

5.2 2018 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Responsible Officer: CEO

MOTION

That Council approves the attendance of Crs Fergeus, James, Klisaris, Little, Saloumi and Zographos at the 2018 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association to be held in Canberra from 17 to 20 June 2018, inclusive.

INTRODUCTION

The Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly 2018 will be held from 17-20 June, inclusive at the National Convention Centre in Canberra.

The theme is 'Australia's future: make it local', reflecting not just the wide scope and importance of Local Government, but its ability to influence and affect fundamental change and improvement at the community level. The 2018 theme also hints at the strong possibility of a federal election being called later this year or early next. That being the case, Local Government will need to be ready and able to speak up on behalf of our constituents. ALGA and the State and Territory Local Government Associations are already well advanced in their election advocacy strategies, but this conference will provide important input into the fine-tuning of those plans.

Participating Councillors will have the opportunity to contribute to policy discussions at a national level and to engage with key decision makers, such as the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.

This is an important time for all levels of government in Australia.

Crs Fergeus, James, Klisaris, Little, Saloumi and Zographos 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 to Council, in due course, by the participating Councillors on their attendance at the Assembly.

FINANCIAL

The total cost for the event is estimated at approximately \$18,528 (pricing @ 21/3/18) and includes registrations, travel, accommodation and food.