



Meeting Minutes

Women's Advisory Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre
176 - Training Room
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Monday 12 May 2025

at 4:00 PM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

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1. Present

Members and guests: Joanna Koleda, Kay Whitbread, Glenda Anthes, Karina Dodd, Aunty Kim Usher, Karla Priestly, Bronagh Power, Emma Mason,

Councillors: Mayor Cassandra Coleman, Cllr Evangelidis

Staff: Shaun Elwood, Director People and Place, Heather Chaffey Manager Community and Culture, Verity Brookes Coordinator Community and Culture

2. Apologies

Choe Mas Stephens, Reidun Berntsen, Dee Kinney

3. Acknowledgement of Country

Aunty Kim Usher delivered a Welcome to Country.

4. Presentations

Aunty Kim Usher and Karla Priestly provided a presentation on the Walanbang Women's Circle. A developing initiative supporting women to connect with each other, develop social supports and participate in healing activities inspired and informed by First Nations culture.

The committee were very interested in the initiative, asking many questions and sharing personal reflections regarding social isolation, recovery from violence and the importance of social support networks.

MOTION: That the information provided by Aunty Kim and Karla is noted.

MOVED: Glenda Anthes

SECONDED: Kay Whitebread

CARRIED.

5. Discussion Items

5.1. Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Social Media Policy

Heather Chaffey presented the committee with the governance documents which guide the Womens Advisory Committee. The documents were briefly discussed by committee members.

MOTION: That the governance documents which guide the Women's Advisory Committee are noted.

MOVED: Joanna Koleda

SECONDED: Karina Dodd

CARRIED.

6. General Business

General Business items can be tabled during the meeting.

Items for discussion in General Business:

6.1 Initiatives for Committee Consideration

Heather Chaffey spoke briefly to the information sheet provided to members of the committee to stimulate conversation about the focus and direction they wish to take.

Committee members discussed areas of interest and landed on the following summarised themes for further investigation.

- Including young women in the committee and increasing the participation of young women in all aspects of community life.
- Information and promotion of current services. The committee are keenly interested in learning more about local services and in initiatives which promote those services.
- The prevention of and support services regarding family and domestic violence.
- Employment futures for women and girls in the context of economic change in Lithgow.
- Supporting the advocacy and leadership of women locally. This discussion focussed on building the capacity and skills of local women and girls to advocate, participate and lead.

MOTION: THAT items listed and discussed in General business be noted.

MOVED: Joanna Koleda

SECONDED: Glenda Anthes

CARRIED

6.2. Nomination of new committee members

Mayor Coleman requested that the committee accept the following women as members of the Women's Advisory Committee. All three women attended the meeting as guests.

MOTION: That Aunty Kim Usher, Karla Priestly and Bronagh Power be welcomed as new committee members.

MOVED: Mayor Cass Coleman

SECONDED: Joanna Koleda

CARRIED

Meeting Close

Next Meeting: 21 July 2025, 4:00- 5.30pm. Venue To be confirmed.

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 5.30pm.