

## 5.2 2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Responsible Officer: Jarrod Doake, Chief Operating Officer

### **MOTION**

*That Council approves the attendance of Crs Fergeus, James, McCluskey and Saloumi at the 2019 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association, to be held in Canberra from 16 to 19 June 2019, inclusive.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly 2019 will be held from 16-19 June, inclusive at the National Convention Centre in Canberra.

This year the NGA will be reflecting on past achievements whilst firmly focussing on the future, as the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NGA is celebrated.

The theme is 'Future Focused', acknowledging that change is constant and how to ensure that Council is positioned to seize every opportunity for their community. Change is everywhere be it digital transformation, community activism, ageing demographics, population policies, planning overlays, voice recognition, artificial intelligence and even self-driving cars are just around the corner. Layers of complexity are added by attitudes to climate change, energy generation, cost shifting and tax distributions. Not to mention increasing community expectations about the level and types of services and infrastructure provided by councils.

The 2019 theme also looks at ways for each council to understand these developments, work through the challenges, and find the best way to shape their response to their communities. The NGA will consider what councils can do to get ready for the challenges, opportunities and changes that pave the path ahead.

Participating Councillors will have the opportunity to hear from leading politicians; receiving deep insights from nation-leading experts; being inspired by keynote speakers at the forefront of community engagement and crowd powered communities; and concurrent sessions exploring housing affordability and density pressures; community harm and waste.

Crs Fergeus, James, McCluskey and Saloumi have each expressed an interest in attending the event and support is sought from the Council for these Councillors to attend this important event.

In line with Council's existing policy, a report to Council will be submitted in due course, by the participating Councillors, on their attendance at the Assembly.

### **FINANCIAL**

The total cost for the event is estimated at approximately \$11,656 and includes registrations, travel, accommodation and food.