



Q What is a Shire Council Committee?

A A Shire Council Committee (SCC) is a temporary advisory body that will work in partnership with Shire Managers as they conduct Council business in the run-up to the elections in October 2008.

Q Why create another advisory body?

A The creation of Shire Council Committees is provided for in the new Local Government Act. The reason is that in the interim period between the official start-up of the Shires on 1 July 2008 and elections for Shire Council members in October 2008 there will be an increasing number of complex decisions to be made by the Shire Manager, who is in effect standing in for an elected Council.

It is vital that the Manager works in partnership with an advisory body drawn from communities so that Council business is conducted properly and reflects the needs of the communities throughout the shire. In other words, the manager needs input from within each community.

Q What powers will the SCC's have?

A The SCCs provide advice and will make resolutions which will then be adopted by the Shire Manager unless there is a very good reason for not doing so. The Shire Manager will acknowledge the legitimate role of the SCC in representing the views of the communities throughout the Shire.

Q Am I eligible to be a member of the SCC?

A Members are drawn from various representative bodies in the shire such as the former shire transition committee, community government councils, management boards and outstation resource centres. You must be living in the shire to be a SCC member. Ideally, there should be a spread of ages and men and women, and some younger people.

Q How many will there be?

A Ideally there will be 12 members of the SCC, to reflect the eventual number of members on the Shire Council. But there could be more than that, depending on the number of communities. There should be no more than 18 on the committee.

Q What exactly will the SCC do?

A It will:

- Work in partnership with the Shire Manager on managing Shire business.
- Make formal resolutions to the Shire Manager on issues normally dealt with by a Shire council.
- Provide advice and guidance to the Shire Manager.
- Seek the views of local communities and represent those views during discussions.
- Assist the Shire Manager and CEO to provide feedback and information to residents on Shire matters.

Q Will I get paid for being a member of the SCC?

A Yes, there will be a sitting fee of \$240 per day for the chairman of the SCC (elected by its members) and \$180 per day for members. There will also be out-of-pocket expenses.

Q How many times will the SCC sit?

A It is expected the SCC will sit at least every two months, but can meet more often.

Q What is the role of the new Shire Chief Executive Officers in this new arrangement?

A The same as when the duly elected Shire Council is fully functional after October elections.

The CEO:

- Provides administrative support to the council and its committees as directed.
- Is responsible for making Shire Council decisions happen.
- Is responsible for providing advice to the Shire Council on its obligations under the Local Government Act and provides direction to staff.

Q Where do I go for more information?

A Please contact your Shire Manager:

Barkly	Wayne Hoban	8962 4688
Central Desert and MacDonnell	Andrea Martin	8951 5243 0438 897 573
East Arnhem and West Arnhem	David Willing	8987 0521
Roper Gulf and Victoria Daly	John de Koning	8973 8533
Tiwi Islands	Des Harris	8999 8351 0407 712 785