



Balranald Shire Council

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Review & Restructure

Phase 1 sessions, 6th May 2020



CODE OF CONDUCT

- ✓ We are here to **hear from you**
- ✓ **Respect for all comments** – add positively, disagree politely, do not be disrespectful
- ✓ **Value everyone's thoughts** – different perspectives = a fuller picture
- ✓ Whilst we can **learn from the past we won't dwell there**. We are focussed on making this change positive, achieving the best possible for all residents
- ✓ Ask **questions at any stage** – these will be captured and collated for response at various stages within the session
- ✓ Would you like to add another expectation of behaviour?



BACKGROUND

- ✓ On the 29 January 2020 Balranald Shire Council went into Administration - Councillors were removed as our elected representatives
- ✓ **BSC will remain under administration until Council elections in Sept 2024**
- ✓ During Administration BSC does not have to maintain the existing Advisory Committee model – **leadership at BSC see these Advisory Committees as even more important during this time**
- ✓ To be sure ACs meet the needs of our changing area we need to review the existing structure. The new Advisory Committees – the Committees we develop with you – will stay in operation until the election (4.5 years)
- ✓ Advisory Committees are BSCs most **consistent and formal way of hearing from, and being guided by, the Shire community**. They are ‘Your voice to Council’ now and into the future



Advisory Committees are the only long-term, consistent and regular way in which YOU, as a community, can inform and guide the understanding and decisions of Local Government and ‘partner with Council’

The new Advisory Committees – the Committees we develop with YOU – will stay in operation until the election in 2024 (4.5 yrs)



BACKGROUND

- ✓ In the past Council Advisory Committees supported community-informed decision making by Council – putting forward recommendations regarding important decisions relevant to topic area. These **recommendations were considered by Council but could not be enforced**. This same key principle will continue.
- ✓ **Opportunities for change include:** the **Committee structure** (i.e. the different names and focus areas), **when and how committees meet, their membership** (i.e. a Committee might stipulate through its ToR that there must be representation from certain community groups)

RARE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER – WHAT WE HAVE AND WHERE WE ARE GOING



ADVISORY COMMITTEES

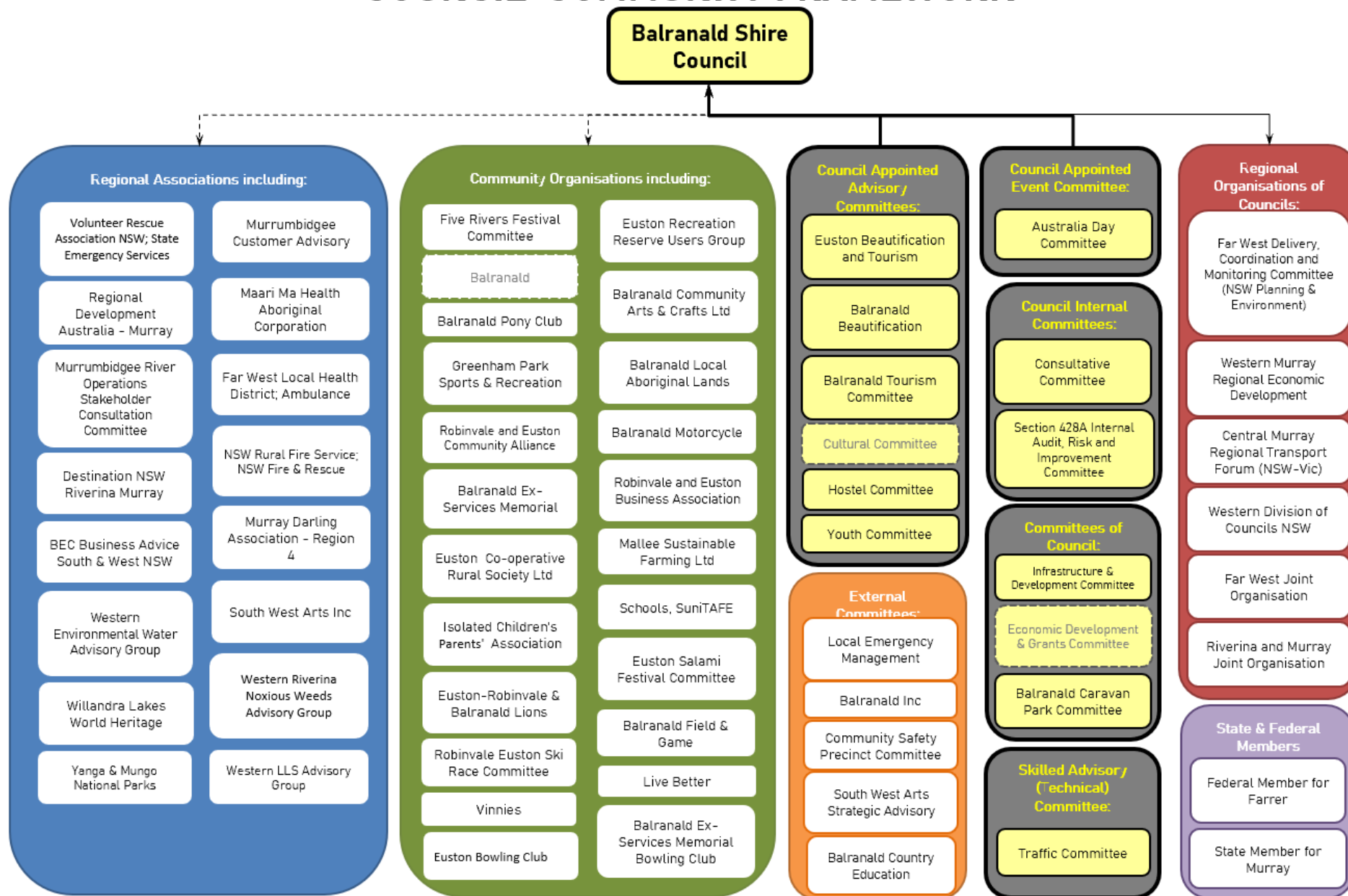
- ✓ Youth Council Advisory Committee
- ✓ Balranald Tourism AC
- ✓ Euston Beautification and Tourism AC
- ✓ Cultural Advisory Committee
- ✓ Balranald Beautification AC
- ✓ Community Safety (precinct) AC
- ✓ Australia Day Advisory Committee
- ✓ Balranald Retirement Hostel AC

COUNCILLOR COMMITTEE

- ✓ Infrastructure & Development Committee
- ✓ Economic Development & Grants Committee

Consider how our revised Advisory Committee structure might grow into this space to support community informed decision making over the coming 4.5 years?

COUNCIL-COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK



When we restructure ACs of Council we want to **COMPLIMENT** organisations that already exist, **NOT REPLACE** them. Consider how we honour the work and focus of existing community groups



A VISION FOR REFORM

ADVISORY COMMITTEES MUST BE

- ✓ Representative voice of community
- ✓ Transparent & without bias
- ✓ Have a vision for our future and for our children & young people
- ✓ Embrace change – moving away from ‘we have always done it this way’

COMMITTEE MEMBERS CAN EXPECT

- ✓ To be heard
- ✓ The chance to contribute to your community
- ✓ To be empowered to act – with support in building leadership skills and skills in other areas as identified / required
- ✓ To be engaged with intent



HAPPENING 'IN THE SPACE'

- ✓ BSC is currently developing their Community Strategic Plan (CSP) - WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE? WHAT DOES A PROSPEROUS FUTURE LOOK LIKE? HOW DO WE WANT TO GET THERE? WHAT WILL SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
- ✓ Change and growth means our CSP will look different to it has in the past
- ✓ To inform the CSP and achieve the community's Vision our AC structure will be critical. So as we give our time to thinking about our Advisory Committees structure we should also be thinking about our Strategic Plan
- ✓ At this stage the CSP has four key focus areas – Economy (our small businesses, farmers, tourism, new industries, resources), Environment (our natural and built landscapes), Governance (how are we organised to ensure the right people are informing, guiding and leading) and Society (our people - health, wellbeing and the realisation of their full potential)



Questions from the group?



QUESTIONS TO THE GROUP

- ✓ To continue to be a place where you wish to live, work and relax – what must the Balranald Shire area and communities:
 - ✓ Look like?
 - ✓ Feel like?
 - ✓ Offer you and the people you care about?



QUESTIONS TO THE GROUP

- ✓ If you are currently a member of a Council Advisory Committee or other volunteer group (or have been a member in the past) can I ask please:
 - ✓ What factors (things, people, resources, practices) have ensured your group worked well and achieved?
 - ✓ What factors might have prevented you from achieving all you could?
 - ✓ For you to want to be part of the new AC structure please share a word or comment about what it 'needs to be' (for example: friendly, fair, productive.....)



CLOSING COMMENTS & WHERE NEXT

- ✓ Next session Wednesday 13th May – 10am and 5pm
- ✓ Before then we will...
 - ✓ Summarise everything you shared with us & draft the AC restructure
 - ✓ Share this with you
- ✓ At the next session we will...
 - ✓ Present back your sharing from today
 - ✓ Present draft AC structure for thoughts and comments (based on this will modify and offer the Council for endorsement before going out to public comment)
- ✓ In the mean time email or call Gavin or I if you need to follow-up
- ✓ Select and register for the next session you will join (13th May)

Thank you for sharing you knowledge to create the community voice structure critical in guiding Council decisions for the next 4 years