

Research Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

19th May 2016

Background

The CRC for Water Sensitive Cities (CRCWSC) is an Australian research centre that brings together interdisciplinary research expertise, thought-leadership and industry to revolutionise urban water management in Australia and overseas. Our vision is sustainable, productive, resilient and liveable water sensitive cities. The CRCWSC operates in collaboration with over 80 national and international research, industry and government partner organisations.

Purpose

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) is responsible for research excellence and advice to the CRCWSC. The committee will additionally provide a forum for sharing research knowledge in water management.

Role

The Research Advisory Committee will:

- provide independent advice and review of the Tranche 2 project proposals to the Regional Advisory Panels, CRCWSC Advisory Committee and the CRC Executive in relation to research excellence and international best practice;
- provide strategic advice and peer review of the research clusters, independently review the performance of the research and the development of CRCWSC Products and Tools;
- identify and report to the Regional Advisory Panels, CRCWSC Advisory Committee, and the CRC Executive on the effectiveness of the research linkages across projects and opportunities for more effective research linkages;
- ensure national relevance of the research activities and enable their application across regions;
- act as advocates for the research activities of the CRCWSC;
- consider such other matters referred to it by the CRC Advisory Committee or the CRC Executive.

Membership

The membership for the Research Advisory Committee will be by invitation from the CRC Executive in consultation with the Board and the chair of the CRCWSC Advisory Committee. The CRC Executive may invite Research Essential Participants to put forward nominations for membership of the Research Advisory Committee.

The Research Advisory Committee will have a maximum of five members. Up to three members may be based internationally.

The chair of the Research Advisory Committee will be elected annually in July by majority vote from amongst Committee members.

Other research experts may be invited to attend on occasion as appropriate and at the discretion of the RAC.



Meeting frequency and process

The Research Advisory Committee will meet at least twice per year and at any other time requested by the CRC Executive or the CRCWSC Advisory Committee.

The Research Advisory Committee will regulate its own proceedings.

The chair of the Research Advisory Committee must give the remaining Committee members at least 14 days notice (unless the Committee members agree to less notice) of the meeting date and the matters for discussion.

A quorum for a Research Advisory Committee meeting is at least half of its members.

The CRCWSC will provide executive support to the RAC in consultation with the chair.

Review process

The Research Advisory Committee will review its operations against these Terms of Reference annually.

