

Late Addendum

REPORTS THROUGH THE GENERAL MANAGER

REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

b1 [CS-CM] Conduct of Local Government Election 29 October 2016

SUBMITTED BY: Corporate Governance

Validms



Civic Leadership

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

1	Civic Leadership
1.3	Delivering the objectives of this plan
1.3.2	Council will seek the best value in delivering services

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Local Government election scheduled for Saturday 10 September 2016 has been postponed following the death of a candidate. The revised date of the election after consulting with the NSW Electoral Commission, Office of Local Government and the Crown Solicitors Office is Saturday 29 October 2016 and the entire election process must be re-run.

The rescheduling and re-running of the election by the NSW Electoral Commission will result in Council incurring additional expenditure, as some processes in the lead up to the September election had already occurred, including the printing of the ballot papers and constitutional referendum papers.

In July 2014 Council resolved the following in relation to the conduct of elections:

- "1. Pursuant to Section 296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) ("the Act") that an election arrangement be entered by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council.*
- 2. Pursuant to Section 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by Section 18, that a council poll arrangement be entered by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council.*
- 3. Pursuant to Section 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by Section 18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of Council."*

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Therefore, in pursuit of this resolution, Council is bound to the NSW Electoral Commission in administering the election and a revised estimate of costs associated with the conducting of the election and the constitutional referendum has been received.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the revised estimate from the NSW Electoral Commission for the conduct of the election and constitutional referendum on Saturday 29 October 2016 of \$555,645 (excluding GST) be received and noted and the necessary budget adjustments be made in the September 2016 quarterly budget review.

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REPORT:

The Local Government election scheduled for Saturday 10 September 2016 has been postponed following the death of a candidate. The revised date of the election after consulting with the NSW Electoral Commission, Office of Local Government and the Crown Solicitors Office is Saturday 29 October 2016 and the entire election process must be re-run.

The rescheduling and re-running of the election by the NSW Electoral Commission will result in Council incurring additional expenditure, as some processes in the lead up to the September election had already occurred, including statutory advertising, printing of the ballot papers and constitutional referendum papers.

In July 2014 Council resolved the following in relation to the conduct of elections:

- "1. Pursuant to Section 296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) ("the Act") that an election arrangement be entered by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council.*
- 2. Pursuant to Section 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by Section 18, that a council poll arrangement be entered by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council.*
- 3. Pursuant to Section 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by Section 18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of Council."*

Therefore, in pursuit of this resolution, Council is bound to the NSW Electoral Commission in administering the election and constitutional referendum and a revised estimate of costs associated with the conducting of the election and the constitutional referendum has now been received. The revised estimate is \$555,645 (excluding GST).

The milestone dates for the revised election are:

19 September	Close of rolls and close of non-residential roll
19 September	Nominations for candidates opens
28 September	Close of nominations for candidates (12 noon)
28 September	Ballot Draw
17 October	Pre-poll voting commences
24 October	Postal vote applications close
28 October	Pre-poll voting closes
29 October	Election and Constitutional Referendum voting
31 October	Postal vote return closes
4 November	Possible Declaration of the Poll

OPTIONS:

That council notes the revised election date and the appropriate milestone dates as well as the revised estimate for the conduct of the election and the constitutional referendum.

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CONCLUSION:

That the revised estimate from the NSW Electoral Commission for the conduct of the election and constitutional referendum on Saturday 29 October 2016 of \$555,645 (excluding GST) be received and noted and the necessary budget adjustments be made in the September 2016 quarterly budget review.

COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

Governed by appropriate Sections of the Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

The increase in expenditure incurred with the postponement of the September 2016 will be included in the September 2016 Quarterly Budget Review.

c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.
