

Extraordinary Council Meeting

11 January 2022

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These attachments to be retained for Council Meeting



**NOMINATION FOR ELECTION
MAYOR**

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY NOMINATE

COUNCILLOR _____

FOR ELECTION AS MAYOR

COUNCILLOR _____
Name Signature

COUNCILLOR _____
Name Signature

(Nomination form must be signed by two or more Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee)

I, Councillor _____ (name of nominee)

hereby consent to my nomination for the office of Mayor

Signature Date



Role and Delegations of the Mayor

CLARENCE VALLEY COUNCIL

INTERPRETATION

This instrument of delegation should be construed as operating in a manner which is valid and within the powers conferred on the Council under the Local Government Act 1993.

References to policies of the Council are references to policies adopted by Council from time to time.

These delegations are not intended to limit the Mayor's ability to carry out such other functions and exercise such other powers as the Council may determine from time to time or as may be functions of the Mayor under the Local Government Act 1993 or relevant local policies of Council.

ROLE OF THE MAYOR

In accordance with the s226 of the Local Government Act 1993, the role of the Mayor is:

- a) to be the leader of the council and a leader in the local community,
- b) to advance community cohesion and promote civic awareness,
- c) to be the principal member and spokesperson of the governing body, including representing the views of the council as to its local priorities,
- d) to exercise, in cases of necessity, the policy-making functions of the governing body of the council between meetings of the council,
- e) to preside at meetings of the council,
- f) to ensure that meetings of the council are conducted efficiently, effectively and in accordance with this Act,
- g) to ensure the timely development and adoption of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the council,
- h) to promote the effective and consistent implementation of the strategic plans, programs and policies of the council,
- i) to promote partnerships between the council and key stakeholders,
- j) to advise, consult with and provide strategic direction to the general manager in relation to the implementation of the strategic plans and policies of the council,
- k) in conjunction with the general manager, to ensure adequate opportunities and mechanisms for engagement between the council and the local community,
- l) to carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the mayoral office,
- m) to represent the council on regional organisations and at inter-governmental forums at regional, State and Commonwealth level,
- n) in consultation with the councillors, to lead performance appraisals of the general manager,
- o) to exercise any other functions of the council that the council determines.



Delegations of the Mayor

Resolution of Council: 15 March 2016

That, pursuant to Section 377 of the Local Government Act, 1993 Council delegate to the Mayor the authority to:

1. Appoint a person to the position of Acting General Manager temporarily whilst the General Manager is on leave of absence; or during such time as there is a vacancy in that position until a temporary appointment can be determined by the Council (s.351).
2. Approve the attendance of the General Manager at conferences, seminars and courses at Council's cost.
3. Approve leave of absence for the General Manager in accordance with his Contract of Employment.
4. Approve expenses incurred by the General Manager on Council's behalf.
 - b) That the General Manager's expense statements be reported to the governing body of Council on a bi-annual basis. This is to include credit cards, fuel cards, travel vouchers and other purchasing cards, petty cash and business related travel.
5. That the General Manager's motor vehicle dollar value be quantified so it can be accurately reflected in the General Manager's salary package in Schedule C to the Standard Contract.
6. Manage complaints about the General Manager.



**NOMINATION FOR ELECTION
DEPUTY MAYOR**

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY NOMINATE

COUNCILLOR _____

FOR ELECTION AS DEPUTY MAYOR

COUNCILLOR _____
Name Signature

COUNCILLOR _____
Name Signature

(Nomination form must be signed by two or more Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee)

I, Councillor _____ (name of nominee)

hereby consent to my nomination for the office of Deputy Mayor

Signature Date



LGNSW Special Conference Motions Submission Guide

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW
GPO BOX 7003 SYDNEY NSW 2001
L8, 28 MARGARET ST SYDNEY NSW 2000
T 02 9242 4000 F 02 9242 4111
LGNSW.ORG.AU LGNSW@LGNSW.ORG.AU
ABN 49 853 913 882

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Motions Submission Guide

1. Introduction

Each year, member councils across NSW submit a range of motions to an Annual Conference conducted by Local Government NSW (LGNSW). These motions relate to strategic local government issues which affect members state-wide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. They are debated and resolved by Conference delegates, with successful resolutions guiding LGNSW's advocacy priorities for the year ahead.

However, stay-at-home orders and the postponement of local government elections have forced a truncated Annual Conference in 2021, with insufficient time for proper motion debate. To ensure motions are properly debated and resolved by members, LGNSW will hold an additional Special Conference from 28 February to 2 March 2022.

All LGNSW member councils are invited to submit motions to this Special Conference, with the following Guide outlining the Motion development and submission process.

2. Deadlines

Members are encouraged to submit motions [online](#) as early as possible to allow assessment of the motions and distribution of the Business Paper before the Conference. Under LGNSW Rules, the latest date motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Business Paper is **12 midnight (AEDT) on Sunday 30 January 2022** (28 days prior to Conference).

3. Criteria for motion submission

The LGNSW Board has resolved that motions will be included in the Business Paper for the Conference only where they:

1. are consistent with the objects of LGNSW (see Rule 4 of the Association's [rules](#)),
2. relate to local government in NSW and/or across Australia,
3. concern or are likely to concern local government as a sector,
4. seek to advance the local government policy agenda of LGNSW and/or improve governance of the Association,
5. have a lawful purpose (a motion does not have a lawful purpose if its implementation would require or encourage non-compliance with prevailing laws),
6. are clearly worded and unambiguous in nature, and
7. do not express preference for one or several members over one or several other members.

Council members are encouraged to review [Action Reports](#) (on the member only pages of the LGNSW website) from previous Conferences and the [LGNSW Policy Platform](#) before submitting motions for this year's Special Conference to ensure the proposed motion wording reflects any recent developments and does not duplicate existing positions..

4. How to write a motion

Motions adopted at Conferences inform LGNSW's advocacy actions on behalf of the local government sector. LGNSW includes the exact wording of motions when writing to ministers, departments and agencies post-conference, so it is important that the wording of motions clearly outlines your council's policy intent or objective.

The format of motions, as much as possible, should call on a specific body (e.g. LGNSW, state government, federal government, a specific department or minister) and have a specific outcome that the motion is aiming to achieve. The wording should be unambiguous.

Examples of clearly-worded Annual Conference motions:

Minister for Rural and Regional NSW

That LGNSW lobbies the NSW State Government to appoint a Minister for Rural and Regional NSW with suitable resources to undertake meaningful representative activities.

Natural Disaster Funding, Day Labour

That LGNSW requests the Australian and NSW governments reinstate the claimable expense for the use of council staff during their normal working hours to attend to natural disaster relief and recovery funded works and reverse the present policy that effectively requires the mandatory use of contractors for recovery works.

Companion Animal Act matters

That LGNSW advocates that the NSW Government takes the following steps to improve the management of companion animals:

- establish an integrated on-line statewide registration process as an improved service to companion animal owners;
- resolve difficulties with the *Companion Animals Act 1998* definition of an “Authorised Officer”, by using the definition contained in the *Impounding Act 1993* as the definition in both Acts, allowing councils choice in the business model for its area; and
- review the dismissal of charges under section 10 of the *Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999* in relation to offences under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

For more examples see Business Papers from [past Conferences](#) on the LGNSW website.

5. Demonstrating evidence of council support for motion

The member submitting the motion must provide accompanying evidence of support for the motion. Such evidence may include an attachment note or extract from the minutes of the council meeting, at which the member council resolved to submit the motion for consideration by the Conference. In the absence of a council meeting, the evidence should be a letter signed by both the Mayor and General Manager.

6. How to submit a motion

LGNSW members are invited to submit motions through an [online portal](#) from **12 July 2021**.

Each motion submission should include responses to the following fields:

1. **Council name**
2. **Contact details** of relevant officer
3. **Motion category** (e.g. *planning, economic, environment etc. This assists with assigning motions to the relevant policy staff and grouping related motions in the Conference Business Paper.*)
4. **Motion title** (a few words)
5. **Motion** (a sentence or two which includes the call to action)
6. **Background note** (a paragraph or two to explain the context and importance of the issue to the local government sector)
7. **Evidence of council support** for the motion (e.g. *extract of council meeting minutes*)

Once a motion has been submitted it cannot be edited without contacting LGNSW, so please review the content carefully before submission.

7. How LGNSW manages incoming motions

The LGNSW Board has established a committee and delegated the function of managing incoming motions for the Conference to this committee. The Chief Executive will refer motions to the committee and the committee will assess whether the motion meets or doesn't meet the criteria, or if

it is unclear whether it meets the criteria. This assessment forms the final decision on which motions are included in the Conference Business Paper.

Prior to the committee making a final decision, LGNSW may contact the council that submitted the motion to seek clarity on its intent or wording.

Incoming motions which seek to change any long-held Fundamental [Principles](#), will be highlighted in the Business Paper for members' information at time of voting.

Motions which are consistent with existing LGNSW positions or current LGNSW actions, or that are operational and can be actioned without a Conference resolution, may still be printed in the Business Paper but will not be debated at the Conference.

8. What happens to motions at the LGNSW Conference

Standing orders are outlined at the front of the Business Paper and adopted at the commencement of each Conference. They outline the manner in which the Conference deals with motions. The standing orders adopted at the 2019 Conference can be found in **Attachment A**.

During debate on motions at Conference, the standing orders generally permit councillor delegates to speak in support of or against each motion. Following a vote on a motion, the motion is either carried and becomes a resolution of the Conference, or it is defeated.

9. Post-conference: Updates to the LGNSW Policy Platform

LGNSW's [Policy Platform](#) consolidates the voices of councils across NSW, reflecting the collective positions of local government on issues of importance to the sector. Importantly, the Policy Platform guides LGNSW in its advocacy on behalf of the local government sector.

The Policy Platform consists of two parts: LGNSW's Fundamental Principles, and the more targeted Position Statements.

- **Fundamental Principles** are the enduring and overarching principles that direct LGNSW's response to broad matters of importance to the local government sector. These Fundamental Principles are endorsed (or amended) by LGNSW members at Annual Conferences (or this year, at the Special Conference).
- **Position Statements** contain LGNSW's more detailed positions on specific issues and guide LGNSW's work on, and response to, policy issues of the day. Position Statements are subordinate to LGNSW's Fundamental Principles but are more agile and are targeted at specific policy issues as they arise.

Changing Fundamental Principles

Where a motion conflicts or may conflict with a Fundamental Principle, this will be clearly highlighted for delegates in the Conference Business Paper. If the motion is adopted as a resolution at Conference, then the relevant Fundamental Principle will be changed.

It is expected that changes to the Fundamental Principles will be uncommon, given their broad focus and general acceptance among the local government sector.

Changing Position Statements

Following each Conference, LGNSW will review resolutions of that Conference to determine whether the intent of each resolution is adequately covered by existing Position Statements. Where the Position Statements do not adequately include the intent of a resolution, LGNSW will update an existing Position Statement or draft a new Position Statement, to be endorsed by the LGNSW Board as part of the LGNSW Policy Platform.

LGNSW members will be informed of updates to the LGNSW Policy Platform.

10. Post-conference: Determining LGNSW Advocacy Priorities

Following the LGNSW Special Conference, LGNSW will review the resolutions and identify key areas of focus to guide LGNSW's advocacy for the coming year. These areas of focus are also informed by member feedback, the LGNSW strategic plan, position statements, emerging issues, and Board input.

LGNSW's Advocacy Priorities for the following year are then submitted for endorsement by the LGNSW Board, and communication to members via email.

As LGNSW undertakes advocacy actions on each of the Conference resolutions throughout the year, these actions and their outcomes will be published in LGNSW's Action Report. ([Past Action reports](#) are available on the member only pages of the LGNSW website).

11. Further information

For further information on the motion submission process, please contact Damian Thomas, Strategy Manager at damian.thomas@lgnsw.org.au.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know if my proposed motion is consistent with existing LGNSW policy positions?

The subject matter expert within council is best placed to identify this (for example, if the motion relates to a planning matter, this question should be answered by the Planning Manager). Subject matter experts are encouraged to review LGNSW's [Policy Platform](#) to gain an understanding of LGNSW's position on a particular matter to help identify whether your proposed motion is consistent.

What is the deadline for submitting motions?

Members are encouraged to submit motions [online](#) as soon as possible to allow assessment of the motions and distribution of the Business Paper before the Conference. However, in line with the LGNSW Rules, the latest date motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Conference Business Paper is **12 midnight AEST on Sunday 30 January 2022** (28 days prior to Conference).

LGNSW can receive more than 300 motions for an Annual Conference. Submitting motions as early as possible helps LGNSW to manage the large volume of motions received within a short period of time and allows LGNSW to seek clarification on any motions if required.

I'm unsure which motion category or sub-category I should select in the online portal

If you are unsure, just select the category you think best fits. LGNSW can reallocate the motion if necessary.

What if my council will not meet to consider motions for the LGNSW Special Conference until after the 30 January 2022 deadline?

LGNSW understands that some councils will not hold their first meeting of the new council term until after the 30 January 2022 deadline to submit motions for inclusion in the Business Paper.

The LGNSW Rules set the deadline of midnight on 30 January 2022 for motions to be submitted for potential inclusion in the Conference Business Paper. However, the LGNSW Rules do also allow for councils to submit motions with less than 28 days' notice and the LGNSW Board may allow these to be considered at Conference as **late items**.

If councils cannot meet the 30 January 2022 timeline, we encourage councils to submit motions as late items as soon as possible after the deadline.

Who should be the council contact for motions?

We recommend the council contact is someone who is available during the months that motions are open, and able to respond promptly to communications between the subject matter expert, your council and LGNSW. Some councils have identified the General Manager and others have identified the Governance Officer – it is a decision for each council.

Will the COVID-19 pandemic affect the motions process?

The LGNSW Conference motions process is an important policy setting process for the local government sector. The Conference will follow government guidelines on safe events and social distancing. In 2020, the LGNSW conference was held online due to COVID-19 health and safety orders and delegates had the opportunity to debate motions during the conference. However, member feedback indicated an in-person conference is preferable, and LGNSW is seeking to do this with the Special Conference from 28 February to 2 March 2022.

How can I amend my council's motion that I've already submitted?

Once a motion has been submitted it cannot be edited without contacting LGNSW so please review the content carefully before submission. If you need to edit a submitted motion, please contact Damian Thomas, Strategy Manager at damian.thomas@lgnsw.org.au. You may need to provide evidence of support for the change (see section 5).

