

2.2 LGBTIQA+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE – COUNCILLOR NOMINATIONS (TE)

Responsible Director: Russell Hopkins

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- *Council nominates Councillors Fergeus, James and Paterson to the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee;*
- *Council endorses the Terms of Reference for the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee.*

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is for Council to nominate three Councillors to be part of the inaugural LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

Council endorsed the establishment of a LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee at the 15 December 2020 Council meeting. This was part of Council's ongoing commitment to better recognising, representing and connecting with members of Monash's lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer and asexual communities (LGBTIQA+). The aim of the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee is to provide Council with advice on strengthening the representation and inclusion of people who identify as LGBTIQA+ within the Monash community and to contribute to the development and implementation of Council's LGBTIQA+ Action Plan. Council also directed officers to draft a Terms of Reference for the Committee.

DISCUSSION

The proposed Terms of Reference are attached in Appendix 1. The Terms of Reference state that the role of Councillors on the Committee will be:

- To act as Chairperson of the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee
- To be the link between Council and the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee
- To table issues and concerns to Council on behalf of the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee

The LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee will consist of:

- Up to three Councillors
- Fourteen community representatives including:
 - Up to twelve community members living or working in Monash representing the diversity of the Monash LGBTIQA+ community and allies
 - Up to four community organisations, agencies and service providers who have a focus on providing services to the Monash LGBTIQA+ community.

Council Officers are currently seeking nominations from local residents and community organisations to fill the positions on the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This is in line with Council's *A Healthy & Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan 2017-2021*.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Members of the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee will contribute by advocating for equality and inclusion for the LGBTIQ+ community in Monash and contribute to the development and implementation of Council's LGBTIQ+ Action Plan.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee is consistent with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and in particular it relates to the following rights:

- (viii) freedom of expression;
- (x) protection of families and children; and
- (xi) taking part in public life.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications resulting from this recommendation.

CONCLUSION

The LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee will provide an important forum to advance a broad range of initiatives that will better recognise, represent and connect with members of Monash's lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer and asexual communities (LGBTIQ+).