

## 8.1 AUSTRALIAN GOVERNANCE SUMMIT 2026

Submitting Councillor/s:	Cr Josh Fergeus
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### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council approves the attendance of Cr Josh Fergeus at the Australian Governance Summit 2026 in Sydney NSW from 10 to 11 March 2026.**

### INTRODUCTION

The Australian Institute of Company Directors is holding its Australian Governance Summit 2026, in Sydney NSW from 10 to 11 March 2026 (dates are inclusive).

I seek the Council's support to attend the Summit.

### ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

The Australian Governance Summit brings together influential directors and governance leaders. Over two days, they'll explore topical issues and challenges shaping change across Australia.

The Summit offers a unique opportunity to strengthen governance expertise, broaden knowledge, and amplify leadership impact. Hear from thought leaders, get access to roundtables and practical tools needed to stay ahead of emerging trends and shape the next decade of directorship.

The lineup of speakers will cover contemporary topics facing boards across the country and overseas, highlighting how in an era of rapid change, directors and leaders must drive innovation, build resilient organisations, and act with agility to seize opportunities and mitigate risks.

Keynote speakers will include:

- Debbie Blakey GAICD, CEO, HESTA
- Chris Bradley, McKinsey Global Institute Director and Senior Partner, Sydney
- Abigail Bradshaw, Director-General, Australian Signals Directorate
- Julie Cooper, Chair, Credit Union SA
- Philip Foo, Vice President, APC Research & Engagement, Glass Lewis
- David Gallop AM GAICD, Chair, Venues NSW & Board Member, Cricket NSW
- Pamela Hanrahan MAICD, Emerita Professor, University of NSW Consultant, Johnson Winter Slattery
- Tim King GAICD,CIO, Melior Investment Management
- Martin Laverty,CEO, Aruma Disability Services
- Dr Angela Jackson,Commissioner, Productivity Commission
- Joe Longo, Chair, Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC)
- Robert Newman,Managing Partner, Change Focus Group
- Paul O'Malley,Chair, CBA
- Clara Shih, Silicon Valley AI Leader, AI startup funder and investor, ex-Salesforce AI CEO
- Katrina Rathie FAICD, Director, SBS
- Tim Reed GAICD,Director, Transurban
- Taryn Williams GAICD,CEO, Director & Founder

- Paul Zahra GAICD, Patron, Pride in Diversity

## **CONCLUSION**

The total cost for the event is estimated at approximately \$3,200.00 and includes registration, travel and accommodation.

Costs may vary depending upon flight and accommodation availability.

## **ATTACHMENT LIST**

1. Officers Response to NOM [**8.1.1** - 2 pages]

**OFFICER'S REPORT****ATTENDANCE AT AUSTRALIAN GOVERNANCE SUMMIT 2026**

Submitting Councillor: Cr Josh Fergeus

**MOTION**

*That Council approves the attendance of Cr Josh Fergeus, at the Australian Governance Summit 2026 in Sydney, NSW from 10 to 11 March 2026.*

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Funding will be required to cover the cost for the event which includes registrations, travel, and accommodation. The councillors attendance at this event would be funded as per the *Policy for Reimbursement of Expenses to Councillors and Members of Delegated Committees & Resources & Facilities for Councillors*.

The cost for attendance will vary depending upon flight and accommodation availability. The approximate cost breakdown is as follows:

Item	Approximate cost
Registration	\$1,860.00 (Member)
Two nights' Accommodation	\$240.00 per night (approximate)
Travel (flights and cab vouchers)	\$600.00
Food (supplied by the conference)	NA
<b>Approximate Total</b>	<b>\$2,940.00</b>

To prepare for unforeseen incidentals, it is proposed the total amount for this event be approved for up to \$3,200.00

**IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES**

It is expected there will be no impact on internal resources.

**COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES**

We ensure that all Council services operate in a manner that is compliant with legislation and policy, and are undertaken with the highest levels of integrity, transparency and accountability.

**RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES**

It is relevant to a Councillors ongoing professional development to engage in learning and development regarding governance.

**FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Attendance at the summit will contribute to the ongoing professional development requirements of Councillor Fergeus in 2026.