE FUNDS*”

To assist Elected Members to perform their duties efficiently and effectively, the following training and development opportunities will be provided to Elected Members from the Elected Members Corporate Training budget:

- *Attendance at the Annual Western Australian Local Government Association conference and/or Annual General Meeting.”*

STRATEGIC, RISK AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is no strategic, risk or environmental management implications associated with this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council Policies CP-092 Elected Member Professional Development and CP-105 Caretaker Policy apply to this request and it is for the Council to make determination on Cr Wheatland's request.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS

The Council may choose to not approve the Elected Members attendance to the WALGA Convention and consequently, the Councillor may elect to make payment as an individual. The Elected Member is still able to attend the WALGA Convention, as per Council Policy CP-105 Caretaker Policy section 5.1

5 ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION AT EVENTS/FUNCTIONS**5.1 Public Events Hosted by External Bodies**

Elected Members may continue to attend events and functions hosted by external bodies during the Local Government Caretaker Period.

M21/5847 - REQUEST TO ATTEND WALGA 2021 CONVENTION (REC)**CONCLUSION**

Cr Wheatland is also the Chairperson of the ALGWA Committee which will hold their AGM at the WALGA Convention. Councillor Karen Wheatlands' term on the Council will conclude one month after the attendance of the WALGA Convention.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION (5847)**REFUSAL****That the Council:**

- 1. Not support paying Cr Wheatland's conference attendance fees for her to attend the Western Australian Local Government Association 2021 Convention to be held from Sunday 19 to Tuesday, 21 September 2021 due to the timing of the October 2021 Local Government Election.**
- 2. Should Cr Wheatland attend the Western Australian Local Government Association WA Convention and be successful in being re-elected in October 2021 the Council will reimburse from the Elected Member Corporate Training Budget any conference attendance fees paid by Cr Wheatland.**