

People Strategic Reference Group

Date: Wednesday 13 September 2023

Time: 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Location: Council Chambers / Boardroom (Shire Hall) and via MS Teams

<i>Members</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Apology</i>
Councillor Suzy Brandstater (Chair)	✓	
Councillor Beverley Spearpoint (Deputy Chair) - online	✓	
Caroline Argent, Director Customer and Corporate Services	✓	
Michelle Sheehan, Manager Community Services		✓
Matt Gould, Mayor		
Greg Duffy - online	✓	
Lisa Richardson		✓
Hugh Gent - online	✓	
Kazan Brown - online	✓	
Elizabeth Gunter	✓	
James Johnson	✓	
Edward Stunnell	✓	
Michael O'Shaw		✓
Karen Fist - online	✓	

<i>Guests</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Apology</i>
Vickie Tierney – Community Projects Officer (Minute Taker)	✓	

Item	Key Speaker (s)	Agreed Actions/Recommendations
1. Acknowledgement of country	Chair	Nil
2. Attendance and apologies As noted above	Chair	Noted
3. Disclosure of interests	Chair	Nil
4. Confirmation of previous minutes	Chair	Elizabeth moved Edward seconded
5. Reports, minutes or Actions from previous meetings	Chair	RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People SRG moved a motion to invite Stephen Gardiner, Manager Sustainable Growth to the next People SRG to discuss Affordable Housing and give committee better understanding of the planning system to support advocating for affordable housing and homelessness supports such as refuges. <p>Greg Duffy, Community Links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greg suggested to invite Caroline Doherty from Argyle Housing to an upcoming SRG. - Questions were raised in relation to the storage of furniture for people who have something to give away to someone who is homeless. Vickie and Greg spoke about the organisation 'Giveit' and suggested an invite to an upcoming SRG. <p>Edward raised questions in relation to Illuminate</p> <p>Question: Can local groups utilize these events to advertise their community service groups?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, Community Organisations are invited to become a stallholder.</p> <p>Question: Does Council advertise local community services at their Council stand?</p> <p>Answer: During Illuminate the Council Stall is utilised to provide Council Information in relation to upcoming community service activities, Library, Environment and Tourism. If a resident were to ask for more information about local service provision, staff would take their details and ensure follow up with the most appropriate staff to support them to connect with the right organisations.</p> <p>Question: What extent does Council liaise with local business who might be impacted during the event.</p> <p>Answer: Council is obligated to send notifications to all local businesses. Businesses are encouraged to stay open for longer hours and participate in lighting up their business as part of the activities during Illuminate. If a local business closes during Illuminate, that is the decision of the business.</p>		<p>ACTION: MS to invite Manager Sustainable Growth to next People SRG.</p> <p>ACTION: MS to look at arranging future presentations from Argyle Housing & Giveit.</p>
<p>9. General Business</p> <p>Cr Suzy Brandstater-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cr Brandstater informed the People SRG that she and Cr Judy Hannan had put forward a Notion of 		

<p>Motion Looking at animal shelters and asking Council to investigate the feasibility of reintroducing the volunteer program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion from People SRG members were supportive of the motion and suggested things to consider would be: vocational opportunities to work at the animal shelter, consideration of Work Health and Safety Laws and policies and the age and size of the current facility need to be considered <p>Hugh Gent shared some observations of this recent visit to the new Blacktown animal care facility-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is a brand-new state of the art facility - The facility can support homeless people with dogs with the support of community group, Hawksbury help hound - Hugh Gent is the chair of the organisation, Royal NSW Canine Council Health & Welfare Charity. - Hugh would be happy to share this information with the animal care facility for anyone surrendering at the local pound <p>Kazan Brown raised concerns about female period poverty in Wollondilly-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blue Mountains Council provides free sanitary products in Council facilities and public toilets. - Vickie shared that Council support the charity 'Share the Dignity' each year. This supplies period and hygiene products to a charity to distribute. - People SRG moved a motion to ask Council to investigate the provision of free sanitary products in Council facilities. <p>Kazan Brown reflected on the mass held in Yerranderie-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was a community effort and deserves recognition to everyone involved. - The mayor drove priests from Wollongong to Yerranderie - It was lovely and a pleasure to part of the mass. 		<p>ACTION: Information to be shared with local animal shelter.</p> <p>ACTION: Council staff to investigate the provision of free sanitary products in Council facilities to address female period poverty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MS to speak to Waste & Environment to seek funding for a sustainable solution & update SRG at the next meeting
<p>Next Meeting: Wednesday 15 November</p>		