



Agenda
Special Council Meeting
1 August 2023



CERTIFICATION

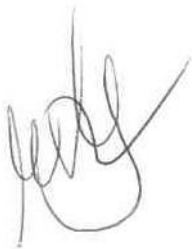
"I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendation provided to Council with this agenda:

1. The advice, information or recommendation is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation, and;
2. Where any advice is given directly to Council by a person who does not have the required qualifications or experience that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person."

Note:

S65(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires the General Manager to ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the Council (or a Council Committee) is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation. S65(2) forbids Council from deciding any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering that advice.

Dated this 28th day of July 2023.



Warren Groves
GENERAL MANAGER

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Flinders Council Special Meeting - Agenda

Tuesday 1 August 2023

Venue	Furneaux Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark
Commencing	9.30 am
Attendees – Councillors	Mayor Rachel Summers Deputy Mayor Vanessa Grace Garry Blenkhorn Aaron Burke Carol Cox Peter Rhodes Ken Stockton

Apologies

Attendees – Staff	Warren Groves General Manager Kyra Newman Executive Assistant (minute taker)
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1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor will begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the palawa people of the trawulwai Nation. She will recognise their continuing connection to the land, waters and culture of this island, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

2 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Councillors are required to declare any pecuniary interest that they, or any of their close associates, may have in any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, before any discussion on that matter.

3 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Part 2, paragraph 6 of the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2016, Councillors are required to declare any conflict of interest, be in actual, perceived or potential, that they may have regarding any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda before any discussion on that matter commences.

4 GOVERNANCE

4.1 FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW SUBMISSION

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	COU/0401
Annexures	4.1.1 Future of Local Government Reform Submission

INTRODUCTION

The Tasmanian Government commissioned the "Future of Local Government Review" with the aim of ensuring the resilience, competence, and preparedness of our local government system for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Under Chair, Sue Smith AM, the Board commenced this review in January 2022, and after 18 months, we are now approaching its conclusion.

Upon the release of the Interim report for Stage 2, councils were requested to submit their responses within a period of 9 weeks. It is important to note that the accompanying information pack was released six weeks later, resulting in an extension to the submission deadline. This pack presented three potential scenarios, two of which involved Flinders Council retaining its independence, while the third scenario proposed an amalgamation with Dorset and Break O'Day Councils.

Throughout the process, Councillors engaged in distribution of information through various media channels including social media, local news, the Council website and other in person activities to gather community sentiment.

These engagement initiatives included:

1. Conducting four Community Information Sessions;
2. Undertaking a Community Survey;
3. Engaging with the community at the Lions Market;
4. Organising two sessions to assist community members in contributing their submissions; and
5. Engaging in approximately 200 conversations with community members.

The feedback received from our community demonstrated a clear consensus, expressing a strong appreciation for Flinders Council in its current form. The community voiced opposition to amalgamation, whether by force or other means, citing concerns about the potential loss of representation and, consequently, their ability to have a say in local matters. Furthermore, the lack of comprehensive information upon which community-altering decisions are being based is a matter of concern for our residents, who are also apprehensive about the potential impact on their lives.

To construct our submission, we carefully considered the feedback gathered from our community, our Council, neighbouring councils, and the consultations conducted with the Local Government Board and coordinated by the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

15 February 2023 Council Workshop

22 February 2023	Council Workshop
26 April 2023	Council Workshop
24 May 2023	Council Workshop
31 May 2023	Council Workshop
12 July 2023	Council Workshop
26 July 2023	Council Workshop

OFFICER'S REPORT

Extensive discussions have been held with elected members, staff, other impacted Councils as well as extending invitations to the Community to join in the discussions. There were no significant benefits identified but rather a strong belief that it would be detrimental to the sustainability and growth of the island.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. Liveability - To protect and build upon our islands' way of life
2. Accessibility and Infrastructure - Quality Infrastructure and services for community benefit
3. Economy and Business - An Environment where a variety of businesses can thrive and integrate
4. Good Governance - Effective, efficient and transparent management and operations

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK/LIABILITY

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **That Council suspends the operation of Regulation 22 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, in accordance with Regulation 22 (9); and**
2. **That Councillors discuss and finalise the preparation of the Flinders Council Future of Local Government Review Submission.**

MEETING CLOSED
