



# Tourism & Economic Development Advisory Committee

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Policy Version 1.0**

**Category: Statutory**

**Adopted: March 2026**



## 1. Statement

The Winton Shire Council Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee is established to provide strategic advice, insight and advocacy to support the growth, resilience and diversification of Winton's economy.

The Committee serves as a conduit between Council and the community, offering informed perspectives from industry, business, tourism, and community sectors to guide the implementation of Council's Strategy and Policy.

The Committee operates in an advisory capacity only, with a clear focus on long-term strategic outcomes rather than operational matters.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee is to:

- Provide strategic advice to Council on matters relating to tourism development, economic growth, investment attraction, and industry diversification in alignment with the Economic Development Strategy.
- Assist in monitoring progress of the Economic Development Strategy and Tourism Plans and identify emerging opportunities, risks or priorities that may influence its successful implementation.
- Act as a representative voice for respective sectors, cohorts or community groups, ensuring that feedback, issues, and aspirations from across the shire are conveyed to Council through informed and collaborative discussion.
- Strengthen partnerships between Council, industry and the wider community by fostering open communication, shared understanding and coordinated advocacy.
- Champion Winton's economic and tourism potential by providing insights on trends, innovation and best practice that can support future growth.
- Contribute to strategic planning processes and provide guidance on initiatives that enhance Winton's liveability, visitor economy, and long-term economic sustainability.

The Committee does not hold operational responsibilities or decision-making authority. Its role is focused on providing strategic advice to inform Council's direction and priorities.

## 3. Membership

The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer and all Councillors are ex-officio members of all Advisory Committees. In addition to the Mayor, there will be an additional two Councillors, appointed by Council, in each Advisory Committee.

The Chair of the committee will be one of the current Councillors. In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair, or the Mayor, will fulfil the role of Chair.

Community members have full voting rights, as do those that are specified in the Terms of Reference. If a voting member is absent for two consecutive meetings, the Chair of the committee may write to that member seeking an explanation on why they should remain on the Committee.

The community groups included in the Advisory Committee will be updated as required by resolution of Council. That is, where a new group is to be added or an existing group removed, a resolution of Council will be required to update membership.

Where a community group is granted membership, only one vote is counted. To clarify, representation of a community group at each meeting is restricted to one person. Winton



Shire Council personnel and contractors may be invited by the Chief Executive Officer to attend a meeting to provide additional information, however, do not have any voting rights.

### Voting Members

- Two community members
- One Corfield community group member.
- One Middleton community group member
- One member representing the Queensland Boulder Opal Association
- One member representing the Outback Festival Committee
- One member representing the Corfield & Fitzmaurice Association
- One member representing the Australian Age of Dinosaurs
- One member representing the Winton Business & Tourism Association
- One member representing the Winton Movies Inc.
- One member representing the Winton's Diamantina Heritage Truck & Machinery Museum Inc.
- One member representing the Winton and District Historical Society & Museum
- One member representing the Outback Writers' Festival

### Non-Voting Members

- A Chairperson (Councillor)
- Deputy Chair (Councillor)
- Mayor
- Chief Executive Officer
- Waltzing Matilda Centre Manager
- Economic Development Officer
- Meeting Secretariat

### Resignation and replacement of committee members

A committee member may resign at any time by way of written or emailed advice to the Chairperson.

When a resignation is received, the resigning member may be replaced as follows:

- Where such resignation is a Councillor or Officer of the Winton Shire Council, Council may appoint a suitable replacement representative.
- Where such resignation is from a member representing an Authority, Industry Group or State Agency, or community group, the nominating agency may at its discretion nominate a replacement representative.
- Where such resignation is from a Community Representative which creates a casual vacancy, Council will fill the vacancy from previously submitted expressions of interest or (should there be no further suitable / available candidates) the vacancy can be filled through a process determined by Council.

## 4. Term

Committee members are appointed for a term of two (2) years commencing from the date of appointment. At the conclusion of the term, members may nominate for reappointment through the Expression of Interest (EOI) process and may be appointed for a further term subject to Council's approval.

## 5. Roles and Responsibilities

**An Advisory Committee is accountable for:**

- Fostering collaboration.



- Maintaining at all times the focus of the Advisory Committee on the agreed scope, outcomes and benefits.
- Monitoring and managing the factors outside the Advisory Committee's control that are critical to its success.
- Act in an advisory role to Council.

#### **Members Will commit to:**

- Attending scheduled meetings.
- Share all communications and information across all members.
- Provide strategic guidance on implementation of plans, programs and initiatives.
- Ensure they provide an apology prior to a meeting if they are unable to attend.
- Actively participate in meetings and any working groups.
- Comply with Council's Code of Conduct.
- Work in an open and honest manner, and with respect for each other.
- Understand that at all times it will be necessary to listen to and negotiate different points of view and perspectives, and to make compromises accordingly.
- Respect each other's opinions and consider the view of each member to be of equal importance.
- Refrain from any form of conduct that may cause a reasonable person unwarranted offence or embarrassment.
- Undertake to fairly present the discussion and information provided at the Committee to their organisation.

#### **Winton Shire Council will:**

- Notify members of the Advisory Committee, as soon as practical, if any matter arises which may be deemed to affect the development of the partnership.
- Provide each member with complete, accurate and meaningful information in a timely manner.
- Give the Advisory Committee reasonable time to make key recommendations.

#### **Sub Committee/Working Group:**

- The Committee will have the right to establish subgroups as deemed appropriate to assist in fulfilling their role and purpose.

## **6. Meetings**

#### **Meetings will be held:**

- At Winton Shire Council operated buildings and alternate sites as required.
- At least three times per year at dates and times determined by the Committee as an approved meeting schedule.
- As per s269 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a quorum of a committee is a majority of its members, however, if the number of members is an even number, one-half of the number is a quorum.
- Recommendations will made by consensus (that is, members are satisfied with the recommendation even though it may not be their first choice).
- Meeting agenda and reports will be provided by Winton Shire Council administrative staff.

#### **Meeting Administration**

- Meetings are to be chaired by the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
- The agenda and business papers will be circulated no less than five days prior to a scheduled meeting.



- Minutes will be taken by a representative of Council.
- Minutes are to be brief and focused on action items and advice.
- Minutes shall be approved by the Chair and circulated to each member and to Councillors within two weeks of the meeting being held.
- Minutes are required to be submitted to an Ordinary Meeting of Council following the committee meeting, to be received and noted.
- Recommendations from the meeting that require consideration for endorsement by Council endorsement will be submitted to the next Ordinary Meeting of Council with the meeting Minutes.

### Voting

- Each Member of the Advisory Committee may vote on business before the Committee, except where the Member has a conflict of interest.
- Voting at a meeting must be open and questions decided by a majority of the votes of the Members present however, if the votes are equal, the matter is affirmed to be submitted to Council for consideration.
- If a member present fails to vote, the member is taken to have voted in the negative.

### Conflict of interest

Where Committee Members have a conflict of interest, or could reasonably be taken to have a conflict of interest, in an issue being considered or to be considered at the meeting, the Member must declare the conflict of interest to the meeting and must not be present while the matter, or a related matter, is being considered by the Committee or otherwise take part in any decision of the Committee in relation to the matter or a related resolution.

For the purposes of this clause, a member has a conflict of interest in an issue if there is a conflict between the Member's private interest and the public interest.

## 7. Delegated Authority

The Advisory Committee does not have any delegated authority and cannot make decisions on behalf of Council.

## 8. Communications

Members of the Committee are not permitted to speak to the media as representatives of the Committee.

## 9. Confidentiality

Members of the Advisory Committee must maintain strict confidentiality regarding all information, documents, discussions, and deliberations received or undertaken as part of their committee responsibilities.

Information provided to members is for the sole purpose of enabling the committee to fulfil its advisory role and must not be disclosed, released, or used for any other purpose without the prior written approval of the Chief Executive Officer (or delegated Council officer).

Committee members must not publicly comment on behalf of Council or the committee, nor share internal information with external parties, unless formally authorised. This obligation continues both during membership and after a member's term has concluded.

All records, documents, and materials provided to committee members remain the property of Winton Shire Council and must be returned or securely disposed of upon request or at the conclusion of the member's term.

A breach of confidentiality may result in removal from the committee and/or other actions in accordance with Council policy and relevant legislation.



## 10. Review

Council at its discretion may review and change the Terms of Reference, role and structure of the Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Committee by resolution of an Ordinary Meeting of Council.

## 11. Record of Amendments and Adoptions

Date	Version	Reason	Date Adopted & Resolution No.
March 2026	V1.0	Updates to documents	19 March 2026 - Resolution 2026/1

