

10.9. 2024 Committee and Reference Groups Meeting Dates

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ATTACHMENTS	Nil
CSP LINK	5. Our Civic Leadership 5.2 Strong civic leadership and customer focussed services

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to determine a schedule of meeting dates for the North Sydney Traffic Committee, Reference Groups, and Streetscape Committees for 2024, and to review the Reference Group Chairpersons.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- At its meeting on 11 September 2023, Council adopted a schedule of dates for Council meetings in 2024.
- Council is being asked to determine meeting dates for the North Sydney Traffic Committee and three Reference Groups in 2024 and well as review the Reference Group Chairpersons.
- The report also recommends that Streetscape Committee meetings be conducted on an as-needs basis in 2024.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council endorse the 2024 meeting schedule for the North Sydney Traffic Committee and the three Reference Groups, as detailed in this report.
- 2. THAT** Council determine the Councillors to be appointed as Chairpersons on the Environment, Sport and Recreation, and Sustainable Transport Reference Groups in 2024.
- 3. THAT** Streetscape Committee meetings be conducted on an as-needs basis in 2024.

Background

Council resolved at its meeting on 11 September 2023:

1. *THAT Council adopts the attached Council Meeting schedule for 2024.*
2. *THAT Council notes the attached planned Agenda publication dates for Council Meetings in 2024.*
3. *THAT a further report be submitted to Council in November 2023 regarding a schedule of 2024 meeting dates for the Reference Groups and Streetscape Committees.*

Report

Traffic Committee

The North Sydney Traffic Committee is not a Committee of North Sydney Council, but a Committee set up as a requirement of Transport for NSW (TfNSW). Council has been delegated certain powers from TfNSW with regard to traffic matters upon its local roads.

There are four permanent members of the Traffic Committee, each of whom has a single vote only. The members are:

1. NSW Police;
2. Transport for NSW ;
3. State Member of Parliament (for the location of the issue to be voted upon); and
4. North Sydney Council

In consultation with the Traffic and Parking team, the following Committee meeting dates are proposed for 2024:

Proposed North Sydney Traffic Committee meeting dates 2024
2 February 2024
15 March 2024
26 April 2024
7 June 2024
19 July 2024
30 August 2024
11 October 2024
22 November 2024

Reference Groups

Council has three active Reference Groups

[Environment Reference Group](#): This Reference Group deals with a range of environmental sustainability issues.

[Sport and Recreation Reference Group](#): This Reference Group aims to provide advice, feedback, and assistance to Council on matters relating to sport and recreation facilities.

[Sustainable Transport Reference Group](#): This Reference Group aims to improve sustainable transport options, and pedestrian and cyclist safety.

The Reference Group meetings enable community leaders and Council to engage meaningfully on matters relating to Council business. They link with the engagement framework of Council and the minutes of these meetings are reported to Council.

The Reference Group Charters provide for four meetings each calendar year.

Consideration of the meeting dates for 2024 also provides an opportunity for Council to review which Councillors are appointed as Chairpersons for each Reference Group.

Streetscape Committees

These committees have existed since the mid-90's and are a community consultation forum to enable Council to consider the input of the local business community and residents on streetscape amenity. There are currently four operational committees, being:

[Cremorne Shopping Area](#)
[Crows Nest Shopping Area](#)
[Neutral Bay Shopping Area](#)
[Kirribilli Shopping Area](#)

The meeting agendas are set by the Director Open Space and Infrastructure and there is no set number of meetings of each Committee specified in the Charter.

In 2024 it is proposed that Streetscape Committee meetings be held on an as needs basis, for the following reasons:

- Reduction in the Capital Works program
- Increased workload for the project teams created by the North Sydney Olympic Pool upgrade
- Ongoing meeting commitments with Transport for NSW

Meeting schedule

The 2024 meeting schedule for the three Reference Groups has been prepared based on the following factors:

- all meetings being held on Tuesdays, as Mondays are reserved for Council meetings and Councillor Briefings;
- four meetings for each Reference Group, commencing at 6.00pm and scheduled to run for 1 hour each, with a 15 minute break between meetings held on the same night
- Sustainable Transport and Environment Reference Group meetings will be held on the same night and will alternate which meeting starts first;

- Sport and Recreation Reference Group meetings will be held on a separate night from the other Reference Groups as the agendas for these meetings tend to be larger;
- All meetings have been scheduled to avoid conflict with Combined Precinct Committee meeting dates.
- In line with the 2024 Council meeting dates, no meeting dates have been scheduled post the 14 September Local Government elections, to allow the newly elected Council to determine its own meeting cycle.

The following meeting dates are recommended for adoption:

	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3	Meeting 4
Sport & Recreation Reference Group	Tues 6 February	Tues 7 May	Tues 6 August	<i>To be determined post-election</i>
Sustainable Transport Reference Group	Tues 5 March	Tues 14 May	Tues 3 September	<i>To be determined post-election</i>
Environment Reference Group	Tues 5 March	Tues 14 May	Tues 3 September	<i>To be determined post-election</i>

Consultation requirements

Community engagement is not required.

Financial/Resource Implications

Related financial implications include staff costs. The spread of 'ordinary hours' under the Local Government (State) Award 2020 are from 6am to 6pm. Hours worked outside this spread of hours are payable at the overtime rate. The overtime rate of pay is time-and-a-half for the first two hours and double time after that. Employees may elect to take Time In Lieu instead.

This clause does not apply to Senior Staff (as defined in the Local Government Act 1993) nor to those employees engaged under the Award in the Executive Classifications (Band 4) where the following applies:

Employees engaged in Executive Band 4 may be required in addition to their ordinary hours, to attend meetings of Council and standing and/or special committee meetings. For the purpose of this subclause an employee who is required to attend these meetings may be entitled to claim overtime for actual hours worked after 11pm.

Legislation

The Open Government Policy states that Council will work with its local community to develop innovative responses to problems, issues, and concerns.