

Subject:	Status of Women Working Group	Page 1 of 6
File No:	D22/60/10	
Document Ref:	D23/19743	
Venue:	Pope Street meeting room and via TEAMS	
Date:	Wednesday 15 th February 2023	
Time:	6.00pm Started at: 6.05pm Closed at: 6.33pm	
Chair:	Sue Verhoek - Senior Coordinator Community Services	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Orit Mirkin – Project Support Officer	
Circulation:	Working Group members and website	

Committee Role:**Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference**

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Penny Pedersen	Councillor Mayor Yedelian	City of Ryde
x		Jessica Matthews	Community Representative	
		Cate Sinclair	Community Representative	
x		Brenda Gaddi	Community Representative	
		Geeta Patni	Community Representative	
		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		Kitty Ng	Community Representative	
x		Rose Torossian	Community Representative	
x		Chavalin Svetanant	Community Representative	
x		Akhila Nagarajan	Community Representative	

City of Ryde Staff

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator Community Services	City of Ryde
x		Orit Mirkin	Project Support Officer	City of Ryde
		Tania Gamble	Team Leader Community Grants And Direct Services	
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details**Action**

1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sue Verhoek provided the Acknowledgement of Country.</p>	Noted
2.	<p>Minutes of the meeting 16 November 2022</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 16 November were received and noted.</p>	Noted
3.	<p>Frequency of meetings</p>	

Subject:	Minutes – Status of Women Working Group– 15 th February 2023	Page 2 of 3
-----------------	---	-------------

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cate Sinclair who had asked that this item be placed on the agenda was not present. - As a result, the item will be deferred for discussion at the next meeting of this working group. 	Noted
4.	<p>Women and Politics Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This item was raised by Rose Torrosian. - Rose suggested that Council consider a forum for women on the importance of voting, how to vote and how politics impacts women. - The focus of the forum would be to inform ethnic women of the importance of politics in their live as often CALD women don't cast a formal vote as they don't understand how important politics is or understand how Australian politics works. - Brenda advised that "Politics in Colour" already exists for first nations women, and they partner with pathways for politics and get women from many backgrounds involved in politics. - It was suggested that this is the responsibility of the Electoral Commission and that they do deliver workshops. - If Council was to deliver these forums it was suggested that they are held after the State election in March 2023. - The group felt that the talks would be best provided by group mentioned by Brenda, be nonpartisan and signed off by Council. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Council staff will contact the Electoral Commission to find out if they offer these type of information sessions.</p> <p>Staff will contact the group mentioned by Brenda to find out if there are service providers in the Ryde area.</p> <p>Contact will be made with Community Migrant Resource Centre, as they might provide a similar service.</p>
5.	<p>Update on International Women's Day – 11th March 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The event will be held at North Ryde School of Arts. - The theme for 2023 is "Embrace Equity" - There will be several guest speakers and performers including Mrs Chung will speak on equity and resilience and her journey to Australia from North Korea and Kylie Van Luyn, a motivational speaker who will present on how women can embrace equity in both the community and. - Morning tea will be provided by the local women's social enterprise Kabul to you. - There will also be a comedian and an interactive drumming session. - The full program will be distributed to the working group members shortly. - Brenda mentioned that "embrace equity" is not the UN sanctioned theme and suggested that the UN theme be used in 2024. 	Noted
6.	<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brenda stated that the group Women of Colour has received funding from the Victorian government to offer an executive 	Noted

Subject:	Minutes – Status of Women Working Group– 15 th February 2023	Page 3 of 3
-----------------	---	-------------

	Details	Action
	<p>leadership program for women.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Councillor Pedersen advised that Mahboba Rowi and her son have been awarded human rights medals for their humanitarian work. - It was noted that there are many young women on the board of Mahboba's Promise, predominantly, working to get women out of Afghanistan. - There is still a need for more housing for the Afghan orphans that arrived in Ryde in 2022. - Councillor Pedersen also mentioned that there are several local IWD events coming up including an event run by CMRC on the 08 March 23. 	
8	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 24 May 2023 6:00pm - 7.30pm in the Committee Room – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde and via TEAMS</p>	Noted