



Agenda Ordinary Council Meeting

28 April 2020



CERTIFICATION

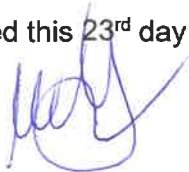
"I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendation provided to Council with this agenda:

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 23rd day of April 2020.



Warren Groves
GENERAL MANAGER

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Flinders Council Ordinary Meeting - Agenda

Tuesday 28 April 2020

Venue Videoconference via Zoom
Commencing 9.30am

Attendees - Councillors Mayor Annie Revie
Deputy Mayor David Williams
Sharon Blyth
Aaron Burke
Vanessa Grace
Peter Rhodes
Rachel Summers

Apologies Nil

Attendees - Staff Warren Groves | General Manager
Heidi Marshall | Finance Organisational Performance Manager
Jacci Viney | Projects, Assets and Environmental Health Officer
Vicki Warden | Executive Officer (minute taker)

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, and recognise their continuing connection to the land, waters and culture of this island, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes from the Ordinary and Closed Council Meetings held 24 March 2020 be confirmed.

3 Public Question Time

In accordance with Section 31 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 and the Flinders Council Policy, the following procedures be adhered to at public question time.

It is the policy of the Flinders Council to allow a 'Question Time' at Ordinary Council Meetings, during which members of the public may ask questions of the Council relating to Flinders Council matters.

The basis on which questions may be asked is

- 1. All questions will be addressed through the Chair (being the Mayor in normal circumstances) who will answer them as she/he sees fit. Under no circumstances will members of the gallery be permitted to address or question either elected members or officers of the Council. The Chair may delegate answers to the appropriate Councillor or staff member if appropriate.*
- 2. Persons addressing the Chair must pay the respect due to that office. Failure to do so may mean their address is terminated without notice.*

3. *Where the answer cannot be provided immediately, it will be provided in writing within 14 days and tabled at the following Ordinary Council Meeting.*
4. *All questioners are encouraged to register their intent to question with the General Manager before the meeting. Preference will be given to those who have so registered.*
5. *Question time shall not extend longer than 30 minutes and may be divided into two 15 minute sessions.*
6. *The actual timing of the session(s) is to be immediately after the opening of the meeting and advertised with the notice of meeting.*

4 Councillors' Questions on Notice

None received.

5 Councillors' Questions Without Notice

Regulation 29 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 specifies that in putting a Question Without Notice a Councillor must not offer an argument or opinion, draw any inference or make any imputations except so far as may be necessary to explain the question. The Chairperson must not permit any debate of a Question without Notice or its answer.

6 Responses to Councillors' Questions Without Notice

24 March 2020 Council Meeting

Question: Cr Peter Rhodes

What is the quantum of quarry materials to be extracted from Council sources in relation to the Henderson Dam upgrade project?

Mayor's Response:

Council has sold 903m³ of road gravel, and a further 750m³ of lesser quality material that could not be used on Council's roads to the Henderson Dam Project. There is no requirement for any further construction gravels. There is a possibility that some small amounts may be required in the future for road maintenance, but that remains to be seen.

RECOMMENDATION

That the response to the Councillor's Question Without Notice from the 24 March 2020 Council Meeting be noted.

7 Late Agenda Items

8 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.

9 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.

10 Workshops & Information Forums

File No. COU/0205

Council Workshop – 24 March 2020

Council held a Workshop on the following subject:

- Item 1 Strategic Planning

Councillors in Attendance

Mayor Annie Revie

Deputy Mayor David Williams

Cr Aaron Burke

Cr Vanessa Grace

Cr Peter Rhodes

Apologies

Cr Sharon Blyth

Cr Rachel Summers

Staff and Consultants in Attendance

Warren Groves General Manager

Heidi Marshall Finance Organisational Performance Manager

Vicki Warden Executive Officer

Council Workshop – 16 April 2020

Council held a Workshop on the following subjects:

- Item 1 Strategic Planning – Waste
- Item 2 Local Government Association of Tasmania Motion - Relief Mechanisms

Councillors in Attendance

Mayor Annie Revie

Deputy Mayor David Williams

Cr Sharon Blyth

Cr Aaron Burke

Cr Vanessa Grace

Cr Peter Rhodes

Cr Rachel Summers

Apologies

Nil

Staff and Consultants in Attendance

Warren Groves General Manager

Heidi Marshall Finance Organisational Performance Manager

Vicki Warden Executive Officer

Brian Barnewall Works & Services Manager (Item 1 only)

Sammi Gowthorp Community Development Officer (Item 1 only)

Jacci Viney Projects, Infrastructure & Assets Officer (Item 1 only)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Workshops held on 24 March and 16 April 2020 be noted.

11 Publications/Reports Tabled for Council Information

12 Reports to be Received

12.1 Flinders Council Audit Panel

File Reference FIN/0401

Annexure 12.1.1 Flinders Council Audit Panel 16 March 2020 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Warren Groves, General Manager):

The unconfirmed minutes of the Flinders Council Audit Panel held Monday 16 March 2020 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the Committee has been working on to date and can now be noted by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Flinders Council Audit Panel held 16 March 2020 be noted.

12.2 Municipal Emergency Management Committee

File Reference CSV/0400

Annexure 12.2.1 Municipal Emergency Management Committee extraordinary meeting 30 March 2020 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Warren Groves, General Manager)

The unconfirmed minutes of the Municipal Emergency Management Committee extraordinary meeting held Monday 30 March 2020 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the Committee has been working on to date and can now be noted by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Municipal Emergency Management Committee extraordinary meeting held 30 March 2020 be noted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Municipal Emergency Management Committee extraordinary meeting held 30 March 2020 be noted.

13 Councillors' Reports

None received.

14 Mayor's Report

Action	Information
Proponent	Mayor A Revie
File Reference	COU/0600
Annexures	Nil

The Mayor was unable to provide a report for the March Council Meeting due to the demands of responding to the coronavirus situation. The following report includes the information that would have been provided for the March Council Meeting.

DIARY ACTIVITY

DATE	ACTIVITY
17/02/20	Meeting General Manager (GM) re Flinders Island Business Inc. (FIBI) meeting
18/02/20	Administration
18/02/20	FIBI Board Meeting
19/02/20	Administration + visit Duck Pond with GM
20/02/20	Teleconference with GM and Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania
21/02/20	Administration + meet with GM & Rob Holloway - boat ramp
25/02/20	Council Ordinary Meeting
25/02/20	Workshop
26/02/20	Meeting with GM & Finance Organisational Performance Manager (FOPM) - presentation to Minister + administration
27/02/20	Minister for Local Government's visit
27/02/20	Meeting with Minister & Alan Tuxworth
28/02/20	Deliver Minister to airport + meeting with Michael Buck + administration
29/02/20	Local long table lunch event
02/03/20	Bridport visit - Shipping
03/03/20	Teleconference Mark Baker, Northern Tasmania Development Corporation
03/03/20	Two End of Life Choices forums
04/03/20	Meeting with TasPorts & GM
05/03/20	Brand Tasmania meeting + administration + meeting with Flinders Island District High School student
07/03/20	Working on MPC Auxiliary stall at Market
10/03/20	Council Workshop + General Manager's Performance Review Committee (GMPRC) meeting
11/03/20	Women's International Day Breakfast + meeting GM & Executive Officer - workshops
11/03/20	Meeting with GM, Parks & Wildlife Service & Tasmania Fire Service
13/03/20	GMPRC meeting + Administration
13/03/20	FIBI Board Meeting
16/03/20	Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) meeting re coronavirus
24/03/20	Council Ordinary Meeting
25/03/20	Meeting with GM and community members
26 & 27/03/20	Administration
27/03/20	Interview re King Island Radio
30/03/20	Administration + MEMC meeting
06/04/20	Island News
07 & 08/04/20	Administration
09/04/20	Teleconference GM & FOPM

DATE	ACTIVITY
10 - 13/04/20	Administration
14/04/20	Teleconference Councillors + GM
15/04/20	Administration
16/04/20	Council Workshop
16/04/20	Administration
16/04/20	FIBI Board
17 - 19/04/20	Administration

CORRESPONDENCE IN

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT
17/02/20	Tasmanian Audit Office	Audit fees
24/02/20	F Heywood	Customer request
24/02/20	Russell Kelly	NBN Issues
26/02/20	Steve Martin	Contact Sharp Airlines
03/03/20	Chris Griffin	Tourism Northern Tasmania update
03/03/20	Commonwealth Bank	Insights
04/03/20	Department of Infrastructure	Regional Aviation Report
06/03/20	Department of Infrastructure	Grants available for roads and bridges
10/03/20	J Viney	Building Privatisation Scheme
10/03/20	Commissioner for children	Project
11/03/20	S Green	High cost of airport landing fees
12/03/20	Department of Infrastructure	Land transport infrastructure boost
13/03/20	Business Tasmania	Business Packages
13/03/20	Auditor General	Terms of Audit Engagement
14/03/20	R Wise	COVID-19
14/03/20	W Groves	Guidelines for Local Government Planning - COVID-19
14/03/20	W Groves	COVID-19
14/03/20	W Groves	Business Continuity Plan
14/03/20	Tourism Northern Tasmania	Tourism Talk
14/03/20	R Wise	COVID-19
15/03/20	Dallas Hay	COVID-19
16/03/20	R Wise	COVID-19
16/03/20	Kristy Scott	COVID-19
16/03/20	R Wise	COVID-19
17/03/20	Federal Government	Grants available for roads
18/03/20	Department of Justice	Establishment of a Tasmanian Civil and Admin Tribunal
19/03/20	R Wise	COVID-19
20/03/20	Minister Mark Shelton	Business Continuity Plan
25/03/20	W Groves	Requests from Flinders & King Island to State Government - COVID-19
26/03/20	Brand Tasmania	Brand Tasmania workshop
27/03/20	Local Government of Tasmania (LGAT)	Minutes of Mayors' Meeting
30/03/20	State Government	Health Order re travel COVID-19
30/03/20	LGAT	Copy of letter to Premier
01/04/20	Senator Carol Brown	Support for Local Government
01/04/20	TasWater	Deferral of Henderson Dam Project
06/04/20	Craig Limkin	Notice - Local Government Meetings - COVID-19
07/04/20	M Hayes	Request for rates receipt
09/04/20	LGAT	Notes from meeting with Premier
09/04/20	Regional Aviation Policy	Deferral of work on Regional Aviation Policy

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT
11/04/20	R Wise	COVID-19
17/04/20	Minister Mark Shelton	Setting up fortnightly online meetings with GMs & Mayors - COVID-19 effects
17/04/20	M Hayes	Request for rates receipt
17/04/20	LGAT	Update from Premier's media statement on COVID-19

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

DATE	TO	SUBJECT
20/02/20	Council Reception	Customer Request passed on
24/02/20	F Henwood	Response to customer request
28/02/20	Steve Martin	Response to request for contact Sharp Airlines
14/03/20	R Wise	Response COVID-19
15/03/20	R Wise	Response COVID-19
19/03/20	R Wise	Response COVID-19
20/03/20	V Paine	Travel Restrictions COVID-19
30/03/20	Flinders Councillors	Letter from Premier COVID-19
01/04/20	Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee Members	Cancelling meetings unless there is an issue
01/04/20	Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee members	Update report
01/04/20	TasWater	Deferral
07/04/20	W Groves	Customer request
07/04/20	M Hayes	Response to customer request
07/04/20	Tim Baker Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment	Exemptions for travel to islands
09/04/20	Katrena Stephenson LGAT	Report on meeting with Premier
09/04/20	W Groves	LGAT Response above
11/04/20	R Wise	Response COVID-19 alleged breach
17/04/20	M Hayes	Response to customer request
17/04/20	W Groves	Copy of response above

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor's report be received.

15 Development Services and Planning Applications

15.1 Development Application Report

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Emma Egan Regulatory Services Officer
File Reference	PLN/0105
Annexures	15.1.1 Planner's Information Report – March 2020

INTRODUCTION

This report provides Councillors with an overview of the applications for the current period as per motion 249.09.2015, passed at the 24 September 2015 Council Meeting when Council requested monthly data from the West Tamar Council planning consultancy service.

Permitted applications are assessed under section 58 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (the Act) and are not advertised. If applications classified as Permitted meet all development and use standards, they must be granted a permit, with or without conditions.

Discretionary applications are assessed under section 57 of the Act and are exhibited for a two week period during which submissions may be received from the public. If a submission is received the planners report for that application is considered by Council. Discretionary applications where no submissions are received as well as applications with a Permitted pathway are approved under delegation to the General Manager.

The numbering of applications relates to the electronic filing system. Numbers are allocated to Planning (DA), Building (BA) and Plumbing (PA) applications as they are received. This may mean that planning numbers are not sequential if for example, a development requires a building application but is exempt from a planning application.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Some items may have been considered at meetings of Council while the remainder have been approved under delegation by the General Manager.

OFFICER'S REPORT

Refer to Annexure 15.1.1, Planner's Information Report – March 2020, provided by West Tamar Council.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the March 2020 Planner's Information Report be received.

16 Notices of Motions

16.1 Notice of Motion – Deputy Mayor David Williams – Suspension of the Citizen of the Year Award Policy

Action	Decision
Proponent	Deputy Mayor David Williams
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	PUB/0800
Annexures	16.1.1 Citizen of the Year Award Policy

NOTICE OF MOTION

That the Citizen of the Year Award Policy be suspended indefinitely.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Our community is extremely well looked after by local volunteers in so many areas of our lives. The Citizen of the Year Policy was obviously implemented to recognise the achievements of those amazing volunteers and over the years we have given the award to many worthwhile nominees.

In the criteria for selection of the Citizen of the Year it states that the award will be given to persons who make the *most significant* voluntary contribution.

Unfortunately, in recent years, several of the preferred nominees have refused the award. Indeed, the second-choice nominee has also refused the award. All of which suggests that our volunteers would prefer to “fly under the radar” without receiving formal recognition.

Given the above scenario, I would suggest that it is sensible to refrain from making the award until there is a greater public interest in it.

It is also interesting to note that not many of our younger community are volunteering so perhaps we would be better to encourage their involvement. This would be an interesting item for a future workshop.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Adopted by Council on 13/2/2014. Minute No. 738.02.14

Amended by Council on 25/1/2018. Minute No. 03.01.2018

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council Workshop

OFFICER'S REPORT

Flinders Council has identified very high levels of volunteerism as a proportion of its population. It is apparent that this high level of selfless activity also translates to high levels of humility whereby no public acknowledgement is sought for the various activities of volunteers. In light of this, Councillors may consider it worthwhile to identify another mechanism for recognising all volunteers within the Municipality, or alternatively, to defer the award until interest is identified.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Citizen of the Year Award Policy

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK/LIABILITY

There may be some Community concern over the suspension of the Citizen of the Year Award, however the risk of this is low and easily explained by the recent decisions of award winners and the high level of humility displayed by Island volunteers in general.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

MOTION

Moved: Deputy Mayor D Williams

That the Citizen of the Year Award Policy be suspended indefinitely.

16.2 Notice of Motion – Mayor Annie Revie – Report of Flinders Island Business Inc. Board Meeting

Action	Decision
Proponent	Mayor Annie Revie
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	CSV/1704
Annexures	Nil

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Council notes the following report from the Flinders Island Business Inc. (FIBI) Board meeting held on 16 April 2020.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Mayor Annie Revie was nominated as Council's Representative to Flinders Island Business Inc. (FIBI). Both Council and FIBI work towards some common goals for the improvement of the Flinders Municipality, including social, economic, population growth and tourism. As such, it is important that the key work of both groups is shared.

The following report provides information from the FIBI Board meeting held on 16 April, by teleconference.

LOOKING TOWARDS RECOVERY

Flinders Island Business Inc. is beginning to focus on the recovery period following the coronavirus world outbreak. Obviously, the actual end of the coronavirus outbreak is still in the future. The FIBI Board believes that they cannot afford to wait until then to prepare for recovery. Wisely, they are beginning to look to recovery preparations from now on.

LET'S NOT LOSE THE MANY FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

Over the last few years of activity, FIBI's 'Visit Flinders' page has attracted many followers. This has helped to keep Flinders Island, its beauty, tranquility and its festival events, in the minds of many. This year's Food and Crayfish Festival was already close to being booked out and the Festival planned for 2021 will benefit from all the work done and contacts made this year. The Board is planning to keep the website alive. The Board agreed to invite Chris Griffin, from Tourism Northern Tasmania, to work with them in the preparations for the recovery phase.

TOURISM TASMANIA HAS A 'CALM' APPROACH

It was reported at the Board meeting that Tourism Tasmania is taking a 'calm' approach at the moment. This does not mean that they are sitting back on their laurels. They are, on their website, presenting photos of Tasmania, including the Furneaux Group of Islands, with captions such as: **You can't visit now, but Tasmania will still look this good after the coronavirus has gone.**

POPULATION GROWTH HAS BEEN A COUNCIL OBJECTIVE FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW

It was reported at the Board meeting that the Flinders Municipality population has risen by 90 since the last census and is now 1010. This is good news. Increasing the population slowly and steadily is a plus for the Islands' economy.

INVITATION TO FORM A THINK TANK

The Board will be inviting community members to join a Think Tank. The purpose of this will be to meet, online in the beginning of course, to brainstorm innovative ideas that could contribute to the recovery of business on the Islands. The Visitor Economy, and the businesses that support it, has suffered badly. Identifying ideas for projects that could support moving on would be beneficial.

FUNDING AVAILABLE FROM STATE GOVERNMENT

The State Government has made funds available for voluntary groups, such as FIBI, to support future recovery from the health crisis. At the moment, the Board is intending to apply for funding, with the aim of taking on a person to work administratively. The work could include assisting businesses to apply for government packages that could be eligible to them.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Nil

OFFICER'S REPORT

Flinders Council has a range of strategic directions and outputs associated with tourism and economic development in its Strategic Plan and Annual Plan. Flinders Council is a paying member of FIBI, and Mayor Revie is Council's nominated representative. The report provided by the Mayor highlights FIBI's current activities and future focus.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Nil

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK/LIABILITY

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

MOTION

Moved: Mayor A Revie

That Council notes the following report from the Flinders Island Business Inc. (FIBI) Board meeting held on 16 April 2020.

17 Finance

17.1 2019/2020 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Action	Decision
Proponent Officer	Council Officer Heidi Marshall Finance Organisational Performance Manager
File Reference Annexures	FIN/0100 17.1.1 3 rd Quarter Financial Report January – March 2020

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with the 3rd Quarter financial progress update which includes a report on cash and investments, and the Health and Safety Incident report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Nil

OFFICER'S REPORT

A detailed financial review was previously provided in the 2nd Quarter 31 December 2019 report, which included a revised prediction of the 2019/2020 Year End position. The 3rd Quarter has no further change predicted, but since the 31st March, the implications of COVID-19 will have some effect on the year end close, which is yet to be determined.

The Airport Runway Upgrade Project has almost been completed and it is predicted to close within budget. An interest-free loan of \$1.8 million was taken out in March 2020 to assist in the payments of the Airport upgrade. The loan will be used to bridge the large projects, as the grant funding has not yet been received for the Airport.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A \$1.8 million interest-free loan taken out in March 2020 will be used to bridge the large projects. The loan will be repaid when large projects cease and grant monies are fully received. No implications as the loan is interest-free.

RISK/LIABILITY

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council's 2019/2020 3rd Quarter Financial Report (1 January to 31 March 2020) be received and accepted by Council.

18 Governance

18.1 Privatisation of Building Services

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	DSV/0300
Annexures	Nil

INTRODUCTION

As a result of recent organisation changes, and the ever present need to find efficiencies in the workplace, the Development Services Department has presented an option to streamline the building services area, on the basis of providing better customer service and reducing in-house costs.

Feedback provided to each area of the Development Services Department is collated and scrutinized in an effort to ensure that the best possible service is being provided to the Community, for the most effective use of funds. The building services area has received significant amounts of feedback which have triggered an operational review.

The main areas of concern around building services provided by Council are:

1. Timeframes and delays for contractors; and
2. Inability to obtain technical advice immediately.

With this feedback onboard, and the loss of an administrative staff member, the building services area is proposing some changes to address the inefficiencies within the service area.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

10 March 2020 Council Workshop

OFFICER'S REPORT

The Council Workshop of 11 February 2020 introduced Council to the concept of a 'fully privatised' building services system. At present, Council runs a hybrid of private and in-house (via resource sharing arrangement) building surveying services. The in-house component of this service comes at a high cost to Council and is partially funded by general revenue (from rates). It also requires a heavy administration commitment, of which Council is limited in capacity. Investing in further administration would only add to the funding levels required to maintain the Department.

When building surveying was privatised in the early 2000's, many councils closed their in-house building surveying services. It is estimated that of the 29 councils in Tasmania, 21 have moved to a fully privatised model. King Island Council has been running a fully privatised system for approximately three years now after resource-sharing with another Council in the North West of the State.

The benefits that Council can gain from a fully privatised system include:

- a. More efficient timeframes for developers and contractors;
- b. Direct engagement with building surveyor; and
- c. Less budget required to maintain service.

As discussed at the Council workshop, it is important to gauge the Community's response to any proposed change. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a face-to-face forum was not possible. A householder was released to the public on 3 April, outlining the situation and the possibility of two options, being:

1. Assessment of building applications by in-house building surveyor and assessment of plumbing applications by in-house plumbing surveyor; or
2. Processing of building documentation received from private building surveyor and assessment of plumbing applications by an in-house plumbing surveyor.

The householder requested that responses or queries be generated to Council by 17 April 2020. Two submissions were received in response to the householder. Both were in support of what was outlined as option 2.

The householder also referred to the subsidising of option 2 to compensate for additional costs in relation to remote building inspections – see budget and financial implications.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Nil

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Population Growth – Foster and support entrepreneurial activity - Streamlined and customer focused development application and assessment processes, including pre-lodgement information and advisory services - AP1920-5 Review pre-lodgement and advisory service processes to improve the overall customer service experience.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Current Process for Building Inspections:

Flinders Council provides a building inspection service to developers on the Island as part of their building surveyor fees. As the fees are much lower than actual costs, the building inspection service is a benefit to Islanders. The Council arranges for a Building Inspector to visit the Island approximately 11 times a year.

Future Process for Building Inspections:

If approved, Flinders Council would move to privatisation of building surveying on 1 July 2020 and no longer offer building surveying and inspections as a service. All currently open building works, as at 30 June 2020, will continue to be serviced, and this may take 2 years or more to run out the old program. The new program will no longer require Flinders Council to provide for building surveying expertise, and the Developer will be required to engage this service privately and arrange their own inspections at their cost.

Future possibility of an Inspection Subsidy:

If Flinders Council were to consider providing a building subsidy to alleviate the costs of remote inspections, the current forecast of costs does not show an increase, even at worst case scenario. The proposed process delivers a far better, more timely service delivery for the developers, because they are in control of their inspections, and level of communication. Therefore, there is no negative effect on cost or on service provided.

Budget implications are therefore nil to Council.

RISK/LIABILITY

Low – has been done by multiple other councils in Tasmania.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to adopt a fully privatised building services model by 1 July 2020.

18.2 Waste Management Strategy

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	FIN/0100
Annexures	18.2.1 Waste Strategy Workings

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with strategic options in respect of the Waste Management Strategy. The implications of a decision to adopt a way forward would result in a change from the current method of dealing with waste and aims to transition to the new method within a three-month window.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

56.02.2015	19 February 2015
153.07.2016	14 July 2016
246.10.2016	20 October 2016
247.10.2016	20 October 2016
155.06.2017	15 June 2017
226.09.2017	21 September 2017
100.05.2018	17 May 2018
197.08.2018	13 August 2018
339.12.2018	18 December 2020

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

6 October 2016	Council Workshop
12 January 2017	Council Workshop
3 May 2018	Council Workshop
28 June 2018	Council Budget Workshop
24 July 2018	Council Budget Workshop
31 July 2018	Council Budget Workshop
5 December 2018	Council Workshop
16 April 2020	Council Workshop

OFFICER'S REPORT

At the 13 August 2018 Council Meeting, Council was presented with a number of waste management options to consider as an interim way forward to meeting the requirements of the Environment Protection Notice (EPN 7191/2), issued to Council by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Council is required to dispose of putrescible waste in a suitably lined cell. To construct a compliant cell is very expensive and it is essential that Council separates out and reduces the amount of waste being dumped, in order to extend the life of the cell for as long as possible.

At that meeting, Council carried unanimously the following motion no. 197.08.2018:

"That Council adopts option 4 of the cost options Annexure 11, for consideration in the 2018/19 Capital Budget for Waste Management."

Option 4, as adopted, was to commence baling waste at the landfill site, removing as much inert waste and cardboard as possible, before migrating within four years to full collection of separated waste and baling.

In the last six months, Council has attempted different strategies to address the waste at the landfill and Transfer Stations. There have been numerous issues identified and the main ones are summarised below:

- In order to reduce the landfill, Council must bale its waste;
- The baler machine cannot operate with wet putrescible waste as it causes significant health and safety issues;
- Items placed in the baler need to be checked, as certain items cannot be placed in the machine as it causes it to seize and can result in machine damage;
- Sorting of waste must occur in order to reduce the amount of waste going into the expensive lined cells;
- To ensure waste is sorted, the tip will need to be manned;
- Satellite Transfer Stations are currently unmanned and as a result all waste is dumped, resulting in an inability to bale that waste. The uncompressed waste ends up in the hole, taking up more room, and it is non-compliant;
- Due to COVID-19 the health and safety risks became more evident, as a result, we have had to shut down the baler for the reasons identified above; and
- The current situation is that waste is being dumped with no sorting and requires a new strategy to address the issues we face.

Due to the above issues, it is recommended that the previously adopted motion no. 197.08.2018 be rescinded, and that Council considers an alternate Waste Management Strategy. Five potential models are presented below for Council's consideration.

Waste Management Strategy modelling has aimed to:

- Identify the most cost-effective way to deal with our waste and still be compliant;
- Keep the solution as simple as possible to ensure that it can be easily understood and is practical to implement;
- Allows enough room for recycling initiatives, so that the strategy can improve; and
- Presents options to be considered by Council for a basic solution to deal with our waste.

Waste Management Strategy modelling has NOT addressed the following:

- Waste-water treatment;
- Sewage and septic problems; and
- Waste from the abattoir.

Model 1

Whitemark Landfill Site open five days a week, and all Transfer Stations closed.

- Ten-year program costs \$3,648k vs current status quo \$3,200k – additional \$448k.
- Pro – centralisation.
- Pro – most efficient work method.
- Pro – cheapest way forward.
- Con – potential community angst due to closure of Transfer Stations.
- Con – possible illegal dumping to deal with.

This is the most affordable, compliant and efficient waste management strategy. In light of the current cash constraints, our highest priority is to ensure that an affordable option is achievable.

Model 2

Whitemark Landfill Site open four days a week, Lady Barron Transfer Station open for one day a week and Killiecrankie Transfer Station closed.

- Ten-year program costs \$4,112k vs current status quo \$3,200k – additional \$912k.
- Pro – still offering one day open to Lady Barron Transfer Station.

- Con – potential community angst due to reduced opening hours / closure of Transfer Stations.
- Con – possible illegal dumping to deal with.

This model is not recommended as the Transfer Station will require replacement of bins and additional manpower to service the site, resulting in an additional cost of \$464k above Model 1.

Model 3

Whitemark Landfill Site open two days a week, Lady Barron Transfer Station open two days a week and Killiecrankie Transfer Station open one day a week.

- Ten-year program costs \$4,526k vs current status quo \$3,200k – additional \$1,326k.
- Pro – strives to keep Transfer Stations open.
- Con – Whitemark Landfill Site not open enough, so risk of not being feasible.
- Con – requires stringent policing to ensure that Lady Barron Transfer Station is only used by Lady Barron residents.
- Con – more expensive.

This model is not recommended as it is very expensive and the option limits public access to the Whitemark Landfill Site, which is a cause for concern. If Council restricts operating hours of the main landfill, it is likely to have cost implications, as there is insufficient time to manage the waste onsite.

Model 4

Whitemark Landfill Site open four days a week, Lady Barron Transfer Station open two days a week and Killiecrankie Transfer Station open one day a week.

- Ten-year program costs \$5,126k vs current status quo \$3,200k – additional \$1,926k.
- Pro – strives to keep Transfer Stations open.
- Pro – takes the risk out of Model 3 and opens the Whitemark Landfill site for an extra 2 days.
- Pro – highest level of service delivery.
- Con – most expensive option.

This model is not recommended as it is the most expensive and an unaffordable option. It seeks to address the issues identified in Model 3, but the provision of the highest level of service delivery comes at an unobtainable cost.

Model 5

Current solution we are providing today – Whitemark Landfill Site open 6 days a week, Lady Barron Transfer Station open all hours and Killiecrankie Transfer Station open all hours.

- Ten-year program costs \$3,200k.
- Pro – cheapest option.
- Con – not EPA compliant and will be subject to fines of approximately \$130k.
- Con – we will run out of landfill within seven years. This will be costly to find more sites and is not quantified above.
- Con – baler cannot operate under the current waste solution.
- Con – Transfer Stations do not sort waste.

This model is not recommended as it is non-compliant, environmentally unsustainable and comes with significant capital costs. In addition, Council may be subject to EPA fines and could be ultimately shut down. Council would also need to review options to find additional landfill sites, which would have significant cost implications.

Please see Annexure 18.2.1 for full costings.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994
Landfill Sustainability Guide 2004
Environment Protection Notice 7191/2

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Infrastructure and Services - Minimise environmental and health risks from waste collection and disposal and maximise opportunities to reduce, reuse or recycle resources - Waste Management Strategy implemented.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Model 1: Additional operational cost of approximately \$68k per annum above status quo. Over a ten-year period, the Operational and Capital requirements are \$448k more expensive than the current waste solution.

Model 2: Additional operational cost of approximately \$109k per annum above status quo. Over a ten-year period, the Operational and Capital requirements are \$912k more expensive than the current waste solution.

Model 3: Additional operational cost of approximately \$151k per annum above status quo. Over a ten-year period, the Operational and Capital requirements are \$1,326k more expensive than the current waste solution.

Model 4: Additional operational cost of approximately \$211k per annum above status quo. Over a ten-year period, the Operational and Capital requirements are \$1,926k more expensive than the current waste solution.

Option 5: Status quo – risk of fines in the sum of \$130k from EPA.

RISK/LIABILITY

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council resolves to rescind motion no. 197.08.2018:**
“That Council adopts option 4 of the cost options Annexure 11, for consideration in the 2018/19 Capital Budget for Waste Management.”
- 2. That Council adopts Model 1 - Whitemark Landfill Site open 5 days a week and all Transfer Stations closed, as the most affordable, compliant, and efficient Waste Management Strategy, to be implemented over a period of three months from the date of adoption.**

18.3 Community Financial Support Package – COVID-19

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	CSV/0400
Annexures	Nil

INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant impact on the economy and the well-being of communities around the world. Flinders Council is working in conjunction with Tasmanian Councils and other levels of Government to address the impact of this pandemic with one area of focus being the development of a proposed Community Financial Support Package.

In support of this, the following motion was passed at the 27 March 2020 General Meeting of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT), recommending six relief mechanisms for consideration by councils:

“That LGAT Voting Representatives agree to take back the following relief mechanisms, to their Council for determination of a formal position on them as soon as practicable for this point in time with a review before 30 June 2020.

- 1. No penalties, charges, interest or debt collection for late rates payments and extended payment periods (with such measures in place) until 30 June 2020.*
- 2. Rent relief on council owned buildings where tenants are experiencing financial hardship until 30 June 2020.*
- 3. A common approach to hardship/assistance policies with LGAT to develop a model policy based on engagement with councils.*
- 4a. Community grants to be refocused as appropriate to support local business and not-for-profit recovery or conversion to a digital environment or circular economy until 30 June 2021.*
- 4b. As a means of supporting local business recovery and injecting funds into communities in a timely manner, councils be encouraged to settle creditor invoices within a maximum 14-day timeframe (or sooner), irrespective of normal trading terms.*
- 5. A 0% increase on general rates for 2020-21 but fees and charges may be indexed by CPI.*
- 6. Seek the option of relaxing depreciation requirements or extending standard asset life for 2020-21 upon agreed criteria with the Auditor General (including asset condition) and subject to the Auditor General adjusting financial indicators accordingly.”*

These relief mechanisms, as proposed at the LGAT meeting, are now presented to Council for consideration as part of Flinders Council’s COVID-19 Community Financial Support Package.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

16 April 2020 Council Workshop

OFFICER'S REPORT

As Councillors are aware, there has been a significant focus on actions to address the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic on our daily lives.

Council's general focus has been on achieving business continuity in a significantly changed operating environment. This along with continuing community service whilst modelling appropriate isolation, hygiene and social distancing standards. Government directives have also required Council to shut down a range of facilities.

Our focus on meeting remotely is working reasonably well and has been facilitated through the use of video conferencing software such as Microsoft Teams and Zoom. With the operations of Council finding a reasonable balance, our focus needs to be on Community recovery-based strategies such as the Community Financial Support Package.

Many of the businesses in our community have been impacted by the COVID-19 event and the impact varies significantly across the business community, from those that were forced to close overnight, to those that due to the services or goods they provide have continued to operate at somewhere near normal levels. The loss of the tourists, that all but a few of our businesses rely upon, has an effect which is more pronounced in a tourism-based economy than in some other areas of the State.

It is a challenging, if not impossible, task to accurately assess the extent of the impact the pandemic has had on the various sectors in formulating Council's approach. We have therefore taken the approach of applying support initiatives to all sectors in as fair and fiscally responsible way as possible, to all stakeholders inclusive of Council.

Community Financial Support Package – COVID-19

In formalising a Community Financial Support Package, Council is required, in the first instance, to consider the following relief measures proposed at the LGAT General Meeting. Comments on each are provided to assist with deliberations.

- 1. No penalties, charges, interest or debt collection for late rates payments and extended payment periods will be frozen for six months from 30 June 2020.*

A freeze on all rates related penalties or compliance actions, for a period of six months from a Council decision on this recommendation, would impact on Council's financial situation by \$13,000.

- 2. Rent relief on council owned buildings where tenants are experiencing financial hardship until 30 June 2020.*

Council manages very limited leases over Council owned buildings and is able to discuss any hardship applications from these lessees on a case-by-case basis.

- 3. A common approach to hardship/assistance policies with LGAT to develop a model policy based on engagement with councils.*

Council is able to consider any model hardship/assistance policy that is within its capacity and leads to greater support for the Community.

- 4a. Community grants to be refocused as appropriate to support local business and not for profit recovery or conversion to a digital environment or circular economy until 30 June 2021.*

The Community Grant program for 2020/21 has already been advertised with a closing date of 1 May 2020. It is possible to promote a re-focus of the grant program towards

projects more aligned with business re-generation and development and extend the closing date.

4b. As a means of supporting local business recovery and injecting funds into communities in a timely manner, councils be encouraged to settle creditor invoices within a maximum 14-day timeframe (or sooner), irrespective of normal trading terms.

Council already generally pays creditor invoices within 14 days and can endeavour to ensure this continues, dependent upon any restrictions imposed by cash flow.

5. A 0% increase on general rates for 2020-21 but fees and charges may be indexed by CPI.

In previous years, Council has established its budget and annual plan in accordance with its Long-Term Financial Management Plan. Based on many underlying factors, Council intended to issue a General Rate Increase equivalent to CPI in the 2020/21 financial year. Given the current circumstances, Council's management team has changed focus and is now developing the 2020-2021 Budget framed based on a 0% increase in the General Rate. This will require further efficiencies to be identified within an already extremely restrained fiscal position and has been costed at approximately \$45,000 annually or \$22,500 for a six month period, from the date of a Council decision.

Council is also considering a 0% increase in user fees such as hall hire, building service fees, Airport landing charges and passenger fees for a six month period. This has been estimated to be a \$6,000 impact on Council for a six month period from the date of a Council decision.

It should be noted that Council is not able to mandate that landlords, who will receive rate relief, pass the remission on to their tenants in the form of rental relief. In deciding to remit these rate charges, it would be the clear intention of the Council that savings are to be passed along to business tenants to ease the pressure on small business and assist in their recovery.

6. Seek the option of relaxing depreciation requirements or extending standard asset life for 2020-21 upon agreed criteria with the Auditor General (including asset condition) and subject to the Auditor General adjusting financial indicators accordingly.

Although this option may alleviate initial pressure on Council's current financial situation, the issue of asset replacement would still need to be addressed in the future as part of Council's Long-Term Financial Management Plan.

Council may also wish to consider additional relief measures and to explore any available sectoral financial support opportunities to offset the potential impost on Council's budget that these measures will cause inclusive of future annual rates rises to recoup the cost of these proposed community support initiatives.

Community Financial Support Package – COVID-19 Review

There is a very strong expectation that Local Government will share the pain and shoulder some of the burden from other levels of Government. In particular, the 0% rate increase has been consistently reiterated as the benchmark standard expected of councils from both State and Federal counterparts. As we are all too painfully aware, this situation has been moving at a rapid pace requiring Council to react quickly to the situation as it evolves.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial impact of the pandemic is going to be significant on the Flinders Council now and over future years. The 2020-21 Budget has the hallmarks of being very challenging without any cost increases and with the following impacts potentially occurring:

- Combined cost of the proposed Community Financial Support Package for twelve months (\$64,000)
- Combined cost of the proposed Community Financial Support Package for six months (\$41,500)

RISK/LIABILITY

Low

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council suspends the operation of Regulation 22 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, in accordance with Regulation 22 (9), to discuss Item 18.4 - Community Financial Support Package – COVID-19.

18.4 Use of the Flinders Council Common Seal

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	GOV/1000
Annexures	18.4.1 Common Seal Register January to March 2020

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update on the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal, as per the council motion 216.09.2016 passed at the 22 September 2016 Council Meeting.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

216.09.2016 22 September 2016
From January 2017, considered quarterly.

OFFICER'S REPORT

The use of the Flinders Council Common Seal binds the Council to act in accordance with the provisions of the document to which it is attached and it is important that Councillors know the details of those documents so that they are aware of commitments to which the Council has become obligated.

The Flinders Council Common Seal Register was created on 26 September 2016 and is available to Councillors on request at any time. A report on the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal will be included in Council Meeting Agendas on a quarterly basis.

Annexure 18.4.1 details the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal from January to March 2020.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK/LIABILITY

Minimum

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the report on the use of the Flinders Council Common Seal from January to March 2020 be received.

18.5 Quarterly Report on the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Ltd.

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	COU/0305
Annexures	18.5.1 Northern Tasmania Development Corporation's Quarterly Progress Report - January to March 2020

INTRODUCTION

As permitted under Section 21 (c), Enterprise Powers of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Flinders Council become a member of the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation LTD (NTDC) on 1 January 2017. The *Local Government Act 1993* requires the General Manager to provide a quarterly report to Council on the activities of the NTDC and any adverse developments that may affect the entity's financial viability.

Annexure 18.5.1 NTDC's Quarterly Progress Report for the January to March 2020 quarter has been provided to all member councils.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

OFFICER'S REPORT

As permitted under Section 21 (1c), Enterprise Powers of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council became a member of NTDC as from 1 January 2017. The NTDC was officially formed in March 2017 with the following primary objectives:

- a) provide pro-active, engaged and strategic regional economic leadership;
- b) consolidate an agreed vision for the development, sustainability and prosperity of the geographic region that the Organisation's Members encompass;
- c) implement a strategic economic action plan based on the Northern Regional Futures Plan framework or similar; and
- d) to provide effective representation and advocacy to State and Federal Government and other stakeholders.

Section 21 (5) of the *Local Government Act 1993* states the following:

"The general manager is to report to the council –

- a) at least once every 3 months in respect of the performance of any activities carried out pursuant to (section 21 (1)) and any strategic issues related to those activities; and*
- b) any adverse developments that significantly affect or are likely to significantly affect the financial viability, the operating viability or any other aspect of any of those activities.*

Annexure 18.5.1, NTDC's Quarterly Progress Report, details the activities of the Corporation for the quarter January to March 2020. No adverse developments affecting the entity's financial viability are known.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK/LIABILITY

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation's Quarterly Progress Report - January to March 2020, provided to all member councils.

18.6 3rd Quarter Report (January to March 2020) against the 2019/20 Annual Plan

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	COU/0600
Annexures	18.6.1 3 rd Quarter Report (January to March 2020) against 2019/20 Annual Plan

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with progress updates on the various Annual Plan actions undertaken by the whole of Council for the third quarter of the financial year.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Provided as quarterly reports.

OFFICER'S REPORT

For the 2019/20 year, Council has moved to an in-house quarterly reporting system. The report, Annexure 18.6.1, is the third report to be generated via the new process.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the 3rd Quarter Report (January to March 2020) against the 2019/20 Annual Plan be received and accepted by Council.

18.7 Councillor Resolution Report

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	GOV/0300
Annexures	18.7.1 Councillor Resolution Report April 2020

INTRODUCTION

The Councillor Resolution Report identifies resolutions passed by elected members and the actions taken to implement the decisions.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

The Report is presented on a monthly basis.

OFFICER'S REPORT

Please read Annexure 18.7.1 – Councillor Resolution Report April 2020.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Councillor Resolution Report April 2020 be noted.

Meeting Closed
