

1.3: REPRESENTATION AT NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND DYNAMIC CITIES, REGIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Proponent : City of Albany
Responsible Officer(s) : Chief Executive Officer (G Foster)

IN BRIEF

- Approve attendance at recommended conferences and appoint attendees.

RECOMMENDATION**ITEM 1.3: RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY**

- (1) That Council approve attendance and appoint _____ and _____ to represent the City of Albany at the Dynamic Cities Conference, Wednesday 16 – Friday 18 October 2013, Mandurah Western Australia.
- (2) That Council approve and appoint _____ and _____ to represent the City of Albany at the Australian Local Government Association, National General Assembly & Regional Cooperative and Development Forum, to be held on Sunday 16 June 2013, National Convention Centre Canberra.

BACKGROUND

1. Based on subject matter relevance to the City of Albany, elected member attendance is recommended for the following events:
 - **14th International Cities, Town Centres & Communities Conference “Dynamic Cities – Vibrant, Liveable and Innovative”**, held between Wednesday 16 – Friday 18 October 2013, Mandurah Western Australia.
 - **Australian Local Government Association, National General Assembly & Regional Cooperative and Development Forum**, to be held on Sunday 16 June 2013, National Convention Centre Canberra.

DISCUSSION

2. It is recommended for Council development that Council authorise and select elected member to attend the listed conferences.
3. The information presented at both conferences is relevant to the City of Albany in the short to medium term and will provide Council with an opportunity to professionally network within the local government sector at a state and national level.

National General Assembly 16 – 19 June 2013 & Regional Cooperative and Development Forum

4. The National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) attracts around 850 participants from councils across Australia.
5. The assembly provides an opportunity for local government to debate issues of national and local significance, hear from political and academic speakers as well as to develop policy and strategy for the coming year.
6. The theme for this year's NGA is '*Foundations for the Future – Twenty 13*'. At a local level the theme focuses on the need to build the resources and capacity to strengthen community and position our community into the future. This forum provides an opportunity for Councils to think through ideas or initiatives that Council would like to see debated at the NGA.
7. The key note speakers for this event will be: Australians Fred Chaney AO, Geraldine Doogue AO and Peter Fitzsimons AM
8. The Regional Cooperative and Development Forum will also focus on the findings of the 2012-13 State of the Regions Report, commissioned by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and prepared by National Economics. This report recommended:
 - a new approach to regional development is required in order to address inequality across Australian regions exacerbated by the mining boom and patchwork economy; and
 - local government's need to be involved in decisions concerning Commonwealth investment in regional infrastructure and development.
9. This forum will discuss the latest census data and also examine the implications of how Australia is dealing with the ever growing threats arising from climate change and natural disasters.
10. The key notes address for this forum being: Professor John Martin, Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities, La Trobe University Local Governance and Sustainable Rural Community Development: A Comparative Study of Canadian and Australian Experiences

Dynamic Cities – Vibrant, Liveable and Innovative 16 – 18 October 2013, Mandurah Western Australia

11. Aims of the conference:
 - a. Discuss the latest global developments in urban design, placemaking, planning, development, project management and sustainability.
 - b. Mix with professionals from varying backgrounds in a true cross disciplinary event.
 - c. Provide access to and leverage from the experience of national and international specialists.
 - d. Provide national and international case studies for discussion and analysis.

12. Who should attend:
- a. Local Government – Mayors, Councillors, CEOs, Managers
 - b. State and Federal Government
 - c. Private firms and consultants.
 - d. Academics and industry groups.
13. With interests in:
- a. Planning, Urban Design, Development, Property
 - b. Mainstreet, Retail, Shopping and Town Centres
 - c. Economic Development, Demography
 - d. Placemaking, Project Management,
 - e. Architecture, Landscape, Environment
 - f. Infrastructure, Resources, Energy, Transport
 - g. Engineering, Surveying, Public Works
 - h. Banking, Law, Finance, Technology

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION

14. Not applicable.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT

15. Not applicable.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

16. Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

17. This item relates directly to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Plan (2011-2021):

Key Focus Area

Lifestyle and Environment

Organisational Performance

Community Priority

Education, Albany regional airport, health, regional local government partnerships

Elected members' performance

Proposed Strategies

Advocate for:

- *Cheaper flights, including more competition for Albany route*
- *Greater choice for tertiary studies*
- *Affordable student accommodation for students*

Conduct:

- *Consult with regional local governments as to their needs regarding services and infrastructure within the City of Albany.*
- *Representation on regional committees*
- *Support and advocate for large scale projects in neighbouring communities which have a long term benefit to the City of Albany*
- *Improve governance through Councillor training*

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

18. There are no policy implications related to this item.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

19. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Risk Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
<i>Reduced opportunity to represent Albany community interest</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Support attendance at Conference</i>
<i>Council attendance provides no benefit to the City</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Compulsory attendance at all available workshops. Mandatory formal post attendance briefing session.</i>

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

20. Current Expenditure Line Item: 181120. Total approximately \$14, 000 for two attendees per conference. This will be spent over two financial years.

National General Assembly 16 – 19 June 2013, Canberra (Approximately: \$4, 500 per attendee)

- General Assembly Registration Fees:
 - Early Bird: \$899
 - Standard: \$999
 - Late: \$1,200
- Accompanying Partners Registration Fees
 - Registration: \$240
- Sunday Regional Development Forum – Sunday 16 June 2013
 - Forum Only: \$395
 - NGA Delegate: \$195
- Accommodation: \$300 per night twin/share.
- Social Functions: \$230 per attendee.
- Airfares: \$1, 500 per attendee

Dynamic Cities – Vibrant, Liveable and Innovative, Mandurah Western Australia 16 – 18 October 2014 (Approximately: \$2, 000 per attendee)

- Registration Fees:
 - Speaker Registration Fee: \$695 per attendee.
 - Early Bird: \$995 (members) \$1095 (non member), register as a member if free.
 - Accommodation: \$300 per night twin/share.

REFER DISCLAIMER

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

21. There are no legal implications related to this item.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

22. Additional nominations could be considered.

Consulted References	:	Information sourced from: www.ictcsociety.org www.alga.asn.au
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	Not applicable.
Previous Reference	:	Nil