

# EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING (MAYORAL ELECTION)

An extraordinary meeting of WAVERLEY COUNCIL will be held in the Seagull Room at Bondi Pavilion, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Bondi Beach at:

**7.00 PM, THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER 2024** 

Emily Scott

General Manager

Waverley Council
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Bondi Junction NSW 1355
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Tel. 9083 8000

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## **Statement of Ethical Obligations**

Councillors are reminded of their oath or affirmation of office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under Council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

## **Live Streaming of Meetings**

This meeting is streamed live via the internet and an audio-visual recording of the meeting will be publicly available on Council's website.

By attending this meeting, you consent to your image and/or voice being live streamed and publicly available.

#### **AGENDA**

The General Manager will open and chair the meeting until a mayor is elected.

#### PRAYER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS HERITAGE

The General Manager will read the following Opening Prayer and Acknowledgement of Indigenous Heritage:

God, we pray for wisdom to govern with justice and equity. That we may see clearly and speak the truth and that we work together in harmony and mutual respect. May our actions demonstrate courage and leadership so that in all our works thy will be done. Amen.

Waverley Council respectfully acknowledges our Indigenous heritage and recognises the ongoing Aboriginal traditional custodianship of the land which forms our Local Government Area.

#### **OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE FOR COUNCILLORS**

In accordance with section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a Councillor must take an oath of office or make an affirmation of office in the form prescribed below at or before the first meeting of Council after the Councillor is elected.

#### Oath

I [name of councillor] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [name of council area] and the [name of council] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

#### **Affirmation**

I [name of councillor] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [name of council area] and the [name of council] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

At a ceremony before the meeting, the General Manager will invite Councillors to take an oath of office or make an affirmation of office.

## 1. Apologies/Leaves of Absence

## 2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

3.	Re	ports
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### 4. Urgent Business

## 5. Meeting Closure

## REPORT ME/3.1/24.10

Subject: Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor by Councillors

**TRIM No:** SF24/5003

Manager: Richard Coelho, Executive Manager, Governance

**Director:** Tara Czinner, Director, Corporate Services



#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That Council:

- 1. Notes that the term of office of the Mayor elected at this meeting is until the next mayoral election on 15 September 2026.
- 2. Agrees to elect a Deputy Mayor for the term of the Mayor until the next mayoral election on 15 September 2026.
- 3. Notes the procedure for the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor by Councillors, as set out in the report.
- 4. Elects the Mayor and Deputy Mayor by the open voting method.

#### 1. Executive Summary

Councillors must elect a Mayor from among their number every two years, unless the council term is less than four years. The next Council election is scheduled for September 2028. The Mayor elected at this meeting will hold office until the mayoral election on Tuesday, 15 September 2026.

Councillors may also elect a person from their number to be Deputy Mayor. The Deputy Mayor may be elected for the mayoral term or a shorter term.

The procedure to elect a Mayor and Deputy Mayor is prescribed in schedule 7 of the *Local Government* (*General*) Regulation 2021. The procedure is outlined in this report and schedule 7 is attached for reference.

This report recommends that Council elects by open voting method a Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the period to the next mayoral election on 15 September 2026.

#### 2. Introduction/Background

Mayors elected by councillors normally hold office for two years unless a casual vacancy occurs. The next local government elections are scheduled to be held in September 2028. Councils that elect their mayors are required under section 290(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) to hold mid-term mayoral elections in the month of September. This means that the mid-term mayoral election will need to be held in September 2026. The mayor elected at the mid-term mayoral election will hold office until the day of the next local government elections in September 2028.

The Act and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) determine the requirements and procedures for the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor by Councillors. The key elements of the procedures are outlined below and in schedule 7 of the Regulation attached to this report (Attachment 1).

Before conducting an election, Council is required to determine the method of voting. If more than one nomination is received, the method of voting can be by open voting method, ordinary ballot method or preferential ballot method. Each voting method is explained in more detail below. This report recommends that the open voting method be used.

#### 3. Relevant Council Resolutions

Nil.

#### 4. Discussion

#### The Returning Officer

The Returning Officer for this election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor by Councillors is the General Manager.

#### The Mayor

A council must have a mayor (s 225 of the Act).

A mayor elected by the councillors holds the office of mayor for two years, subject to the Act. The period of office commences on the day the councillor is declared to be elected as mayor. It becomes vacant when the mayor ceases to hold office as a councillor or when the mayor's successor is declared to be elected as mayor (ss 230 and 233 of the Act).

At this election, the term of office of the Mayor is for the period to the next mayoral election on 15 September 2026.

#### The Deputy Mayor

Councillors may elect a person from among their number to be deputy mayor. The term can be for the period of the mayoral term or a shorter term. The deputy mayor exercises the functions of the mayor at the mayor's request or if the mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising these functions (s 231 of the Act).

It is recommended that a Deputy Mayor be elected for the mayoral term; that is, up to the next mayoral election on 15 September 2026. This is to align the two terms of office and to provide continuity.

#### **Nomination forms**

Under the Act, Councillors may be nominated without notice for election as Mayor or Deputy Mayor. The nomination must be in writing by two or more Councillors (one of whom may be the nominee) and is not valid unless the nominee has consented to the nomination in writing. The nomination forms can be delivered to the Returning Officer any time up to and including the calling of nominations for each election.

Once the Returning Officer has finished the call for nominations for each election, the Returning Officer will announce the names of the nominees received. If there is one nomination, that Councillor is declared to be elected. If there is more than one nomination, the Returning Officer will proceed to the election. A copy of the nomination form to be used for the election is attached to this report (Attachment 2) and will also be distributed to Councillors separately with the agenda.

#### Method of voting

The Returning Officer will carry out the election in accordance with the method of voting determined by

The open voting method means voting by a show of hands or similar means.

If Council chooses the ordinary ballot or preferential ballot method, the Returning Officer prepares a ballot paper, which will be distributed at the meeting.

The Returning Officer will give clear instructions to Councillors on the requirements for voting in the election and each ballot paper will include instructions on the face of the paper. A ballot box will be used to receive the ballot papers.

On counting of the ballot papers, the Returning Officer will use the relevant provisions of the Regulation to determine formality of ballot papers. The Returning Officer will check each vote for formality, count and record the votes for the Councillors nominated and declare the election, so long as there is not an equal number of votes.

In the case of an equal number of votes, the Returning Officer will need to then proceed to choose the candidate by lot.

Council meetings are run in a hybrid format, allowing Councillors to attend the meeting in person or via audio-visual link. If Council resolves to conduct the meeting by a method other than open voting, and not all Councillors are present in person, the election would need to be deferred to a future meeting at which all Councillors attended in person.

#### **Choosing by lot**

If there is a tied result, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes will be written on similar slips of paper by the Returning Officer and then folded to prevent the names from being seen. The Returning Officer will then mix the slips of paper and draw a slip at random. The candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen.

#### **Results**

The Retuning Officer will announce the results of the election at the meeting. Officers will notify the Departmental Secretary, as well as the Chief Executive Officer of Local Government New South Wales.

#### 5. Financial impact statement/Time frame/Consultation

There is no unbudgeted cost to Council to hold the election of mayor and deputy mayor.

The term of office of Mayor at this election is until the next mayoral election on 15 September 2026. It is recommended that a Deputy Mayor be elected for the period until 15 September 2026 to match the mayoral term.

#### 6. Conclusion

The Returning Officer will conduct the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor in accordance with the Act and Regulation, as set out in the report.

## 7. Attachments

- 1. Schedule 7 Election of mayor by councillors  $\underline{\mathbb{J}}$
- 2. Nomination form for election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor <u>J</u>

## Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

Current version for 2 September 2024 to date (accessed 19 September 2024 at 14:33)

Schedule 7

## Schedule 7 Election of mayor by councillors

(Section 394)

### Part 1 Preliminary

#### 1 Returning officer

The general manager (or a person appointed by the general manager) is the returning officer.

#### 2 Nomination

- (1) A councillor may be nominated without notice for election as mayor or deputy mayor.
- (2) The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- (3) The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer.
- (4) The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the election is to be held.

#### 3 Election

- (1) If only one councillor is nominated, that councillor is elected.
- (2) If more than one councillor is nominated, the council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by preferential ballot, by ordinary ballot or by open voting.
- (3) The election is to be held at the council meeting at which the council resolves on the method of voting.
- (4) In this section—

**ballot** has its normal meaning of secret ballot.

open voting means voting by a show of hands or similar means.

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Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 [NSW]

#### Part 2 Ordinary ballot or open voting

#### 4 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

#### 5 Marking of ballot-papers

- (1) If the election proceeds by ordinary ballot, the returning officer is to decide the manner in which votes are to be marked on the ballot-papers.
- (2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part must be determined in accordance with section 345 of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that section.
- (3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

#### 6 Count—2 candidates

- (1) If there are only 2 candidates, the candidate with the higher number of votes is elected.
- (2) If there are only 2 candidates and they are tied, the one elected is to be chosen by lot.

#### 7 Count—3 or more candidates

- (1) If there are 3 or more candidates, the one with the lowest number of votes is to be excluded.
- (2) If 3 or more candidates then remain, a further vote is to be taken of those candidates and the one with the lowest number of votes from that further vote is to be excluded.
- (3) If, after that, 3 or more candidates still remain, the procedure set out in subsection (2) is to be repeated until only 2 candidates remain.
- (4) A further vote is to be taken of the 2 remaining candidates.
- (5) Section 6 of this Schedule then applies to the determination of the election as if the 2 remaining candidates had been the only candidates.
- (6) If at any stage during a count under subsection (1) or (2), 2 or more candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes, the one excluded is to be chosen by lot.

### **Part 3 Preferential ballot**

#### 8 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by preferential ballot.

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Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 [NSW]

#### 9 Ballot-papers and voting

- (1) The ballot-papers are to contain the names of all the candidates. The councillors are to mark their votes by placing the numbers "1", "2" and so on against the various names so as to indicate the order of their preference for all the candidates.
- (2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part is to be determined in accordance with section 345 of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that section.
- (3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

#### 10 Count

- (1) If a candidate has an absolute majority of first preference votes, that candidate is elected
- (2) If not, the candidate with the lowest number of first preference votes is excluded and the votes on the unexhausted ballot-papers counted to him or her are transferred to the candidates with second preferences on those ballot-papers.
- (3) A candidate who then has an absolute majority of votes is elected, but, if no candidate then has an absolute majority of votes, the process of excluding the candidate who has the lowest number of votes and counting each of his or her unexhausted ballot-papers to the candidates remaining in the election next in order of the voter's preference is repeated until one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes. The latter is elected.
- (4) In this section, **absolute majority**, in relation to votes, means a number that is more than one-half of the number of unexhausted formal ballot-papers.

#### 11 Tied candidates

- (1) If, on any count of votes, there are 2 candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for the 2 candidates are equal—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have received an absolute majority of votes and is therefore taken to be elected.
- (2) If, on any count of votes, there are 3 or more candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for 2 or more candidates are equal and those candidates are the ones with the lowest number of votes on the count of the votes—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have the lowest number of votes and is therefore excluded.

#### Part 4 General

#### 12 Choosing by lot

To choose a candidate by lot, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of

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Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 [NSW]

votes are written on similar slips of paper by the returning officer, the slips are folded by the returning officer so as to prevent the names being seen, the slips are mixed and one is drawn at random by the returning officer and the candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen.

#### 13 Result

The result of the election (including the name of the candidate elected as mayor or deputy mayor) is—

- (a) to be declared to the councillors at the council meeting at which the election is held by the returning officer, and
- (b) to be delivered or sent to the Secretary and the Chief Executive Officer of Local Government NSW.

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## **NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION**

## **OF MAYOR / DEPUTY MAYOR**

We, the undersigned, nominate:		
Councillor		
For election to the position of Mayor / Deputy Mayor (*)		
Councillor:	Signature:	
Councillor:	Signature:	
Date:		
<u>CONSEN</u>	T OF NOMINEE	
I agree to the nomination for the election of Mayor / Deputy Mayor (*)		
Councillor:		
Signature:		
Date:		
(*) Strike out whichever is not applicable.		
ONCE COMPLETED PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO THE RETURNING OFFICER		

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## **REPORT** ME/3.2/24.10

Subject: Casual Vacancies

**TRIM No:** SF24/2400

Manager: Richard Coelho, Executive Manager, Governance

**Director:** Tara Czinner, Director, Corporate Services



#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That Council:

- 1. Pursuant to section 291A(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), declares that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a Councillor within 18 months after the last ordinary election of Councillors for Council on 14 September 2024 are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with section 291A of the Act.
- 2. Directs the General Manager to notify the NSW Electoral Commission of Council's decision within seven days of the decision.

#### 1. Executive Summary

If a casual vacancy occurs within 18 months of the election of Councillors on 14 September 2024, Council has the option of filling the vacancy by a countback of votes instead of holding a by-election. A countback can only occur if Council, at its first meeting following the election, declares that casual vacancies are be filled by a countback of votes cast at the last election. This report recommends that Council makes this declaration.

#### 2. Introduction/Background

Councillors generally hold office for four years. The office of councillor may become vacant before that time for a number of reasons; for example, the councillor may resign or be disqualified from holding civic office. This is known as a casual vacancy. Historically, casual vacancies could only be filled through a by-election.

Since 2020, councils have had the option of using a countback of votes cast at the last election to fill casual vacancies occurring in the first 18 months after the election. To exercise this option, Council must resolve, at its first meeting after the election, to hold a countback election to fill casual vacancies that occur within 18 months of the election. If Council does not pass such a resolution, it will be required to fill casual vacancies through a by-election.

## 3. Relevant Council Resolutions

Nil.

#### 4. Discussion

Countback elections are less costly and more efficient than by-elections. It is therefore recommended that Council exercises the option to hold countbacks.

In accordance with section 291A(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a casual vacancy is to be filled by a countback election if:

- (a) The casual vacancy occurs within 18 months after the date of the last ordinary election of the councillors for the area, and
- (b) The council has at its first meeting following that ordinary election of councillors, by resolution, declared that any such casual vacancy is to be filled by a countback of votes cast at the last election for that office.

The Office of Local Government has provided recommended wording for councils wishing to exercise the option of holding countback elections. The recommendation of this report uses this wording.

Countbacks cannot fill casual vacancies where:

- The councillor who vacated office was elected at an election using the optional preferential voting system; that is, elections where only one civic office is required to be filled, such as the election of a popularly elected mayor.
- The councillor was elected at an uncontested election.

These scenarios do not apply to Waverley.

If Council exercises the option to hold countback elections, it must notify the NSW Electoral Commission of Council's decision within seven days of its resolution.

Countback elections are conducted by a council's election manager. Council's election manager is the NSW Electoral Commission. The procedure for holding countback elections is set out in schedule 9A of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

#### 5. Financial impact statement/Time frame/Consultation

#### **Financial impact**

Countback elections are less costly than holding by-elections. The cost of a particular countback election would be negotiated with the NSW Electoral Commission in accordance with Council's contract with the Electoral Commission signed in 2023. Election costs are budgeted for.

#### Time frame

Countback elections can only be held to fill casual vacancies within 18 months of an election and only if Council, at its first meeting following the election, declares by resolution that that any such casual vacancy is to be filled by a countback of votes cast at the last election. Council needs to make this declaration after each local government election. Where Council does so, the General Manager must notify the election manager (the NSW Electoral Commission) within seven days of its resolution.

A casual vacancy that occurs after 18 months of the last election must be filled by a by-election.

If a casual vacancy occurs within 18 months of the next election, Council can apply to the Minister for Local Government to dispense with the need to hold a by-election, thereby leaving the office vacant.

#### Consultation

Nil.

### 6. Conclusion

Council can decide to fill casual vacancies that occur within 18 months of an election by a countback of votes instead of holding a by-election. To do so, Council must resolve accordingly. This report recommends that Council exercises its option to hold countback elections.

#### 7. Attachments

Nil.

## REPORT ME/3.3/24.10

Subject: Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2024

**TRIM No:** A13/0314

Manager: Richard Coelho, Executive Manager, Governance

**Director:** Tara Czinner, Director, Corporate Services



#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council, in respect of the Local Government NSW Annual Conference to be held on Sunday, 17 November to Tuesday, 19 November 2024:

- 1. Nominates the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr [INSERT NAME], Cr [INSERT NAME] and Cr [INSERT NAME] to attend the Conference as voting delegates for motions.
- 2. Nominates Cr [INSERT NAME] to attend the Conference as reserve voting delegate for motions.
- 3. Approves the attendance of the General Manager at the Conference.

#### 1. Executive Summary

The 2024 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference will be hosted by Tamworth Regional Council from Sunday, 17 November, to Tuesday, 19 November 2024, at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre.

Council is required to notify LGNSW of the names of five Councillors attending the Conference as Council's voting delegates for motions. The deadline for notifying LGNSW of the names of voting delegates is Wednesday, 6 November 2024.

#### 2. Introduction/Background

The LGNSW Annual Conference is the annual policy-making event for NSW councils. From 17 November to 19 November 2024, councillors come together to share ideas and debate issues that shape the way local government is governed and to set policy for the coming year.

Council-submitted motions will be debated and resolved to set LGNSW's advocacy priorities for the year ahead, while a tradeshow, workshops and training sessions are available to support delegates in their efforts to effectively represent their communities.

Due to the local government elections in September 2024, the mayoral election meeting is the first meeting of the new Council at which to nominate delegates to the Conference.

LGNSW Board elections occur every two years and 2024 is not a Board election year. The next Board election will take place in 2025 unless a casual vacancy occurs and an earlier election is required.

#### 3. Relevant Council Resolutions

Nil.

#### 4. Discussion

#### **Program**

The draft program for the Conference is attached to this report.

#### **Motions**

LGNSW invites councils to submit motions for possible debate at the Conference. A motion endorsed at the Conference by a majority of voting delegates becomes a resolution (resolutions eventually form LGNSW policy and guide LGNSW's advocacy).

LGNSW encouraged councils to submit motions by Friday, 15 August 2024. Council officers called for Councillor motions to be considered at the Council meeting in July 2024. No Councillor motions were received and Council has not submitted any motions to the Conference. Under the LGNSW Rules, the latest date motions can be accepted for consideration at the Conference is Sunday, 20 October 2024. If Council wishes to submit a motion to the Conference, it will need to move the motion as urgent business at this meeting.

#### Voting

Council is entitled to send five voting delegates for voting on motions in accordance with the LGNSW Rules. Council is required to advise LGNSW of the names of its nominated voting delegates by Wednesday, 6 November 2024.

A councillor who has been nominated as a reserve voting delegate may attend the Conference even if the voting delegates are attending. The Mayor or General Manager must notify LGNSW if a delegate is to be substituted with a reserve delegate.

#### 5. Financial impact statement/Time frame/Consultation

The costs associated with Councillors attending the LGNSW Annual Conference are covered in the budget allocation for Councillors' expenses, in accordance with the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.

#### 6. Conclusion

It is recommended that Council nominates Councillors to attend the LGNSW Annual Conference 2024.

#### 7. Attachments

1. Draft 2024 Annual Conference Program <a href="#">J</a>



## **Draft Program**

Sunday, 17 November 2024		
Time TBC	Bus transfers from selected hotels to TRECC	
REGISTRATION		
12.30pm	Registration operational - TRECC foyer	
1.00pm	Trade Exhibition Open	
PLENARY & BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1.30pm-2.30pm	Breakout Session: Professional Development Session for new Councillors A Day in the Life of a councillor Location: STAR Room(off TRECC Foyer)	
1.30pm-2.30pm	Plenary session: PANEL WITH Q&A SESSION SPEAKERS: Brett Whitworth, OLG / Helen Murrell, ICAC / Bola Oyetunji, Auditor General	
2.30pm-3.00pm	Refreshment break Location: Trade Exhibition	
3.00pm-5.00pm	Plenary sessions   AR Bluett memorial Awards   President's Welcome Reception address   Ministerial Speakers	
5.00pm	Bus transfers to Tamworth Town Hall (CBD Tamworth)	
WELCOME RECEPTION		
5.30pm-7.30pm	President's Welcome Reception partnered by Landcom Location: Tamworth Town Hall	
7.30pm	Bus transfers to selected hotels	

Monday, 18 November 2024		
Time TBC	Bus transfers from selected hotels to TRECC	
REGISTRATION		
7.30am	Registration operational - TRECC foyer Light refreshments Location: Trade Exhibition	
BREAKFAST		
7.30am-8.45am	ALGWA NSW Breakfast partnered by Maddocks Location: TRECC	
Time TBC	Bus transfers from selected hotels to TRECC	
CONFERENCE		
9.00am	Conference introduction, Conference Welcome   Opening address	
	<ul> <li>Opening of the Federal &amp; State Conferences adoption of standing orders, business sessions and consideration of motions and conference business.</li> <li>LGNSW Treasurer presentation of financial reports</li> <li>Commencement of consideration of motions and conference business</li> </ul>	
	Morning refreshments Location: Trade Exhibition, by Distinguished partner, Active Super	
9.25am-5.00pm	<ul> <li>Consideration of Conference Business continued</li> <li>Delegate lunch in Exhibition area</li> <li>General Managers' Lunch partners with StateCover</li> <li>Consideration of Conference Business continued</li> </ul>	
	Afternoon refreshments Location: Trade Exhibition	
	Consideration of Conference Business continued	
	Networking with refreshments Location: Trade Exhibition	
5.00pm - Time TBC	Bus transfers to selected hotels and return to TRECC	
CONFERENCE DINNE	R	
6.30pm-10.30pm	LGNSW Conference Dinner, elite partner Statewide Mutual. Presentation LG Service Awards. Location: TRECC	
Times TBC	Bus transfers to selected hotels	

## Tuesday, 19 November 2024

Time TBC Bus transfers from selected hotels to TRECC

#### **INFORMATION DESK and REGISTRATION**

7.30am LGNSW Information Desk and Exhibition Light refreshments in exhibition area available

	Light refreshinents in exhibition area available	
PLENARY SESSIONS		
9.00am-9.05am	Introduction, housekeeping – Peter Evans MC	
9.05am-9.50am	Keynote Address followed by Q&A SESSION TITLE: Local government finance: challenges and opportunities SESSION SPEAKER: Andy Johnston - LGUI	
9.50am-10.35am	Keynote Address followed by Q&A SESSION TITLE: Countering cyber threats - Protecting Your Council and Community SESSION SPEAKERS: Arjun Ramacandran and Jonathan Topham - elevenM	
10.35am-11.05am	Refreshment Break Location: Trade Exhibition	
11.05am-11.50am	Keynote Address followed by Q&A SESSION TITLE: TBC SESSION SPEAKER: Infrastructure Australia	
11.50am-12.50pm	CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
12.50pm-1.00pm	Final remarks & announcement of location for Annual Conference 2025	
1.00pm-1.45pm	Lunch Location: Trade Exhibition	
2.00pm	Conference concludes	
2.00pm	Bus transfers to selected hotels	