

**MARRICKVILLE council**

**SUPPLEMENTARY  
BUSINESS PAPER  
1**

**for**

**COUNCIL  
MEETING  
04/08**

**6.30 PM, TUESDAY,  
20 MAY, 2008**

*Distributed 16 May, 2008*

***SUPPLEMENTARY PRECIS***

**The following report appears as a late item with Mayoral approval as information required for the preparation of the report was not available at the time of distribution of the Business Paper.**

***GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS***

**GM 51      2008 ASCA CONFERENCE**

**1**

File Ref: 190

At the May meeting of the Sister Cities Committee, it was agreed to recommend that Council representatives attend the Australian Sister Cities Association (ASCA) Conference in Ettalong Beach, Gosford, from 27 to 30 July 2008. It is recommended that the report be received and noted; and Councillors nominate their interest in attending the 2008 ASCA Conference.

**GM 51 – 2008 ASCA CONFERENCE**  
**For Decision**

File Ref: 190

**General Manager reports:**

**Synopsis**

At the May meeting of the Sister Cities Committee, it was agreed to recommend that Council representatives attend the Australian Sister Cities Association (ASCA) Conference in Ettalong Beach, Gosford, from 27 to 30 July 2008. It is recommended that the report be received and noted; and Councillors nominate their interest in attending the 2008 ASCA Conference.

**Background**

Council has regularly sent delegates to the annual Australian Sister Cities Association (ASCA) Conference to promote Marrickville's Sister Cities Program, network with Association members and learn about other sister city programs. Past conference delegates have included Councillors, young people on the Sister Cities Committee or Youth Council, and staff. Following each conference, the delegates make a presentation to the Sister Cities Committee.

**Discussion**

At the Sister Cities Committee meeting on the 12 May 2008, it was agreed to recommend that Council representatives attend the 2008 ASCA Conference *Sense of Place* to be held at Ettalong Beach, Gosford, from 27 to 30 July 2008.

Under Council's Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy AS.13, clause 1.2.2 Attendance at Seminars and Conferences, Councillors will have the following expenses paid: accommodation in a double room in the hotel where the conference is being held, or the nearest hotel of a similar standard; an economy class air ticket; and where meals are not provided in the registration fee, or as part of the accommodation cost, the Councillors will be reimbursed for the cost of meals up to the limit of the Reasonable Allowances Taxation Ruling issued each year by the Australian Taxation Office under Park IVAAA of the Taxation Administration Act 1953.

**Budget Implications**

The cost of the Conference per delegate is \$1750, including \$1150 conference fee, \$600 accommodation (\$200 per night). If partners attend, Councillors are required to pay for their expenses. Councillors are requested, in determining their interest to attend the Conference, to consider the limited funds available to and the agreed priorities of the Sister Cities program as detailed in the draft Sister Cities Strategic Plan, currently on public exhibition.

***GM 51 – 2008 ASCA CONFERENCE  
For Decision***

**Director, Corporate Services reports:**

There are sufficient funds available within the Sister Cities Draft Operating Budget 2008-2009 to cover the costs associated with Council representatives attending the Conference.

**Conclusion**

Marrickville's Sister Cities Program aims to develop cultural understanding and goodwill between Marrickville and its sister cities, providing strong links to the countries from which many local communities have originated. The annual ASCA Conference provides Council representatives opportunities to network with other Association members and share knowledge and experiences to enhance the Marrickville program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT:**

1. the report be received and noted; and
2. Councillors nominate their interest in attending the 2008 ASCA Conference.