

MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - Extraordinary Meeting AGENDA
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Date: 30 March 2020
Time: 4.00pm
Venue: Videoconference Call

ATTENDEES

Brian Barnewall	Michelle Nicholls
Leanne Bishop	Alison Oliver
Michael Buck	Snr Sargent Christopher Parr
Alana Cowley	Mayor Annie Revie
Dr Lynne Davies	Mhairi Revie
Aaron Daw	Steven RichardsonCr Peter Rhodes
Stuart Dwyer	Maxine Roughley
Cr Vanessa Grace	Garth Smith
Sammi Gowthorp	Alan Tuxworth
Warren Groves	Jacci Viney
Kara Hallas	Cr David Williams
Richard Harley	Michael Withers
Dr Alex John	Toni Wood
John Loudon	

APOLOGIES

Cr Aaron Burke
 Jayne Cooper | Parks & Wildlife
 Sam Grace

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Vicki Warden Executive Officer (minute taker)

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Isolation / Quarantine Guidelines

Today, Council received a signed public health order from the State detailing new travel restrictions to the islands. This is not a public document but will be distributed to attendees at this meeting, in confidence. The public version of this information will be shared when made available.

Action: Distribute CONFIDENTIAL public health order to attendees.

Mhairi noted that part of the order was around intra-island travel between King and Flinders Island. No expectation of significant travel however doesn't want this to be used as a loophole. Aronn Daw explained that the Hydro network is an essential service to both islands and Hydro staff could be required to fly directly between the two islands, so this provision is helpful.

Things are tightening up and further controls around aircraft coming into the islands will be implemented in the next few days. Anyone coming to the islands must enter 14 days isolation in a government quarantine facility.

Council is working with an accommodation provider within Whitemark who is willing to undertake that role. For further information regarding isolation, refer to the guidelines on

www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au

Now that the travel guidelines are tightening up, Council is no longer thinking so much about preventative measures, but rather focusing on relief and recovery.

Concerns were expressed around what was being done about the several people from the mainland on the Mutton-bird islands. This matter has been raised with police who are waiting for direction from their superiors. Dr Alex John has spoken to the people on Big Dog Island. They are from Tasmania, have been there for a week, and are self-isolating.

Mhairi Revie explained that the Public Information Division (PID) sends out official public information to those on their distribution list every night. This information is the official government message, which cannot be changed, and is available at www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au New announcements made in the morning are translated into official public information every night. Council can also feed island-specific information into the PID.

Action: Mhairi to include all members on the official public information distribution list.

Dr Lynne Davies reminded members of the importance of continuing to exercise. Concerns regarding increased mental health issues and domestic violence within the community if people are forced to stay home. Need to remind the community to exercise to stay well rather than staying at home completely.

For clarification on any point, check the official government messaging at www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au

2. **Recap**

Council accepts that quarantining/isolation on the island is about as good as its going to get. The Police and Biosecurity are now in charge of isolation.

What are the island's next steps for moving towards relief and recovery and community support activities?

3. **Creation of Executive Working Group**

The meeting agreed to appoint a smaller Executive Working Group to identify and resolve issues as they arise, and to work on relief, recovery and community support activities. This will be a core group from within the MEMC membership, who will liaise with other members and community representatives as required. Membership to consist of - Warren Groves as coordinator; John Loudon; Chris Parr, Maxine Roughley and representatives from Biosecurity and Cape Barren Island (yet to be decided).

Action: Warren to contact Sam Grace, Biosecurity and Denise Gardiner, CBI regarding participation in Working Group.

Warren to coordinate the first meeting asap.

4. **Review of Pandemic Plan**

Jacci Viney developed a draft MEMC Pandemic Plan from notes taken at the first extraordinary MEMC meeting. Jacci explained the structure of the plan and asked for comments. Annie Revie asked for clarification around the role of the Mayor in the plan, being as she was not the chair of the MEMC. Mhairi Revie explained that this plan had to be in line with the State guidelines. Mhairi also congratulated Jacci on the work done so far.

Action: Jacci to review role of the Mayor in the Plan and make adjustments if required.

Members to provide written comments on the Plan to Jacci via email.

5. **Other**

Reminder to stay in contact with those who are self-isolating.

Meeting closed 5.19pm