

Item 10

Proposed Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for 2020

File No: S063444

Summary

This report requests that Council approve the draft schedule for meetings and briefings for 2020.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council adopt the draft schedule of meetings and briefings for 2020, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report.

Attachments

Attachment A. Draft Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for 2020

Background

1. The draft Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for calendar year 2020 (Attachment A) has been prepared on the basis of a three-week meeting cycle (Councillor Briefings, Committees and Council), consistent with the meeting arrangements adopted by Council in previous years. The draft schedule proposes 10 meeting cycles for the calendar year 2020.
2. Section 365 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that "the council is required to meet at least 10 times each year, each time in a different month", with "year" meaning the period from 1 July to the following 30 June (the financial year).
3. To ensure compliance with the provisions of section 365, the draft Schedule of Meetings and Briefings for the calendar year 2020 provides for:
 - (a) five meetings in the first half of 2020 (making a total of 10 meetings for the 2019/20 financial year, inclusive of the five meetings of Council which will have been held in the second half of 2019); and
 - (b) five meetings of Council held in the second half of 2020 (making a total of 10 meetings for the 2020/21 financial year, on the basis that a further five meetings of Council will be scheduled for the first half of 2021).
4. It is noted that:
 - (a) in drafting the schedule, the Local Government General Elections scheduled for 12 September 2020 have been taken into account (with an extraordinary meeting of Council to take place following the Elections);
 - (b) the 2020 Annual Conference of Local Government NSW will be held from 11 October 2020 to 13 October 2020;
 - (c) due to the October public holiday and the Local Government NSW conference, briefings for the October meeting cycle have been scheduled prior to Committee meetings at 11.00am on 19 October 2020; and
 - (d) if considered necessary, additional "tentative" briefings dates, intended to accommodate such matters as external presentations, workshops and other non-meeting agenda items, will be separately distributed to Councillors, following approval of the draft schedule.

Relevant Legislation

5. Local Government Act 1993, section 365.
6. Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.
7. Part 3 of the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

8. It would be appropriate for Council to now determine a program of meetings for next year to enable all interested parties to plan their commitments.

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