



Candidate Awareness Session

11 October 2023



Welcome from Administrator

This is the first of a number of Candidate Awareness and preparation sessions aimed at securing a strong leadership group who will successfully transition the Council from Administration to a governing body widely respected and trusted within and beyond Wingecarribee Shire.

THE COUNCIL



- Strong and effective leadership, representation, planning and decision making
- Providing best value for money
- Acting fairly, ethically and without bias
- Being a responsible employer
- Being transparent
- Actively engaging with the community



THE GOVERNING BODY



- Directs and controls the affairs of the Council
- Provides effective civic leadership
- Ensures the financial sustainability of the Council
- Develops the community strategic plan, delivery program and associated plans, programs and strategies
- Determines the rating structure
- Reviews performance of the Council
- Appoints and monitors the performance of the General Manager
- Determines senior staff positions and the organisation structure
- Ensures the Council acts honestly, efficiently and appropriately

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE



- Act within the Law - particularly important to meet compliance requirements
- Lead your community
- Remember you are accountable to the community
- Take decisions for the whole community
- Be transparent
- Participate
- Aim for collaborative decision making
- Be responsive to community needs, within strategic and financial plans
- Be effective and efficient
- Remember to be equitable
- Communicate

THE ROLE OF A COUNCILLOR



- Be an active and contributing member of the governing body
- Make considered and well-informed decisions
- Participate in the development of the integrated planning and reporting framework
- Represent the collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community
- Facilitate communication between the local community and the governing body
- Uphold and represent accurately the policies and decisions of the governing body
- Make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role
- A Councillor is accountable to the local community for the performance of the Council.

SUPPORT FOR COUNCILLORS



- Council has a policy which enables the reasonable and appropriate reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors

THE MAYOR



- 'First among equals, has the same role and responsibilities as other councillors but has additional responsibilities that reflect the leadership role
- Voice of the Council
- Highly recognised in and the leader of the community
- Known in the region and throughout the state
- Will represent the Council and the community on issues at a regional, state and national level.
- Carry out civic and ceremonial functions
- Will need time to fulfil the important role
- Is the important link between the Council and the General Manager

THE GENERAL MANAGER

- The only staff member the Council will appoint.
- Councillors will review the General Manager's performance.
- Responsible for the day-to-day management of the Council in line with the direction set by the Council
- The Council determines the strategies and policies and the General Manager and staff implement and deliver

SEPERATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES



- ***“It is clear that there is a clear distinction between “direct and control” which is for the governing body and “implement and manage” which is for the General Manager and staff.***
- ***“The roles don’t interact or overlap. There is a clear bright line between those activities”***

CONDUCT



- ICAC legislation defines corrupt conduct
- Council's Code of Conduct, particularly as it relates to disclosures and conflicts of interest, receipt of gifts and benefits and relationships
- Council's Interaction between Councillors and Staff policy.
- Misconduct provisions of the Local Government Act

PREPARATION FOR THE ELECTION – 14 SEPTEMBER 2024



- There are rules about:
 - Registration as a candidate
 - Funding (Electoral Funding Act)
 - Donations
 - Caps on Expenditure
 - Display material
- You will need to work out:
 - If you will be part of a team or political group
 - Who your campaign manager will be
 - Who your official manager will be to report all financial transactions
 - Who will be on your support team

CONCLUSION



***“This community has been good to me and
I wanted to give something back”***

2024 SESSIONS* **subject to change pending availability and feedback*



Session 1: 10 April

- Overview of functions of Council and the Governing Body
- Speaker from NSWEC (including questions)
- “Elected Life”(including questions) Lord Mayor (speaker TBC)

Further questions please contact:

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Session 2: 8 May

- Speaker from ICAC (including questions)
- Lessons from the Public Inquiry (including questions, speaker TBC)
- Roles of Councillors, Mayor, General Manager and separation of powers/interactions

Session 3: 12 June

- Speaker from OLG (including questions)
- “Elected Life” former Mayor (speaker TBC)
- Presentation from Administrator “What we have done and what’s next”(including questions)
- Response to questions which would be submitted in advance.
- What to expect over 12 months

Q and A