

**MM-1 MAYORAL MINUTE: JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL
MEMBERSHIP**

Department Executive

Author Initials: AT

REPORT

Council at its meeting on 19 March, 2013 resolved to nominate Councillor Michael Megna and myself as members of the Sydney East Joint Regional Planning Panel which included John Rosenth (Chair), David Furlong and Sue Francis.

As Councillors would be aware the Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) determines Development Applications lodged by Council that have an estimated value of \$20 million or greater.

The process to be followed with the JRPP is as follows:

1. Development application is lodged with Council and fees are paid to Council;
2. Assessment of the DA is undertaken by Council officers from the Council area within which the DA has been lodged;
3. The Council officer's report is submitted to the JRPP for determination generally within 60 days

Members of the JRPP are required to abide by the specific Code of Conduct and Operational procedures, which does not allow JRPP members to discuss the developments, express a view or attend information sessions of public meetings.

In my role as Mayor, this places me in a "conflict of interest" situation when constituents, who have concerns regarding a development, wish to discuss relevant matters regarding the proposal with me.

Having regard to above, I have decided to withdraw membership from the JRPP as it limits my ability to advocate on behalf of our community on developments that are at odds with community expectations.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council advise the Director General of the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure that the Mayor has resigned as Council's nominee from the Sydney East Joint Regional Planning Panel.