



COUNCIL RETURNS TO THE CHAMBERS

As the restrictions ease for the entire state, Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) will return to the Council chambers for the last two scheduled meetings of the Council term. This Monday, 11 October 2021, the Standing Committees will see vaccinated Councillors and staff meet in person for the first time in two months. The public gallery will also be open to 15 members of the double vaccinated public with preference given to those who are pre-registered to make a presentation.

Dubbo Region Mayor Stephen Lawrence said he is glad to be returning to the chambers and in turn some normalcy. "The return of a physical, in person meeting symbolises the return to a normal way of life - albeit with some conditions, but it's a positive step forward. I look forward to being back in the chambers for these October meetings, and as Mayor I intend to call a final Council meeting mid-November.

"It's extremely important we uphold the Public Health Orders and keep our staff, ourselves and the wider community safe, that is why we are making sure everyone who attends the meetings are double vaccinated or has their appointment booked for their second jab," said Councillor

Lawrence.

All meetings will still be streamed online via the Council website or facebook page. For anyone who would like to speak to Council but is not vaccinated, the presentation can be tabled and read aloud via staff.

For anyone wishing to attend the public meetings, the following items must be upheld.

- Proof of double vaccination, or evidence of a booking for the second appointment or an official health exemption
- Check in via QR codes and face masks will be mandatory
- For media wishing to attend, please register via comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au with your vaccination record.
- Public Forum will be available under the following conditions:
 - o Must register no later than 2 hours before the start of the meeting (ie by 3.30 pm)
 - o Must be double vaccinated – if not, can send in a written submission which will be read out during the meeting
 - o Must wear a mask, except when speaking to the meeting
 - o For Committee meetings, people will ONLY be able to speak to items which are on the agenda (which can be found on our website)
- For Council meeting (on 25 October), people may register to speak

about items on the agenda or items not on the agenda (dependent on time – agenda items get preference)

- For the full procedure to address Council please visit Council's website – under Council Meetings.

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