



Elected Member Training Report 2019/2020

Background

On 6 July 2019, amendments to the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) relating to Elected Member training, came into effect. These amendments addressed the complex and significant role that Elected Members take on when elected to Council.

The amendments included the introduction of compulsory training, continuing professional development and reporting.

Compulsory Training

In accordance with Section 5.126 of the Act and Regulation 35 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, Elected Members must complete the Council Members Essentials course within 12 months of being elected, which commenced from the October 2019 Local Government elections. The Council Members Essentials course consists of the following modules:

- Understanding Local Government
- Serving on Council
- Meeting Procedures
- Conflicts of Interest
- Understanding Financial Reports and Budgets.

Continuing Professional Development

In accordance with Section 5.128 of the Act the Council is required to adopt a policy relating to the continuing professional development of Elected Members.

At its meeting held Tuesday 19 November 2019, Council resolved (Council Resolution Number 1119/011) to adopt the Elected Member Continuing Professional Development Policy.

Reporting

In accordance with Section 5.127 of the Act a report must be prepared annually on all training completed by Elected Members within a financial year. This report must be published on the City's website within one month after the end of the financial year to which the report relates.

The Elected Member Continuing Professional Development Policy prescribes that both the Council Member Essentials course and any continuing professional development completed by Elected Members will be included in this report.

Comment

The details of all training completed by Elected Members during the 2019/2020 Financial Year are detailed below.

As legislative and policy requirements commenced after the 2019 Ordinary Election, reporting will only include training completed after October 2019.

In response to the Government of Western Australia's State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency declarations in relation to COVID-19, the Council amended the Elected Member Continuing Professional Development Policy on Tuesday 26 May 2020 (Council Resolution Number 0520/027). The amendments included changes to the format of the Council Members Essential Course and requirements of the Elected Members Continuing Professional Development.

Council Members Essentials Course

All Elected Members who were elected at the Ordinary Local Government Elections in 2019 are required to complete the Council Members Essentials course. The course must be completed prior to 21 October 2020.

Due to COVID-19 all compulsory Elected Member training was moved to online.

The following table details the modules of the Council Member Essentials course that have been completed by Elected Members during the 2019/2020 Financial Year.

Elected Member	Unit Completed	Date Completed	Training Provider
Felicity Farrelly	Meeting Procedures	10/12/2019	WALGA
Karlo Perkov	Conflicts of Interest	11/04/2020	WALGA
	Meeting Procedures	12/04/2020	WALGA
	Understanding Local Government	13/04/2020	WALGA
	Serving on Council	25/05/2020	WALGA
Keith Sargent	Conflicts of Interest	26/02/2020	WALGA
	Meeting Procedures	01/03/2020	WALGA
	Understanding Local Government	04/04/2020	WALGA
Mark Irwin	Understanding Local Government	25/03/2020	WALGA
	Conflicts of Interest	27/03/2020	WALGA
	Meeting Procedures	01/04/2020	WALGA
Stephanie Proud	Conflicts of Interest	24/02/2020	WALGA
	Meeting Procedures	01/03/2020	WALGA
	Understanding Local Government	01/03/2020	WALGA
	Serving on Council	22/06/2020	WALGA

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Elected Members who were not elected at the Ordinary Local Government Elections in 2019 are required to complete 10 points of continuing professional development during the two year period following the election.

Due to COVID-19, Council amended the Elected Member Continuing Professional Development Policy to half the required number of points to five for continuing professional development to be undertaken during the two year period up to 16 October 2021.

The following table details the continuing professional development training completed by Elected Members during the 2019/2020 Financial Year.

Elected Member	Professional Development Completed	Date Completed
Elizabeth Re	Attendance at the 2020 Wetlands Management Conference	31/01/2020