

Wednesday 27 January 2010

## WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEET IN RYDE

City of Ryde Council will host a meeting of the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) NSW Executive on Saturday 6 February at the Civic Centre. Top of the agenda for the 14 members of the Executive, will be discussions centred on the 2010 Year of Women in Local Government.

City of Ryde Councillor Nicole Campbell, Chair of Council's Status of Women's Advisory Committee said: "2010 is the Year of Women in Local Government and we welcome ALGWA's leadership in highlighting the importance of women in local government - as both elected representatives and staff.

"City of Ryde Council has a strong track record in supporting women through our work on increased paid parental leave and the establishment of our Status of Women's Advisory Committee. We look forward to hosting ALGWA's Executive meeting and continuing to work closely with them on issues that affect women."

President of the NSW Branch of the ALGWA, Karen McKeown, added that women should have better representation in Local Government so that Councils more accurately reflect their community demographics. "Women make up about 52% of the Local Government workforce, but only about 20% hold senior management roles. There are only three female General Managers and 37 female Mayors out of 152 Councils in NSW, so the statistics speak for themselves."

City of Ryde Group Manager - Community Life, Simone Schwartz, said she was looking forward to welcoming members of the Executive and added that it was an ideal opportunity to showcase the City of Ryde as part of its bid to host the 2012 ALGWA National Conference.

Membership of ALGWA is open to anyone interested in supporting women's participation in Local Government. Membership includes elected Councillors, Employees in Local Government, former Mayors and Councillors, individual Councils and Shires and intended candidates for Local Government elections.

For more details go to:

[www.algwa.org.au](http://www.algwa.org.au)

[www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/council/committees/statusofwomen](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/council/committees/statusofwomen)

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**Attached: Photo Karen McKeown, Pres ALGWA NSW**  
**Media contact: City of Ryde Lee Kirkland 9952 8083**