

4.2 APPOINTMENT OF REPLACEMENT MEMBERS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Responsible Committee: Environmental Advisory Committee

Responsible Director: Ossie Martinz

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the appointment of the following community representative (Richard Gray) to the 2020-22 Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) to replace departed members in accordance with the current Terms of Reference.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to appoint one (1) new member to the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) from April 2021 until June 2022, to replace departed members.

BACKGROUND

The current term for the community members of the Environmental Advisory Committee is from July 2020 until June 2022. The current Committee was composed of three Councillors and fifteen community members.

The role of the EAC is to act in an advisory capacity to Council on issues relating to environmental sustainability, improving the Monash environment and on the implementation of Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016 – 2026.

As per the EAC Terms of Reference, expression of interest for new EAC membership positions was advertised in the Monash Bulletin, on the website and on social media. An online application form included the same questionnaire used for previous EAC appointments.

Between January and March 2021, two community members have resigned from the Committee as they are moving out of the municipality of Monash. This leaves the Committee with 13 remaining community members for the next 15 months.

DISCUSSION

In 2020, the Council received a total of 35 EAC member applications. Assessment of the nominations was undertaken by EAC Councillors - Cr Brian Little, Cr Josh Fergeus and Cr Stuart James, with the support of Council officers. A total of 15 members were selected.

Each applicant was assessed on the information they provided and the skills and experience they presented. The composition of EAC as a whole was also taken into consideration in determining the suitable applicant create the new committee.

In accordance with the Terms of Reference, if a community member resigns during the appointment period, Council can appoint a suitable candidate from the list of

applications in the last expression of interest, or go out advertise again for a casual member if no one on the list is suitable.

As there were other members on the list which were suitable, Council has selected the following member for appointment for the remainder of the 2020-2022 EAC term - Richard Gray.

Richard was a teacher of primary and secondary students for over 25 years. His passion is fostering engagement of young people in their futures, both personal and global. Richard was also a board member of the West Australian Deaf Society for 9 years, serving one term as president.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The appointment will assist EAC to continue to represent the community in relation to delivery of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-26. The EAC Terms of Reference guided the process.

The Committee supports the delivery of the sustainability actions under the Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016 – 2026, Council Plan and Monash 2021: A Thriving Community.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The valuable contribution that community members make through their participation on the EAC enhances Council's work in the area of environmental sustainability and ultimately facilitates opportunities for good advocacy, policy development and service provision for sustainability benefits and the community at large.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

This report is in line with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 and in particular with the following rights: freedom of expression; and taking part in public life.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no cost implications for Council regarding this appointment.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATION

To enable the EAC to effectively support Monash City Council in delivering the Environmental Sustainability Strategy, this report recommends the appointment of following community member to the EAC - Richard Gray.