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# LATE ITEMS BUSINESS PAPER

## General Meeting

**Wednesday 14 November 2018**

Roma Administration Centre

### NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: 13 November 2018

Mayor:

Councillor T D Golder

Deputy Mayor:  
Councillors:

Councillor J L Chambers  
Councillor N H Chandler  
Councillor P J Flynn  
Councillor G B McMullen  
Councillor W M Newman  
Councillor C J O'Neil  
Councillor D J Schefe  
Councillor J M Stanford

Chief Executive Officer:

Ms Julie Reitano

Senior Management:

Mr Rob Hayward (Director Development, Facilities &  
Environmental Services)  
Ms Sharon Frank (Director Corporate, Community & Commercial  
Services)

Please find attached agenda for the **General Meeting** to be held at the Roma Administration Centre on **November 14, 2018 at 9.00AM.**

Julie Reitano  
**Chief Executive Officer**

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Item No	Subject
<b>L</b>	<b>Late Items</b>
<b>L.1</b>	<b>Consideration of Elected Member Attendance at an upcoming conference .....2</b> Prepared by: Lead Officer - Councillors' Support & Community Engagement
<b>LC.</b>	<b>Late Confidential Items</b>
<b>LC.1</b>	<b>Request for Non-Financial Assistance</b> <b>Classification:</b> Closed Access Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 275(h) other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**OFFICER REPORT**

**Meeting:** General 14 November 2018

**Date:** 13 November 2018

**Item Number:** L.1

**File Number:** D18/90902

**SUBJECT HEADING:** Consideration of Elected Member Attendance at an upcoming conference

**Classification:** Open Access

**Officer's Title:** Lead Officer - Councillors' Support & Community Engagement

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**Executive Summary:**

Formalisation of elected member attendance at an upcoming conference and meeting as part of advocacy activities and/or enhancing strategy and policy development for Maranoa Regional Council.

**Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council:

1. Endorse the attendance of Cr. Stanford at the 2018 ALGA National Local Roads & Transport Congress on 20 – 22 November 2018 in Alice Springs.
2. Draw the required funds from attending individual Councillor Conference Budget Work Order number – 18227.2424.2001.

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**Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:**

***Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?***

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

No

**Acronyms:**

**Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?**

*Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).*

Acronym	Description
ALGA	Australian Local Government Association
DCP	Drought Communities Program

**Context:**

***Why is the matter coming before Council?***

To seek Council's endorsement for Cr. Stanford to attend the upcoming conference, representing Maranoa Regional Council.

**Corporate Plan:**

*Is this type of matter incorporated in, or consistent with, Council's 5 Year Corporate Plan? If so, where/how?*

Yes

**Background:**

*Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?*

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

ALGA 2018 National Local Roads & Transport Congress

Informal discussion was held with Councillors at the Councillor Diary meeting on 13 November 2018 seeking advice on Councillor availability to attend the congress.

Cr. Stanford has indicated her willingness and availability to attend the upcoming National Local Roads & transport Congress on behalf of Council in her role of Portfolio Chair Rural Roads.

Local governments are responsible for some of the most critical transport assets in this country. Local roads and bridges connect individuals, communities and businesses and often provide connectivity between major freight routes. It is critical that this role be recognised and funded appropriately to ensure that our nation's roads and transport networks are fit-for-purpose now and into the future.

The theme of this year's Congress is Connecting Transport Networks Now and into the Future. The importance of improved transport connectivity to the economic wellbeing of Australia is well established. Improved transport connectivity allows greater accessibility to employment and markets, and cost savings in terms of reduced transit times, less traffic congestion and reduced transport costs.

The President of the ALGA has also flagged his intent to hold Drought Communities Program (DCP) Workshop as part of the congress. This program, established by the Federal Government, allows eligible councils in drought affected areas to apply for up to \$1 million to spend on locally identified projects aimed at stimulating the local economy and maintaining jobs. Maranoa Regional Council, by letter to Mayor Golder dated 1 November and circulated to Councillors under separate cover, has been invited to attend this workshop which allows for comment and sharing of experiences in learning more about developing opportunities and leveraging from other Council's to gain the best value from this program.

**Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:**

*What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration?*

The *Local Government Act 2009* requires that Councillors' attendance at conferences and deputations be permitted by the local government. Unauthorised Councillor attendance at conferences could compromise insurance entitlements should circumstances arise that lead to the submission of an insurance claim.

### **S107 Insurance**

- (1) A local government must maintain the following insurance—
- (a) public liability insurance;
  - (b) professional indemnity insurance.
- (2) The insurance must be for at least the amount required under a regulation.
- (3) A local government may enter into a contract of insurance with WorkCover Queensland, or another insurer, to cover its councillors.
- (4) For that purpose, a councillor's role includes attending—
- (a) meetings of the local government or its committees that the councillor is entitled or asked to attend; and
  - (b) meetings for a resident of the local government area; and
  - (c) conferences, deputations, inspections and meetings at which the councillor's attendance is permitted by the local government; and
  - (d) official functions organised for the local government.

### **Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:**

*Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision? What are relevant sections of the policy or plan?*

Expenses reimbursement Policy (Councillors)

### **Input into the Report & Recommendation:**

*Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say?*

Councillors of Maranoa Regional Council

### **This Financial Year's Budget:**

*Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$) is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).*

*If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?*

### ALGA 2018 National Local Roads & Transport Congress

Registration	\$990 per person
Flights	\$2,256
Accommodation & meals	\$Estimated at \$1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>Estimated at \$4,246</b>

Draw the required funds from attending individual Councillor Conference Budget Work Order number – 18227.2424.2001.

**Future Years' Budgets:**

*Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$)?* (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

No

**Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:**

*Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns?* (Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

No

**Risks:**

*Is there any uncertainty associated with the requested decision? What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does)*

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Insurance	Risk for attending Councillor with regard to Insurance requirements is mitigated through Council's approval of attendance.

**Advice to Council:**

*What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?*

Endorse the attendance of Cr. Stanford at the upcoming conference.

**Recommendation:**

*What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?*

*Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?*

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

That Council:

1. Endorse the attendance of Cr. Stanford at the 2018 ALGA National Local Roads & Transport Congress on 20 – 22 November 2018 in Alice Springs.
2. Draw the required funds from attending individual Councillor Conference Budget Work Order number – 18227.2424.2001.

**Link to Corporate Plan:**

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.1 Work with our communities to identify priorities, and provide leadership and advocacy to grow our region

4.1.2 Identify opportunities to present Council-endorsed priorities to government ministers and other representatives, formally or informally, individually as a Council or

with other local governments (including the importance of roads to Council's financial sustainability).

**Supporting Documentation:**

Nil

**Report authorised by:**

Manager - Communication, Information & Administration Services

Director - Corporate, Community & Commercial Services