

DR23/001 2022 LGNSW SPECIAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES REPORT

S004-T00019

Delegate: Mathew Hatcher, Tubby Harrison and Amber Schutz - Councillors
Attachments: 1. Under Separate Cover - Resolutions
Community Goal: 5 Our engaged community with progressive leadership
Community Strategy: 5.2 Proactive, responsive and strategic leadership
Delivery Program Link: 5.2.1 Be proactive leaders with a focus on 'community better'
Operational Plan Link: 5.2.1.4 Provide professional development opportunities for Councillors

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government NSW Special Conference was held on 28 February – 2 March 2022 in Sydney. The conference focused on how councils can drive a “Locally Led” employment and economic recovery, as we continue to grapple with the complex challenges posed by the global pandemic.

Councillors Mathew Hatcher, Tubby Harrison and Amber Schutz were Council’s delegates at the Conference and presents the following report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Delegate Report from Councillors Mathew Hatcher, Tubby Harrison and Amber Schutz be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

LGNSW provides a forum for all NSW Councils to debate and discuss common issues and vote on motions to be presented as a united front to State and Federal Government. It is an opportunity to share ideas, seek inspiration, and help determine our sector’s policy directions for the coming year.

The conference was hosted by the city of Sydney and there was great excitement about being able to meet in person after the long Covid lockdowns. Topics discussed ranged from the housing crisis, regional health services, and strategies to boost our local. There was substantial focus on this year’s historic low 0.7% baseline rate peg that has rocked councils across the state.

There was a terrific line-up of guest speakers and panelists, including some outstanding Mayors, new Local Government Minister Wendy Tuckerman, herself a former Mayor, Ministers and Shadow Ministers.

Panel discussions included how we can work together to combat the Housing Crisis and Climate change – the gap between recognition and action. The discussion around climate change was particularly relevant in the light of the flooding affecting the state at the time preventing several northern Councils from attending.

The record of decisions is attached to this report.

CONCLUSION

LGNSW provides Councils a valuable opportunity to discuss common challenges facing their community and work together for better outcomes, it lends strength to advocacy pieces to State and Federal Government and provides networking opportunities for collaborating and learning from others in the field.