

Youth-Councillor Mentor Program

Program Outline

Definitions

Mentor - Councillor

Mentee - Young Person

1. Program Objectives

- 1.1 Enable young people in the North Sydney local government area to become more acquainted with the role of local government representatives.
- 1.2 Involve young people in the decision-making process by their presence in Council meetings and relevant meetings and events.

2. Mentor's Responsibilities

- 2.1 Commitment to the program is required by all mentors. Participating Councillors:
 - a) Will not take leave during the period unless by negotiation with their mentee. Alternatively, another Ward Councillor will be required as a 'back up' to meet with/be a point of contact for the mentee in the mentor's absence;
 - b) Meet a minimum of four (4), 30 minute (minimum duration) times with their mentee over six (6) months; and participate in the Evaluation Session; and
 - c) Arrive half an hour early (or stay half an hour after) meetings to discuss the agenda/outcomes with their mentee, as required.

3. Mentee Eligibility

- 3.1 The program is open to young people between the ages of 16 to 24 years.
- 3.2 The program is open to residents, students (secondary and tertiary) and workers associated with the North Sydney local government area (LGA).
- 3.3 The program is limited to four participants.

4. Duration

- 4.1 The program will run for six (6) months.

5. Program

- 5.1 The program will work best if the level of participation is negotiated between the mentor and mentee, as it is acknowledged that some activities may conflict with either work or school obligations.
- 5.2 As a minimum, over the 6-month period the mentor and mentee must meet at least four (4) times, each for 30-minute duration minimum and participate in the following activities:
 - a) Initial 'meet and greet' between mentor and mentee; facilitated by Council's Governance Co-ordinator;
 - b) Attendance at a minimum of two (2) Council meetings;
 - c) Attendance at a minimum of one (1) Committee/Reference Group meeting and/or Traffic Committee or Streetscape Committee meeting;
 - d) Attendance at a minimum of one (1) site meeting (if available); and
 - e) Attendance at the Evaluation Session.

6. Mentee Entitlements

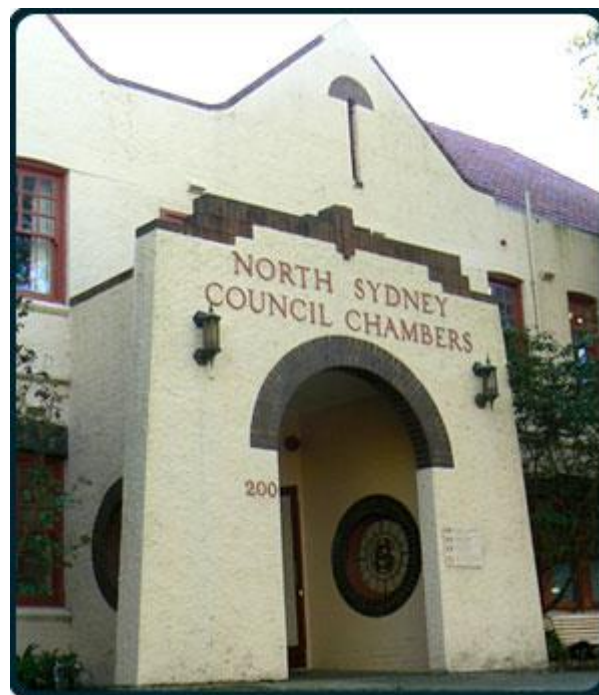
- 6.1 For the duration of the program, participants are entitled to:
- a) Provision of the soft copies of Council business papers, if required;
 - b) Provision of appropriate seating in the Council Chambers so that meetings can be followed;
 - c) Use (with their mentor) of meeting rooms as required; and
 - d) Taxi vouchers to take them home from evening meetings.

7. Promotion

- 7.1 Both Mentors and Mentees accept that their name, image and role in the program will be public information, and may be used in publicity associated with the program.

8. Insurance

- 8.1 Participants are covered by North Sydney Council's public liability insurance and Workers' Compensation.



For more information, contact:
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