

MAYOR'S COLUMN

As we move into 2018 and face the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities it presents us, I would like to reflect on 2017 and give a big thank you to the two companies whose service is vital to the wellbeing of the Islands, Sharp Airlines and Furneaux Freight. It is the safe and reliable service provided by these companies that have enabled the Islands to flourish both economically and socially. Thank you to the management and staff of Furneaux Freight and Sharp Airlines, we look forward to a productive 2018 with your continued services working solidly to give access to our Island communities.

Council Communications

Council emails have been interrupted by an upgrade to the computer system primarily undertaken during the Christmas – New Year Office Closure, which also affected the first week in January. On behalf of staff I apologise for any inconvenience caused to people wishing to contact Council during this period.

Lady Barron Waste Transfer Station

Thanks to the works staff for making the Lady Barron transfer station clean and respectable. It would be appreciated if users would please respect the efforts made by Council staff and maintain the current clean and tidy state of the area. It would be great to have the area remain this tidy and save ratepayers money in reducing the cost of maintenance of the transfer station.

Staff Changes

New faces are Zeer Parry filling in on the front desk and Dan Pitcher accepting the short-term position that was advertised to assist Community Development with events and the school holiday program this summer.

In the last week (prior to Christmas) Council has also seen Sophie Pitchford finish her position with Council after close to four years of service to Council and the Community. I am sure you will all join me in thanking Sophie for her service and wishing her well in the future.

Sharp Terminal Access at Launceston

Following issues of vehicle access to the Sharp terminal at Launceston over the Christmas period when the car park was full, I am passing on the following message from the Launceston Airport General Manager: "... in a "car park full" situation, pressing the button on the console to page the duty operations officer will allow them to override the booms and grant access/egress to those wishing to perform Sharp pick-up or drop-off."

Please make use of this facility in a 'car park full' situation. Otherwise use the 8-minute leeway

given by taking a ticket to pick up and drop off passengers and/or freight.

Telecomms Communications Upgrade

Work on the laying out of the fibre optic cable will begin in early 2018 with the path to be taken already having been mapped out.

Safe Harbour Project

A major grant application has been made for funding to enable this project to proceed. Thank you to all who assisted in the putting together of the application.

Current Opportunities to Make Comment

****Airservices**

(Submissions due 5/2/18)

On 16 November 2017, the Senate moved that "The operation, regulation and funding of air route service delivery to rural, regional and remote communities" be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee for inquiry and report. Particular reference is given to:

- (a) social and economic impacts of air route supply and airfare pricing;
- (b) different legal, regulatory, policy and pricing frameworks and practices across the Commonwealth, states and territories;
- (c) how airlines determine fare pricing;
- (d) the determination of airport charges for landing and security fees, aircraft type and customer demand;
- (e) pricing determination, subsidisation and equity of airfares;
- (f) determination of regulated routes and distribution of residents' fares across regulated routes;
- (g) airline competition within rural and regional routes;
- (h) consistency of aircraft supply and retrieval of passengers by airlines during aircraft maintenance and breakdown;
- (i) all related costs and charges imposed by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority; and
- (j) any related matters.

Council, with the aid of the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee will be placing a submission. Others may also do so directly by responding in writing to:

Committee Secretary Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Phone: 02 6277 3511 Fax: 02 6277 5811 rrat.sen@aph.gov.au

****Councillor Allowances Review (Submissions due 16/2/18)**

The Tasmanian Industrial Commission is undertaking a review of Councillor allowances and has released the Issues paper identifying the areas that need to be determined as outlined in the Terms of Reference, which are:

- (a) The statutory roles of the respective offices of mayor, deputy mayor and councillor;
- (b) The appropriateness of setting allowances by council type/size given the need to ensure good governance while balancing councils' financial sustainability and the interests of ratepayers;
- (c) Any significant changes to the role or functions of local government since the last review;
- (d) The method of indexing allowances each year;
- (e) Whether an additional allowance should be made available to councillors who undertake training in governance relevant to local government or who have recognised experience in governance

To access the Guidelines and to apply online, visit the State Growth website at: https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/policies_and_strategies/populationstrategy

Furneaux Islands Festival 19th - 21st Feb 2018

This weekend Council comes together with FIAAI and many other contributors to bring you the Furneaux Islands Festival, a celebration of the uniqueness of the history of these Islands and the strength of our community today.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the many events this weekend.

Carol Cox
MAYOR

WHITEMARK TIP Opening Hours	
SUN, MON, FRI	- 1.30pm to 4.30pm
TUES, THURS	- 7.00am to 10.00am
WEDNESDAY	- 8.30am to 11.30am
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the first Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2018 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on: **Thursday 25th January 2018 commencing at 1pm.**

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm – 1.30pm. Members of the public are invited to attend. The Agenda will be available for perusal from Friday the 19th January 2018 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

Bill Boehm
GENERAL MANAGER

EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS FOR THE GENERAL PROVISION OF GOODS AND SERVICES

In accordance with Flinders Council's Code of Tender and Contracts, Council is seeking suitably qualified businesses for inclusion on a register to pre-qualify to supply Council with various goods and services that from time to time Council may require.

The types of services that Council may require include, but are not limited to, building services; maintenance, plant and labour hire; architectural and building design; engineering services; human resources consulting, financial management; as well as supplies of general goods and services that are normally applicable for a local government including culverts, bridge components, roadside hardware, emulsion, aggregates, vehicle and machinery parts, cleaning products, workshop supplies and workwear.

If you wish to register to pre-qualify then please view Council's website at www.flinders.tas.gov.au/contractor-induction which will outline the required process. For further information please contact Kara Hallas on 03 63595010 or kara.hallas@flinders.tas.gov.au.

There is no closing date for registration and the opportunity to register remains open throughout the year. No engagement of services is guaranteed however those registered will be given precedence over others when Council is seeking services. Those currently registered need not reapply.

Bill Boehm
GENERAL MANAGER