

Report by David Backhouse, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report on upcoming forums on the Local Government Review Panel Report and the Planning White Paper

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Council of the two (2) forums planned to date by Local Government NSW (LGNSW).

REPORT

Local Government is under a series of reviews, the outcomes of which are set to significantly reshape our sector.

To assist with the LGNSW's lobbying, and to ensure all councils are kept fully informed the Association has planned a series of Leaders Forums in June and July. LGNSW has sought and been granted an extension of time in which to lodge final submissions to the Panels.

Details of the forums are as follows:

Friday 28 June 2013: Forum to discuss the Independent Local Government Review Panel's paper "*Future Directions for NSW Local Government – 20 Essential Steps*"

Time: 9:15am – 3pm

Venue: Four Points by Sheraton, 166 Sussex Street, Sydney

Tuesday 2 July 2013: Forum to discuss the Planning White Paper

Time: 10am – 3pm

Venue: Portside Conference Centre, 207 Kent Street, Sydney

Mayors and General Managers are invited to attend either forum to hear about and comment on changes proposed to the NSW planning system.

Participants will have the opportunity to provide their comments, observations, questions and feedback directly to the Minister for Planning & Infrastructure, the Hon Brad Hazzard MP and senior staff from the Department of Planning & Infrastructure who will be attending.

Attendees are encouraged to come along and offer their views about the Panel's "*Future Directions*" paper and about what is being proposed in the White Paper and raise their concerns about the proposals within; about how they think the planning system can be improved. These forums will also assist LGNSW to test their understanding of their members'

views about the changes being proposed to the planning system. This will provide valuable input to LGNSW's formal submission on the Planning White Paper and draft Exposure Bill.

REFERRAL FROM OTHER DEPARTMENT

No referral was required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.