
MR20/004 CHANGES TO 2020 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

File Ref: S012-T00025

Attachments: Nil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The World Health Organisation has declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. In recent weeks, Australia has seen a significant increase in the number of cases and the Australian and New South Wales governments have been introducing measures to help prevent the spread of the virus. These include self-isolation, social distancing, limiting non-essential gatherings and reminding the public about good personal hygiene.

As at 8pm on Sunday 22 March 2020, there are 669 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New South Wales. On Sunday 22 March 2020, it was confirmed that there are six cases of COVID-19 in the Southern New South Wales Local Health District, including one confirmed case in Eurobodalla.

At the Council Meeting of 22 October 2019, Council moved the motion *GMR19/019 2020 Council Meeting Schedule*, which set out the following Council Meeting dates before caretaker provisions commence on 3 August 2020:

- 7 April 2020
- 12 May 2020
- 26 May 2020
- 9 June 2020
- 23 June 2020
- 14 July 2020
- 28 July 2020

Australian and New South Wales governments are continually updating measures to ensure the safety of Australians. For the safety of our community members, Councillors and Council staff, it is proposed to only hold one Council Meeting, briefing session and Public Access session per month until caretaker provisions commence in August.

Public Access dates for 2020 were 31 March 2020, 5 May 2020, 2 June 2020 and 7 July 2020. New dates will change in line with necessary briefing dates.

These measures should assist preventing the spread of COVID-19 in our community and enhance the safety of all those involved. The proposed new schedule may be reconsidered if electronic voting at Council Meetings is allowed.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Changes the remaining Council Meeting dates before caretaker provisions commence, to the following dates only:
 - (a) 7 April 2020
 - (b) 26 May 2020
 - (c) 23 June 2020
 - (d) 28 July 2020

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2. Changes the remaining Public Access sessions before caretaken provisions commence, to the follow dates only:
 - (a) 31 March 2020
 - (b) 19 May 2020
 - (c) 16 June 2020
 - (d) 21 July 2020