

# Minutes



## Status of Women Advisory Group

**Date:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Time:** 4pm-5:30pm

**Location:** Microsoft Teams

**Chairperson:** Glenn Cannard, Unit Manager Community and Culture

**Coordinator:** Glenn Cannard, Unit Manager Community and Culture

### Attendance

#### Members:

Margot Castles

Danielle Habib

Sally Jope

Monique Tovo

Sharon Walsh

Heather Irvine-Rundle (arrived at 4.13pm)

Vicky Parry

Kylie Smith

Belinda Field

Victoria Collins

#### Status:

Present

Present

Present

Apology

Present

Present

Apology

Present

Apology

Apology

#### Staff:

Melanie Smith, Director, Community and Recreation Services

Glenn Cannard, Unit Manager Community and Culture

Belinda McRobie, Section Manager Community Development

Rachel Gibson, Team Leader Civic Support

Chantelle Ahio, Civic Support Officer

Rachel Callachor, Meeting Support Officer

Apology

Present

Present

Present

Present

Present

### 1 Introduction

The chairperson welcomed the group and completed an Acknowledgement of Country.

Apologies received and members absent without apology were noted.

The chairperson called for any disclosures of interest. No disclosures were received

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### 2 Previous business

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The group confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting as noted below, which were distributed to members via email and uploaded to Council's website:

- [Status of Women Advisory Group – 7 June 2022](#)

The action log was reviewed with updates recorded (see page 7).

### 3 Project updates/information for discussion (standing item)

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Updates provided by Glenn Cannard and Belinda McRobie. Items covered and information provided:

- Two major grant programs have been assessed – **Events and Place Activation and Community Development Grants**, to be presented to Council later this month. A good round for both programs, everything that could be funded, was funded, approximately \$600,000 in funds distributed.
- **Community Support Program** - report will also go to Council in September, and every month for the remainder of the year.
- **Colliery Grants program** – As part of a Voluntary Planning Agreement with Delta Coal. Applications are currently being assessed, external Committee will meet within the next 2 weeks and outcomes to be reported to Council by the end of the year.
- **First Nations Accord** – Community submissions continuing to be reviewed and addressed. Noted there is a lot of feedback and commentary regarding the draft recommendation to acknowledge the role of Darkinjung and their function in the broader community. This report has been pushed back by one month (to November 2022) to continue this process.
- **Banner and Flag Policy** – Community submissions regarding flying of flags, clarification it relates to banner poles, are being analysed. This report will be presented to the October Council meeting.
- **Theatre Review** – Analysis of Council's theatre operations has been undertaken over the past 12 months. 2 different models in place: Former Wyong Shire Council (fWSC) established a company to run the Arthouse venue, limited by guarantee under the Local Government Act, this is considered as a modern methodology. Former Gosford City Council (fGCC) established operation of Peninsula Theatre and Laycock Street Theatre as a staff-based model, and they

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continue to be run that way presently.

A report will be presented to Council later in 2022 which covers the operation of the venues, high level findings and next steps of engagement to align these models, without significant effect to current operations. Main gaps found include the need for a separate strategic document for venue utilisation rates, including supporting local arts development to increase use.

- **Affordable Housing** – A report will go to Council in November. Overview of actions to date: 2019: Affordable and Alternative Housing Strategy was adopted. Three pillars – Prevention, Partnerships and Planning/Intervention.  
Council's Affordable Housing Land Proposal (CAL) – Expression of interest process conducted in May 2022, to create a short list of a Panel of affordable housing providers who have the ability to partner with Council to develop housing on a site owned by Council at The Entrance.
- **Façade Improvement Program** – A new program commencing this year, aims to make some of the Town Centres more activated within the LGA.
- **Gosford Regional Gallery review** – This review will occur over the next 12 months, review of the Gallery and related precinct.

#### 4 IWD Forum – Members' Forum analysis strategies

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Group member Heather lead discussions regarding the outcome of the IWD Forum and the analysis of topics and feedback from participants.

A key item discussed was Women in Leadership. This included the topics of mentoring, leaders in Council, visibility of women leaders, youth programs, storytelling, grants programs, and the theme of leadership was reoccurring and actions which may be able to be focused on, as a core theme.

Proposed that a representative(s) be identified from within Council to assist with / be a contact point for the Group in relation to women's participation and gender equity, in relation to the Status of Women group, Central Coast Council and Women in the community – Council is now in a different place than when similar concepts were raised previously, particularly with an increase in female representation at the Executive level of Council.

The group is now looking to explore opportunities for a female leader within Council who can be a champion in this space and who is passionate about the topics of gender equity and women in leadership, from both an operational arm of Council and how it intersects with the Community.

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**Action:** Mel Smith, Director Community and Recreation Services and Krystie Bryant, Acting Director Corporate Services to be invited to the next meeting to discuss options regarding potential interest at a Director/Management level to support the women's leadership concepts and leadership development programs in the organisation, respectively.

### 5 Roundtable updates from members

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- Sharon - *Domestic Violence Committee service mapping forum* – has been delayed due to COVID restrictions and other matters, to be hosted in collaboration with the Central Coast Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service, to be held tomorrow, 13 September, at Mingara. Invitees are members or anyone working in the sector, to bring the sector up to date with Agency work and practice, so agencies can be updated about work across the sector. Agencies involved will have 10 minutes each to present.

Also involved with a project role with DV NSW in relation to Cora Cluster – advising around capacity building and sector engagement.

- Heather – Meeting next month with Emma McBride, Assistant Minister for Mental Health, regarding post-natal psychiatry ward on the Central Coast, where women can take their children. Currently, whilst there is a private provider in Sydney to support this care, there are largely and predominantly similar situations throughout hospitals in NSW, whereby people who are looking to take up psychiatric care need to leave their child.

Also to discuss discrepancy between *Victims of Crime* (state government funded) and *National Disability Insurance Scheme - NDIS* (federal government funded) payments and the significant gap between this funding, and the resulting reduced availability in well sought after level services, due to the funding models. In addition, highlighting the matters involved and the effects of complex client base.

- IWD Committee – update from Glenn – Meet in principle and options to support the International Women's Day Committee in a more fluid way moving forward. Offer to work on an annual basis and provide support and coordinate together.
- Sharon - DV Committee walk – 7 December, Kibble Park, Gosford.  
Speakers, refreshments, entertainment – as part of the 16 Days of Activism.  
Coordinated by Sharon, Leah (Hayden) and Ellen (Bridge) – site is being held and the organising is intending to apply for grant funding – support for cost of t-shirts as the colour theme is orange, to display CCC logo and CCDVC logo.

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Location is rotating, previously held at The Entrance and Terrigal.

- 3 December event – motorbike ride event organised by *The Bikers Hand* – to commence from Camp Breakaway, San Remo. Route includes Yarramalong back down through Kariong, Peninsula suburbs and finish point of Bateau Bay Pub, distance event to attract involvement and have a long ride.  
200+ attendees, coincides with International Day of Disability. NSW Police involved with bicycles and patrol cars.

### 6 General business

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- 23 August 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting –  
*Updates to Terms of Reference for Advisory Groups Report & Combined Terms of Reference for Advisory Groups.*

Update provided by Meeting Support Officer regarding the recent report to the August meeting of Council (LINK) in relation to updates to Terms of Reference for Advisory Groups. The report was an administrative update to reflect the changes following the dismissal of Councillors from civic office, following the initial suspension period.

Council also taking the opportunity to re-affirm existing group membership, and where required, undertake recruitment where vacancies exist. Noted that it is be an opt-out process, and should a member's involvement be continuing, no action is required and status quo remains.

Re-affirmed that Groups will continue for the duration of the Council term / period of Administration to September 2024.

**Action:** Members requested to email (via *Advisory Groups*) in the event wish to discontinue their involvement in the Group, to facilitate next steps for recruitment and Expressions of Interest (EOI) process, if it is ultimately needed.

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Next meeting:           6 December 2022  
                              4:00pm – 6:00pm  
                              TBC – Online / In person / Hybrid

Meeting closed at 5.22pm

Minutes approved by the Coordinator and Chairperson on 27/09/2022

# Action log

## Status of Women Advisory Group



Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
97	31/03/2021	Advisory Group Support Officer to share updates about pre-election info sessions and opportunities for women with members as available.	Advisory Group Support Officer	<p>Sessions will be held closer to elections as part of usual business.</p> <p>7/9/21: Item still pending and will be revisited after the Public Inquiry and Referendum</p> <p>7/06/2022- Background on this matter provided, Action update is that this matter is Ongoing, and also on hold, as LG election to be held in September 2024.</p>	On hold
102	7/9/2021	Staff to check with engagement team about members being included in alert notices for documents on public exhibition via YourVoiceOurCoast.	Meeting Support Officer	<p>8/10: Emailed Comms with contact list</p> <p>7/6/2022 – Follow up regarding alert notices for public exhibition via YourVoiceOurCoast(?) . Additional alert mechanisms(?). Check new members are included.</p>	Ongoing
103	7/9/2021	Project updates and documents on exhibition to be standing item on future agendas.	Unit Manager Community and Culture / Meeting Support Officer	<p>Update provided at 7 December 2021 meeting</p> <p>7/6/2022 - Draft First Nations Accord and Draft Acknowledgement of Country – remains</p>	Ongoing

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Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
				<p>on exhibition. Report to August 2022 on outcomes of exhibition and recommendation/s.</p> <p>July Council meeting – seeking endorsement for exhibition and public comment – Council’s flag and street banner policies.</p> <p>CRS finalising public art policy (internal document/policy) – how art is managed internally, procurement, decommission etc.,.</p> <p>Public forum and workshop and Regional Gallery. Looking to establish a panel of artists.</p> <p>Separate series and workshop/s regarding public policies will occur.</p> <p>Grant funding – Community Development Grants and Place Activation Grants, monthly.</p> <p>Overview of documents and policies current under public exhibition via YVOC</p>	

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Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
				engagement website. <b>Action: query regarding 'Lets Talk Woy Woy' and whether the session will be recorded/made publicly available.</b>  Feedback regarding timing of sessions – different hours of the day etc. – community engagement and reach.	
104	7/06/2022	Options to be explored in relation to discuss the work of Australian Psychological Society, and potential to invite to discuss and have attendees if possible.	Heather Irvine-Rundle	12/09/2022 – To be discussed further at next meeting.	Ongoing
105	12/09/2022	Mel Smith, Director Community and Recreation Services and Krystie Bryant, Acting Director Corporate Services to be invited to the next meeting to discuss options regarding potential interest at a Director/Management level to support the women's leadership concepts and leadership development programs in the organisation, respectively.	Unit Manager Community and Culture		