10.8. New Applications for Reference Group Membership

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ENDORSED BY: Shane Sullivan, Executive Manager Governance

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of an application received for Reference Group (Environment) citizen membership from Dr Jane Theau.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Dr Jane Theau has applied to be a member of the Environment Reference Group. Dr Theau has been an anti-plastic waste campaigner for over a decade, and has developed a related teaching programme.

It is recommended that the application be accepted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

1.THAT the application from Dr Jane Theau for citizen membership of the Environment Reference Group be accepted.

2.THAT Council note that a review of the Reference Group Charters is proposed to be undertaken in 2022-2023.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

- 5. Our Civic Leadership
- 5.2 Strong civic leadership and customer focused services
- 5.3 Community is engaged in what Council does

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held 14 October 2013 (Min. No. 635) Council resolved to remove the limit as to the number of citizen member positions available per Reference and Working Group.

The Environment Reference Group Charter provides that the following eligibility requirements:

a) individuals - North Sydney residents; and

b) representatives from community organisations/groups working with the community in North Sydney, with a maximum of two representatives from any one group.

The Reference Group Charters have not been reviewed for some time and a review will be undertaken in 2023.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement is not required.

DETAIL

Dr Jane Theau has applied to be a member of the Environment Reference Group. Dr Theau has been an anti-plastic waste campaigner for over a decade and developed a teaching programme, Living a Life Less Plastic, that went to schools all over Sydney. The Sydney Institute of Marine Services is a partner in this programme.

Dr Theau is a volunteer with the Bob Brown Foundation, is a coordinator for Clean-up Australia, and was awarded a fellowship at UQ Moreton Bay Research Station by CSIRO Teachwild.

The application from Dr Jane Theau is referred to Council for determination. It is recommended that it be accepted.