



## G9 Advocacy

### Policy Objective

To provide direction for Shire of Ravensthorpe advocacy initiatives, to outline roles and responsibilities and to support the President, Council Members, the Chief Executive Officer and Shire officers in their efforts to achieve positive changes to public policy or resourcing for the local community.

### Policy

The Shire of Ravensthorpe Strategic Community Plan is the overarching document that sets out the Council vision for achieving the key priorities and commitments on issues that matter to our community.

The Shire is committed to advocating on behalf of the community on a wide range of issues, initiatives and services to improve the quality of life for our residents and achieve our vision of growing our community.

Advocacy can take the form of making a submission, meeting with decision makers, collaboration with other councils and peak bodies, consultation, media and communications strategies and public campaigns.

### **Application:**

Where there is a cost to attend such events, it is recommended that a maximum of two (2) Shire representatives attend an activity. Given the role of the President, it is expected that he/she will generally represent the Shire at such activities. There may be circumstances where there may be more than two (2) Shire representatives at a fee paying function and this approval will be at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer.

The following conditions apply:

- (a) The Shire President will receive requests from Council Members, and the Chief Executive Officer will receive requests from Officers, regarding whether the Shire should be present at an advocacy activity that provides an opportunity to promote a current priority that requires lobbying for support by local, state and/or federal stakeholders.
- (b) The Shire President and Chief Executive Officer will discuss the benefits of attending and discuss the most appropriate representatives to attend the activity with the Shire President, which in most cases will be the Chief Executive Officer. In the case where the Shire President and/or the Chief Executive Officer are not available to attend or believe another person should represent the Shire, the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer will discuss the representatives who will represent the Shire of Ravensthorpe.
- (c) Where practical and reasonable a notification will be provided to all Council Members advising of the intention to attend an advocacy and lobbying activity. The notification will be provided by either the Shire President or the Chief Executive Officer and will include:
  - i) date of event;
  - ii) cost;
  - iii) who will be attending from the Shire of Ravensthorpe; and
  - iv) reason for attending and stakeholder/s that will be present.



- (d) There may be a requirement from time to time to use some of the allocated budget to produce materials to assist with lobbying and advocacy. Where this is required, notification will be provided to all Council Members of the intention to use funds for this purpose for attending and when the materials may be used. Where time does not permit, then Council shall be notified at the next available opportunity.
- (e) Costs associated with interstate or international advocacy initiatives will require a report to Council prior to undertaking any travel.

<b>DOCUMENT CONTROL BOX</b>		
<b>Custodian:</b> Chief Executive Officer		<b>Decision Maker:</b> Council
<b>Compliance Requirements:</b> Appropriate Annual Budget Allocations		
<b>Legislation:</b> s2.8. [Role of President] s2.10 [Role of Council Members] of the Local Government Act 1995		
<b>Industry:</b>		
<b>Organisational:</b>		
<b>Document Management:</b>		
<b>Risk Rating:</b> Low	<b>Review Frequency:</b> 4 Years	<b>Next Due:</b>
<b>Version #</b>	<b>Decision Reference:</b>	<b>Description:</b>
a	OCM 18/08/2020 Item 13.3	Comprehensive Policy Register Review
b	OCM 19/07/2022 Item 12.1.2	Comprehensive Policy Register Review
c	OCM 17/12/2024 Item 12.1.2	Policy Reconfirmed – No Amendments