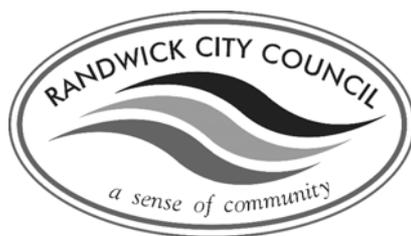


ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

BUSINESS PAPER

TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2008

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3 June 2008

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Environment Committee Meeting of the Council of the City of Randwick will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick, on Tuesday, 10 June 2008 at 5:30pm.

Committee Members: The Mayor, B Notley-Smith, Belleli, Hughes, Kenny, Matson (Chairperson), Nash (Deputy Chairperson), Tracey, White, Woodsmith.

Quorum: Five (5) members.

NOTE: At the extraordinary meeting held on 22 May 2007, the Council resolved that the Environment Committee be constituted as a committee with full delegation to determine matters on the agenda.

Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences

Confirmation of the Minutes

Environment Committee Meeting - 13 May 2008

Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Address of Committee by Members of the Public

Urgent Business

Greening Randwick Reports

Nil

Environment Report

E14/08 Report on 2008 LGMA Congress..... 1

Closed Session

Nil

Notices of Rescission Motions

Nil

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Ray Brownlee
GENERAL MANAGER

Environment Report No. E14/08



Subject: Report on 2008 LGMA Congress
Folder No: F2004/06495
Author: Peter Maganov, Manager Sustainability

Introduction

Reporting on relevant outcomes from the 2008 LGMA National Congress held on the Gold Coast from May 26 – 28, 2008.

Issues

Council's Manager, Sustainability, Peter Maganov and Coordinator, Research and Knowledge Management, Karen Purser, attended the LGMA National Congress held on the Gold Coast for 3 days in May, 2008.

Karen Purser attended in her capacity as a member of Council's team participating in the National LGMA Leadership Challenge, of which the combined Randwick/Temora team came second to the Queensland team from Moreton Bay.

Peter Maganov attended to present on Council's Sustaining our City initiative. Of the 700 delegates attending the Congress from all around Australia and New Zealand, approximately one third were Mayor's or Councillors, one third were Local Government CEO's and one third were Managers or Directors.

Former Australian of the Year, Professor Tim Flannery provided the keynote address on environmental sustainability while well known television journalist, Jeff McMullin, provided the keynote address on the community wellbeing theme. The other key theme covered during the Congress was Executive Development and the retention of staff. John Neish, formerly CEO of Parramatta Council also provided a very stimulating presentation on sustaining community well-being through civic engagement.

Some of the key messages conveyed during the Congress included:

- o Tim Flannery reporting on the most current data on climate change indicating more rapid changes occurring than reported in the most recent IPCC report;
- o Meaningful and pro-active community participation builds greater community trust in government;
- o The need for Local Government to contribute responses to the shorter term priority of "lifestyle health issues" that pose a more immediate threat to individuals than climate change i.e. heart disease, obesity, diabetes etc;
- o The need to begin incorporating carbon pricing and adaptation strategies in Council programs and activities;
- o The need to build resilient, self-sustaining communities around energy and water conservation and locally grown food.

Key actions appropriate for Council to consider as a result of attending the LGMA Congress include:

Item E14/08

Consideration	Current or relevant Council response
Developing a Municipal Adaptation Plan as a means of identifying appropriate local responses to local climate change impacts in Randwick	Recently announced funding from AGO to Randwick City Council enables action on this item
Promote actions capable of generating the most immediate and greatest impact on climate change	Continue to promote rebates to Randwick residents, particularly for solar hotwater systems (via NSW or Commonwealth Govt)
Promote actions that enhance the "resilience" of Randwick's community, particularly in relation to preventative health (dietary and physical exercise), growing food, collecting rainwater and conserving energy	Current rebates on offer for rainwater and greywater systems are a positive response as is the halogen replacement rebate in terms of energy and water conservation. Combined funding application on "food havens" underway by Randwick will assist in food harvesting and preventative health matters.
Improve mechanisms and opportunities for Randwick's community to participate meaningfully in Council activities	Continued development and implementation of community consultation opportunities.

Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome: (10) A Healthy Environment.
 Direction: 10(a) Council is a leader in fostering environmentally sustainability practices.
 10(f) A total water cycle management approach including water conservation, re-use and water quality improvements is adopted
 10(g) Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.

Financial impact statement

A number of the current or relevant Council responses are being funded under environmental levy projects or are the subject of funding applications to external grants programs.

Conclusion

The LGMA Congress held in Queensland attracted a high calibre and number of senior representatives of Councils from around Australia and New Zealand. This annual meeting of senior Council staff may be worth incorporating into Randwick's calendar for Council representatives to attend in the future.

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Attachment/s:

Nil