

Power Line Environment Committee

Tuesday, 10 May 2022
Council

Strategic Alignment - Enabling Priorities

Program Contact:
Jessica Dillon, Acting Manager
Governance

Public

Approving Officer:
Amanda McIlroy - Chief
Operating Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) has called for nominations for one local government representative position on the Power Line Environment Committee (PLEC).

This report seeks Council's consideration and approval to submit up to two nominations.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. Approves the nomination of up to two Council Members or staff members to the Power Line Environment Committee.
-

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Enabling Priorities This report supports the Strategic Plan action of building on effective advocacy and partnerships locally, nationally and globally.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Expressions of interest were sought from Council Members via E-news with Councillors Martin and Moran expressing an interest in being nominated for the position.
Resource	For participating members, preparation or and attendance at 12 meetings per year.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	As remuneration is payable for the position, nominated Council Members are advised to declare an actual conflict of interest (nominations are still subject to the LGA appointment process, including Ministerial appointment) and are recommended to leave the Council Chamber while the matter is being discussed and voted on. A material conflict of interest may arise for a Council Member who is also a Board Member if a matter were to be discussed at a meeting of the Council where the body corporate of which the Council Member is a Board Member would gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, depending on the outcome of the consideration of the matter at the meeting. In that case, the Council Member must inform the Council meeting and leave the room while the matter is being discussed and voted on
Opportunities	Appointments to outside bodies provides opportunity for Council Members to contribute to discussion and decision making on a broad range of matters relevant to the City of Adelaide.
21/22 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 22/23 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Appointments to PLEC are for a period of three years. In accordance with Standing Order 154, should a nominated Council member be appointed to PLEC, they are required to resign from the position within one month of ceasing to be a Council Member.
21/22 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

1. The Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) is seeking nominations for one local government representative position on the Power Line Environment Committee (PLEC).
2. The PLEC sits informally under section 58A of the *Electricity Act 1996* and exists to assist local government with initiatives to enhance the aesthetics of a location by undergrounding power lines. Undergrounding can enable trees to be established and streetscaping projects to be implemented thereby improving the appearance of a locality. The PLEC has developed Guidelines which define the roles and responsibilities for PLEC projects and provide guidance to the PLEC process.
3. The PLEC operates under a [Charter](#) assigned by the Minister in August 2000. The Charter defines the scope of PLEC activities, its composition, financial arrangements, reporting requirements and associated administrative processes.
4. The Committee comprises eight members with one member representing the interests of each of the following:
 - 4.1. Department of Environment and Heritage (or its equivalent)
 - 4.2. Transport SA (or its equivalent)
 - 4.3. Tourism interests
 - 4.4. The Local Government Association of South Australia
 - 4.5. Conservation interests
 - 4.6. Holders of licenses under the Electricity Act which authorise the operation of networks (Network Licensees)
 - 4.7. Two Community representatives.
5. Nominations for the position must be current Council Members or council staff.
6. Council may put forward a maximum of two nominations for consideration by the LGA.
7. Nominations will need to address the following selection criteria:
 - 7.1. Local government knowledge and experience
 - 7.2. Knowledge and experience of the *Electricity Act 1996* and Local Government impacts
 - 7.3. Knowledge of the PLEC Program and infrastructure related projects would be an advantage.
 - 7.4. Ability to advocate and represent the interest of Local Government.
8. The appointment is for a period of three years.
9. Councillors Martin and Moran have expressed an interest in being nominated to PLEC.
10. Remuneration of \$2,110 per annum is payable.
11. 12 meetings are held per year for approximately two hours per session. Meetings are currently held on the fourth Thursday of the month and members can attend in person or via MS Teams.
12. Nominations must be forwarded to the LGA by 5:00pm on 20 May 2022.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – The Charter of the Power Line Environment Committee

ATTACHMENTS

Nil