

# FACT SHEET

## COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

At an Extraordinary Meeting held on 4 October 2017, Council resolved to establish four Standing Committees to assist with making decisions for the local government area. These Committee Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month and consist of:

- Environment and Planning Committee
- Finance and Governance Committee
- Community and Culture Committee
- Assets and Infrastructure Committee

The dates and times of these meetings are advertised to members of the public and can be found via [Council's website](#).

At each of these Committee Meetings, reports and recommendations, which are submitted by Council Officers, are reviewed and considered by Committee Members.

Proposed recommendations can be viewed by the public online prior to the meeting via [Council's website](#).

Committees then make recommendations on these reports to be considered at the next scheduled Council Meeting. Council then makes a resolution on the recommendation.

All recommendations and resolutions made during meetings are recorded and made available via Council's website the following week.

Council Meetings and Committee Meetings, except for closed sessions, are open to members of the public to attend. Georges River Council's [Code of Meeting Practice](#) explains how Council Meetings operate. You can also view Meetings via a [Live Stream](#) from home.

### Have Your Say

If you would like to register to speak at a meeting, you must complete the [Request to Speak at Council Meeting Form](#) and submit it no later than midday of the day of the meeting.

Your presentation to Council will then be recorded into the Minutes of the meeting and will be considered by Councillors when making a decision.

The Minutes of the Meeting will record all decisions made. The Minutes are then published on Council's website the week after the Meeting.



It is important to note that a Council Meeting is the last step in making any decisions for the local government area. All members of the public are encouraged to get involved in Council projects and plans from the beginning and participate in community engagement activities. Council undertakes community engagement to help shape recommendations and plans to put before a Council Meeting.

For example, below is a timeline demonstrating a simplified version of the process undertaken to reach the adoption of the Development Control Plan Kogarah North Precinct and Kogarah North Urban Design Strategy.

**April 2016** Council considers report for a study

**August 2016** Consultants appointed and delivers community engagement program

**May 2017** Council resolves to put on public exhibition

**6 September to 6 October 2017** Public exhibition commences

**18 December 2017** Council adopts Kogarah DCP (Kogarah Nth Amendment)

If you registered to speak at the Council Meeting of 18 December 2017 on this item, you are at the end of a 20 month-long project, which led to the final adoption at this Council Meeting.

In the example above, the best time to become involved was during the public exhibition program, after May 2017

## Get involved earlier!

Council keeps the community informed about important projects and decisions affecting the community through various channels, including Council's website, a weekly advertisement in the St George Leader Newspaper, Council's quarterly Community Newsletter, and Council's Have Your Say online Panel.

The earlier you become involved in projects you want to have your say about, the more likely you are to be able to influence a decision.

